



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



February 2010 Archeology E-Gram

David Conlin Named Chief of Submerged Resources Center

David Conlin was named chief of the NPS Submerged Resources Center (SRC) in December 2009. Conlin's education and work experiences ensure that he is well-qualified for this position. After undergraduate work at Reed College, Portland, Oregon, he earned a master's degree from Oxford University in Aegean and underwater archeology. He followed that with a Ph.D. in anthropology and archeology from Brown University.

While at Brown, Conlin began working with the NPS Submerged Cultural Resources Unit at Dry Tortugas NP. After completing his Ph.D., Conlin took an underwater archeologist position with the NPS, on detail to the U.S. Navy. While with the Navy, he helped plan and execute the recovery of the world's first successful combat submarine, the Confederate submersible *H.L. Hunley*, lost off Charleston, South Carolina, in 1864. Other recent projects have included searching for John Paul Jones' ship *Bonhomme Richard*; diving on the wreck of a B-29 Superfortress bomber that crashed into Lake Mead; diving to the wreck of the USS *Arizona* in Pearl Harbor; working at Ellis Island to document and preserve portions of the historic ferry *Ellis Island*; and diving to World War II German U-boats lost off Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

The NPS established the Submerged Cultural Resources Unit in 1980, and staffed it with underwater archeologists and photographers. Renamed the Submerged Resources Center in 1999 to include natural resources, the program continues with its core mission: to inventory and evaluate submerged resources in NPS units, and assist with underwater heritage resources of other national and international agencies. In March 2009, the center moved to the Intermountain Region headquarters building in Lakewood, Colorado.

Archeological Masonry Expert Retires

Archeological masonry expert Earl Johnson retired in December 2009. Johnson began working with the NPS preservation crew in 1961, and over the next 48 years he worked in over 20 parks for the NPS, for the BLM in at least five different field offices, for the USFS, for the State of New Mexico, for the Navajo Nation, and at Kino Missions in Sonora, Mexico. In his early years, Johnson worked for the NPS Mobile Ruins Stabilization Unit, Globem, Arizona. Since the mid 1970s, when the unit relocated to Chaco Culture NHP, he concentrated on the Chaco region.

In his years as a masonry worker and preservation specialist, Johnson worked in almost every national park in Arizona, including Fort Bowie, Tumacacori, Casa Grande, Tonto, Wupatki, and Walnut Canyon. He performed preservation treatments in Glen Canyon, Rainbow Bridge, and Capital Reef in Utah, and assisted Mesa Verde and the San Juan NF, Chimney Rock, Colorado. Earl worked throughout New Mexico at Aztec Ruins, Gila Cliff Dwellings, at almost every preserved structure managed by the BLM in northern New Mexico, and at over a dozen of the Chaco protection sites managed by the Navajo Nation.

Earl was one of the most gifted and skilled mason in the NPS, and had an extensive background using all types of stone, mortar, and mud construction elements in a wide variety of architectural styles, from ancient granaries, enormous greathouses, cliff dwellings, Dinetah pueblitos, to adobe missions, military forts, homesteaders cabins, stage stops, and trading posts. He led the Chaco preservation crew of some six to ten masons for the past decade. Although he trained and passed on his skills to his crew members, Earl's retirement is a great loss to the NPS and the discipline of architecture preservation. His friends and colleagues wish him all the best in his retirement.

Sitka NHP Celebrates 100th Anniversary

Sitka NHP is among the five oldest parks, beginning as a federally-designated reserve in 1890. President William Howard Taft signed an executive order creating Sitka National Monument (NM) on March 23, 1910. At designation, the monument was home to the Southeast Alaska totem poles collected by Gov. John G. Brady which had already been displayed at two World Fairs. With acquisition of the Russian Bishop's House in 1972, the national monument was renamed Sitka National Historical Park. The also park commemorates the Battle of 1804, which was fought at a site within park boundaries, and since 1969 has been home to the Sitka Cultural Center, formerly the Southeast Alaska Indian Cultural Center.

Sitka National Historical Park (NHP) is celebrating the centennial of its national monument status, with commemorative activities starting in March and continuing through the year. Celebrations include offshore tours of the waterfront, special tours of the park, a picnic and dancing, and photographic exhibits.

