



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



March 2019 Archeology E-Gram
March is Women's History Month!

NPS NEWS

Archeologists Find Hidden Tunnels Below Alcatraz Prison

Archeologists confirmed that Alcatraz prison was built over a Civil War-era military fortification. Researchers have found buildings and tunnels under the prison yard of Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary. Archeologists used ground-penetrating radar, terrestrial laser scans, and historical maps and photographs. They found fully buried structures, ammunition magazines and tunnels. Historians believe workers built over existing structures when the prison was built in the 20th century.

Alcatraz Island first came to the attention of the U.S. government after it took control of California from Mexico in the 1840s. Its location in San Francisco Bay made it attractive for military fortification purposes. During the Civil War, Fort Alcatraz was the official military prison for the West Coast. In the 1930s, the first federal prisoners began arriving. The last inmate left in 1963.

To read the full article, google Near Surface Geophysics to find *Recording and Analysis of the Rec Yard at Alcatraz Island*.

National Park Service Staff Talk About Enslavement in the US Virgin Islands

Crucian language, historical V.I. "queens," and food traditions were part of a group discussion about enslavement in the US Virgin Islands at the University of the Virgin Islands St. Croix campus. The aim was to explore development of an exhibit, tentatively titled "Slavery to Freedom." The discussion was about five years of archeological research, fieldwork, and community engagement of the Slave Wrecks Project (SWP). The project has fostered public and scholarly understanding of the role of the African slave trade. NPS archeologist Meredith Hardy gave an overview of the SWP and importance of community input.



Zandy Hillis-Starr and Akee McIntosh lead a breakout group at the National Park Service's 'Slavery to Freedom' meeting. (Elisa McKay photo)

The SWP launched their first research efforts in U.S. territorial waters in 2015 with investigation of the *Mary* and the *General Abercrombie*, two documented slave ships wrecked off Buck Island NM, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

The information from this research will be used in the new exhibit, collaboratively developed by Christiansted NHS and University of Virgin Islands-Virgin Islands Caribbean Cultural Center. It will explore the histories, cultures, and legacies of the Transatlantic Slave in what is now the U.S. Virgin Islands, from enslavement in the Danish West Indies to today.

By Elisa McKay, The Source

Entry fee eliminated at Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument has stopped charging entry fees. It's now free to visit the national monument in Coolidge, Arizona, about 55 miles southeast of downtown Phoenix. The fee was eliminated March 7, 2019, after the service did a cost-benefit analysis.

The park features what's left of a Great House and parts of an 800-year farming community for Sonoran Desert people. Padre Eusebio Francisco Kino first documented the ruins after he visited in 1694. President Benjamin Harrison created the first U.S. prehistoric and cultural reserve on a square mile surrounding the ruins in 1892, when Arizona was still a territory. In 1918, management of the site was transferred to the NPS.

African Burial Ground National Monument Participates in United Nations' Exhibit Opening

Michael Frazier, NPS Historian for African Burial Ground National Monument joined Alison Smale, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications; Dominique Jean-Louis, Curator, New York Historical Society; and Louise Bailey, Senior Political Advisor, African Union Mission to the United Nations for the opening of the exhibit "From Africa to the New World: Slavery in New York."

The exhibit educates visitors about the history of the transatlantic slave trade and the role that the arts played in the struggle of enslaved people towards freedom and justice. Through preserved writings, portrait drawings, engravings and other forms of art, the exhibit reveals a chapter of the transatlantic slave trade that unfolded in New York City, and its unique circumstances.

The event was organized in connection with the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. This year the celebration's theme is "Remember Slavery: The Power of the Arts for Justice." In commemoration of the memory of the victims of the transatlantic slave trade, the General Assembly declared March 25 the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, to be observed annually.

African Burial Ground National Monument is the oldest and largest known excavated burial ground in North America for both free and enslaved Africans. It protects the historic role slavery played in building New York City. The site honors both the spirit of those buried here and those who fought for the respectful protection of this site for this and future generations.

For more information on the Slave Route project, go to <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/slave-route/>.

FEDERAL NEWS

Interior Department Museum Program Finalizes Collection Guidance

The DOI Museum Program has finalized museum collection guidance. Program staff, with the help of the Army Corps of Engineers, surveyed approximately 200 non-DOI repositories. They also finalized the policy DOI Museum Property Directive 17, *Working with Non-Bureau Facilities and Repositories to Manage DOI Museum Collections*; and developed associated guidance documents: *Department of the Interior Guidance for Working with Non-Bureau Facilities and Repositories to Manage DOI Museum Collections* and *Department of the Interior Template for a Repository Agreement Between a Bureau or Bureau Unit and a Non-Bureau Repository*.

