



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

February 2012

Historical Happenings

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



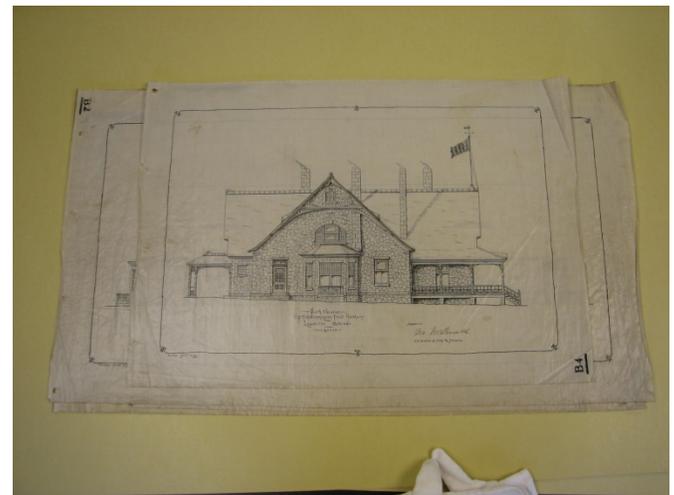
Historical Happenings provides information on the USFWS Cultural Resources Management program. Information comes from sources such as the Regional Historic Preservation Officers, websites, new sources, as well as other cultural resource management professionals.

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 for submission guidelines

Wonderful Things:

D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery, Spearfish, SD, is proud to announce 16,500 catalog records in their ICMS database at the end of 2011 (and 16800 at the end of January)! Although the collection is not completely cataloged, this number of records represents significant progress in cataloging. This includes the work of many volunteers, interns, and seasonal and permanent staff. Funding has been provided by the Fish & Wildlife Service, as well as the USFWS Retirees Association. Cataloged material is more accessible to researchers.

Photographs of many objects are included in the database. Prior to last summer, photographs were taken on a somewhat random basis. ICMS makes it very easy to attach photographs to the catalog record. Last summer, an intern from the local college, majoring in photography, photographed and attached several hundred photos to catalog records. With this good beginning, we are attempting to take pictures of all objects as they are cataloged. Archival material is usually not included. Another intern, from an out of state college, cataloged and photographed about 500 architectural drawings of fisheries facilities from around the United States. Some of the plans go back to the 1890s. For more information contact Randi Smith randi_smith@fws.gov



Example of an architectural drawing scanned and placed into the ICMS database for DC Booth National Historic Fish Hatchery.

FWS Regional News:

Washington Office

FWS with support from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation have launched an app for FWS. myRefuge is now available for download from the iTunes store (<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/id482928719?mt=8>)

The app has great information on recreation, birding and cultural resources. Check it out.

Region 5—Refuge and Resistance: Great Dismal Islands Provide a Haven



View of new interpretive panel at Great Dismal NWR telling the story of the history of the swamp.

This February, we will launch a new program at the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge – we will unveil our “Underground Railroad” Pavilion and its accompanying educational activity guide. We hope the availability of the pavilion as a site from which to meditate on the lives of the African Americans who sought refuge here will foster an appreciation of the deeper dimensions of their history.

The 120,000-acre Great Dismal, thought to have once comprised over a million acres between Virginia’s James River and North Carolina’s Albemarle Sound is well-known for its history particularly that associated with George Washington. The Dismal Swamp Land Company, in which Washington had an interest, instigated the canal digging and timbering in the northwest parts of the swamp near Suffolk, Virginia. But long before European-Americans discovered its rich resources, enslaved Americans escaped to its deep forests, and lived, loved, and made communities of resistance to slavery on small areas of higher ground called mesic islands. And before they came, Native Americans used the swamp and continued to do so even after the Europeans arrived.

When Europeans discovered the valuable Atlantic white cedar and cypress timber, they created slave labor camps to dig the canals, build trails, and harvest the timber. This likely caused the refugees, known as maroons, to move further into the depths of the woods, trying to escape detection and re-enslavement. But the slave laborers and maroons met, and they developed an exchange system – the maroons helped the slaves to produce and exceed their quotas of timber products, particularly shingles and barrel staves, and the slaves likely gave them clothing, ceramics, and other things the maroons could not find in the swamp. It is likely the two groups also helped other slaves to escape their bondage.

Dr. Daniel Sayers of American University did his ground-breaking research in the Dismal for his Ph.D. dissertation with William & Mary, *The Diasporic World of the Great Dismal Swamp, 1630-1860*. From his work, we learned most of what we know and surmise about these people engaged in resistance and their interactions with slave laborers. Dan continues to bring field schools to the swamp each summer to learn more, despite the suffocating heat and the swarming insects. To Dan, despite the discomforts, the island “feels like home.” Dan will be our keynote speaker at the ribbon-cutting. For more information on the exhibit and upcoming events check out

www.fws.gov/northeast/greatdismalswamp

Other Agency News

NPS— New THPOs

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Legislative News

Training, Upcoming Events, Education, and Volunteers and Friends News

The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers annual meeting begins on Wednesday March 7, 2012, at the Hotel Fairfax, 2100 Massachusetts Avenue, NW.

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. For registration information, please contact FLETC at 912-280-5188 or email charles.louke@dhs.gov

No classes listed

Friends Group News

There are a number of activities at the Cathlapotle plankhouse. For information on these events take a look at www.plankhouse.org