



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## August 2015 Archeology E-Gram

### NPS NEWS

#### **Jacqueline Ashwell to Lead Hawaii World War II National Monuments**

Jacqueline Ashwell will be the next superintendent of World War II Valor in the Pacific NM, including the USS Arizona Memorial and the newly created Honouliuli NM. She currently serves as the superintendent of the Seattle Area National Park Sites, which include Klondike Gold Rush NHP – Seattle Unit, Minidoka NHS -Bainbridge Island Unit, the Wing Luke Museum Affiliated Area, the Outdoor Recreation Information Center at REI's Seattle flagship store and the Seattle Trails & Rails program.

Ashwell joined the agency as a volunteer at Great Smoky Mountains NP in 1993, where she was brought into a student hire position. She documented the park's more than 150 historic cemeteries, a project that led to her master's thesis in historical archeology at the University of Tennessee. In 2000, Ashwell moved to Alaska, where she was the lead seasonal archeologist for Kennecott NHL in Wrangell-St. Elias NP &P. She moved into interpretation, as the Yakutat district interpretive ranger. In 2004, Ashwell switched tracks again to law enforcement. She served as the Dyea townsite ranger for Klondike Gold Rush NHP in Skagway, Alaska, from 2004 to 2009. She also enjoyed a temporary assignment as the chief ranger of Sitka NHP in 2009.



Ashwell has been involved in the Seattle historic preservation community, working with the Alliance for Pioneer Square and the National Trust for Historic Preservation on projects to interpret and protect the city's past. She has served for the past two years as a consultant to the NPS Office of Relevancy, Diversity, and Inclusion. She has also been assigned to short-term assignments in Haiti and Nepal.

Ashwell will assume her new role October 19, 2015.

*By Andrew Muñoz*

#### **Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Hosts Native American Youth Camp**

During July 2015, Delaware Water Gap NRA hosted a Native American Youth Camp for 12 high school-aged students from the Stockbridge Munsee-Mohican Nation, the Delaware Nation, and the Delaware Tribe. The Delaware Tribe and the Delaware Nation communities are located in Oklahoma, the Stockbridge-Munsee community is in Wisconsin, and all three tribes consider the Delaware River Valley their ancestral homeland.

The idea for the camp developed out of consultation for the Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission Line, a large-scale powerline that was constructed through Delaware Water Gap NRA (and crossed the Delaware River valley) in 2013 and 2014. The NHPA Section 106 compliance plan for the project required consideration and development of a tribal cultural program within the park that the three tribes could operate. That particular directive spurred development of the youth camp. Judson Kratzer, park Cultural Resources Program Manager for the Special Projects Division, led the planning effort along with the THPOs and their historic preservation representatives.

2015 Delaware Water Gap NRA Native American Youth Camp attendees.



The camp's activities and curriculum grew from three goals the tribes identified: educate and inspire pride in Native youth about their tribal history in the Delaware Water Gap territory; expose and nurture career opportunities for Native youth in cultural resource management, parks and recreation, anthropology, and archeology; and provide opportunities for Native youth to be cultural experts where they can directly shape how their heritage is represented to others.

Camp activities focused on the environmental resources and cultural history of the Delaware valley. A two-day canoeing and camping excursion on the Delaware River included stops at the Minisink Island NHL and a stop at the Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission right-of-way for an archeological talk regarding the data recovery that was conducted prior to construction of the transmission line, and monitored by the tribes in 2013. A highlight of the camp was a trip to the Snyder Site Complex south of Phillipsburg, New Jersey. The Snyder Site Complex is in the geographic range of the Plenge Site, one New Jersey's more important Paleo-Indian sites.

Students were exposed to NPS career paths including law enforcement, fire management, fishery sciences, herpetology, geographic information systems, interpretation and education, agricultural land management, cultural resource management, and trails and recreation management. Students visited the park archives, archeology laboratory, and museum curation facility where staff provided discussion, instruction and interaction with artifacts associated with the youth's ancestors.

A day trip to a park partner, the Peters Valley School of Craft, included tours of pottery-firing kilns and instruction in basic pottery construction and design applications. Greg Latanzi, Assistant Curator, New Jersey State Museum, provided an overview of the archeology-based understanding of the region's Native American pottery craft and its cultural implications related to construction techniques and design motifs.

