



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

August 2013

## Historical Happenings

Notes on Cultural Resource Management in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



*Historical Happenings provides information on the USFWS Cultural Resources Management program. Information comes from sources such as the Regional Historic Preservation Officers, websites, new sources, as well as other cultural resource management professionals.*

*Issues are also available on the USFWS Cultural Resources website <http://historicpreservation.fws.gov>. Submissions are encouraged and can be made via email. Please contact Eugene Marino at [Eugene\\_Marino@fws.gov](mailto:Eugene_Marino@fws.gov) for submission guidelines*

## FWS Regional News:

### Headquarters

During the Summer FWS HQ hosted an intern courtesy of the Department of the Interior Museum Property Program. Ben Hurwitz (figure 1) is a Ph.D student in the history program at George Mason University. Ben's interest in Conservation history attracted him to the FWS internship and during his 3 month internship Ben has assisted FWS efforts to educate the public and FWS staff on the importance and usefulness of FWS museum collections. Ben authored an article for Recreation.gov about the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that highlighted the wonderful historical documents that record information about the CCC and its connection to FWS. The article can be found at ([http://www.recreation.gov/marketing.do?goto=acm/Explore And More/exploreArticles/Spotlight Experience the Civilian Conservation Corps.htm](http://www.recreation.gov/marketing.do?goto=acm/Explore%20And%20More/exploreArticles/Spotlight%20Experience%20the%20Civilian%20Conservation%20Corps.htm))

In addition, Ben also spent several weeks working on a new Online Cultural Resources course that FWS will be debuting later this year. Ben assisted in developing content and his experience with taking online classes greatly enhanced the overall presentation of the course. The new course is currently being tested and will launch in late September 2013. For more information about this course or to register, please contact Eugene Marino HQ 703-358-2173 [eugene\\_marino@fws.gov](mailto:eugene_marino@fws.gov) or Cathy Johnson at NCTC 304-876-7441 [catharine\\_p\\_johnson@fws.gov](mailto:catharine_p_johnson@fws.gov)



Figure 1 Ben Hurwitz, Cultural Resources Intern for 2013, taking a break from his activities at FWS HQ.

### Region 1

Several historic murals from Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge were recently loaned to the Pacific Aviation Museum in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. A very interesting article about the loan can be found at <http://www.khon2.com/2013/07/10/historic-wwii-murals-arrive-in-honolulu-from-midway-atoll-national-wildlife-refuge/>

The loan was a way to make the wonderful historic materials from Midway available to a broader audience.

### Basket recovered from 650 year old Fish weir

In September of 2011 construction for the Tidal Marsh Restoration of the Ni-les'tun Unit of Bandon Marsh NWR was completed converting over 400 acres of former dairy farm to a tidally influenced marsh. During the restoration activities archaeological research was

conducted which revealed over 4,000 years of marsh utilization by Native Americans. Numerous wooden stake fish weirs were uncovered and recorded during construction of tidal channels. Lending credence to the marsh restoration efforts by showing that fish were once in abundance

With the close of construction the Refuge Staff and members of the Cultural Resources Team of Region 1 monitored the marsh and stream channels for newly uncovered weirs. New finds would be recorded and samples taken for Radiocarbon dating taken. Only unique or unusual objects would be considered for excavation.

During this spring several wooden fish weirs were exposed and reported by Refuge Staff. Taking advantage of some low negative tides archaeologists found five new weirs were exposed. Trapped within one was a basketry fragment. Textiles of this sort are unique. Recovery of the basket was determined to be a high priority. Unfortunately the item lay near in an area barely uncovered by the falling tidal water.

The following day Service archaeologists and a local tribal representative proceeded with a careful, but time constrained excavation (figure 2). The basket was successfully removed (figure 3). Having come from a wet, and until recently anaerobic environment, the preservation is quite good. However the same conditions that allow for preservation now pose a challenge for its conservation. By keeping the basket submerged and cold in the Refuge refrigerator the basket has remained stable.

To provide a specimen that may be studied and displayed the basket is now undergoing treatment with polyethylene glycol. This will displace the water in the vegetable material with a waxy substance, providing preservation that retains flexibility with minimal shrinkage. Preliminary investigation by a Coquille basket maker indicates that it may incorporate two styles of weaving which are well known but rarely seen in the same basket. Although the basket itself has not been dated the weir where it was found dates to about 650 years ago.



Figure 2. Region 1 archaeologist Nick Valentine excavates prehistoric basketry found during examination of an exposed fish weir at Bandon Marsh NWR.



