



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



May 2017 Archeology E-Gram

NPS NEWS

Society for American Archaeology Gives Award to National Park Service Archeologist



COURTESY JEFF BURTON, MARY FARRELL, PHOTOGRAPHER, 2006

Jeff Burton is the 2017 recipient of the SAA's Excellence in Cultural Resource Management Award for his administrative and management skills as well as for his promotion of socially relevant aims for the archeological profession. As a manager and administrator, he was able to mobilize limited funds and resources efficiently and effectively to underscore the NPS mission. In his public outreach program he shows future generations that archeology can be directed to socially relevant work in the interests of the public good. Burton's work on the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II illustrates how archeology can be employed to illuminate racism in the treatment of immigrants.

To learn more about Burton's fascinating work at Manzanar NHS, read an interview in Archaeology Magazine at <http://archive.archaeology.org/online/interviews/burton.html>

NPS Employee and Yarrow Mamout Archeology Project Wins Annual DC Preservation Award

The 2015 Yarrow Mamout Archaeology Project has won the 2017 District of Columbia Preservation Award for Excellence in Archaeology. The District of Columbia Office of Planning and Historic Preservation Office, in partnership with the DC Preservation League and the Daughters of the American Revolution, presented the 14th annual District of Columbia Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation on May 23, 2017, in the historic DAR Constitution Hall.

Yarrow Mamout, an enslaved African Muslim, arrived in Maryland in 1752, at the age of 16. After his emancipation in 1796, he lived in Georgetown at 3324 Dent Place, N.W. from 1800 until his death in 1823. He sat for two formal portraits still extant--one by Charles Wilson Peale in 1819 and the other by James Alexander Simpson in 1822. (The Simpson portrait is hanging in the National Portrait Gallery through 2019.) Mamout was reportedly buried in his garden, where he was known to pray.

The Yarrow Mamout Archaeology Project was initiated by citizens who worried that the historical integrity of the property at 3324 Dent Place would be destroyed by development. Archeological excavations conducted by the D.C. Historic Preservation Office, were carried out June-November 2015. Mia Carey and Charde Reid, Assistant City Archaeology, were the Project's Field Directors; Ruth Troccoli, the City Archaeologist, was the Project's Principal Investigator; Charles Leedecker, formerly of Louis Berger Group, was the Project Archaeologist; Muhammad Fraser-Rahim was the project's Muslim History consultant.

The project recovered over 17,000 artifacts, but have yet to positively identify anything that can be directly associated with Mamout. However, through public engagement, the project collaborated with the local Muslim population and increased awareness of the long history of Islam in America.

Mia Carey, currently acting NPS Civil War to Civil Rights National Coordinator, wrote her dissertation on Yarrow Mamout. Carey's dissertation used critical race theory aided by archeology to confront race, racism, and Islamophobia in the dominant historical narrative. Carey specifically examined how white

privilege as an ongoing historical process silenced of the history and legacy of African Islam and helped create the assumption that recent immigrants and their children are the true representations of Islam and that Islam is a "foreign" religion. Carey also works with the Arc to Equality (A2E) a service-wide community of practice to tell the stories of all Americans.

National Park Service Northeast Region Hires New Anthropologist

The NPS Northeast Region has hired a new anthropologist. David Goldstein will lead the ethnography program in the Northeast Region and assist parks and programs with their ethnographic needs.

Goldstein comes to the NPS Northeast Region with more than 20 years of research and community development. Raised in Detroit, Michigan, Goldstein's research interests center on sustainability of subsistence farming, with a particular interest in the role of trees and shrubs. His doctoral research investigated the sustainable use of dry tropical forests in the past and present in one of Peru's first national sanctuaries. Additionally, he has managed archeological and ethnobotanical research in Cuba, the US Virgin Islands, Belize, and Bolivia. Prior to his work as an anthropologist, Goldstein trained and worked as an objects conservator.



