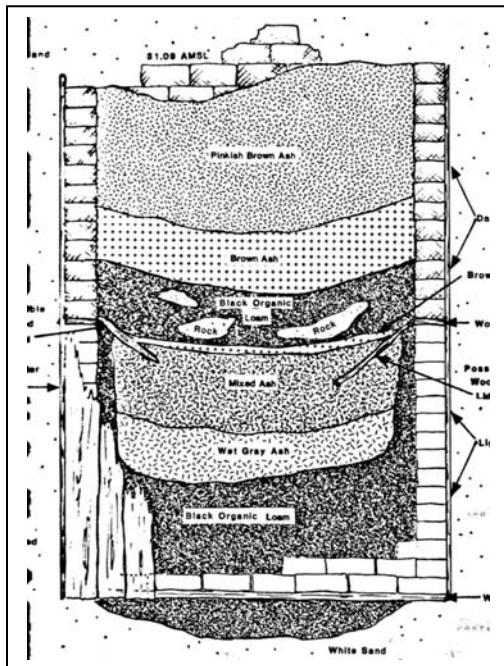


URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Urban archaeology is both archaeology “in the city” and “of the city.” Archaeology in the city studies a wide range of prehistoric, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century sites which, because of their urban environment, are partially disturbed by more recent building or are buried by the dynamic process of building and rebuilding, depositing fills and redepositing fills which characterize the city. Archaeology of the city studies the process of urban growth and the ethnic or social histories of individuals and families who lived and died in the city. Urban Archaeology requires the experience and expertise to recognize the importance, or lack of importance, of urban features when they are exposed. Without such expertise, urban projects can grind to a halt. CHRS has performed urban projects in the Cities of Philadelphia, Baltimore, Annapolis, and in urbanized settings throughout the Middle Atlantic.



Charles Center Place, Baltimore Maryland. As with many urban projects, the Charles Center Place project took place during construction. A wide range of shaft features and architectural remains were found relating to the block's development during the second half of the nineteenth century. The data collected was important, as it illustrated that historical data relating to the homogeneity of urban living during the nineteenth century elsewhere in the Middle Atlantic had not occurred in Baltimore during this period. The data from the site, collected without interfering with the construction schedule of the project, suggests that Baltimore, despite its size and importance, was similar to smaller urban centers in the Middle Atlantic.

Market Street Bridge Replacement Project, Marcus Hook, and Upper Chichester Township, Pennsylvania. This project was undertaken in the highly urbanized area of Marcus Hook, just down river from Philadelphia. In addition to fill, building debris, shaft and other urban features, portions of the site contained intact yard areas from the mid-nineteenth-century occupation of the area. The project provided some of the first information concerning the relationship between rural and urban settings and the changes in material culture that urbanization brought to the local inhabitants.





I-95 Reconstruction Project, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This project entailed archaeological monitoring during the removal of piers supporting Interstate 95 through the City of Philadelphia and during foundation excavation. Working with construction crews allowed for several features to be identified and avoided. Information concerning the historical development and use of fill material was documented.

H&S Bakery Site, Baltimore, Maryland. This project was one of the first urban projects undertaken in the City of Baltimore. The project entailed the expansion of a Bakery in the Fells Point section of the City. Shaft features containing artifacts from the eighteenth century through the early twentieth century were encountered during the excavations.



Baltimore Financial Center Project, Baltimore, Maryland.

This project explored the center of Old Baltimore. One block from the wharves, the site encountered the foundations of the first house built in Baltimore as well as a range of features preserved along the edges of the construction zone due to changes

in the streetscape occasioned by reforms in roadway width subsequent to the City's 1904 fire. Artifacts from the eighteenth century, the late nineteenth century, and the early twentieth century were found and excavated during construction.