



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



November 2006 Archeology E-Gram

Another important date for Antiquities Act Centennial Celebrations

2006 has been a good year for the Antiquities Act. During the course of the year, President Bush created two new National Monuments, both of them with important archeological resources: the African Burial Ground in New York City and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. The centennial has occasioned commemorative exhibits, web sites, news reports, articles, and symposia. Individual National Monuments, new and old, have held celebrations, provided information, and promoted the centennial of the law that was instrumental in their creation. This is especially true for Devil's Tower, the first National Monument, proclaimed by President Roosevelt on September 24, 1906. An important round of further commemorative activities will be held on December 8, 2006, when El Morro NM, Montezuma Castle NM, and Petrified Forest NP observe their centennials. Readers are encouraged to participate in the activities and spread the word about these anniversaries.

Progress on the Integration of Maintained Archeological Sites and the Facilities Management Software System (FMSS)

The NPS maintains many archeological sites in park units throughout the country. For the last two years, a small, dedicated group of NPS archeologists, facilities managers, and superintendents are developing a module for the FMSS system that will integrate the maintenance of archeological sites into the facilities management program more smoothly. This integration will enable park managers, and facility and cultural resource staffs to estimate and plan more efficiently the life cycle requirements for park archeological sites. It also will help park managers and program managers at regional and WASO offices to determine the long term needs and costs of archeological site maintenance activities. In a memorandum dated October 6, 2006, the Associate Director for Cultural Resources and the Associate Director for Planning, Facilities, and Lands Facilities summarize progress so far on this effort and discuss several of the issues related to the work. A copy of the memo can be found on the Inside NPS page for the Archeology Program, <http://www.inside.nps.gov/waso/waso.cfm?prg=279&lv=3>, under the tab along the left side of the page, "FMSS and Archeological Sites."

Guidance on Archeological Resources and Fire Management begins development

The NPS Archeology Program has begun development of a module of the service-wide *Archeology Guide* focused on Archeological Resources and Fire Management. A working group of experts with experience in managing archeological resources that may be affected or have been affected by fire held a teleconference on November 15, 2006, to identify relevant topics for inclusion in the guidance. Information about the fire working group activities is available on InsideNPS at <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=4813>.

The *Archeology Guide* describes operational requirements, activities, standards, and provides guidance on the responsible management of archeological resources under the stewardship of the NPS. The Guide supplements more general directions in *Director's Order #28A: Archeology*, the *NPS CRM Guideline*, and *Directors' Order 28: Cultural Resource Management*. The first module, launched in FY2006, provided guidance on issuing Permits for Archeological Investigations on parklands.

The *NPS Archeology Guide* and *Permits for Archeological Investigations* can be accessed on the Archeology Program web site at: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/npsGuide/>.

NPS 2007 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

The NPS 2007 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques “Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century” will be held May 14-18, 2007, at the HAMMER Training Center, Richland, WA. Lodging will be at the Guest House, Richland, WA. This will be the seventeenth year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across the nation. The workshop will focus on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, interpretation, and on-hands use of the equipment in the field. There is a tuition charge of \$475.00. Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center’s web page at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/mwac/>.

Dr. Francis (Cal) Calabrese Retires

On November 3, 2006, Dr. Cal Calabrese, research coordinator for the Upper and Middle Mississippi Valley Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU), retired from the NPS. Cal received his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1971. He began his career in archeology at the University of Colorado-Boulder, working with Bob Lister and Dave Breternitz on various projects in Colorado and Utah. After leaving Colorado, he served as an archeologist for the state of Kansas for two years and returned to graduate school at the University of Missouri-Columbia, working under the direction of Ray Wood.

Cal began his career in the NPS in 1973, joining the Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln, NE. In 1975, he became manager of the center, which coordinates field and laboratory research within national parks in 16 Rocky Mountain and Midwestern states. In 1994, Cal moved to the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha, where he served variously as acting deputy regional director, special assistant to the regional director, and superintendent of the Great Plains System Support Office. From 1998 through October, 2005, he was the associate regional director for cultural resource stewardship and partnerships. For the past 12 months, he has been detailed to the Upper and Middle Mississippi Valley CESU at the University of Missouri in Columbus, MO.