For more information about Sitka NHP and centennial activities, go to <http://www.nps.gov/sitk/index.htm>. To learn more about the Battle of 1804, go to <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/sitka.htm>.

NPS Assists USFS in Petroglyph Theft Case

A man has been indicted by a Federal grand jury on felony charges that he unlawfully removed and damaged a large petroglyph from USFS land in the Spring Mountains National Recreational Area (NRA) near Pahrump, Nevada. Michael Cook, 57, of Pahrump, is charged with one count of violating The Archaeological Resources Protection Act. According to the indictment, between March and September 2008, Cook knowingly excavated, removed, damaged, and otherwise altered and defaced a large petroglyph depicting seven sheep from Spring Mountains NRA. The rock weighed about 200 pounds.

Nye County Sheriff's Department officials discovered the rock containing the petroglyph in Cook's front yard. Cook was issued a summons and is scheduled for an initial appearance and arraignment on February 26. If convicted, he faces up to two years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. He is charged under the felony provisions of the statute because the archeological resource is valued at more than \$500. This investigation is being conducted by the USFS with the assistance of the law enforcement team of the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP) which includes the USFS, the FWS, the NPS (Lake Mead NRA), and BLM.

NPS Adopts Spatial Data Standards

The NPS GIS Council unanimously voted to adopt cultural resource spatial data transfer standards proposed by the NPS Cultural Resources GIS Facility (CRGIS) on February 16, 2010. CRGIS program manager John Knoerl and staff Deidre McCarthy have been working on developing the standards together with the Cultural Resource Subcommittee of the NPS GIS Council for the past several years. Members of the Cultural Resource Subcommittee will now begin writing guidelines, creating tools and developing training to help parks and regions move their legacy data into the new standards, and to assist in new data creation. As the lead agency responsible for the cultural resource spatial data theme for all Federal agencies, the next step for the NPS, Cultural Resource GIS Facility will be to work with other Federal agencies in preparing government-wide cultural resource spatial data transfer standards through the Federal Geographic Data Committee.

The internal NPS cultural resource spatial data transfer standards will be the basis for developing GIS data for all cultural resources ranging from historic buildings to archaeological sites to cultural landscapes. The creation of the spatial data transfer standards will not replace the existing NPS cultural resource databases or alter the structure of the existing databases. The adoption of the standards will however facilitate the consistent recordation of data in a GIS format and allow locational data to be shared among the various

cultural resource programs. While locations will be recorded for all cultural resources, access to and exchange of sensitive site data will continue to be restricted.

The 22 NPS cultural resource spatial data standards are available online at:

http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata/quickoutput2.cfm?nps_quicksearch=%2B&Action=Search&OrderBy=IM&UnitSearch=&Subject=all&RecType=st&Parkcode=all&UnitSearch=&Keywords=&KeySearch=&Category=Cultural+Resources&Subject=all

NPS Fire and Aviation Program and Archeology Program Cooperate over Archeological Resource Protection

At the Fire and Aviation Management workshop in San Antonio, Texas, in early February, Deputy Director Dan Wenk praised the Fire Program for including natural resource protection in fire response planning, but spoke to a need to regularly include consideration of cultural resources as well. In his remarks in a plenary session, Wenk tied responsibility for cultural resources to stewardship, one of Director Jarvis's four goals for the NPS, and identified cultural resources as elements in Treasured Landscapes to give to future generations unimpaired.

Tom Nichols, Chief of Fire and Aviation Program, readily acknowledges the need to ensure that cultural resources are considered when planning for fires and responding to events, and supports a close working relationship between archeologists and fire managers. He has assigned Fire and Aviation Program staff to the working group for development of the Archeology Resource Manual chapter for Fire and Archeological Resources. This cooperation between programs promotes more useful guidance.

USGS Ecologist Reports on Efforts to Protect Archeology through Restoration at Bandelier NM

USGS Ecologist Craig Allen reported in a seminar with NPS employees at WASO that encouraging vegetation growth in Bandelier Wilderness will also protect archeological sites. In a series of experiments at a 2.5 acre test plot in the wilderness, Allen and colleagues observed that erosion is "smearing artifacts from Pueblo sites across the landscape." The erosion results from inability of grasses and other vegetation to take hold on eroded soils devoid of humus and duff. Allen suggests that the landscape is still in transition from effects of Native American habitation and Euroamerican cattle grazing. Pueblo people raised corn and squash in small plots, but moved to other regions after denuding the area, now designated wilderness, of firewood. Downed trees create micro-environments that capture organic materials and shield seedlings. Cattle further degraded the soil through overgrazing, which promoted the erosion that stripped topsoil from exposed ground surfaces.

