NPS NEWS

Archeologist Caven Clark Retires from Buffalo National River

NPS archeologist Caven Clark retired from Buffalo NR December 31, 2018. A native of Los Angeles, Clark attended Alma College, in Alma, Michigan, on a music scholarship (bagpipes – no kidding!), and graduated with a BA in religion and history. Interested in the religion of pre-literate societies, he quickly became curious about other aspects as well, information most readily accessible through anthropology. Becoming an archeologist was a logical progression, especially since NHPA Section 106-based jobs were abundant!

After graduating from Alma College, Clark earned a MA at Western Michigan University and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. His association with NPS began in 1986, when then Midwestern Archeology Center (MWAC) director Mark Lynott recruited him to work at Isle Royale NP. Clark’s archeological survey at Isle Royale became the subject of his dissertation, and it was here that he got his first exposure to Section 106 compliance and ARPA.

From Isle Royale, Clark moved to MWAC, and worked as a project archeologist until 1994. After that there were stints at Ozark NSR; Death Valley NP, where he worked for Linda Green (Plains archeologist Waldo Wedel’s daughter), and set up the park’s first site damage response program for archeological and paleontological resources. Taking a six-year break in service, he undertook projects for BIA, and tribal governments in Arizona. The CRM work allowed Clark to work on his ARPA investigation credentials. In 2004, Buffalo NR announced an archeologist position and it was time to go back to the NPS. It wasn't until he arrived at Buffalo NR that he learned that the position was created to address the chronic looting problem in the park.

Clark considers his resource protection responsibilities to be an important component of his position at Buffalo NR. After his arrival, the awareness of ARPA violations dramatically increased. While the prior park archeologist refused to share site information, Clark worked closely with law enforcement, teaming up with Special Agent Robert Still, then a field ranger. Together they trained law enforcement officers in cultural resource laws, and in conducting site condition assessments. They developed CART (Cultural and Archeological Response Team) to assist law enforcement in responding to looting and vandalism at nearby parks. This effort, still considered a "good idea," was not supported, Clark says, because of a lack of sustainability in terms of continued recruitment and training support.

Clark and Still have been members of the teaching cadre for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center’s Archeological Resources Training Protection Program for over a decade and in November 2017 initiated ARPA for Archeologists, first taught at MWAC and in November 2018 (see below) where it continues to be supported by the Mather Training Center. He sees a compelling need for ARPA training for archeologists, a vision shared by most federal archeologists. Clark received a Department of the Interior Distinguished Service Award in 2016 for his ARPA work.
In 2008, Clark was assigned the park's interpretive program about the same time as the park historian retired, and in 2010 acquired the natural resource branch. The administrative duties, including oversight of several complex resource issues, made involvement with ARPA a challenge. Fortunately, two excellent archeologists have assumed that role at Buffalo, learning the ARPA trade.

Clark will leave behind big shoes to fill, but he hopes to continue ARPA training and assisting with archeological site damage assessments. His friends and colleagues hope so, too, and wish him all the best for his retirement!

For more information about CART, go to the August 2007 Archeology E-Gram at https://www.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/egrams/0708.pdf

For more information about Clark’s Distinguished Service Award, go to the May 2016 Archeology E-Gram at https://www.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/egrams/1605.pdf

Archeologist Staffan Peterson is Branch Chief at Lake Mead National Recreation Area

Staffan Peterson is the new branch chief of Cultural Resources at Lake Mead NRA. Peterson began his NPS career as an archeologist at Yellowstone NP. He has also served as chief of resource management at Little Bighorn Battlefield, Chief Archaeologist for the Indiana State Parks system, and the cultural resource administrator for the Indiana Department of Transportation.

Peterson earned his Ph.D. in Anthropology from Indiana University. His research interests include high altitude archeology, climate-related impacts on archeological sites, and prehistoric ceremonial centers in the Midwest. His public service experience is complemented by work as university faculty, teaching courses in GIS, resource stewardship, and archaeology, and his community volunteer work.

National Park Service Cotter Award Winners Announced

The NPS has announced the winners of the 2018 John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in NPS Archeology. This award is presented to archeologists who excel in scientific archeological research, community involvement, and public education. The winners are:

**Jim Bradford (Professional Achievement Award):** Jim Bradford was stationed at the Southwest Regional Office (later the Western Archeological Center) for nearly 40 years, from 1978 until 2017. He served throughout his whole NPS career in Santa Fe but worked with parks and partners from Louisiana to Guam. Bradford’s technical specialty was measured plan drawings obtained from trilateration—imaged from two points on a known baseline. He taught three generations of resources management and law enforcement personnel to construct accurate overviews of archeological sites and crime scenes.

