



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



July 2011 Archeology E-Gram

Archeologist Named Superintendent of Klondike Gold Rush NHP, Seattle

Jacqueline Ashwell is the new superintendent of Klondike Gold Rush NHP - Seattle unit. She replaces Karen Beppler-Dorn, who recently became the superintendent of Pinnacles NM in California. Ashwell is currently the Yakutat district ranger for Glacier Bay and Wrangell-St. Elias NP & P, in southeastern Alaska. Over the past two years, Ashwell has been responsible for the management of park operations in the four million acre district, distributed across two national park units and located about 200 miles from either park's headquarters, accessible only by air. She has taken the lead in representing the parks in the local community, where she has built solid relationships with city, state, and tribal governments, other Federal agencies, and stakeholders.

Ashwell originally came to the NPS as a volunteer at Great Smoky Mountains NP in 1993, where she transferred to a student hire position. She worked to document the park's 150+ historic cemeteries, a project that led to a master's thesis in historical archeology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. In 2000, Ashwell became the lead seasonal archeologist for Kennecott NHL, inside Wrangell-St. Elias NP & P. She then moved into interpretation, filling the role of Yakutat district interpretive ranger. In 2004, she switched tracks again - this time to law enforcement. Ashwell served as the Dyea ranger for Klondike Gold Rush NHP, Skagway, from 2004-2009. She was also detailed as the chief ranger to Sitka NHP in 2009, and served on a NPS detail to Haiti, where she provided assistance on aspects of cruise ship interpretation, historic preservation, and law enforcement to Haitian parks.

Ashwell will assume her new role in September.

By Stephanie M. Burkhart, Assistant Regional Director, Communications

Passing of Ethnobotanist Richard Yarnell

Eminent North American ethnobotanist Richard Yarnell died on June 1, 2011. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and grew up in College Station, Texas. Yarnell attended Texas A&M College between 1946-1947, earned a Bachelor of Science in geology from Duke University (1950), received a MA in Anthropology from the University of New Mexico (1958) and a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan (1964), specializing in paleoethnobotany. He served in the Air Force from 1951 to 1955.

Yarnell taught at Emory University in Georgia in 1962-1971, then taught at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1971, until his retirement in 1994. At UNC, he was a member of the Laboratories of Archaeology. He was elected a Fellow of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1987 for his work on prehistoric plant domestication by Native Americans in eastern North America. He received the Roald Fryxell Award for Interdisciplinary Research from the Society for American Archaeology (1992) and the Southeastern Archaeological Conference Lifetime Achievement Award (2010).

Workshop at Palo Alto Battlefield NHP Emphasizes Teaching with Artifacts

Palo Alto Battlefield NHP and the NPS Museum Management Program (MMP) hosted a week-long education workshop in June to develop curriculum based on park artifacts. The twelve teachers chosen to attend the workshop started off by immersing themselves in the battlefield's history. They went on guided tours and attended presentations about U.S.-Mexican War history, weapon technology, archeology, and

NPS interpretative techniques. Their immersion continued as they participated in field trip activities including firing an air cannon, trying on U.S.-Mexican War uniforms, and analyzing replica artifacts.

Joan Bacharach, NPS MMP curator, presented a webinar on the program's curriculum development. Bacharach worked closely with the teachers via daily teleconferences. Based on their new knowledge and experiences, the teachers wrote MMP curricula. They developed creative, hands-on, interdisciplinary lesson plans. The plans include uniform construction to better understand the life of a soldier, analyzing replica cannonballs to discover the impact of weapon technology on the Battle of Palo Alto, and conducting science experiments to learn preservation methods.

Throughout the year, the teachers will test the lessons with their students. After testing, the lesson plans will be posted on the NPS MMP and Palo Alto Battlefield NHP websites for use by schools nation-wide.

By Karen Weaver, Palo Alto Battlefield NHP Park Ranger

NPS Offers Opportunities to Retired Archeologists

The NPS expects 40 percent of the workforce, including archeologists, to retire between 2006 and 2015. Retiring NPS career archeologists are important assets for national parks and outreach programs. To retain access to skills and knowledge of retiring staff, the NPS Natural and Cultural Resource Directorates are offering a pilot Emeritus Program. The newly launched Emeritus Program provides opportunities for NPS retirees to contribute knowledge and expertise to park; regional offices; or Washington, DC, office organizations on a volunteer basis.

