



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## October 2010 Archeology E-Gram

### **New Date Set for Federal Archeology Program Data Call**

The Secretary of the Interior Department is charged with compiling data about Federal stewardship of archeological resources and presenting these data to Congress. Every Federal agency with archeological responsibilities is required by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act to respond to an annual questionnaire sent by the NPS Archeology Program. The Secretary's Report to Congress on the Federal Archeology Program summarizes the data and makes recommendations.

Letters requesting data for 2010 will be sent to responsible Federal agencies in January 2011. Responses will be due in mid-March. No changes were made to the 2010 survey instrument, which will request the same data as the 2009 questionnaire. Electronic submissions are preferred, but hard copies will be accepted.

Contact: Karen Mudar, 202-354-2103

For more information about the Secretary's Report to Congress on the Federal Archeology Program, including reports and questionnaires, go to [www.nps.gov/archeology/SRC/INDEX.HTM](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/SRC/INDEX.HTM).

### **Archeological Excavations at Boston National Historic Park**

Beside the north wall of the Cradle of Liberty, Faneuil Hall, archeologists have excavated a small portion of Boston's colonial past. Town meetings held here between 1764 and 1774 heard Samuel Adams and others lead cries of protest against the imposition of taxes on the colonies. Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, and Lucy Stone brought their struggles for freedom here in the 19th century. Market stalls on the first floor today service shoppers much as they did in Paul Revere's day.

The area of Faneuil Hall was the port for Boston during the 1600s and contained lodgings and taverns, among other businesses, next to a busy shipping channel. Although not constructed until 1742, the building was located beside Town Cove, a small extension of the harbor. Cargo was lost and discarded here, trash was tossed into the water, and artifact-rich landfill eventually covered the cove, making room for the growing city.

The north wall of Faneuil Hall was part of an expansion in 1806 by renowned Boston architect Charles Bulfinch, who also designed the State House. The north side had never been excavated by archeologists. The excavation, which was aided by the University of Massachusetts, Boston, was required before the Boston NHP Visitors Center can be relocated from nearby State Street to Faneuil Hall. The 15-by-15-foot unit was excavated where a stairwell will lead to new NPS offices and public restrooms in the basement.

Before the excavations were completed in late September, the public had opportunities to watch the digging and screening of artifacts and to ask questions of the archeologists. The artifact-rich deposits provide an extraordinary glimpse of the city's 17th-century history. Artifacts will be washed and bagged at the city's archeology laboratory. Some will be shipped to researchers who will study parasites, pollen, and other organic samples for time-capsule clues about everyday life in young, growing Boston.

(from Brian MacQuarrie, Boston Globe, September 19, 2010)

For more information about Boston NHP, go to [www.nps.gov/bost/](http://www.nps.gov/bost/)

**Archeological Collections Management Team, Northeast Museum Services Center has Stellar Year**  
During FY2010, the NPS Archeological Collections Management team of the Northeast Museum Services Center (NMSC) rehoused eight accessions of archeological material from the Salem Maritime NHS. The

NMSC staff rehoused 126,346 objects from the old storage containers into new archival bags and boxes labeled with pertinent information. Custom storage containers were created for fragile and oversized objects and museum cabinets were reconfigured to store oversized items in the most efficient manner.

Of particular importance is the collection of artifacts from the Narbonne House, built ca. 1675. The research potential of a collection from more than 300 years of occupancy and the new and improved storage conditions of this collection makes it an extraordinary resource.

The NMSC staff also cataloged 33,848 artifacts from Petersburg NB. The 1978 Excavation at the Taylor House yielded 33,848 artifacts and 13 folders of associated documentation. The poor condition of the archeology collection required significant preparation on the part of NMSC staff before actual cataloging could begin. The Taylor House collection was poorly housed and loosely organized by material type instead of by provenience (location within the site) as required by NPS standards. NMSC staff surveyed and sorted the collection by provenience so that proper cataloging could begin. Processing included re-housing the artifacts into space-efficient, archival-quality enclosures.

