

**Allegheny Chapter #1**  
of the  
**Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.**

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**Editor**

Amanda Valko  
116 E. Englewood Avenue  
New Castle, PA 16105  
724-654-2744 (H)  
amanda@quemahoning.com

**Officers 2017 - 2019**

President: Brian Fritz  
Vice President Beverly Chiarulli  
Secretary/Treasurer: Amanda Valko

**Meeting Information**

First Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.,  
February through June and September through  
November. Holiday Dinner is in December at  
an alternate location.

**September 2018** - Amanda Valko, M.A., RPA  
and Brian Fritz, M.S., RPA, GISP,  
Quemahoning LLC, will present the program  
“*Finding the Garvers Ferry Railroad Station*”.

**October 2018** - To be announced.

**November 2018** – To be announced.

*Meetings are held at Michael Baker  
International, 100 Airside Drive, Moon  
Township, PA in the first floor presentation  
room. Parking is free. Building is locked so  
please buzz the security guard to get in and  
sign in at the reception desk.*

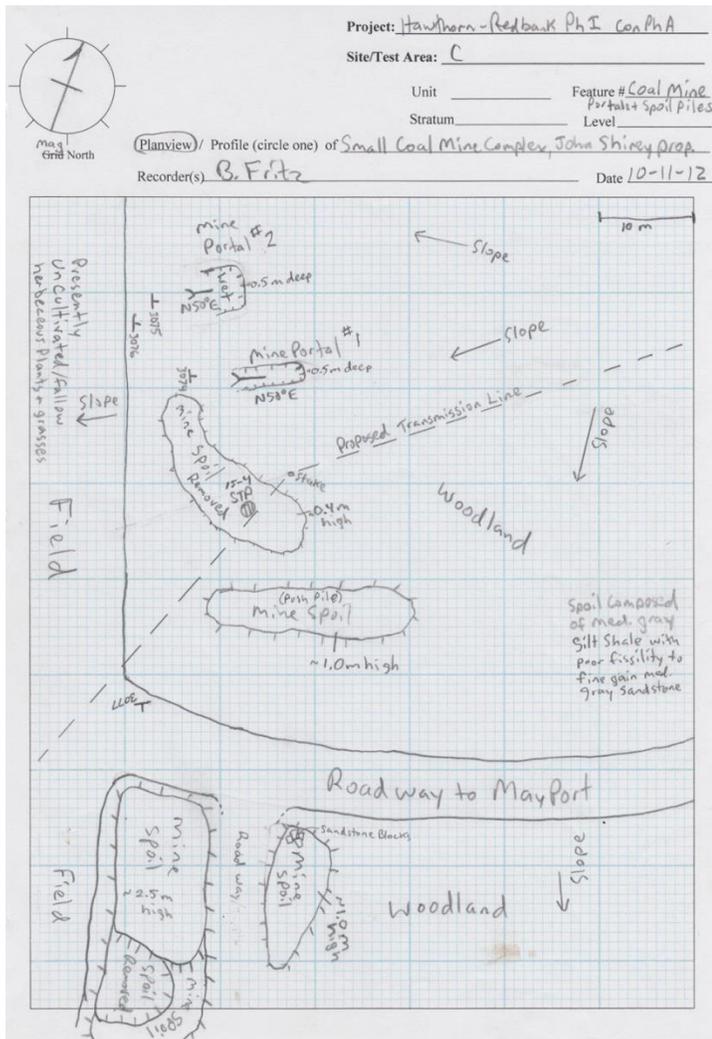
**President’s Letter**

**Maps**

Lately, I’ve been thinking a lot about maps. Map making is one of the basic skills of an archaeologist. The sketch of a feature is a map. The vertical profile of soil strata is another kind of map. At the scale of the archaeological site, rudimentary tools such as a hand compass and measuring tape have been largely displaced by electronic survey instruments and GPS collectors. These instruments combined with computer base mapping software greatly speed up the process of collecting map data and producing high quality maps for reports. Our ability to make meaningful and visually appealing maps has greatly enhanced archaeological reports and publications.

There are occasions when the trusted compass and measuring tape are the right tools for the job. When field time is at a premium, a quick and dirty hand drawn map is better than no map. With some practice, good field maps can be drawn very quickly. With a 30-meter tape stretched across the site as a temporary baseline, offset distance and direction to important features can be quickly measured and plotted on graph paper. The hand compass works equally well at siting angles across the ground and drafting those angles on paper. The hand sketched map below is of a historic coal mine site located in the Redbank Creek valley near Mayport, Pennsylvania. I was able to complete this map in less than thirty minutes using an inexpensive compass, a 30-meter tape, and a 5-meter tape.

--Brian L. Fritz



Hand sketched map of a historic coal mine site located in the Redbank Creek valley near Mayport, Pennsylvania.

## Finding the Garvers Ferry Railroad Station

In August 2017, Quemahoning LLC completed a Geomorphological study and a phase I/II archaeological survey for the Wynn and Clara Tredway Extension Project located in Allegheny Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. The Tredway Trail is a 4 km (2.5 mi) long bicycle and walking trail that follows the abandoned Allegheny Valley Railroad grade along the east bank of the Allegheny River from New Kensington to the intersection of Garvers Ferry Road and Carnahan Road. Initial project scoping determined that all project activities will occur in or on an existing building, parking lot, driveway, road, road shoulder, street, runway, paved area, or railroad

bed; and that a Phase I cultural resources survey was unnecessary.

