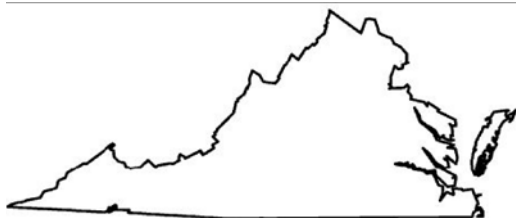




Newsletter **of the** *Archeological* *Society of Virginia*

December 2010
Number 199



The mission of the
Archeological Society
of Virginia
is to promote the archaeology
& anthropology of
Virginia & adjacent regions

From the Desk of President Patrick O'Neill
 What a fantastic Annual Meeting in Williamsburg!
 My heartfelt thanks again to Bernard K. Means,
 Mike Barber, Mike Madden, and Cynthia
 Hansen!!! Without them, it would not have been
 such an overwhelming success. There were over
 170 registrants and over 130 attended the banquet!
 There were even concurrent sessions because we
 partnered with the Eastern States Archeological
 Federation this year!

The Certification Program graduated eight
 students this year: Becky Garber, Ginger
 McGovern, Susie Grealy, Leigh Watlington,
 Maggie Johnson, Janice Bilber, Wilther Santamaria
 and Laura Wedin. These graduates have already
 made and will continue to make a wonderful
 contribution to archaeology.



Back left to right: Janice Biller, Leigh Watlington,
 Beckie Garber, Ann Wood, Susie Grealy, Ginger
 McGovern, Laura Wedin; front left to right John
 Kelsey, Wilther Santamaria (Photo by Bill McGovern).
 Two student papers received awards this year
 from ASV. JMU student Katie Cross, working
 under mentor Carole Nash, was the winner of the
 Ben McCary Award for Best Prehistoric
 Archaeology Paper with "Hunter-Gatherer Site
 Function in the Blue Ridge Mountains: An
 Analysis of Artifacts from the Pryors Camp Site
 (44NE153)."



Katie Cross (photo by Carole Nash).

VCU Anthropology major Taryn Goodman, working with mentor Bernard K. Means, won the Collections-Based Research (The Virginia Museum of Natural History Award) with her paper entitled "Bare Bones: An Analysis of Mortuary Data from the Martin Site, Fayette County, Pennsylvania."



Taryn Goodman (photo by Rich Geurcin)

I presented a Presidential Award to Cindy Daus for her help at Kittiewan Plantation and to Carl Fischer for his immense help and support to me as President with taking over the Treasury after Bill Thompson passed away. These two have been invaluable to me during my two years of serving as your president.

The following people were presented with the annual ASV awards:

Avocational Archeologist of the Year - Marcus Lemasters
Professional Archeologist of the Year - David Brown
Out-of-state Avocational Archeologist of the Year - Belinda Urquiza
Out-of-state Professional Archeologist of the Year - Charles Hall
ASV Archeologist Hall of Fame - COL Howard MacCord



Marcus Lemasters using GPS unit (photo by Bob Jolley)



Marylander Belinda Urquiza at Kittiewan with Brad Harris (Photo by Patrick O'Neill)

Marcus Lemasters and Charles Hall could not be present.

Betsy MacCord received the award for Howard, and she was very happy to see everyone again!



Betsy MacCord (photo by Rich Geurcin).

Two bylaw changes were approved by the General Membership. The first was eliminating the President-elect position in 2012, which would place more responsibility on the Vice-President to learn and potentially succeed the President. The second was elevating the Kittiewan Committee to a Standing Committee. Since Kittiewan Plantation is the home of the ASV, it was time it was given a higher status in the bylaws.

The annual dues were also raised through approval of the General Membership. The ASV is a membership-driven society and our only source of income is dues.

With the low interest from our banking accounts, and the rising costs of printing and mailing the Quarterly Bulletin, costs average around \$25 per year per person, and that was the rate of the Active Membership. The ASV was not even breaking even, so the dues increase was needed. When you send in your renewals, the rate increase will be reflected on the 2011 form.

