



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



July 2012 Archeology E-Gram

NPS Archeologist Tom Burge Retires

Tom Burge, long-time lead for the cultural resources program at Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP, retired on June 2, 2012. Tom started his nearly 32-year career in the Dakotas and Montana with the USFS. After positions as a Forest archeologist in Oregon and Missouri, he transferred in 1992 to the NPS Pacific West regional office in San Francisco. Tom also served as chief of the Interagency Archeological Services Branch (now defunct). Following the NPS's reorganization in 1994, Tom transferred to Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP. He was immediately drawn in by the pull of the southern Sierra Nevada landscape.



Tom Burge at work.
(California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection)

Tom says that it has been his great good fortune to have worked in wonderful parts of the country, within great agencies, and with exceptional people. "A string of lucky breaks for a blue-collar kid from Pittsburgh."

In retirement, he will be moving to Cody, Wyoming, to kick around the Beartooth Plateau, the Bighorn Mountains, and, of course, Yellowstone NP.

*By Dana Dierkes, Public Affairs Specialist
Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP*

Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark Dedicated

NPS personnel, public officials, tribal members, landowners, and the general public gathered at a ceremony on June 9, 2012, to formally dedicate the Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark in Dunn Center, North Dakota. The quarry officially became a national historic landmark on July 13, 2011. For thousands of years, people traveled to the quarry site to obtain the highly prized Knife River flint. Favored for its fine grain size and predictable fracturing pattern, Knife River flint was the dominant lithic material over a large swath of central North America.

The dedication ceremony opened with a traditional Mandan blessing from Elder Edwin Benson, while fellow Three Affiliated Tribes members Cory Spotted Bear and Keith Bear played music. Speakers included Knife River Indian Villages NHS Superintendent Wendy Ross; NPS Midwest Region Deputy Director Patricia Trap; former NPS Assistant Director for American Indian Relations Gerard Baker; North Dakota Group Superintendent Valerie Naylor; and State Historical Society of North Dakota Archeology and Historic Preservation Division Director Fern Swenson. Vergil Noble, NPS Midwest Archeological Center, and Damita Engel, Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, presented the landowners with an official dedication plaque. The ceremony ended with a speech from landowner Gail Lynch, who thanked friends, family, and associates who contributed to the preservation of the quarry site and designation as a national historic landmark.

The quarry joins five other national historic landmarks in North Dakota, including the Big Hidatsa Village Site at Knife River Indian Villages NHS, and Fort Union Trading Post NHS.

*By Stephen Bridenstine, Interpretive Ranger
Knife River Indian Villages NHS*



Aerial view looking north over center of Lynch Knife River Flint Quarry National Historic Landmark.
(Photo by Terry Wiklund)

Students Participate In Hands-On Projects at Hopewell Culture National Historical Park

Students from New Albany Middle School were awarded “A Ticket to Ride” to Hopewell Culture NHP following an in-depth NPS project completed in the classroom. More than 300 8th grade students were immersed in hands-on science, art, living history interpretation, and habitat restoration during their park visit on May 10, 2012. The goal of the visit was to transform student ideas into park experiences.

Students assisted natural resources staff with the removal of 161 pounds of garlic mustard. They conducted excavation work with park archeologists, discovering and identifying both pre-historic and historic artifacts. At the “Arts Afire” stations, students painted four banners which will be used as headlight barriers for the park’s night sky events. They tested their skills at spear throwing using an atlatl. Some even conducted a mound survey with famed local 1800s historian, Dr. Davis.

New Albany teacher and program coordinator Josh Flory offered the following appraisal of the event:

“The students are still talking about this experience, and many have found a new sense of efficacy. They now see how they can make a difference in the larger world, and several are actively taking steps to do so. This experience has had an impact larger than we ever dreamed. Our staff members are also excited, and several have approached us to see how they might use NPS resources to support their curriculum... The experience our students had at Hopewell Culture NHP was very distinct from their daily environs, and many started to see a world that is larger than they realized.”

Hopewell Culture National Historical Park conducts on-site and off-site curriculum based educational programs for over 4,500 students each school year. The “Ticket to Ride” program extended the reach of the park’s programming by allowing a school that would otherwise not visit the park a chance to experience the National Park Service first-hand.

The event was coordinated through a partnership between the NPS and New Albany Middle School and through the generous support of the National Park Foundation and Eastern National.

*By Rick Perkins, Chief Ranger
Hopewell Culture National Historical Park*

Upcoming PBS History Detectives Episode Features Battlefield

In March 2012, Washita Battlefield NHS was contacted by the producers of the PBS series *History Detectives* to verify information about items that were submitted for an investigation. The items supposedly belonged to Cheyenne Peace Chief Black Kettle and were taken by a 7th U.S. Cavalry soldier during the Washita attack on November 27, 1868. By late April 2012, the History Detectives were in Oklahoma, and spent the week filming at the park and other locations in the state. Interviews included park staff, a former NPS historian, and a Cheyenne Chief.



