



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## January 2011 Archeology E-Gram

### **NPS Archeology Program Releases 2004-2007 Report on Federal Archeology**

Since the 1970s, Federal agencies with archeological resource stewardship responsibilities, coordinated by the Departmental Consulting Archeologist (DCA), Department of the Interior, have collected and published government-wide information about the Federal Archeology Program. The NPS Archeology Program has released the report on Federal archeology for years 2004-2007. The report covers activities to recover, protect, and preserve archeological sites, collections, and data. In addition to providing data and analysis, the 2004-2007 volume commemorates 25 years of reporting on Federal archeology by presenting an overview of the past 3 decades of efforts to provide information about archeological stewardship.

The report is only available as a pdf on the NPS Archeology Program website at <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/SRC/INDEX.htm>.

### **NPS Archeologist Virgil Noble wins Ruppé Service Award from Society for Historical Archaeology**

Virgil Noble of the Midwest Archeological Center was honored in January with the SHA's Carol Ruppé award. Noble served as the society's president in 2002, and has been active in its governance for many years. In addition, he has held several volunteer editorial positions, including Memorials Editor (1994-1997) and Reviews Editor (1997-2001) for the journal *Historical Archaeology*.

Created in 1988 and announced in January 1990, the Carol Ruppé award honors Carol V. Ruppé for her long service to the society in creating and running The Society for Historical Archaeology Book Room at the annual conference. The Ruppé Award is internal to the society and honors individuals who have a record of sustained and outstanding service to The Society for Historical Archaeology.

### **Archeologist to Speak in NPS "Climate Change in America's National Parks" Webinar**

Marcy Rockman, PhD, will speak on "The Many Roles of Archaeology in Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Planning" in the NPS "Climate Change in America's National Parks" webinar on February 10, 2011. She asks how can the modern world actually go about doing the human behavior parts of mitigation and adaptation and increasing resilience? This talk will outline the contributions that archeology can make to the question, including the roles of developing human barometer and shifting baseline data to complement climate science models; expanding understanding of cultural evolution and adaptation; and providing an unparalleled source of detailed stories and narrative about how human societies think about and interact with their natural environments.

Rockman is currently a Science and Technology Policy Fellow with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) placed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC) in Washington, DC. In her role as an AAAS Fellow at NHSRC, she is working with topics of long-term patterns of risk perception and population response to both abrupt (as in terrorism) and longer-term (as in climate change) environmental change and translation of archaeological information into forms useful for federal-level discussions about adaptation and resilience.

The monthly webinar series on climate change is presented by the NPS Climate Change Response Program. The purpose of the series is to connect NPS employees, volunteers, and partners with scientists and experts in the field of climate change research. Presentations begin at 2pm EST, on the second

Thursday of the month, and last about 90 minutes (a 60 minute presentation and 30 minutes for questions).

For more information, contact: [John\\_Morris@nps.gov](mailto:John_Morris@nps.gov) or [Angie\\_Richman@nps.gov](mailto:Angie_Richman@nps.gov)

Download webinar materials by visiting the Climate Change site on Sharepoint (must be on the NPS network); look in the Web Seminars Document library under the Climate Change Communication subsite: <http://nrpcsharepoint/climatechange/communication/Web%20Seminars/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

### **Former Chairman of Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Wins Archeology Award**

John L. Nau, III, former chairman, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), was recognized in January by the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) with an Award of Merit for his outstanding commitment to ensuring that the preservation of Texas' and the nation's archeological heritage are fully considered in the development of preservation policy. The award, which was presented by SHA President William Lees, recognized Nau's efforts as chairman of both the Texas Historical Commission (1997-2009) and the ACHP (2001-2010). In both organizations, Nau significantly raised the visibility of archeology in the preservation process through his tireless efforts to include archeology. Nau was cited especially for his role in the raising of the ship, *La Belle*, from Texas' waters, and for having an archeologist appointed to the ACHP for the first time in the agency's history.

The SHA is the largest scholarly group concerned with archeology since the beginning of European exploration. SHA promotes scholarly research and the dissemination of knowledge concerning historical archaeology. Established in 1988, the SHA's Award of Merit recognizes specific achievements of individuals and organizations that have furthered the cause of historical archeology.

For more information about SHA, go to <http://www.sha.org/>.