As it began, the camp closed with a cedar, sage and tobacco burning ceremony and thoughts on the meaning of the camp's intentions and actions. The Native American students reported that they had connected with their heritage in a meaningful way, and planned to return home and advocate for more youth to attend the camp next year. Plans are underway to develop the camp into an annual event.

The pilot project received a grant from the NPS 2015 Centennial Fund which was matched by The Conservation Fund. The Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC), a Park partner organization, provided housing and educational programs for the youth.

### **Research Project Leads to New Findings at Kenai Fjords National Park**

In mid-July, Kenai Fjords NP, the Smithsonian Institution, the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and two Alaska Native interns embarked on a partnership archeology and geomorphology project.

Working off the park boat, the *M/V Serac*, the researchers slogged through clouds of bugs and sheeting rain during ten days of fieldwork.

Aron Crowell from the Smithsonian Institution worked with Jon Harde, the park archeologist, to find two new archeological sites in an area of the park that had never been intensively surveyed. Chris Maio from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and Woods Hole Oceanographic researcher Richard Sullivan collected sediment cores to understand maximum glacier extent in the park's fjords, and past tsunami and storm impacts. The two Alaska Native interns, Ivana Ash and Norma Johnson will continue to do project lab work for the Smithsonian Institution through August.



This project provided new information to better manage cultural resources in the park and was funded through the National Park Foundation's coastal settlement funds. In addition to finding new sites and surveying glacial extent, previously known archeological sites were revisited, delineated with GPS, and assessed for vulnerability to erosion and visitor impacts.

*By Sharon Kim, Chief of Resources*

### **Fort Davis National Historic Site Hosts Archeology Project**

The University of California-Berkeley conducted an archeological field school at Fort Davis National Historic Site, Texas, under the guidance of Laurie Wilkie. The Fort Davis Archaeology Project (FODAAP) is co-directed by PhD students Katrina Eichner and Erin Rodriguez, and involves about 15 students in the fieldwork. It focuses on the 19th and early 20th centuries' lifeways and interactions between residents of the military garrison of Fort Davis and the nearby community. Of particular interest to the project are the experiences of African-American soldiers in the U.S. Army popularly known as "Buffalo Soldiers," working women on the frontier, Hispanic civilians, and the changing ways in which people in the community related to each other in the ethnically and racially diverse social landscape.

Visit the project blog at [ucbfodaap.wordpress.com](http://ucbfodaap.wordpress.com)

To contact the project leaders: [ucbfodaap@gmail.com](mailto:ucbfodaap@gmail.com)

Visit the park's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fort.davis.7>

### **Workshop Held by National Park Service Southern Revolutionary War Sites**

On July 24-25, 2015, the Southern Campaign of the Revolution Parks Group, consisting of Kings Mountain NMP, Cowpens NB, Ninety Six NHS, Overmountain Victory NHT, and the NPS Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC), hosted a workshop for battlefield scholars to discuss the role of historical and archeological research in the community, how to engage the community in partnerships with the NPS, and how the NPS can assist them with research goals and heritage preservation.

Led by NPS archeologist John Cornelison, Douglas Scott (NPS – retired) gave a presentation on “Shot and Shell Tell the Tale;” Larry Babits gave an overview of the Southern Campaigns of the American Revolution; Scott Butler spoke about the Battle of Waxhaw; and NPS archeologist Kristen McMasters talked about military terrain analysis.

The group set goals for the Southern Campaign of the Revolution Parks Group that included identifying and evaluating archeological resources, assessing how to locate resources, and rapid publication of results. They intend to highlight the importance of the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution by linking local, county, state, and national resources into a national network. The parks will accomplish this by developing the initial framework to study, celebrate, and better understand the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Revolution.

NPS archeologist Michael Siebert spoke about the upcoming archeological investigation at Cowpens NB. In August, archeologists, researchers, and volunteers will be continuing investigations on the 1781 Battle of Cowpens. The primary goal for the project is to confirm and define the battle lines from the battle. Secondary goals include the location of General Daniel Morgan’s camp and where the British dead may have been buried after the Patriot victory.

To follow the archeological project on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, search for the hashtag #SEAC2740.