Figure 3. Salvaged basket is readied for storage and stabilization

### Region 3

The past month saw the official return of materials from the Steamboat Bertrand collection to their exhibit space at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge. The first materials to go back were the museum cabinetry, now outfitted with castors for easier movement, used to exhibit the collections, these will be followed by the glass objects, textiles, and finally the metal objects. The exhibit space is open to visitors, who are afforded a unique opportunity to watch as the collections are brought back to the visitor center after more than a year away.

### Other Agency News

#### NPS—NPS National Capital Region Launches Archeology Website

The NPS National Capital Region's Archeology Program (RAP) has launched a new website. This web site provides an opportunity to learn more about the role the NPS plays in the excavation, preservation, and

management of archeological resources in the Washington, D.C. area. It contains much information about archeology at individual parks in the region. The website also links to numerous reports that were developed for the Archeology E-Gram – an effective way to make available archeological information developed for the public.

The National Capital Region (NCR) administers 88,000 acres of parklands in portions of Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, and all of the District of Columbia. The parks in and around our nation's capital contain an incredible variety of archeological remains representing more than 13,000 years of changing human lifeways and different cultures — prehistoric workshops, stone quarries, campsites, and villages; sites of seventeenth-through nineteenth-century plantations, houses, kilns, mills, forges, and foundries; numerous Civil War sites such as battlefields, fortifications, and campgrounds; and the ruins of nineteenth-century canal structures.

The NCR Archeology Program provides for the study, protection, preservation, and interpretation of archeological sites located in NCR's parks and their collections. The major activities of the RAP include conducting archeological surveys; evaluating the relative significance of specific sites for possible nomination to the National Register of Historic Places; caring for archeological collections; supervising volunteer participation in field and laboratory work; public interpretation; and, protecting archeological resources through enforcement of Federal historic preservation laws.

To explore the website, go to <http://www.nps.gov/rap/archeology/index.htm>

### **NPS Archeology Program Posts More Webinars on Current Topics in Archeology**

The NPS Archeology Program has posted webcasts from an on-going webinar lecture series devoted to dissemination of information about current research in archeology. The newest postings are

To listen to the webcasts, go to <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/tools/webinars.htm>

### **NPS Announces a New Archeological Teaching with Historic Places Lesson Plan**

The NPS National Register Program is pleased to announce that the NPS Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) program has launched its 142nd lesson plan, "Comfortable Camps?" Archeology of the Confederate Guard Camp at the Florence Stockade. In this lesson, students investigate the life of Confederate guards at the Florence Stockade Civil War prison camp in South Carolina and discover how archeology revealed much of this information. The Florence Stockade was constructed in September 1864 in a large field surrounded by dense pine forest and forbidding swamps. Built on a similar pattern to the prison at

Camp Sumter in Andersonville, Georgia, the stockade consisted of a large rectangular opening surrounded by walls built with vertical logs. The prison population peaked at approximately 15,000, and of these, nearly 2,800 died in captivity. The dead were buried in long trenches that formed the nucleus of what is now the Florence National Cemetery.

The lesson was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration (NCA), as one component of the mitigation associated with the expansion of Florence National Cemetery.

The new lesson plan is currently featured on the TwHP homepage, <<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/>>. For a direct link, go to <<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/142Florence/142FlorenceStockade.htm>>.

### **Significant John Smith Trail Site Preserved**

On June 21, 2013, nearly 300 people gathered to celebrate the protection of the site of Werowocomoco, the principal residence and headquarters of Powhatan, the influential Indian leader when Jamestown was settled in 1607. Captain John Smith visited Werowocomoco twice, and recorded that it was the place where he and Powhatan met, and where he befriended Powhatan's young daughter Pocahontas. The site is identified on Smith's maps of 1608 and 1612, and is about 15 miles from Jamestown.

The site was identified through archeological investigations in 2002. Archeology continues at Werowocomoco today under the leadership of the Werowocomoco Research Group, formed by VDHR in partnership with the College of William and Mary, other scholars, and with Virginia Indians. Archeologists have identified the footprint of a 72-foot longhouse, and have found that the town was settled by 1200 A.D.

Werowocomoco lies along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT, which interprets Smith's voyages and American Indian societies then and descendant communities today. The NPS is collaborating with VDHR to produce an illustrated book designed for visitors and the general public on the story of Werowocomoco. At Friday's dedication celebration, NPS Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science, Stephanie Toothman, described this upcoming project as a collaboration of NPS, VDHR, the Virginia Indian Advisory Board, the Werowocomoco Research Group, and the Ripleys.

Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell also spoke at the ceremony, as did representatives of seven Virginia Indian tribes, Lynn and Bob Ripley, VDHR Director Kathleen Kilpatrick, Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources Doug Domenech, and other dignitaries.

## **NPS Announces NAGPRA Grants**

DOI Secretary Sally Jewell and NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced nearly \$1.5 million in grants under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) to assist museums, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations in documenting and returning human remains and cultural objects to communities of origin.

