



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## April 2014 Archeology E-Gram

### **Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail Restoration Project Recognized With State Award**

Ala Kahakai NHT and its partners have been recognized for efforts to stabilize and preserve part of the trail damaged during an earthquake in 2006. Partners include the Hawai'i Division of State Parks, 'Ohana of Napuu Area; Hui Aloha Kiholo; Na Ala Hele Trails and Access Program, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Department of Land and Natural Resources; and Ala Kahakai Trail Association.

The award is for the Kiholo-Puako trail earthquake damage stabilization project. The trail dates to the mid-1800s and represents one of the finest examples of trails constructed by the Kingdom of Hawai'i. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Kiholo-Puako trail is a primary north-south route for trail users in Kiholo State Park Reserve and Ala Kahakai NHT.

This project is an example of architectural stabilization using traditional Hawaiian dry-set masonry (hapai pohaku) by a team of masons and archeologists working together. The project documented, repaired and stabilized 180 linear feet of dry set masonry trail fabric and included detailed documentation of the trail, the adjacent ancient ala loa (long trail), and associated archeological features before, during and after the repair work. The funding for this project was provided by the cultural cyclic maintenance program.

This is the 40th year of the preservation honor awards, which are Hawaii's highest recognition of preservation projects that perpetuate, rehabilitate, restore or interpret the state's architectural, archeological and/ or cultural heritage. The preservation honor award will be presented on May 30th at the Historic Hawai'i Foundation's 2014 preservation honor awards ceremony.

*By Ida Hanohano*

### **Pu'uhoonua o Honaunau National Historical Park Recognized for Preservation Efforts**

Pu'uhoonua o Honaunau NHP will be recognized with a Historic Hawai'i Preservation Honor Award for its work to preserve, protect, and maintain the historic resources located in the Ki'ilae section of the park. Situated on the southwestern coastline of the Island of Hawai'i, 182 acre Pu'uhoonua o Honaunau was established in 1961. The park preserves and protects the pu'uhoonua complex and surrounding archeological features and landscape and the historic fishing village of Ki'ilae. The park was nominated for the award by the Trust for Public Land in recognition of the enormous energy and resources the park has devoted to the preservation and protection of Ki'ilae.



The trail, the crew and the OSHA-approved traditional Hawaiian ladder system (OLOKEA). NPS photo.



In 2006, in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, the park acquired an additional 238 acres in the Ki‘ilae ahupua‘a. This acquisition included portions of Ki‘ilae Village specified in the park’s enabling legislation but not included within the original park boundaries. This allowed the park to begin a unified study of the village area.

Beginning in 2009, the park sought and received funding to support preservation work in Ki‘ilae. Staff of the resources management division worked diligently to stabilize archeological resources damaged by invasive vegetation and floods, update park databases about the resources located there, and develop an interpretive program for the area.

*By Adam Johnson, Chief of Integrated Resources Management/Archeologist*

### **New Report on Yellowstone National Park Archeology**

The University of Montana’s school publication, *University Relations* recently published a report on the archeological research that faculty member Doug MacDonald has been conducting in Yellowstone NP.

To read the report, go to

<http://www.umt.edu/urelations/pubs/Research%20View/Spring%202013/Yellowstone.php>

To learn more about MacDonald’s research at Yellowstone NP, read Projects in Parks reports **The Montana Yellowstone Archeological Project at Yellowstone Lake** at

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

and **The Montana-Yellowstone Archeological Project** at

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

### **Keweenaw National Historical Park and Isle Royale National Park Sponsor Park Break Session**

Keweenaw NHP, Isle Royale NP, and Michigan Technological University’s (MTU) Industrial Archaeology program held a joint archeological Park Break session the week of April 7, 2014. Northern Michigan’s Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale in Lake Superior share the same geology and copper-rich bedrock and a similar mining prehistory and history, making a joint project beneficial to both parks. Eight graduate students spent the week tackling one question: How can we increase understanding of, and appreciation for, the nationally significant resources related to prehistoric and historic copper mining within the Keweenaw Peninsula and on Isle Royale?

Classroom sessions and discussions with NPS staff were complemented by field trips—several on snowshoes—to historic sites throughout the Keweenaw Peninsula, including Cliff Mine, which in 1849 became the first Keweenaw copper mine to pay a dividend. Today it is the site of an archeological field school hosted by Michigan Tech’s Industrial Archaeology program.

