



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## April 2012 Archeology E-Gram

### NPS Announces 2012 Cotter Award Winners

The Cotter Award Committee announced the winners of the 2012 John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in NPS Archeology at the 2012 Society for American Archaeology meeting in Memphis, Tennessee. This year, the Cotter Award recognized two categories of achievement: Project Excellence and Long Term Achievement.

NPS archeologist Jeffrey Richner was awarded the 2012 Cotter Award for Project Excellence for "The Bois Forte Ojibwe Study, Voyageurs National Park, 1979-2011," a project that included a multi-disciplinary team of scientists, students, Ojibwe tribal members, and volunteers. The project resulted in an archeological and ethnohistorical synthesis of the historic use of the area of the park by the Bois Forte Band of Minnesota Chippewa Indians. The project maintained high standards for ethnohistorical research and archeological data recovery, including a unique level of involvement with tribal descendants and stakeholders. The award also recognized Richner's outstanding efforts to disseminate project results and NPS stewardship activities to local communities, interest groups, descendants, and park personnel.



Jeff Richner shows off his Cotter Award.



NPS Chief Archeologist Stan Bond presents the Cotter Award to Trinkle Jones.

Retired NPS archeologist Trinkle Jones was awarded the 2012 Cotter Award for Long Term Achievement for her 34-year career accomplishments in NPS archeology. Her excellence in scientific work and innovation in practice of the discipline is exemplified by her work at more than eight national park units. Jones was also instrumental in the creation and successful implementation of the NPS Archeological Sites Monitoring Information System (ASMIS), and conducted pioneering work investigating fire effects on cultural resources. She was very active in mentoring through internships and other initiatives. NPS Archeology has greatly benefited from Jones' work.

In 1999, the John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in NPS Archeology was established to honor Cotter's distinguished career and his pioneering contributions to professional archeology within the National Park System. The award inspires archeologists to continue his model of excellence in scientific archeology. The award is unofficial peer recognition of exemplary archeological activities in the Service's Park Archeology Program.

*By Pei-Lin Yu  
Cultural Specialist  
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit*

### **Lynn Black, NPS Museum Management Program, Retires**

Lynn Black has retired, after 25 years in Federal service, 18 in the NPS. During her time in the Washington Office Museum Management Program, Black led the development of the Automated National Catalog System Plus (ANCS+), which more than doubled the percentage of NPS museum collections catalogued over a ten year period. In 2005, she was appointed Project Manager for the Interior Collections Management System (ICMS). ICMS provides tools to accession, catalog, lend, deaccession and manage museum collections, including archeological collections. Through Black's efforts, ICMS was successfully implemented throughout DOI bureaus.

Black served as Acting Museum Program manager from 2005 to 2008, and guided the development of a service-wide Park Museum Collections Storage Plan that was submitted to Congress in 2007. She also managed the Digital Imaging Project, that produced nearly 49,000 images of nearly 30,000 museum objects, including archeological objects, in 123 national parks.

Lynn's friends and colleagues wish her the very best for her retirement.

### **Yellowstone National Park Has New Park Archeologist**

Staffan Peterson is the new archeologist at Yellowstone NP. Peterson has a broad anthropological background that includes historical and prehistoric North American archeology, geophysical investigation, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). He received a PhD. in Anthropology from Indiana University and currently manages the Cultural Resources Office for the Indiana Department of Transportation where he oversees compliance matters for hundreds of transportation projects.

Peterson has archeological experience in the eastern US and Great Plains, having supervised the excavation of dozens of Native American sites ranging in date from the Archaic to the late prehistoric periods, as well as Euroamerican sites dating from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Peterson will start his new position on June 4, 2012.

For more information about cultural resources at Yellowstone NP, go to [www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm)

*By Tobin W. Roop,  
Chief, Branch of Cultural Resources  
Yellowstone National Park*

### **SCA Interns Catalogue Collection at Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site**

Over the course of 14 weeks, Fort Union Trading Post NHS's internship program carried out a cost-effective, "win-win" partnership with the NPS Youth in Parks (YIP) and Student Conservation

Association (SCA) to catalog archeological artifact collections. SCA interns Nicki Wheeler and Brittnei Sherrod completed pressing museum projects while learning valuable job skills and resource principles.

The park contracted an objects conservator to teach hands-on conservation workshops to staff, interns, and other volunteers. Wheeler and Sherrod received professional training, and participated in every feasible facet of museum management, including artifact identification, handling, storage, and cataloging. They also studied interpretive methods through the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands, guided by park interpretive development program coach Audrey Barnhart.

Intern Nicki Wheeler examines hand-forged nails.



Fort Union Trading Post NHS boasts a 18-19<sup>th</sup> century fur trade collection of nearly a million items. Armed with youthful technological talents, Wheeler and Sherrod employed interpretive themes, artifacts, and cameras to produce videos featuring park collections. The park received extraordinary return for investing in its interns' portfolios, including

- 2,930 bags of archeological bottle specimens cataloged (20,700 "objects");
- 170 bottle specimens photographed ;
- Two interpretive videos for the park's media station and web sites produced;
- One new interpretive exhibit developed featuring bottles found at Fort Union Trading Post;
- 89 metal artifacts cleaned and treated with preservation coatings.

