



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



June 2011 Archeology E-Gram

NPS Archeologist Mourns the Passing of Lewis Binford

With the news of Lewis Binford's passing on April 11, 2011, e-mails flew, phones rang, and obituaries were written across the globe. Archeologists (the NPS spelling was advocated by Lew during those heady New Archeology Days of the '70s) shared perspectives from every sector about Lew's influence on the study of the human past. "I can't believe he's gone," was a common refrain.

The NPS Archeology E-gram posted a fine obituary, and I would like to share a few personal thoughts. I was Dr. Binford's last PhD student, having met him in 1984 at the University of New Mexico and obtained my PhD in 2006 from Southern Methodist University (like many of us, I took a few detours). Lew, a friend of national parks, combined a strong stewardship message with the intellectual pursuit of the past. He advocated preservation of sites and important places for scholars and descendant communities, and was particularly interested in the ever-growing research and heritage value of archives and museum collections, often challenging students to 'mine' data from CRM reports and museum collections.

Lew's ethnoarcheological work challenged us to make linkages between dynamic behaviors and static material records - linkages that brought the past and its people to life, and highlighted their relevance to the big issues and processes of today. Lew also emphasized the "Archeology of Place," an approach that is absolutely critical in consultations with tribes and other descendant communities. In the classroom, Lew felt that "the professor's job is not to fill up empty vessels. His job was to help students find the best posture for learning, that they will use throughout their lives." As scholars and public servants, this message is central to the mission of NPS archeologists. In late May, I raised a beer to Lew with a group of University of Montana students, "Here's to learning!"

If you would like to post a short memorial statement for Lewis Binford, go to www.worldarchaeologicalcongress.org/home/lewis-binford. The World Archaeological Congress will place your message in a book for Lew's family.

By PeiLin Yu, Cultural Resource Specialist, Intermountain Region

James "Doc" Price Has Retired

James E. Price, Chief of Resources Management, Ozark NSR, has hung up his ranger hat after 11 years of Federal service at the park. Exploring the family farm in the Current River Valley on the Missouri-Arkansas line and finding arrowheads and other Native American artifacts sparked an early interest in archeology and anthropology. After graduation from Doniphan High School in 1963, he received a scholarship to attend the University of Missouri at Columbia, where he earned a BA with Honors in anthropology in 1967.

His pursuit of a MA and PhD in anthropology, both as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, was accomplished at the University of Michigan in 1970 and 1973, respectively. He served with distinction as a research associate, archeologist, and adjunct faculty member at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, until his retirement in 2000.

His ongoing research and field work in documenting prehistoric and historic peoples who lived, struggled, and built homes along the Current and Jacks Fork Rivers in Ozark NSR led him to his second career. He was hired as a staff archeologist at the park in 2000 and was promoted into his present position

as Chief of Resources Management in 2007. During his tenure, he was responsible for the preservation of the vast collection of park archeological sites, historic home sites, churches, cemeteries, and artifacts. His love of traditional Ozark folkways was evident during the park's special events, such as Heritage Days and Haunting in the Hills, where he practiced woodworking. He will continue to volunteer at the park, perpetuating traditional Ozark folkways and demonstrating at park events.

Jim's friends wish him all the best in his retirement.

By Faye Walmsley, Public Information Officer, Ozark, NSR

Passing Of Carla Martin

Carla Martin, 75, former superintendent of the Western Archeological Conservation Center, passed away on June 12, 2011, from a heart attack. Educated at Occidental College, Los Angeles, Carol received a Fulbright scholarship that enabled her to study in Austria. She returned to study at the University of Arizona, achieving an MA in anthropology.

Carol found her home in many parks, including Grand Teton NP, Carlsbad Caverns NP, Glen Canyon NRA, Tuzigoot NM, and Little Bighorn Battlefield. Widowed, she made the NPS her career even while raising two small boys alone. A high point in her career was becoming one of the first women superintendents in the NPS.

Carol will be buried with her husband Phil at Grand Canyon's Pioneer Cemetery.

Archeological Workshop Attendees Investigate Earthworks at Palo Alto Battlefield NHP

Palo Alto Battlefield NHP and the NPS Midwest Archeological Center hosted the 21st annual workshop for geophysical archeology in the park during the week of May 23, 2011. Nearly 40 archeologists, geologists, and geophysicists from around the country and as far away as Great Britain, Sweden, and Germany participated in this year's workshop, entitled "Current Archeological Prospection Advances for Non-destructive Investigations in the 21st Century."

