



## Current Projects

### Historical Archaeology in Maryland

#### Patuxent Encounters: Scenes from a Late Woodland Village on Chesapeake Bay

*Kelly Michele Cooper*

In August of 2007, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, located along the Patuxent River in Southern Maryland, hosted Patuxent Encounters: The Patuxent Indians and Captain John Smith, just one of the many events highlighting the 400th anniversary of Captain John Smith's exploration of the Chesapeake Bay. Archaeological and ethnographic data suggest that a possible village, depicted on Smith's 1608 map, was located within the 560-acre park. As part of the six month commemoration, educators and archaeologists at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum constructed a recreated Eastern Woodland Village, which has allowed park educators to bring to life the archaeology of the seventeenth-century Chesapeake. This paper provides images from the village during Patuxent Encounters weekend, which provided the public a glimpse of Native American and Colonial interaction during the early years of settlement.



Figure 1: 17th century map of Virginia with the location of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.



Figure 2: The living history recreation of a 17th century Eastern Woodland village.

#### *Author Biography:*

Kelly Cooper offers public programs for Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in Maryland.

[Return to Top](#)

Unlocking  
the Past...