All of the people running for the ASV Board were elected with no nominations from the floor. We welcome Elizabeth Moore as President-elect to become President January 1, 2013, Carole Nash as Vice-President from 2011-2012, Carl Fischer as Treasurer, and Stephanie Jacobe as Secretary. We also welcome the 2011-2013 ASV Board members Dave Rotenizer, Bruce Baker, and Martha Williams.

It has been my pleasure to serve the ASV as President these past two years. I leave you in the aptly hands of Dan Kegley, who will assume the presidency on January 1, 2011. Please give him your full support!



Dr. William Kelso lecturing at Jamestown (photo by Bernard K. Means)

From the Office of State Archaeology

by Mike Barber, State Archaeologist

The 2010 joint annual meeting of ASV and ESAF was a resounding success. With about 70 papers and 200 attendees, I think a fine time was had by all. The full breadth of eastern archaeology was apparent with paper topics including ship yards and port cities; lithic artifacts distributions, lithic concentrations, and caches; dead fish, dead dogs, and bone tools; slave cabins and Colonial cabins; Late Archaic, Early Woodland, Middle Woodland, Late Woodland, and Contact Periods; Jesuits; the Black Freedom Movement; geology of rocks, rivers, soils, and the Coastal Plain; toys; rats; sites and collection management; New Deal, WPA, CCC, and National Youth Administration; soapstone, jasper, quartz, quartzite, chert, and chalcedony; Siouan speakers, Siouan ceramics, and Siouan people; human skeletons; Colonial landscapes, plantations, forts, and gardens; iron furnaces and smithies; 17th, 18th, and 19th century sites and houses; rehydroxylation; hunter/gatherer camps; and the concepts of creolization, diachronic change, and collaborative archaeology.



Mike Barber presents William Kelso with historic photographs of Jamestown (photo by Bernard K. Means)



Dr. Doug Owsley presenting at the ASV-ESAF banquet (photo by Rich Geurcin).

We had some great field trips to Jamestown Rediscovery and Chippokes Plantation State Park. The Friday night COVA session proved very enlightening with Ashley Atkins talking about Pamunkey pottery and collaborative archaeology and David Givens discussing recent discoveries at Jamestown. Our banquet speaker, Dr. Doug Owsley, spoke to the importance of forensic anthropology with numerous intriguing examples from Jamestown, St. Mary's City, etc. pointing to broken teeth and bones, culturally encouraged diseases, hurried burials, facial reconstructions, and modern scientific methods. The Certification Program continues to

flourish with 8 folks graduating at the 2010 meeting. Congratulations to all. As I am sure the recipients of the COVA and ASV awards will be covered elsewhere in this newsletter, I will settle for offering them all a heart-felt congratulations for jobs well-done.

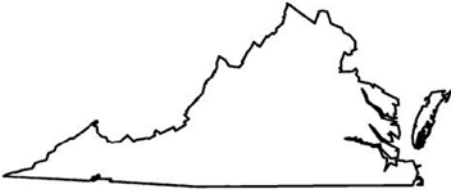
Many folks contributed to the success of the meeting. Foremost among these are the Arrangement Chairs - Mike Madden and Cynthia Hansen. Mike handled the preliminary hotel negotiations, the Book Room, the COVA Reception, and acted as Meeting Enforcer/Bouncer. Cynthia worked directly with the hotel and made everything else work, little things like the breaks, banquet, meeting rooms, hospitality room, seating, and maybe even the weather. She also organized Meeting Registration. We all owe her thanks for her attention to detail, knowledge of economics, organizational skills, and generally being a very good person. Bernard Means organized the meeting schedule and arranged for program printing (at no cost to ASV, I might add, thank you Bernard, Beta Analytical, and VCU World Studies). Rich Guercin is thanked for keeping the audio-visual machinery functioning, a thankless task for which we thank him. Also on the list to be thanked are all the individuals who ran the Registration Desk and ASV Book Room tables, or contributed to other arrangements. Patrick O'Neill should be recognized for running the ASV portion of the meeting as well as managing the banquet and awards. DHR is also thanked as a supporter of the meeting. Thanks to COVA President Liz Crowell for arranging the COVA Education Session. And finally, thanks to ESAF for their attendance and overall flexibility.