The field exercises for the workshop were carried out at the site of the original earthworks of Fort Brown. The six point star shaped fort on the banks of the Rio Grande, opposite the city of Matamoros, was constructed in the spring of 1846 by troops under the command of General Zachary Taylor in an effort to lay claim to the disputed territory of the recently annexed state of Texas. On May 3, the Mexican Army laid siege to the fort, with events culminating in the opening battles of the War with Mexico at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma on May 8 and May 9. Major Jacob Brown, commander of the fort, was grievously wounded during the siege and had died the previous day. The fort was named in his honor.

Today only a small fraction of the fort remains – a bastion and the adjoining parapet walls. Most of the standing fort was wiped away, first from construction of a levee system in the 1940s, then construction of a golf course in 1950s, and the installation of various utilities and developments throughout the years. The recent erection of the international border fence bisects the fort and places much of the site between the fence and the river. Archeologists feared much of the story of the fort was lost.

During the workshop, geophysical equipment indicated a substantial amount of subsurface integrity to the site. The results from the magnetic and the ground penetrating radar survey suggested the presence of intact buried archeological features and artifacts associated with the historic Fort Brown. The resistivity

data provided the best indications; one bastion, along with the ditch surrounding the parapet wall, is clearly outlined in the data.

Armed with the new data collected during the workshop, park staff will continue partnership work with the International Boundary and Water Commission and the University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College to explore, preserve, and interpret this important site.

For more information about Palo Alto Battlefield NHP, go to <http://www.nps.gov/paal/index.htm>.

By Rolando Garza, Archeologist/Chief of Resource Management, Palo Alto Battlefield NHP

Death Valley Cultural Site Assessments

Over a period of 10 days in April 2011, Vanishing Treasures Historical Architect Randy Skeirik conducted a “cultural resource blitz” at Death Valley NP. Accompanied by archeologist Leah Bonstead and assisted by other park staff, Randy visited nine different sites, providing insights into the condition of the buildings and structures, discussing the causes of deterioration, and recommending appropriate preservation treatments.

All of the sites are related to the park’s mining and ranching history and include the Lower Vine Ranch, the real home of Death Valley Scotty; Panamint City, high up in the Panamint Mountains with an incongruous, towering 70-foot-tall brick smokestack; Augerberry Camp, a modest miner’s homestead; the famous beehive charcoal kilns, built to provide fuel for the Modoc mine’s smelter, 25 miles away; the Kean Wonder Mine tramway, constructed to move gold ore from mines located a mile up a rugged canyon; Harmony Borax Works, associated with the romantic image of “Death Valley Days” and 20-mule-team borax; Gold Mill Hill, with its small-scale ore processing facility; the immense 15 stamp Skidoo Mill, with its massive heavy timber structure cascading down the side of a canyon; and the Strozz Ranch with its modest house, dugout, and associated ranch buildings.

While none of these buildings or structures is more than 130 years old, most of them, especially the mining structures, were built with the knowledge that they would likely be abandoned after the mines played out. As a result, they were not built to last. In fact, the Panamint stack and the charcoal kilns were constructed with clay soil, not mortar, between their bricks and stone. The clay soil is highly susceptible to erosion, and while these structures have held up remarkably well, attention and maintenance will be required to keep them standing.

One of the biggest challenges facing the park in preserving some of these structures is their remote locations. It is a steep and rugged hike to the Keane Wonder Mine Tramway’s upper terminal, and 5 of the tramway’s 11 towers are on the other side of a deep canyon, requiring helicopter support for the delivery of preservation supplies and equipment. Likewise, the road up to Panamint City was washed out in 2001, and now the site can only be accessed by a 6 mile hike. Getting masonry supplies to this remote site will also likely require the use of helicopters.

While Death Valley NP may best be known for its extremes -- high temperatures and low elevations -- it also possesses a wealth of cultural sites, illustrating the extremes that people were willing to endure to satisfy dreams of riches or simply to wrest a meager existence from a harsh environment. Preserving these sites helps us to understand a past that few of us today could otherwise imagine.

