



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



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Newly Revised Archeological Technical Brief on Peer Review

“Peer Review of Federal Archeological Projects and Programs,” by Bennie Keel, Barbara J. Little, Martha Graham, Mary Carroll, and Francis P. McManamon, is now online as Technical Brief #21 at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/techBr/tch21.htm>. This technical brief describes objectives, organization, and methods used to conduct peer reviews of public archeology projects and programs. Experience gained in recent peer reviews augments that described by Keel (Technical Brief #14, 1993) and provides the basis for this revision. Thus, Technical Brief #21 updates guidance and suggested procedures for government agencies and other archeological resources managers regarding the use of the peer review process as a means of improving the effectiveness of their projects and programs.

Middle Ford Ferry Tavern Project, Monocacy NB, Highlighted

The NPS Archaeology Program has added another new web page describing an archeological project in a national park. Adapted from an Archeology E-gram Projects in Parks story, the discovery of the Middle Ford ferry and tavern, both of which were in operation by the middle part of the eighteenth century on an important route through Frederick County, is described here:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/monocacyTavern.htm>

Federal Chief Archeologists Meet

The Federal Chief Archeologists met on February 26, 2007, at the Department of Agriculture. Topics that were discussed include a status report on the development of the 36 CFR 79, Section 12 disposition regulation; the Secretary’s Report to Congress on the Federal Archeology Program, Heritage Assets committee activities, and an Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) update. Agency representatives also reported on archeological activities within their agencies.

National Monument Celebrates Centennial

President Theodore Roosevelt issued a proclamation on March 11, 1907, that established Chaco Canyon National Monument. The park plans a number of events to celebrate the centennial, including a Guest Speaker Series, cultural demonstrations, and the opening of the Hibben Center located on the University of New Mexico’s campus in Albuquerque, which will house Chaco’s archives and collections. Each event commemorates 100 Years of Excavation, Preservation, and Interpretation at Chaco Canyon.

Chaco Culture NHP began celebrating its 100th anniversary on March 11, 2007 with a Fee Free Day. Visitor fees were waived the entire day. A special cancellation stamp was available for people to document their attendance. The park provided light refreshments. The park’s first newspaper, *Canyon Echoes*, was available as well. On April 14, author Stephen A. Brown will be on hand to autograph copies of his book, *Shadows of Chaco Canyon*, at the park visitor center.

For more information about centennial events, please visit www.nps.gov/chcu or call 505-786-7014, ext. 221.

For more information about Chaco Canyon NHP, go to <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/sites/Antiquities/profileChaco.htm>

Albright-Wirth Grant Program Applications Available

The Albright-Wirth Grant Program awards grants to NPS employees (individual, and groups of three or more) to pursue a variety of career-enhancing goals for a wide array of training and development experiences. Past grantees have used Albright-Wirth grants to learn a new trade, write a book, mentor someone, create a diversity program, expand a partnership, change career paths, learn a language, build a website, do a detail, conduct research at another park, and develop leadership skills. In Fiscal Year 2007, the program awarded over \$129,000 to NPS employees. Employees can apply between March 1 and June 4, 2007. Applications are available on <http://mylearning.nps.gov/awgrant>

ACHP Issues New Policy Statement about Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) voted unanimously to adopt its new “Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects” on February 23, 2007, at its quarterly business meeting in Washington, D.C. This new policy statement replaces the ACHP’s 1988 “Policy Statement Regarding the Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods.”

This policy is a formal statement that represents the ACHP’s position on the decision-making process concerning treatment of burial sites, human remains and funerary objects that will or may be encountered in undertakings subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This policy statement is intended primarily to assist Federal agencies in making decisions in the Section 106 process. For more information about this policy, go to <http://www.achp.gov/news022307hr.html>

NPS dedicates addition to Hawaiian Cultural Park

On February 22, 2007, the NPS and the non-profit Trust for Public Land celebrated the culmination of a six year effort to secure 238 acres of land to add to Puuhonau o Honaunau NHP, by dedicating the Kiilae ahupuaa. At the time that the park was authorized, only about 25 acres of the Kiilae ahupuaa was included within the park boundary. The Bishop Museum conducted an archeological survey of the area in 1957 and found that Kiilae village and several significant archeological sites were outside the boundaries of the park. A 1972 Master Plan and a 1992 boundary expansion study called for addition of lands to the park, but the property was unavailable for sale until 2000. The NPS also needed legislative authority to expand the park’s boundaries. President Bush approved legislation introduced by the late Representative Patsy Mink in 2001. Senators Akaka and Inouye led efforts to secure the \$4.6 million in federal funding to secure the land. To protect the land in the interim, the Trust for Public Land purchased the tract in 2001, giving the NPS time to find funding. Both Akaka and Inouye were present at the dedication.