*By Ginny Fowler*

### **Reed Robinson Head of NPS Midwest Region Office of American Indian Affairs**



The NPS Midwest Region has established an Office of American Indian Affairs and selected Reed Robinson, deputy superintendent of Badlands NP, as its program manager. The office will work to ensure agency policies and actions respect tribal sovereignty and build vital intercultural partnerships. In addition, the office will provide internal cultural competency training, government-to-government consultation support for parks, and serve as the regional directorate’s lead advisor on American Indian affairs.

An enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe (Sicangu), Robinson is a 25-year veteran of the NPS, and served in eight other parks. Prior to Badlands NP, Robinson was the superintendent of Devils Tower NM.

Robinson will have an office in the Rapid City area of South Dakota and will step into his new assignment on August 23, 2015.

*By Mike Johnson*

## National Park Service Studies Bricks to Unlock Secrets at Arlington House



Director Jarvis and Rubenstein announce his gift to the NPS. (AP photo)

The NPS is using the original bricks from the Arlington House estate to unlock mysteries about the home's construction and those who did the work. NPS workers recently conducted an exploratory investigation of deteriorating sections of the plantation home's brick foundation, part of a major renovation effort funded by a \$12.4 million lead gift from philanthropist David Rubenstein.

The bricks that make up the foundation were most likely made by the enslaved people of the Arlington estate. Some of the bricks will be taken to a lab in Pennsylvania for a detailed scientific analysis of their chemical and material composition. Engineers are slated to evaluate the level of deterioration and pressure test the bricks.

Overlooking the nation's capital, the home was constructed for George Washington Parke Custis in the early 1800s and was inherited through marriage by Robert E. Lee. Seized by the Federal government at the outbreak of the Civil War, the grounds were turned into Arlington National Cemetery (overseen by the Army) while the home in 1920 was designated by Congress as the nation's formal memorial to Lee under supervision of the NPS.

With 650,000 visitors per year, Arlington House is the most visited historic house museum in the National Park System.

## New Archeological National Historic Landmark Designated

DOI Secretary Sally Jewell and NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced the designation of four new national historic landmarks, including a Native American archeological site. The designation recognizes the sites as places that possess exceptional value and quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States.

The archeological site is the First Peoples Buffalo Jump in Cascade County, Montana. It is one of the oldest, largest, and best preserved bison cliff jump locations in North America. Its record of stone surface architecture, deeply stratified bison bone deposits, multiple tipi ring concentrations, and extensive evidence of ceremonies indicate that, for approximately 5,700 years, First Peoples Buffalo Jump held an important position in the Northern Plains "bison culture." This site holds the potential for defining the development of mass-procurement strategies of hunter-gatherer societies.

The other new landmarks are the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, Alexandria, Virginia; Lafayette Park, Detroit, Michigan; and Red Rocks Park and Mount Morrison CCC Camp, Jefferson County, Colorado.

Established in 1935, the National Historic Landmarks Program is administered by the NPS. The agency works with preservation officials, private property owners, and other partners interested in nominating properties for National Historic Landmark designation. Completed nominations are reviewed by the

National Park System Advisory Board, which makes recommendations for designation to the Secretary of the Interior.

For more information about the NPS National Historic Landmarks Program, go to <http://www.nps.gov/nhl/>

### **International Archaeology Day in October**

Fall is coming and so is International Archaeology Day! There are now over 100 groups signed up and many of these participants have already listed their [events on the International Archaeology Day calendar](#), which displays a map quickly being filled in with event markers from Edmonton, Canada to Amman, Jordan and everywhere in between! Be sure to [list your event](#) to be part of the action!

Not ready to list your event? Fill out the [Collaborating Organization agreement form](#) to have your organization listed on the website now. You can add your event to the website later when you are ready.

### ***ArchaeoMadness Returns in September!***

Like last year, 32 archeological sites will enter a tournament in a single elimination bracket. Each day participants can vote for their favorite site in a head-to-head competition between two sites. The winning sites from each matchup move to the next round. This is repeated in each round until the championship. There are two ways to participate: submit a bracket before the tournament begins to be considered for the Grand Prize and/or, once the tournament starts, vote for a favorite site every day! [Learn more](#).