For more information about Death Valley NP, go to <http://www.nps.gov/deva/index.htm>

By Randall Skeirik, Historical Architect, Vanishing Treasures Program

Significant Archeological Discoveries Made In White Sands National Monument

Over the last four years, hundreds of fossilized tracks have been found throughout White Sands NM, greatly expanding the number of fossil track sites known from the Tularosa Basin in southern New Mexico. These tracks are thought to represent one of the largest concentrations of Cenozoic tracks within the United States and, possibly, the world. A few recently discovered sets of fossil tracks appear to be associated with archeological artifacts, however, suggesting co-existence between humans and mammoths or mastodons in this region. The majority of the fossil tracks suggest that the ancient animals traveled to and along the shorelines of late Pleistocene Lake Otero and surrounding ancient wetlands.

The tracks are preserved in gypsum layers and are quite fragile. Once exposed from beneath the sand, the tracks weather rapidly. The majority of the tracks identified last year are now completely gone and those that are still present are severely eroded. The monument staff are working with Vincent Santucci, Senior Geologist, NPS Geologic Resources Division, to develop a strategy for conserving and monitoring the fossil tracks. In an attempt to document the trackways before they disappear, the monument's biologist, David Bustos, recruited two students, Drew Gentry and Christopher Franco, using NPS Geoscientists in the Parks (GIP) and regional NPS Youth In Parks funding to fully document the trackways.

The scientific significance of the fossil tracks preserved at the monument underscores the need for continuing research into these incredible and rapidly vanishing natural wonders.

For more information about White Sands NM, go to <http://www.nps.gov/whsa/index.htm>.

By David Bustos, Biologist, White Sands NM

Gunaaxóo Kwaan Hold Historic Event At Dry Bay, Glacier Bay National Preserve

On May 21 and 22, 2011, the Gunaaxóo Kwaan, an Alaskan Native group, held an historic event in Glacier Bay National Preserve to celebrate a reconnection with their traditional homelands. The two-day ceremony included drumming and dancing, sharing clan house histories, telling sacred stories of about Raven, and a ceremony to connect with the ancestors who once walked this land.

Over the past 13 years, the Gunaaxóo have worked closely with the NPS and US Forest Service to successfully locate a village site and a number of clan houses in Dry Bay, and this celebration allowed many clan members to visit those sites for the first time. Over 125 people attended the event, some of whom traveled from the lower 48 states for the occasion. It was the first time in over a century that a gathering of this size has taken place in Dry Bay.

This event was a success due to the interagency planning efforts of the Gunaaxóo Kwaan, Yakutat Tlingit Tribe, NPS, and US Forest Service, with additional support from the Yak-Tat Kwaan and the City and Borough of Yakutat.

For more information about Glacier Bay National Preserve, go to <http://www.nps.gov/glba/index.htm>

By Jacqueline Ashwell, Yakutat District Ranger, Wrangell-St. Elias NP and Preserve

Big Hole National Battlefield Camp Connects Youth to Tribal Culture and Battlefield History

Despite frequent snow squalls, almost 1,000 students from Montana and Idaho schools attended Coyote Camp at Big Hole NB in the last full week in May. During the five-day program, tribal cultural demonstrators from the Nez Perce and Umatilla reservations talked about their culture and shared hands-on activities. With as many as 200 students arriving daily, park staff divided the students into eight smaller groups for battlefield tours and cultural demonstrations. Students, teachers, and staff made the best of bad weather to increase understanding of two ancient cultures: the Nez Perce and Cayuse. For most participants, this program provided a first-time interaction with the Nez Perce and Cayuse peoples.

Coyote Camp was born out of necessity – to provide visitor information while the park’s Visitor Center closed for almost a year’s worth of renovations. This year’s program was a huge endeavor with every employee of the park working together to make it happen, including the park’s three newest employees who arrived for work just one week earlier. Thanks to everyone for making Coyote Camp such a success!

For more information about Big Hole NB, go to <http://www.nps.gov/biho/index.htm>.

By Steve Black, Superintendent, Big Hole National Battlefield

Kids Colonial Camp Held at Kings Mountain National Military Park

In conjunction with the “Let’s Move Outside” program, Kings Mountain NMP hosted an overnight camping trip on the first weekend in May for eight fifth grade merit program students from Hickory Grove – Sharon Elementary School, Hickory Grove, SC. The camping trip introduced the students to colonial life, the NPS, “Leave No Trace” principles, and natural history, all in an outdoor environment.

The camping trip began with the children dressing in 18th century clothing and setting up their period-correct tents in the park’s encampment area. Living history interpreters taught the students how meals were prepared, using colonial cookware over an open fire, and the students assisted in preparing all of the meals during the camping trip.