Although his position titles changed frequently throughout his 33-year career with the NPS in Nebraska, Cal’s contributions always focused on developing effective cultural resource programs, including an NPS Ethnography Program. Cal supported good science in archeological projects designed for parks. His research contributions and publications relate to the prehistory of the Central and Northern Plains.

Cal intends to spend time in the Caribbean on his 40-foot sailboat after his retirement. His envious colleagues wish him well.

(Contributed by Anne Vawser.)

Projects in Parks: Artifacts from 18th Century Spanish ships loaned to Assateague National Seashore

In October, 2006, representatives of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports and the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) signed a loan agreement for artifacts from Spanish shipwreck sites to be displayed in a new visitor's center at Assateague Island National Seashore, Virginia. The long-term loan agreement was signed by Randy Biallas, Assistant Director for Park Cultural Resources Programs, NPS, and Julian Martinez Garcia, Director General of Fine Arts and Cultural Heritage, Spain's Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports.



Biallas (left) and Garcia (right) sign loan agreement. (NPS photo)

The loan agreement marks the end of a 7-year legal battle over objects believed to be from the Spanish Royal Naval ships *La Galga* and *Juno*. *La Galga* wrecked off the coast of Assateague Island in 1750. The *Juno* was lost in waters off Assateague Island in 1802.

The wreck of *La Galga*

La Galga left Havana, Cuba, on August 18, 1750, to escort a convoy of merchant ships to Spain. Six days later, a hurricane scattered the ships, forcing them toward the American coast. When *La Galga* wrecked near the Maryland-Virginia border, most of the crew and passengers made it safely to shore. Local residents began to loot the wrecked ship which, subsequently, was destroyed by a second storm.

The wreck of the *Juno*

The *Juno* left the port of Veracruz, Mexico, on January 15, 1802, enroute to Cadiz, Spain. Shortly after departure, the *Juno* and an escort ship, the *Anfitriete*, encountered bad weather and sailed to Puerto Rico for repairs. The two ships set sail again on October 1, after having taken the soldiers of the Spanish Third Battalion of the African Regiment, their families, and civilian officials on board. Near Bermuda, the ships were separated during a storm and the *Juno* began to leak. The *Juno* continued north, but was not able to contain the leak. The American schooner, *La Favorita*, came to *Juno*'s aid, and began taking on *Juno*'s passengers and crew. However, only seven people were able to transfer to *La Favorita* before the *Juno* was lost in the fog and heavy seas. At least 413 people were lost when the *Juno* sank at night during heavy seas.

History of the salvage

In 1996, working under an underwater exploration permit issued by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Sea Hunt, Inc., a commercial salvage company based in Manchester, New Hampshire, and working out of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, conducted archival research and remote sensing surveys of two tracts of submerged land off Assateague Island to locate shipwrecks. In 1997, the salvage company obtained a permit from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) to locate and recover underwater historic property. In addition, Sea Hunt, Inc. obtained a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to dredge sand within the tracts to recover buried artifacts. The NPS managed the area within the tracts as part of the Assateague Island National Seashore, but did not have jurisdiction over the ocean floor, which meant neither the Antiquities Act nor the Archaeological Resources Protection Act applied. The park issued a Special Use Permit for the dredging operation, as the park had responsibility and jurisdiction over the water column above the wreck site.

Sea Hunt, Inc. found and recovered over 100 objects said to be from *La Galga* and the *Juno* through their salvage activities. Under the stipulations of the permit from the VMRC, the Commonwealth of Virginia

could retain title to 25 percent of the objects found and, at the discretion of the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, buy the remaining objects from Sea Hunt, Inc.

Legal battle over the shipwrecks

Under the Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987, the Congress gave the states title to most abandoned shipwrecks embedded in or on state submerged lands. Under this law, the Commonwealth of Virginia claimed the wrecks of *La Galga* and the *Juno* but in 1998 the Kingdom of Spain asserted legal ownership over them, arguing that the ships had not been declared abandoned. After a lengthy jurisdictional and ownership dispute, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit upheld the Kingdom of Spain's status as the rightful owner of its sunken sovereign vessels and any artifacts and materials associated with such vessels; and Spain's rights to prevent salvage activities conducted without consent on its vessels. Sea Hunt, Inc. was ordered to return to Spain's possession all artifacts and materials it had removed from the sites. The United States Supreme Court rejected without any comment or dissent appeals by Virginia and Sea Hunt, Inc. and so the precedent-setting decision of the United States Court of Appeals remains intact.

