



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



October 2008 Archeology E-Gram

NPS Assists State Department in Training of Afghan Cultural Resource Specialists

Three Afghan cultural heritage specialists of the Ministry of Information and Culture are participating in a professional training program in archeological and historical site management from September through November 2008. The program syllabus includes planning; security; preservation; site inventory, condition assessment, and documentation; site conservation and stabilization; public education and outreach; community relations; and collections management. Following their arrival in the U.S., the Afghan participants met with cultural heritage specialists in various U.S. government, non-profit, and international agencies and began their field-based training at national parks in the Washington, DC area. On October 1 they traveled national park units in Arizona and New Mexico for training activities. This project is co-sponsored by the NPS and the State Department, Cultural Heritage Center, in cooperation with the George Wright Society.

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U.S. Preservationist Elected President of ICOMOS

Gustavo F. Araoz, AIA, was elected President of the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) during the organization's 16th General Assembly and International Scientific Colloquium, held in Quebec City, Canada, September 29 - October 4, 2008. He is the seventh President of ICOMOS, and the first American ever elected to this office. Born in Cuba, Mr. Araoz is a preservation architect by training. His career combines professional practice, academia, and institutional management. He has served as Executive Director of the United States Committee of ICOMOS since 1995. Since 2002, he has served as International Vice President of ICOMOS, spearheading organizational reforms and advocating greater engagement of ICOMOS members worldwide. Mr. Araoz currently serves as Executive Director of the United States Committee for ICOMOS (US/ICOMOS), headquartered in Washington, DC.

Mr. Araoz envisions an ICOMOS that is a universally accessible stage for the open exchange of ideas, a major source for the creation and spread of knowledge, a venue for cross-border cooperation, an alert steward of cultural heritage places everywhere, and, foremost, the undisputed world authority in heritage conservation.

ICOMOS General Assembly Adopts Ename Charter

During its 16th General Assembly, ICOMOS voted to adopt as one of its central documents the *Charter on the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites*, also known as the Ename Charter. This charter deals with the methods and technologies of effective, responsible public heritage communication. The need for internationally accepted principles of interpretation and presentation is a matter of increasing urgency at a time of intensifying environmental and human threats to heritage and with the growth in many regions of elaborate heritage "theme parks," designed primarily for income generation rather than for conservation and education.

The Charter does not prescribe specific content for site presentations, nor does it impose a "uniform" pattern on how particular monuments, sites, or cultural landscapes should be explained to the public. Rather, it deals with the fundamental issues of access; information sources; context and setting; authenticity; inclusiveness; sustainability; and research, education, and training. The Charter seeks to

ensure that these issues are considered and incorporated into public communication with all heritage stakeholders, including tourists, local and associated communities, and local educational systems.

The new Charter represents a consensus by the ICOMOS community on the central principles of the interpretation and presentation of cultural heritage sites.

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(For more information about the Ename Charter, go the November 2007 Archeology E-gram and read “ICOMOS Committee Approves Ename Charter;” and to the September 2007 E-Gram and read “Draft of ICOMOS Interpretation and Presentation Charter Finished.”)

NPS Assists in Development of Conservation and Historic Preservation Institute in Iraq

The U.S. will assist Iraq to reestablish a professional workforce and capacity to care for the archeological and historical objects, sites, and structures in Iraq. A Conservation and Historic Preservation Institute will be established in Erbil, Iraq, and operate under the guidance of the Walters Art Museum, the Winterthur Conservation Program, the University of Delaware, the NPS, and the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH). The goal of the partnership is to enhance the capabilities of the SBAH.

With funding from the Department of State and private sources, the NPS will provide technical assistance in developing curriculum related to activities and programs for archeological sites and historic structures. Topics to be covered include archeological and historical resource management and planning; site protection and security; resource identification, evaluation, documentation, and collections curation; site and architectural conservation and stabilization; and site and architectural interpretation, public outreach, and heritage tourism.

Courses will include theoretical, methodological, and historical topics as well as “hands-on” site and structure investigation, documentation, and conservation activities. NPS experts are expected to be among the instructors for individual courses. Depending on the topic and available facilities and resources, courses will range in length from a few weeks to several months.