Bradford’s report for El Morro National Monument, *Without Parallel Among Relics: An Archeological History of El Morro National Monument* (2013), is an excellent example of multidisciplinary scholarship. In addition to his terrestrial archeology, Bradford served as part of the Submerged Resources Center from 1980 until his 2017 retirement, executing more than 1,150 dives for NPS in 37 years. His professional and personal relationships include many Native community members who respected and trusted his opinion on traditional properties, and has worked on many NAGPRA projects through the years.
Urban Archeology Corps (Project Award): The Urban Archeology Corps (UAC) was a national program from 2012-2017 that employed students to conduct interdisciplinary public archeology projects in urban national parks. The Corps engaged students in archeology to complete resource management projects, meet statutory responsibilities, and conduct archeological outreach with students and local communities. Park archeologists and resource managers supervised small teams of students on small Section 106 and Section 110 projects and conducted public education.

The UAC made a difference in the lives of the almost 145 students who participated over the course of the program. The projects championed diversity in archeology, emphasized interdisciplinary research, explored multiple perspectives and, most of all, valued the unique contributions that students make to the NPS. Without the team leads’ hard work, creativity and devotion, the UAC program could not have been a success.

- Teresa S. Moyer, Archeologist, Archeology Program, Washington Office
- Kristen G. Allen, Chief of Natural and Cultural Resources, Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site & Richmond National Battlefield Park
- Katherine D. Birmingham, Cultural Resources Program Manager, National Capital Parks-East
- Ethan P. Bullard, Museum Curator, Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site & Richmond National Battlefield Park
- Gary M. Brown, Cultural Resource Program Manager, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
- Thadra Stanton, Archeologist, Southeast Archeological Center (for Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park)

(To learn more about the Urban Archeology Corps, listen to a podcast by Mary Furlong Minkoff about the Washington, D.C. project at https://www.nps.gov/training/NPSArcheology/html/index.cfm#d.)

John L. Cotter (1911 – 1999) was best known for his work at Jamestown, Virginia, and his contributions to the development of historical archeology. The award was created to recognize professional achievements and exceptional projects in honor of Cotter’s long and distinguished career. Award nominations are peer submitted and voted on by the award committee comprising five NPS archeologists.

Nyman New NPS Northeast Region Archeology Program Manager

James Nyman has been selected as the manager of the NPS Northeast Region Archeology Program (NRAP) and regional archeologist. Since 2016, Nyman has served with NRAP as the lead archeologist for the Northeast Line Item Construction Program. In this position, he worked with Resource Planning and Compliance and collaboratively with Section 106 advisors and parks to protect archeological resources throughout the region.

Prior to joining the NPS, Nyman was District Archeologist and Tribal Liaison for the Army Corp of Engineers, Vicksburg District. He began his Federal service as an archeologist working with FEMA during Hurricane Katrina recovery on the Gulf Coast. He received his MA in Archeology and Anthropology from the University of South Carolina in 2011. He has over a decade's experience working as a professional archeologist in both the private and public sectors across the United States and
Caribbean. Prior to graduate school, Nyman worked as a field and laboratory archeologist at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello.

Nyman's professional and academic research has focused on the interactions between colonial and Native American populations during, and following, the period of European expansion into North America.

Nyman is duty-stationed in Lowell, Massachusetts.

2018 is Centennial of Katmai National Park and Preserve
In September, Katmai National Park and Preserve celebrated the 100th anniversary of establishment. This park unit contains some of Alaska's most spectacular scenery. Humans have lived in the harsh conditions of Katmai country for thousands of years. Flaked stone found on Takli Island indicates human occupation beginning as early as 9,000 years ago. Residents probably lived along the bays and inlets of the park's eastern boundary, and used much of the interconnecting coastline for fishing, hunting, or for temporary shelter. Inland, along the Brooks River, archeologists found artifacts dating as far back as 4,500 years ago that provides evidence of an extensive village inhabited almost continuously since that time.

In the late 18th century, Russian fur traders were the first Europeans to arrive in Katmai country. By then, the Alutiiq had established villages along the river coastlines. A complex economic and cultural relationship developed between Native peoples and the Russians. During the early and mid-nineteenth century, Russia considered Katmai village to be the most significant post on the upper Alaska Peninsula. Few Russians actually lived there, but observers estimated that 2,000 to 3,000 sea otter pelts were harvested each year.