In addition, the students rotated through various stations that introduced them to different trades and activities typical of colonial life, including a colonial dance. There was also a nighttime hike on the battlefield trail, where students located constellations and a nature hike the next morning to identify flora and fauna located in the park. This was the first time the park hosted the event; it was a great success and the teacher is already planning for next year.

For more information about Kings Mountain NMP, go to <http://www.nps.gov/kimo/index.htm>.

By Katherine Lynn, Park Ranger, Kings Mountain NMP

Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve Receives Cultural Resource Award

On May 12, 2011, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve was honored by Colorado Preservation, Inc., the largest historic preservation organization in Colorado, for the role firefighters played in the protection of “Indian Grove,” a group of 72 culturally modified ponderosa pine trees that were at risk during the 2010 Medano fire.

On June 6, 2010, a lightning strike within the park started the long-running Medano Fire. This fire ultimately burned for nearly six months in the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness, a steep and remote portion of the national preserve. Few park facilities were threatened during the fire. The fire burned in a natural mosaic pattern and covered about 6,000 acres.

Previous consultation with tribes, including the Utes, Apache and Pueblos, provided park staff with directions to protect the trees, if possible, and not to put firefighters at risk. Both outcomes were realized. Firefighters were instructed to rake duff and other woody material away from the Indian Grove grouping of trees and, in a few instances, handheld drip torches were used to prevent a spot fire in the grove. As a result, this historically and culturally significant grove remains intact and will continue to be an important place for tribal visits. These trees are, literally, one of the few places left from their past that they can touch, see, and smell.

The grove is significant to the Utes and Apache peoples, who have close affiliation to this area. Their ancestors extracted important medicinal and nutritional resources from these trees. Tree ring dating has shown that sections of bark were removed from select trees during the 1700s, 1800s and the early 1900s. The Indian Grove, which is in the National Register, is a key cultural resource in the park. This is one of the very few "living" sites on the register. The tribes and park staff realize that eventually this ancient grove of trees will succumb to time and age. That day was just postponed for a while.

For more information about Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, go to <http://www.nps.gov/grsa/index.htm>

By Katherine Faz, Community Planner, Pecos NHP

Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park Celebrates its 50th Anniversary

Pu'uhonua o Honaunau NHP celebrated its 50th anniversary as a unit of the NPS with a cultural festival this past weekend. More than four thousand visitors experienced nineteenth century Hawai'i. Practitioners in traditional dress provided visitors with a uniquely Hawaiian experience, honoring the culture and traditions of the Hawaiian people. The festival opened June 17, 2011. with a ho'okupu (offering) and then was followed by three days of hula performances, canoe rides, food tasting, weaving, hukilau (traditional fishing), musical implements, lei making, medicinal plants, archaeological hikes and much more. The festival concluded Sunday afternoon with a closing ho'okupu.

This event was only possible with the aloha of the hundreds of practitioners and volunteers who shared their time, wisdom, skills and, most of all, their love for Hawaii. The park would like to thank all of the practitioners and the volunteers who gave so much of their time to make this event so successful.

For more information about Pu'uhonua o Honaunau NHP, go to <http://www.nps.gov/puho/index.htm>.

By Eric Andersen, Chief of Interpretation, Pu'uhonua o Honaunau NHP

Historic Museum at Tuzigoot National Monument Reopens with New Exhibits

"Where in the world is Tuzigoot?" is a question in NPS training materials developed for teachers, but on June 3, 2011, local historians and community members gathered for remembrances of their own special site as the refurbished historic Tuzigoot NM Visitor Center and Museum was reopened to visitors.

Superintendent Kathy Davis presented heritage awards to individuals and organizations that made substantial contributions to local cultural and historic preservation. One component of the observance was honoring those who initiated and have continued Native language preservation programs. The Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe, Prescott, Arizona, and the Yavapai and Apache heritage programs, Camp Verde, Arizona, were recognized. Hopi educators Eric and Jane Polingyouma of Second Mesa and Anita Poleahla of First Mesa discussed the importance of oral traditions and native language in embedding and continuing the values of indigenous cultures.

Historian Jesse Valdez presented an overview of early Mexican-American heritage around Tuzigoot, sharing photos and stories of early 1900s ranching families. Several descendants of workers involved in the excavation of Tuzigoot, construction of the museum in 1935, and artifact curation and display were also recognized.