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) is a non-profit group whose mission is to build the next generation of conservation leaders and inspire lifelong stewardship of our environment and communities by engaging young people in hands-on service to the land through service opportunities, outdoor skills, and leadership training. The NPS has worked with SCA since the inception of the program to provide training and work experience with SCA interns.

For more information about Fort Union Trading Post NHS park resources, go to <http://www.nps.gov/fous/index.htm>

*By Audrey L. Barnhart, Curator  
Fort Union Trading Post NHS*

### **Archeological Survey at Fort Stanwix National Monument Informs Preservation Management**

The Fort Stanwix NM Division of Cultural Resources has begun a long-term study to determine the best procedures for preserving the parks' buried archeological resources. Park archeologists carried out survey designed to assess the current condition of buried cultural resources, determine what impacts surface activities may have on these resources, and to gather information in order to make more informed decisions regarding preservation management at the park.

The initial field season, in 2011, targeted the west lawn area of the park. Six volunteers provided over 500 hours of shovel testing between May 25 and August 2, 2011. The park also partnered with the Public

Works Cultural Resources Division at Fort Drum Army Base, Watertown, New York, to carry out ground penetrating radar survey to detect subsurface cultural anomalies.

Approximately 500 artifacts were retrieved, including 18<sup>th</sup> century ceramic sherds and bottle fragments, and 19<sup>th</sup> century ceramics, pharmaceutical glass, and kaolin pipe stems. The artifacts were added to the museum collection at Fort Stanwix NM.

Further investigations will continue this summer with more ground penetrating radar surveys in other areas of the park.

Volunteers carry out archeological shovel testing at Fort Stanwix NM.



For more information about Fort Stanwix NM, go to <http://www.nps.gov/fost/index.htm>  
For more information about ground penetrating radar (GPR), see Project in the Park in this issue of the Archeology E-Gram.

*By Amy Fedchenko  
Museum Specialist and Project Archeologist  
Fort Stanwix NM*

### **Tools for Wilderness Character Available for Review**

The NPS Park Planning and Wilderness Stewardship divisions have released two new wilderness planning tools for review and comment on the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website. The new tools are the *User Guide to Integrating Wilderness Character into Park Planning, Management and Monitoring*, and the *Wilderness Stewardship Planning Handbook*. The *User Guide* and *Handbook* include guidelines for integrating the preservation of wilderness character into cultural resource management planning and operations, and so cultural resource personnel are especially encouraged to comment.

The *User Guide* contains practical strategies and tools for integrating wilderness character, offering guidance for park staff. The *Handbook* offers direction for creating wilderness stewardship plans and plan components. The tools will support implementation of the draft Director's Order 41-Wilderness

Stewardship. Parks are encouraged to begin using them and to provide feedback during the comment period.

The *User Guide* and *Handbook* were developed by the NPS Wilderness Character Integration Team, established in 2010 by the Park Planning and Wilderness Stewardship divisions. The 18-member team is composed of representatives from parks, regions, and several WASO programs. While the products are generally oriented to use by park staff, the integration team invites the NPS community system-wide to review and comment. Comments will inform the final version to be published in the Fall of 2012.

The comment period ends June 1. The documents are posted in PEPC under project number 41921: <https://pepc.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=41921>. NPS employees who need a PEPC user name and password should contact Julie E. Fleming, WASO PEPC Administrator.

More information about wilderness character and the team is available at the Wilderness Character Integration Hub at: <http://inpniscsfern1:7000/sites/WASO/WCI/default.aspx> or from Suzy Stutzman, Intermountain Region Wilderness Coordinator, at (303) 987-6671.

### **Teaching with Archeology: Spotlight on Project Archaeology**

**(Editor's Note:** Five years ago, the Archeology E-gram presented information about archeological teaching resources on other NPS and Federal websites. NPS Archeology Program Intern Christine Orricchio will report over the next several months on new archeology postings to these websites since we last visited them in 2007.)

For nearly 20 years, Project Archeology has been inspiring educators to teach basic curricula with archeological material, and to develop a greater understanding and appreciation for cultural resources. In the early 1990s, a joint venture between the BLM, DOI, and Montana State University developed an online resource geared towards providing information about archeology to educators, students and life learners. Project Archaeology's mission is to develop public awareness of archeological resources; improve science and social science education; and to instill a sense of personal responsibility for the preservation of the past.

Project Archaeology supports professional development opportunities for upper elementary through secondary school level teachers. Project Archaeology state program coordinators organize courses and workshops in conjunction with local universities or museums. One example is a locality-specific adaptation of "Investigating Shelter," an online course offered through a partnership with the Natural History Museum of Utah. This 8-week long session explores construction techniques for traditional native American housing in the Great Basin, evaluates how function dictates design, examines scientific and historical evidence, and discusses stewardship for the future. A national curriculum guidebook accompanies the course.

Currently, Project Archaeology coordinators and instructors are finishing a curriculum titled "Investigating Food and Culture." Seven lessons utilize archeological material to compare past and present foodways. The lessons equip teachers with tools to guide students to think like archeologists and dig into prehistoric diets. Students are introduced to past and present subsistence practices, methods of archeological interpretation, and UNESCO and ARPA legislation.

