

Other Center Services

Archeological Data Base Management

- Automated National Catalog System (ANCS) and other data bases for museum objects and records.
- Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS).
- Geographic Information Systems applications.

Technical Assistance, Advice, And Planning

- Program and document review.
- Program development, project design, and cost estimates.
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) investigation and training support.
- Section 106 compliance.
- Geophysical surveys.
- Archeological site stabilization.
- Editing, word processing, and scientific illustration.
- Report publication and distribution.

Prehistoric & Historic Archeological Investigations

- Research designs and data recovery plans.
- Field investigations and laboratory analysis.
- Testing for National Register evaluations.
- Archeological contribution to historic structures studies and reports.
- Archeological input to historic and cultural landscapes.
- National Register nominations.

May We Tell You Some More?

For further information, contact:

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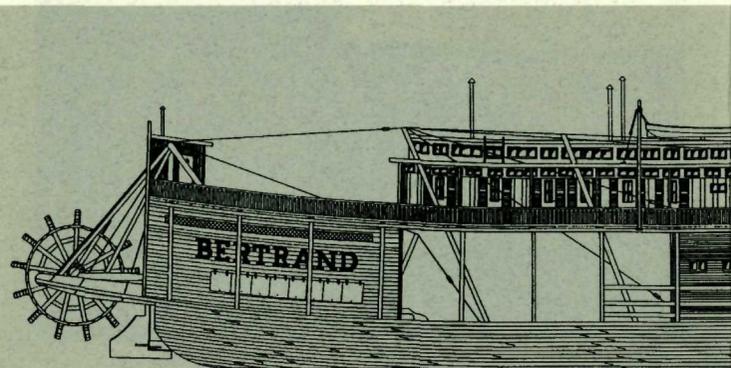


A Quarter Century On The Great Plains

The Midwest Archeological Center was created by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service on July 1, 1969, and grew out of a tradition of archeological research in the Great Plains carried out by the River Basin Surveys program of the Smithsonian Institution. In cooperation with the University of Nebraska, the Smithsonian established a research office in Lincoln in 1946 to conduct and oversee archeological salvage investigations in reservoir areas throughout the vast Missouri River Basin.

As many of these reservoirs became operational, the River Basin Surveys office closed, and the Midwest Archeological Center was established from its facilities and personnel. The Center continued to oversee reservoir salvage studies until 1975, when it became a professional and technical support office for National Park Service properties in the 16 states of the Midwest and Rocky Mountain Regions.

Since 1969, the Center has conducted a wide range of archeological research activities, from excavation of the fabulous cargo of the Missouri River steamboat *Bertrand* to ruins stabilization in the Southwest, experimental studies in rock art preservation, and pioneering research in geophysical surveys. The Center has completed hundreds of archeological inventory, evaluation, and mitigation studies throughout the western Great Lakes, Midwest Riverine, Great Plains, Rocky Mountain, and Southwest regions of the United States.



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THE RECORD
OF THE
HUMAN SPIRIT**



Front Cover: 1718 map by Guillaume Delisle, courtesy The Neuberger Library

Midwest Archeological Center Activities In The National Parks

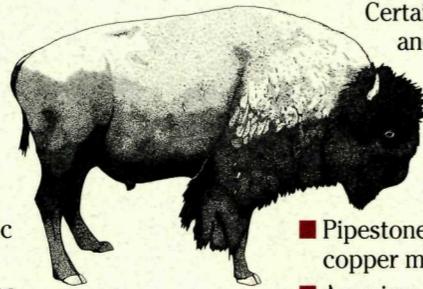
The National Park Service administers a wealth of exceptional natural, cultural, and historical resources. Virtually all units of the National Park system contain prehistoric and historical archeological remains.

The Midwest Archeological Center's staff has expertise for much of the mid-continental United States, a vast expanse between the Rocky Mountains and the Appalachian Mountains.

Within this area lie the geysers of Yellowstone, the homes of some of the country's most famous presidents, prehistoric Native American communities, the sites of historic events in the development of the West, and many other unique locations that attract visitors from around the world.

Center personnel investigate, interpret, and advise on the management of a wide variety of cultural resources in these locales. In recent years, the Center has undertaken many kinds of archeological research, including:

- High-altitude archeological investigations in the Northern Rocky Mountains.
- Rock art (petroglyph and pictograph) studies--recording, interpretation, and erosion monitoring.
- Examination of military forts and battlefields on the Indian frontier of the 1800s.
- Historical research and archeological investigation of 1700s and 1800s fur trade posts and routes.
- Preservation and study of locations important in the overland exploration of the West, migration, and pioneer settlement.
- Stabilization of eroding archeological sites in northern forest environments.
- Archeological site formation and disturbance research.