A final interesting moment at the meeting. I was speaking with a colleague of mine concerning an on-going CRM project in Virginia. I commented that, while the outcome would not be great, it would prove adequate within the legal context. My colleague commented that I was being overly pessimistic and threw out the proverbial "glass half full or half empty" analogy (with its "half full" being positive, "half empty" being negative). In all truth the glass in front of me was completely empty. In any case, I indicated that his proposition was data poor. I would need to know what was IN the glass to construct a reasoned hypothesis. Was it filled with water? Probably good. Or maybe gasoline? Not so good. And that I would also need to know the context. For example, was it near an open flame. Water, good. Gasoline, definitely not so good. What about all the other glasses in the vicinity. Was there an overall pattern of which I needed to be aware? My erstwhile colleague threw his hands in the air in disgust and walked away. And as he left, I wondered if he were half empty or half full. I think I know the answer.

What he missed is how anthropology works. The cultural meaning of artifacts (ie. - the glass and contents) lies in their overall context and cultural patterning. Bring me a projectile point and I can tell you nothing. Bring me a projectile point with provenience and we shall conquer the world. Or at least construct a testable hypothesis as to how the world might work. It's a beginning.



Jamestown Rediscovery's Jamie May talks to ASV-ESAF attendees at Jamestown (photo by Bernard K. Means).



ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

I Am A Novice

Photographs and text submitted by Elizabeth Silverstein, VCU Student

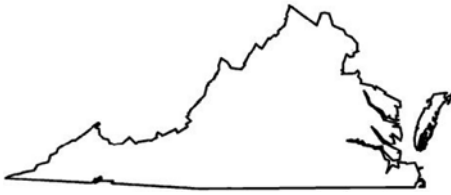


I am a novice. Before participating in the excavations of Kittiewan the weekend of September 25th, the only experience I had were the years spent with my nose in history books and wandering around museums, simply staring at the artifacts before me. I learned about this golden opportunity through my Introduction to Anthropology course taught by Professor Bernard K. Means. The only things I knew about an excavation were what I have learned from the History channel, books, and my recent course here at VCU. So, I was a little nervous when I first arrived. Everyone looked like they knew exactly what they were doing, and they did, but they were all willing to give me their time

and patience to instruct me in the methods of an archaeological excavation.

Patrick O'Neill immediately took me under his wing and reviewed over everything that they had found, much of which was greatly aided by a map recently discovered, the 1931 Shurcliff map of Kittiewan, showing an exterior kitchen (also known as Dr. Seldon's office), ice house, a possible "slave" quarters, dairy, and smokehouse. During the excavations pieces of pearlware, yellow ware, several fragments of bottles, coal and nails were found as well as pieces of pottery. I got to dig along side the other excavators for a little while, but the better part of my time was spent observing and learning about the methods and procedures. Most importantly, I learned that in this field, one must remain objective to their discoveries. As Mr. O'Neill put it, "You have to understand that, just because the map says that it's a slave quarters, doesn't necessarily mean that it is. You have to step outside the box and really stay objective to what you are seeing, because these are only pieces of the puzzle."





ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

Commemorating the David Site (44FX2634)

Text and photographs by Paul Inashima



The creators of the four panel interpretive display, Jerry Lyons (left) and Michael Johnson (right).

On October 17, 2010, the installation of signage to commemorate the David Site (44FX2634) was formally dedicated. The dedication ceremony was led by Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland. He was joined in the ribbon cutting by members of the staff and crew of the archeological excavation team and by local dignitaries such as Rose Powhatan, a descendant of the Tauxenent. The site's name was selected by Archeologist Michael Johnson to honor the memory of the late Elizabeth David, Fairfax County's first preservation planner.

