



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



April 2015 Archeology E-Gram

NPS NEWS

Students Illuminate Seip Earthworks at Hopewell National Historical Park

Paint Valley High School science teacher Cathy Daugherty challenged her students to light up Hopewell NHP's Seip Earthworks so that everyone can see where the walls once stood. Physics and earth science students were given the challenge of locating a small circular earthwork within the Seip Earthworks.

The 250-foot diameter earthwork served as a stage for experimenting with light. Park archeologist Bret Ruby and park rangers Susan Knisley and Melinda Repko assisted earth science students in the use of a map, compass and GPS technology to locate the circle's center. Earth science students also collected 36 soil samples. The soil samples will be used by Daugherty's chemistry classes to test for elevated phosphate levels—a test which is an indicator of human activity.

On the evening of March 20, 2015, the physics students tested their classroom knowledge of light on the circle. Students used a variety of methods to light up the circle. From candles to twinkle lights to glow sticks, a variety of lighting techniques were used and the results were inspiring.

Paint Valley High School is adjacent to the Seip Earthworks. This close proximity has allowed for stewardship and partnerships between the park and the students for many years.

By Susan Knisley, Park Ranger



National Park Service Conserves Ancient Southwestern Clothing

The Flagstaff Area National Monuments recently received funding to conserve and rehouse rare fragments of ancient clothing from archeological sites at Navajo, Walnut Canyon, and Wupatki National Monuments stored at the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff.

Textile conservator Rachel Freer Waters has conserved over 300 prehistoric pieces of clothing from the C.E.1100s, ranging from everyday wear to technologically complex clothing with dyes.

Now almost finished with the project, Waters, an American Institute for Conservation professional associate, has taken “Before” and “After” pictures of the textiles, employed a range of cleaning techniques and fiber relaxing treatments, and designed storage systems to provide preventative care.

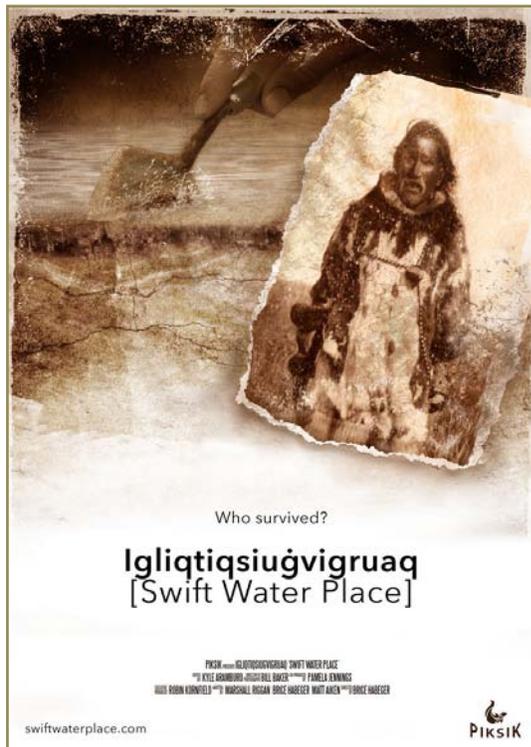
Selected images will be available on each monument’s website. When the project is finished by the end of the summer, over 300 prehistoric textiles will look almost as good as when Ancestral Puebloans hand-wove them over 800 years ago!

By Gwenn Gallenstein, Museum Curator, Flagstaff Area National Monuments

Alaska Native-Owned Company Produces Documentary about NPS Archeology Site

Piksik LLC, an Alaska Native owned support services company specializing in film, is garnering interest for a documentary “Igliqtiksiugvigruaq (Swift Water Place)” about an archeological investigation on NPS land. Igliqtiksiugvigruaq [Swift Water Place] was filmed primarily on location in northwestern Alaska on the Kobuk River, beyond the Arctic village of Kiana. This region is largely populated by the Iñupiaq people, most of whom are shareholders in the NANA Corporation.

