



EXPLORE PHILADELPHIA'S BURIED PAST!

Part 1: *The City and Beyond*

♦♦ **Saturday, October 13th, 9am-3pm. Kirby Auditorium, National Constitution Center**

Part 2: *Life along the River* Saturday, October 20th, 10am-3pm, Independence Seaport Museum***

9:00am

- *Welcome* – Jed Levin, Independence National Historical Park
- *Welcome* – Douglas Mooney, President, Philadelphia Archaeological Forum
- *Archaeology in Philadelphia: Year in Review* A whirlwind tour of projects and other notable developments in Philadelphia archaeology over the past year. (Douglas Mooney)

9:25am Three-Minute 'Lightening Round' Talks (#1)

- *Looking at a Lot: Changing Spaces and Faces at the National Constitution Center Site* The National Constitution Center site is comprised of 115 historic house lots that represent the hundreds of buildings and thousands of people that once lived and worked on the block in the 18th and 19th centuries. One of these lots, the Cresson lot as it has come to be known, illustrates how one lot tells the story of multiple families, and how they adapt old spaces to suit their needs. We'll start in the 1770s with a prosperous young man, then work our way to the 1830s to an American matriarch in her final days. (Debbie Miller)
- *Caleb's Alley: The Cresson Brothers and the Development of the National Constitution Center Block* The stories of the people who designed and built the streets and neighborhoods of Philadelphia are written in the archaeological remains of the urban landscape they helped create. This talk explores the lives of Caleb and Joshua Cresson, who developed part of the National Constitution Center block in the late eighteenth century. Their personal story, along with their place in early Philadelphia society, can provide insight into how and why the block developed as it did, and provide vital context for archaeological interpretation. (Alex Keim)
- *Betsy Ross' Pitchers* Two pitchers were found in the bottom of a privy pit (outhouse) that once stood in the backyard behind the house where Betsy Ross spent her last years. The pitchers bear images of War of 1812 naval engagements in which the fledgling U. S. Navy was victorious over the mighty British Navy. What did these pitchers mean to their owner? And did Betsy throw them away? (Jed Levin)
- *Smokin' Politics!?* A tobacco pipe bowl with a 164-year-old political message was recently discovered in New Castle County, Delaware. The pipe dates to the 1848 election when the Democratic Presidential candidate proposed a compromise stance on slavery. This artifact hints at the politics of one Delawarean living (and smoking!) during a period of contentious and violent debate that ultimately led to the Civil War. (Ilene Grossman-Bailey)

- Lightening Round #1 Questions from the Audience/Discussion and **RAFFLE!**

9:45 am

- *Looking for the West Shipyard* Buried beneath a parking lot along the Delaware riverfront lies an important piece of Philadelphia's history--the city's original eastern shoreline. During the 17th century, this stretch of waterfront was the site of James West's shipyard operation. This past summer, an excavation mounted by the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC) investigated the shipyard site recovering evidence of 17th and 18th century wood-working waste, hardware, and multiple large timbers. This presentation presents these and other findings. (Tim Mancl)
- *"I am Sorry to Inform You of the Unhappy Explosion...": Searching for the Continental Powder Works at French Creek, Chester County* The powder works and gun factory at French Creek was an important industrial operation during the early years of the American Revolution. In March of 1777, the stamping mill exploded (sabotage perhaps?) and six months later the entire complex was torched by Crown Forces and was never rebuilt. Funded by a grant from the *American Battlefield Protection Program*, East Pikeland Township is actively researching the ruins of this factory. Geophysical studies and other archaeological methods have recently identified parts of several structures as well as the 'raceway' that conveyed the factory's water supply. (Wade P. Catts, Tim Mancl, and Peter A. Leach)
- *Finding the Forecourt at James Logan's Stenton* Recent excavations at Stenton uncovered a series of wall foundations in the front yard that are believed to be original Georgian landscape built by James Logan in c.1730. These features drastically change the appearance of the house and landscape, forcing us to rethink our interpretation of the site. This talk will discuss the excavation findings from the 2011 season, and provide an update on the current excavation. (Debbie Miller)

10:30 am

Three-Minute 'Lightening Round' Talks (LR#2)

- *Learning by Osmosis: An "Enhanced" ABC Plate*. Children's ABC plates are dishes with an educational purpose. They are decorated with nursery rhymes, moral sayings, and or images of famous places and people. A plate recently excavated from Finland in Bucks County includes letters of the alphabet, numbers to practice counting, the names of the months of the year, and more. Did the children who had this plate 'eat it up' -- or was the educational message lost amid the food on the plate? (Ken Basalik)
- *Dr. Schenck, Seaweed, and Indigestion--How to Cure A 19th century Stomach Ache* Dr. Schenk's *Seaweed Tonic* was a 19th century remedy for indigestion. A mixture of alcohol and herbs, the solution was bottled on North 6th Street in Philadelphia where it was sold alongside Dr. Schenck's other products, *Pulmonic Syrup* and *Mandrake Pills*. This talk highlights a *Seaweed Tonic* bottle fragment recently discovered in a local excavation. (Brian Seidel)
- *Jacksonian Buttons* Buttons bearing an eagle design and known as Jacksonian buttons have recently been excavated within Philadelphia. What makes these items special? Are they a military or a civilian object? Do these small objects give us a peak into the past during a small window of time? (Amy King)
- *Philadelphia Up in Smoke* Today most people associate smoking tobacco with a negative connotation. However, it has played an important role in many cultures starting as early as 5000 BCE. It has been utilized by Native Americans in this region for ceremonial and political reasons. (Matt Olson)
- Lightening Round #2 Questions from the Audience/Discussion and **RAFFLE!**