By the end of the week, the students had developed immediate, short, and long-term goals for the parks and had identified many activities to engage visitors of all ages. The students offered innovative suggestions, scaled from immediate, no-cost actions to more elaborate programs. Keweenaw NHP and Isle Royale NP now have a plan to increase community awareness of the value of archeological resources.

The collaborative network that already exists between the NPS and its partners—including the Keweenaw Heritage Sites and MTU was seen as a distinct advantage to successfully addressing these goals.

The Park Break program is organized by the NPS and the George Wright Society to support research in and management of parks, protected areas, and cultural sites. It gives graduate students an opportunity to work with park staff on research question and in the process gain experience in the day-to-day operations of a public land management agency.

*By Thomas M. Baker*

### **NPS Archeologist at New River Gorge Nation River Helps Local Efforts to Protect Mill Site**

The only thing standing between the destruction of a 1838 water-powered mill near Beckley, West Virginia, and those interested in “re-purposing” its intricately cut stone walls is a 20 acre dump. Over the years, debris added to the now-closed city dump, perched on the rim of Piney Creek Canyon, blocked and covered the wagon road over which settlers once hauled grain and logs to the mill for processing.

Today, the mill site occupies a roadless stretch of the creek. “Its remoteness is probably the reason it’s still so intact,” said Tom Sopher, Beckley City Council member and president of the Raleigh County Historical Society. “The dump saved it,” said David Fuerst, New River Gorge NR archeologist, who, along with Sopher, is part of an ad hoc group working to save the mill and incorporate it into a new city park. The three acre mill site overlooks a bank-to-bank waterfall on Piney Creek.

Alfred Beckley built a gristmill on Piney Creek in 1838 to help bring settlers to the 30-acre town site he had laid out on the 56,679-acre tract of land he inherited from his father, John Beckley. The elder Beckley, who came to America as an indentured servant from England, eventually became a political ally of Thomas Jefferson and was named the nation’s first Librarian of Congress and the first clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives. By 1845, the mill was processing both grain and lumber. The mill continued to operate under a series of different owners until about 1915.



“Found it a most romantic spot,” Col. Rutherford B. Hayes wrote in his diary, after visiting the mill on January 9, 1862. The mill was then operated by Beckley’s son, John, who lived with his “pretty wife and daughter in a cabin by the roaring torrent in a glen separated from all the world.” For Hayes, who had seen combat during the Battle of Carnifex Ferry a few months earlier and in numerous skirmishes since, the scene along Piney Creek was especially attractive.

Fuerst and a crew of volunteers conducted archeological survey at the mill site, determining, among other things, whether the soil had been disturbed since the mill stopped operating. Soon, artifacts began turning up, including square-cut nails and fragments of window glass and whiteware pottery dating back to the early to mid-1800s.

Based on this information, the Beckley Historic Landmark Commission cornered a \$15,900 grant from the state Archives and History Commission for a preliminary excavation of the mill. The archeological work will likely include a geophysical look at the site, using ground penetrating radar or a magnetometer.

The work will help determine the dimensions of the mill and house that was once occupied by the mill operator and his family. The archeology project is expected to shed light on the layout and uses of the historic mill, as well as the way of life for the people who worked in and lived near Beckley's first industrial development.

Sopher and others plan to provide public access to the planned park by reclaiming the wagon route to the mill and using it as a trail. "We've already removed five tons of trash from the trail, and cut grass and trimmed trees down at the mill site," said Sopher.

"We would like to learn more about the layout of the mill and the people who built it," Fuerst said. "We would like to take that information to the schools and the community, and we would like to make the park a place that everyone in the community can look upon as a part of their history."

*from story by Rick Steelhammer, West Virginia Gazette*

### **Conversation with an Archeologist: Mark Rudo**



Archeologists across the Service will be sorry to hear that Mark Rudo is retiring at the end of April; E-Gram staff talked to him before he headed off for new adventures. Rudo was a regional archeologist and program co-lead in the Pacific West Region (PWR). He was stationed in San Francisco, not far from where he grew up and attended college at San Francisco State University. He held the same Archeological Assistance Program position, but widely ranging duties, for his entire NPS career, an unusual feat these days!

