



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## November 2015 Archeology E-Gram

### NPS NEWS

#### **San Antonio Missions Archeologist Recognized for Superior Service**

In recognition of her outstanding performance in team leadership in pursuit of World Heritage designation for the San Antonio Missions, NPS archeologist Susan Snow was recently awarded the Department of the Interior Superior Service Award.

For nine years Snow oversaw every aspect of the successful World Heritage nomination for the San Antonio Missions which includes San Antonio Missions NHP and the Alamo. She led a coalition to complete the nomination package, provide supplemental information to ICOMOS, coordinate the on-site review, and serve as a member of the official United States delegation at the World Heritage Convention in Germany. Snow's hard work paid off with the inscription of the San Antonio Missions on July 5, 2015.



*By Lauren Gurniewicz*

#### **National Park Service Chief Curator Ron Wilson Retires**

NPS Chief Curator and Manager of the Museum Studies Program Ron Wilson has retired. He served as the Chief Curator from 2008 until 2015. During his tenure, Wilson led upgrades to NPS guidance on management of archival and natural history collections and managed major projects on digital imaging of NPS museum collections and cold storage of fragile collection items. He expanded participation in the NPS Web Catalog to over 100 parks, upgraded the Interior Collections Management System (ICMS), initiated a partnership with the Google Cultural Institute, led efforts to assess climate-change risks to NPS facilities housing museum collections, and initiated a major revision to the NPS Museum Facility Plan.

He previously managed the U.S. Department of the Interior Museum Program where he led museum program strategic planning efforts in 10 federal bureaus and developed an agency-wide museum training program. He is a founding leader of the Interagency Federal Collections Alliance.

Prior to entering federal service in 1991, he held collections management and director positions in Iowa, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania museums governed by private, municipal, state and university entities. During that period, he served as an American Association of Museums Museum Assessment Program and Accreditation Team reviewer of museums in the South and Midwest.

Wilson held positions at the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, University of Northern Iowa, and Franklin and Marshall College. He is a Fellow and Life Member of the National Speleological Society and the Cave Research Foundation (CRF). While serving as President of the Cave Research Foundation, he supported CRF partnerships in China, Colombia, and Italy. He served on the Scientific Program Committee for the 8th International Congress of Speleology.

Wilson can be contacted at [ron9735@gmail.com](mailto:ron9735@gmail.com).

Further information about the NPS Museum Program is available at <http://www.nps.gov/museum/>.

*By Karen Mudar*

## **New National Park Service Deputy Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science**

Joy Beasley has been selected as the new NPS Deputy Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science, for Stewardship and Science Programs in the Washington Office. Beasley has over 20 years of cultural resource management experience. She began her NPS career in 2004, serving as the cultural resources program manager at Monocacy NB for nine years. While there, she directed several complex and high profile projects, including the archeological discovery and investigation of one of the largest slave habitation sites in the Mid-Atlantic region. She also served as acting superintendent at Monocacy NB and acting chief of resource management at the National Mall and Memorial Parks.



Since 2013, Beasley has been the Chief of Cultural Resource Preservation Services in the NPS National Capital Regional Office, where she supervised all cultural resource disciplines and oversaw the establishment of the region's first National Historic Landmark program. Prior to her NPS career, Beasley was a faculty research assistant at the University of Maryland directing archeological research projects through a cooperative agreement with the National Capital Region and also previously served as an archeologist at the Museum of New Mexico's Office of Archaeological Studies.

Beasley earned a BA degree in anthropology from the University of Georgia, a MA in applied anthropology from the University of Maryland, and a certificate in historic preservation from Goucher College. She will begin her duties in January 2016.

*By Karen Mudar*

## **McGilvray Joins Intermountain Region Historic Preservation Programs Team**

Landscape Architect Julie McGilvray has joined the NPS Intermountain Region Office's Historic Preservation Programs team in Santa Fe, NM. McGilvray grew up on a century-old cattle ranch in Texas. She joined the NPS in 2012 as a landscape historian in the Midwest Region Office's Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) program, where she supported parks through the CLI program and gave additional assistance in design and treatment recommendations, site planning, National Register of Historic Places nominations, compliance, and GIS.



