



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



April 2005 Archeology E-Gram

Archeology Program Meetings in the Regions

The 2005 NPS archeology meeting was held in conjunction with the Society for American Archaeology annual meeting in Salt Lake City in March. Similar meetings were held in Santa Fe and in Washington, DC, in April. Discussions covered a wide range of topics. Of special importance are issues of accountability, consistency, and performance for archeological activities and funding. Another important topic was how archeological resources can be effectively integrated into the Facilities Management Support Software (FMSS) system. Since use of FMSS is becoming required in order for certain funding sources to be used in treating properties, providing a logical and systematic means by which archeological sites are included is important.

Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS) Trainings for Park Archeologists

The Archeology Program, National Center for Cultural Resources (NCCR), provided two 1-day trainings to NPS archeologists. The trainings focus on the registration, assessment, documentation, and management of park prehistoric and historic archeological resources and how parks, offices, centers, and the Archeology Program use the ASMIS data to support improved archeological resources preservation, protection, planning, accountability, and decision-making. Archeologists from the Intermountain and Alaska regions attended the first training, in Salt Lake City in March. Archeologists from the National Capital, Northeast, and Southeast regions and WASO attended the second training, at the Museum Support Center, North Capitol Region, in April.

Archeology Partnership with the Institut National du Patrimoine, France

The Institut National du Patrimoine (INP) in France is a national government agency that performs some functions similar to the NPS. One of its functions is to train archeologists and other historic preservation professionals for work in its offices throughout the country. International internships with comparable preservation organizations are one aspect of this professional training program. The Archeology Program, NCCR, is currently the host for such an internship for Francis Saint-Genez. Mr. Saint-Genez is an archeologist who, following the completion of his professional development program will take up an archeological position with the Ministry of Culture. Mr. Saint-Genez has been entered in the VIP program and all expenses related to the internship are funded by the INP. He is working on two projects during his 2-month stay. The first project is a compilation of educational materials on the curation and conservation of submerged archeological collections, which will be added to the online course *Managing Archeological Collections* (www.cr.nps.gov/aad/collections/). The second project is a comparison of historic preservation policy and guidance between France and the United States.

Antiquities Act Centennial Commemoration Activities Continue

1. Following in the wake of a panel of presentations and discussion about the Antiquities Act and means of commemorating its centennial in 2006 held at the George Wright Society (reported in the March Archeology E-Gram), a symposium and another set of panel presentations and discussion were held at the annual meetings of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) and the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA), respectively. The abstracts and several of the presentations from the SAA symposium, "Examining the Historical Context for the Antiquities Act, 1879-1906," will be posted and linked to the Antiquities Act Centennial Activities webpage

(www.cr.nps.gov/aad/SITES/Antiquities/centennial.htm). A summary of the SfAA presentations, "The Antiquities Act on the Eve of its Centennial," also will be linked to this page.

2. Saving Places 2006: Building on the Past is Colorado Preservation, Inc.'s annual historic preservation conference in 2006. The conference will address the anniversaries of the Antiquities Act, Mesa Verde National Park, and the National Historic Preservation Act.

Symposia and Papers by Archeology Program Staff at Professional Meetings

Childs, S. Terry, "The Archaeological Gray Literature," chair and discussant for the session, Society for American Archaeology, Salt Lake City, UT (SAA).

Graham, Martha, "Rethinking Material Culture: Reflections on Interactions and Repatriation," at the Society for Applied Anthropology, Santa Fe, NM (SfAA).

Barbara Little, "Archaeology as Civic Engagement," SfAA; "Archaeology and Public Education: Fifteen Years Of Research And Results" discussant for the session, SAA; and "Archaeology as a Shared Vision," banquet speaker at the annual meeting of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Morgantown, PA.

Barbara Little and Francis P. McManamon, "Archaeology, Tourism and America's National Parks," SfAA.

McManamon, Francis P. "Commodity or Culture? The Department of the Interior and Archeology on Public Lands in the Late 19th Century," SAA; and chaired the panel on "The Antiquities Act on the Eve of Its Centennial," SfAA.

Mudar, Karen, "Copper and Cattle: Animal Exploitation at Copper Production Sites Dating to the 2nd-1st Millennium B.C. in Central Thailand," SAA.

Public Meaning of Archaeological Heritage training held; on-line material available

The National Park Service, through a cooperative agreement with the University of Maryland, has offered training in the effective interpretation of archeological heritage. A series of on-line courses is available on the web for self-motivated study at any time. They can be found on the Archeology Program's distance learning web site at: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/TOOLS/distlearn.htm>. A description of the planned course of study is on-line at: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/SITES/inspire/index.htm> and can be adapted by anyone interested in setting up local or regional training. For more information about the content of the courses, refer to the special section on "The Public Meaning of Archaeological Heritage" in the March 2005 issue of The SAA Archaeological Record, the magazine of the Society for American Archaeology. Also, the web site of the Center for Heritage Resource Studies has several presentations from the seminar, including "Heritage: Poetry and Archeology as the Common Language of the Past, the Present, and the Future" by Suheil Bushru, the Baha'i Chair of World Peace at the University of Maryland (<http://heritage.umd.edu/CHRSWeb/nps/training/papers.htm>).

Meaningful Interpretation and Archeology

The Spring 2005 issue of *Ranger, the Journal of the Association of National Park Rangers* is dedicated to the field of interpretation in national parks in recognition that the Interpretive Development Program is pertinent to all NPS employees. The topic of is "Meaningful Interpretation through the Interpretive Development Program." Among the many articles is "Interpretation of Archeological Resources" by Barbara Little of the Archeology Program.

Iraq Cultural Heritage Preservation Voluntary Visitor Program, January 2005

Senior officials from Iraqi cultural heritage institutions met with United States governmental agencies, nongovernmental institutions, and other interested parties in January, to discuss Iraq's priorities and needs for preservation and management of significant historic buildings, archeological sites, and museum collections; and to inform Iraqi heritage officials of resources and opportunities available to them. The program was designed and sponsored by the Voluntary Visitors Division and the Cultural Heritage Center of the U.S. Department of State. The officials met with the U.S. Interagency Working Group on Iraq Cultural Heritage Preservation, which includes representatives of NEH, NSF, IMLS, and DoS; the National Park Service; US/ICOMOS; Council on American Overseas Research Centers; Smithsonian Institution; American Association of Museums; and University of Pennsylvania University Museum. The topics that Francis P. McManamon, Departmental Consulting Archeologist and NPS Chief Archeologist, discussed with the officials were managing sites for conservation and to provide meaningful experience for visitors, involving the local community for support, and the potential for internship at a national park. For more information contact Cultural Heritage Center in the Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, culprop@state.gov.

Oversight hearings on the National Historic Preservation Act

On April 21, 2005, the House Committee on Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, held oversight hearings on the National Historic Preservation Act. Information about the hearings is available at <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/Press/press.htm>, at "Unintended Consequences of National Historic Preservation Act Debated (04/21/05)."

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 National Park Service and other public agencies. Recipients are encouraged to forward *Archeology E-Grams* to colleagues and relevant mailing lists and new subscribers are accepted. Contact Martha Graham, Archeology Program, NPS, at (202) 354-2110, martha_graham@nps.gov.