In the NPS, Goldstein has worked as the interpretation division chief for the three park units on Saint Croix, US Virgin Islands. More recently, Goldstein was Urban Liaison/Fellow in Detroit. In this position, he worked to connect NPS programming in a city with no physical park unit, but with multiple federal program resources. Part of this work was to convene stakeholders around NPS assets like the Underground Railroad-Network to Freedom, Land Water Conservation Fund sites, River Trails Conservation Fund projects, and National Register and National Landmark properties..

Goldstein is duty-stationed in Lowell, Massachusetts.

National Park Service Wilderness Archeology Resource Management Guidance Released

The NPS Archeology Program has posted a new chapter of the Archeology Reference Guide. The *Archeological and Other Cultural Resources and Wilderness* module of **RM 28A: Archeology (NPS Archeology Guide)** provides agency-specific technical guidance for identifying and managing archeological and other cultural resources in wilderness.

The NPS has argued in court (*Wilderness Watch, Inc. v. Creachbaum*) that the Wilderness Act does not mandate decay or destruction of all cultural resources in wilderness. It also argued that the National Historic Preservation Act does not require preservation of the material fabric of all cultural resources. This guidance is intended to assist in responsible and defensible decisions about the management of archeological and other cultural resources in wilderness.

Karen Mudar developed and wrote the module, with the assistance of subject matter experts: Mark Calamia, Kayci Cook, Jill Cowley, Eileen Devinney, Sandra Dingman, Mike Evans, Ann Hitchcock, Barbara Judy, Jeremy Karchut, Laura Kirn, Rachel Mason, Jeff Rasic, Laura Schuster, Joe Watkins, Jacilee Wray, and Pei Lin Yu. Matt Burns designed and built the webpages.

To read the guidance and access other chapters, go to <https://www.nps.gov/archeology/npsGuide/index.htm>



The 2017 project team from the Submerged Resources Center, the Southeast Archeological Center, the NPS-Washington Cultural Resources office, and visiting scholars from Senegal and Mozambique.

National Park Service Archeologists Continue International Partnership in Slave Wrecks Project

In April 2017, the NPS Submerged Resources Center (SRC) and Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) continued the third season of field operations and training for the Slave Wrecks Project. The team was joined by archeologists from Senegal (Adama Athie, Ibrahima Thiaw and Adama Athie from University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar) and Mozambique (Celso Simbine and Anezia Asse from Eduardo Mondlane University; and Momande Osumane).

The team conducted terrestrial and underwater documentation of archeological features at Christiansted NHS, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, and a shipwreck in the waters of Buck Island Reef NM. They presented two workshops that brought together local community leaders in heritage education and preservation; and law enforcement officials charged with protecting the resources of the Virgin Islands.

Archeological efforts at Christiansted NHS identified a cistern or well during a 2015 ground penetrating radar survey of the grounds in and around the 18th century Danish West India and Guinea Company Warehouse. In summer 2017, NPS archeologists will return to Christiansted to expand these excavations as part of a program to teach University of the Virgin Islands students archeological field and laboratory methods, and museum curation.

The SRC team surveyed over nine square miles of the waters surrounding Buck Island Reef NM. Historic records indicate two slave ships sank near Buck Island while transporting enslaved humans into Christiansted in the early 1800s. The team hoped to discover cultural materials from these ships. Divers and snorkelers investigated hundreds of magnetic anomalies and located the remains of at least two shipwreck sites and several historic anchors. At this time, findings from the magnetic anomalies do not appear to be from the two wrecked slave ships in question.

The workshop *Community Stewardship and Site Protection* focused on the value of heritage sites for community, especially on protection of sites and antiquities related to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. The workshop *Site Protection Through Law Enforcement*, provided by retired NPS Special Agent Todd Swain. Swain, an expert in archeological and cultural heritage protection, focused on illegal trafficking

and interdiction, applicable U.S. and international cultural heritage protection laws, heritage site crimes and crime scene investigation, and methods for conducting site damage assessment.

During an evening public meeting two of the African archeologists, Ibrahima Thiaw and Celso Simbine discussed research and heritage protection efforts in their home countries.