Before joining the NPS, McGilvray was an archeologist and historian for SWCA Environmental Consultants, where she worked in conjunction with natural resources staff. Before SWCA, she spent three years in Kyoto, Japan, studying traditional building techniques and design for architecture and gardens.

McGilvray holds a M.A. in landscape architecture from the University of New Mexico as well as a M.A. in historic preservation and a B.A. in anthropology, both from the University of Texas at Austin.

*By Sam Tamburro*

### **Death Valley National Park Continues to Dig Out from Devastating Flood**

Recovery efforts continue at Death Valley NP nearly a month after devastating floods hit the park. In October, torrential storms caused widespread flooding and catastrophic road failure. The flood waters and resulting rock and mud slides destroyed 26 miles of roads in the park, with an additional 80 miles sustaining some level of damage. To date, crews have removed about three-quarters of the estimated 400,000 tons of debris (the equivalent weight of five Washington Monuments) from roads.

Archeologists are assessing hundreds of archeological sites in the affected areas of the park, to both determine damage caused during the flash floods, and in advance of the work crews to ensure the recovery efforts don't inadvertently cause further damage. The flood damage to the roads revealed one unexpected discovery – remains of the first paved road to Scotty's Castle. Probably built in the 1950s, the historic road through Grapevine Canyon follows the grade more closely while the modern road was often placed on as much as six feet of fill.

The Eastern Incident Management Team is overseeing the recovery efforts, having transitioned from the Western IMT on November 10. To date, 138 NPS employees from 35 national parks and offices have joined more than 70 Death Valley employees in the work. Support is also being provided by Death Valley Natural History Association, DOI's Office of Emergency Management, U.S. Park Police, U.S. Public Health Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Highway Administration, and the Student Conservation Association, among others.



Archeologists examine the 1950s road to Scotty's Castle unearthed by the flooding

*From story Mike Litterst, Eastern IMT Information Officer*

### **New Travel Itinerary for Colonial Missions in Southwest**

The NPS Archeology Program has developed the Spanish Colonial Missions of the Southwest Travel Itinerary, the newest of the Discover Our Shared Heritage travel itinerary series. The itinerary guides travelers to 36 different destinations in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Destinations include national parks and other sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places that preserve stories of American Indian and Spanish heritage in the United States. The online itinerary offers travelers a number of informative essays and other educational resources on the historical significance and preservation of the sites in the itinerary.

The NPS Archeology Program and the Embassy of Spain produced the itinerary in partnership with the Drachman Institute at the University of Arizona, the Latino Research and Training Center at the University of New Mexico, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

The self-guided tour can be found in both English and Spanish at <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/travelspanishmissions/index.htm>.

*By Karen Mudar*

### **International Archaeology Day and EKIP Passes at Aztec Ruins National Monument**

On October 15, 2015, 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes from Aztec, Arizona's Park Avenue Elementary School traded paper vouchers for official passes on a field trip to Aztec Ruins NM. They celebrated International Archeology Day with pueblo-style wall building activities and a service project to remove invasive tumbleweeds. Students earned 198 "Every Kid in a Park" passes, and removed 1,744 tumbleweeds from the Aztec East area. NPS archeologist Steve Matt said "They made a big impact in an area where tumbleweeds had really accumulated. You can definitely see the difference."

This special event day was the result of an interdivisional effort between Cultural Resources, Interpretation & Visitor Services and Facility Management, with support from AmeriCorps and Southwest Conservation Core team members.

*By Danielle York*



Fourth grade students show their EKIP passes at Aztec Ruins National Monument NPS photo.

### **Archeologists Defining the Nez Perce Trail**

Working since 2008 in Yellowstone NP and the Shoshone NF, Office of the Wyoming State Archeologist researcher Dan Eakin has refined the route and campsites of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) as they fled the U.S. Army in 1877. During summer 2015, Eakin led a metal detection search along the north bank of the Clarks Fork River to find sites where army units led by Brig. Gen. Oliver O. Howard and Col. Samuel Sturgis camped as they pursued the Nez Perce.

"The reason we're doing all this is to better define the Nez Perce Trail and protect it better. Unfortunately we didn't find anything conclusive in the Shoshone NF," said Eakin. He narrowed down his search for the Army campsites by reading military journals and reports. What the investigators found during 10 days of walking transects with metal detectors were worn horseshoes, cartridge cases, a saddle ring, and a square nail. It was less than expected but, based on the reports, he thinks they searched the correct area.