Legal rights in salvage cases

Although Spain has a large number of underwater cultural sites around the world, this is the first site where the question of sovereignty has been settled in a court of law. The key question in the case was whether the shipwrecks and artifacts had been abandoned by Spain. Documents provided by lawyers representing Spain in the court case demonstrated that the *Juno* and *La Galga* were still sovereign vessels and had not been declared abandoned.

The ruling of the Court of Appeals in the *Juno-La Galga* case is precedent-setting on an international scale. It marks a watershed in the struggle not just of Spain but of all nations to protect sunken State craft from treasure hunters and looters. The ruling advances responsible study and commemoration of these important historic sites.

Signing of loan and display of objects

Spain took possession of the more than 100 objects removed from the sites by Sea Hunt, Inc. The Spanish Embassy requested the assistance of the NPS in conserving the objects and providing for their long-term storage. The Spanish Embassy agreed to exhibition at Assateague Island National Seashore, near where the vessels were lost. All of the objects except for two anchors and a ship's timber were sent to the NPS Harpers Ferry Conservation Center for conservation treatment done by now-retired NPS employee Dan Riss; the anchors and timber were sent to Texas A&M University. In 2005, conservation of the objects at the Harpers Ferry Center was completed and the objects were sent to Assateague Island National Seashore for cataloging into the park's museum collection as a loan, and for storage. In 2006, Texas A&M University completed conserving one of the anchors and sent it to the park for cataloging and display. It is anticipated that other objects at Texas A&M University also will be sent to this park for storage and display.

Working with Spain's representatives, Assateague Island National Seashore's Chief of Resource Management Division, Carl Zimmerman, developed a loan agreement for the Spanish artifacts at Assateague Island National Seashore. The NPS is honored to care for these objects on behalf of Spain, and to make the objects available for scientific study and public appreciation. The loan agreement between Spain and the NPS may be the first of its kind between the NPS and another nation. Although

several other foreign flagged shipwrecks are within other national park units, this is the first loan agreement covering objects recovered from such sites.

Spanish Heritage in National Parks

At least 43 of the 390 areas comprising the National Park System contain or commemorate some aspect of Spanish heritage. Spanish shipwrecks are in or near seven areas – places like Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland and Virginia; Biscayne National Park, Canaveral National Seashore, and Dry Tortugas National Park, all in Florida; Gulf Islands National Seashore, in Florida and Mississippi; Padre Island National Seashore in Texas; and Point Reyes National Seashore in California.

The Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, the Spanish Embassy, and the Spain-USA Foundation have generously supported the NPS financially in the development of the “Teaching with Historic Places” lesson plan about Spanish Treasure Fleets which is posted online at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/129shipwrecks/>. These web-based lesson plans are designed to “bring history to life” for students in middle grades and higher by highlighting places listed in the National Register of Historic Places. By using real historic places in their teachings, educators can generate excitement and help connect their students to social studies, history, geography, and other subjects. The result is that students come to appreciate the value of the nation’s heritage resources.

The Spanish Treasure Fleets lesson plan is based on the National Register’s files for the shipwreck sites *Urca de Lima* and *San Pedro*, and other materials about the Spanish treasure fleets. It is designed for use by educators in teaching courses about Spanish colonization of the Americas, transatlantic trade and commerce in the colonial period, and maritime history from the 16th to 18th centuries. NPS employee Beth Boland oversaw development of the Spanish Treasure Fleets lesson plan.

For more information about the National Parks in this report or other National Parks, visit the NPS website at <http://www.nps.gov/>. For more information about “Teaching with Historic Places” lesson plans visit the NPS Teaching with Historic Places website at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/>.

Projects in Parks is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in a national park. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* webpage. Selected reports are also available on the Archeology Program website under *Research in the Parks* <<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npsites.htm>>

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 <<http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3867>> on InsideNPS; and will be on the *What’s New* page <<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/NEW.HTM>> on the Archeology Program website.

Contact DCA@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for *Projects in Parks*, and to subscribe.