The grants support the efforts of museums, Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations to further NAGPRA related projects (consultation/documentation grants), and to pay for the costs associated with the return of the human remains and objects to their native people (repatriation grants). Projects funded by the grant program include training for both museum and tribal staff on NAGPRA, digitizing collection records for consultation, and consultations regarding cultural affiliation and culturally unaffiliated individuals.

Enacted in 1990, NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify Native American human remains and cultural items in their collections and to consult with federally recognized Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding the return of these objects to descendants or tribes and organizations. The Act also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to award grants to assist in implementing provisions of the Act.

**Contact:** Sherry Hutt, National NAGPRA Program Manager, at 202-354-1479.

## **Legislative News**

The Society for American Archaeology's monthly governmental update has been restructured to contain three sections: (1) domestic issues, reported by the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC); (2) international issues, reported by the International Governmental Affairs Committee (IGAC); and (3) a section devoted to analysis and opinion by the SAA president or his/her designee.

SAA president Jeffrey Altschul reports that earlier this year, House Majority Leader Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA) argued that Federal funding for social science research should be curtailed, with the funds diverted to support medical research. Cantor's speeches were followed by Senator Tom Coburn's (R-OK) amendment to the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, which prohibited NSF from funding political science research unless a project promoted the national security or economic interests of the U.S. More recently, Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, requested information on five specific grants in the social sciences, including access to the scientific/technical reviews, so that the committee could evaluate whether NSF was adhering to the agency's

intellectual merit guidelines. Archeology grants were not included, although grants in anthropology were among those chosen to be reviewed.

NSF's budget has been cut 5 percent by the sequester. Much of the cut will be felt in future awards. In the NSF Archeology Program, it is expected that the number of awards will be reduced to between 80 and 90 percent of those made the previous year. Every attempt is being made to maintain the Doctoral Research Improvement Grant Program so that there will no decrease in these awards. The cuts, then, will fall heavily on senior grants. The Archeology Program has chosen not to reduce each grant 10 or 20 percent, but to reduce the number of total grants awarded.

## **Training, Upcoming Events, Education, and News**

**Our colleagues at NPS provide some excellent online offerings for climate change.**

### **NPS Climate Change Response Program Offers Cultural Resource Webinars**

The NPS Climate Change Response Program presents a monthly climate change webinar series in collaboration with the Alaska Regional Office. The purpose of the series is to connect NPS employees, volunteers, and partners with scientists and experts in the field of climate change research. The webinar series is a Service-wide forum where researchers can share credible up-to-date information and research materials about the impacts of changing climate in national parks and provide participants the opportunity to engage with presenters in discussion. Webinars that focus on cultural resources include:

*Out of Thin Ice: An Unparalleled Archaeological and Paleobiological Record from Our Nation's Parks and Forests* Craig Lee, Research Scientist, Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR)

*Climate, Forests, and Fire in Olympic National Park: Dynamics of the Last 14,000 Years* Dan Gavin, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of Oregon

*Déjà Vu All Over Again: Comparing Opposition to Evolution and Opposition to Anthropogenic Global Warming* Eugenie Scott, Executive Director, National Council for Science Education

*How do we manage cultural resources in the face of climate change?: A Framework for Collaborative Management* Cheryl Anderson, Director of the Hazards, Climate, and Environment Program, University of Hawai'i Social Science Research Institute

*The Many Roles of Archaeology in Climate Change*

### *Mitigation and Adaptation Planning*

Marcy Rockman, Science & Technology Policy Fellow,  
AAAS

### *Ancient Cultures and Climate Change*

Robert Griffin, Environmental Archeologist, Marshall  
Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama

### *Tribal Resilience in the Face of Climate Change: SAFE Homes and Distributed Generation*

Bob Gough

### *Impacts of Climate Change on Indigenous Communities in Western Alaska*

Don Callaway, Senior Cultural Anthropologist, Alaska  
Region, National Park Service

For more information about this webinar series contact:  
Melanie Wood, (970) 267 2198

### **Climate Change on YouTube**

The Frontier Scientists YouTube channel has a number  
of videos – short and long – about archeology,  
prehistory, and climate change. Several have been  
sponsored by the NPS. Check them out!

