



Archeology Program

National Park Service
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NPS NEWS

Joanne Westbrook New Curator at the National Capital Region Museum Resource Center

Joanne Westbrook is the NPS National Capital Region's newest permanent museum curator. She joined the NPS as a museum technician with National Mall and Memorial Parks, working with collections from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 2013, and became a curator in 2016 on a term appointment. She started her present position after competing through the Land Management Hiring Authority.

Westbrook is a second-generation NPS employee. Her parents met while working at Colonial NHP and were married at the historic Jamestowne church before the park opened for visitors a year later. Her father retired as the Chief of Maintenance for Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania NMP.

Westbrook earned her BA in Archaeology and Classics from the University of Virginia and MA in Principles of Conservation at University College London. She has worked in archeological conservation and fieldwork at Colonial Williamsburg and sites throughout Virginia, the famous Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük in Turkey, and University College London's Institute of Archaeology Collections.



by Emily Kambic

NPS Staff Release New Website on Trench Warfare

NPS historian David Lowe, NPS archeologist Julia Steele, and independent historian Philip Shiman have developed a unique website - *The Petersburg Project*. It is an ongoing, long-term research effort into trench warfare in the Civil War. Although fortifications were used frequently during the first years of the war, during the latter half of 1863 they began to dominate the battlefield. The battlefields of Petersburg contain many surviving examples of military fortifications dating from 1862 through the end of the war.

The goals of the project are to improve the understanding of trench warfare during the American Civil War, raise public awareness of the significance of entrenched battlefield sites, and promote documentation, preservation, and interpretation of surviving earthworks and other relevant features and artifacts. The Project's historians and archeologists use a cross-disciplinary approach involving textual research, field surveys, archeological investigations, and detailed analyses of the contemporary maps and photographs. They describe their work as "closely akin to battlefield archeology."

The authors bring extensive breadth of knowledge to the photographs, documents, and essays relating to the siege of Petersburg and the Civil War. Expert commentary, interpretation, and identification enhance the value of the photographic collections and will be of interest to scholars and armchair historians alike. The photos link to online collections held by the Library of Congress that can be explored from the



Interior of Gracie's Salient, with commentary by Petersburg Project authors.

Petersburg Project website. The essays explore themes that reflect the authors' particular interests. Discussion of photographers whose photographs are featured on the website add context and identify several staged photos. Photographs of camp sinks (latrines) and pets in the camps reveal domestic aspects of camp life that are not often considered in Civil War studies. Lowe, Shimon, and Steele have also compiled and annotated selected themes in diaries and letters and made them available online, an important resource for other Civil War researchers.

The Petersburg Project cooperates with Petersburg NB and other units of the NPS, with preservationists, local historians, and with the Civil War Fortification Study Group.

To visit the website, go to <http://www.petersburgproject.org/>

By Karen Mudar

Nature Conservancy Transfers 222 Acres to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

A 222-acre property at the southern end of Hawai'i Island has been transferred from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to Hawai'i Volcanoes NP. The parcel extends along 1.6 miles of Highway 11 between the towns of Ocean View and Nā'ālehu in the Ka'ū District.

The parcel contains rare plants, native birds, and insects, and a lava tube system. It links two types of forest habitat that are increasingly rare in Hawai'i: lowland temperate forest and lowland dry forest. The site is home to many native plants important to Native Hawaiians, including lama and 'ōhi'a trees, 'ūlei (a flexible hardwood with fragrant blossoms), pūkiawe (a shrub with colorful berries), hō'awa (a common food for 'alalā, the Hawaiian crow) and a'ali'i (a shrub with colorful seed pods). The parcel also contains cultural and historical assets, such as the old Mamālahoa Highway and a trailhead for the historic Kahuku-'Ainapō trail network.

In 2003, TNC and NPS jointly purchased the 116,000-acre Kahuku Ranch. It was the largest conservation land transaction in the history of the State of Hawai'i and doubled the size of the park to over 333,000 acres. The conservancy works with landowners, communities, cooperatives and businesses to establish

local groups that can protect land. These combined efforts help preserve natural areas and important landscapes in Hawai'i and around the globe. To date, the conservancy has protected 21 million acres in the U.S. and 103 million acres globally.

By Big Island Now

FEDERAL NEWS



The Federal Archeologist's Bookshelf

Late Modernity and Community Change in Lattimer No.2: The American Twentieth Century as Seen through the Archaeology of a Pennsylvania Anthracite Town by Michael P. Roller **Historical Archeology, published online 08 February 2018.**

Situated within the ethnically diverse labor hierarchy of northeast Pennsylvania's coal region, immigrant Italian families created a community at the edge of a coal town controlled by the Lattimer Coal Company. Here, and in places across the nation, the 20th century brought about transformations in relationships among individuals, economies, and the state. Archeology conducted in a shanty enclave of a coal company town illuminates this transformation through the materialization of shifting landscapes, buildings, and boundaries. Reporting on his dissertation work, author and NPS archeologist Mike Roller effectively uses landscape and household-scale data to examine the responses of Italian immigrants to social and economic conditions in a small mining town.

