February 2011 Archeology E-Gram

The Archeology Program Celebrates African American History Month
February is African American History Month and, in 2011, the whole world joins us in celebrating the United Nation’s International Year for People of African Descent. Archeology tells us more about the historic contributions of African Americans to the nation—both as individuals and as groups—at places and through objects.

Find the African American History page here: http://www.nps.gov/archeology/months/february10.htm

Grand Canyon National Park Celebrates Archeology Day
Native people have lived in the Grand Canyon area for thousands of years and have left behind clues about their lives. Recent research at Grand Canyon NP is revealing interesting patterns of human use of the resources in this dynamic environment. Grand Canyon NP archeologists and interpreters are offering a day of activities on March 19, 2011, to celebrate the archeological resources. Activities include family-friendly activities such as making clay pots and split twig figures and an evening lecture about recent research in the park. Although only 5 percent of the park has been surveyed for archeological resources, over 4300 sites have been identified. Site dates from the Paleoindian period, nearly 12,000 years ago, to the present. The most recent research program is the River Monitoring program, which is focusing on investigation of archeological sites along the Colorado River corridor.

For more information about Archeology Day at Grand Canyon NP, go to www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/arch_day.htm

Federal-Private Partnership Funds Historic Preservation and Conservation
The NPS and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities jointly announced awards of $14.3 million in Federal Save America's Treasures (SAT) grants. In 2010, SAT received 338 grant applications from Federal agencies; state, local, and tribal governments; and nonprofit organizations.

The 61 funded projects include 5 archeological and ethnographic projects:

*Dendrochronology Collection, Tucson* ($425,000) The dendrochronology repository contains more than 2 million wood specimens. With this raw material, researchers can pinpoint single-year dates for past events and processes that are vital to studying climate change and unlocking the pre-industrial history of the U.S. Funds will provide storage systems within a climate-controlled environment to address current threats from rodents, insects, floods, and temperature variations.

*Heye Foundation Collection, National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, DC* ($29,905) The NMAI collection is a preeminent repository for primary source documentation of indigenous history, lifeways, and traditions. The SAT grant will address threats to 19th and early 20th century manuscripts, expedition fieldnotes, correspondence, and films.

*Historic Alaska Native Kayaks and Related Collections, Cambridge, MA* ($283,685) The only known Alutiiq warrior kayak is the centerpiece of the Peabody Museum’s collection of more than 100 kayaks and other related objects. The SAT grant will support collaboration between the museum and the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository to document, research, and re-house the kayak and other materials in a climate-controlled environment.
**Pueblo Acoma, Acoma – NHL District, New Mexico** ($216,491) Acoma Pueblo is one of the oldest continuously occupied settlements in the U.S. Founded as early as A.D. 1100, its location on top of a mesa made it virtually impregnable in early times. SAT funds will renovate a block of homes that have suffered major water and erosion damage. These structures adjoin the plaza and are connected to historic and religiously significant kivas.

**Yaughan and Curriboo Archeological Collections, Columbia** ($192,482) Important archeological collections from the Yaughan and Curriboo plantations provide perspectives on the everyday lives of enslaved Africans and African American in the 18th and 19th centuries. Of particular interest are the artifacts that suggest strategies used by individuals to survive their enslavement as the local agrarian economy moved from rice to indigo to cotton. Funds will support the stabilization, preservation, and digitization of the collections.

Save America's Treasures is part of a long tradition of public-private partnerships and Federal leadership. The NPS administers the SAT program in collaboration with the President's Committee. The grants are made in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), and Save America's Treasures' private partner, the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Trust complements the work of the Federal agencies by raising media awareness and leveraging financial support and stewardship within the private sector.

To maximize private investment and support for the awardees, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps projects secure the required private match and offers assistance to SAT applicants and grantees. From FY 1999 to FY 2010, 1,287 SAT grants (646 earmarks and 641 competitive grants) have been awarded to preserve nationally significant and endangered historic structures, places, collections, artifacts, and artistic works.

A list of the recipients and their projects can be found at [www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures).

**DOI Issues Scientific Integrity Policy**

The U.S. Department of the Interior became the first Federal agency to issue a department-wide policy to ensure scientific and scholarly integrity Federal Scientific research. This policy applies when employees engage in, supervise, manage, or influence scientific and scholarly activities; communicate information about the Department's scientific and scholarly activities; and utilize scientific and scholarly information in making agency policy, management, or regulatory decisions. This new policy exceeds the expectations by the President in his Memorandum on Scientific Integrity, dated March 9, 2009.

