



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



June 2009 Archeology E-Gram

NPS Archeologist receives Department of the Interior Superior Service Award

The DOI has awarded the Superior Service Award to NPS Archeologist Michele C. Aubry. The honor recognizes Michele's significant and sustained contributions in preserving and protecting cultural resources during her 31+ years with the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior.

Michele led the effort to draft the Abandoned Shipwreck Act (ASA), which was signed into law in 1988. She led NPS efforts to draft the ASA Guidelines, which provide advice to the States and Federal agencies for effectively managing shipwrecks in waters under their ownership or control. Michele provides technical assistance to NOAA, Department of State, MMS, DOJ, and other agencies and bureaus about the protection and preservation of submerged resources, including shipwrecks. She has also been instrumental in international activities dealing with submerged resources, such as working on the UNESCO Draft Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage, and working with the Government of Spain to develop a long-term loan agreement between the NPS and Spain for curation and public interpretation of the Spanish shipwreck collection recovered at Assateague Island NS. In 1990, Michele led the working group that drafted and promulgated 36 CFR 79 "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections." These regulations highlight the ownership responsibilities of Federal agencies for their collections, have been the cornerstone for improved collection care and preservation in museums and repositories across the country, and have influenced museum collections in Canada, Europe, and Australia.

NPS Archeologist Terry Childs Moves to DOI

Terry Childs is leaving the NPS Archeology Program, WASO, for a position at the Department of the Interior. She will be the Staff Curator, Office of Acquisition and Property Management. Her colleagues at NPS congratulate her on this advancement and look forward to working with her in her new position.

Terry first worked for the NPS from 1979-1983 as a crew chief and ceramics expert for the Cape Cod NS archeological survey. After receiving her doctorate degree in anthropology in 1986 from Boston University, she accepted a permanent position in the NPS in 1993. In the Archeology Program, Terry was actively involved in Federal archeological curation efforts for objects, records, and reports. As the coordinator of several national databases, including the National Archeological Database, she was concerned about the proper management and curation of archeological digital data. Terry was also responsible for several NPS-specific databases, including ASMIS (Archeological Sites Management Information System) and MAS (Maintained Archeological Sites).

Terry was instrumental in developing the World Wide Web for cultural resources when she led the NPS Cultural Resources Web Team from 1996-2003. During this time, she developed "Managing Archeological Collections" a Web course available for credit in DOI Learn (www.nps.gov/archeology/collections/index.htm). Other curation-related activities include a long term study on the costs related to curating archeological collections (www.nps.gov/archeology/PUBS/studies/STUDY06A.htm), which surveyed museums in 1997/98, 2002, and 2007/2008. In addition, Terry led an inter-agency working group to develop procedures for de-

accessioning certain archeological objects for 36 CFR 79 “Curation of Federally Owned and Administered Archeological Collections.”

Outside of public archeology and museum curation, Terry’s primary field research interest has been the Iron Age of Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in the area of anthropology of technology. She has worked in Tanzania, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, and Uganda, and has published extensively on this work. Terry is currently a Research Collaborator at the Smithsonian Institution, focusing on African throwing knives. She also has worked on various projects pertaining to native North American copper.

Terry is looking forward to the challenges of her new position at DOI, but will miss terribly working with so many wonderful park and regional archeologists in the NPS. We will miss Terry’s lively commentary and hard work and wish her the best of luck.

NPS Archeology and Ethnography Programs Welcome Summer Interns

The NPS Archeology program is hosting three interns for the summer of 2009. Jessica Facciponti, a graduate student at the University of Maryland, College Park, is developing technical assistance for archeological properties on the U.S. Tentative list for World Heritage listing. Maria Grenchik, an undergraduate at the University of Maryland, is assisting with the National Institute for the Preservation of Iraqi Cultural Heritage. Kate Reutershan, newly graduated from Brown University, is working on the topic of significance of ethnographic resources in everyday lives. Each is working through the National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE).

NPS Archeologist is Key Speaker at Washington State Curation Summit

NPS Archeologist Terry Childs was the principal speaker at the Washington State Curators Summit, Fort Vancouver NHS, in May 2009. She presented “The Costs of Archaeological Curation: Trends and Issues.” After the presentation, an open discussion included the curation of digital associated records; culling and sampling; deaccessioning; public value of collections; access and use; growth of collections; comparisons of issues between states; and “accreditation of repositories” in Washington State.

Federal Agents Bust Looting Ring

A two-year undercover operation led by BLM and FBI agents has cracked a ring of grave robbers who looted pristine archeological sites in the American Southwest, desecrated ancient American Indian burials and stole priceless artifacts, selling them to dealers and collectors who were associated with the network. Law officers from the BLM and FBI and U.S. Marshals, joined by local and state law enforcement partners, arrested 23 individuals, and executed a dozen search warrants in four states. The defendants, from Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado, were named in 12 indictments handed down by a Salt Lake City grand jury for multiple violations of Federal law. Two defendants in the cases have subsequently committed suicide.