Rudo talks about his career in terms of lucky breaks. While at San Francisco State, he was influenced by Michael J. Moratto, who introduced him to California archeology and to cultural resource management. Thanks to Moratto, Rudo was drawn to CRM work and public service. After graduating from college, he was accepted to graduate school and got a three year term position with the Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District, as an archeologist, his first lucky break. He enjoyed the work that he did, small surveys, Section 106 compliance, report writing, and contract management, but couldn't quite finish his thesis while he was focused on work.

After the position ended, Rudo was able to complete his Master's degree, in 1983, and gained a temporary part-time job at the Western Region's Interagency Archeological Services (IAS) Branch in 1984. IAS was part of the NPS Archeological Assistance Program that focused on assisting federal agencies, developing and supporting National Historic Landmark nominations, and coordinating interagency archeological training. His first supervisor, Garland Gordon, was soon followed by Tef Rodeffer, now at WACC. Rudo had discovered a capacity and strong liking for public archeology. Another lucky break came in 1988 when his position was converted to full-time permanent status and he was able to successfully compete for it.

As a regional archeologist, Rudo has done a wide variety of projects in both partnership and stewardship roles. These ranged from reviewing ARPA permit applications as the regional permit coordinator to overseeing and co-instructing field schools in Yap and American Samoa to benefit students and local

historic preservation programs. He says that being able to work in the islands of Micronesia and the Southern Pacific was one of the high points of his career, another lucky break. The last year that he worked in Micronesia was 2004. At the present time the NPS doesn't have the resources to continue with the same level of assistance to these islands.

Rudo also wanted the experience of working in a park, a pursuit that was looked upon favorably by former PWR archeology program lead Jim Thomson. A lucky break came when Rudo was able to arrange to work at Point Reyes National Seashore for one to two days a week as work in Micronesia was winding down. Rudo started to develop an archeology program for the park at the request of the cultural resources chief Gordon White, building a site stewardship program, assisting with tribal consultation, and creating cooperative and task agreements for Section 106, Section 110, and NAGPRA projects.

Working at a park also gave Rudo a good venue to accomplish partnership program goals by providing a location and resources for an interagency archeological site stabilization workshop, and for a large-scale volunteer project by the Society for California Archeology to identify and record new and known archeological sites threatened by coastal erosion and climate change. The work paid off with the result that in 2012 the park decided to hire a full-time archeologist, Paul Engel, after he successfully completed a SCEP appointment under Rudo's supervision. "Paul is my personal succession plan," Rudo laughed.

Despite working in a regional capacity, Rudo has had an important impact on NPS archeology service-wide and was instrumental in standing up NADB-Reports and ASMIS. NADB-Reports is a bibliographic inventory of approximately 350,000 reports on archeological planning and investigation, mostly of limited circulation. Gray literature constitutes the bulk of the primary information available on archeological sites in the U.S. While NADB-Reports on the NPS Archeology Program website was last updated in August 2004, it continues to grow on The Digital Archeological Record website, an enduring legacy of Benny Keel (then Departmental Consulting Archeologist), Victor Carbone, Terry Childs, Rudo, and others. Rudo managed contracts and agreements for western states to collect tens of thousands of bibliographic references and managed the regional database for annual uploading to WASO.

Through NADB-Reports work, Rudo met Terry Childs, who later guided and coordinated the NPS national archeological inventory database (ASMIS). As work on ASMIS intensified Childs tapped Rudo for assistance. He was a member of the data standards committee, coordinated the 2009 annual national data call on detail to WASO, and was a regional ASMIS coordinator right up to his retirement. ASMIS continues to be an important tool for managing NPS archeological resources.

I asked Mark if, looking over a 33-year career as a Federal archeologist, he had any regrets. He said that he had none; that he had had great opportunities (lucky breaks!) to work on a variety of interesting and important projects with exceptional people from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Rudo's belief in public service as worthy employment for an archeologist has shaped his time at the NPS. He has volunteered for a number of unglamorous assignments such as helping to coordinate Section 106 actions for the Deepwater Horizon incident and serving on the Archeological Resources Committee of the California State Historical Resources Commission, and initiated projects that required time and patience to carry out, like creating an archeology program at Point Reyes NS. His insistence that thoughtful care of archeological resources is every archeologist's first responsibility has been a compass that has aligned his career. He also took personal responsibility for ensuring that his work remained relevant and engaging, by creating and taking advantage of new opportunities which, he says, has enriched his experiences.

