



TUDOR PLACE

HISTORIC HOUSE AND GARDEN

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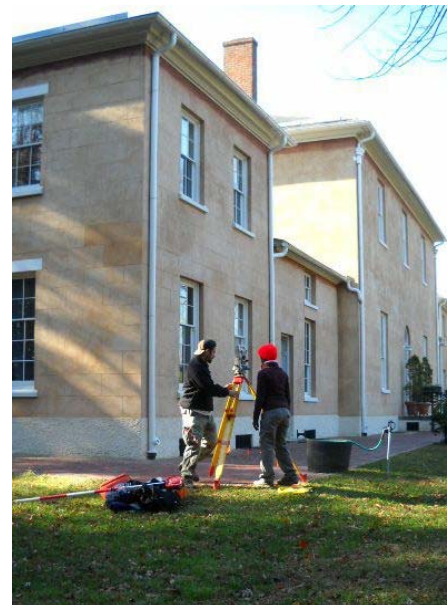
Tudor Place Archaeology Survey Earns Excellence in Historic Preservation Award

WASHINGTON, DC---For its intensive site-wide archaeological survey, Tudor Place Historic House & Garden has been awarded the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office's Ninth Annual Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation. The museum's executive director and Trustees and representatives of Dovetail Cultural Resources, which carried out the work, will accept the prize for Archaeology this Thursday, June 21, at the Sixth and I Historic Synagogue. Seventeen other prize categories include Stewardship, Design & Construction, Publications, and Affordable Housing, among others. Former Historic Preservation Review Board Chairman Tersh Boasberg will also receive a Lifetime Achievement Award.

"We are thrilled to be recognized for this foundational survey that informs interpretation of the site and the larger scholarship on how suburban estates of the early 19th century functioned," said Tudor Place Executive Director Leslie Buhler. "Archaeology is a critical component of our research. We look forward to what further excavations will reveal."

The project revealed more than 800 artifacts from the 18th through mid-20th centuries. It also offered clues to the location of possible slave quarters, what may have been a burned barn, and a small brick dwelling on the 1816 National Historic Landmark site.

The "Phase 1" survey, completed in May, covered the property's full 5.5 acres. Dovetail Cultural Resources conducted it for Tudor Place with funding from the Clark-Winchcole Foundation. The project met goals including identifying past building sites; locating (for



The award-winning Tudor Place survey located possible sites of slave quarters and other buildings.

reference in future improvements) areas without significant subsurface cultural significance; and providing archaeological context for past and future excavations. It consisted of a pedestrian survey, close-interval subsurface "shovel tests" to recover artifacts, and mapping of all points of interest using GPS.



Dovetail Cultural Resources conducted the archaeological survey, which will inform future scholarship and interpretation.

The survey was one of several preservation and conservation projects begun or completed at Tudor Place in 2011. Others, to cite just a few, focused on Martha and George Washington's unique tabletop [plateau](#) and their [waxwork](#) (already the source of a rare decorative [artifact](#)); the architecturally noteworthy [Temple Portico](#); and the [Box Knot Garden](#) once tended by Tudor Place's original owners. All such endeavors by the Tudor Place Foundation provide documentation for school programs, educator workshops, public programs, and scholarly research.

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Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, a National Historic Landmark in Georgetown's Historic District, is a house museum distinguished for its neoclassical architecture, decorative arts collection and 5.5-acre garden.

Built in 1816, it was home to Thomas Peter and his wife, Martha Custis Peter, granddaughter of

Martha Washington, and housed six generations of the Peter family over the course of 180 years. Open to the public since 1988, the historic home is one of our nation's historic gems.

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