The introduction condenses the theoretical context for analysis, pointing out that immigrants simultaneously occupy two social positions that make them potentially vulnerable to exploitation. On one hand, they are stateless, being *in* America, but not *of* America. They are often denied the privileges of citizenship and their presence challenges definitions of statehood. On the other hand, immigrant families, having few or no competitive skills, were easily exploited by the coal company. In this case, they quickly became indispensable to industry, facilitating the introduction of mechanization to the industry. These themes are still relevant in 21st century America as state and the Federal governments debate the rights and safeguards due to recent and undocumented immigrants.

The landscape archeology documents diachronic changes in the immigrant community physical layout from an "Italian village," with houses tightly clustered near a church, to a more typical small town whose layout is reflective of normative American notions of privacy, differentiation, and ownership as immigrants assimilate. Excavations at one of the house sites reveal that the family dwelling was once part of a bigger building that was probably a barracks for male workers. This startling finding demonstrates that the coal company deliberately manipulated immigrant workers by keeping them segregated from other ethnic groups and promoted isolation by providing segregated housing. The shift from barracks to family dwellings reflects a changing demographic as single men found wives or brought families to the United States.

Many of the themes in this article are explored at greater length in *An Archaeology of Structural Violence: Life in a Twentieth-Century Coal Town*, published by University Press of Florida, out later this year.

GRANTS AND TRAINING

Archeology Internship at Grand Canyon National Park

This internship will support Grand Canyon NP's Archeology Program by helping archeological surveys, compliance monitoring, and ruins preservation activities. Projects could include the following: site inventory survey, site condition monitoring, Section 106 compliance monitoring, bison effects monitoring, hands-on stabilization, architectural documentation, data entry, report writing, and file organization.

Knowledge and Skills

- Experience conducting archeological fieldwork and entering data into Microsoft Access databases; experience in the archeology of northern Arizona.
- Experience using Trimble or Garmin GPS units, digital and film cameras, and GIS.
- Ability to read a topographic map and use a hand-held compass.
- Skill in hiking, orienteering, and backpacking in remote canyon settings.
- Ability to work independently with little or no supervision during portions of the day, and ability to work as part of a team for extended periods of time.

The intern will be compensated approximately \$375 per week. Shared quarters housing will be made available. The internship duration is 10 weeks, completed between early June and mid-August. The intern will be based in Grand Canyon Village, AZ on the South Rim, but may be assigned to periods of work on the North Rim. The intern must have a valid driver's license. Fieldwork associated with this project includes hiking in variable environmental conditions, extensive camping, and working long hours.

Applications will be accepted through April 11, 2018, and the position will be filled by April 27. Duties will begin in May or June, depending on the selectee's availability.

Contact: For more information or to apply, e-mail a cover letter, resume, and reference contact information to Donelle Huffer at donelle_huffer@nps.gov. or Grand Canyon NP, Science and Resource Management, Attn: Donelle Huffer, PO Box 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023-0129.

The Center for American Archeology Presents Annual Flintknapping Workshop

The Center for American Archaeology will offer a week-long, hands-on workshop in flaked-stone tool manufacturing technology May 28 – June 1, 2018. Tim Dillard, a flintknapper with thirty-five years of experience, will lead the course.

The workshop will include lectures on flaked-stone reduction, chert qualities, quarrying strategies, local geology, and technical aspects of knapping; and work sessions that will include billet percussion and pressure flaking techniques. Chert collection trips and heat-treating sessions are also a part of the week's activities. Experienced and novice flintknappers alike are invited to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity. If you have your own flintknapping tools, please feel free to bring them, but it is not required.

The class is limited to 12 people. Tuition is \$575.00 for the week and includes room, basic field lunch each day, and instruction. Participants will stay at one of the bunkhouse-style dormitories on the Center for American Archaeology campus. Dorms are equipped with refrigerator, microwave, coffee pot, hotplate, outdoor grill, and campfire area.

The Center for American Archeology is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) research and educational institution located along the banks of the Illinois River in Kampsville, Illinois. It is dedicated to the exploration of the cultures of prehistoric North American, particularly in the American Bottom.

Contact: All forms are available at the Center for American Archaeology web page: <https://www.caa-archeology.org/>



Archeological Resource Protection Training Offered

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center will offer Archeological Resource Protection Training on June 4- June 8, 2018, in Glynco, Georgia. The Program provides training in all aspects of an archeological crime investigation and subsequent prosecution. This class is taught by accomplished instructors that are nationally recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and preservation law. The class cumulates in a twelve-hour practical exercise where law enforcement officers and archeologists work as a team to investigate and document an archeological crime scene. Attendees will gather and process physical evidence, write incident reports, executive summaries, search warrants, damage assessments written to the standards of the Society for American Archeology, and provide testimony in a courtroom scenario.

Contact: (912) 267-2599

Fire Archeology Training Course at Lassen National Forest

This course will provide participants with the foundation to serve as archeologist (ARCH) during wildland fire incidents. Archeologists work with Incident Management Teams, Resource Advisors, and fireline personnel to address concerns about the impacts of fire and mechanical treatments, fire operations and post-fire conditions on cultural resources. Archeologists also identify repair needs resulting from fire suppression impacts, Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER), Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR), and restoration efforts. Each course participant is provided with an extensive fire archaeology library containing policies, guidelines, technical publications, templates and forms.