Removal of grazing, although encouraging tree growth, did not restore grasses needed to stabilize soil. In a radical move, Allen obtained permission to cut trees in the wilderness area. Tree branches were distributed in such a way as to capture soil and duff moving down slope. Within several seasons, grasses had begun to colonize the area, without artificial infusion of grass seeds, and to stabilize ground surfaces. In the process, archeological sites also benefited from decreased erosion.

Archeology Event Held at Kingsley Plantation

The Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve hosted an event entitled "Destination Archaeology" at the Kingsley Plantation Historic District in Jacksonville, Florida, on January 9 as part of the 2010 Society of Historical Archaeology (SHA) meetings. The SHA, Florida Public Archaeology Network and others, teamed with the park to co-host the event. More than 15 activities, including hands-on demonstrations of ground penetrating radar, historic boat building techniques for small river vessels, a presentation about the notorious "black drink," and site tours were offered. Despite the unseasonably cold weather, with temperatures only

reaching the upper 30s, approximately 400 conference participants and people from the general public attended the event throughout the day.

Lectures about ongoing joint archeological research in the Preserve gave people a chance to get out of the cold. Dr. James Davidson, University of Florida, and students gave talks about the archeology of slave life at Kingsley Plantation. Dr. Robert Thunen, University of North Florida, and students discussed their ongoing research on the 17th Century Santa Cruz y San Buenaventura de Guadalquini mission site recently discovered in the Preserve.

Petroglyphs Protected in Nine Mile Canyon, Utah

On January 5, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, along with the BLM, the State of Utah, the Bill Barrett Corporation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Ute Tribe, the Southern Paiute Tribe, and a number of consulting parties signed a programmatic agreement designed to mitigate damage to the cultural resources in Nine Mile Canyon (UT) from natural gas development nearby. The Canyon contains thousands of archaeological and cultural resources, including numerous rock art carvings.

Parks Canada and Haida Nation Create First Mountaintop to Sea Floor Protected Area

Parks Canada and the Haida Nation entered into an agreement to share in the planning, operations and management of the waters surrounding the Gwaii Haanas protected area in southern Haida Gwaii. The agreement is an important step towards the Government of Canada's proposal to establish these waters as a National Marine Conservation Area Reserve that would complement the existing Haida designation of the area as a Heritage Site.

The proposed boundaries of the Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve follow those of the Haida Heritage Site extending about ten kilometers offshore from Gwaii Haanas, encompassing approximately 3,400 square kilometers of the Hecate Strait and Queen Charlotte Shelf Marine Regions. The addition of the Gwaii Haanas marine area to the existing national park reserve will result in over 5,000 square kilometers (1930 square miles) of protection from mountain top to sea floor – a first for Canada and the world.

The Gwaii Haanas Marine Agreement confirms that the partners will manage, protect, and conserve the marine area for the benefit, education, and enjoyment of the people of Haida Gwaii, Canada and the world. Haida traditional activities will continue and, while conservation will be the focus, marine activities such as commercial fishing and recreational activities that meet conservation objectives will be permitted within the boundaries of the Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve.

SAA *Archaeological Record* now Available on the Web

The January 2010 issue of *The SAA Archaeological Record* is now available in its **brand new digital format**. The new design includes live links, built-in search functionality, thumb view, the ability to add personal notes, and much more! *The SAA Archaeological Record* is now available for all, non-members as well as members, to view.

To access the new digital magazine, go to <http://digital.ipcprintservices.com/publication?i=30669>

Archeology and Cultural Resources Federal Jobs

Several Federal archeology/cultural resources jobs have been posted on the USAjobs website.