The documentary examines the relationship between Kiana and a team of archeologists excavating a large village site, Igliqtiksiugvigruaq, on nearby NPS land. In keeping with policy, the excavation halted when human remains were found. Kiana had to decide whether to stop the research or petition the NPS to resume the excavation.



The documentary tells the story of the relationship between the archeological team led by Douglas Anderson from Brown University and the Alaska Native people who participate in the discovery of the “Big Village.” Igliqtiksiugvigruaq, as stories told, and the archeological team discovers, was an underground village where Alaska Native people lived just before contact was made with the Western world.

As the accounts of discoveries unfold, viewers get a sense for the place, the isolation and the deep rooted history that gives way as the great Kobuk River ebbs, flows, and changes direction—changing conditions along its banks and forcing human beings to always adapt. There are other mysteries that emerge as the site is studied, including one that is triggered when human remains are found and bureaucratic issues must be addressed.

From review by Indra Arriaga

1,000 Year Old Artifacts from Bering Land Bridge National Preserve Show Prehistoric Trade

Four years ago, archeologists announced they had found evidence on the Alaska side of the Bering Strait of trade with Asia that dated back 1,000 years. The evidence was a bronze fastener, possibly a belt buckle, created in eastern Asia and found at a site on Cape Espenberg in the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve.

Now another newly analyzed object from the University of Colorado-led Cape Espenberg dig is providing more evidence of prehistoric contacts between the residents of Northwest Alaska and their neighbors across the Bering Strait. A flake of obsidian found at the site has been traced to Russia's Chukotka peninsula. NPS archeologist Jeff Rasic began analyzing the flake more than a year ago and found that it did not come from any Alaska site that he knew of. But in February, when he traveled to Magadan, Russia, he visited a regional repository and found a match. The thumbnail-size flake was likely a remnant of a tool carried in and out of the Cape Espenberg site, Rasic said.

Another bit of obsidian was traced to Interior Alaska near what is now the village of Hughes, an area that, 1,000 years ago, was inhabited by non-Eskimo Athabascans. The second piece of obsidian signals trade to the east as well as to the west.

NAGPRA Grants Awarded to Eight Tribes

The NPS announced the award of eight Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Repatriation grants totaling \$74,348. The grants will assist in the repatriation of individuals and sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony and funerary objects back to the tribes.

Enacted in 1990, NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify Native American human remains and cultural items in their collections, and to consult with culturally affiliated Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding repatriation. Section 10 of the Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to award grants to assist in implementing provisions of the Act.

Native Village of Barrow	AK	\$29,904
The Regents of the University of California	CA	\$6,309
Smith River Rancheria	CA	\$14,944
Bay Mills Indian Community	MI	\$1,937
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan	MI	\$14,836
The Chickasaw Nation	OK	\$4,103
Sweet Briar College, Art Collection and Galleries	VA	\$2,315

National Park Service and Maritime Administration Give Grants for Maritime History Education and Preservation Projects

The NPS, in partnership with the Maritime Administration (MARAD), awarded approximately \$2.6 million in Maritime Heritage Program grants for projects that teach about and preserve sites and objects related to our nation's maritime history.

National Maritime Heritage Grant awards are made possible through a partnership between the two Federal agencies. Funding is provided by MARAD through the recycling of vessels from the National Defense Reserve Fleet. The grant program supports a broad range of maritime education and preservation projects, without expending tax dollars. The vessels are dismantled in an environmentally sound manner.



Halibut hook: The Traditional Tlingit and Haida Halibut Hook Project

The Maritime Heritage grants are available to state, tribal, and local governments, as well as private non-profit organizations for education and preservation projects. Education projects are funded in amounts between \$25,000-\$50,000; preservation projects are funded in amounts between \$50,000-\$200,000. Education grants can be used for programs such as school curriculum, interpretive programs and web pages, and preservation grant projects can include the rehabilitation or restoration of ships and other maritime resources.