The guidance provide best practices, recommendations, and samples for policy implementation. The repository agreement template has clause options as well as appendices with sample processes and agreements on a range of issues (e.g., access and use, reproduction, consumptive analysis, and commercial use). These guidance documents facilitate implementation of Directive 17.

The program is building an online, interactive repository agreement tool, which uses the repository agreement template, that will allow those who are drafting a repository agreement to answer non-legal questions to generate a tailored, draft repository agreement. Live and WebEx training (available in DOI Talent) on working with partners to manage DOI museum collections is available.

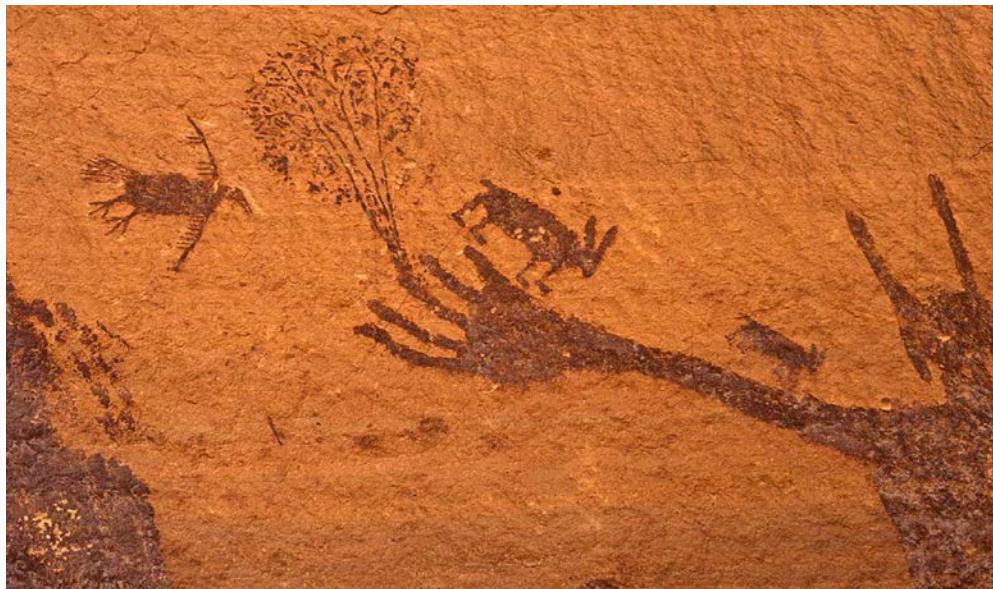
These efforts respond to Recommendation #9 of the Office of Inspector General Report, [Museum Collections: Accountability and Preservation](#). Recommendation #9 is: “Increase effectiveness of control over museum collections held at non-DOI facilities by: (a) identifying all organizations that hold DOI collections; (b) identifying all objects held by those organizations; and (c) ensuring that annual physical inventories are conducted.”

These documents are available on the DOI Interior Museum Program Directives website at <https://www.doi.gov/museum/policy/Museum-Directives>

Contact: Elizabeth Varner, elizabeth_varner@ios.doi.gov

National Endowment for the Humanities Funds Exhibit of Archaic Paintings

The National Endowment for the Humanities, through the Traveling Exhibition Program of the Utah Division of Arts & Museums and the Utah Arts Council, has funded a traveling exhibit of photographs of Archaic paintings from the western U.S. The paintings in the remote recesses of Canyonlands NP and on BLM lands across Utah, Colorado, northern Arizona, eastern Nevada and parts of Wyoming.



A detail of a creator figure with rice grass sprouting from a finger at the Harvest Panel in the Green River Study Area. A rabbit floats over the arm and a bird flies nearby.

Courtesy of Craig Law

The Barrier Canyon pictographs are concentrated along Colorado Plateau rivers, especially the confluence of the Green and Colorado rivers. From tiny 5-inch animal figures to stunning 8-foot-tall human shapes with no arms or legs and alien-like bug eyes, Barrier Canyon Style images are usually a dark, blood-red

color. They may have been painted 9,000 years ago; many panels are at least 5,000 years old. The brush strokes and vibrant paint pigments make the images seem fresh and newly painted, yet one carbon dating of an embedded hair from a paintbrush dates from 6750 B.C. The paintings are probably made by mixing blood and clay, and possibly using urine as a binder.