Working in Yellowstone NP, just west of the study area, the park's archeologist Staffan Peterson, Nez Perce tribal members, and Eakin documented small tree stumps that had been cut with hatchets in 1877. In 2015 in the same area, they recovered the remains of a McClellan saddle consistent with those used in the 1870s. The saddles were widely used by the military during and after the Civil War. Peterson and

Eakin believe this area was the last place the Nez Perce camped prior to leaving the park.

About 750 Nez Perce men, women, and children fled rather than be placed on a reservation after skirmishes with white settlers and the U.S. Army. Several engagements with the Army occurred along what is now the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. On October 5, 1877, Chief Joseph and many Nez Perce surrendered to Col. Nelson A. Miles, 40 miles from the Canadian border following a battle near the Bear Paw Mountains, now in Nez Perce National Historical Park.

The project included personnel from the BLM Cody Field Office, the USFS, a Nez Perce tribal member, and volunteers. The work was funded by the BLM. It was made possible by a cooperative agreement between the BLM and the University of Wyoming. Other participants included the Absaroka Chapter of the Wyoming Archaeological Society, the Shoshone NF, the Park County Historic Preservation Commission, and the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center.

*From story by Brett French, Billings Gazette*

### **National Park Service Announces Regulation Affecting Unclaimed Human Remains and Objects**

The NPS has published a regulation under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) that directs the disposition or reinternment of unclaimed human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. The regulation only applies to unclaimed human remains and cultural objects discovered on Federal lands after November 16, 1990.

This fourth regulation directing the disposition of unclaimed remains and cultural objects discovered on Federal lands (43 CFR 10.7) was proposed in October 2013 after consultations with Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, museums, scientific organizations, and the NAGPRA Review Committee. A 60-day public comment period concluded in December 2013.

A process for public notification prior to disposition or reinternment of remains and cultural objects and a publicly accessible list of “unclaimed” cultural items are established by the regulation. The rule will take effect December 7, 2015.

### **Land and Water Conservation Fund Preserves Three Civil War Sites**

NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced \$500,000 in grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to help preserve 180 acres at three Civil War battlefields. The grant projects are at Perryville, Kentucky; Corinth, Mississippi; and Brandy Station, Virginia.

The grants are administered by the NPS American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). Grants are awarded to units of state and local governments for the fee simple acquisition of land, or for the non-federal acquisition of permanent, protective interests in land (easements). Private non-profit groups may apply in partnership with state or local government sponsors. Consideration for the battlefield land acquisition grants is given to battlefields listed in the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission’s 1993 *Report on the Nation’s Civil War Battlefields* and the ABPP’s 2007 *Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States*.

### **National Historic Landmarks Committee Nominates Two Archeological Sites**

On November 17, 2015, the National Historic Landmarks (NHL) Committee nominated 48-GO-305 (Hell Gap) Paleoindian Site and Man Mound for landmark status. The nominations will be sent to Interior Department Sally Jewell for consideration.

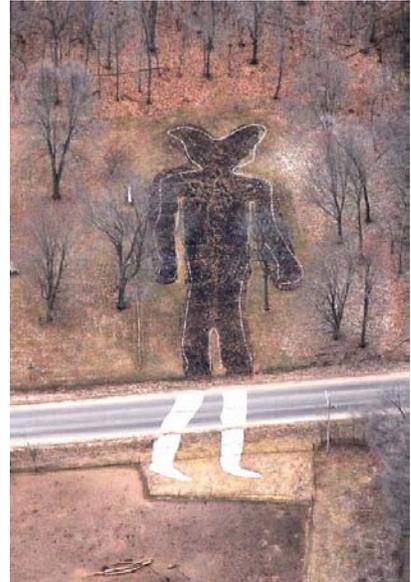
#### *48-GO-305 Paleoindian Site (Hell Gap), Goshen County, Wyoming*

This Paleoindian site, discovered in 1959 and investigated between 1959 and 1966, contains materials from an uninterrupted sequence of nine cultural complexes. To date, no other excavated Paleoindian site in North America contains a record that includes all of the cultural complexes known on the Plains spanning from between 13,000 and 8,500 years ago (between 11,000 and 6,500 BCE) (only the Clovis complex has not yet been found in situ). Since its discovery and initial investigation, Hell Gap has been associated with cutting edge research in the field of Paleoindian archeology.

