February 2013 Archeology E-Gram

Secretary of the Interior Historic Preservation Award Given to BLM Archeologist
Archeologist Robin Hawks, BLM FPO, has been awarded the Secretary of the Interior Historic Preservation Award. The BLM historic preservation program completed four major projects during 2012, including revision of the Programmatic Agreement for Compliance with NHPA Section 106. During 2011, BLM’s historic preservation program was responsible for nearly 900,000 acres of new cultural resources inventory that identified more than 11,000 archeological sites. BLM has now inventoried more than 21 million acres and manages 16 National Historic Landmarks and five World Heritage Sites. Active in a variety of federal interagency groups, Hawks is a Registered Professional Archaeologist and a member of the Society for American Archaeology. She currently serves as a Special Assistant for Historic Preservation with the President’s Council on Environmental Quality.

The Secretary of the Interior Historic Preservation Award was created by Section 110(h) of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Secretary’s award is distinguished from other historic award programs because it was established as a Cabinet-level of recognition through a statutory mandate, focuses on accomplishments of individuals, rather than programs or projects, and recognizes multiple levels of government. Current employees of Federal Preservation Offices, State Historic Preservation Offices, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and Certified Local Government are eligible. While NPS employees are not eligible for the award, other DOI bureau employees are.

NPS Albright-Wirth Grant Program Award Recipients Announced
The Horace M. Albright - Conrad L. Wirth Grant Program (AWGP) is a prestigious developmental opportunity that annually awards funding for personal and career development projects to NPS employees. The Learning and Development Office in Washington administers and funds the program in partnership with the National Park Foundation. This year, over 420 project proposals were submitted and 33 were approved for the 2013 cycle, including 2 cultural resource projects.

Leslie Courtright of Zion NP received a grant for $3,480. She will use her funding to obtain a Master of public administration degree from Southern Utah University. Courtright intends to conduct research in cultural resource management and public administration.

Diane Garcia from Casa Grande Ruins NM received a $848 grant to complete several courses at Central Arizona College. The courses will provide her with more detailed histories of the Casa Grande Ruins and will allow her to provide visitors with an enhanced cultural experience.

Congratulations, Leslie and Diane! Keep an eye on future E-Grams for announcements regarding the next cycle of Albright-Wirth grant proposals.

To learn more about the AWGP, go to the AWGP website at http://share.nps.gov/awg.
President Appoints Lynne Sebastian to Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

President Barack Obama has appointed Lynne Sebastian to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) as an Expert Member. Sebastian is Director of Historic Preservation Programs at the SRI Foundation and an adjunct associate professor of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico where she received her Ph.D. Sebastian is the President of the Register of Professional Archaeologists and served as the President of the Society for American Archaeology from 2003-2005. Prior to that, Sebastian was the State Historic Preservation Officer for New Mexico from 1997-1999 and the State Archaeologist and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer from 1987-1997.

ACHP chairman Milford Wayne Donaldson noted that Sebastian “is well-suited to help guide the government’s national historic preservation practices” and that “the ACHP’s mission of promoting the preservation and appreciation of the nation’s diverse cultural heritage will be greatly aided by Dr. Sebastian’s expertise.”

For more information about ACHP, go to http://www.achp.gov/.

Federal Archeologists Meeting Held

On February 14, 2013, Federal archeologists met with the Departmental Consulting Archeologist (DCA) in Washington, D.C. This was the first meeting for the new DCA, Stanley Bond, who is also the NPS Chief Archeologist. Participants in attendance represented various Federal agencies that have a responsibility for archeological resources.

NPS Archeologist David Gadsby discussed completion of Section 12 (reserved) of 36 CFR 79, the regulation for the curation of federally-owned and administered archeological collections. The proposed amendment describes a process for the disposal of material remains that are of “insufficient archeological interest.” NPS Archeologist Karen Mudar led a discussion about the Federal Archeology Report (previously known as the Secretary’s Report to Congress on Federal Archeology). NPS Historian/GIS Specialist Deidre McCarthy reported on spatial data standards and using geographic information to integrate a variety of databases. Bond discussed changes to the Secretary of Interior’s Professional Standards. NPS CRGIS Program manager and archeologist John Knoerl discussed the impact of climate change and rising sea levels.

Information about this and future meetings will be posted on the NPS Archeology Program website at http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/FEDARCH.HTM

Museum Management Program Re-launches Web Catalog

In support of the Director’s Call to Action item “Go Digital,” the NPS Museum Management Program has re-launched its Web Catalog museum collections website. Through the Web Catalog, park staff
increase public access to collections by making records and images available online. Currently, 72 park collections are featured on the site, showcasing nearly 2 million objects and millions of archival items. New features of the website include a dynamic, user-friendly interface that allows visitors to perform simple or advanced searches by keyword, park name, object name, people, places, and date; weekly collection highlights of objects representing specific themes, types, or places; park and objects of the week; and park collection summaries.


Contact: Ronald C. Wilson, 202-354-2102.