Job Title: Archeologist (Cultural Resource Specialist)-Term-DEU
Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture
Job Announcement Number: NRCS-FL-10-01A
Duty Location: Gainesville, FL
Open Period: Friday, February 12, 2010 to Monday, March 08, 2010

Job Title: Archeologist
Agency: Bureau of Land Management
Job Announcement Number: ES Merit-2010-0041
Duty Location: Milwaukee Metro Area, WI
Open Period: Thursday, January 28, 2010 to Wednesday, March 03, 2010

Job Title: Associate Director, Cultural Resources
Agency: National Park Service, Department of the Interior
Job Announcement Number: NPS-SES-10-01
Duty Location:
Open Period: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 to Thursday, March 18, 2010

This last position serves as the Associate Director, Cultural Resources, National Park Service (NPS), Department of the Interior. The incumbent is responsible for providing leadership, policy development, program accountability, and budget formulation. The Associate Director also provides a national level of guidance, acts as a Congressional liaison, and implements field support consistent with the objectives of the NPS within the functional area(s) of Cultural Resources.

For more information about these positions, visit www.usajobs.gov

NPI Offers NAGPRA Training for NPS National NAGPRA Program

Through a partnership, the National Preservation Institute is offering training for the NPS National NAGPRA Program on various NAGPRA implementation issues. Three courses will be offered including: *Determining Cultural Affiliation*; *Summaries, Inventories, and Federal Register Notices* (new); and *Writing and Managing a Successful Grant*.

The tribal and Native Hawaiian organizations (NHO) scholarship program has been expanded to include museums with annual operating budgets of under \$250,000. Small museums, tribes or NHOs may apply for a scholarship to cover the registration fees for any of the three classes. In addition, small museums, tribes, and NHOs may apply for a travel grant for \$500 for travel costs of attending *Writing and Managing a Successful Grant*. Travel grants are limited and go quickly.

NPI will hold training in the following locations:

Providence, Rhode Island, March 22-25
March 22: NAGPRA: *Determining Cultural Affiliation*
March 23: NAGPRA: *Summaries, Inventories and Federal Register Notices*
March 24-25: NAGPRA: *Writing and Managing a Successful Grant*

Phoenix, Arizona, October 4-7
October 4: NAGPRA: *Determining Cultural Affiliation*

October 5: *NAGPRA: Summaries, Inventories and Federal Register Notices*

October 6-7: *NAGPRA: Writing and Managing a Successful Grant*

For further information regarding courses, registration, and scholarship/travel grant forms, visit the National Preservation Institute's website at www.npi.org or the National NAGPRA Program's website at www.nps.gov/history/nagpra.

DoD Cultural Resources *UPDATE* Newsletter is seeking articles and/or briefs

The DoD *UPDATE Newsletter* reaches out to the network of individuals associated with cultural resource protection and enhancement on DoD lands, and disseminates information related to cultural resource activities on installations, within regions, or that generally pertains to DoD and military service cultural resource endeavors. It is distributed by the DoD Legacy Program. The Legacy Program would welcome information, news, briefs, announcements, photos, articles, suggestions, questions, etc. that would foster dialogue via the newsletter. Please send information related to cultural resource activities on installations, within regions or information that generally pertains to DoD and military service cultural resource endeavors so that this information can potentially be included in the *UPDATE Newsletter*.

Please submit articles and/or briefs to editor Cecilia Brothers (703) 604-1724.

Projects in Parks: Meeting at Headquarters: Public Archeology at Valley Forge

By Joseph R. Blondino, Temple University

General George Washington's Headquarters is the focal point of Valley Forge NHP. It is the one place in the park that visitors make sure they see before leaving. In 2009, Washington's Headquarters was to be re-opened following a series of repairs and renovations, and this provided the perfect opportunity to not only gather significant archeological data, but to do so in a manner which would be highly visible to park visitors. Excavations revealed the densest concentration of features yet found at the Washington's Headquarters site. The archeological deposits investigated in 2009 yielded a great deal of information about the site from all periods of its occupation, from prehistoric times through its use as an historic site within the park.

Read the full story at <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npsites/index.htm>

Projects in Parks is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in national parks. The full reports are available on the *Research in the Parks* web page <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npsites.htm> or through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram*. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* web page on InsideNPS.

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.

Contact: dca@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for *Projects in Parks*, submit citations and a brief abstract for your peer-reviewed publications, and to subscribe.