#### *Man Mound, Sauk County, Wisconsin*

Man Mound is the only surviving earthen anthropomorphic mound in North America. It is a particularly fine example of Late Woodland bas-relief earthen effigy mound construction dating to AD 750-1200. Man Mound most likely depicts either a shaman or a Lower World human/spirit transformation. Portions of the lower limbs and feet of the figure have been disturbed by road construction and pasturage of animals.

Final decisions regarding National Historic Landmark designation are made by the Secretary of the Interior. In most cases, designation by the Secretary occurs six to eight weeks following the Advisory Board's recommendation.



Man Mound, Wisconsin

*By Karen Mudar*

#### **New section of Cold Harbor Battlefield**

A recently preserved section of the Cold Harbor Civil War battlefield has opened to the public. The land is located in Mechanicsville, Virginia and saw significant fighting on May 31, June 1 and June 3, 1864. It contains well-preserved earthworks from the two weeks the Union and Confederate armies confronted each other at Cold Harbor, near Richmond.

Funding from the NPS Centennial Initiative made the project possible, providing the necessary archeology, maintenance, interpretive waysides, parking area and removal of non-historic structures needed to restore the battlefield landscape.

#### **New Resource Stewardship Strategy Website Launched**

Developing strategic plans for the long-term stewardship of a park's natural and cultural resources can be daunting so this past year, with support from the field, a national working group of thirty representatives from WASO program offices, regional offices, and park units collaborated to create a new streamlined framework and guide to assist parks with developing their own Resource Stewardship Strategy. The team developed a *Resource Stewardship Strategy (RSS) Development Guide* for a comprehensive step-by-step approach to the development and implementation of a RSS and they built a website to house a downloadable version of the development guide, FAQs, contact information, and other resources.

Several parks are using the new guide to develop their own RSS with assistance from regional offices, the Denver Service Center, and other WASO programs including: Horseshoe Bend NMP, C&O Canal NHP, Colorado NM, and Golden Gate NRA.

To learn more about Resource Stewardship Strategies go to: <https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/resource-stewardship-strategy/>. The site is best accessed via Bison Connect.

*by Tara Pettit*

### **Cannons Conserved through Adopt-A-Cannon Program at Fort Sumter National Monument**

For the past five years, the NPS has partnered with the Warren Lasch Conservation Center, Clemson University, to conserve historic metals at Fort Sumter NM. Through the Adopt-A-Cannon Program the Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Historical Trust has raised funds to complete conservation of the park's historic cannons. The 1830-1890 cannons at Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter are the best representative group of historic seacoast artillery in the United States.

On October 14, 2015, staff at the conservation center selected several cannon at Fort Sumter for conservation. Each cannon takes approximately two to three weeks to complete. Park rangers will provide interpretation to the public during the conservation effort. The public can follow the progress of the project to conserve these historic weapons and metals via updates and photos at [www.nps.gov/fosu](http://www.nps.gov/fosu) and social media.



*By Bill Martin*

### **FEDERAL NEWS**

#### **Department of Agriculture Recommends No Drilling on Badger Two-Medicine Area**

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack has recommended the cancellation of long-suspended oil and gas drilling leases near Glacier NP. The 18 leases are on land considered sacred to the Blackfoot Indian tribes in Lewis and Clark National Forest. A drilling suspension has been in place since the early 1990s. Lifting the drilling ban would have "adverse effects" on the site in the Badger Two-Medicine area of northwestern Montana, Vilsack wrote in a letter to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, and that the leases themselves should be terminated.

Louisiana-based Solenex LLC sued in 2013 to overturn the government suspension. The head of the law firm representing Solenex said that there was no basis for a lease cancellation. If the cancellation goes through, Solenex would be entitled to some kind of compensation.

The U.S. Forest Service in December 2014 determined drilling would negatively affect the sacred site and reduce its spiritual power for the Blackfeet. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation agreed with that finding in January 2015. The Department of the Interior will have the final say.