Federal agents have identified more than 250 artifacts stolen by the ring, with an estimate value exceeding \$335,000, including decorated Anasazi pottery, burial and ceremonial masks, a buffalo headdress, and ancient sandals known to be associated with Native American burials. The Four Corners region, rich in archaeological resources, contains priceless and sacred artifacts of vital importance to Southwest American Indian communities. The looting of the archeological sites also means the permanent loss of archeological, cultural, and historical information because the artifacts can not now be associated with specific locations within sites.

“Let this case serve notice to anyone who is considering breaking these laws and trampling our nation’s cultural heritage that the BLM, the Department of Justice, and the Federal government will track you down and bring you to justice,” said Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. “As these alleged criminals are

prosecuted and as federal agents continue to hunt down wrong doers, BLM cultural resources staff will work to ensure the proper recovery, identification, repatriation, and storage of the artifacts that have been confiscated.”

“Looters robbing tribal communities of their cultural patrimony is a major law enforcement issue for federal agencies enforcing historic preservation laws in Indian Country,” said Interior Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk. "Today's action should give American Indians and Alaska Natives assurance that the Obama Administration is serious about preserving and protecting their cultural property."

The indictments were announced by Secretary Salazar; Assistant Secretary Echo Hawk; Deputy Attorney General David Ogden of the U.S. Department of Justice; Brett L. Tolman, U.S Attorney in Utah; and Timothy J. Fuhrman, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Salt Lake City Field Office. The ring is charged with multiple counts of violating ARPA and NAGPRA as well as theft of government property, deprecation of government property, and theft of Indian tribal property.

Colorado Springs Man Convicted on ARPA Charges

Charles Lindsey, Colorado Springs, CO, pled guilty in June to one ARPA misdemeanor. The investigation of Lindsey started in 2005 when his ex-wife reported his looting behavior to NPS and BLM Special Agents. Lindsey's ex-wife reported that her son came home from a vacation trip to Glen Canyon NRA with Lindsey and his grandmother, and told her that Lindsey had taken numerous pot sherds and stone points from locations near the Defiance House and Rincon areas of Lake Powell.

The investigation determined that Lindsey had also taken a pot and a large metate from Mesa Verde NP, as well as vertebrate fossils from BLM lands and dinosaur remains from Badlands NP. These items, as well as others and three large sifting screens used to find artifacts, seized during execution of search warrants, will be forfeited to the government as part of the plea agreement.

Lindsey, who had been a Park County Sheriff's Deputy as well as an Investigator for the Colorado Division of Gaming, will receive one year unsupervised probation as part of the plea agreement. The investigation was a joint effort between BLM, NPS, DOI OG, and USFS special agents.

Husband and Wife Sentenced on ARPA Charges

William and Misty Graves were formally sentenced in US District Court for looting an archeological site in Buffalo National River in violation of ARPA in June 2009. As a result of a plea agreement, William A. Graves was sentenced under one felony count, resulting in six months imprisonment, and one year of supervised probation. Misty Graves was sentenced under one misdemeanor count, and received one year of supervised probation. The two have also been ordered to pay \$4,613.00 in restitution to the park.

NPS rangers were alerted to the recent looting of a known archeological site in the park’s upper district in January 2009. After two days of surveillance, Rangers Lee Brumbaugh, Kelly Charbonneau, and James Purcell installed surveillance equipment near the site. While installing the equipment, rangers observed William A. Graves walking toward the area. Graves was carrying digging tools and wearing boots that matched impressions left in the recently excavated looter holes. Misty Graves, Graves’ wife, remained at a trailhead area with their vehicle. She was found to be in possession of artifacts and a pick. Further investigation and crime scene analysis positively linked the Graves’ to the site. NPS Special Agents and rangers executed a search warrant of the Graves’ residence, resulting in the discovery of numerous items associated with collecting artifacts and other evidence linking them to excavating activities in the park. After a six month investigation, the Graves’ were indicted by a Federal grand jury. Graves admitted to digging in the park and relinquished 71 stone tools, projectile points, or other artifacts that he said originated from the site.

Buffalo NR archeologist, Dr. Caven Clark, was instrumental in the investigation and provided expert testimony during the sentencing proceedings. Rangers from Buffalo NR and Hot Springs NP, as part of the Cultural and Archeological Response Team (CART), assisted during the course of the investigation.

For more information about CART, go to the Project in Parks feature of the August 2007 Archeology E-Gram at www.nps.gov/archeology/pubs/egram/0708.pdf.

