

**Council for Maryland Archeology – Lifetime
Achievement Award, March 28, 2015
Stephen Israel**

The Council for Maryland Archaeology (CfMA) is pleased to award Stephen Israel for lifetime achievement and contributions to Maryland archaeology. For the past 40+ years, Stephen has been a tireless contributor to the archaeological community in Maryland and surrounding states. His research has ranged from prehistoric settlement patterns and subsistence systems, to ecology, geoarchaeology, industrial archaeology, and history. Mr. Israel is a past President of the Council for Maryland Archaeology (1979, 2005-2006), and is the longstanding Chairperson of Central Chapter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM). Stephen's first archaeological experience in Maryland was in 1968, at the Saunders Point Historic Site; where he helped salvage an 18th century cellar feature. He completed a Master's Degree in Anthropology in 1969 from the University of Oklahoma. His archaeological exploits were interrupted for a tour in Vietnam. In 1975 he returned from service and conducted archaeological studies of Fort Frederick for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. From 1976 until his retirement in 2003 he worked as an archeologist for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, with responsibility for research activity in four states. Since 2003 he has been anything but retired, and has contributed widely to ASM and CfMA activities. He has also been an active member of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation, the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council, and archeological organizations in several states.

Stephen has authored a wealth of technical reports; a recent search of the MHT library collections revealed 64 reports of his authorship on file. Another 5 reports are on file at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Most of these are compliance reports associated with his work for the Army Corps. While with the Army Corps Stephen conducted his own research, leading the Central Chapter of ASM on many archaeological projects. Stephen has gotten well deserved acclaim for articles he published on his multiyear study of rockshelters in the Maryland Piedmont in the early 1990s. In this project the Central Chapter initiated an eight year long archeological reconnaissance, locating and recording what wound up being 413 rockshelters along the 51 mile long Big Gunpowder Falls and 34 mile long Little Gunpowder Falls Watersheds. It was a great project and a seminal study for those interested in Maryland prehistory. It should also be noted that Stephen has been a frequent contributor to *Maryland Archeology*, ASM's official journal.

Stephen was the 2012 recipient of ASM's William B. Marye Award, noting his long years of service to the community, and his outstanding as well as lasting contributions to Maryland archeology. In 2007, the Archeological Society of Virginia presented him with their Out Of State Award for Outstanding Service to the archeology of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Stephen is particularly well known for his willingness to take on almost any task that will

further the cause of Maryland Archeology and for his generosity with his time in assisting and guiding avocational archeologists. CfMA and ASM can always count on him to support CAT program activities as well as the Annual Field Sessions. Perhaps even more importantly, he has been a tireless advocate for providing opportunities for students and for the professional development of the next generation of Maryland's archeologists. For this reason, the Council for Maryland Archeology is pleased to announce that the annual award for student papers is being renamed the Stephen Israel Student Award.