### ***IAD Blog***

Collaborating Organizations can contribute related articles to the IAD blog by following the contribution guidelines on the [Collaborating Organization information page](#).

International Archaeology Day is a celebration of archeology. Every October the Archaeological Institute of America and organizations around the world present archeological programs and activities for people of all ages and interests. Whether it is a family-friendly archeology fair, a guided tour of a local archeological site, a lecture, or a classroom visit from an archeologist, the interactive, hands-on programs provide the chance to indulge your inner Indiana Jones.

### **Historic Preservation Grants to American Indian Tribes and Alaskan Native Groups**

The NPS has awarded \$532,145 in Tribal Heritage Grants to 14 American Indian and Native Alaskan organizations to support the preservation of America's native cultures.

Since its establishment 25 years ago, the Historic Preservation Fund has been used to award more than 600 Tribal Heritage Grants to American Indian tribes, Alaskan native groups, and Native Hawaiians for cultural preservation. Tribal communities use the grants to document languages, dances, and traditional arts; conduct surveys of historical and archeological sites; preserve historic properties; and fund education and training for participants of historic preservation programs.

The Historic Preservation Fund is derived by revenue from federal oil leases on the Outer Continental Shelf and catalyzes private and non-federal investment in historic preservation efforts nationwide. The NPS administers the fund and distributes annual grants to state, tribal, and local historic preservation officers from money made available from the fund in Congressional appropriations.

More information about the Tribal Heritage Grants can be found online at [www.nps.gov/thpo/tribal-heritage/index.html](http://www.nps.gov/thpo/tribal-heritage/index.html).

### **Native American Youth Crews Help National Parks, Bureau of Land Management Areas**

For the fifth year, NPS and BLM units have benefitted from the Native Conservation Corps (NCC) program, a collaboration with the Southwest Conservation Corps' (SCC) Ancestral Lands Program. The program involved a nine week NCC work project for Native American youth, ages 16 to 18. The eight member crews were from the Pueblo of Zuni and the Navajo Nation. The goal of the NCC is to provide an experience that gives Native American youth exposure to NPS career opportunities such as resource stewardship, facilities management, visitor and resource protection, and interpretation. In addition to work assignments, crews participated in hikes, interpretive talks, and tours aimed at nurturing a future generation of NPS ambassadors.

In April, SCC team leaders provided several days of programming during recruitment of Native youth at the multi-agency Concepts and Careers in Conservation Youth Summit at Navajo NM. Crews were selected and the program rolled out at a week-long orientation at Petrified Forest NP, with topics ranging from leadership; leave-no-trace ethics; how to build community; and risk management.

While at Petrified Forest NP, the crew collected seeds from native plants and performed general cleanup and maintenance. They shadowed park staff, including law enforcement, archeologists, interpretive rangers, biologists, and paleontologists. Crews hiked into the backcountry at Navajo NM and cleared the Betatakin Trail, installed way posts to assist hikers with trail identification, and hauled critical materials into and out of the Keet Seel cliff dwellings area.

Crews also worked at Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, where they removed brush along fence lines, cleared ladder fuels from under trees, removed vegetation from trails, conducted restoration work in the Pueblo Colorado Wash, and created slash piles in preparation for a prescribed burn.

At Glen Canyon NRA, the team helped natural resource stewardship staff with control of invasive Russian olive plants and native plant propagation and assisted maintenance employees with painting, brush cleanup, ditch cleaning, and buoy maintenance. The team received a tour of the Glen Canyon Dam, hiked Waterholes Canyon on the Navajo Indian Reservation, and stand-up paddle boarded at Lone Rock Beach. They also learned about bat conservation and aquatic invasive species and containment efforts.

Project work was completed at Grand Staircase-Escalante NM, where the team continued Russian olive control efforts and enjoyed additional canyon hikes.

*By Maschelle Peyton, Park Asset Manager*

## **FEDERAL NEWS**

### **Two Tennessee Men Sentenced for Taking Civil War-Era Artifacts**

Two Tennessee men have been charged with illegally excavating and taking Civil War-era artifacts from the bottom of Fort McCook. The area, also known as Battle Creek, is located on property owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Kenneth Stephen Fagin, Jr. and Terry Bruce Tate were sentenced to serve 30 months in Federal prison.