NPS museum exhibit specialist Sue Fischer offered tours of the new exhibits that continue a tradition of 75 years of updating the displays and sharing information. Over the celebratory weekend, cultural demonstrations were presented by Hopi old-style katsina carvers Philbert Honanie and Tayron Polequaptewa, chipped stone tool maker Amil Pedro of the Gila River Indian Community, and Apache flute and moccasin craftsmen Don Decker. The presentations helped connect visitors with technologies and expressions of the past.

Another major highlight of the opening weekend at Tuzigoot was a “star party,” with talks, slide presentations and a gathering of local astronomers who shared their time, telescopes, expertise, and special viewing opportunities with the public.

For more information about Tuzigoot NM, go to <http://www.nps.gov/tuzi/index.htm>.

Japan’s Public TV to Feature Manzanar National Historic Site Gardens

Landscape gardens built by Japanese American internees at Manzanar will be featured in a documentary produced by NHK, the public television station of Japan. Manzanar was one of ten “relocation centers,” where some 120,000 U.S. residents and citizens were confined without due process during World War II. Award-winning director Yo Ijuin has previously directed documentaries about Japanese gardens in Japan, and was drawn to Manzanar by his love of Japanese gardens and his interest in World War II history.

The film includes numerous oral histories and interviews along with historic research. Professor Kendall Brown of California State University Long Beach noted that the Japanese gardens at Manzanar are noteworthy because they were created during World War II, when resources were scarce and when anti-Japanese sentiment was at an all-time high. Even more remarkable, Dr. Brown said, is that “this is garden art of a very high order ... I think arguably this is the most interesting, compelling collection of Japanese gardens in America.” Director Ijuin commented that, based on its gardens alone, Manzanar should be nominated as a World Heritage Site.

Associate Producer Eddie Noguchi said that he hoped the film would provide inspiration for the Japanese people who lost so much during the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. “Internees at Manzanar had lost everything, too, and still created beauty for their families and the future.... Building Japanese gardens, which focus on harmony and nature, helped people heal.” The film is expected to be completed in August for the Japanese audience; an English version is under consideration.

For more information about Manzanar NHS, go to <http://www.nps.gov/manz/index.htm>

By Jeff Burton, Archeologist, WACC

Landmarks Committee Recommends the Carrizo Plain Archeological District as a Potential NHL

On May 25, 2011, the NPS Landmarks Committee voted to recommend that the Carrizo Plain Archeological District be designated a National Historic Landmark. A positive vote by the Committee is the first step in the designation process.

The Carrizo Plain Archeological District lies within the Carrizo Plain National Monument, managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in San Luis Obispo County, California. The district consists of 100 nationally significant archeological sites that, together, reflect the stunningly intact Carrizo Plain pictograph sites and associated archeological remains. The proposed NHL district is nominated under NHL Criteria 5 and 6 under the NHL thematic framework themes of Peopling Places and Expressing Cultural Values.

Dating from about 10,000 to 200 BP (8050 BC – AD 1750), the concentration of these sites outstandingly documents the demographic pre-contact history of the first inhabitants in the far western United States and has great potential for contributing to our understanding of the pre-contact and historical-ethnographic past in numerous ways. Their importance is reflected in the pivotal role these sites have played in recent rock art research, where they have been crucial to our understanding of archeoastronomy, ethnic affiliations and cultural boundaries, gender symbolism and ritual landscapes, as well as pre-contact symbolic systems and cognition more generally. The property will be presented to the larger National Park System Advisory Board during the winter of 2011/2012.

To read the nomination for the Carrizo Plain Archeological District or to learn more about the National Historic Landmarks process, go to www.nps.gov/nhl/.

By Erika K. Martin Seibert, Archeologist, National Historic Landmarks Program

Archaeological Survey Technologies, Data Integration, and Applications Workshop and Seminar

The NPS, Archaeological Survey Technologies, Data Integration, and Applications (ASTDA), and other institutions will jointly offer a workshop and seminar. The training opportunities focus on the application of non-invasive mapping and recording technologies including archeological geophysical surveys (ground penetrating radar, magnetic gradient, resistance, and conductivity), and 3D laser scanning, for the integration of the buried and standing archeological site records within a broader landscape.