The team made presentations to classes at the University of the Virgin Islands. The University of the Virgin Islands-Virgin Islands Caribbean Cultural Center is a collaborative partner in the Slave Wrecks Project. In 2016, a pilot program was begun in which interns from UVI, with guidance from the NPS oral history program and the National Museum of African American History and Culture, began to collect and record stories about the transfer of the Virgin Islands from Denmark to the United States in 1917.

Since 2010, the Slave Wrecks Project has fostered public and scholarly understanding of the role of the African slave trade in shaping global history by using maritime archeology to examine enslavement and its far-reaching global impacts. It is an international collaborative partnership between the National Museum of African American History and Culture, George Washington University, the National Park Service, and other organizations.

This project was sponsored by a grant from the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Heritage Center.

To listen to an interview with the team on the UVI radio show VICCC Notes, go to <https://soundcloud.com/cultural-center-1/4132017viccnotes2017pt2swp-african-partners-plus>.

From story by Meredith D. Hardy, Southeast Archeological Center/Christiansted National Historic Site; David Gadsby, Washington Office; Jessica Keller, Submerged Resources Center

National Park Service Submerged Resources Center Searches for World War II Aircraft

The NPS Submerged Resources Center, in partnership with NOAA, is searching for Battle of Midway sunken aircraft this month. This year is the 75th anniversary of the battle and this project aims to raise awareness and honor the legacy of the brave men who helped to turn the tide of the war. Research into the Battle of Midway is adding an important maritime component to our understanding of the broader history of World War II in the Pacific.

Scientists have collected dozens of first-hand observations about wreck locations at Midway Atoll in addition to locations based upon archival research that will improve the accuracy of historical accounts of aircraft losses. Archeologists will work alongside biologists are trying to understand the way that sunken aircraft and shipwreck sites create habitat for alien invasive species in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

NPS archeologists Bert Ho and Dave Conlin are the archeologists on the project; Ho is co-PI of the project and field director. NPS photographer and SRC deputy chief Brett Seymour is the lead for photo documentation of the project. NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research will be providing the web coverage. This project also includes FWS as a partner.

To read more about this project, go to <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/17midway/welcome.html>.

Missing out on NPS Archeology News and Announcements?

The NPS Archeology E-Gram is distributed at the end of each month via e-mail and posted on the NPS Archeology Program website. You obviously know about the E-Gram (since you are reading this issue!), but what about your friends and colleagues, especially if they have recently joined the NPS? Do you know whether you are getting all the announcements that you should?

One way to ensure that you and your friends receive the E-Gram and other timely news and announcements about NPS archeology is to join an NPS Archeologist e-mail group list. The NPS maintains four group lists (NPS Archeologists in Centers; NPS Archeologists in Parks; NPS Archeologists in ROs and SOs; and NPS Archeologists in WASO). These are used when sending out the E-Gram and other announcements. To check whether you are part of one of the mailing lists, go to [MyAccount.nps.gov](https://myaccount.nps.gov) and access your personal information. Click on “My Email Groups” to see which mailing lists you belong to.

To add your e-mail address to a mailing list, contact the IR Service Desk at 202-513-7266 or WASO_nitc_helpdesk@nps.gov and indicate the mailing lists you would like to join.

To access MyAccount, go to <https://myaccount.nps.gov/Account/LogOn?ReturnUrl=%2f>

Alaska Archeology Month

April was Archaeology Month in Alaska, a time to reflect on Alaska’s rich and exceptionally long-lived cultural traditions that we understand, in part, through archaeological research. It’s also an opportunity to raise awareness about preservation of the archaeological record, a non-renewable resource relentlessly subjected to a range of threats.

This year’s theme for the Archaeology Month poster is the **Paleoarctic Tradition**, an archaeological culture dating from approximately 7,000 to 14,000 years ago. These were the first settlers of Alaska, who made a living hunting, trapping and fishing a smorgasbord of resources that included now-extinct species such as bison, wapiti (elk), and horse, along with extant species that include caribou, Dall’s sheep, waterfowl, small game, and fish. Recent archaeological finds show that Paleoarctic people had begun to exploit salmon, which in later millennia would become a major staple of Alaskan subsistence economies.