The David Site is a multi-component prehistoric site which was occupied between 13,000 and 300 years ago. The archeological investigations were conducted by Paul Inashima and Berno Topps with the assistance of Senior Fairfax County Archeologist, Michael Johnson. The

excavation team consisted of volunteers from the Northern Virginia Chapter and from the neighboring community. The site was investigated through the summer, fall, and winter of 2002.

Following the ribbon cutting, a short program was held at the Mason Neck State Park Visitor Center. Michael Johnson spoke on the geological history of Mason Neck and the search for Tauxenent. Paul Inashima spoke on the archeology of the David Site.

The four panel display interprets the archeology of the site and sets it within a larger environmental context. It is installed along the Mason Neck hiker-biker trail near the intersection of Gunston and High Point roads. The text for the display was prepared by Michael Johnson. The pro bono design work was provided by graphic artist, Jerry Lyons, of Lyonshare Studios. Funding for the installation was provided under a TEA-21 grant. The signage project took nearly eight years of effort to design and fund.



The ribbon cutting ceremony, 94 year old volunteer C.D. Cox (center left) and Supervisor Gerry Hyland (center right).



ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

Some of the excavation team:
Top Row (left to right), Wil Santamaria, Ginger McGovern, Gene Silva, Nancy Anthony, C.D. Cox, Michael Johnson, Joe Emrico; Middle Row (left to right), Pat Fuller, Berno Topps, Ann Wood, Veronique Parent, Rick Koestline; Bottom Row (left to right), Jay Weaver, Juan Murro, Jim Reid, George Monken.



The David Site excavation.



ASV Archaeology Beyond Virginia

Archeological Society of Virginia Members at the Gault Site

Text and photographs by Bert Wendell, Jr., President, ASV Nansemond Chapter

In the early morning hours of November 8, 2010 (my birthday), I made my way out of Round Rock, Texas toward the small town of Florence. There I made a right turn on main street (FM 487) and traveled a short distance followed by a left turn on FM 2843. Very quickly on this narrow two lane road I came to the Gault School.

Greeting me was Mike Johnson, archaeologist with the Fairfax County Park Authority in Virginia and a member of the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV), standing on the front porch of an old ranch house that accommodates the Gault School and serves as a bunk house for volunteers at the site. He welcomed me and took me inside to meet fellow ASV members and other volunteers for the field school. After a very friendly Texas greeting, we loaded up our packs and headed down an adjacent gravel road. Some drove vehicles and others walked. Passing through a large metal swinging gate which has a sign on it saying "Welcome! The Gault School of Archaeological Research", we passed patches of cactus, live oak trees and a ranch house with long horn cattle grazing near by.



Dr. Clarke Wernecke, executive director of the Gault School of Archaeological Research, shows an archaic period spear point/knife made of Edward's Plateau Chert to a group of ASV volunteers during a familiarization tour of the Gault Site (41BL323).

At a metal building that houses equipment for archaeological field work several of us were met by Dr. Clarke Wernecke, executive director for the Gault School of Archaeological Research and a research scientist at Texas State University at San Marcos, for a familiarization tour of the Gault Site (41BL323) while several volunteers went to work in the tent covered pit and others at the artifact washing/screening station.

Dr. Wernecke gave us a presentation on the history of the site and a walking tour. He told us that Clovis culture people occupied the land around a small spring fed creek (Buttermilk Creek) as far back as 13,500 years ago; Edward's Plateau Chert was quarried by paleoindians and later cultures from limestone formations nearby for manufacturing lithic tools (Clovis, Folsom, Archaic and Woodland type points, bifacial knives, scrapers, adzes, choppers, graters, drills and etc.; the site was occupied almost continually by various cultures up to the contact period with Europeans about 400 years ago; petroglyphs on the valley walls may date from this unsettling time when Europeans and Native Americans struggled for control of the region; hunting and gathering remained the primary subsistence strategy throughout all occupation periods.



ASV Archaeology Beyond Virginia

The site was first excavated in 1929 by James E. Pearce, known as the Father of Texas Archaeology; over the next 6 decades, collectors and looters gained access to the site looking for artifacts in the upper soil levels for their collections and resale; until 1998 the land owners operated a pay-to-dig operation where the public could dig and keep all artifacts found for as little as \$10.00 per day; and a Clovis point was found by a collector in 1990 sandwiched between two incised stones and this gave archaeologist hope that the lower levels of the site had not been destroyed.