#### **Judge Orders Recapture Canyon ATV Protest Riders to Pay \$96K in Damages**

A federal judge ordered San Juan County, Utah, Commissioner Phil Lyman to pay for damage to a closed southern Utah canyon caused during an illegal ATV protest ride. Lyman and Monticello City Councilman Monte Wells were assessed \$95,955.61 for assessing and repairing riparian areas and archeological sites in Recapture Canyon. The two men were earlier convicted of conspiring to organize and lead at least 32 others over a road that is off limits to motorized vehicles. Lyman and Wells organized the ride to protest federal land management policy.

Prosecutor Jared Bennett said federal restitution law warrants that the two pay for the damage. Bennett told the judge the ATV riders trampled vegetation, churned up dirt and left 4- to 10-inch deep ruts in the canyon. The BLM paid a contractor \$65,500 to assess the damage, including the use of 3-D laser scanners to look at underground archeological sites. It spent another \$30,000 for "emergency stabilization" and other field work.

The BLM closed the canyon to off-road vehicle use in 2007, citing damage to cultural artifacts in the area, but let other authorized uses continue on some sections, such as use by the San Juan County Water Conservancy District. Many residents objected to closure, asserting it was arbitrary and unnecessary, and thwarted a review process mandated by federal law.

Prosecutors will ask the judge to put the men behind bars and impose fines for the misdemeanors crimes. Under a federal sentencing formula, prosecutors calculated that Lyman should receive a 10- to 16-month prison term. They recommend he pay a \$3,000 to \$30,000 fine. That Lyman was the "ring leader" and abused his position as a county commissioner to organize and promote the ride were factored into the suggested sentence. Prosecutors recommend Wells spend six to 12 months in prison and pay a fine ranging from \$2,000 to \$20,000. A sentencing hearing is scheduled for December 18, 2015.

*By Dennis Romboy, Deseret News*

### **New Guidance on Sacred Sites Available**

In 2012, the Departments of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, and Energy and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation entered into a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Interagency Coordination and Collaboration for the Protection of Indian Sacred Sites. The MOU commits the signatories to inform the public about the importance of maintaining the integrity of Indian sacred sites and the need for public stewardship in the protection and preservation of such sites.

The signatories announced that two new documents are now available. The first is a policy statement addressing the need for federal agencies to be sensitive to tribal concerns about the confidentiality of certain information. The second is an information paper aimed at the general public and state and local agencies to help them understand the importance of protecting Indian sacred sites.

The paper and other information can be found at <http://www.achp.gov/sacredsitereprotection.html> .

### **GRANTS AND TRAINING**

#### **National Park Service Offers Petrography Analysis Training**

The NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training is offering a two-day, hands-on course on thin-section petrographic analysis of archeological specimens for NPS employees and partners on March 9-10, 2016 at the NPS Southern Arizona Office.

The workshop will include an introduction to polarized light microscopy as a method for identifying minerals, analysis of cultural materials made of stone (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic), pottery, terracotta sculptures, bricks, tiles, and clay core materials from bronze castings.

This course is offered in partnership with the NPS Southern Arizona Office, Friends of NCPTT, and the Center for Historic Architecture and Design (CHAD), University of Delaware School for Public Policy and Administration. The cost for the course is \$375.00.

**Contact:** Tad Britt (318) 351-5641.

### **Gloria S. King Research Fellowship in Archaeology**

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory is accepting applications for the Gloria S. King Research Fellowship in Archaeology. The MAC Lab is an archaeological research, conservation, and curation facility located at Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum in southern Maryland and is currently home to 8 million artifacts representing over 12,000 years of human occupation in Maryland. The collections are available for research, education, and exhibit; the purpose of the fellowship is to encourage research in the collections.

- Eligibility - Students, academics, or professionals (employees of the Maryland Historical Trust and St. Mary's College of Maryland are not eligible); any subject in Maryland archaeology; must use collections at the MAC Lab; must be in residence full time in the MAC Lab; must provide a presentation of research to museum staff.
- Application process - A 1,000 word proposal (up to 4 typed pages, double-spaced) outlining the problem and the MAC Lab collections to be used, a CV, and letter of recommendation. Applicants are *strongly* encouraged to contact the lab to ensure that the lab has collections appropriate to the proposed research.
- Stipend - \$500 a week, minimum two week stay and maximum 5 week stay. Stipend paid upon completion of fellowship for stay of two weeks; a fellowship of greater length paid in two installments. On-site housing may be available.