10:45 am

- *Presentation of the "PAF Douglas Heller Award"* Established in 2012 by the Philadelphia Archaeological Forum, this award recognizes unusual actions or activities by individuals and or organizations that have furthered the cause of, and support for, archaeology in the city of Philadelphia and or its hinterlands. This award was created in honor of Douglas Heller (1955-2012), a member of PAF who also championed the archaeology of the President's House site at his website USHistory.org, and who developed, and also served as webmaster for (2007-2012), the Philadelphia Archaeological Forum webpages at www.phillyarchaeology.org. At today's event, the inaugural PAF Douglas Heller Award will be posthumously presented to **Douglas Heller** and will be received by his wife, Nancy Parsons.
- *Presentation of the "PAF Award of Merit"* Established in 2012 by the Philadelphia Archaeological Forum, this award recognizes individuals and or organizations whose actions have helped preserve, protect, and or educate others about the archaeological resources of the Philadelphia area. Today, the following recipients are recognized:

The PAF Award of Merit is presented to **Stephan Salisbury** for news coverage that enhances public understanding of archaeology in Philadelphia. Mr. Salisbury's long-term coverage of both archaeological resources and the issues surrounding Philadelphia's archaeological heritage have helped develop the public's understanding of, and support for, the preservation and protection of Philadelphia's archaeology.

The PAF Award of Merit is presented to **Daniel Crozier** for service to the field of historical archaeology in Philadelphia. Daniel Crozier contributed substantively to the development of the urban and historical archaeology in Philadelphia through the excavation of seminal sites in Independence National Historical Park, through academic and cultural resource management pursuits based at Temple University, and through his support in the founding of the Philadelphia Archaeological Forum whose mission is to protect and preserve the archaeological resources in the Philadelphia region.

11:00

- *Pie for Dinner, Pie for Dessert* Among the hundreds of thousands of artifacts discovered by archaeologists during the construction of the National Constitution Center were hundreds of pie dish fragments. The city's early residents often threw these decorated red clay dishes away by tossing them down nearby privies (outhouses). Known as slipwares or slip-decorated redwares, these pie dishes can tell us about the potters who made them as well as about the early citizens who used them. Their designs suggest that there was a regional Philadelphia decorative style. (Juliette Gerhardt)
- *Getting to know the Philadelphia Archaeology Legacy: Living in the media, a sneak preview* This presentation will introduce a self-guided GPS Augmented Reality walking tour of Philadelphia Archaeology sites developed by Drexel University Digital Media faculty and students. Four sites will be sneak previewed --the Dexter House site, The Dyottville Factory Glass site, the Remer House site and the Hope Farm site. The audience will be invited to take out their smart phones to download the free Augmented Reality Program *Junaio* available at <http://www.junaio.com/>. Once loaded, the audience will be invited to view the Dexter House archaeology project located on the grounds of the NCC as they exit the day's event. They will also be invited to view the other 3 sites at their convenience, additional sites coming soon! (Glen Muschio, Mark Petrovich, Jason Kirk, Joe Tomasso)

12:00-1:30pm LUNCH LUNCH LUNCH LUNCH

1:30pm Welcome

- *Cultural Amnesia: When no one lives to tell the tale* Have you ever walked down a familiar street with your grandparents and asked them what the neighborhood was like when they were a kid? Or whether they remember hearing a story from *their* grandparents? Historical societies and preservation groups are using GIS computer technologies (*geographical information science/geospatial information studies*) to help us remember these pasts. The technology is also helping communities manage and protect their historical landscapes. This talk presents several projects involving a stage coach stop in Bucks County slated for demolition, two small local hospitals which are forgotten and hidden in plain sight, and a military encampment. (Kevin Donahey)
- *Marbles, Buttons, & Pipes: Objects of Identity* Small personal items--marbles, buttons and tobacco pipes--possess great power in archaeology due to their direct connection to persons living in the past. Individuals consciously purchased, used, and discarded these objects and, as a result, they can reflect elements of their owners' identity. Drawing upon artifact collections recovered from three Philadelphia archaeological sites, this talk demonstrates how such small everyday items reveal bigger personal histories. (Deirdre Kelleher)
- *Urban Re-perfection and the Destruction of the Past: Seventies and Eighties Archaeology in Philadelphia* This is the tale of a young classical archaeologist changing his career goals as he discovers the lost underground treasures of a modern American metropolis forty years ago. There are notable triumphs and sadly, many tragedies in this survey of the archaeological researchers and archaeological sites of seventies and eighties - archaeology in Philadelphia. (Dave Orr)
- *Ask the archaeologists* – Questions and Answers about Philly Area Archaeology and **RAFFLE!**

3:00pm End of Program

**This event is Co-Sponsored by the
Philadelphia Archaeological Forum and Independence National Historical Park
And is hosted by the National Constitution Center**

October is Pennsylvania Archaeology Month!

JOIN US for Part 2: *Life Along The River* on Sat., Oct. 20th, at the Independence Seaport Museum!