



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



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More parks featured on the Archeology Program website

Profiles of Chaco Culture NHP and Olympic NP are the most recent additions to the Antiquities Act Centennial webpage. In 1907, citing the newly enacted Antiquities Act legislation, President Theodore Roosevelt preserved Chaco Canyon's expansive pueblo ruins and irreplaceable artifacts for future generations. President Roosevelt also established Olympic NP, then known as Mount Olympus, in 1909. Originally preserved to protect a large herd of rain forest elk found only in the Northwest, the park's pristine forests, rugged coastal cliffs and steep river valleys are home to at least 9 endemic species of plants and 16 endemic species of animals. Olympic NP also includes a wide range of significant archeological sites, including high-altitude ancient sites that are the subject of current research by NPS archeologists (see **Projects in Parks** on InsideNPS <inside.nps.gov/waso/custompages.cfm?prg=279&id=3670&lv=3&pgid=1356> for more about this research). Profiles of other national monuments and parks can be found on the Antiquities Act Centennial pages at www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/antiquities/index.htm/

New Archeological Technical Brief on Archeology Program website

The latest addition to the Archeology Program website technical brief series is "Archeological Collections and the Public: using resources for the public benefit" by Teresa S. Moyer. Moyer uses a case study approach to highlight benefits to the public, identified by the managers of collections repositories, of maintaining archeological collections. This and other archeological technical briefs are on the Archeology Program website at www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/techBr/.

NPS Relocates Staff at Boott Mills

Due to emerging structural issues at Boott Mills, Lowell NHP, NPS Northeast Region archeological staff based in that building has been moved to the Counting House, located immediately adjacent to the mill. Work is now underway to stabilize and repair the structure; the repair is estimated to take several weeks. Staff can be reached via their cell phones and email addresses. Messages can also be left on their normal phone numbers.

NPS hosting Archeological Damage Assessment training

The NPS, BLM, NM Historic Preservation Division and Museum of Indian Arts and Culture will host an Archeological Damage Assessment Class, April 3-7, 2006, in Santa Fe, NM. This course provides training for archeologists who prepare archeological damage assessments in archeological resource law violations cases. Damage assessments are required for criminal prosecutions and civil penalties under ARPA. These archeological damage assessment procedures also can be used effectively in preparing cases involving violations of other laws, such as state archeological protection statutes. The course will be taught by Martin McAllister and Assistant US Attorney Wayne Dance. The course is open to everyone, but military personnel are encouraged to participate. The deadline for registering is March 3, 2006.

NPS hosting Archeological Law Enforcement Training at SAA

San Juan NHS, Christiansted NHS, and NPS Southeast Archeological Center are sponsoring Introduction to Archeological Law Enforcement at the Society for American Archaeology annual

meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The class will be held April 25-26, 2006, in the Troop Quarters room at Fort San Cristobal, San Juan NHS. Introduction to Archaeological Law Enforcement provides a basic introduction to dealing with archaeological resource crime using the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 and other legal, investigative and prevention tools. The instructors for this class are Wayne Dance and Martin McAllister. There is no tuition fee or class registration form, but participants should contact a class coordinator by April 1, 2006, to reserve a space.

National Trust and ACHP announces nominations for Federal Partnership Award

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation announce the call for nominations for the 2006 National Trust/ACHP Award for Federal Partnerships in Historic Preservation. The joint award honors outstanding Federal partnerships that have achieved exemplary preservation of historic resources. Partners may include Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, not-for-profit organizations, individuals, businesses, State and local governments, and other non-Federal persons or organizations. Nominated projects or programs can include one or more non-Federal partners and more than one Federal agency. This national awards program provides an opportunity for you to showcase an agency's commitment to a preservation ethic and gain public awareness of its accomplishments. The award brochure and nomination form are available at [www.nationaltrust.org/preservation awards](http://www.nationaltrust.org/preservation_awards). The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2006.

Coordination Meeting for Archeological Sites in Grand Canyon NP

A meeting to coordinate monitoring and treatment of archeological sites in Grand Canyon NP that are affected by the operations of the Glen Canyon Dam was held in Phoenix, AZ, on January 23 and 24. NPS archeologists and resource managers from GRCA and GLCA, the Bureau of Reclamation (which is responsible for the effects of dam operations), and the USGS (which provides scientific research data for the area) participated. NPS Chief Archeologist Frank McManamon and Reclamation Chief Archeologist Tom Lincoln attended, at the request of the participants, to provide a national perspective on the issues of archeological site monitoring and treatment. The participants reviewed and updated existing plans for the coordination of activities and for the development of a common approach to site monitoring and the development of site treatment plans.