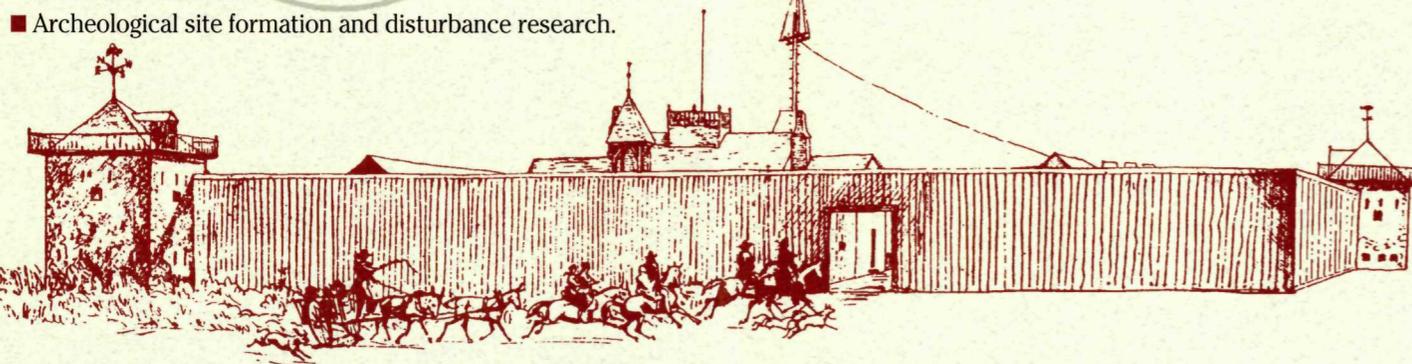
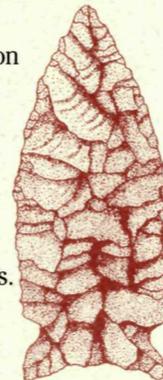
Certain parts of the country contain areas with topics and problems not found elsewhere. For example, in the nation's Midwest, the Center has been concerned with several important and unique preservation issues and research projects.

- Prehistoric Native American burial mounds and ceremonial centers.
- Pipestone and chert quarries, prehistoric and historic copper mining sites.
- American Fur Company and independent fisheries in the Great Lakes.
- Logging camps, dams, and railways of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
- Great Lakes shipwrecks.
- Civil War battlefields.
- Presidential homes.

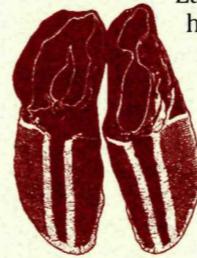


Further to the west, the Midwest Archeological Center has engaged in research projects that deal with the remains of the earliest Americans (Paleoindian peoples) and other topics not often encountered in other parts of the country.

- Forensic archeology and Indian Wars studies at the Little Bighorn.
- Archeological and ethnohistorical research on the Mandan and Hidatsa of the upper Missouri River.
- Predictive modelling of Native American settlement behavior patterns in the badlands of North Dakota.
- Archeological inundation studies at man-made lakes in the Rocky Mountains.
- Prehistoric Native American adaptations to desert environments.



Recent History And Contemporary Peoples



Ethnography and the related field of ethno-history are concerned with the study of recent and contemporary societies and their change through time. Through ethnographic and ethnohistoric research, the Center draws on all fields and information sources to enhance our understanding of the diversity and history of many societies that have lived in North America throughout the last few centuries.

Many National Park Service areas preserve chapters in recent American history, and in some cases, certain groups maintain special rights to traditional use of a park's resources.

Outreach Programs

The Center routinely undertakes cooperative ventures and provides a wide range of informational and educational services for youth, professional, and public organizations and agencies. These include:

- Center tours for visitors and school groups.
- Speakers for local gatherings and special events.
- Interpretation of archeological themes using brochures, exhibits, and popular texts.
- Student Conservation Association and Youth Conservation Corps excavation projects.
- Section 106 compliance workshops and paraprofessional training for NPS personnel.
- Publication series that provide information on Center projects to park managers, interpreters, professional archeologists, and the general public.



Student Conservation Association workers stabilize an eroding prehistoric site at Isle Royale National Park.

Partnering And Cooperative Assistance

We have also provided cultural resource management advice and expertise to other organizations and Federal agencies in projects that have enhanced our skills and abilities to work within the parks. Recent projects have included:

- Inventory of historic structures and artifact analysis for the U.S. Forest Service.
- Coordination of archeological investigations at Lake Ilo, North Dakota for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Historic American Building Survey documentation of structures at Ft. Carson, Colorado for the U.S. Army.
- Exchange of archeological and natural data and GIS expertise with the Soil Conservation Service.
- Assessment of archeological resource management needs for the Air National Guard.
- Preparation of a popular text on the history of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site for the U.S. Army.
- Forensics archeology in Croatia, Iraq, and El Salvador for the Physicians for Human Rights and the United Nations War Crimes Commission.



Report Production

One of the Center's most important missions is the sharing of National Park Service research results with professionals and the public. The results of recent archeological, historical, and ethnographic activities are presented in the Center's *Occasional Studies in Anthropology and Technical Report* series. The Center maintains high standards of reporting, presentation, and relevance to park needs and professional interests.