Applicants **do not** need to possess a Red Card in order to attend the course. While the course has no tuition fee, the participant's home unit must cover travel expenses.

The course will be held June 11-15, at the Forest Supervisors Office, Lassen National Forest Susanville, CA. The course will begin promptly each day at 8:00 am, and conclude at 5:00 pm.

Contact: E-mail nominations to Linn Gassaway (lgassaway@fs.fed.us) by COB Monday, April 30, 2018. E-mail or call (530-252-6480 or cell 530-249-0532) with any questions.

Resource Advisor Training Course at Big Bend National Park

This course will provide participants with the foundation to serve as Resource Advisors (READs) during wildland fire incidents. Resource Advisors generally work with fire managers to convey concerns about natural, cultural and wilderness resources during a wildland fire incident. The objectives of this course are to improve communication between READs and fire managers, present the rationale for prioritizing and determining an appropriate response to those resource issues, demonstrating how READs can contribute to the management of an incident, and provide expectations of professional READs.

The course will provide participants with strategies and tools for evaluating specific resource concerns. Information will be presented in sufficient detail to serve as a refresher for present resource advisors, and general enough to be basic READ training for those who have never served in this capacity. Much of the information can be applied in the All-Hazard, or All Risk READ environment as well. This course (N-9042) fulfills one of the requirements for READ on a red card.

The local Fire Management Officer will authorize the inclusion of “READ” as a qualification on the wildland fire certification Red Card. A Red Card is not required prior to participating in this course. The course is also valuable for those managing resources on public lands, but with no interest in serving as READs, to become familiar with fire management organizations and the types and formats of resource data that benefit the READ during the course of his or her duties.

While the course has no tuition fee, the participant’s home unit(s) must cover travel expenses.

The course will be held June 5 -7, 2018. The classroom portion (6/5 – 6/6) will be held at Panther Junction, Big Bend National Park; the last day (6/7) will be a field trip in the park. Directions and logistical information will be provided upon selection for the course. The course will begin promptly at 8:00 am and will continue until 5:00 pm, daily.

Contact: Submit nominations or questions via e-mail to Lisa Hanson (lisa_hanson@nps.gov) by COB Friday April 27, 2018. E-mail or call (530-252-6480 or cell 530-249-0532) with any questions.

SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC: Ancient Kids’ Toys Have Been Hiding in the Archaeological Record

Youngsters have probably been playing their way into cultural competence for at least tens of thousands of years. So why are signs of children largely absent from the archaeological record?

Of 48 miniature clay vessels excavated from inside 3,650- to 4,000-year-old houses at Israel’s Tel Nagila site, 10 retained fingerprints the size of children’s that were made during the shaping of soft clay, before the clay was heated and hardened, archaeologists reported in 2013. Kids must have made those somewhat unevenly shaped jars and bowls, concluded Joe Uziel of the Israel Antiquities Authority in Jerusalem and independent Israeli researcher Rona Avissar Lewis in *Palestine Exploration Quarterly*.

Finds in Israel dating to around 3,000 years ago also represent children’s early attempts to mimic adult craftwork, Biblical scholar Kristine Garroay said at the annual meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research. Rounded clay disks, each pierced with two holes, have mystified investigators for nearly a century. As early as 1928, an archaeologist suggested that these button-sized objects were toys.

After passing a string through both of a disk’s holes and tying the ends together, a youngster could swing the string to wind up the toy and then pull both ends of the string to make the disk spin. Garroay’s proposal appears likely, especially in light of evidence that more than 10,000 years earlier, people in

France and Spain made similar spinning disks decorated with animals that appeared to move as the toy twirled (*SN*: 6/30/12, p. 12), says archaeologist Michelle Langley of Griffith University.

Western European finds from as early as 14,000 to 21,000 years ago also may have gone unrecognized as children's toys, Langley suggests in a paper published this month in the *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*. One specimen, a cave lion carved out of a reindeer's antler, displays so much polish from handling that children may have played with the item for years, she says. Some bone spearpoints with broken tips bear signs of unskilled repair, suggesting adults gave the damaged weapons to children to practice bone-working skills and perhaps play with, she adds.

By Bruce Bower, *Science News*

Further Reading

J. Uziel and R. Avissar Lewis. The Tel Nagila Middle Bronze Age homes — studying household activities and identifying children in the archaeological record. *Palestine Exploration Quarterly*. Vol. 145, 2013, issue 4, p. 268. doi:10.1179/0031032813Z.00000000070.

M. Langley. Magdalenian children: projectile points, portable art and playthings. *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*. Published online October 17, 2017. doi:10.1111/ojoa.12128.

B. Bower. Stone Age art gets animated. *Science News*. Vol. 181, June 30, 2012, p. 12.



To see this animal run, go to <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/ancient-toys-kids-archaeological-record>

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 website.

Contact: Karen Mudar at dca@nps.gov to contribute news items and to subscribe.