Workshop

August 15-21, 2011

Held at Historic Longfellow House, Cambridge, MA, the workshop will teach participants specific skills of non-invasive acquisition and fusion of data to map sub-surface features, existing archeological structures, and landscapes. It focuses on effectively engaging these methods in the investigation, planning, and preservation of historic properties. The workshop will introduce and provide hands-on teaching of geophysical surveys including ground penetrating radar, magnetometry, conductivity and resistance, fundamentals of site survey, and 3D laser scanning with participation in mapping and scanning. Participants will engage in data collection, processing, and integration into GIS with analysis in a 3D visual environment.

Instructors include Meg Watters (Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Brown University); Ken Kvamme (University of Arkansas); Bryan Hayley (Tulane University); Stephen Wilkes (Feldman 3D); and Dr. Steven Pendery (NPS).

Registration deadline: August 1, 2011.

Seminar

October 21, 2011 (*Date to be confirmed, keep an eye on the web page*), 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Held at the Historic Longfellow House, Cambridge, MA, the ASTDA seminar is tailored to provide specific knowledge transfer to three distinct groups intrinsic to historic site preservation: (1) property managers; (2) public outreach organizations; and (3) property developers. The seminar will focus on presenting each of the three stages in creation of the 3D property models (data capture, processing, and fusion) and how to use this innovative visualization of integrated data for particular needs.

The workshop will consist of three stations with different components of the Longfellow House integrated 3D models (geophysical surveys, 3D laser scanning, and visualization and analysis) for each targeted group. Time will be allotted for questions and feedback on how participants perceive the 3D visualization method, how it applies to their work, and how it could be further modified to meet their needs. A panel discussion, moderated by Steven Pendery, will include representatives from each of the targeted groups (to be announced), and will discuss and debate this approach to historic property management through 3D visualization methods.

Instructors include Meg Watters (Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Brown University); Stephen Wilkes (Feldman 3D); and Dr. Steven Pendery (NPS).

For additional information and registration details, go to the Workshop and Seminar website:

<http://proteus.brown.edu/astda>

NPS NAGPRA Workshop in Intermountain Region Open for Registration

The NPS Park NAGPRA program, in cooperation with the Intermountain Region (IMR) NAGPRA program, is offering a two day training session at the IMR Office in Denver, CO, about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Park superintendents, resource managers, archeologists, curators, and other staff with NAGPRA duties are invited to attend. The training, scheduled for July 13-14, 2011, will provide a comprehensive overview of NAGPRA, prepare participants to respond to inadvertent discoveries and plan for intentional excavations as prescribed by the law, and explore issues of special concern to the Intermountain Region. Other topics covered will include dealing with cultural items subject to NAGPRA in collections, evaluating repatriation requests, complying with the new culturally unidentifiable rule, consultation, disputes, and reburial on park lands.

There are no fees or tuition for the training session. Approximately 20 – 25 participants can be accommodated.

Contact Brenda Todd, (303) 969-2864 by July 1, 2011.

National NAGPRA Webinar Offered

43 CFR 10.11- The Disposition of Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains became effective a little over a year ago and many people still have questions about its implementation. To address these questions, the National NAGPRA Program has scheduled a webinar “Integrating 43 CFR 10.11, Final

Rule - The Disposition of Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains into the NAGPRA Process.” The webinar will be held July 20, 2011, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. (EDT). The webinar is an opportunity for tribal, museum and Federal agency officials as well as interested members of the public to review the rule with NAGPRA staff and attorneys and ask questions regarding its implementation. Time will be allocated for discussion and questions.

To register for the webinar, go to <http://www.nps.gov/nagpra/TRAINING>. The webinar is free and open to the public. You are encouraged to submit questions about the process for the panelists.

Contact: Sangita Chari, (202) 354-2203

NPS Offers “Effective Oral History” Course

The NPS Park History Program, in collaboration with Stephen T. Mather Training Center, is offering “Effective Oral History: Interviews, Project Management and Practical Applications” October 31-November 4, 2011, at Everglades NP, Homestead, FL. This 40 hour team-taught course introduces students to oral history methods, principles, and practices and provides hands-on training for all phases of an oral history project. Instruction is designed to meet the practical needs of historians, interpreters, ethnographers, archivists, and museum curators who conduct oral history projects.

The instruction team includes historians, ethnographer, archivists, a curator, and a solicitor. Each session will include a brief overview of a topic; the rest of the time will be spent in small groups applying the overview to particular aspects of oral history projects. Participants will also conduct and critique an interview on-site. Instructors will share case studies based on NPS oral history projects they have designed and completed.