Archeology Course Held For Trail Builders

More than 50 agency and partner organization staff and volunteers participated in an “Archeology for Trail Builders” workshop in early May organized by the NPS Ice Age and North Country National Scenic Trails staffs. This unique training opportunity brought staff and volunteers from both national scenic trails to the College of Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI, to learn from archeologists at the college, the NPS Midwest Archeological Center, the USFS, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Additional instruction was provided by the Wisconsin SHPO and the Menominee Nation THPO.

The two-day training course focused on learning and developing skills to understand and appreciate complex relationships between the landscape, cultural resources, and the development of foot trails. Topics included an overview of the prehistory and history of the Great Lakes region, how to read a landscape like an archeologist, the Section 106 process and how it applies to planning and developing multi-jurisdictional trails, tribal concerns, and identifying and protecting cultural resources that may be encountered in trail work. The second day of training was spent visiting prehistoric, historic, and traditional cultural sites on the Menominee Reservation. Historic village sites, gardening and farming sites, and a lumber camp sites were include in the field trip.

NAGPRA Training

The NPS Park NAGPRA Program is offering a 1½ day training session about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) July 14 - 15, 2009 at Gulf Islands National Seashore. Park superintendents and resource managers as well as archeologists, curators, and other staff with NAGPRA duties are invited to attend. The session will provide a comprehensive overview of NAGPRA and prepare participants to respond to inadvertent discoveries and plan for intentional excavations as prescribed by the law. Topics will include NAGPRA basics, collections, intentional excavations and inadvertent discoveries, culturally unidentifiable and unclaimed, consultation, evaluating repatriation requests (claims), disputes, transfer of control or custody, the Kennewick Man case, reburial on park lands, contaminated collections, funding, and sources of information and assistance.

There are no registration fees or tuition for the training session. The training is open to all regions; attendees need not work in the Southeast Region. To sign up or for more information, contact NPS Park NAGPRA Program Manager Mary Carroll at 303-969-2300.

Projects in Parks: Projects in Parks Needs You!

Have you conducted an interesting archeology-related project in a national park that you would like others to know about, or know someone who has? One way to tell people about your project is through the Archeology E-gram. Send a description (up to 500 words) of your project, an abstract, one or two photographs, and any website links that you'd like distributed to dca@nps.gov. The photos should be in .jpg format, at least 800 x 600 at 72 dpi (1200 x 1600 at 150 dpi is preferred); don't forget to include captions and credits. We'll put your abstract in the Archeology E-gram, and the full text and photos on the NPS Archeology Program website. Any interpretation, conservation, education, or research projects in parks that pertain to archeology are welcome.

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. The *Archeology E-Gram* is available on the *News and Links* page www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm on the Archeology Program web site.

Projects in Parks is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in national parks. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* webpage on InsideNPS. The full reports are available on the *Projects in Parks* web page inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?v=3&prg=279&id=3670 on InsideNPS or through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* on the on the *News and Links* page <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm> on the Archeology Program web site.

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



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August 2007, Archeology E-Gram

Database Consultant Larry Karr loses his battle with cancer

Lawrence Frank Karr, 62, a former film archivist, and computer consultant for several national NPS data management systems, died of complications due to esophageal cancer at his home in Washington, DC on August 6, 2007.

Larry came to Washington DC in the 1960s to study at Catholic University, from which he graduated in 1966. He received a doctorate in physics from Brown University in 1971. While living in Rhode Island, Larry and his wife established a state film archive that became a model for programs in other states. They moved to Washington DC in 1971 to join the American Film Institute where Larry worked for 13 years. At that time, he was the Institute's liaison to the Library of Congress. Several archival collections at the Library of Congress are named for Larry, including one on public service announcements and television commercials in the 1960s.

In 1984, Larry became a computer consultant specializing in archival work. He worked with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, to build data management systems for Holocaust survivors and their families. He consulted for the NPS for the past 20 years, during which time he created the Integrated Preservation Software, a unique database system application for the needs of historic preservation efforts. Larry was instrumental in the development of the National Archeological Database (NADB), particularly the Reports and NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) modules. Over the last ten years, he helped develop and improve the Archeological Sites Management Information System (ASMIS), the NPS inventory of archeological sites. Larry did system support and application development for the National Register of Historic Places. More recently, he assisted the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and the Harriet Tubman Special Resource Study team to develop databases to manage information on contacts and Underground Railroad resources across the country.

Larry leaves a legacy of information management systems, and was working on several projects at the time of his death. He will be sorely missed by his friends and colleagues at the NPS.

Departmental Consulting Archeologist Webpage Expanded

The NPS Archeology Program was expanded the Departmental Consulting Archeologist (DCA) webpage (<http://www.nps.gov/archeology/SITES/dca.htm>) on the 80th anniversary of the creation of the position by the Department of the Interior. The expanded resources include a short history (and picture!) of the efforts of the first DCA and first NPS archeologist, Jesse Nusbaum, to define the responsibilities of the position. Nusbaum was hired initially as superintendent of Mesa Verde NP. In 1927, the designation and role of archeologist for the Department of the Interior was added to his duties.