**National Preservation Institute Offers Two Seminars on Cemetery Preservation**

The National Preservation Institute is offering two seminars to be held in Stafford, Virginia. The first seminar, “Cemetery Preservation” will be held April 17-18, 2013, on initiating cemetery preservation and restoration projects and ensuring sound choices are made. Discussions will focus on current issues in cemetery preservation, such as recording and documenting cemeteries, preservation efforts, and exploring conservation techniques and issues. Instructors for this seminar are Michael Trinkley, Director, and Debi Hacker, Conservation Administrator of Chicora Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit heritage preservation organization specializing in research, public education, conservation, and preservation for museums, archives, and historic organizations.

Hacker will also teach the second seminar, “Cemetery Landscapes: A Practical Guide to Care and Maintenance,” on April 19, 2013. The seminar focuses on protecting historic cemetery landscapes, preserving the integrity of design, and safeguarding tombstones and monuments, while pursuing a practical outlook on maintenance and budget concerns. The seminar will explore approaches to caring for softscapes, or plantings, and hardscapes, including roads, pathways, and benches. Discussions will also focus on effective pruning and cutting techniques, when chemicals and heavy equipment can be safely and productively used, and the basics of short- and long- term preservation plans.

Agendas are available online at www.npi.org. These seminars meet the criteria for programs in the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Continuing Education System. ASLA members will receive 6 learning units each day.
The advance registration tuition rate is available through March 8, 2013. A registration form is available online at www.npi.org/register.html.

Scholarships are available to cover the cost of tuition for qualified applicants to attend NPI seminars in targeted cultural resource management areas. For more information and the application form, go to www.npi.org/scholarships.

Contact:  National Preservation Institute (703) 765-0100; info@npi.org; www.npi.org

Resource Specialists Needed for Post-Wildfire Response Teams

The NPS is recruiting cultural resource specialists to serve on post-wildfire Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) teams. While many wildfires cause minimal damage and pose few threats to land or people downstream, some fires cause damages that require special efforts to prevent problems afterwards. BAER teams assist parks by conducting wildfire assessments and developing plans to address post-wildfire situations.

The NPS BAER teams have needs for specialists such as team leaders, GIS specialists, cultural resource professionals, and document specialists. Participants are selected based on the skill sets that are needed during the fire and the member's availability.

The NPS Fire Management Program Center maintains the roster of interested employees to serve on NPS BAER teams. Anyone who has submitted an application in the past must resubmit in order to update the database. The application is completed online and should take no more than fifteen minutes to complete. The application requests area of professional interest and technical BAER-related qualifications. Applicants will be notified by mid-March about a webinar that will be held prior to the western fire season.

To apply or reapply, go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NPS_BAER_Recruitment
For more information about the BAER program, go to http://www.nps.gov/fire/wildland-fire/learning-center/fireside-chats/BAER-case-study.cfm (turn your speakers on)

Contact:  Rich Schwab, 202-513-7129.

François Deloeuil website launched
The Monroe County Historical Museum, Monroe, Michigan, has launched a new website for the François Deloeuil house and blacksmith shop located. Deloeuil was a Canadian blacksmith for the British Indian Department in Canada during the Revolutionary War. He was stationed at Sandusky (Wyandot Town, in
present-day Ohio) and Shawnee Town (present-day Wapakoneta, Ohio) in Ohio, repairing firearms and other items used by Native Americans. In 1789, he settled on the River Raisin in a newly established a Canadian community known as “Frenchtown.” Deloeuil became an American citizen with the jurisdictional transfer of the Old Northwest Territory from British to American control in 1796. In June 1813, during the War of 1812, British and Native Americans who evacuated the settlement destroyed the house and shop as the American Northwest Army approached.

Test excavations were carried out in 1978, but the report went unpublished. In 1988, 2400 square feet of the house cellar where the blacksmith shop was located was excavated. The excavations produced 45,255 man-made artifacts and 6,165 animal bone, 591 shell fragments, and 94 fish bone. The website documents and reports on the excavations and presents material culture that has remained in storage for the last 24 years.

The Francois Deloeuil house and blacksmith shop was located near the stockade that was the scene of the devastating January 1813 Battles of Frenchtown that occurred during the War of 1812. Part of the battlefield lies within the boundaries of River Raisin National Battlefield Park, the 393rd NPS Unit.

The Francois Deloeuil house website can be found at https://sites.google.com/site/20mr229. For more information about River Raisin NBP, go to http://www.nps.gov/rira/index.htm

From story by Patrick M. Tucker

Man Pleads Guilty to Removal of Cultural Resources at Glen Canyon NRA
William Adams has pled guilty to the unauthorized removal of archeological resources from Glen Canyon NRA during a trip to the park in 2009. It was initially believed that Adams removed a mummified infant from a Native American gravesite. The object was later found to be an unusually large mass of clay believed to have been gathered for the purpose of making pottery. The artifact possibly dates no more recently than 1300 A.D. and will be retained in the park’s museum collection. In addition to being fined $1,000, Adams was ordered to pay $1,000 in restitution to the Department of Interior Restoration Fund.

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. NCPE Intern Rachel Haines assisted in the production of the E-Gram. Thanks, Rachel!

Contact: Karen Mudar at dca@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for Projects in Parks, and to subscribe.