Applications must be received by January 15, 2016. Send application materials to:

Patricia Samford, Director  
Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory  
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum  
10515 Mackall Road  
St. Leonard, Maryland 20685

**Contact:** Patricia Samford [patricia.samford@maryland.gov](mailto:patricia.samford@maryland.gov)

### **SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC: Archeologist Sarah Parcak Wins \$1 Million for Tracking Down Looters**

A global trade in looted artifacts is flourishing. Some of the participants are terrorist groups who fund their wars with profits from the sale of stolen goods. Some are criminals, others are members of small-time gangs. Still more are ordinary, desperate people who know that one small scarab could mean food in their bellies and schoolbooks for their kids.

They work underground, figuratively and sometimes literally, making their trade all but impossible to track. That's why Sarah Parcak spends so much of her time looking at satellite images, hoping to catch looters in the act. If she can pinpoint a site being ransacked — the telltale piles of dirt, the holes in the ground where nothing was before — that's one step closer to finding what was stolen.

Parcak, an anthropologist at the University of Alabama and a National Geographic fellow, calls what she does "space archaeology." She has satellite technology, infrared processing, and a \$1 million award from

the conference nonprofit TED at her disposal. The pioneering field of satellite archaeology is based in complicated image analysis techniques and one simple premise: instead of digging in the ground to find treasures from the past, scan for them from the air. The view from 400 miles up is surprisingly good. The newest satellite technology allows researchers to take images with a pixel resolution of about 10 inches.

Huge archaeological structures — pyramids, coliseums, temples, tombs — appear with startling clarity, and even smaller objects are sharply defined.

With funding from the National Science Foundation and National Geographic, Parcak uses this technology to identify sites for archeological exploration. Even when buried under centuries of sand, the remnants of past civilizations leave a signature on a landscape. Imported stone might affect the chemicals in the soil. Infrared scanning can reveal chambers underground. From her office at the University of Alabama's Laboratory for Global Observation, which Parcak founded, she and her colleagues run satellite images of Egyptian deserts, Peruvian mountains and Roman seashores through countless computer algorithms, hoping they'll reveal something new.

In Egypt alone, Parcak has helped uncover 17 pyramids, 1,000 tombs and some 3,000 forgotten settlements. After identifying sites of interest, Parcak shares them with fellow archeologists — usually other research teams or local antiquities ministries — and sometimes accompanies them on the expedition.



“A lot of people are surprised when I talk so much about the present,” Parcak said, “but politics is just a crucial part of archaeology. You’re developing long-term partnerships and collaborations, getting people excited about their heritage. You need to be very bit a diplomat alongside scientist.”

Actual archaeology can be dangerous, especially for local scholars who remain in conflict-ridden areas to protect the sites they study. The retired head of the Palmyra Department of Antiquities and Museums, 83-year-old Khalid al-Assad, was beheaded by Islamic State militants in August 2015 after he refused to reveal the location of the ancient city’s treasures. Asaad’s body was left in a public square in the nearby modern city. A placard hung around his neck identified him as an “apostate” and called him the “director of idolatry” in Palmyra.

The Islamic State, which now controls huge swaths of Iraq and Syria, is known to have looted millions of dollars of artifacts from heritage sites in both countries in order to finance its terrorism. It has also demolished untold numbers of heritage sites to make dramatic propaganda videos and a political point. But terrorism is not the only threat to the world’s ancient treasures. Looting has ticked up significantly in recent years. In Egypt, the power vacuum that resulted from the 2011 revolution exposed the country’s antiquities to ransacking by seasoned looters and locals made desperate by the economic downturn. The sudden appearance of dozens of new looting sites in the areas she studies is what got Parcak interested in using satellite images to track heritage theft in the first place.

On one of Parcak's photos, looting sites appear as dark rectangles surrounded by a doughnut ring of dirt. Time-lapsed images show these holes appearing like pimples, a few more every month, pocking landscapes that had previously been smooth sand.

"There's always a little jump to your heart when you realize you've got looting," Parcak said. Evidence of theft has to be delivered quickly to local antiquities officials and international authorities, so they know to be on the lookout for trafficked artifacts from those sites.

Parcak's project will be announced in a TED talk in February, at a livestreamed talk in February.

*From story by Sarah Kaplan, The Washington Post*

**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 website.

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