ARCHAEOLOGY

PATH BAST TO THE PAST

9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

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300 NORTH STREET • HARRISBURG, PA 17120-0024

In association with:
Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation
Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology
Pennsylvania Archaeological Council

PATHWAYS TO THE PAST

The theme of this year's program centers around archaeology as a tool for discovering a pathway to the past. Archaeologists have identified physical pathways such as Indigenous foot paths, portages, and trade routes but there are also the pathways archaeology can offer in enriching, and sometimes correcting narratives of the past. Pennsylvania's landscape of rolling mountains, plateaus and ridges, and major river valleys were physical factors that influenced settlement of the Commonwealth. Foot paths created by Indigenous peoples thousands of years ago led to trade and exchange routes that eventually developed into roadways. River valleys served as transportation corridors for commerce and trade from Precontact throughout time defining the locations of communities. Some pathways are not as evident, as in the underground railroad network that transported formerly enslaved peoples to communities here and elsewhere. Discovering the stories of the past can be a difficult emotional journey to uncovering heritage, as is often true for the disenfranchised, but their contributions to our Commonwealth's development are important and the archaeological record is a pathway for sharing their stories.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

9:10 A.M. - 9:25 A.M.

Opening Remarks

JANET JOHNSON, ACTING SENIOR CURATOR,
SECTION OF ARCHAEOLOGY,
THE STATE MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

SESSION 1 | 9:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Trade, Migration, or Both: Delmarva Adena-Hopewell DARRIN L. LOWERY, PH.D.

In the mid-late 19th century, historians began to recognize the presence of exotic Ohio Valley trade items along portions of the Middle Atlantic coastline. Much of this early data was lost, but new discoveries in the mid to late 20th century, sparked a renewed interest and a series of academic debates. However, many of the unique aspects and regional patterns associated with these findings were never quantified and interpretive errors were made. Personal research interests, interactions with other scholars, and consultations with avocational archaeologists over the past 40 years have afforded me an opportunity to construct an "improved" quantifiable understanding of the Delmarva Adena-Hopewell complex (circa 500BC to 450AD). Through these reinterpretations researchers can now better appreciate the material remains associated with the culture/s that arose along the coastlines of the Middle Atlantic region ~2500 years ago.

SESSION 2 | 10:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

The Search for the Ephemeral Feature Type:
A Look at Some Potential Native American
Travel Routes on the Allegheny Plateau
ANDREW J. MYERS, MA,RPA, MARIENVILLE RANGER DISTRICT,
ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

Trails serve to connect people with certain places on the landscape. Prior to the construction of the highway network that links Pennsylvania's cities and towns, earlier Native inhabitants used foot paths to reach their desired destinations. Some of these were used during hunting and gathering forays while others served to facilitate travel between neighboring villages. Remnants of these features have long since vanished from the observable record due to disuse and a climate that does not favor preservation. One method employed to detect potential travel routes was to examine the distribution of shell tempered pottery and other artifacts that have been recovered from temporary type sites including rock shelters and small open-air campsites found dispersed across the landscape. Sites were plotted on topographic maps to observe any patterns that might be evident. Relationships to historically recorded trails were noted. The results of this study will be presented herein.

10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Break - Auditorium Foyer, Coffee and Snacks

SESSION 3 | 11:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

The Venango Path:

History, Archaeology and Environment CHUCK WILLIAMS, PH.D., RPA, WILLIAMS ECOLOGICAL, LLC.

The Venango Path was a Native American pathway that ran from the Forks of the Ohio (present-day Pittsburgh) north to the village of Venango at the mouth of French Creek, and through the French Creek Valley to Presque Isle near Lake Erie. The Venango Path was an important north-south "landscape of movement" for Native Americans and Europeans alike, facilitating trade, migration and settlement, and military activities. This presentation will focus on the forgotten landscapes and historic environments traversed by the Venango Path in the 18th and 19th centuries.

SESSION 4 | 11:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

"Over the Hump":

Portages and Pathways into Western PA KENNETH BURKETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORY CENTER, FIELD ASSOCIATE, CARNEGIE MUSEUM

Use of canoes by the early Native Americans in Pennsylvania is often an overlooked aspect of long-distance mobility. This presentation will examine both historical, geographical and artifact evidence relating to extensive prehistoric interregional travel by water between the Susquehanna and Allegheny River basins. Additionally, examination of identified portages between the east to west flowing tributaries of central and western Pennsylvania will be discussed.

12:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Lunch on your own - see order form for bagged lunch options

SESSION 5 | 1:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

The Underground Railroad through Cumberland County MATTHEW MARCH, EDUCATION DIRECTOR, **CUMBERLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Due to the very transient nature of freedom seekers and laws prohibiting assistance to formerly enslaved peoples, it can be difficult to form definitive answers to the questions of the Underground Railroad in the border region of south-central Pennsylvania. These issues are compounded by the scarcity of oral histories, and the meager archaeological record. Through the combination of court transcripts, industrial pay logs, road dockets, abolitionist narratives and historic African American settlements, we can hopefully reveal a fuller story of Underground Railroad routes and sites.

SESSION 6 | 2:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Mt. Tabor AME Church Preservation CARMEN JAMES, MT. TABOR PRESERVATION PROJECT

It all started with one phone call asking about the old church on Cedar Street, in Mt. Holly Springs, PA. That call and the resulting stories from the Gumby Family led to an overwhelming turnout of neighbors and volunteers to save the former AME Zion Church and nearby cemetery. Mt. Tabor Preservation Project (MTPP) is also the result of that first phone call. MTPP believes the church and cemetery are an important piece of history, with a goal of ensuring that both are on course to be recognized and maintained. The church was established by formerly enslaved and free individuals who migrated to the town after the Civil War. The church was the heart of the local community. The former Mt. Tabor AME Zion church and cemetery was listed on the Preservation PA at Risk List in 2018, The **Cumberland County Historical Society Register of** Historic Places in 2017 and the National Register of Historic Places in 2021. The nearby cemetery is the final resting place of seven (7) Civil War veterans.

2:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Break - Auditorium Foyer, Snacks

SESSION 7 | 3:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

CCC Company 361-C, S-62 PA: Exploratory Archaeology at Penn-Roosevelt State Park KATE PERESOLAK, M.A., RPA, PENNSYLVANIA OUTDOOR CORPS (PAOC) CULTURAL RESOURCES CREW (CRC) LEADER, THE STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (SCA)

Some Pennsylvanians know that the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) members played an integral role in creating many of our state parks and forest spaces from 1933-1942 as part of a federal work program. Fewer visitors, however, know that the CCC was segregated and that numerous camps, separated by ethnicity, gender, or veteran status, worked across the nation. During May of 2022, the PAOC CRC surveyed a portion of the former Company 361-C, S-62 PA Camp, one of the "colored" camps (the term used at the time and in contemporaneous historic documentation). at Penn-Roosevelt State Park. Metal detection and find recordation were utilized to begin fieldwork and supplement continued research on the property, helping to broaden our current knowledge of African American CCC Camps in Pennsylvania, including the events and perhaps lives of the men in Company 361-C, S-62 PA Camp.

3:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Questions and Discussion

Closing Remarks- audience question and answer session with presenters

4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

Reception - Susquehanna Room, Light Snacks

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Flintknapping Demonstration - Auditorium Foyer STEVE NISSLY

Expert flintknapper and avocational archaeologist, Steve Nissly, will demonstrate and share his knowledge of stone tool production and tool use during the Pre-Contact and Contact periods in PA.

Available during break times 10:30-11:00 and 2:30-3:00

Recording of archaeological sites is an essential task in protecting and preserving our archaeological resources. Assistance in identifying artifacts and recording the archaeological sites from which they came will be provided by these qualified individuals.

Site Recording in Cultural Resources Geographic Information System - Susquehanna Room NOEL STRATTAN AND CASEY HANSON, STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Artifact Identification - Susquehanna Room JAMES HERBSTRITT AND DAVID BURKE, **CURATORS SECTION OF ARCHAEOLOGY**

Special Thanks

State Historic Preservation Office, PHMC

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Registration Name(s)

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## .	#1: Chicken Caesar wrap - \$8.50 Chicken, lettuce, tomato, Caesar dressing, whole wheat wrap. Chips.	ŏ
#5:	#2: Vegetable wrap - \$8.50 Tomato, cucumber, roasted red peppers, banana peppers, guacamole, spinach, provolone, whole wheat wrap. Chips.	Σ
#3	#3: Turkey and arugula - \$8.50 - Oven roasted turkey, provolone, garlic aioli, arugula, tomato, ciabatta roll. Chips.	
# 4	#44: Chicken salad - \$8.50 Diced chicken in mayo mixture with grapes, apples, dried cranberries, leaf lettuce, ciabatta roll. Chips.	Farív
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