Fagin was ordered to pay \$22,463.59 in restitution to the TVA and the NPS to cover the cost of restoration and repair to the sites. Tate was ordered to pay \$21,619.59 in restitution to the TVA. When they are released from prison, Fagin and Tate will each serve a one-year term of supervised release.

The men pleaded guilty in February 2015 to multiple ARPA violations, including violations in Tennessee and Alabama. Fagin, Tate and others recovered Civil War Hotchkiss shells. The two men did not have permits as required under the ARPA nor did they have authority from TVA or any other entity to excavate artifacts from Battle Creek.

In August 2009, Fagin and Tate excavated Civil War era U-rails from public lands in Bridgeport, Alabama. In March 2010, Fagin and Tate transported and delivered a counterfeit "Sherman Bow-Tie" that was made from Civil War era U-rails that Fagin and Tate excavated from public lands in Bridgeport, Alabama, again without permission or authorization.

In August 2010, Fagin also excavated Civil War era artifacts from Shiloh NMP, including a .57 cal. three-ring rifle bullet; five fired three-ring rifle bullets and Schenkl artillery shell fragments. Fagin had no permit or authorization from the NPS to excavate artifacts from Shiloh NMP.

#### **Archeologists Accused of Artifact Theft in Columbia County**

Three out-of-state, professional archeologists were charged last week in Columbia County Superior Court with theft of prehistoric artifacts from the Umatilla National Forest and Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness in 2013. Richard L. Lyman, Chair, Anthropology Department, University of Missouri, was arraigned on July 22, 2015, on charges of second-degree theft and second-degree malicious mischief, both class C felonies, and making false or misleading statements to a public servant, a gross misdemeanor. Dave N. Schmitt, Research Affiliate, Anthropology Department, Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and Matthew T. Boulanger, 38, doctoral candidate, Anthropology Department, University of Missouri, were both charged with second-degree theft and second-degree malicious mischief. All three men pleaded not guilty to their charges. No arrests have been made.

Lyman, Schmitt, and Boulanger are reportedly in violation of the Archeological Resource Protection Act. The researchers requested permission to survey certain portions of the national forest in Columbia County that are Nez Perce tribal-ceded lands and usual and accustomed areas of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians. The archeologists did not have permission, court documents allege, to remove any artifacts or do any digging or other work beyond reconnaissance. Investigations into the activities of this group found that they had removed and transported to Missouri over 93 artifacts from 7 sites in the Umatilla NF, court documents state.

Artifacts taken included obsidian fragments, projectile point fragments, flakes of rock and a knife base. All collected materials were delivered to Umatilla NF.

Ordinarily the U.S. Attorney prosecutes cases filed by the USFS. This case had been accepted but was later declined, in May 2014, because of a lack of resources, according to court documents. It was subsequently referred to Columbia County, where the alleged crimes were committed.

#### **Federal Judge Denies Injunction in New Mexico Drilling Case**

A Federal judge has rejected an effort by environmental groups to stall oil and gas development in northwestern New Mexico while they fight the approval of dozens of drilling permits issued over the past two years by a Federal agency. Judge James Browning said the groups put forth enough evidence to cast



doubt on the thoroughness of permit decisions made by the BLM but did not provide enough evidence to show the agency failed to take a hard look at the environmental effects of its actions. The judge also said the preliminary injunction sought by the groups would not be in the public interest.

“The public would gain more from reaping the gains — an influx of jobs and capital and an increase in royalties paid to the state and federal governments — from opening up the Mancos Shale formation to economically viable drilling now, rather than waiting until the resolution of this case,” Browning wrote.

Browning’s decision stems from a court filing in May 2015 to stop the BLM from approving permits to drill in the Mancos Shale formation. BLM’s Farmington office has approved 265 permits since 2013 and more than 90 wells have already been drilled and fracked. The groups have said in court filings and letters to federal officials that increased development in the San Juan Basin has led to more truck traffic and dozens of new well pads over the past year which is harming the region that includes Chaco Culture NHP.

The BLM has deferred all new leasing within a 10-mile radius of Chaco Culture NHP until the basin’s resource management plan can be updated. The BLM has been working on a new plan in the face of an expected shale oil boom, but Browning’s ruling suggests it could be 2017 or 2018 before that proposal is completed.