To learn more, go to <http://www.alaskaanthropology.org/>

Cultural Sites Uncovered in Alaska Island Survey

A recently completed survey of an island in the Kodiak archipelago uncovered 14 new cultural sites, including five dating to prehistoric times. Discoveries made during a survey of Whale Island, located between Kodiak and Afognak islands, included fox farms, a failed gold mine and an old homestead. The survey of Whale Island was part of a larger survey encompassing coastal areas of Afognak Native Corp.'s 248,000 acres of land. The survey team is mapping the important cultural sites and supporting land management practices that protect the archeological sites located on the property. The survey, funded by a NPS Tribal Heritage Grant, is in its second and final year.

All five of the prehistoric sites had shell middens. Three of these sites appeared to be seasonal camps from the late-prehistoric period. The shell middens contained gastropod shells and cod bones. The two oldest, dated to approximately 3,000 BP, were a small village, and a cod-processing station. The survey also identified evidence for fox farming during two time periods - the early 1900s and the 1930s Depression era – and a gold mine dating to the early 1900s.

From story by JoAnn Snoderly, Kodiak Daily Mirror

Beckley Mill Archeological Resources on National Register of Historic Places



On May 1, 2017, Beckley Mill, in West Virginia, was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places based on its association with Alfred Beckley and the potential value of its archeological resources. Beckley built the grist mill along Piney Creek in 1838 to encourage agriculture and commerce on his wilderness landholdings in western Virginia. Alfred Beckley was the son of John Beckley, the first Clerk and Librarian of Congress, and was the force behind the establishment of the town of Beckley at the intersection of two historic turnpikes. Since 2013 archeological and historical studies spearheaded

by the Raleigh County Historical Society have demonstrated that the mill exemplifies the industrial development that occurred in the lower New River region during the early to mid-19th century. Over the past year, community leaders and staff of New River Gorge National River have discussed how the Beckley Mill might be used to promote heritage tourism.

Man Indicted Under ARPA for Defacing Fort Sumter National Monument

A South Carolina man was indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of damaging and defacing an archeological resource — Fort Sumter — in violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and committing a depredation against property of the United States. Noah Sigalas, 21, is alleged to have forcibly pulled on a support bar which was stabilizing part of a casemate wall, causing damage in excess of \$1,000. For depredation of property of the United States, Sigalas faces a potential penalty of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, a term of supervised release of three years and a special assessment of \$100. For a violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, the potential penalty is a term of 2 years in prison, a fine of \$20,000, a term of supervised release of 3 years and a special assessment of \$100.

Fort Sumter's construction began in 1829, and the fort was unfinished when it was fired upon April 12, 1861 – starting the American Civil War. Ninety percent of the bricks visitors see at the Fort today are original bricks, made in the Low country by enslaved African Americans.

Ben Byrnes, chief ranger of visitor and resource protection for Fort Sumter NM, said that NPS law enforcement rangers vigorously investigate potential violations of law and take acts of vandalism very seriously. Assistant United States Attorney Sean Kittrell is prosecuting the case and Special Agent Chris Schrader, from the Investigative Services Branch of the NPS, is the lead investigator.

By Jake Lucas, Moultrie News

Oregon Man Sentenced for Damaging Archeological Site

A Grants Pass, Oregon, man was sentenced in federal court to three years of probation for excavating and damaging an archeological site on federal land. Christopher Ruppel was also ordered to pay \$2,500 in restitution for costs associated with restoring the site. U.S. District Court Judge Ann Aiken sentenced Jason Christopher Ruppel for violating the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. Ruppel pleaded guilty to the felony charge in February 2017.

He admitted that in 2013, he violated the Act by digging on Bureau of Land Management land and damaging a known archeological resource. Ruppel was seen excavating and removing items from the site on at least seven different days during a two-month period.