### **NPS Northeast Museum Services Center Offers Archeology Blog**

As one component of an ongoing social media initiative for the NPS Northeast Museum Services Center (NMSC), the NMSC Archeology Collection Management Program has initiated a blog. The blog will showcase archeological collections from throughout the NPS Northeast Region and the ways that NMSC works to preserve these important resources. The blog will encourage collaboration by sharing research, spotlighting collections and parks, and asking for help in identifying objects.

The blog is split into four categories: Behind-the-Scenes, an inside look at collections management; Name that Artifact: photos of objects that need identifying; A Bit of History, to share research findings, and; Spotlight On..., that highlights individual artifacts and museum objects. The NMSC has had 6 blog postings and 402 visitors since November 2010.

Other components of the NMSC social media initiative are Twitter and Facebook. The NMSC has two Twitter accounts that contain slightly different content. The web address [http://twitter.com/NPS\\_NMSC](http://twitter.com/NPS_NMSC) contains information about NMCS work, NER museum collections, and curatorial news from various sources; [http://twitter.com/NMSC\\_Volunteers](http://twitter.com/NMSC_Volunteers) to showcase volunteers' stories and promote volunteer opportunities at NMCS. Anyone with a valid email address can join and search for "Northeast Museum Services Center" on Facebook.

Public outreach enables archeologists in the NPS and other Federal entities to fulfill their responsibilities as stewards of the nation's archeological heritage. Through forms such as blogs, Twitter, and Facebook, the NMSC encourages the public to care about archeological resources and promotes a stewardship ethic.

For more information about social networks and NMCS, contact Giles Parker (617-242-5613 x214) or Megan Lentz (617-242-5613 x227)

From story by Megan Lentz

### **Archives Research Project Pays Off**

Virgin Islands NP historian Milagro Flores traveled to Spain last summer to conduct research and compile documentation in Spanish archives relating to the history and cultural resources of the park. After Europeans discovered the New World in 1492, Spain maintained control over islands in the Caribbean until the English and French began to take control of Spain's colonies a few decades later. The Danish government also sent out settlers, in defiance of both British and Spanish imperial claims to St. John and St. Thomas, as early as 1672.

While the Danish history of St. John is currently being studied (see Project in Parks: Making Contact with the Archeological Record: Identifying Contact Period Sites on St. John USVI [www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/stJohn.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/stJohn.htm)), limited research has been conducted about the numerous Spanish expeditions that mapped and recorded every move of English, French, and Danish voyages to keep any founding colonies from becoming a threat to Spanish territories. The purpose of the research project was to try to find information about Spanish activities in St. John.

About 27 primary sources were successfully identified. Among other documents, the park now has copies of a 1767 agreement between the kings of Spain and Denmark for the return of fugitive slaves; an account from the governor of Puerto Rico claiming fugitive slaves; a 1765 treatise on the management of slaves and on the establishment of a warehouse for fugitive slaves; and a 1776 ordinance about the restitution of fugitive slaves from Spanish territories. Documentation confirmed that there was extensive negotiation between Denmark and Spain to control fugitive enslaved in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico the 18th and 19th centuries.

The research project was successful in finding accounts relating to St. John Island and confirmed the richness of documentation still awaiting research. The sources will expand the depth and focus of the park's interpretation of the history of St. John. Improvement of the interpretive and educational programs will benefit St. John communities and visitors through more informed visitor experiences.

This research project was possible through the Friends of Virgin Islands NP. Flores was assisted by intern Doris M. Diaz, also funded by the Friends program. These important discoveries establish a base for Phase II of the same project, approved by the Friends for FY 2011.

From story by Milagros Flores, Historian, Virgin Islands NP

### **2011 NPS Park NAGPRA Intern Projects Selected**

The NPS Park NAGPRA internship program provides opportunities for students to work in parks, centers, and offices nationwide on projects related to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Four projects from three regions – Intermountain, Southeast, and Pacific West – have been selected for support in 2011.

