

Biographical Sketch

Stephen R. Potter received his B.A. in anthropology from the University of Missouri at Columbia, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In July 2016, Stephen retired after more than 39 years of Federal Service; 36 years as the Regional Archaeologist for the National Park Service, National Capital Region; two years Active Duty in the U.S. Army; and one year with the Smithsonian Institution. Prior to his retirement, Dr. Potter received the John L. Cotter, Professional Achievement Award for Excellence in National Park Service Archaeology and a Dedication Arrowhead from the Office of Ranger Services for his support and assistance in protecting cultural resources, particularly in regard to the enforcement of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. Stephen's continuing research interests include both the prehistoric and historic archaeology of the eastern United States, the 17th-century Chesapeake frontier, the southern Algonquian Indians, the cartographic history of colonial America, the development and history of the American longrifle, and the archaeology and history of the American Civil War.

The author of numerous articles and chapters on a variety of topics, his books include *Commoners, Tribute, and Chiefs: The Development of Algonquian Culture in the Potomac Valley* and *Archaeological Perspectives on the American Civil War* (co-editor and contributing author). In 2015-2016, he served as a Consultant to the Jamestown Yorktown Foundation for the special, temporary exhibit "Bartering for a Continent: How Anglo-Indian Trade Shaped America." In addition, Stephen has appeared in television programs on The Learning Channel, The History Channel, and the Smithsonian Channel. He's also been a guest three times on the popular NPR Kojo Nnamdi radio show. Presently he works as a field archaeologist on an as-needed basis for WSP, lectures on various subjects at local schools, universities, and to professional organizations, serves on the Board of the Friends of Fairfax Archaeology, and is an Emeritus Archaeological Volunteer for the National Park Service. A native of Fairfax County, Virginia, Stephen's ancestral roots in the Old Dominion go back to at least 1705.