History Detective Wes Cowan (center back) with staff and colleagues at Washita Battlefield NHS

Tune in to PBS *History Detectives* on Tuesday, July 31 at 7 p.m. (CST) to see what was learned! For more information, call 580-497-2742 or visit www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/.

*By Frank Torres, Chief of Interpretation
Washita Battlefield NHS*

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Opens New Visitor Center Theater

On June 9, 2012, Casa Grande Ruins NM celebrated the opening of a new visitor center theater and the premiere of a new orientation film, *Casa Grande: House of Many Stories*. The public was welcomed to an open house with performances by traditional O’odham Desert Butterfly Dancers, and complimentary samples of native foods provided by Ramona Farms and Western National Parks Association.

Nagaki Design Build Associates designed and constructed the monument’s theater as an addition to the existing visitor center, using innovative rammed earth technology. The modern structure maintains a

thousand year tradition of earthen architecture at the site, beginning with the Casa Grande itself and surrounding structures, which were constructed of hand-worked caliche mud. The monument's historic administrative buildings and visitor center are also earthen structures, constructed of adobe in the 1930s.

The new theater and the film mark an important transition in the way visitors experience the monument. The film captures the multiple perspectives that contribute to understanding the site's importance. Native Americans who are traditionally associated with the monument consider it a sacred place. Archeologists, other scientists, and preservationists are fascinated by the abundant material culture found at the site and the information it conveys about the sophistication of the ancient people who built it.

*From news release by Carol West, Chief Ranger
Casa Grande Ruins NM*

Cherokee Cultural Heritage Weekend Held at Fort Necessity National Battlefield

Fort Necessity NB, Pennsylvania, celebrated three special events between June 29-July 8, 2012. On June 29, a naturalization ceremony was conducted at the visitor center, where 26 individuals representing 20 different nations took the oath of citizenship. About 100 friends and family and park visitors witnessed the event and welcomed our nation's newest citizens. The participants were then given a tour of the battlefield where the seeds of the republic were sown in 1754.

On July 3, the 258th anniversary of the Battle of the Great Meadows, park staff presented memorial programs throughout the day to commemorate the sacrifices made by the 33 men who died during the battle. The names of the known dead were read; for the unknown dead, a commemoration in French and English was delivered as a tribute.

The weekend of July 7 showcased a partnership between the NPS and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians with a Cherokee Cultural Heritage Festival. The event was presented by the Museum of the Cherokee Indian and included the Warriors of AniKituhwa, their modern cultural ambassadors, and a program highlighting the Emissaries of Peace.

While the Cherokees were not directly involved in the battles of 1754-55, they did serve with the British in the final campaigns against Fort Duquesne in 1758. While traveling to their homes in the south many were killed by Virginia colonists who believed them to be hostiles who had stolen horses and cattle from local farmsteads. This massacre of allies led to the British/Cherokee War, which was ended with the Emissaries of Peace traveling to London in 1762.

*By Norman W. Nelson, Jr., Unit Manager
Fort Necessity National Battlefield*



Living History demonstrator tribal members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee representing Warriors of AniKituhwa

National Archaeology Day Reminder

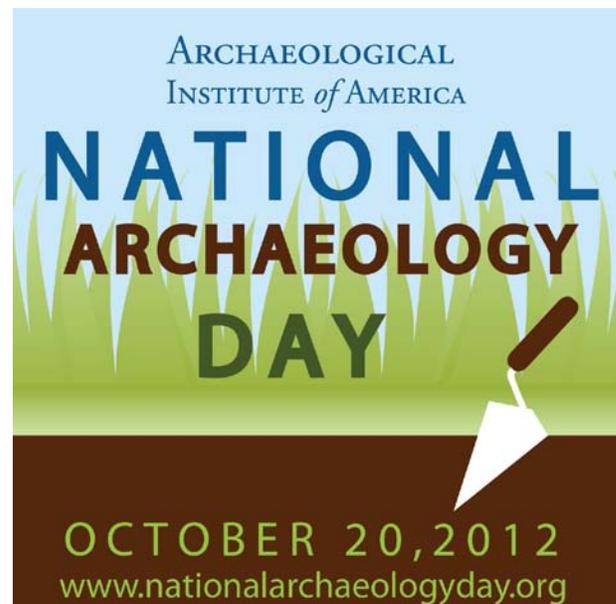
The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is organizing National Archaeology Day (NAD) to take place on October 20, 2012. The aim of the day is twofold: to raise awareness of archeology in the U.S. and Canada and to provide educational opportunities for the public to participate. The NPS has joined the AIA and its partners as a collaborating organization, meaning that we join a nationwide effort to raise awareness about archeology and improve public involvement. NPS participation is a way to be part of a larger message about where archeology is, what archeologists do, and why archeology matters.

Federal agencies, state governments, and local organizations across the nation will host Archaeology Day events. See the full list on the AIA website at <http://www.archaeological.org/NAD/collaboratingorganizations>. Find out about the kinds of events that they are planning on the interactive map (<http://www.archaeological.org/NAD/events>). Some events are on-site and in-person, like public archeology days or lectures, while other events will happen online through blogs or social media.