Although he focused much of his time as Department Archeologist on the administration of Antiquities Act permits, Nusbaum also was engaged in other archeological matters, including advocating better protection of archeological sites scattered over the lands of the Department; preventing unlawful excavation and gathering of objects of antiquity on federal and tribal lands; and, encouraging the publication of the archeological results of permitted studies through the scientific and educational institutions that carried out most of the work done under early Antiquities Act permits. Nusbaum had a long and distinguished career of over 30 years with the NPS, retiring in 1957.

Today the Departmental Consulting Archeologist function is still carried out by the NPS. The specific activities and programs of this function have changed with the times, but still involve providing technical assistance, as well as coordinating the Federal Archeology Program.

North Cascades NP Archeologist Receives Appleman-Judd Award

Bob Mierendorf, an archeologist at North Cascades NP, has received the 2007 Appleman-Judd Award for Cultural Resources Management. Other individuals honored are Alexa Roberts, Sand Creek Massacre NHS, for Cultural Resource Stewardship by a Superintendent; and Johnnie Powell, Denali NP&P, for Cultural Resource Stewardship through Maintenance. The award's ceremony is August 30, 2007, in Washington, DC. More information about the Appleman-Judd Award and this year's awardees will be available in the next issue of the Archeology E-Gram.

NPS Archeologist on NPR

NPS National Capital Region Archeologist Stephen Potter was featured on the NPR radio station WAMU on July 23, 2007. He joined Susan Langley, State Underwater Archeologist for Maryland and Patrick O'Neill, President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia, for "Digs and Dives," a lively discussion about archeology in the Washington DC area, on the Kojo Nnamdi Show. Potter presented information about a four year-long archeological survey of Rock Creek NP that has found new information about Fort Stevens. Langley talked about the Maryland Underwater Archeology Program. Nine states support an Underwater Archeologist position; Maryland's program is one of the best in the country. O'Neill talked about volunteer activities in northern Virginia, an historically significant area, given its close proximity to Washington DC. The three archeologists answered questions from callers.

WAMU included links to the NPS Archeology Program, the Maryland Historical Trust, and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia on the Kojo Nnamdi Show webpage of the WAMU website. To hear the segment, go to <http://wamu.org/programs/kn/07/07/23.php#16541>

60 Years of Archeology at Fort Vancouver NHS

Fort Vancouver NHS is celebrating 60 years of archeology this summer. The old Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) outpost was a bastion of Northwest commerce in the 1800s, but the fort burned to the ground in 1866. The land was controlled by the Army, and after World War II, the Army offered some of that land to the NPS. In 1947, archeologist Louis Caywood located the gunpowder magazine. "He did a walk-around and found a pile of bricks," said NPS archeologist Bob Cromwell. The English bricks were held together with mortar that included coral from Hawaii. Based on the location of the magazine, Caywood identified the archeological remains of the log palisade that formed the fort's outer wall. Caywood finished his work in 1952, but archeological fieldwork continued at the site through the 1960s and 70s. The run-up to America's bicentennial celebration in 1976 sparked a new interest in fort history, and a team of archeologists targeted the home of the chief factor, the top HBC official at the fort. "We're still cataloging those objects," said Cromwell. Highway construction work in the 1970s helped expand the scope of research at Fort Vancouver. Work on Highway 14 and I-5 touched on an old pond that had been filled in over the years. "The HBC and the Army had used it as a dump. It was 15 feet of stratified garbage," Cromwell said. "It was almost cheating. The stuff didn't rot and they [the archeologists conducting the excavations] could date the layers by the newspapers that they found."

Today, archeologists are bringing fresh perspectives to the artifacts, and they don't have to excavate new materials to ask new questions. The collections from the excavations contain over 2 million artifacts. While studies have been carried out on many of the artifacts, other types await analysis. Archeologists at Fort Vancouver NHS celebrated 60 years of archeology at the park on July 26, 2007, with a reunion of archeologists who had participated in research activities.

(Story taken from feature by Tom Vogt in the *Columbian*, July 23, 2007.)

To read the full story, go to <http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/07232007news171933.cfm>. To learn more about the park, go to <http://www.nps.gov/fova/>.

For more information about archeology at Fort Vancouver, go to the National Archeological Database (NADB; www.cast.uark.edu/other/nps/nadb/nadb.mul.html) and query on %Fort Vancouver% (Don't forget your wild cards!). There are almost 60 references.

SEAC Archeologists Support Work in USVI

Archeologists from the Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) traveled to St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands (USVI) in July to work with the Virgin Islands Army National Guard (VIARNG). The purpose of the visit was to develop agreements and partnerships for transfer of lands from the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) to VIARNG; the preservation of a historic early 20th century Danish lighthouse; and the construction of a new entrance and park road to Salt River Bay NHP&EP. At the request of Major Clifford E. Crooke, Environmental Protection Specialist for VIARNG, Bennie Keel and Emily Yates provided an archeological resource awareness training course to VIARNG personnel during the visit.