Science and scholarship make essential contributions to the NPS mission, and the DOI Code of Scientific and Scholarly Conduct is an essential standard for the NPS. The policy also applies to all volunteers, contractors, cooperators, partners, permittees, lessees, grantees, and others who assist with developing or applying the results of scientific and scholarly activities. It also includes specific elements addressed to scientists, scholars, and decision makers and outlines a process for handling allegations of scientific and scholarly misconduct, while protecting the rights and privacy of individuals covered by the policy. Further, the policy offers guidance on service on committees and boards related to scientific and scholarly work. It does not supersede or replace existing policies and procedures related to ethical standards or guidance on information quality.
Gary Machlis, Science Advisor to the Director, has been designated the Bureau Scientific Integrity Officer. Machlis will be responsible for all aspects of implementation, including review of allegations of scientific and scholarly misconduct made against NPS employees and deciding whether an inquiry is warranted.

The new code has been incorporated into the Departmental Manual, available online at http://elips.doi.gov/app_dm/act_getfiles.cfm?relnum=3889.

**NPS Seeking Archeology Program Manager**

The Archeology Program of the NPS Cultural Resources directorate is seeking a vibrant archeologist to serve as the Chief Archeologist of the NPS, and Manager of the Archeology Program of the National Center for Cultural Resources in Washington, DC. The selected candidate of this position will be the NPS principal expert on archeological matters, providing oversight, policy development, guidance, interpretation, and professional leadership in the field of archeology and archeological resource management. The successful candidate will help shape the national NPS Archeology Program for the 21st century. This is a GS-14/15 level position. Applications are due no later than March 9, 2011.

Find the vacancy announcement at www.usajobs.opm.gov/; enter 437181 in the keyword search window.

**FLETC Offers ARPA Training**

The Archeological Resources Protection Training Program is presented by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) and provides training in all aspects of an archeological investigation and in the subsequent prosecution of crimes. This 37-hour course is taught by accomplished instructors who are nationally-recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology, and law. Enrollment is limited to Federal or state law enforcement officers, archeologists, and prosecutors.

Training will be held:
April 25-29, 2011, in Rapid City, South Dakota;
May 2-6, 2011, in Boise, Idaho;
August 22-26, 2011 in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

For registration information, please contact FLETC at 912-280-5188.

**Upcoming NPS National NAGPRA Program webinars**

*March 23, 2011, 1:30-2:30 pm (EDT) - NAGPRA Databases: An Overview*

Learn about the National NAGPRA online databases which are designed to provide access to information on a variety of NAGPRA-related topics.

*April 13, 2011, 2:00 – 4:00pm (EDT) – NAGPRA Open Forum*

Have a burning question you would like to ask the NAGPRA staff? Need clarification on a particular NAGPRA topic? This webinar is an opportunity to hear about the latest developments at the NPS National NAGPRA Program and ask staff questions or air concerns. In order to ensure that this forum adequately addresses your question or concerns, please include your questions along with your registration.

For more information about the webinars, go to the NPS National NAGPRA website at www.nps.gov/nagpra/TRAINING/INDEX.htm.
Resource Advisor Training
The NPS is offering Resource Advisor training at Glacier NP, Montana on June 29 – 30, 2011. This course is intended for natural and cultural resources managers, individuals with natural/cultural background, GIS specialists, compliance, and planning specialists, and fire staff. It provides participants with the framework to serve as Resource Advisors (READs) during emergency responses, including wildland fires. READs work with incident commanders and park staff to minimize immediate and short-term adverse impacts resulting from either the incident itself or activities associated with managing the incident. READs are critical as the starting point for identifying needs related to the repair of fire suppression impacts, Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) and Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR).

The course will focus on wildland fire events; course content will also be applicable to non-fire emergency responses. Topics will include a wide range of potential impacts of incidents, associated management actions, and suggestions for anticipating post-incident environmental conditions related to natural and cultural resource management.

All applications must be received by COB April 15, 2011. There is no tuition, but home units must cover travel costs.

Contact: Lisa Hanson, NPS VPR-Fire, (303) 969-2918.

Projects in Parks: Making Prehistoric Music: Musical Instruments from Ancestral Puebloan Sites
The world of the Ancestral Puebloans, or Anasazi, has been a major research area for archeologists of the Southwest, who have examined the nature and evolution of these prehistoric people from many angles. Emily Brown, a former NPS archeologist, is taking a fresh approach to the Ancestral Puebloans: she is studying the instruments that were used to make music.

Brown has studied 1,300 ancient musical instruments from 17 national parks in the Southwest, where the Ancestral Puebloans once lived. The time period of her research goes from A.D. 200, the first period from which Brown was able to find instruments, to 1540, when the Spanish first entered the region. What Brown discovered is a surprising range and variety of both materials used and the kind of sounds that could be produced.

http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/anasaziMusic.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.