



ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF DELAWARE



NEW SWEDEN CENTRE



SWEDISH COLONIAL
SOCIETY



INSTITUTE OF
MARITIME HISTORY

Chesapeake and Delaware Reconnaissance, 1 April to 19 May 2012

The Archaeological Society of Delaware (ASD), the New Sweden Centre, the Swedish Colonial Society, the Institute of Maritime History (IMH), and the University of Delaware will collaborate on a combined underwater and terrestrial archaeological reconnaissance on the east side of the Delaware River to locate and assess any remains of Fort Elfsborg, a 17th century Swedish fort, and to report them to the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs (DHCA) and/or the New Jersey Bureau of Archaeology and Ethnology (BAE).

Fieldwork at Fort Elfsborg is expected to take nine days, from 14 to 22 April. ASD and IMH also will spend the week of 1 to 6 April scanning for 246 wrecks in the Chesapeake Bay for the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) while in transit to Fort Elfsborg, the week of 6 to 13 April searching for Revolutionary War wrecks near Philadelphia for BAE, the week of 23 to 31 April searching for War of 1812 wrecks near the Mispillion River for DHCA, and three weeks from 31 April to 19 May diving some of those 246 sites in transit back home to Tall Timbers, Maryland.

Fieldwork will involve non-intrusive reconnaissance only. In-water work will employ IMH's boat *Roper* and small boats with sidescan sonar, magnetometers, and scuba divers using handheld metal detectors. Terrestrial reconnaissance also will be conducted with metal detectors. Cultural features and artifacts will be mapped and reported to the states where they lie. Artifacts will not be recovered.

Dr. Lu Ann DeCunzo of the University of Delaware will be the Principal Investigator for work ashore in New Jersey. Mr. Craig Lukezic of DHCA and ASD will be the Principal Investigator for work afloat in Delaware. Dawn Cheshaek of ASD and David Howe of IMH and SCS will be Project Managers.



The project is open to all members of ASD, IMH, or SCS, especially those with archaeological or diving experience.

If you would like to join in research or fieldwork please telephone David Howe at 302-222-4712, or email him at david.howe@maritimehistory.org.