While it may have been a lucky break for Rudo to be hired by the NPS, it was an even luckier break for the NPS. His low key and steady presence will be missed by his colleagues across the region and across the Service. He plans to stay in touch with his NPS comrades though, and already has some volunteer work lined up at Point Reyes NS and another local favorite, Pinnacles NP.

Thanks for talking to us, Mark!

### **NPS Archeologist Publishes Book on Civic Engagement and Archeology**

Barbara Little has co-authored *Archaeology, Heritage, and Civic Engagement Working Toward the Public Good* with husband Paul Shackel. Little and Shackel, long-term leaders in the growth of a civically-engaged, relevant archeology, outline a future trajectory for the field in this concise, thoughtful volume. Drawing from the archeological study of race and labor, among other examples, the authors explore this crucial opportunity and responsibility, then point the way for the discipline to contribute to the contemporary public good.

### **Push Underway to Make Cahokia Mounds National Park**

Preservationists are urging Congress to designate Cahokia Mounds and similar sites in the St. Louis area a part of the NPS, or the president to designate Cahokia Mounds a national monument. Either designation, proponents say, would give the Native American mounds more protection, more status and more tourism. Illinois Governor Pat Quinn endorsed the idea last month, and Senator Dick Durbin (Illinois) has asked the NPS to review the proposal.



Under the plan, the state of Illinois would retain ownership and operation of the 2,200-acre Cahokia Mounds. “The current plan includes creating a national historical park not only for Cahokia but for the significant mound centers of the Mississippians throughout the bi-state region,” said Bill Iseminger, assistant director of the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site.

The current state historic site designation protects Cahokia Mounds’ 2,200 acres but not the additional 1,500 acres around it that also are part of the prehistoric site. The national historic landmark boundary includes all this area but only provides limited protection.

Adding urgency is a remarkable recent find. Construction of the Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge has uncovered more than 1,500 ancient Indian homes — estimated to have housed 5,000 people over the years — in and around the former St. Louis National Stockyards. Other finds include storage pits, refuse pits, food-processing areas, sweat lodges and other aspects of the culture. All were part of a Mississippian civilization that flourished from 1000 A.D. to 1350 A.D. The mounds were part of what at the time was the largest Native American city on the North American continent. Around 1100 A.D., the population of at least 20,000 was larger than that of London.

The proposal and justification for NPS status is outlined in “The Mounds — America’s First Cities” released March 19, 2014, by the HeartLands Conservancy. A multidisciplinary team worked on the study, with guidance from 11 American Indian tribes and nations. Over the last 18 months, state and Federal agencies, local communities and experts all helped with the study and sought input from the public.

To read a summary of the study, go to  
[http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/kwmu/files/201403/The\\_Mounds\\_-\\_America's\\_First\\_Cities\\_EXEC\\_SUM\\_3\\_15\\_14\\_final\\_with\\_captions.pdf](http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/kwmu/files/201403/The_Mounds_-_America's_First_Cities_EXEC_SUM_3_15_14_final_with_captions.pdf)

*From story by Margaret Gillerman. St. Louis Post-Dispatcher*

### **Missouri Man Convicted Of ARPA Violations at Ozark National Scenic Riverway**

In September 2011, rangers at Ozark NSR opened an investigation into damage and illegal excavation incidents that had occurred in three archeological sites in the park unit. NPS archeologist Melissa Baier found that the combined cost of restoration and repair and archeological value was \$21,751. An NPS special agent and park law enforcement specialist Jodi Towery were assigned to the case.

Their investigation led to the determination that the violations were committed by Tracy and Rhonda Chilton of Van Buren, Missouri. In April 2012, rangers and special agents, with assistance from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, executed a search warrant on the Chilton's residence. The couple admitted and confessed to knowingly excavating, removing, and transporting archeological resources from NPS lands on several occasions.