The position of archeology and historic preservation project coordinator who will work closely with the NPS on the development of this curriculum has been advertised on the SAA website (www.saa.org/careers/job-listing.html#chp2). The cooperating organizations hope that courses can begin as soon as local facilities in Erbil are available, key staff are hired, and potential professional trainees are identified.

NPS Initiates Survey of Historic Property Inventories

The NPS National Historic Landmarks and National Register Programs have initiated a survey of historic property inventory systems. The survey is an initial step addressing the Preserve America recommendation to develop a comprehensive and more readily accessible nationwide inventory of historic properties. State, Federal, and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers responded to the National Historic Property Inventory Initiative Survey to assess the various practices, capacities, and needs of the existing historic property data bases. The results of the survey and follow-up investigations will summarize the state of our various databases and will highlight those areas in which funding and other support might be directed to improve and upgrade current database capacities. The results of the survey and recommendations will be available in early 2009.

Contact: Paul Loether, 202-354-2003

NPS Regional Survey Plans Online

NPS regional plans provide overviews of archeological inventory needs in national parks across the U.S. and in U.S. territories and possessions. Plans are now online at

www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/discovery1.htm#links for all seven regions: Alaska, Intermountain, Midwest, National Capital, Northeast, Pacific West, and Southeast. Some plans cover all parks in the region while others cover clusters of parks in the region.

U.S. Ratifies Treaty to Protect Cultural Property in Time of War

The U.S. Senate voted to ratify the *1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict*. This international convention regulates the conduct of nations during war and military occupation in order to assure the protection of cultural sites, and monuments and repositories, including museums, libraries, and archives. Written in the wake of the widespread cultural devastation perpetrated by Nazi Germany during World War II, and modeled on instructions given by General Eisenhower to aid in the preservation of Europe's cultural legacy, the Hague Convention is the oldest international agreement to address exclusively cultural heritage preservation. The U.S. now joins 121 other nations as a party to this treaty. By taking this significant step, the U.S. demonstrates its commitment to the preservation of the world's cultural, artistic, religious, and historic legacy.

Although the United States signed the Convention soon after its creation, the Pentagon objected to ratification because of increasing Cold War tensions. Only with the collapse of the Soviet Union did the U.S. military withdraw its objections, and President Clinton transmitted it to the Senate in 1999. The public attention given to the looting of the Iraq Museum in Baghdad and the looting of archaeological sites in southern Iraq during the ensuing years, revived interest in the Convention, and the Senate finally voted to give its advice and consent to ratification on September 25, 2008.

Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage to Go into Effect

Barbados accepted the *2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage* on October 2, 2008. This is the 20th instrument deposited by a State to join the Convention. According to its Article 27, the Convention enters therefore into force on January 2, 2009 for the States that have ratified. Looting of underwater cultural heritage and the destruction of its context are increasing rapidly and threaten to deprive humanity of this heritage. The waves have protected shipwrecks and ruins for centuries, but improvements in diving technology have made them more accessible and therefore increasingly vulnerable. The pillaging and dispersion of archaeological heritage is no longer restricted to land-based sites with treasure hunting now taking place under water. Nevertheless, while many States have heightened the preservation of their heritage on land, most of their underwater cultural heritage remains unprotected. *The UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage*, intends to enable States to better protect their underwater heritage.

For more information, go to http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=34945&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Larry Van Horn Retires

Larry Van Horn, NPS cultural anthropologist, has after more than 30 years with Denver Service Center. Over those years, he has held different but related positions as an ethno-historian, cultural anthropologist, and cultural resource specialist. Larry's anthropological work includes ethnographic assessments with Miwok, Ohlone, and Pomo American Indian tribes in relation to the Presidio of San Francisco; with Shoshone and Paiute tribes of the Owens Valley, California with regard to Manzanar NHS; with African American sharecroppers in Louisiana for Cane River Creole NHP; and with Miccosukee Indians along the Tamiami Trail. He received an award of excellence in 1992 for his work on *Wounded Knee, South Dakota, Special Resource Study*.