Since 1998, the Gault Site has been under the supervision and "watchful eye" of Dr. Michael Collins, archaeologist and director of the Gault School of Archaeological Research. In 2009, Dr. Collins became a research professor in the Department of Anthropology at Texas State University at San Marcos.

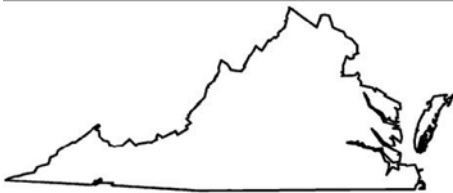


Part of the archaeological process is removing the black clay soil from artifacts removed from excavations at the Gault Site (41BL323) near Florence, TX during a recent field school. This is being done by volunteers from the Archeological Society of Virginia (left to right) Celia Isbrecht, Jean Teasdale, Ginger McGovern, Ann Woods and Leigh Wadington



Working at the Clovis level at the Gault Site (41BL323) near Florence, TX during a recent field school attended by volunteers from the Archeological Society of Virginia are (left to right) Jill Patton of Durango, CO, Zach Windler of Florence, TX, and Nick Swift of Austin TX.

Today, the Gault Site is the world's largest Clovis period excavation. According to Dr. Wernecke, approximately 1.7 million artifacts of which about 600,000 fall within the Clovis period have been excavated. Currently, the excavation is proceeding below the Clovis strata where lithic flaking debris and other debitage evidence of pre-Clovis occupation is being found. In 2007, in less than one meter test unit excavated by students from University of Exeter (United Kingdom), 235 pieces of debitage was found in soils dating to 14-15,000 years ago. He further stated, that site artifacts once housed at the University of Texas in the Pickle Museum will soon be moved to the campus of Texas State University at San Marcos.



ASV Archaeology Beyond Virginia



Cynthia Hansen, a member of the ASV Nansemond Chapter, sorts artifacts. Near her out stretched left hand is a uniface blade/knife made of Edward's Plateau Chert.

Several noteworthy artifacts were found in the sifting screens this day. One was a uniface blade/knife made from a curved flake of Edward's Plateau Chert and was retrieved by Cynthia Hansen, ASV Nansemond Chapter member and frequent Gault Site volunteer. The other was a broken tip of a spear point or knife retrieved by Becky Garber of the ASV Northern Virginia Chapter.

After helping George Monken of Tucson, Arizona and former ASV member wash several more buckets of artifacts, it was late afternoon and time for my return trip to Round Rock. As I drove out of the Gault Site area my thoughts reflected back on the day's events and what a wonderful experience to have had on my 68th birthday.

After my tour of the site, taking copious notes and many photographs it was lunch time. All of the volunteers grabbed their lunches and sat on picnic style tables under a large shade tree. Conversation at the tables was mostly about archaeological topics and Texas long horned cattle. Soon our attention was drawn to the roar of the engine of a rather large white truck crossing the small bridge over Buttermilk Creek. The driver was Dr. Michael Collins and he was wearing faded blue jeans with blue suspenders, a blue shirt, a large white cowboy hat and of course a huge Texas smile. He strolled over to the tables, greeted the folks there and made them feel like they were part of the Gault Site family.

After lunch, Mike Johnson put us (ASV volunteers) back to work washing the black clay soil from the artifacts taken from the excavation pit, separating the lithics from the bone, shells and other materials, labeling plastic bags to hold the artifacts and organizing the bags for transport to the research laboratory.



Mike Johnson, archaeologist for the Fairfax County Park Authority in Virginia and a member of the ASV Northern Virginia Chapter, is supervisor for the current field school being held at the Gault Site.