The basin is one of the largest natural gas fields in the U.S. and has been in production for more than 60 years. BLM officials say that since the 1950s, fracking has been used with nearly every well in the basin. In his ruling, Browning also cleared the way for the American Petroleum Institute to participate in the case.

*By Susan Montoya Bryan, The Associated Press*



Oil rig in northwestern New Mexico (from Preservation Archaeology).

### **Senator Patty Murray Introduces Bill to Return Kennewick Man to Columbia Basin Tribes**

Senator Patty Murray has introduced legislation that would return the prehistoric human remains of the nearly complete male skeleton known as Kennewick Man or the Ancient One to a coalition of Columbia Basin tribes. Experts believe the remains, discovered in 1996 on Federal land near the Columbia River, are at least 8,400 years old, making Kennewick Man one of the oldest and most complete skeletons found in North America. In June of this year, new genetic evidence determined the remains are closer to modern Native American than any other population worldwide.

S. 1979, the Bring the Ancient One Home Act of 2015, would transfer the remains from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, which has regulations in place to carry out repatriation of human remains, including the Kennewick Man, to tribes. Several area tribes have joined together in calling for the Kennewick Man's return to his descendants.

### **GRANTS AND TRAINING**

#### **Maritime Cultural Landscape Symposium**

**October 14-15, 2015, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

The National Register Program (NPS), Wisconsin SHPO, NOAA, and BOEM will hold a symposium October 14-15, 2015, in Madison, Wisconsin, to discuss the concept of maritime cultural landscapes (MCLs) and how it applies to evaluations for National Register eligibility. Management and compliance issues involving MCLs will be discussed. Speakers have a variety of experience with MCLs, both terrestrial and submerged. They represent federal and state agencies, tribes, and universities.

Immediately after the symposium, a small group of attendees will convene to reach some agreement on definitions, application of the concept, and preliminary guidance for identification and evaluation. These findings and recommendations are envisioned as preliminary to a National Register bulletin on MCLs. The symposium will include information and discussions for stewards of shipwrecks, coastal landscapes, riverine landscapes, and more.

The two-day symposium will be streamed via the Web. Look for information about accessing the streamed symposium in the September Archeology E-Gram.

For the agenda and information on registration and lodging, go to <http://wihist.org/maritime-symposium>.

**Contact:** Barbara Wyatt at [barbara\\_wyatt@nps.gov](mailto:barbara_wyatt@nps.gov) or 202-354-2252 or Mike Russo at [mike\\_russo@nps.gov](mailto:mike_russo@nps.gov) or 202-354-2217.

### **SLIGHTLY OFF-TOPIC: National Park Service Joins International Slave Wrecks Project**

*By Meredith D. Hardy, Southeast Archeological Center*

In May 2015, the NPS launched a research effort of the Slave Wrecks Project in the Western Hemisphere to survey, inventory, and assess submerged resources at Buck Island Reef NM and Christiansted NHS in the U.S. Virgin Islands. This work will be used in conjunction with investigations on land sites that are related to St. Croix Island's unique history as an epicenter of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. Archeologists from the NPS Submerged Resources Center (SRC) and the Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC), in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) and George Washington University (GWU), are locating and documenting archeological sites associated with the historic trade of enslaved Africans.

Team members, working with park management staff, are documenting archeological sites with an extensive marine archeological remote sensing survey program. This effort serves park resource management purposes while affording opportunities for capacity building, team training, and public outreach and participation for local and national partners (including universities, minority youth outreach programs, and museums) as well as international partners.

So far 5.3 square miles of waters surrounding Buck Island have been surveyed using a marine magnetometer that identified over 150 magnetic anomalies. An initial investigation of more than 80 of these anomalies revealed the remains of 2 shipwrecks and multiple historic anchors that may be associated with as many as 5 other shipwrecks.

Future work will entail surveying more areas around Buck Island, investigating and documenting the numerous survey targets, and determining if these discoveries correspond to two known slaving vessels that sank in the late 1700s and early 1800s while bringing cargos of enslaved humans into Christiansted. Plans are being developed for a community archeology project at Christiansted NHS.