By the end of this course, participants will be able to plan an oral history project and use oral history in historical research, planning and management; understand legal and ethical issues that relate to oral history; be knowledgeable about recording technologies (audio and video); plan for and conduct in-depth oral history interviews; preserve, archive, and manage oral history collections; process interviews (indexing and transcribing); and use oral history in interpretive programs such as talks, exhibits, Web sites and publications.

Registration deadline is October 7, 2011. The course, listed in DOI Learn, requires supervisory approval: <http://www.doi.gov/doilearn/index.cfm>. The class name is NPS-2011-1031-EVER

Contact: Lu Ann Jones, Park History Program, WASO, (202) 354-2219.

2011 Summer Speaker Series at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Experts will speak during the annual archeology field school at Fort Vancouver NHS, a program of the Northwest Cultural Resources Institute. The talks are open to the public and will address topics of diversity, race, ethnicity, and public archeology. The field school is a joint undertaking of the Institute; NPS; Portland State University; Washington State University, Vancouver; and the Fort Vancouver National Trust.

Michael Nassaney: *The Archeology of the Fur Trade at Fort St. Joseph*
July 14, 2011

When Western Michigan University archeologists were invited to assist in locating a lost French fort along the banks of the St. Joseph River in Niles, Michigan, they unknowingly embarked on a long-term,

multidisciplinary project to explore the importance of the fur trade and colonialism in the past and in the present. Since the project's inception in 1998, public involvement has been central to the way the project is conceived and put into practice.

Lori Lee: *Historical Archeology of Memory, Race, and Landscape at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest*
July 21, 2011

Ms. Lee's talk will discuss the connections between documents, material culture, and narratives through an historical archeological investigation of landscape, memory, and race at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest plantation in central Virginia. The role of memory in constructing the physical and social landscapes formed from a system of institutionalized, race-based slavery in the 18th, 19th, and 20th century will be explored. The significance of these landscapes as frames of reference for representing these memories today is also examined.

The Northwest Cultural Resources Institute is dedicated to facilitating cultural resource education and research activities in the region through cooperative partnerships at Fort Vancouver NHS, and at other northwestern national parks. Fort Vancouver, a premier historical archeological site in the Pacific Northwest, provides a dynamic, place-based learning environment for public and academic programs.

Civil War Commemorations

In March 2010 the NPS began celebrations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. We have established a new feature in the Archeology E-Gram to provide information and links about activities to commemorate the Civil War. Each month, the E-Gram will feature information about activities such as exhibits, re-enactments, and lectures taking place. Here are some events that will take place in June:

A Ride Through History: A Caravan Tour of Stones River National Battlefield

Stones River NB

Visitors will follow a ranger in their vehicles and stop at four sites to learn about the events and people that are part of the story of the Battle of Stones River. The program will not be offered when a living history or special event is scheduled.

Monday-Friday, May 30-September 2, 2011

Civil War Gap Cave Tours

Cumberland Gap NHP

A two hour adventure awaits as you explore Gap Cave with its majestic stalagmites, striking stalactites and shimmering flowstone. Step into the music room and listen for the whispers of a Civil War soldier. Catch a glimpse of a bat or a cave salamander. This tour involves a 1.5 mile walk and 183 steps must be negotiated in the cave.

Daily, June 11-August 13, 2011

Summer Ranger Programs at Gettysburg

Gettysburg NMP

Summer Ranger Programs at Gettysburg begin on June 11 with a full schedule of programs, battle walks, children's programs, tours and evening campfires taking place throughout the park and at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center.

Daily through August 15, 2011

More information about Civil War commemorations can be found on the NPS 150th website <http://nps.gov/civilwar150>.

Projects in Parks: The History of the Spring Enclosure, Fort Davis National Historic Site

Historical archeology is often about testing assertions made in historical documents against the physical remains in the archeological record. Historical archeologists often look at whether the archeological remains verify what is written or tell a different story. This process of verifying the written record was used to unravel and document the stone masonry of the spring enclosure at Fort Davis NHS. The resulting investigation illustrates the unique perspective that archeology can bring even to sites occupied relatively recently and the way it can provide information on aspects of peoples' daily lives that aren't discussed in detail in written accounts.

To read the entire report, go to Projects in Parks, at www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/index.htm.

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 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 on the NPS Archeology Program web site.

Contact: Karen Mudar at 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.