However, a field inspection by PennDOT historic preservation specialists found potential adverse effects to archaeological deposits as a result of tree clearing and grubbing activities which exposed historic period artifacts and construction materials on the ground surface. Following this discovery, procedures for mitigating adverse effects to cultural resources were invoked to facilitate project compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

During the archaeological investigations of what was designated Test Area A, several nearby homeowners visited with us and all commented that local oral tradition placed the location of the Garvers Ferry railroad station at or near Test Area A. The 1907 USGS 15 minute topographical map also places Garvers Ferry Station at or near Test Area A. Investigations unearthed artifacts and features that confirmed the location of the the Garvers Ferry Railroad station in this location.

## Arkhaios and State Heritage Film

Dear Arkhaios Friends,

This is a chance to watch online a great example of a State Heritage film, a track I'm hoping to start about PA. Here is a message from the filmmaker, George Wingard. His film won the 2014 Arkhaios SC Heritage Award, and an Audience Favorite Award too.

"In early September 2018 *Discovering Dave: Spirit Captured in Clay* will be celebrating its 5th anniversary. For all of you who haven't seen it yet, now is your chance. Click on the link below and you can watch it in the comfort of your home. It'll only be up for a little while, so watch it while you can before it goes "back in the vault". Please leave a comment – Mark and I will appreciate it." *Discovering Dave: Spirit Captured in Clay* <https://vimeo.com/145320466>.

The documentary revolves around the story of the Edgefield, South Carolina slave potter named David Drake who used his skills as a craftsman to create

beautiful pottery during the turbulent 1800s. Producing thousands of pots in his lifetime, remarkably, Dave also wrote poetry and signed many of his vessels. The story is a testament to his will to be heard and leave his mark for the ages even at risk of severe punishment.

Produced by filmmaker Mark Albertin of Scrapbook Video Productions and archeologist, George Wingard of the Savannah River Archaeological Research program over a period of two years, the film gives insight to the man known simply as Dave, through in-depth interviews from artists, scholars, writers, historians and archaeologists.

Mark Albertin has produced numerous historical documentary films, most recently, “Displaced – The Unexpected Fallout from the Cold War” and “War Stories – Augusta Area Veterans Remember World War II.

George Wingard is an accomplished archaeologist who, with his team at the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program uncovered a “Dave” vessel in 2006, giving inspiration to produce the film highlighted in this release.

Jean Guilleux

## **Archaeology Channel Tour of Iran**

By Richard Pettigrew

We will repeat The Archaeology Channel Tour of Iran during the period October 19 to November 4, 2018. Six people already have signed up. We require a minimum of ten people and have a maximum of 25. We are doing everything possible to recruit a full complement of 25. Would you consider joining us for this rare chance to see unspoiled and spectacular sites representing ancient and medieval Persia, nestled in the cradle of civilization?

This is our second Tour of Iran—our first was in October and November 2017. For me, as the tour leader, it will be my fourth visit to that country, whose kind and welcoming people have cultivated a warm place in my heart. Our tour group in 2017

began their visit with some apprehensions, owing to the constantly negative media coverage and pervasive stereotypes about Iran, but very quickly and unanimously relaxed and enjoyed each day of what became a transformative experience. We made a short video about that trip, which you can see at <https://youtu.be/NsXv6VX3Ww0>.

I urge you not to be dissuaded by the negative news coverage. Iran is one of the safest places you ever could visit and the people there welcome foreigners, especially Americans, with open arms. Our tour members will be good will ambassadors and our overture to people there will be warmly reciprocated.

Our online page about the tour is at <https://www.archaeologychannel.org/iran-tour/>, where we even have the registration form.

## **Allegheny Chapter Officers**

A little late but finally at the May Meeting chapter officers for the 2017-2019 term were officially elected. They are as follows:

President – Brian Fritz  
Vice President – Dr. Beverly Chiarulli  
Secretary/Treasurer – Amanda Valko  
2 Yr. Director (17-19) – Pam Billman  
4 Yr. Director (17-21) – Mike Woshner

The 6 Yr. Director (15-21) is still Dr. William Johnson.

## **Eastern States Archaeological Federation 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

The 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation will be held November 1 - 4, 2018 at the Ramada Inn, 21000 NYS Rt 3, Watertown, NY 13601. Phone: (315) 788-0700 Fax: (315) 785-9875 [www.ramadawatertown.com](http://www.ramadawatertown.com). Identify yourself as attending the conference for the discounted rate of \$75, plus tax, per room. Please go to the ESAF web page for more information at <https://esaf-archeology.org/index.html>.

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP FORM

To become a member of Allegheny Chapter #1, SPA, complete this form and send it to Amanda Valko, Secretary, Allegheny Chapter #1. Thank you!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT CHAPTER AFFILIATION (IF ANY) \_\_\_\_\_ STATE MEMBER? \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (CHECK ONE):

<input type="checkbox"/> LIFE	\$150.00	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE HUSBAND/WIFE	\$16.00
<input type="checkbox"/> SUSTAINING	\$ 20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT	\$ 8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL	\$ 10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> INSTITUTIONAL	\$16.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALLEGHENY CHAPTER NO. 1, SPA

RETURN TO: Amanda Valko  
116 E. Englewood Avenue  
New Castle, PA 16105  
724/654-2744

Allegheny Chapter #1, SPA  
Amanda Valko, Editor  
116 E. Englewood Avenue  
New Castle, PA 16105-2129