In 2007, Larry received the Omer C. Stewart Memorial Award of the High Plains Society for Applied Anthropology "in recognition of exemplary achievement" for his work as an anthropologist in the National Park Service and for his editorship of two terms (six years) of *The Applied Anthropologist*.

Larry's friends and colleagues wish him all the best in his retirement.

Proposals sought for Park NAGPRA Internship Program

The Park NAGPRA program is soliciting project proposals for its 2009 internship program. Park NAGPRA internships provide opportunities for students to work in parks, centers, and offices nationwide on projects related to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Interns help manage the treatment and repatriation of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony as defined under NAGPRA. Projects may include working with archeological and ethnographic collections, assisting with consultation meetings, assisting with repatriations, or administrative tasks. Any NPS unit with NAGPRA needs may submit an internship project proposal.

Contact: Mary S. Carroll (303) 969-2300

New Archeological Resource Protection Training Offered by FLETC

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is offering a new program entitled Investigation of Complex Archeological Resource Crimes-901 (ICARC-901). This training will provide the experienced officer/agent with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and manage more complex archeological resource crimes. Some of the program topics to be covered include Principles of Undercover Operations, Developing/Utilizing Sources of Information, Interviewing, Writing ARPA Search Warrants, Financial Aspects of Criminal Investigations, Forensics, Body Wires and Video Recorders, GPS tracking Operations, and Writing Investigative Plans. The program is 40+ hours of instruction, plus pre-course work. Students should be highly motivated and expect instruction to run into the evening hours. The target audience is journeyman officers with experience in archeological resource investigations and special agents seeking to expand their investigative abilities.

Dates for the class: January 26-30, 2009. The estimated cost of the course is \$1,300.00 which includes meals, lodging, miscellaneous costs, and tuition.

Contact: FLETC Senior Instructor Charles Louke, (912) 280-5188.

Grants under \$10,000 from the National Park Foundation

Do you have an archeological project in your park that you just can't get off the ground? Have you thought about applying for a grant under \$10,000 from the National Park Foundation? The mission of the National Park Foundation is to strengthen the enduring connection between the American people and their national parks. The Foundation accomplishes its mission by making strategic grants, creating innovative partnerships, and establishing special funds that enhance the national parks. Working on its own and with partners, the National Park Foundation funds grants and programs that meet priorities and critical needs across our national park system in the areas of youth, community, outreach, conservation, and professional engagement.

The foundation recognizes that sometimes the smallest grants can make the largest differences. Grants under \$10,000 is designed to help parks that need a small amount of additional funding to strengthen the efforts of a local partnership or turn an underfunded and innovative idea into a successful project. Grant applications are reviewed twice annually.

For more information about grants under \$10,000 from the National Park Foundation, go to www.nps.gov/partnerships/NPF_grants_and_prgs.htm.

Projects in Parks: Of Adobe, Lime, and Cement: The Preservation History of the San José de Tumacácori Mission Church – Part 2 by Jeremy Moss

The year 2008 marks the centennial of the establishment of Tumacácori National Monument in southern Arizona. The theme of Tumacácori's centennial celebration is "One Hundred Years of Preservation and Stewardship," in recognition of the preservation specialists, archeologists, historians, interpreters, masons,

and maintenance workers who have strived to preserve the mission for future generations. Keeping with this theme, this second article by Jeremy Moss summarizes the preservation history of San José de Tumacácori. Historic structures are more than their original fabric: they are part of past events and people's lives. By preserving historic structures, we are also preserving associated life ways, events, personal histories, religious beliefs, customs, and cultural values.

Archeology E-Gram, distributed via e-mail on a regular basis, includes announcements about news, new publications, training opportunities, national and regional meetings, and other important goings-on related to public archeology in the National Park Service and other public agencies. Recipients are encouraged to forward *Archeology E-Grams* to colleagues and relevant mailing lists. The *Archeology E-Gram* is available on the *News and Links* page www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm on the Archeology Program web site.

Projects in Parks is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in national parks. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* webpage on InsideNPS. The full reports are available on the *Projects in Parks* web page inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3670 on InsideNPS or through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* on the on the *News and Links* page <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm> on the Archeology Program web site.

Contact: dca@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for "Projects in Parks," and to subscribe.