SEAC archeologists have worked with VIARNG for over 10 years and recently developed the VIARNG Five-Year Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) and Environmental Assessment. SEAC, VIARNG, the USCG, and the VI SHPO are partnering to preserve, protect, and restore an early 20th century lighthouse and its culturally significant landscape at Hams Bluff. From roughly 1650 AD to the late eighteenth century, runaway slaves camped on nearby Maroon Ridge and awaited transport to Puerto Rico. The lighthouse was built in 1912-1913, by Board of the Danish Lighthouse Service. When the Virgin Islands were sold to the United States in 1917, control was transferred to the U.S. Department of the Navy, and then to the U.S. Lighthouse Service in 1919. Plans are being made to restore the lighthouse for its centennial in 2012.

The SEAC team, along with VIARNG personnel, presented a day of public lectures at the University of the Virgin Islands on the island's cultural heritage and recent NPS projects to preserve the fragile and valuable cultural and natural resources. Olasee Davis discussed the history of the Hams Bluff and Maroon Ridge. David Hayes, a local archaeologist and historian, described his recent work at Estate Bethlehem's Sugar Works. Zandy Hillis-Starr, Chief of Resource Management for all three NPS units on St. Croix (Buck Island Reef NM, Christiansted NHS and Salt River Bay NHP&EP) gave an overview of recent activities at the units. SEAC archeologist Meredith Hardy presented a general overview of the prehistory of the island, and provided highlights of recent SEAC archeological work at Salt River and Buck Island.

Contact: Bennie Keel, Bennie_Keel@NPS.gov

Ocmulgee NM Mounds Vandalized

On June 21, 2007, an NPS ranger discovered that vandals had entered the fences enclosing Spiral Mound and Mound A of Lamar Mounds, Ocmulgee NM, GA. Ranger Irv Brock found that four potholes had been dug into Spiral Mound and two holes in Mound A. Tool marks and piles of sifted dirt beside them indicated that the holes were human-made. Four days later, Brock found four new holes on the mounds outside the fences. The Lamar Mounds unit, which incorporates about 43 acres of mound sites, is closed to the public due to the unit's isolation from the main area of the park and its inaccessibility. SEAC has conducted damage assessments on the sites and an investigation is underway.

To learn more about Ocmulgee NM, go to <http://www.nps.gov/ocmu/>

Contact: Guy LaChine, Chief Ranger, Guy_LaChine@NPS.gov

Artifacts Stolen from Agate Fossil Beds NM Recovered

On July 10th, maintenance workers at Agate Fossil Beds NM arrived at work to discover that sometime during the previous evening the visitor center had been burglarized. Items from the James Cook-Red Cloud Collection had been taken from the museum display cases. In mid-July, NPS investigators in northeast Colorado recovered a duffle bag containing the items that were stolen from the park. An NPS museum curator assisted with inventory and assessment of the bag's contents, and verified that all of the missing items have been accounted for, and appears to be undamaged. Park Superintendent Blanca Alvarez Stransky said, "The items that were taken from the collection are priceless. They are important pieces that tell part of the story of American history."

Max Garihan, 51, and his brother Gary Garihan, 45, have been indicted in the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado for transporting items stolen from Agate Fossil Beds in Nebraska to Colorado and for transporting items stolen from Hubbell Trading Post in Arizona to Colorado. They've also been charged with aiding, abetting, counseling, inducing and procuring each other's participation in these offenses. The two men could be sentenced to 10 years and up to \$250,000 on each of the two counts.

The investigation and recovery effort is a collaborative effort of numerous law enforcement agencies, including the NPS; Nebraska State Patrol; FBI; U.S. Park Police; Colorado Division of Wildlife; Logan County, CO, Sheriffs Office; Sioux County, NE; Sheriff, Omaha, NE, Police Department; and the U.S. Attorneys Offices, Colorado and Nebraska Districts.

To learn more about Agate Fossil Beds NM, go to <http://www.nps.gov/agfo>

Contact: Mike Johnson, J_Michael_Johnson@nps.gov

MMS Archeology Project Gets Awards

A collaboration of two federal agencies through the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) has resulted in an award-winning study focusing on the potential of shipwrecks to create suitable habitat for marine life. The study, *Archaeological and Biological Analysis of World War II Shipwrecks in the Gulf of Mexico: Artificial Reef Effect in Deep Water*, was contracted by the Minerals Management Service (MMS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

This study has earned three awards as a meaningful contribution to the Gulf of Mexico historical, archeological, and biological bodies of knowledge, the 2006 Department of the Interior's Cooperative Conservation Award; the 2007 NOPP's Excellence in Partnering Award, which recognizes successful NOPP partnering efforts that impact and contribute to the ocean sciences community; and the 2006 Charles and Nora L. Wiley Award. This award was presented to Dennis Aig for his video work on the Deep Gulf Wrecks Project. Aig and three students videotaped the operations of the ship and scientific work, logged and duplicated footage from the ROV, sent short videotapes to the project website while the ship was at sea, and generally linked the biologists and archaeologists onboard to each other and to the rest of the world.

