



NEWS RELEASE

Public Invited to Dig Into Local Archeology; Experts to Share Discoveries, Insights Gained

FREDERICK, MD – April 9, 2018: At 6 p.m. on April 17, archeologists familiar with three local sites will share what they have learned about the historical locations.

"Digging Local: Important Archaeological Sites in Frederick County," will be in the Community Room at the C. Burr Artz Library, 110 E. Patrick St., with no reservation or fee required to attend. The City of Frederick Planning Department organized the event for Archaeology Month.

The three Frederick area sites to be discussed are Catoctin Furnace, L'Hermitage Slave Village at Best Farm, and Rosenstock Native American village site.

Participants will include:

Emcee:

- Peter Regan, senior archaeologist at AECOM and a member of Frederick's Historic Preservation Commission

Speakers:

- **Joseph E. Clemens**, the archaeological crew chief with EAC/ Archaeology, will speak about the Catoctin Furnace
 - The large labor force needed to operate an iron furnace in the late 18th and 19th century required the workforce to live close to the industrial complex they operated. Information drawn from the surviving structures at Catoctin Furnace, near Thurmont, Maryland, along with primary sources such as oral histories, historic maps, company ledgers, and court documents, provide a comparative example for iron furnace villages in the area that are less well preserved. Understanding the interconnectivity of commerce within the village structure through archaeological excavation, and other techniques can provide insight into the role of the furnace workforce as both consumers and producers in their built environment.

- **Alex Vindas Cruz**, from the National Park Service, will talk about the Best Farm Slave Village
 - This will be an overview of the 2010 archaeological research project at Monocacy National Battlefield. This investigation examined the L'Hermitage Slave Village and an example of the institution of slavery located just 3 miles south of downtown Frederick. The information gathered during this study provides a more complete picture of the L'Hermitage plantation, as well as an increased understanding of slavery in late 18th to early 19th century Maryland.

- **Andy Stout**, the regional director of The Archaeological Conservancy, will review Rosenstock
 - The Rosenstock Native American village site (AD 1335-1400) is the most significant Native American archaeological site within the current limits of the City of Frederick. The site was acquired by The Archaeological Conservancy in 2011 and established as a permanent archaeological research preserve. The Rosenstock site was recently submitted for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This presentation will provide a general overview of the Rosenstock site's history and the work of The Archaeological Conservancy in the region.

Further information about the event is available from Christina Martinkosky, historic preservation planner, 301-600-1831, cmartinkosky@cityoffrederick.com.

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