The Taylor House was a late 18<sup>th</sup>-century dwelling that was destroyed during the siege of Petersburg in 1864. The archeology collection offered a valuable opportunity to examine both 18<sup>th</sup> century and Civil War artifacts. Artifacts of particular interest in the collection include a variety of Union and Confederate bullets, Civil War and post-Civil War military buttons, and an anthropomorphic effigy pipe.

For more information about the Salem Maritime NHS collections, contact Alicia Paresi Friedman, 617-242-5613 x225 or Megan Lentz, 617-242-5613 x227.

For more information about the Petersburg NB collections, contact Jessica Costello, 617-242-5613 x226 or Alicia Paresi Friedman, 617-242-5613 x225.

To learn more about Salem Maritime NHS, go to <http://www.nps.gov/sama/>

To learn more about Petersburg NB, go to <http://www.nps.gov/pete/>

### **NPSArcheology Twitter Feed**

Started in August 2010, the NPS Archeology twitter feed highlights projects, accomplishments, and news items related to archeology in national parks, other Federal archeology projects, and general interest archeology news. It emphasizes content related to archeology performed in parks, with NPS funds, or by NPS personnel. The feed can be viewed at <http://twitter.com/NPSArcheology>.

### **Role for Archeology in NPS Response to Climate Change**

Archeological resources and research figure significantly in the NPS Climate Change Response Strategy, released in September 2010. The strategy provides direction for addressing the impacts of climate change in national parks. Archeological activities can contribute to all four of the integrated components of the response: science, adaptation, mitigation, and communication.

*Science:* Archeological data and models have already provided long term perspectives on climate change, especially in the Southwest, contributing to climate change science. Archeological efforts in parks continue to inventory and monitor archeological resources, providing data for assessing climate change.

*Adaptation:* This information will be critical to scenario planning and management decisions that guide adaptive actions within the NPS. The Climate Change Response Strategy specifically calls for expansion of the NPS capacity to conduct inventory and monitoring of archeological resources on park lands.

*Mitigation:* Archeologists can also contribute to mitigation, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, by developing ways to collect data remotely, and by planning field work more carefully, and, when feasible, telecommuting.

*Communication:* Through leading by example, archeologists directly contribute to the final component to the response strategy. Archeological interpretation is an excellent venue for messages to the public about climate change, its causes and effects, and responsibilities for mitigation and adaptation.

The full report can be accessed at [www.nature.nps.gov/climatechange/index.cfm](http://www.nature.nps.gov/climatechange/index.cfm)

### **New Website for the Chaco Digital Initiative**

The Chaco Digital Initiative has redesigned its website and officially transformed into the *Chaco Research Archive*. This new research portal offers users access to much more information, as well as the ability to download database searches and access over 1,500 digitized archival documents. The new website is divided into six major sections:

*Chaco Sites* allows users to access information on 28 different sites via a topographic map of the canyon. Flag markers on the map are active links to individual pages for each site that provides a site plan, descriptive summary, image gallery, and data links to artifacts, tree-ring dates, and relevant archival documents.

*Explore the Canyon* allows users two ways to access information about various areas. One way uses a Google satellite image rather than the schematic topographic map for the *Chaco Sites* section. Locational markers take the user to the same site pages described above. A second explore mode displays aerial photographs overlaid on Google satellite imagery. These 1963 aerials from the Gordon Vivian archive provide high-resolution images of some sites and agricultural features.

*Query the Database* provides researchers access to the robust Chaco Research Archive database. The page allows users to list, search, and, for the first time, download (in Excel format) results from individual database tables. For example, you can execute and download artifact search results for a given room at a site, filtering by material type; or you can search for all floor features in the entire database. In addition to downloading query results, you can also download individual archival documents in PDF form via the "CRA Archival Accessions" table.

*Architectural Stabilization* contains digitized and keyboarded data from NPS Ruins Stabilization Records. Images from nearly all the records between 1938 and 1983 are searchable and available in this section of the website. For example, you can search for all stabilization records for an individual room or kiva, or a specific wall of a room. When documentation of stabilization efforts is available, you can view high-resolution images of the work and available data.