Tracy Chilton identified over 200 artifacts that he had removed from park lands without permit or authority. The artifacts were seized along with books on archeology, digging tools, and “flipping” sticks used to commit the violations. Material suspected to be marijuana and numerous drug paraphernalia items were seized as contraband. Seven firearms were also seized from the house; Tracy Chilton was a convicted felon and not allowed to keep firearms.

Chilton pled guilty on November 6, 2013, to one count under 16 USC 470, and was sentenced to one year of supervised probation, 100 hours of community service, and \$525 in fines and costs. He was also ordered to pay the NPS \$3,984 in restitution.

The park was assisted by the Missouri State Highway Patrol; Buffalo NR; the NPS Midwest Archeological Center; the Shawnee Tribe of Miami, Oklahoma; the Osage Nation of Oklahoma; and the US Attorney's Office. Assistant US Attorney Larry Farrell prosecuted Chilton for the offenses – the first successful ARPA prosecution in the history of the park.

### **Hantavirus Disease Health and Safety Update Now Available**

The hantavirus disease health and safety update that appeared in the February edition of Conserve-O-Gram has been updated, expanded and retransmitted in the March edition. The revised Conserve-O-Gram includes current information on the hantavirus incubation period, rodent exclusion techniques, appropriate disinfectants to use, and procedures for cleaning potentially contaminated museum objects, including isolating any potentially contaminated materials at room temperatures as freezing extends the viability of the virus.

To read “Hantavirus Disease Health and Safety Update,” go to  
<http://www.nps.gov/museum/publications/conservoogram/02-08.pdf>

For more information about Conserve-O-Grams, go to  
<http://www.nps.gov/museum/publications/conservoogram/conserv.html>.

### **Manzanar National Historic Site Garden Restoration Earns National Award**

The Society for History in the Federal Government has presented the 2014 John Wesley Powell Prize for Outstanding Historic Preservation to Manzanar NHS for the restoration of the mess hall garden in Block 12. The Powell Prize recognized not only the innovative way the project integrated archeological data with archival research and oral history, but also the way that staff and volunteers overcame a severe setback when the floods of the summer of 2013 caused unexpected damage.



The project was funded by cultural cyclic maintenance. Named in the award nomination were Jeff Burton, Cultural Resources Program Manager; Gerry Enes, Arborist; John Kepford, Historic Preservation Specialist; and Laura Ng, Archeologist. Ng accepted the award on behalf of Manzanar NHS on April 4, 2014, at the annual meeting in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

The Society brings together government professionals, academics, consultants, students, and citizens in the crucial work of providing historical context and transparency for an informed citizenry.

*By Jeffery Burton*

### **NPS Announces \$6.5 million in Historic Preservation Grants for American Indian Tribes**

NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis awarded more than \$6.5 million in historic preservation grants to 147 American Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs) to support historic preservation programs on tribal lands. The grants, provided under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014, augment the more than \$2.2 million previously awarded to tribes under the Continuing Resolution that funded Federal agencies from October through mid-January. The total amount to THPOs in FY14 is \$8,780,208.

Tribes can use the grants to fund projects such as surveys of historic properties, reviews of federally funded projects, preservation education, and the development of nominations of significant sites to the National Register of Historic Places and/or tribal registers.

Examples of recent projects funded by Historic Preservation Fund grants include:

- The Santee Sioux Nation in 2013 consulted on a VA project to demolish and erect new facilities at Fort Snelling, in Minnesota. The historic site is located within the Santee Sioux's traditional territory, and 35 tribal members who died while imprisoned at the fort in the 19<sup>th</sup> century are buried there in an

unknown location. The tribe came to an agreement with the VA to collaborate and further investigate the site prior to any work commencing.

- Grant money from THPOs was used to survey approximately 195,982 acres of tribal land, resulting in 7,043 archeological sites and 1,307 historic properties being added to tribal inventories. In addition, THPOs prepared 64 site nominations for the National Register of Historic Places.

The Historic Preservation Fund is derived by revenue from Federal oil leases on the Outer Continental Shelf and catalyzes private and non-federal investment in historic preservation efforts nationwide. The NPS administers the fund and distributes annual matching grants to state and tribal historic preservation officers from money made available in Congressional appropriations.