The study focused on the biological and archeological aspects of six WWII era shipwrecks. The six vessels were lost as a direct result of wartime activity between late May and early July 1942. One of the greatest concentrations of Allied vessels lost to German U-boats world-wide was in the Gulf of Mexico. Casualties included oil tankers, cargo vessels, passenger ships, and fishing boats; the only German U-boat known to have been sunk in the Gulf, the U-166, was discovered 72 km off the mouth of the Mississippi River. At present, the remains of 18 WWII vessels have been identified in Federal waters in the Gulf as a result of oil industry surveys required by MMS. These wrecks represent an important historical resource documenting a crucial period in American history.

The six wrecks were investigated in 2004 over an 18 day period using a Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV). Water depths at the investigation sites ranged from 87 to 1,964 m. Each shipwreck was

positively identified and the full extent of site boundaries, including associated debris was determined. An examination of the debris distribution data, in association with the assessments, revealed that site size increases proportionately with water depth. These data contribute to a provisional formula that calculates the expected boundary sites for shipwrecks at particular water depths. This formula can be used to set avoidance criteria or to plan site surveys. The states of preservation and rates of deterioration of the wrecks were estimated with use of the microbiology data. For example, deterioration of the *Alcoa Puritan* appears to be following a track parallel to the *RMS Titanic*, as both displayed similar patterns of rusticle formation.

All sites were considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A- *association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history*, and Criterion D- *likely to yield information important to prehistory or history*.

For more information about the project or to read the final report, go to

<http://www.pastfoundation.org/DeepWrecks/>

Forest Service Sponsors Archeological Damage Assessment Class

The Forest Service is sponsoring an Archeological Damage Assessment class October 22-26, 2007, at Fort Smith, AR. The Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) requires assessment of archaeological damages for criminal prosecutions and civil penalties under the act. Topics covered in the class include field damage assessment procedures; determination of archeological value and cost of restoration and repair (including the Society for American Archaeology “Professional Standards for the Determination of Archaeological Value”); archeological damage assessment report preparation; the role of the archeologist in case prosecution; and defense issues in archeological violation cases.

For more information and to register, go to <http://www.arinvestigations.net/calendar.html>. The registration deadline is September 21, 2007.

Projects in Parks: Archeological Resource Protection at Buffalo National River

Besides a magnificent river and unique natural communities, Buffalo National River (NR), in northwest Arkansas, contains a wide variety of archeological resources. Archeological sites in the park include mining sites, historic communities, historic cemeteries, and prehistoric sites. As in national parks nationwide, there archeological sites are being damaged by intentional and “casual” looting and vandalism at an increasing rate.

Only a small part of the 95,730 acres park has been systematically surveyed to locate and document archeological sites, but more than 700 sites have been identified. Sites are found in the context of NHPA Section 106 actions (i.e., prescribed burns, campground development, etc.) and through casual observations by both park staff and visitors. While Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires an inventory of cultural properties on federal lands, the process is a slow and expensive one. Through a combination of professional survey, visitor reports, observations by park visitors and staff, the list of archeological sites in Buffalo NR grows annually, but the proportion of known to unknown sites remains low.

The park is visited by more than 1.2 million people each year. While the highest number comes during the spring and early summer, local residents also use the park at other seasons of the year. One corollary of this visitor use is archeological resource damage, both intentional and unintentional. Park staff at Buffalo NR are fighting rising vandalism through the development of an Archeological Resource Protection plan that provides a step-by-step protocol for responding to a looting or vandalism incident; and through participation in the C.A.R.T. Program (Cultural and Archeological Response Team). These programs aggressively combat looting by providing trained experts and protocols for detecting and documenting looting events in order to prosecute looters.

The Archeological Resource Protection Plan

The Archeological Resource Protection plan provides a step-by-step protocol for all aspects of responding to a looting or vandalism incident, including incident recognition, reporting, investigation, and information flow during the process. This plan emphasizes agency education and awareness, since prior knowledge of archeological resources in the park and cultural resources protection law is essential to an effective protection plan.

Training about cultural resources laws

Law enforcement and archeologists. All law enforcement staff and archeologists are encouraged to take some form of training about federal cultural resources protection law (commonly called “ARPA training,” as the Archeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) is a powerful law to protect archeological resources). This provides the legal basis for understanding ARPA as one component in the larger scope of Federal law enforcement. Other pertinent cultural resource protection laws include the Antiquities Act, the National Park System Resources Protection Act, and the NPS Organic Act and regulations.