The Slave Wrecks Project team has also confirmed the discovery of the São José-Paquete de Africa, a Portuguese slave ship that sank in 1794 off the coast of Cape Town, South Africa, on its way to Brazil while carrying more than 400 enslaved Africans from Mozambique. The São José's voyage was one of the earliest in the Trans-Atlantic slave trade from East Africa to the Americas. Between 1800 and 1865, over 400,000 East Africans are estimated to have made the journey from Mozambique to Brazil.

Lonnie G. Bunch III, founding director of NMAAHC, and Rooksana Omar, CEO of Iziko Museums, joined in the announcement of the shipwreck's discovery and the artifact loan agreement. "Perhaps the single greatest symbol of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade is the ships that carried millions of captive Africans across the Atlantic never to return," said Bunch. "This discovery is significant because there has never been archeological documentation of a vessel that foundered and was lost while carrying a cargo of enslaved persons. The São José is all the more significant because it represents one of the earliest attempts to bring East Africans into the Trans-Atlantic slave trade—a shift that played a major role in prolonging that tragic trade for decades."

Since 2010, the Slave Wrecks Project has fostered public and scholarly understanding of the role of the slave trade in shaping global history by using maritime archeology to examine enslavement and its far-reaching impacts. The archeological investigation of slaver shipwrecks and related terrestrial sites such as markets in which the enslaved were sold, maroon sites and encampments, and free black communities, promises to provide a new perspective to bear on our understanding of the Trans-Atlantic and Indian Ocean trades in enslaved people and on the central role that this process played in constituting the modern world.

This project is a long-term effort to locate, document, protect, and analyze sites and locations pertaining to slave trading, in which archeological and archival research seeks to follow the entire arc from capture and enslavement, through the arduous journey to and within slave ships (many of which foundered) to sale at points of destination, and throughout subsequent lives of enslavement. Future work intends to also research the important but far less well-known process of the internal slave trade within the United States and between North America and the Caribbean.

As a founding member of the Slave Wrecks Project, the National Park Service and its partners have worked with Iziko Museums of South Africa, the South African Heritage Resources Agency, the U.S. National Association of Black SCUBA Divers, and other partners to provide technical assistance to the

nations of Mozambique, Senegal, and South Africa. Over the last five years the NPS has provided training to several groups of African archeology professionals and students; provided technical assistance in Mozambique and South Africa; and, in the process, greatly expanded the capacity of archeologists and heritage professionals in these countries to conduct maritime archeology and preservation.

For more information about the shipwreck and the project, see:

<https://vimeo.com/album/2804090/video/64189147>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HU4HQI-tsCA>

Also see these media stories:

### **Print**

[Grim History Traced in Sunken Slave Ship Found Off South Africa](#), New York Times

[Finding a Slave Ship, Uncovering History](#), New York Times

[Smithsonian to Receive Artifacts From Sunken 18th-Century Slave Ship Found ...](#), Smithsonian

[Wreckage from 200-year-old slave ship revealed in South Africa](#), USA Today

['Humble objects' of a sunken slave ship tell a powerful and emotional story](#), Washington Post

[Archaeologists discover 18th century wreck of slave ship off the South African ...](#), Daily Mail

[Atlantic Slave Ship Artifacts to be Displayed](#), U.S. News & World Report

[South Africa beach service to honour slaves drowned in 1794 shipwreck](#), The Guardian

### **Radio**

[Wreck Of A 221-Year-Old Slave Ship Is Confirmed Off South Africa](#), National Public Radio

[Lonnie Bunch finds artifacts for National Museum of African American History and Culture](#), Tom Joyner Morning Show and Joe Madison Show

[702 and Cape Talk: The Sam Cowen Show: Lost Wreckage found](#), The Sam Cowen Show

### **Television**

[South Africa discovery reveals slave ship artefacts](#), BBC News

[Wreck of 18th century slave ship discovered](#), CNN

[Artifacts from a 200 year old Portuguese slave ship unveiled](#), SABC News

[Sunken slave ship memorialised](#), ENCA

[Artifacts from sunken slave ship to be displayed at the Smithsonian](#), MSNBC

*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 website.

**Contact:** Karen Mudar at [dca@nps.gov](mailto:dca@nps.gov) to contribute news items, stories for *Projects in Parks*, and to subscribe.