The site is part of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon's ancestral homelands. The tribe submitted a letter at sentencing expressing their concerns about the damage done.

FEDERAL NEWS

Islanders Oppose Archeology Field School in San Juan National Monument

BLM's plans to conduct archeological survey in San Juan NM are running into opposition. Patrick McCutcheon from Central Washington University intends to survey and shovel test at Iceberg Point on Lopez Island in July, 2017, during a three-week field school. The archeological investigations are part of NHPA and NEPA compliance prior to restoration of native species, including camas. The tribes see the survey as a step toward restoration and harvest of what used to be one of their most important foods.

But Iceberg Point isn't wild, exactly: It's more like a very old, overgrown garden. "A pre-contact or pre-Columbian agricultural landscape in which Coast Salish people were gardening camas and other plants for the villages here on the south end of Lopez," said biologist Russell Barsh with Kwiaht, a Lopez-based scientific nonprofit that has been studying the ecosystem of Iceberg Point for more than a decade.

Native peoples cultivate the plants and slow-cooked the bulbs in underground pits to turn indigestible starches to sugar. With the indigenous gardeners displaced by disease and colonization, the camas prairies, once carefully weeded and tended, were largely abandoned. In subsequent decades, camas and other wildflowers have been gradually losing out to trees, shrubs and weeds.

McCutcheon's Iceberg Point project has the support of at least four western Washington tribes. Tribes including the Samish and Lummi trace their roots back to the San Juan Islands and want to restore camas at Iceberg Point, in part, to bring healthier carbohydrates back to tribal diets. Inulin starch in plants like camas and cattails helped tribes avoid diabetes, unlike the white starches and sugars that replaced it.

Barsh, however, is opposed to the archeological research. "The damage will be irreversible. What's in that area could include the last remaining specimens of a number of wildflower species that we'll never see again, at least not here in the islands. There are a dozen state-listed and federally listed plants that cannot be identified after they flower in the spring and are very likely to be dug up [during the shovel testing]." In addition to wildflowers, the southern end of Lopez Island supports at least 200 species of lichens, "and likely many more," according to biologist Fred Rhoades of Western Washington University, with at least a dozen regarded as rare or endangered.

McCutcheon said botanical maps of the area show where to avoid trampling or digging up rare plants.

The BLM is currently accepting comments from the public prior to further consultations.

From story by John Ryan, Oregon Public Radio

Lawmakers Want Canyon of the Ancients National Monument Left Intact

President Trump ordered Interior Secretary Zinke on April 26, 2017, to review the status of more than two dozen national monuments for possible modification. Two members of Congress from Colorado are asking the White House to remove the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, managed by the BLM, from this list. Senator Cory Gardner and Representative Scott Tipton argue to maintain the current

status of the southwestern Colorado monument that preserves thousands of archeological sites while allowing traditional uses of the land. Their recommendation is likely to get a close hearing.

Using presidential powers conferred by the Antiquities Act, President Bill Clinton designated the Canyons of the Ancients in 2000. It covers 275 square miles and has more than 6,000 known archeological sites. It's the only Colorado site under review by the White House.



The Federal Archeologist's Bookshelf

Ice Patch Hunting in the Greater Yellowstone Area, Rocky Mountains, USA: Wood Shafts, Chipped Stone Projectile Points, and Bighorn Sheep (Ovis canadensis) by Craig Lee and Kathryn Puseman. *American Antiquity* 82(2), 2017, 223-243.

Ice patches are areas of snow that have persisted over long periods of time. Unlike glaciers, ice patches do not move, and are a record of climate and human use. The currently melting ice patches are sources of organic cultural materials that are more often lost than discarded. Finds of hunting equipment, thus, complement the inorganic lithic materials and intentionally discarded organic materials found in open air sites, and caves and rockshelters.