Typical violators prosecuted under civil penalties include contractors, permit holders, and trespassers where circumstances are not appropriate for criminal prosecution. Penalties collected under civil prosecutions may be used directly for site restoration and repair.

Law enforcement staff that perform back and front country monitoring at Buffalo NR should have a copy of the archeological base maps for their area as part of their routine documentation. They should be able to use these maps to determine what types of archeological resources are present in their area, and general familiarity with archeological materials is essential. Periodic field trips with the park archeologist or other professionals and an examination of museum collections build site and artifact recognition skills.

Familiarity with one's resource law enforcement area is important, as knowledge of past archeological resources violation is a good indication of what is likely to be the case in the future. Looters focus on sites that are likely to yield artifacts with high market values. Visitors (as opposed to serious looters) tend to be less selective and may collect small sherds and waste flakes resulting in serious depletion of artifacts if conducted over a period of time. “Picking up arrowheads” is not prosecutable under ARPA but usually falls within the parameters of misdemeanor theft of government property and resource destruction or disturbance (36CFR2.1). Many visitors may be unaware that it is even illegal.

ARPA also contains provisions for issuing Permits for Archeological Investigations. Researchers under contract with the NPS for the benefit of the service, such as a team of archeologists from a private company or academic institution conducting a pre-burn cultural resource survey, however, are not required to have a Permit for Archeological Investigations. In these cases, however, the NPS must ensure that the investigation is planned and executed and results in outcomes that are consistent with ARPA regulations. All other archeological researchers must have in their possession a valid Permit that states the full parameters of their research activities and responsibilities. Permits for Archeological Investigations for Buffalo NR are only issued by the NPS Midwest Region Director through the Midwest Archeological Center.

Other Park Staff. In addition to those individuals specifically charged with resource protection responsibilities, other park staff should also have an awareness of ARPA and appropriate response actions so that they: 1) do not put themselves at risk by inappropriate actions such as confronting a looter, 2) do not jeopardize the chance for an arrest and conviction by alerting a suspect or by destroying evidence at

the crime scene, 3) assist in the collection of data at the crime scene by knowing what types of information are important to a criminal investigator at this initial stage.

Reactions to looting incidents may include destroying a screen discovered at a remote site, removing a hidden screen from the site to frustrate the looter, or simply picking up their trash. While understandable as an emotional reaction to the crime, this seriously compromises the ability of law enforcement to undertake an investigation since, like removing artifacts from archeological sites, it takes the objects out of context and diminishes their utility as evidence in a court of law. It may also alert the perpetrator that they have been discovered, further compromising the investigation.

Internal ARPA awareness workshops provided by the park archeologist can benefit all employees by increasing and updating their knowledge of the specific resources and threats unique to Buffalo NR.

Procedures for Investigation of Archeological Resource Investigation

Incident Identification. Identification of looting and vandalism is largely contingent on one's ability to recognize the fact that they are in an archeological site, or in an area where sites are likely to occur, and that disturbance has occurred. Holes in the ground, backdirt piles, piles of discarded fragmentary artifacts discarded by the looter, missing items from prior documentation, or tools such as screens, shovels or other tools may all point to an archeological resource violation. Intensive surface collection may be found in evidence of meandering footprints on an open site.

Incident Notification. In all cases of suspected archeological site looting, immediate notification of a law enforcement ranger on duty must be made. He/she will become the lead investigator until relieved by the park criminal investigator or another ranger as determined by a supervisor. The archeologist will be notified immediately when damages are significant or the site may involve a formal site damage assessment. Copies of all law enforcement reports pertaining to archeological damage will be forwarded to the archeologist, providing however, that ongoing criminal investigation leads, etc., are not revealed unnecessarily or inappropriately. The archeologist and others of the resources management division will ensure that pertinent information and reports are made available to the investigator(s).

Investigation. Disturbed areas are a crime scene and must be treated as such. Any intrusion into disturbed areas, beyond the initial discovery, will be limited to the investigating ranger, and others at his/her direction. Scene security and rules of evidence procedure will be followed. This may involve 24-hour monitoring of the crime scene until an archeologist has had an opportunity to make an initial assessment. Law enforcement resources will be ordered/applied to make security a priority. At all times throughout the investigation and any subsequent actions, the park archeologist will serve in a subsidiary and support capacity to the lead investigating ranger.

The case agent will, whenever possible, respond to the crime scene with the archeologist. Together, they will systematically examine the crime scene for potential evidence. The first steps will be the protection of the scene and photo documentation. A systematic approach to evidence gathering, at the direction of the case agent, will follow.