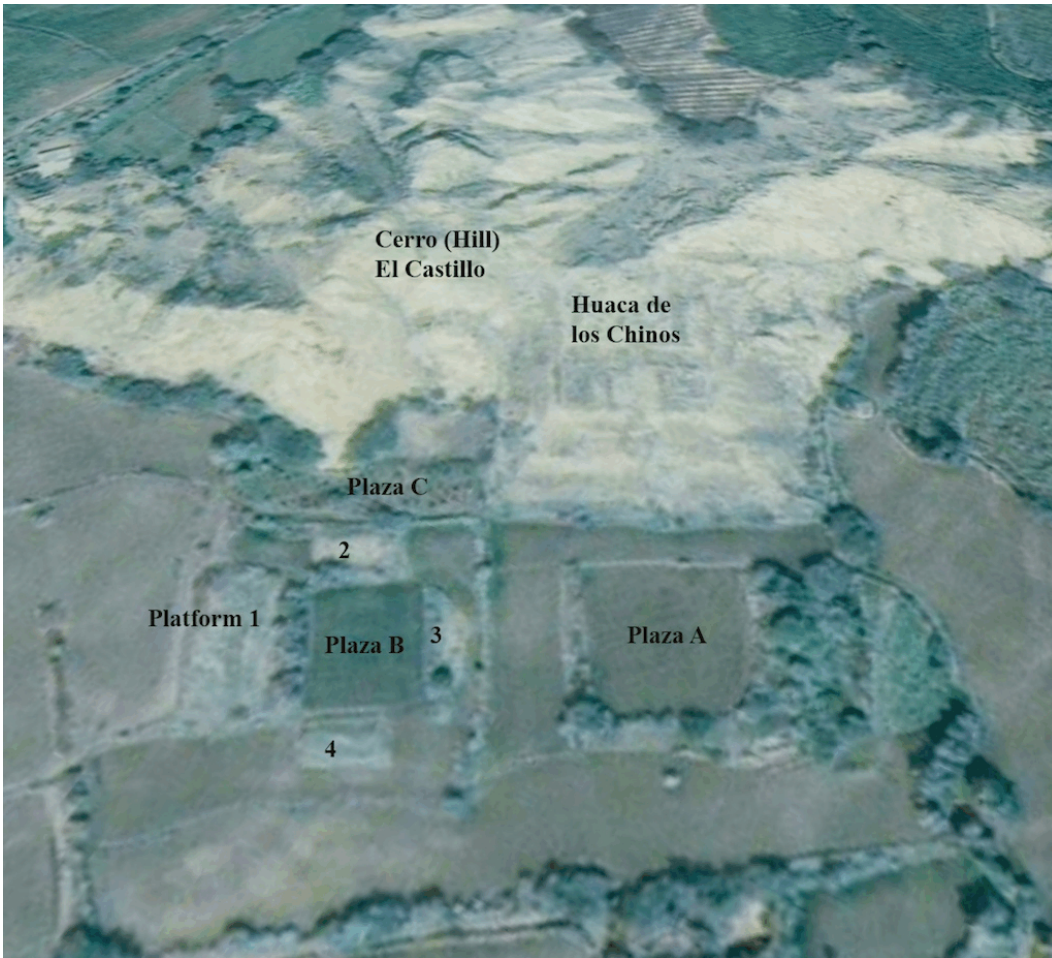


ASV Archaeology Beyond Virginia



Archaeologist Mike Johnson holds a tan colored uniface blade/knife made of Edward's Plateau Chert which was retrieved from a sifting screen by Cynthia Hansen.