The park contains rich cultural resources including habitations, gardens, and sacred sites ranging in age from about A.D. 1100 to 1930, when the community of Kiilae was abandoned. To learn more about Puuhonau o Honaunau NHP, go to <http://www.nps.gov/puho/>

(This announcement was taken from a news story by Carolyn Lucas, Stephens Media)

ACHP offers NHPA Section 106 training

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has released the schedule for the NHPA Section 106 training that it provides. This course explains the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, which applies any time that a Federal, federally assisted, or federally approved activity, might affect a property listed in or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places. The **Section 106 Essentials** is a two-day course designed for those who are new to Section 106 review or for those who want a refresher on the review process. The course features information on the most recent changes to the ACHP’s regulations, “Protection of Historic Properties” (36 CFR Part 800); new case studies to illustrate each step in the Section 106 process; practical advice on how to make Section 106 work more efficiently to resolve conflicts between development plans and historic preservation values;

and a revised curriculum and a course CD, featuring model documents, guidance materials, and a reference library. The course will be offered:

March 14-15, Orlando, FL

July 10-11, New York, NY

April 11-12, Chicago, IL

August 28-29, Honolulu, HI

May 30-31, Washington, DC

October 1-2, St. Paul, MN

June 12-13, Boise, ID

On-line registration, hotel/travel information, group discounts, and other information can be found at www.achp.gov/106

Wayne Dance, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Retires

Wayne Dance, 66, a leader in prosecuting those who damage or loot prehistoric Indian sites, retired on January 31, 2007, after 35 years as a prosecutor. After serving seven years in the U.S. Navy, Dance attended Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, and then worked as a prosecutor in California for 11 years. He joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for Utah in 1983.

Dance has racked up convictions for 41 defendants in archeological cases, as well as obtaining the longest prison sentence - 63 months - and handling the case with the largest number of offenses - 10 defendants convicted of 18 counts. And he has helped return human remains to tribes for reburial. The prosecutions were brought under the federal Archaeological Resources Protection Act and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. "We've made it a higher priority," Dance said of Utah's fight against grave robbers, pothunters and vandals. "I know how much it means to the scientific community and the public to have the past with us."

Most looted artifacts are not recovered, Dance said, and even worse is the missed opportunity for a scientific excavation that would yield a tremendous amount of information. "The irretrievable loss that comes from an excavation case is the loss of knowledge. Most things can be replaced. Archeological context can never be replaced once it's damaged." Individuals that Dance helped to convict include the notorious pothunter Earl K. Shumway. Shumway, who had previous convictions, was found guilty in 1995 of stealing sandals, a sleeping mat and an infant's burial blanket from sites in Canyonlands NP and the Manti-LaSal NF. He also convicted ten looters who ransacked the Polar Mesa Cave in the Manti-LaSal National Forest, digging out the equivalent of 20 truckloads of dirt from 1989 to 1991 and unearthing hundreds of artifacts.

Dance has been a main instructor on archeological resource protection in many courses given by the NPS and Department of Justice. He is well known as both an expert on the topic and an excellent teacher. Dance's efforts have been recognized by a number of organizations, including the SAA which awarded him its 2001 Public Service Award. The award is presented annually to a person who has taken a lead or made a major contribution to preserving the past. Forrest Cuch, executive director of the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, called Dance a champion for his aggressive prosecutions. "He will be sorely missed."

(This announcement was taken from a news story by Pamela Manson, *Salt Lake Tribune*)

Projects in Parks: Ceramic analysis at Fort Vancouver

Fort Vancouver, located in present-day Vancouver, Washington, was a Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) trading post and administrative center from 1825-1860. It passed into the hands of the U.S. Army in 1860 and was managed as a part of the Vancouver Barracks until it burned to the ground in 1866. Today, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site encompasses 210 acres of land that contain the site of the original HBC fort. The National Park Service (NPS) has been hosting archeological research at Fort Vancouver since 1947 (Caywood 1954), resulting in an unrivaled HBC-era artifact collection, with over 2 million

catalogued artifacts. This study focuses on over 20,000 English-manufactured ceramic sherds excavated from households at HBC Fort Vancouver.

NPS employees who can access the NPS intranet can read the full report by going to **Projects in Parks** <<http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3670>> on InsideNPS. Other readers can access the full report through the *What's New* page <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/NEW.HTM> on the Archeology Program website.

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. Past issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* are available on the *Archeology E-Gram* webpage <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3867> on InsideNPS; and on the *News & Links* page <http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm> on the Archeology Program website.

Projects in Parks is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in a national park. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* webpage. The full reports are available on the *Projects in Parks* webpage <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3670> on InsideNPS; and through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* on the Archeology Program website.

Contact dca@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for “Projects in Parks,” and to subscribe.