The Emeritus Program is part of the Volunteer Master Ranger Corps, under the umbrella of the Volunteers in Parks program. To volunteer for the Emeritus Program, contact the manager of the NPS unit in which you wish to work. The manager will help to develop a job description, time commitment, and identify resources needed.

Contact: Lynne Murdock (202) 513-7195, or Lu Ann Jones (202) 354-2219

Kingsley Plantation Hosts Archeology Workshop

The Timucuan Ecological and Historic National Preserve's Kingsley Plantation staff and the Florida Public Archeology Network (FPAN) presented a teacher workshop on June 25-26, 2011. The workshop introduced the NPS' first collaboration with Project Archaeology, which is a BLM and Montana State University partnership aimed at fostering archeological inquiry. The curriculum, "Project Archaeology: Investigating a Tabby Slave Cabin" was developed by local Teacher-Ranger-Teachers with help from archeologists at the University of Florida, FPAN, and park rangers.

Teachers from a four-county area, representing diverse populations from urban, rural, public, and private schools, completed a reverse excavation, held mock debates, and toured the slave cabin sites that inspired the curriculum. "This is Florida's first Project Archaeology curriculum and hopefully the beginning of even more relationships with local teachers, " park Resource Education Chief Brian Loadholtz told educators. "We want to do whatever we can to bring national parks into the class room."

The park also hosted a facilitator training on July 6 and 7, 2011, to instruct others in hosting their own teacher workshop.

Contact: Emily Palmer (904) 251-3537

Great Sioux Nation Holds Treaty Conference at Fort Laramie NHS

More than 70 members of the Great Sioux Nation and other tribally-affiliated people met at Fort Laramie NHS to conduct the Sicangu Lakota Treaty Council. The park is the site of treaty signing by members of Sioux nations and the Federal government in 1851 and 1868. The purpose of the weekend Treaty Council was to plan for the Great Sioux Nation's audience with and presentation to President Obama, planned for this coming October.

Elders and members of the eight bands of the Great Sioux Nation, and the Northern Arapaho Tribe assembled at the park to plan for the meeting with the President. Tribal members participated in a treaty site blessing, a sweat lodge ceremony and conducted a dance on June 25, 2011, to commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

"I thank the National Park Service from the bottom of my heart for their honest effort to make this treaty conference possible and successful, especially Superintendent Mitzi Frank and her staff," said Edd Charging Elk, executive director of the Rosebud Sioux Sicangu Lakota Treaty Council. "Wopilla tanka, which means a big thank you."

"We were honored to host this event and I especially appreciate the hard work the park staff have put in this weekend to make this event a success," said Frank. "It is my hope the Great Sioux Nation comes back to Fort Laramie for further treaty discussions and to help us in how we interpret all of the events associated with Ft. Laramie National Historic Site."

By James Doyle, Chief of Communications and Legislation, Intermountain Region

Researchers use 3D Technology to Study History at Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters

The Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters NHS is undergoing a high-tech archeological "dig" this summer through a grant from the NPS. Unlike a traditional excavation, this project involves little to no actual digging. Rather, researchers on the site are utilizing laser scanning and radar technology to study layers of human and natural history at the Longfellow property.

"It's an entirely new age for doing survey work," said Steven Pendery, NPS Northeast Region Archeologist. "Traditional excavation is destructive and expensive, and often not justified. New technology allows us to explore historic sites economically and nondestructively." Archeologists working at the Longfellow House are preparing for a summer training program in August that will introduce students and the public to new methods of geophysical surveys and laser scanning. The Longfellow House was chosen to undergo this research because of its accessibility and manageable size of two acres. Pendery said he hopes that the Longfellow House becomes the model that many other historic sites follow.

Geophysical data will show pipes in the ground, soils of various densities, and any objects that might be buried, such as a prehistoric riverbed, or Native American remains. Laser scanner data will create a 3D image of the home and surrounding grounds. The laser equipment scans millions of measurements that can later be converted into a precise 3D model. The project at the Longfellow house, which marries two different types of technology, will provide an integrated understanding of the historic site.

The project is funded by a grant from the NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. The workshop is free to students and is scheduled for Aug. 15-20, 2011. Lectures and surveys will take

place on the grounds of the Longfellow House, and the 3D visualization component will be held at Harvard University.