For more information about the NPS tribal preservation programs and grants, go to [http://www.nps.gov/tribes/Tribal\\_Historic\\_Preservation\\_Officers\\_Program.htm](http://www.nps.gov/tribes/Tribal_Historic_Preservation_Officers_Program.htm)

### **Pompey's Pillar Defacer Punished**

A Minnesota man who carved his and his wife's names near the 1806 signature of explorer William Clark on a national monument in Montana has agreed to pay \$4,400 in restitution and fines.

The fine came after the U.S. attorney's office filed a misdemeanor vandalism charge against Cole Randall, for the carving at Pompey's Pillar that reads "Cole + Shpresa 10/10/2013." The carving also included a heart. Randall had to climb over a railing to make the carving. He agreed to pay \$3,400 in restitution and a \$1,000 fine to settle the case.

Randall's carving — made just a few feet to the left of the "W. Clark" signature made in July 1806 — also impacted other, more faded historical signatures, some of which were over 100 years old. Restoration work in southeastern Montana is expected to occur in May. "We are hopeful that some of the damage to our historic treasure will be fixed," monument manager Jeff Kitchens said. "However, the carving by Mr. Randall was so deep and severe that we are limited in what can be done."

Randall apologized in an email to the BLM and media outlets in November 2013.

### **Congress Votes to Save Cultural Resource in Wilderness**

The U.S. House of Representatives on April 7, 2014, followed the Senate in approving a bill to save the contested Green Mountain Lookout inside Glacier Peak Wilderness, permanently blocking a Federal judge's order to remove the structure. The congressional action marks the final word on a legal fight that began in 2010 when Missoula-based Wilderness Watch sued the USFS shortly after the agency rebuilt the crumbling 1930s-era lookout cabin.

The environmental group argued the repairs — which involved more than 60 helicopter flights and use of rock drills and other power tools in an area where even bicycles are banned — violated a tenet of the 1964 Wilderness Act to preserve areas of nature largely devoid of the "imprint of man's work."

In March 2012, U.S. District Court Judge John Coughenour in Seattle found the USFS guilty of "substantive violation" of the Wilderness Act and ordered the lookout dismantled. In response to arguments that removal would be worse than the offense, the judge gave the agency a chance to come up with another remedy. The bill Congress passed is that solution. It prevents the USFS from removing the lookout unless it is deemed unsafe for visitors. The legislation now goes to President Obama, who has indicated support for the lookout.

The 6,500-foot-high lookout opened in 1933, well before Congress designated the Glacier Peak Wilderness in 1964. The lawmakers argued the lookout — which offers hikers wraparound views of Suiattle River Valley toward Glacier Peak — is a valuable part of Pacific Northwest cultural heritage and a monument to the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

*From story by Kyung M. Song, Seattle Times*

### **National Geographic Channel Pulls 'Nazi War Diggers' Series**

National Geographic Channel said that it would "indefinitely" pull a planned television series on unearthing Nazi war graves after criticism from archeologists and others who said the show handled the dead with disrespect. The channel said that after "consulting with colleagues" at the National Geographic Society, it would not broadcast "Nazi War Diggers," in May as scheduled "while questions raised in recent days regarding accusations about the program can be properly reviewed." The show was to have been broadcast globally except in the United States.

National Geographic Channel International had commissioned four episodes of the show, in which two metal detecting specialists, a relics hunter, and an antiques dealer, who deals in Nazi World War II artifacts, hunt for the graves of German and Red Army soldiers on the Eastern Front.

National Geographic Channel issued a statement Friday defending the show and saying the criticism was premature, based on early publicity materials that "did not provide important context about our team's methodology." The channel pulled those materials from its website.

To read the full article, go to <http://artsbeat.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/03/31/national-geographic-channel-pulls-nazi-war-diggers-series/?ref=arts>

*By Tom Mashberg, New York Times*

### **WAC Adopts Resolution on Archaeology and Custodial and Affiliated Communities**

During the 7th World Archaeological Congress (WAC-7), held in January 2013 in Jordan, a group of former ICCROM course participants organized a session on "The Past Lives in the Present". As an outcome of the session, the following resolution was adopted at the plenary and has now been confirmed by the Executive of the WAC.