The projects receiving grants include archeological and ethnographic projects:

State	Grant Recipient	Project	Award
AK	Sealaska Heritage Institute	The Traditional Tlingit and Haida Halibut Hook Project	\$39,496.00
FL	Diving with a Purpose	Diving With a Purpose (DWP) maritime archaeology educational field program	\$46,536.00
GA	University of Georgia Marine Extension Service	Georgia's Rich Maritime Cultural Heritage: Generational Commercial Fishing Families	\$41,837.00
HI	Kanehunamoku Voyaging Academy	Papahana Hoolauna Public Outreach	\$45,899.00
ME	Penobscot Maritime Museum	National Fisherman: Documenting a Sea Change	\$40,784.00
MA	USS Constitution Museum	USS CONSTITUTION: From Forest to Frigate	\$50,000.00
OK	Oklahoma Historical Society	Discovery and Excavation of the Steamboat Heroine: Exhibit & Curriculum Unit	\$25,000.00
OR	Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde	Grand Ronde Canoe Culture, Waterways, Travel and Trade	\$36,876.00
VT	Institute of Nautical Archaeology	Lake Champlain Steamboat Winooski Archaeological Investigation	\$26,953.50
VA	Mariners Museum	USS Monitor Artifact Conservation and Outreach Project	\$99,900.00

For more information, go to the NPS Maritime Heritage Program at <http://www.nps.gov/maritime/index.htm>

Man Pleads Guilty to Misdemeanor ARPA and Resource Violations

Early last year, Herbert Lawhorn drove his truck into the middle of Hopewell Mound Group in order to spotlight deer. He entered the earthworks from a trailhead with clearly posted, reflective, "No Motor Vehicles" signs. The vehicle became stuck and the rear tires were dug in as deep as the axle, causing archeological and natural resource damage. In an attempt to free the vehicle, Lawhorn broke off branches from live trees and placed sand and clothing of his and his four-year-old daughter under the tires in a failed attempt to regain traction.

The vehicle was abandoned and was discovered by NPS maintenance staff the next morning. The truck had to be left until a four-wheel-drive tow truck winched it out with great difficulty.

Ranger Gad, the investigating ranger, photographed and documented several previous incidents of off-road vehicle travel, suspicious broken vehicle glass, and litter within the Hopewell Mound Group. The investigation and follow-up interviews identified Lawhorn as the same person who has been violating numerous 36 CFR regulations over the prior three months. When confronted with photographs and footage from the park surveillance camera, he confessed to having driven into the field on numerous other occasions and admitted that he broke his passenger window one of those times when he tried to throw a can out of his window, but missed and shattered his window.



Park staff and the AUSA charged Lawhorn, with a misdemeanor violation of ARPA (16 U.S.C 470 EE (a)) and two 36 CFR violations for destruction of natural resources and littering. Lawhorn recently pled guilty to all charges and paid \$1,000 in fines.

By Rick Perkins, Chief Ranger

Texas Man Pleads Guilty to Felony ARPA Violation in Arkansas Post National Monument

On June 25, 2012, an ISB special agent received a call from Arkansas Post NM regarding a possible ARPA violation. A park neighbor had reported a suspicious vehicle at the Menard Mounds. Investigation by the agent and Ranger David Van Nest of Hot Springs NP, who assisted with this investigation, revealed that Ricky Don Self, Jr., of Winnsboro, Texas, had entered the park on that date and excavated or attempted to excavate archeological resources from two pre-Columbian Native American mounds in the park.

It was determined that Self excavated 17 features on or near the mounds and damaged or discarded approximately 139 archeological resources. The activity resulted in \$14,010 in damages to the mounds in felony violation of 16 USC 470. Self was currently working under contract with the US Army Corps of Engineers on a nearby abatement Corps project with his father's construction company and was aided and abetted by a co-worker.

On March 18, 2015, Self pled guilty and was sentenced under a single count violation of the ARPA in US District Court in Little Rock. He agreed to cooperate with investigators and paid \$3,925 in restitution to the NPS and \$25 in court costs.