Read more: [Researchers use 3D technology to study history at Cambridge site - Cambridge, Massachusetts - Cambridge Chronicle](http://www.wickedlocal.com/cambridge/archive/x1722642823/Researchers-use-3D-technology-to-study-history-at-Cambridge-site#ixzz1RtRdsJ6C)
<http://www.wickedlocal.com/cambridge/archive/x1722642823/Researchers-use-3D-technology-to-study-history-at-Cambridge-site#ixzz1RtRdsJ6C>

By Carly Gelsing, Wicked Local Cambridge Newspaper

Archeology in Workshop to Engage Youth at Fort Vancouver

Nearly 30 representatives from youth organizations throughout the Vancouver, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, area met at Fort Vancouver NHS on May 25, 2011, to discuss ways to increase youth involvement, fill in gaps in coverage, and define the role of Fort Vancouver NHS as a partner in a regional mission. Fort Vancouver NHS Superintendent Tracy Fortmann highlighted the park's desire to evolve its existing projects to better meet needs of community groups. As Superintendent Fortmann shared, "Our desire is for this urban national park to play a pro-active, constructive role in this dynamic, amazing metropolitan area we all call home. We want to be a *go to* and long term partner, a partner you can work with, trust, and depend on to be there for your organization and the community."

Fort Vancouver NHS currently provides multiple resources for youth and their parents to actively interpret history through stories, cultural demonstrations, apprenticeships, and archeology. The park's location near schools and community centers makes it a catalyst for exposing park visitors to local history, as well as offering opportunities for involvement and employment.

Fort Vancouver NHS convened and hosted the meeting, with assistance from community planner Dan Miller of the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program and intern Emily Linroth from the Student Conservation Association/AmeriCorps. Participants came from local community organizations, school districts, transportation authorities, and task forces, such as the Boys & Girls Clubs, Groundwork Portland, and Vancouver/Clark County Parks & Recreation, as well as from regional and national organizations, such as the Audubon Society and the U.S. Forest Service.

The meeting was the first step in an ongoing discussion about regional planning for youth engagement. Fort Vancouver NHS and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington are now meeting with RTCA to develop a project proposal for fiscal year 2012 to achieve goals identified at the workshop. By bringing organizations together to discuss opportunities for partnering and leveraging resources, Fort Vancouver NHS and RTCA are finding creative ways to promote youth involvement and hopefully inspiring other parks across the country to do the same.

By Dan Miller, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance, and Emily Linroth, Student Conservation Association/AmeriCorps

Secretary Designates New National Historic Landmarks

Secretary Salazar has announced the designation of 14 new National Historic Landmarks in 11 states and the District of Columbia, all of which have played an integral role in the development of the country. One is archeological.

"Each of these landmarks represents a chapter in the story of America, from archeological sites dating back more than two millennia to historic train depots, homes of famous artists, and buildings designed by some of our greatest architects," said Secretary Salazar. "By designating these sites as national landmarks, we help meet the goals of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative to establish a

conservation ethic for the 21st century and reconnect people, especially young people, to our nation's historic, cultural, and natural heritage.”

The new national historic landmarks include Grand Mound in International Falls, Minnesota. The landmark is an interconnected archeological landscape of mounds, seasonal villages, and sturgeon fishing sites going back to 200 BC.

Salazar also announced a name and boundary change for Medicine Wheel NHL in Lovell, Wyoming, which was designated in 1970. Renamed Medicine Wheel/Medicine Mountain NHL, the site now includes almost 4,000 additional acres of significant and intact Native American sacred areas.

The NHL Program, established in 1935, is administered by the NPS on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. The agency works with preservation officials and other partners interested in nominating a landmark. Completed applications are reviewed by the National Park System Advisory Board, which makes recommendations for designation to the Secretary of the Interior. If selected, property ownership remains intact but each site receives a designation letter, a plaque, and technical preservation advice.

For more information about the Grand Mound and Medicine Wheel/Medicine Mountain NHLs, go to “National Historic Landmarks Committee Recommends Two Archeological Sites” in the November 2010 **Archeology E-Gram** at www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm.

Additional information about the designations can be found at www.nps.gov/nhl.

New Archeologist ACHP Council Member Appointed

President Obama has announced his intention to appoint two new members of the Council, one an archeologist. Dorothy Lippert will replace Julia King for a term expiring in June 2015. Lippert received her B.A. from Rice University and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. Following graduate school, she worked as the Education Coordinator, John P. McGovern Hall of the Americas, Houston Museum of Natural Science. She currently serves on the Executive of the World Archaeological Congress and is a past member of the Board of Directors for the Society for American Archaeology. Lippert is currently a Case Officer in the Repatriation Office, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Her research interests include the development of indigenous archeology, repatriation, ethics, and the archeology and bioarcheology of the southeastern United States.

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 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.