*Image Gallery* provides users access to over 18,000 historic images of Chaco Canyon, searchable by site, image type, repository institution, caption, or a full text search of all image metadata fields.

*Chaco Resources* contains tools like the Chaco bibliography (now updated) and access to digital monographs. The "Help" section contains new material such as a glossary, user guide, and database schema.

The Chaco Research Archive will continue to add data from more Chaco sites in the coming years. The URL for the Chaco Research Archive remains the same as before: [www.chacoarchive.org](http://www.chacoarchive.org).

### **NPS Announces Appleman-Judd-Lewis Awards**

The winners of the NPS Director's 2009 Appleman-Judd-Lewis Awards for Excellence in Cultural Resource Stewardship for Superintendents, Cultural Resource Stewardship through Maintenance, and Cultural Resource Management have been selected. A number of NPS archeologists have received these awards in the past.

#### *Cultural Resource Stewardship for Superintendents*

Tom Bradley, Superintendent, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

When Tom Bradley became superintendent of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, in 2008, powerful local interests threatened to impair the historic values of the Gateway Arch landscapes by sponsoring legislation to make them available for development. Bradley completed the park's first General Management Plan (GMP) in partnership with public and private interests. The GMP carefully defined and described the historic significance and character-defining features of the arch and its landscapes. The GMP proposed to revitalize the memorial through expanding programs, facilities, and partnerships in collaboration with a new international design competition that has just been completed.

#### *Cultural Resource Stewardship through Maintenance*

Jim Baker, Maintenance Supervisor, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve

Since 2000, Jim Baker has overseen the preservation of Kennecott Mines NHL which is located in the center of the park. Abandoned in 1938, the buildings sat unmaintained for over 60 years. Under Baker's direction and mentoring, local craftspeople have systematically undertaken the stabilization and rehabilitation of this national landmark. Roofs and foundations have been repaired, collapsing walls have been realigned, and 20 historic structures have been preserved.

#### *Cultural Resource Management*

Susan Dolan, Historical Landscape Architect, Mount Rainier NP

Dolan is the author of "Fruitful Legacy: A Historic Context of Orchards in the United States, with Technical Information for Registering Orchards in the National Register of Historic Places." The publication will be invaluable to resource managers and will assist interpretive staff to convey the significance of the resources to the American public. Nomination of historic fruit trees and orchards to the National Register will assist in the protection of the resources and will educate and inform the public of the vital role that orchards play in the agricultural development of post-contact America.

Gary W. Johnson, Supervisory Landscape Architect, Blue Ridge Parkway

The conservation of scenery at the Blue Ridge Parkway is articulated as a core value in the establishing legislation of the park. Throughout the NPS management of the scenery in the larger context of cultural resources has been complicated by the lack of defensible standards. Johnson, in his role as Chief of Resource Management, Planning, Lands, and Compliance, has advocated for many years for the protection of scenery and the development of a tool kit for effective analyses and action. To overcome these obstacles, Johnson worked to develop various products, including a "Guidebook for the Blue Ridge Parkway Scenery Conservation System."

NPS Director John Jarvis will present the awards at the George Wright Society Conference in March 2011.

### **NPS Announces 393<sup>rd</sup> Park: River Raisin National Battlefield in Monroe, Michigan**

River Raisin National Battlefield Park in Monroe, Michigan, was officially announced as the 393rd park in the National Park System. The War of 1812 battlefield was set aside by Congress with legislation (P.L. 111-11) signed by President Obama on March 30, 2009. Fought along the north bank of the River January 18-23,

1813, the battle pitted American and British troops against each other in a contest for control of all of Michigan and the Lower Great Lakes. At stake were America's independence and the futures of Frenchtown (known today as Monroe, Michigan), Canada, and Tecumseh's alliance of Native American tribes.

