MCC ARCHAEOLOGY
FIELD SCHOOL

Presentation to the MCC Board of Trustees
August 28, 2014
Field School

- Coordinated with Midwest Archaeological Research Services (MARS), Marengo IL

- Also working with MARS is William Rainey Harper College and Elgin Community College

- Excavations are conducted at the Macktown Site located near Rockton IL
Site

- Macktown – an historic (1834 – 1850) site with a prehistoric (back to 8,000 ya) component

- Town was established by Stephen Mack

- Goal – locate the original buildings in order to reconstruct a living history

Macktown Living History website

Photo by J. Cameron
Macktown Living History

Inside Stephen Mack House

Whitman Trading Post

S. Stephens House Under Construction

Mack House

Photos by J. Cameron
MCC Students and Staff Participating in the Excavation

Photos by J. Cameron
Summer 2013 Field School Excavations were centered on finding the William Shores house

Cistern associated with William Shores house

Photo courtesy of Steven Katz, MARS
Clay Pipe and Marble Recovered from the William Shores House

Photos by J. Cameron
Other Historic Items from the William Shores House

Photos courtesy of Steven Katz, MARS
Field School Featured in Publication
Summer of 2014

- Moved to another area of site where it is believed that French fur trappers might have established a camp

- Recovered evidence of Late Woodland (1500-1000 ya) prehistoric occupation

Photos by J. Cameron
Summer of 2014

Features found at site

Photos courtesy of Steven Katz, MARS
Prehistoric Artifacts

Late Woodland Cordware

Photos by J. Cameron
In Summary

- Field School provides an opportunity for students to learn:
  - Basic excavation procedures
  - Laboratory procedures
  - History and prehistory of region

Photos by J. Cameron
Conclusion

• The field school provides an opportunity to practice and apply what is learned in the classroom.

• Also discover what archaeologists actually do!
Illinois Archaeology Awareness Month

- Month of September each year

- Sept. 13 MARS (and others) have demonstrations and displays at Powers-Walker house at Glacial Park

- Time: noon-4:00 pm

Photos by J. Cameron