Hot Springs NP, the US ACE, and the US FWS assisted with this investigation. NPS Archeologists Caven Clark and Melissa Baier conducted the site damage assessment work, and Chris Givens, Assistant United States Attorney, Eastern District of Arkansas, Little Rock, prosecuted this case for the government.

By Investigative Services Branch

OTHER FEDERAL NEWS

BLM Montana Office Holds Artifact Road Show



Archeologist Jayme Green, right, examines artifacts brought in by Dick Kramer, of Laurel, at the 2013 road show.

Contact: David K. Wade, 896-5213

The BLM's Billings Curation Center (BCC) hosted its fifth annual Artifact Road Show April 9, 2015, during the Montana Archaeological Society's Archaeology Month. BLM staff invited the public to bring in their artifacts to be examined by regional experts, including archeologists, historians, paleontologists and geologists. The specialists provided as much information as they could about the the purpose, time period and story behind any object they identified.

The BCC is the main repository for artifacts recovered from activities on BLM-administered public lands in Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. The collections are made available to professional researchers, archaeologists, students and those interested in learning about the past in the local region.

Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians to Get Artifacts from 1950s Excavation

The Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians has won an effort to get thousands of ancient artifacts that were removed from a Luiseño village archeological site in the 1950s returned to descendant tribes. A notice published in the Federal Register on April 28, 2015, announced that the San Bernardino County Museum has determined that the Pechanga Band has a valid claim under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Five other tribes with Luiseño lineage also may have claims. The museum intends to repatriate the artifacts to one or more of the tribes.

Among the more than 50,000 items are human remains, animal bones, ceramics, stone tools, stone cooking items, freshwater and saltwater shells that were worn as adornments and funeral objects. The artifacts were removed from Temeéku, a Luiseño village located just outside the current borders of the Pechanga reservation. Temeéku dates back to at least 10,000 years ago.

The objects have been on loan to the Pechanga Band since 2011. They are stored in a secure, climate-controlled repository on the reservation. Some of the items have been displayed at California State San Bernardino's Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art, at the Temecula Valley Museum, and in a mobile museum that visited events on the Pechanga reservation.

The tribe formally requested repatriation about a year and a half ago. In addition to the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians; Pala Band of Mission Indians; Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians; Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians may have valid claims to the artifacts.

At least two other tribes that may be eligible to receive some of the objects say they will not ask the Pechanga Band to send any of the items to their reservations. "They belong as close as possible to their ancestral home at Temeéku," said Shasta Gaughen, THPO for the Pala Band of Mission Indians in San Diego County. "We're confident Pechanga will take proper care of these sacred items." The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians in San Diego County also will defer to the Pechanga band.

If no tribe other than Pechanga makes a claim for the objects, the items would be permanently transferred to the Pechanga tribe

by David Daneski, The Press Enterprise

Native Americans Seek Accounting Of Massacre Reparations



The descendants of Native Americans massacred by Federal troops in Colorado in 1864 urged the Tenth Circuit on Monday to overturn a lower court ruling denying an accounting of reparation funds they say they are owed, claiming the BIA shirked its trust obligations. Homer Flute and other descendants of bands of Arapaho and Cheyenne tribes whose members were killed in the Sand Creek Massacre asked the court to reverse a Colorado Federal court's ruling that it lacked jurisdiction over the case, arguing that the U.S. had waived its sovereign immunity and had an enforceable trust duty under a treaty and Federal law to account for the reparations money.

The relatives attacked the BIA for arguing that it had no accounting obligation, because the reparations account was closed before the 1994 American Trust Fund Management Reform Act was passed. They filed their complaint in Colorado Federal court in July 2013, arguing that the U.S. had an enforceable trust duty under the Treaty of Little Arkansas and the 1866 Appropriations Act to provide them with an accounting of reparations funds set aside to compensate for the November 29, 1864, massacre by Army troops. The treaty and law required the government to make monetary payments and provide land and goods to relatives of the Native Americans killed in the attack, the plaintiffs claim.