Of Interest to ASV Members: MOCHE, INC. to add Guest Researcher Program



Satellite view of the Huaca de los Chinos Site

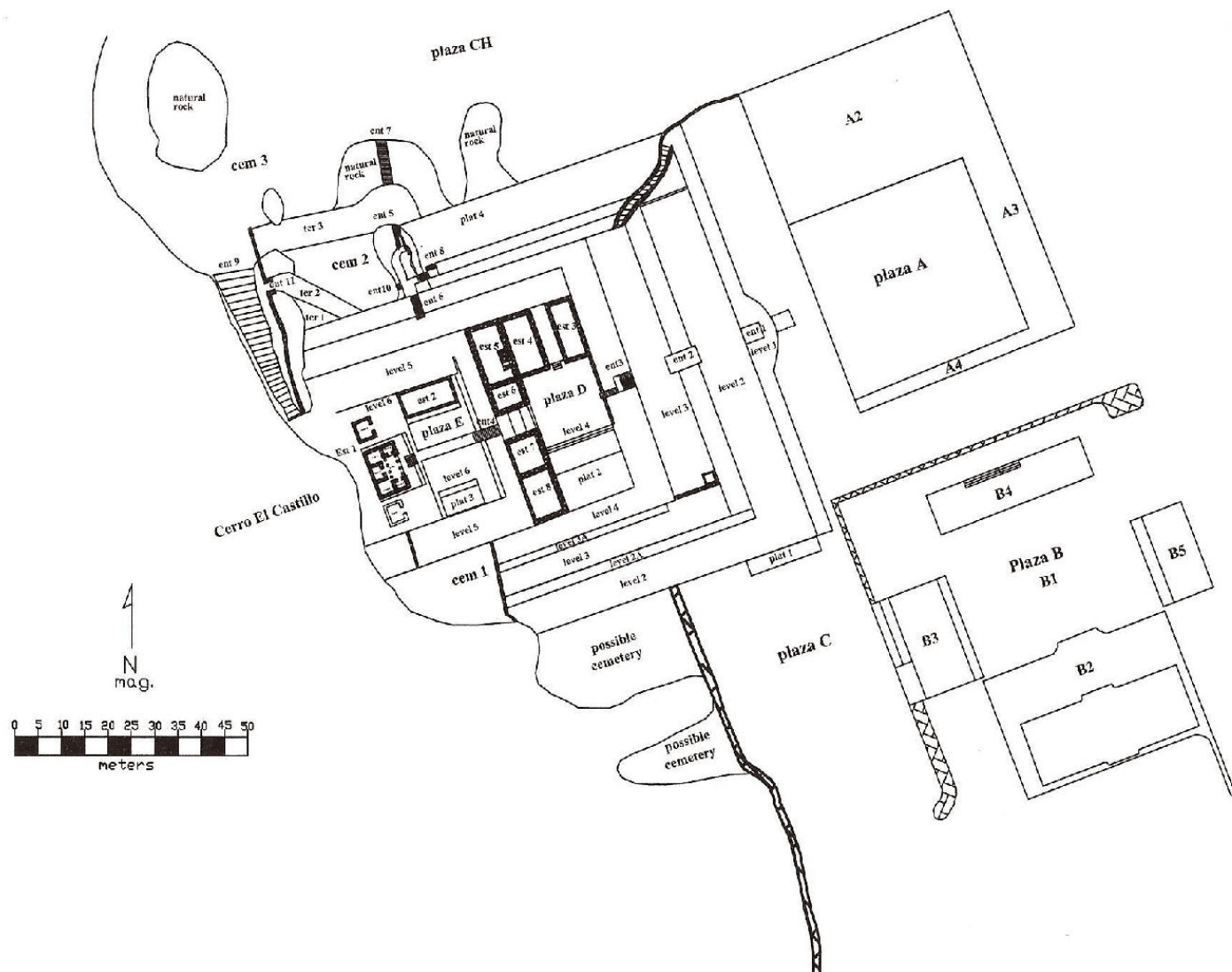
infrastructure projects, such as schools, health clinics, potable water and sewage treatment systems, roads, parks, and electrification. In exchange for our assistance, communities agree to protect specific local archaeological sites.

We fund these community projects and our research through private donations, grants, and by offering educational programs in Peru. Our programs include archaeological field schools, service learning programs in community development, archaeological and cultural tours, and a guest researcher program, which will be added in the fall of 2011. When you enroll in one of our programs, part of your fees goes directly to development projects in communities that have agreed to protect local archaeological sites.