Project Archeology was one of 17 organizations to receive a Partners in Conservation Award from the Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar in 2011. The award is presented to organizations which have achieved exemplary conservation results with community engagement and local partnerships

Project Archaeology has expanded to 29 states, and seeks to establish programs in all 50 states. A list of participating states with program coordinators can be found on their website. Six professional development workshops remain for the 2012 year and are listed in their online calendar.

In addition to their website, Project Archaeology publishes a newsletter, online blog and maintains a Facebook page to help us all “discover the past and shape the future.”

Website: <http://projectarchaeology.org/index.html>

Blog: <http://projectarchaeology.wordpress.com/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Project-Archaeology/146391292073529?sk=wall>

*By Christine Orricchio  
NPS Archeology Program Intern*

### **More Convictions from Operation Antiquity**

On March 19, 2012, Michael Malter and Malter Galleries were each sentenced for felony Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) violations in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles. The sentencings stemmed from Operation Antiquity, a five-year-long investigation that focused on looting, importation, sale, and tax fraud violations related to cultural items from the U.S. and other countries.

Looted Native American and pre-Columbian artifacts were consigned to Malter and Malter Galleries in June 2004 and January 2005, by undercover NPS agents. Malter and the auction company knew that the domestic artifacts were illegally taken from public lands and that the pre-Columbian artifacts had been smuggled into the U.S. from Central America. Despite this knowledge, these antiquities were sold by Malter at two auctions. In both instances, the illicit artifacts were purchased back by NPS rangers and agents posing as buyers. In January 2008, a search warrant was served at Malter Galleries in Encino, California.

At the sentencing hearing, Malter was sentenced to a year of home detention, 2 years of probation and 150 hours of community service. Malter Galleries and Malter were jointly ordered to pay about \$24,000 in fines, restitution, and community service. Additional cases against other entities are pending.

Operation Antiquity involves investigations of looting, importation, sale and tax fraud violations related to historical and cultural items from the U.S. and other countries. On January 25, 2012, Federal agents from the NPS, IRS and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) executed numerous search warrants and subpoenas at museums, galleries and residences in the Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and Chicago areas, in support of Operation Antiquity. Nearly 500 law enforcement personnel participated in the warrant and subpoena service. The investigation continues.

*By Todd Swain  
Special Agent, Joshua Tree NP*

### **Exchange Students Fined For Vandalism in El Morro National Monument**

On March 2, 2012, two South Korean foreign exchange students attending the University of New Mexico on student visas pled guilty to charges of disturbing an archeological site. On October 13, 2011, El Morro National Monument employees discovered two names – “Super Duper Dana” and “Gabriel” –carved into the sandstone bluff known as Inscription Rock.

After ascertaining that the monument visitor register included an entry that day by Dana Choi of South Korea, a protection ranger began an investigation. Through Facebook, the ranger was able to identify the defendants, who were arrested on December 2, 2011. The students entered guilty pleas under plea agreements that required them to pay almost \$30,000 to the NPS to cover the costs of repairing the damage they caused.



Graffiti on Inscription Rock, El Morro NM

### **Convicted Relic Hunter Sentenced To Jail Term**

John Santo, who pled guilty last year to three felony charges stemming from illegal relic hunting on Petersburg National Battlefield property, was sentenced in Federal court on March 21, 2012. The judge ordered Santo to be incarcerated for one year and one day, followed by three years of supervised probation with mandatory drug and alcohol counseling and testing. He was ordered to pay \$7,356 in restitution to the park for the damage his illegal excavations caused, and banned from entering units of the National Park System during his probation period. Santo was also ordered to pay a \$300 special assessment fee and to forfeit to the park the 9,936 artifacts that were seized from his residence during the service of a search warrant last year.

Between 2005 and 2010, Santo relic hunted on a nearly daily basis – much of the time within Petersburg NB. The exact number of artifacts he excavated or the full extent of the damage caused by his unlawful activity is unknown, but according to his journal, Santo excavated over 18,000 Civil War-era bullets alone during this timeframe. Santo was remanded to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons on April 9, 2012.

*By April Michener, Special Agent, Investigative Services Branch*

### **Death of Southwest Archeologist David A. Breternitz**

The March Archeology E-Gram reported that Breternitz was associated with the Crow Creek Archeological Center in southwestern Colorado. He was actually associated with the Crow Canyon Archeological Center in southwestern Colorado.

## **Projects in Parks: NPS Archeologists Assist in Locating Graves at Vicksburg National Cemetery**

In August 2010, while preparing a grave site for a burial of a World War II veteran at the Vicksburg National Cemetery in Vicksburg NMP in Vicksburg, Mississippi, cemetery workers found that the plot was already occupied by a casket. In January 2011, Superintendent Michael Madell requested assistance from the NPS Southeast Archeological Center to further investigate the anomalies using GPR. Through the efforts of NPS archeologists, an additional 13 graves were located.

To read the story, go to

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

Vicksburg National Cemetery



*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:** Karen Mudar at [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.