Site Damage Assessment. The damage assessment is the responsibility of the park archeologist who reports directly to the designated case agent. Initiation of a formal assessment will be at the discretion of the case agent in consultation with the park archeologist. A formal assessment should not be immediately undertaken if it is anticipated that a suspect may return to the site. More information about archeological site damage assessments and procedures to use in developing the assessments is available through NPS Archeology Program Technical Brief Number 20 "Archeological Resource Damage Assessment: Legal

Basis and Methods” by Martin E. McAllister
(<http://www.nps.gov/archeology/PUBS/TECHBR/tch20.htm>.)

The Cultural and Archeological Response Team (CART)

Buffalo NR ensures that trained personnel are available to carry out the Archeological Resource Protection protocol after an archeological resource violation through participation in the Cultural and Archeological Response Team (CART). The purpose of the CART is to address archaeological and resource violations occurring in the Midwest Region primarily within Missouri and Arkansas. The methodology is intended to accomplish this while recognizing that funding and available personnel are limited. The plan utilizes existing resources and develops methods of addressing cultural and archeological violations that can be sustained over the long term. A key part of this plan is creating an agency response that best utilizes personnel and equipment within a small regional area that has a documented history of theft and vandalism.

The CART concept is designed to enhance resource protection by effectively sharing personnel for rapid response to violated sites within a geographic region. This includes NPS units lacking commissioned ranger staff. The program trains participants in the required specialized skills and is developing a computerized network to share intelligence about resource-related criminal activity beyond park boundaries. Eventually, the CART may include other state and federal agencies experiencing similar resource protection problems in the Missouri and Arkansas area.

The NPS Division of Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services funded the initial CART training through an Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) Program Grant. These funds are to assist law enforcement in effectively reducing or eliminating ARPA related criminal activity on NPS lands. The funding is allocated to target the highest priority ARPA crimes system-wide by assisting with investigations, overtime, travel, training, extension of non-permanent personnel, and equipment.

The Midwest Regional Office, Ranger Activities Division (RAD) has oversight of the CART program. The intent, however, is that park staff in Missouri and Arkansas will manage and direct CART operations with additional assistance from the Midwest Archeological Center. As the CART gains experience, one objective is to share operational skills and investigative methods with other NPS areas.

The Midwest Region Missouri Arkansas CART operates as a task team. Most importantly this means the team members remain with their respective home parks until called. When deployed as part of CART, team members operate under the direction and control of the NPS unit they are responding to assist, and only as many members as are needed for a particular assignment will be called out. Task team members are also asked to be archeological violation program coordinators at their respective parks.

Besides participating in CART activities, the archeological violation program coordinators are responsible for training park personnel about archeological resources and archeological resource protection, for documenting and updating site conditions for ASMIS, and for assisting in the establishment of a site monitoring program.

The responsibilities of a CART archeologist include completing archeological damage assessments; conducting site condition assessments related to CART investigation; and assisting participating parks in developing a park archeological protection plan. Although plans will be unique to each park and are the responsibility of the individual park, consistency among the involved parks will enhance the ability of CART personnel to effectively respond to incidents. At an incident site the archeologist is responsible for a site damage assessment, identification of artifacts, and may assist with evidence collection. The Archeologist must be trained and qualified to testify in criminal and civil court in site damage

assessments and valuation of archeological damage. CART archeologists are also available to assist other participating CART parks in development of an archeological protection plan for their park.

Summary

Buffalo NR is taking aggressive steps to combat looting and vandalism of archeological sites, a problem that plagues national parks nationwide. Park staff have developed an Archeological Resource Protection Plan that emphasizes the collection of information about archeological resources within the park and sharing this information with law enforcement personnel. The plan identifies training about cultural resources laws as another important component for protecting park resources. The core of the plan is a step-by-step protocol for recognizing and responding to archeological resource destruction within the park, which provides guidance for park staff that are involved in archeological resource incidents.

The second way that the park is combating looting and vandalism is through participation in a region-wide initiative that ensures that adequate trained personnel are available to carry out the Archeological Resource Protection plan. The Cultural and Archeological Resources Team is composed of trained individuals that respond to vandalism within parks in the Midwest region. The team ensures that all of the parks have access to personnel with training to investigate and document archeological resource violations and increase the potential for successful prosecutions.

The Midwest CART is the first such team in the NPS and serves as a model for similar teams in other regions. The CART program and others like it are one way that national parks work to preserve our cultural heritage for future generations.

For more information about Buffalo National River, go to <http://www.nps.gov/buff/>.

By Caven Clark (Archeologist/Curator), Jackie Henman (Law Enforcement Specialist), Robert Still (Park Ranger), Guy Whitmer (Special Agent in Charge). For more information about the Archeological Resource Protection Plan (ARPA Plan) for Buffalo NR, contact Caven Clark and Robert Still. For more information about the Midwest Region CART, contact Jackie Henman or Guy Whitmer.

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. The *Archeology E-Gram* is available on the *News and Links* page <http://www.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 national parks. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* webpage on InsideNPS. 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 or through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* on the on the *News and Links* page <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm> on the Archeology Program website.

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