MOCHE, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to improving the standard of living in impoverished communities, preserving archaeological sites, and promoting research and education on the rich cultural heritage of Peru. As you read these words archaeological sites in Peru are being destroyed at an unprecedented rate. With the destruction of each site, we lose another key to unlocking the mysteries of our past. To solve the intertwined problems of looting, poverty, and lack of heritage education, we form partnerships with poor communities in Peru. We provide communities with



Excavation team



Map of Huaca de los Chinos

The GUEST RESEACHER PROGRAM is designed to offer working or retired men and women a chance to participate in an active archaeological project in the Moche Valley of Perú, which is located on the north coast. In the first field season, up to 18 participants in 3 two-week sessions (6 participants per session) will work as members of the team that is excavating and studying an Initial period/Early Horizon (1800-400 B.C.) archaeological site. You will work in small teams, under the supervision of a professional archaeologist, to excavate previously unstudied structures on the upper portion of a large-size stone pyramid called Huaca de los Chinos. The project's research objectives focus on the occupational chronology and function of the pyramid, as well as evidence of social and political structure.

In your free time, you can visit the city of Trujillo, which is located 10 kilometers from Huanchaco. Francisco Pizarro originally established it in the 16th century as a small walled village, but today it is a large metropolitan city of approximately one million inhabitants. A few of the things to visit include some of the original architecture, archaeological sites, restaurants, museums, nightclubs, and a large central market. A modern shopping mall is located next to the Huanchaco airport. Our free day is Sunday, but you also have free time every evening after dinner. The exact dates of each two-week session will be determined during the first quarter of 2011.

Meals and Accommodations. You will stay in double rooms in a hostel (small hotel) in the fishing/tourist village of Huanchaco, which overlooks the Pacific Ocean. The hostel has modern conveniences including electricity, hot running water, flush toilets, and internet access. You'll eat in the hostel dining room where you will enjoy excellent Peruvian cuisine, including fresh fruits, vegetables, seafood, and a variety of meats, prepared by the hostel's cooks.

Cost. The cost for the two weeks with the team is \$3,000 per person. This includes meals and accommodations during your time in Huanchaco, transportation to and from the field, and fees associated with guided tours to local archaeological sites. Breakfast and dinner at the hostel and lunches in the field are included, Monday through Saturday. Meals at local restaurants and on Sunday are at your expense.



Summit structure before excavation.

northwestern side of the huaca.

During 2006, an extensive excavation project was carried out on Huaca de los Chinos under the direction of Dr. John Pleasants of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Excavations were focused on the large plaza in front of the huaca, four areas on the huaca's southeastern side, two staircases on the front of the huaca, and on the largest structure on the huaca's summit. The summit structure yielded radiocarbon dates of 900-750 B.C. Understanding the unexcavated structures on the top two levels of the huaca will be one of Dr. Pleasants' research objectives during the next several field seasons.

Please let us know of your interest in this program or to ask questions by contacting Dr. Pleasants directly at: johnpleasants@yahoo.com.

You may learn more about Moche Inc. at:

www.savethemoche.org.

The Research Site. The remains of the Huaca de los Chinos archaeological site are located in the middle Moche Valley approximately 38 km from the village of Huanchaco. The site layout includes a hill, Cerro El Castillo, that extends northwest to southeast for 800 meters; a large, multilevel, flat-topped stone pyramid (Huaca); a large square plaza directly in front of the huaca that is surrounded by architecture; a small architectural complex consisting of a square plaza surrounded by four stone platforms; a small plaza abutting the southeastern side of the huaca; and a large open area adjacent to the



Summit Structure after excavation

Current ASV Officers

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Vice President:	Martha Williams	MWilliamsLonomo@aol.com
Secretary:	Stephanie Jacobe	aureus@usa.net
Treasurer:	Carl Fischer	cfischer@hughes.net

For more information on ASV go to:
<http://www.asv-archeology.org>



Jamestown Tour (photo by
Bernard K. Means).



Adieu!

All, this is the last ASV newsletter that I will edit. It's been a fun three years and I hope people both enjoyed the newsletter and learned something about archaeology in Virginia. I'm sure I'll be making my own contributions to a future issue of the ASV newsletter, so I won't disappear!

Cheers,
Bernard K. Means