Channel Islands NP The intern will carry out comparative bioarcheological analyses to assist the park in making cultural determinations required by NAGPRA. (\$5,500)

Little Bighorn Battlefield NM The project will support one part-time student during FY 2011 at Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument to assist park staff during the consultation process. (\$7,900)

Mesa Verde NP The intern will assist with completing NAGPRA compliance for cultural items subject to the Future Applicability regulation and will also document and research cultural items controlled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs that are in the park's possession. (\$8,000)

Southeast Archeological Center The intern will help complete preparations of cultural items from the Mangum Site, Natchez Trace Parkway for repatriation and reburial and will assist with new and ongoing NAGPRA projects. (\$8,000)

### **Fort Vancouver NHS Offers 2011 Artifact Calendar**

Calendars offered annually by Fort Vancouver NHS feature treasures from the park's museum collection. The 2011 calendar focuses on the Village, the community that grew up in the 19<sup>th</sup> century beside the fort. The Village was home to Europeans and Euroamericans, Native Americans from 30 different tribes, and Hawaiians, among other cultural groups. Families in the Village supported the agricultural and mercantile activities of Fort Vancouver through their labor. The expansion of the post resulted in unprecedented self sufficiency and agricultural surplus and allowed Chief Factor John McLoughlin to aid travelers on the Oregon Trail, opening the way for full-scale Euroamerican immigration. The U.S. Army followed soon after, and established a military post adjacent to the Hudson Bay Company's fort. The Army's quartermaster's depot was established in the Village, where many buildings were leased to the Army.

Archeological investigations began in the Village in the late 1940s. Each decade has seen large-scale excavations and impressive additions to our understanding of the history and organization of the community. The 2011 calendar includes Native American carving on bone, Pacific shells, Chinese coins, hair ornaments, and Japanese ceramics, a small representation of the range of artifacts recovered in excavations.

Additional information about the objects is available in online versions of catalog records and artifact studies. You can even take a tour and view the actual artifacts!

To take a tour, read more about the collections, or purchase a calendar, go to [www.nps.gov/fova/](http://www.nps.gov/fova/).

### **NPS Recruiting for Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Teams**

The NPS and Department of the Interior are recruiting natural and cultural resource specialists to serve on post-wildfire Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) teams. BAER Teams need archeologists that are interested in serving on NPS local and regional teams and the National Interagency BAER Team. These teams assist parks and other Federal units to conduct post-wildfire assessments and develop BAER Plans. The plans address complex post-wildfire situations that pose immediate and significant threats to human life, property, and cultural and natural resources. Threats may come from flash floods, debris flows, and erosion, looting of archeological sites, invasive species, and land restoration issues.

BAER team members must be able to satisfy the series qualifications of the team position at the GS-09 level. Team members must meet the Red Card minimum physical fitness requirements (Work Capacity

Test score of light fitness). Knowledge and experience in Interagency BAER guidelines, natural and cultural resource management policies, including mitigation and protection measures are desired. Oral and written communication skills, including proficiency in the use of personal PCs and Word, Excel, and Power Point for windows applications are also useful.

BAER Teams need archeologists that are interested in serving on NPS local and regional teams and the National Interagency BAER Team.

#### *NPS Local and Regional Teams*

The NPS maintains a roster of volunteers to serve on local and regional teams. Team participants are selected based on the needed skill sets and the volunteer's availability. To apply, complete the on-line application posted at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P5NTBFM> no later than February 14, 2011. The application should specify the area of interest and must briefly address the nominee's professional, technical, and BAER-related qualifications for the position. Be sure to include all contact information (name, phone numbers, and email address).

#### *National Interagency BAER Teams*

The Department of Interior sponsors two National Interagency BAER Teams. These teams respond to complex fires of national significance and fires presenting severe post-fire issues. To apply for a national team, complete the local and regional team application. In addition, the application's supervisor must send a memo about applicant's qualifications and availability to both Richard Schwab ([richard\\_schwab@nps.gov](mailto:richard_schwab@nps.gov)) and Erv Gasser ([erv\\_gasser@nps.gov](mailto:erv_gasser@nps.gov)). For further information on applying to the national teams, please contact Erv Gasser directly.

If you are already on one of the teams, please reaffirm your interest in participating or remove your name from the list by contacting Richard Schwab (for local, regional, and national teams) and Erv Gasser (for national teams).

For more about the BAER program, go to the DOI BAER website [www.fws.gov/fire/ifcc/esr/home.htm](http://www.fws.gov/fire/ifcc/esr/home.htm) or contact Richard Schwab.

#### **Visitor Caught Collecting Artifacts in Fort Bowie NHS**

On December 28, 2010, a park interpretive ranger reported a visitor illegally collecting artifacts at Fort Bowie NHS. The protection ranger who responded recovered 111 artifacts, including historic cartridge cases, a metal button, a barrel band from a rifle, square nails, and pieces of historic glass from the visitor. The cost of either cataloging or repatriating the artifacts is being calculated.