To register an event at your park or region, go to the NAD events page (<http://www.archaeological.org/node/add/event>) and fill out the form. The information will go on the AIA NAD blog, an interactive map, and be printed in the AIA magazine -- all ways that AIA can help to promote the event beyond NPS channels.

The NPS Archeology Program at WASO will promote the event through the Archeology Program website (<http://www.nps.gov/archeology/>) and the E-Gram newsletter, but the program wants to hear your ideas about promoting National Archeology Day.

Contact: Teresa Moyer at 202-354-2124. Learn more at the National Archaeology Day website (<http://www.archaeological.org/NAD>).



NPS Awards Battlefield Preservation Grants

More than \$1.3 million in NPS grants will be used to help preserve, protect, document, and interpret America's significant battlefield lands. The funding from the NPS American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) will support 27 projects at more than 75 battlefields nationwide. This year's grants provide funding for projects at endangered battlefields from the Pequot War, King William's War, the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War II and various Indian Wars. Awards were given to projects in 17 states or territories entailing archeology, mapping, cultural resource survey work, documentation, planning, education, and interpretation.

Priority was given to those groups submitting applications for nationally significant battlefields. The majority of awards were given to battlefields listed as Priority I or II sites in the NPS Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields; and the Report to Congress on the

Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States. Federal, state, local and Tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions are eligible for the battlefield grants, which are awarded annually. Since 1996, the ABPP has awarded more than \$13 million to help preserve significant historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil.

For more information about the NPS American Battlefield Protection Program, go to www.nps.gov/hps/abpp. For more information on each funded project, go to http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/prpics/bpg.pdf.

Archeological Resources in the NPS “Travel Itinerary Series”

Since 1995, the NPS has provided travel itineraries to places in the U.S. in collaboration with many public and private partners. These travel itineraries highlight thousands of sites that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and bring them to the attention of anyone interested in learning more about American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. Many of the travel itineraries were first proposed by local preservation organizations, historical societies, chambers of commerce, city governments, and regional or statewide groups. The organization then worked in partnership with the NPS to develop the itinerary. Each itinerary provides:

- Descriptions of each historic place and its importance in American history;
- Tourist information for historic places open to the public;
- Interactive maps;
- Color and vintage photographs;
- Links to related preservation and tourism web sites.

To date, a total of 54 travel itineraries have been developed. Many of these contain archeological destinations. The “American Southwest” travel itinerary contains a wealth of information about Native American pueblos, while the “Florida Shipwrecks” itinerary introduces the traveler to the excitement of maritime archeology. The “James River Plantations” itinerary invites visitors to consider the challenges facing colonists and early settlers in the New World. Lewis and Clark visited Knife River Indian villages in 1804; you can, too, if you follow the “Lewis and Clark Expedition” itinerary. The “Indian Mounds of Mississippi” itinerary is also archeological in nature.

Learn more about The Travel Itinerary Series on the National Register of Historic Places website by going to <http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/index.htm>.

2013 Albright-Wirth Grant Program Launched

Applications are being accepted for the 2013 Albright-Wirth Grant Program (AWGP). They are due by August 30, 2012. The Albright-Wirth Grant Program is a developmental program that awards grants to NPS employees, both individuals and groups of three or more, to advance career goals or personal development. New to the program this year are changes to the grant amounts: a minimum award of \$500 and maximum amounts of \$3,500 for individuals and \$12,500 for groups of three or more employees. Grants are scheduled for dispersal in December 2012.

Many NPS archeologists have successfully used this grant program to carry out research, obtain advanced training or education, or finish projects. Applicants are encouraged to think outside the box and use their creativity, resourcefulness, and innovation to make career-enhancing dreams a reality. A 2012 recipient award summary, available on the AWGP site, provides a narrative summary of each of the 34 projects that received funding in FY2012. The AWG program has awarded grants to NPS employees to:

- Learn a new trade

- Conduct or publish research
- Detail/shadow/or be mentored
- Pursue college degrees
- Expand partnerships
- Change career paths
- Pursue self-improvement
- Build websites
- Develop leadership skills

Contact: Lonnie Lowe, 202-354-1487. The Albright-Wirth Grant program application is an online process and can be accessed at <http://share.nps.gov/awg>. Supervisory approval is required.

*By Lonnie R. Lowe
Employee Development Specialist, WASO*

Projects in Parks: Mapping an Armory Grounds Tailrace in Harpers Ferry National Historic Park

By J.P. Ebersole

Harpers Ferry NHP archeology program is involved in an ongoing investigation of the Lower Armory Grounds. This land contains the remains of the second national armory commissioned by the United States in 1798. One such feature is the tailrace tunnels. In 2011, park archeologists obtained permission from the NPS and gained access to a tailrace tunnel. The investigation has revealed a number of unique and unusual features that facilitate a more complete understanding of the organization of the armory workshops and management of the sources of energy for manufacturing arms.



Masonry detail of tailrace tunnel at Harpers Ferry NHP

To read the full report, go to <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/harpersFerryTailrace.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 www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/index.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 NPS 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 NPS Archeology Program web site.

Contact: Karen Mudar at 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.