The district court dismissed the case in September 2014, ruling that the treaty and law didn't create an enforceable trust because they didn't give the government any right to use or control the reparations but only directed it to make one-time payments or transfer property to specific individuals. Without a trust duty to establish a waiver of sovereign immunity by the federal government, the court said, it lacked jurisdiction over the case.

The relatives appealed to the Tenth Circuit in October, saying that DOI had an enforceable fiduciary duty to them because the government had been given the responsibility to manage the reparations fund, and that a 2009 appropriations law constituted a waiver of sovereign immunity.

The case is Homer Flute et al. v. U.S. et al., case number [14-1405](#), in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

By Andrew Westney, Law360

TRAINING AND GRANTS

Project Archeology Summer Workshops Offered Across the Nation

Join one of the 2015 Project Archaeology workshops hosted in Kansas, Arkansas, Colorado, and many more states! Check out the [Event Calendar](#) or visit your [State's program](#) page to request a workshop in your state. Coordinators, master teachers, and facilitators, can register their workshops at the same site.

Take a look back at three summer workshops to get ideas:

Five Hot Days in July (by Virginia A. Wulfkuhle)

“Archaeology in the Classroom” brought together 11 Kansas teachers, diverse in grade level, subject, geographic location, personality, and teaching style, but all enthusiastic about learning to teach with archaeology and eager to contribute their own experiences. [Read More](#)

Inaugural Arkansas Workshop (by Mel Harvey)

A 1-day Project Archaeology Teacher Workshop at Parkin Archeological State Park. In attendance were a total of 16 people: 15 area teachers from various grade levels and 1 Park Interpreter from Lower White River Museum State Park. Participants received 6 hours of professional development credit as approved through the Arkansas Department of Education. [Read More](#)

Colorado Summer Workshop (by Dani Hoefler)

Project Archaeology launched at History Colorado in July of 2014. Teachers attended from several parts of Colorado including Salida and one will teach internationally online. There were 7 teachers, 1 archaeologist, and 2 Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) members in attendance! [Read More](#)

For more information, go to www.projectarchaeology.org

Contact: Courtney Agenten (406) 994-6727

SLIGHTLY OFF-TOPIC: Social Media Contributing to Rock Art Vandalism, Artist Says

Jonathan Bailey, a 20-year-old artist, visited his first prehistoric site with his family when he was 6 years old. Over the past 13 years, he's spent countless hours examining pristine cultural sites that don't appear to have been touched since their original creators left them behind centuries ago. Recently, however, Bailey has noticed a disturbing trend. It used to be that he would find vandalism at three sites a year. Now, he says, he's finding it at as many as 10 sites annually.

What's behind this apparent spike in vandalism? In Bailey's opinion, it's the increase in blogs that provide descriptions of remote sites and the prevalence of social media posts that offer pictures of prehistoric artwork most people have never seen before. Much of the vandalism Bailey finds happens to sites on ground managed by the BLM Utah Office. The office is responsible for 2.5 million acres of land, which is home to culturally rich areas like Nine Mile Canyon, Range Creek Canyon and the San Rafael Swell.

The office only has two archeologists and one law enforcement ranger on staff, which makes public involvement critical when it comes to preventing vandalism or detecting it, according to Price field officer manager Ahmed Mohsen. "We definitely try to send the message that this type of activity is not going to be accepted, not only by the government, but by the community itself," Mohsen said.

The Price office manages more than a dozen public interpretive sites, like the Rochester Panel, which bears the marks of vandals dating back to the 1930s. Mohsen declined to put an exact number on how

many pristine or remote cultural sites exist in the region, saying only that it's in the thousands. Mohsen acknowledges that online posts and social media are responsible for spreading the word about cultural sites that otherwise might rarely see visitors, but he said those posts also raise awareness about the need to protect these sites.

By Geoff Liesik, KSL-TV (Photo by Geoff Liesik)

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 website.

Contact: Karen Mudar at dca@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for *Projects in Parks*, and to subscribe.