During periods of cold weather, melting snow and frost heaves often bring historic artifacts to the surface at Fort Bowie and the illegal collection of artifacts at the fort is an on-going problem. The park recently installed an outdoor surveillance camera overlooking the parade ground to help prevent the problem.

#### **Man Sentenced in Two Year Cultural Resources Sting**

A man who admitted to taking a bead from Native American ruins in San Juan County, Utah, will not serve time in prison. U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart sentenced Brandon F. Laws to 24 months probation for a misdemeanor charge of trafficking in stolen artifacts. Laws had argued the items came from private land and the transaction was legal.

In exchange for an earlier guilty plea, prosecutors dropped two felony charges that could have meant prison time for Laws. He was originally indicted for allegedly stealing and selling two bone beads, a shell necklace with a clay pendant, two drills, and other pendants which were excavated or removed from Indian lands. Though a bead is small, Stewart noted that its removal "was part of a lifestyle that Mr. Laws and others had engaged in that needed to be addressed." Asked by the judge if he learned his lesson, Laws replied, "Yes sir."

Laws also must surrender all other tribal antiquities in his possession and is barred from visiting Federal lands during his probation. Federal prosecutor Richard McKelvie did not recommend jail time because Laws spent six months behind bars for violating conditions of his release prior to the hearing.

Laws, a Blanding construction worker, was among 26 people arrested in Utah, Colorado and New Mexico after a two-year sting operation in the Four Corners region. Four others named in the same indictment as Laws are scheduled for a jury trial in February, 2011.

### **NPS to Offer Oral History Training**

The NPS History Program and Organization of American Historians (OAH) will offer a one day course "Viva Voce: Researching the Past with Oral History" at the OAH annual meeting in Houston, Texas, on March 19, 2011. This workshop is aimed at historians, interpreters, archivists, ethnographers, archeologists, museum curators and others who conduct oral history projects. Workshop leaders direct major oral history programs and are attuned to the needs of Federal historians. Participants can discuss issues specific to their own projects and will receive an oral history manual, transcribing and style guide, and other resources.

The morning session will provide an overview of oral history methods and how to complete effective oral history research projects. Topics include project design; ethical and legal issues; interviewing techniques; processing and archiving recordings; recording equipment (audio and video); public programming that reaches a variety of audiences, and; impact of digital technologies on oral history.

The afternoon session will showcase three examples of innovative oral history work. They are the NPS-sponsored Tuskegee Airmen Oral History Project; the "digital frontier" in oral history at the Johnson Space Center History Office, NASA, and; how oral history is being used to document disasters and crises such as Hurricane Katrina and the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill.

Tuition is \$115 (\$30 for workshop registration, \$85 for one-day conference registration). The course, listed in DOI Learn (NPS 2011-0319 – Houston TX), requires supervisory approval for Federal employees.

NPS contact: Lu Ann Jones, Park History Program, WASO, (202) 354-2219.

### **Summer Jobs with NPS HABS/HAER/HALS**

The NPS Heritage Documentation Programs (Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey) seeks applications from qualified students for summer employment documenting historic sites and structures of architectural, engineering, and landscape significance throughout the country. Duties involve on-site field work and the preparation of measured and interpretive drawings and written historical reports for the HABS/HAER/HALS Collection at the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress. Projects last twelve weeks, beginning in May/June. Salaries range from approximately \$6,000 to approximately \$11,000 for the summer,

depending on job responsibility, locality of the project, and level of experience. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen.

Applications are due by February 14, 2011 (postmark date). Application information can be found at [www.nps.gov/history/hdp/jobs/summer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/jobs/summer.htm). You can view examples of HDP documentation on the Library of Congress web site at [lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/hhhtml/hhhome.html](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/hhhtml/hhhome.html).

For additional information, contact Judy Davis, Summer Program Administrator, NPS Heritage Documentation Programs Division (202) 354-2135.

**Projects in Parks:** The Abo Unit of Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument, managed by the NPS, is located west of Mountainair, New Mexico. The Abo Unit encompasses the remains of several Native American pueblos dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, a 17<sup>th</sup> century Spanish mission, various other prehistoric and historic structures and out-buildings, and a nationally significant pictograph site, Abo Painted Rocks. This study reports on a three-year project to record the pictographs and paintings at the Abo Painted Rocks site.

Read the entire report at <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/salinasAboRocks.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](http://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](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm) on the NPS Archeology Program web site.

**Contact:** Karen Mudar at [dca@nps.gov](mailto: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.