This paper examines of nine unique wooden shafts and shaft fragments related to hunting from five sites at Greater Yellowstone area (GYA) ice patches. Five shafts are made of birch, two are of willow, one is fir, and one is pine. The shafts range in age from 9230 BP to 215 BP. One of the four sites that yielded wooden shafts contains a record of bighorn sheep hunting between 3885 and 879 BP. Researchers also examined animal bones found at ice patches, and concluded that bighorn sheep were the primary prey for hunting expeditions. Along with preserving ice patches for many hundreds of years, the cold climate of alpine areas contribute to preservation of sheep traps and corrals, further indications of sheep hunting. These findings are consistent with tribal oral traditions regarding use of alpine areas.

Ice patches in the GYA are all located on public lands and land managers are coordinating efforts to manage ice patches. Agencies commissioned a study to identify ice patches with the highest potential for cultural and/or paleo-biological materials; an aerial survey to document ice patches; and a baseline report for monitoring the most promising ice patches. In addition, the Glacier NP Ice Patch Project has begun hosting map-based links to ice patch projects and news stories worldwide.

Craig Lee gave a webinar on ice patch research in the NPS ArcheoThursday webinar series. To view his talk, go to https://www.nps.gov/training/NPSArcheology/html/by_author.cfm, and search with "Lee."

For more information about ice patch archeology, read *Ice Patch Archeology and Paleoecology in Glacier National Park* at <https://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/npsites/glacierIcePatch.htm>

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Releases FAQs on Protecting Sensitive Information

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has developed FAQs about federal responsibilities to protect sensitive information gained through National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 compliance. The FAQs provide information about the ways that NHPA Section 304, and Archeological Resources Protection Act Section 9 can protect sensitive information about historic properties and archeological resources.

To read *Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Frequently Asked Questions on Protecting Sensitive Information about Historic Properties under Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act*, go to <http://www.achp.gov/304guidance.html>

Zinke Halts Plans to Transfer Bison Range Management

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has reversed plans to give management of Montana's National Bison Range to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. The tribes will, however, still play a "pivotal role" in discussions about the future of the range, 29-square miles (76-square kilometers) of hilly fenced-in grasslands with 350 bison. The refuge, currently run by the FWS, is located completely within the Flathead Indian Reservation. The federal government established the refuge in 1908 to save bison from extinction.

The transfer, strongly supported by the tribe, was proposed last year under the Obama administration. Under the plan, the Interior Department would transfer the range to the BIA to hold in trust, and the FWS would hand over management to the tribes.

The Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, a Washington, D.C.-based environmental advocacy group that opposed a previous attempt in 2010 to share management of the refuge with the tribes, sued over the plan proposed by the Obama administration. The case is pending.

GRANTS AND TRAINING

NPS Park NAGPRA Training Series

Plans of Action & Comprehensive Agreements May 24 2:00 – 3:00 EDT

Topics to be addressed include describing what Plans of Action and Comprehensive Agreements are, when each is required or recommended, and what information each should include. To register, go to <https://doilearn2.webex.com/doilearn2/k2/j.php?MTID=tda9355d4e7105e30f34b04c96024289a>.

Inadvertent Discoveries/Intentional Excavations June 28 2:00 – 4:00 EDT

Topics to be addressed include the process for dealing with inadvertent discoveries, the requirements that must be addressed prior to any intentional excavation of cultural items subject to NAGPRA, and disposition of cultural items subject to NAGPRA. To register, go to <https://doilearn2.webex.com/doilearn2/k2/j.php?MTID=t151c7e799eaffbf12a1da150a7c8f14b>.

NAGPRA in the Parks Aug 7, 8, 9 2:00 – 5:00 EDT

Topics to be addressed include when NAGPRA applies, cultural items covered by NAGPRA, inadvertent discoveries and intentional excavations, collections, claims, cultural affiliation, priority of custody, and consultation. To register, go to <https://gm2.geolearning.com/geonext/doi/coursesummary.CourseCatalog.geo?id=190235> and select Tab=Scheduled+Classes

Contact: Holly McKee, holly_mckee@nps.gov or Mary S. Carroll, mary_carroll@nps.gov

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 <https://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm> on the NPS Archeology Program website.

Contact: Karen Mudar at _dca@nps.gov to contribute news items and to subscribe.