The British and their Indian allies destroyed an entire American army at the River Raisin and, in the process, raised Native Americans' hopes that their alliance with the British would result in the preservation of their land. Frenchtown was laid waste, and the Ohio frontier was exposed to invasion and raids by the British and Indians. The Battle of the River Raisin was not a decisive turning point of the war, but it did have significant effects on the campaign for the Great Lakes. Following the defeat at River Raisin, American forces would struggle for nine months before they could regain their momentum.

### **Apply Now to Become a Preserve America Steward**

Preserve America Stewards is a Federal program which recognizes organizations and agencies that successfully use volunteers to help care for historic properties. Among the Preserve America stewards designated this summer, four were recognized for their use of volunteers in support of their archeology programs. Independence NHP was designated in recognition of its Independence Living History Center Archeology Laboratory, and Valles Caldera National Preserve was designated for its survey of aspen dendroglyphs. The Texas Historical Commission was named a Preserve America Steward for its Texas Archeological Stewardship Network, and the Fairfield Foundation was recognized for its use of volunteers in excavating and interpreting the site of a Virginia plantation from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Preserve America stewards receive a designation letter and certificate of recognition signed by First Lady Michelle Obama. Non-profit organizations, government entities (Federal, State, local, or Tribal), and businesses are eligible to seek designation for their programs. Preserve America Stewards is administered by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Department of the Interior. The next quarterly deadline for submitting applications to the Preserve America Stewards program is December 1, 2010.

An application form and further information are available at [www.preserveamerica.gov/](http://www.preserveamerica.gov/).

### **Archeology Events at the American Anthropological Association**

AAA Archaeology Division Program Editors Stephen Silliman and Anna Agbe-Davies have compiled a list of all of the archeology events at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 17-21, in New Orleans. In case you find the thousands of papers at the AAA meetings a little daunting to sort through, the sessions, meetings, tours, and dinners are summarized in an easy-to-read two-page document. If you have let your membership in the AAA, and the Archaeology Division in particular, expire or if you've never joined or attended an AAA meeting, consider joining and helping keep up the tradition of having great archeology represented in the American Anthropological Association.

You can visit the meetings page at <http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/index.cfm>.

### **NHPA Section 106 Training Offered**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has announced its training schedule for 2011. The ACHP will offer its two-day "Section 106: The Essentials" course at six locations, beginning with Washington, DC, on February 10-11 and concluding with Buffalo, New York, on October 18-19 in conjunction with the National Preservation Conference being held that same week. The ACHP will also offer its one-day "Advanced Section 106 Seminar" at six locations beginning with Sacramento, California, on March 8 and concluding with Nashville, Tennessee, on September 15.

Further information about ACHP training may be obtained at: [www.achp.gov/training.html](http://www.achp.gov/training.html)

### **NEH Grant Competition**

The Division of Public Programs, U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) funds humanities projects that are intended for broad public audiences at museums, libraries, historic sites and other historical and cultural organizations.

New application guidelines are now posted on the NEH Web site ([www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov)) for our *America's Historical and Cultural Organizations Grant Competition*. The next two deadlines are January 12, 2011, and August 17, 2011. The grants can be used to support interpretive exhibitions, reading or film discussion series, historic site interpretation, lecture series and symposia, and digital projects. NEH especially encourages projects that offer multiple formats and make creative use of new technology to deliver humanities content. Program officers in the Division of Public Programs are available to assist, whether it is to discuss project ideas or to read a draft of a proposal.

Contact: NEH Division of Public Programs, 202-606-8269

**Projects in Parks:** Projects in Parks is taking a break this month.

*Projects in Parks* is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in national parks. The full reports are available on the *Research in the Parks* web page [www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/index.htm) or through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram*. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* web page on InsideNPS.

*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 NPS 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](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm) on the NPS Archeology Program web site.

**Contact:** [dca@nps.gov](mailto:dca@nps.gov) to contribute news items, stories for *Projects in Parks*, submit citations and a brief abstract for your peer-reviewed publications, and to subscribe.