NPS MWAC Archeologist Tom Thiessen retires

After working at the NPS Midwest Archeological Center in one capacity or another almost continuously since 1969 when he was a crew member at the Bendish and Fort Rice sites in North Dakota, Thomas D. Thiessen retired earlier this month. Tom also served as a VIP in 1972, participating in archeological inventories at the Oahe Reservoir, ND. Later that year, he was hired as a staff archeologist and in 1975 he was reassigned to the Denver Interagency Archeological Services Program in the former Rocky Mountain Region. Tom also worked as an interpretive ranger at Knife River Indian Villages NHS in 1976, and returned to MWAC in 1977 where he remained until his retirement. For the past 10 years, Tom has served as Park Archeology program manager, overseeing all Center archeology in the Midwest Region parks. At one time or another, he oversaw virtually all aspects of the Center's operation.

Tom received his M.A. in Anthropology in 1976 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; his Masters Thesis title is *Middle Missouri Tradition Occupational Sequences for the Cannonball and Knife-Heart Regions*. He is a well-respected historian and ethnohistorian, with deep and abiding interests in an amazingly broad range of subjects. Among these are: the early fur trade on the American and Canadian Plains and Great Lakes, the Indian Wars on the American northern and central plains, the Spanish American War (particularly the Philippine Insurrection), World

War I, German and Russian Imperial histories, the Boer War, and (as his last name might suggest) Iceland and the Vikings.

Tom served tirelessly compiling information and preparing archeological and historical summaries of the Blood Run site and Loess Hills as part of studies examining their eligibility to become part of the national park system. Over the course of his career, Tom prepared 75 reports for the Center, either as sole author or as co-author. His publications include *Early Fur Trade on the Northern Plains: Canadian Traders Among the Mandan and Hidatsa Indians, 1738-1818* (with Raymond W. Wood); *People of the Willows: The Prehistory and Early History of the Hidatsa Indians* (with Stanley Ahler and Michael Trimble); and *Emergency Archeology in the Missouri River Basin: The Role of the Missouri Basin Project and the Midwest Archeological Center in the Interagency Archeological Salvage Program, 1946-1975*.

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

Projects in Parks: New Mexico SiteWatch assists NPS to care for archeological sites

In 2002, New Mexico's SHPO Historic Preservation Division initiated a state-wide archeological site stewardship program, New Mexico SiteWatch, to assist federal agencies in protecting sites. Nationwide, archeological stewardship programs protect and preserve archeological sites for future generations. Site stewardship programs rely on volunteers to work with government agencies that have land-management responsibilities and with private landowners to care for and protect archeological sites.

The BLM, FS, and NPS all supported the development of New Mexico SiteWatch. Although BLM and FS had existing site steward programs (Jim Copeland [BLM, Farmington Office] had sponsored the Northwest New Mexico Site Stewards, for example, and Mike Bremer, had coordinated volunteer site steward activities on FS lands in New Mexico), SiteWatch is an umbrella group to coordinate volunteer training and placement of site stewards on lands of all participating federal agencies in New Mexico.

Volunteer site stewards receive training in site monitoring and protection and are certified through a program developed with the Archaeological Society of New Mexico. They monitor sites and report on any disturbance that they detect, and participate in archeological surveys. Site stewards document and rehabilitate sites under the direction and supervision of land-managing agency experts, and are registered with the agency where they volunteer.

Volunteers come from a number of backgrounds, and are interested in preserving the cultural resources in their area. One does not need any particular expertise to volunteer, as training is provided by New Mexico SiteWatch. Interest and a determination to help is all that volunteers need to qualify for training. The current SiteWatch Coordinator, Phil Young, estimates that by the end of 2006, 200 or more site stewards will be registered. He notes that SiteWatch is about all kinds of cultural resources – historic cabins, battlefields, even Route 66!

SiteWatch volunteers belong to geographically-based chapters. The SiteWatch Coordinator in 2002, Art Krupsicz, established the pilot chapter to monitor archeological sites in Gila National Forest. Since the establishment of that first New Mexico SiteWatch chapter, other chapters have been formed at Petroglyph NP, Chaco Cultural NHP, Salinas Pueblo Missions NHP, and Bandelier NM. New SiteWatch chapters are planned for Carlsbad Caverns NP, White Sands NM, Galisteo Basin, and central New Mexico. SiteWatch is also working with tribal governments in New Mexico to establish stewardship programs to protect and monitor culturally sensitive areas.