President Wilson declared Katmai a national monument in 1918 to preserve the living laboratory of its cataclysmic 1912 volcanic eruption, particularly the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, a spectacular forty-square-mile, pyroclastic ash flow deposited by Novarupta Volcano that is up to 700 feet deep.

To learn more about Katmai’s spectacular resources, go to https://www.nps.gov/katm/index.htm

FEDERAL NEWS (no significant Federal news reported this month, due to the Federal shut-down.)

GRANTS AND TRAINING

Mather Training Center Sponsors Successful ARPA for Archeologists Training
The NPS Stephen T. Mather Training Center and the Career Academy for Cultural Resources hosted an inter-agency training class Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) for Archeologists November 26-30, 2018. The spacious grounds of the National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV, where the training was held, facilitated the field exercises that were an important component of the learning experience. The students included both NPS and USFS.

The curriculum was taught for the first time in 2017 at MWAC, and is tailored specifically for federal cultural resource professionals, including curators. It is focused on their responsibilities to understand cultural resource law, respond to law enforcement requests for collecting evidence/data of site damage, develop accurate and complete site damage reports through a thorough comprehension of the elements of ARPA and the determination of costs and values.
NPS archeologist Caven Clark and Special Agent Robert Still taught the class. Clark and Still have much experience in working on ARPA legal cases, and spoke about the elements that must be present in a successful ARPA case, and walked the class through computation of archeological value, commercial value, and restoration and repair—important topics that often confuse practitioners. They offered to review draft reports and give advice. The knowledge, encouragement, and support of the instructors inspired one of the students to comment, “Caven and Robert empowered us to conduct our own damage assessments.”

Cari Kreshak, NPS Learning Manager for Cultural Resources and film maker James Orr provided logistical support and observed the class.

By Karen Mudar

**National Park Service 2019 Archaeological Prospection Workshop**

*Current Archeological Prospection Advances for Non-destructive Investigations of the Fort Casimir Site, Delaware,* will be held May 20–24, 2019, at the Fort Casimir site in New Castle County, Delaware. This will be the twenty-ninth 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 archeological resources across this Nation. The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with on-hands use of the equipment in the field.

Fort Casimir was a Dutch colonial fort established under Peter Stuyvesant in 1651. It was captured by the Swedes in 1654 and renamed Fort Trefalldigheht. The Dutch recaptured it in 1655 and renamed it Fort New Amstel. In 1664, the English forced the Dutch to relinquish control of the New Netherlands colony. The British abandoned the deteriorated fort in the 1680s.

Co-sponsors for the workshop include the NPS Midwest Archeological Center (MWAC), Northeast Regional Office, and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, as well as the Delaware State Parks and Recreation.

**Contact:** Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist, National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Federal Building, Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3873: tel: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141; fax: (402) 437-5098; email: <steve_de_vore@nps.gov>. Application forms are available on the MWAC web page at <http://www.nps.gov/mwac/>.

**SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC: Your Favorite Archeology Podcasts**

Do you listen to podcasts? Of course you do! These days, podcasts are everywhere. Do you listen to archeology podcasts? Send me the URL of your favorite archeology podcast, and a short description of the program or your favorite episode. If your park has produced archeology podcasts that you would like to share, send those as well.

Send them to me (Karen_mudar@nps.gov) by March 15, and we will publish it in the March Archeology E-Gram. In the meantime, here are, in no particular order, some produced by the NPS and a few others. I’ve included favorite episodes from NPS employees (no connection to archeology) and archeology TED talks as well. Enjoy!

**The Southwest Archeology Podcast**

https://www.nps.gov/soar/nps-southwest-archeology-podcast
Mesa Verde Voices
https://www.mesaverdevoices.org/

NCPTT Podcasts:
https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/blog/category/product-catalog/podcasts/

Archaeology Podcast Network
https://www.archaeologypodcastnetwork.com/

Naked Archeology
https://www.thenakedscientists.com/podcasts/archive/naked-archaeology

The Dirt Podcast

Archeological Fantasies
https://archyfantasies.com/tag/podcast/

Archaeology Magazine podcasts
https://www.archaeology.org/podcasts

Women in Archaeology
https://womeninarchaeology.com/

Blindside (by Ian McGregor) and One Hundred Percent (by Gary Bremen)
https://themoth.org/podcast/find-your-park-ian-mcgregor-gary-bremen

TED Talks: Archaeology
https://www.ted.com/talks?sort=newest&topics%5B%5D=archaeology
(They really like Sarah Parcak!)

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 at www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm on the NPS Archeology Program website.

Contact: Karen Mudar at karen_mudar@nps.gov to contribute news items and to subscribe.