"The archaeological community increasingly engages with local communities through research and educational activities including public outreach. The World Archaeological Congress supports works presented at various sessions of WAC-7 in Jordan, as well as and institutional attempts such as ICCROM's Living Heritage Approach, which exemplifies principles, methods, and theoretical frameworks for properly valuing and engaging with unique world views and knowledges [sic] possessed by local communities. These approaches illustrate the vital importance to custodial communities of such world views and knowledges [sic]. In recognition of this, WAC encourages systematic efforts to develop a scholarship of community engaged archaeology through which such work can be documented, problematized, and improved with the goal of achieving holistic knowledge, participatory research, sustainable community development and management of archaeological heritage."

The resolution was proposed by Neel Kamal Chapagain (Nepal) and Michael J Kimball (USA).

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

### **Slightly Off-Topic: Saving Cultural Heritage, One Tweet at a Time**

*Publish, publish, publish.* Repeated over and over again to every aspiring undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral candidate, the phrase is a driving force in archeology. But for whom are we publishing? More often than not, papers are geared towards other academics. However, when it concerns looting, smuggling, and trading illicit antiquities, there is an audience that needs even more attention — the general public.

Archeologists are in a unique position to inform the public about looting because many have firsthand experience with it. In the recent article “Archaeological Site Looting in “Glocal” Perspective: Nature, Scope, and Frequency,” Blythe Bowman Proulx surveyed 3,009 archeologists and found that 78 percent encountered “looting or evidence of looting while participating in fieldwork of any kind.” Of those archeologists, 24 percent had encountered looters on-site and looting activity in progress, effectively showing that they were no strangers to looting. Archeologists are also in a position to take a stand and have a voice. They can engage with the public by sharing their tales of the destruction of cultural heritage but have they done so?

Making those outside the field of archeology sensitive to the endangerment of cultural heritage is not easy. In a December interview, Egyptologist Dr. Monica Hanna reflected on the current state of antiquities in Egypt and citizens’ lack of connection with their heritage. “They don’t feel its part of their heritage. Even the Egyptian social studies schoolbook – the way it presents [Ancient] Egypt and modern Egypt, [they] are two hermetically sealed entities.” The sudden increase in looting across Egypt after the 2011 uprising may have highlighted this disconnect between the Egyptian people and their monuments, but it has also underlined the fact that when people care, they will go to great lengths to take a stand.

The responsibility to inspire courage and action to protect cultural heritage falls on every person involved in the field, including archeologists. Spreading the word about the destructive effects of looting and starting dialogues with the general public about cultural heritage destruction is of the utmost importance. While there is enormous pressure on archeologists to publish academically, it is vital that discussions about these issues also take place via forums that are also used by non-academics. There are an overwhelming number of platforms that can accomplish this— platforms that have started revolutions. Hanna has begun the process in Egypt by garnering over 25,000 followers on Twitter, 2,400 followers on Facebook, and 6,500 fans of Egypt’s Heritage Task Force. She encourages everyone to share their stories of antiquities looting, regardless of who they are.

A quick search of users associated with the keywords “archaeologist” or “archeologist” on Twitter yields about 350 results. While these results may not encompass all the archeologists active on Twitter, it suggests that only a fraction of the archeology community is fully utilizing a free tool that has 241 million active users a month.

If one archeologist such as Monica Hanna is reaching over 25,000 with information about looting, imagine how much we’d learn from the 2,355 archeologists who, according to Proulx, also experienced looting firsthand. It is time to become a little more comfortable with publishing via platforms that are not traditional academic journals. All one has to do is Tweet, Like, and Share. It is that easy. And remember, “instead of us preserving the antiquities, it is the antiquities that are protecting us. For it is through heritage that we can understand the things around us...” Dr. Monica Hanna.

*From editorial by Tessa Varner  
SAFE Intern*

To read Proulx's article, go to [http://www.ajaonline.org/sites/default/files/1171\\_Proulx.pdf](http://www.ajaonline.org/sites/default/files/1171_Proulx.pdf)

To read the full interview with Monica Hannah, go to <http://www.savingantiquities.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/MonicaHanna-egypttoday.pdf>

*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 *Projects in Parks* web page <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npSites/index.htm> or through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram*.

*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 illustrated *Archeology E-Gram* is available on the *News and Links* page <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/new.htm> on the NPS Archeology Program website.

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