*A Zooarchaeologist's Take on Climate Change*,  
sponsored by Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eR9AU6a6l0Q>

### *Modeling Climate*

Very cool graphics!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zExRvIaLZbU>

### *3TimeTravel in the Alaskan Arctic*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=no\\_o\\_9wW-Ag](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=no_o_9wW-Ag)

*Julie Brigham-Grette presents Lake El' gygytgyn  
Research*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxbOSB7zDgY>

### *Fire In Alaska*

Scott Rupp, University of Alaska and Jennifer Barnes,  
NPS discuss fire trends from climate change.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0JREvf8iDc>

### *The Permafrost Twisted House*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxvIK1obqcc>

### *Permafrost Patterns*

Ronald Daanen and Vladimir Romanovsky, University  
of Alaska, explain patterns that permafrost has created  
in the Arctic.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4j\\_n7QMkDYc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4j_n7QMkDYc)

You can view these and other videos  
at [www.frontierscientists.com](http://www.frontierscientists.com)

### **TEDtalks on Climate Change**

TEDtalk speakers are talking about climate change!

Climate change: Oh, it's real. (8

talks)[http://www.ted.com/playlists/78/climate\\_change\\_oh\\_it\\_s\\_real.html](http://www.ted.com/playlists/78/climate_change_oh_it_s_real.html)

The first talk is by former Vice President Al Gore.

Additional TEDtalks about climate change include:

*Let the Environment Guide our Development*

[http://www.ted.com/talks/johan\\_rockstrom\\_let\\_the\\_environment\\_guide\\_our\\_development.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/johan_rockstrom_let_the_environment_guide_our_development.html)

*Four environmental 'heresies'*

[http://www.ted.com/talks/stewart\\_brand\\_proclaims\\_4\\_environmental\\_heresies.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/stewart_brand_proclaims_4_environmental_heresies.html)

### **Park NAGPRA Program Offers Training**

The Park NAGPRA program, in cooperation with the  
Pacific West region NAGPRA program, is offering  
training about the Native American Graves Protection  
and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) at Kaloko-Honokohau  
NHP in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. Park superintendents,  
resource managers, archeologists, curators, and other  
staff with NAGPRA duties are invited to attend. The  
training, scheduled for September 10-11, 2013,  
provides a comprehensive overview of NAGPRA, and  
prepares participants to respond to inadvertent  
discoveries and plan for intentional excavations as  
prescribed by the law. A portion of the training will focus  
on issues of special concern to Hawaii and the Pacific  
West region; an optional tour of the park is planned.

Topics include, but are not limited to, NAGPRA basics;  
collections (inventories and summaries); intentional  
excavations and inadvertent discoveries; culturally  
unidentifiable and unclaimed; tribal consultation;  
evaluating repatriation requests (claims); transferring  
control/custody; the Kennewick Man case; and reburial  
on park lands.

There are no fees or tuition for the training. To register,  
log in to [DOI Learn](http://www.doi.gov/learn) and search for *NAGPRA in the  
Parks* (Course Code=NPS-CRS3401). The deadline for  
registration is August 21, 2013.

**Contact:** Mary S. Carroll, Park NAGPRA Program,  
(303) 969-2300

### **SAA Offers Seminar on Laser Scanning**

On September 17, 2013, at 11 a.m. EDT, SAA will  
launch its new online seminar series with a  
presentation by Dr. Rachel Opitz, RPA,

on *Archaeological Applications of Airborne Laser Scanning*. Registration is on a first-come, first served basis and will remain open until all 25 seats are filled. The Group registration option enables one registered user to invite an unlimited number of participants to view the presentation from the same physical location. All participants will receive a certificate of completion from SAA. Individual price is \$99.00; Group price is \$135.00.

SAA online seminars are designed to provide continuing professional development opportunities to student and professional archaeologists and will be offered on a wide range of high-interest topics from September through May each year. Instructors are RPAs and top scholars in their field. All seminars are certified by RPA for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits.

Additional online seminars will be announced soon, including a series of *free, member-only* seminars. Check SAAweb frequently for the latest offerings.

**Contact:** SAA at 202-559-5709  
or [onlineseminars@saa.org](mailto:onlineseminars@saa.org)

### **Archeological Resources Protection**

**Training Program**—The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) presents this thirty-seven hour class which provides training in all aspects of an archeological investigation and

subsequent prosecution of the crimes. This premier class is taught by accomplished instructors that are nationally recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. The class cumulates in a twelve-hour archeological crime scene practical exercise where law enforcement officers and archeologist work as a team to investigate and document a crime scene. Attendees will gather and process physical evidence, write incident reports, executive summaries, search warrants, damage assessments, and provide testimony in a courtroom scenario.

This 37-hour course is taught by accomplished instructors who are nationally-recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. Enrollment is limited to federal or state law enforcement officers, archeologists and prosecutors.

The next course is: TBA

### **Volunteers and Friends News**

Data from the FY12 Volunteer report notes that 56,133 volunteers contributed 2,155,300 hours to FWS. 26,304 of those hours focused on Cultural Resources activities.

There are a number of activities at the Cathlapotle plankhouse. For information on these events take a look at [www.plankhouse.org](http://www.plankhouse.org)