Site Stewardship Programs in Your National Park

Site stewardship programs are an effective way to integrate multiple goals. Stewardship programs provide opportunities for public involvement in archeological research and preservation activities, and constitute a platform for public education. Knowledge about local cultural resources can foster pride about an area's cultural resource in area communities, and commitment to protection of these resources.

And, site stewardship programs do protect sites. The Alutiiq Museum, reported that monitoring by site stewards in its program has significantly reduced levels of looting and vandalism at sites on Kodiak Island, Alaska. Volunteers also provide assistance to archeologists in carrying out reconnaissance and site recording activities. By detecting changes early on, problems can be addressed more efficiently.

Archeological sites are experiencing higher visibility as greater numbers of people visit parks and natural areas, and often it is challenging for cultural resource management staff to keep up. One way to enlist some assistance with responsibilities for archeological resources is through volunteers. New Mexico SiteWatch Coordinator Phil Young has some suggestions for developing a successful program in your park:

- **Assess the cultural resources in your park.** Do you have cultural resources that could use additional monitoring and/or site condition documentation? If so, prioritize the resource needs and establish a site steward volunteer folder. This will help your volunteers and you.
- **Appoint a good volunteer coordinator.** This is truly key: you need at least one good coordinator to work with volunteers. Archeologists in large areas of managed land may have several coordinators, to spread the work load.
- **Recruit volunteers.** You can develop your own network, of course, but it may be more efficient to tap into an existing site stewardship program. Contact your SHPO, talk to other Federal agencies, tap into your local communities. Avocational archeology groups, local history organizations, community museums, even libraries may be sources for a pool of site steward volunteers.
- **Train your volunteers.** Volunteers work for you, so you need to train them properly. Some states sponsor state-wide certification programs; you might also partner with site steward programs in other federal agencies for training. Take the time to arrange for a lecture on local history, or teach a technical skill, like reading a topographical map or using a GPS unit. You want to develop a core group of committed people that you can rely on to work with you over a period of time, and this takes a little TLC.
- **Give your volunteers meaningful work assignments.** All volunteer programs lose people over time; you want to get your volunteers involved as soon as possible and keep them involved with significant projects and ongoing educational opportunities. Do you have reasonably good baseline data about site condition to begin monitoring, or can you use site steward volunteers to help obtain initial condition descriptions?
- **Support and encourage your volunteers as much as you can!** Awards, media recognition, potlucks, volunteer education (ID, hats, shirts, etc.) can go a long way towards keeping volunteer program or site steward chapter viable.

Site Stewardship Program Resources

Federal Stewardship Programs

A number of Federal agencies have established site stewardship programs. These include:

Bureau of Land Management –Adventures in the Past

www.blm.gov/heritage/adventures/want_2_help/site_steward.html

Forest Service – Partners in Preservation

www.passportintime.com/

TVA – A Thousand Eyes

www.tva.gov/river/landandshore/culturalresources/thousandeyes.htm

NPS

The NPS does not have a nationwide site stewardship program, but encourages volunteers through the **Volunteers In Parks (VIP) program**.

www.nps.gov/volunteer/

State Stewardship Programs

The “Caring for Sites” page of the NPS Archeology Program website www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/PUBLIC/Steward.htm lists links to state site stewardship programs that assist in preservation of archeological sites. For additional information about states not listed there, contact your SHPO for information on site stewardship programs.

Regional Stewardship programs

Regional site stewardship programs promote site stewardship and coordinate with local agencies within contiguous states. Regional programs include:

The Center for Desert Archeology

(Southwestern states)

<http://www.centerfordesertarchaeology.org/pages/heritage/>

NPS Midwest Archeological Center

http://www.cr.nps.gov/mwac/get_involved.htm

Local Stewardship programs

Depending on the area of the country where your park is located, there may be local organizations with an interest in archeology or a commitment to site stewardship. Some local site stewardship programs include:

Southwest Colorado Cultural Site Stewardship Program

<http://www.sjma.org/>

Falls of the Ohio Archaeological Society Stewardship Program

A volunteer certification program is available and a site stewardship program is currently being developed.

<http://www.falls-society.org/index.php>

“Projects in Parks” is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that serves to inform others of interesting archeology-related projects in a national park. Past features are available on the *Projects in Parks* webpage, accessed through the Archeology homepage, on InsideNPS. To contribute project information, contact DCA@nps.gov

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 and new subscribers are accepted. Past issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* are available on the *Archeology E-Gram* webpage, accessed through the Archeology homepage, on InsideNPS. Contact DCA@nps.gov to contribute news items and to subscribe.