There are no violent depictions. No severed heads, battle scenes, no images of human conflict. Instead, there are “friendly associations of animal, bird, snake and plant images with anthropomorphic spirit figures.” Only 20-25% have eyes. Most have no ears or noses and no way to distinguish gender. Snakes writhe in their hands or above their heads. Circling the creatures are delicate menageries of exquisitely painted birds, ducks, geese, deer and, occasionally, free-floating eyeballs with wings.

David Sucec, director of the Barrier Canyon Style Project, and photographer Craig Law teamed up over 25 years ago to inventory this rare Archaic rock-art style, which represents some of the oldest outdoor paintings in North America. They have found close to 450 sites. The BLM has few staff to enforce regulations on backcountry travel, and rock art vandalism is an ongoing problem. Far too many panels have been shot at or scratched over.

The exhibit will travel for several years across Utah. Now, folks who may never venture deep into Colorado Plateau canyons can see these remarkable images.

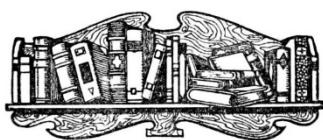
From story by *Andrew Gulliford, The Journal*

Looter Sentenced

Federal investigators have stopped a man who looted artifacts and destroyed archeological sites on public and tribal lands. Timothy Brian Harrison has been sentenced to serve one year and one day in prison and ordered to pay \$113,000 in restitution. He was convicted on two felony counts of excavation and removal of archeological resources from public lands and one misdemeanor count of unlawful possession of methamphetamine. He must self-surrender to begin serving his sentence on April 23, 2019.

Harrison conducted looted prehistoric archeological sites on federal lands in Alpine and El Dorado Counties, near Lake Tahoe. He collected tens of thousands of artifacts from multiple archeological sites, and virtually destroyed two sites. During the trial, representatives of the Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada spoke about the impact on the tribe from this destruction of sites. They explained that Harrison’s digging erased their past and interfered with the tribe’s ability to teach younger generations about their history and culture.

An NPS Special Agent assisted the USFS, BLM, DEA, FBI, California State Fish & Wildlife Service, California Highway Patrol, and Alpine County Sheriff’s Department on this investigation. The US Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of California prosecuted the case.



The Federal Archeologist’s Bookshelf: Cougar Creek: Quantitative Assessment of Obsidian Use in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem
By Douglas H. MacDonald, Elizabeth A. Horton, and Todd A. Surovell
American Antiquity 84(1) 158-179. (2019)

With more than 15 sources of obsidian and other lithic materials, the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem of Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho is one of the richest toolstone regions in northwestern North America. This article introduces a quantitative assessment technique to compare attributes of seven Yellowstone

obsidians used by Native Americans over at least 11,000 years. The proposed assessment technique is replicable and adaptable to other regions. This article also analyzes the procurement, use, and distribution of the poorly studied Cougar Creek obsidian. Archaeological research documented Cougar Creek obsidian outcrops, procurement areas, and secondary processing sites. Native Americans acquired the material at surface exposures, as well as occasional trench and pit excavations. There is a significant distance decay reduction in its use, especially when compared with Obsidian Cliff obsidian. Using a weighted z-score analysis, the material attributes of Cougar Creek were compared with those of six regional obsidians to determine the factors involved in their differential use. Based on these rankings, Cougar Creek obsidian experienced low demand and usage due to poor quality and availability. In contrast, due to their high quality, abundance, and aesthetics, Obsidian Cliff and Bear Gulch obsidians were preferred for stone tool production.

National Museum of the American Indian Focuses on Missing Indigenous Women

A month-long exhibition at NMAI of empty red dresses reminds us of missing and murdered indigenous women. Without names or faces and without stories to tell, the dresses are devoid of everything but one important fact: the bodies they were meant to adorn are now gone. The exhibition is meant to bring attention to the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and has toured Canada for nearly 10 years.

Métis artist Jaime Black initiated the REDress Project by hanging red dresses in a gallery in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The University of Winnipeg then commissioned Black to install REDress at the university. She says, “They wanted to ... get all the people at the university thinking and talking about what was going on here and beyond, as far as the safety of Indigenous women and girls.” The dresses were donated by members of communities across Canada.

The color red has many meanings. It is the color of life, of blood, and a symbol of the feminine. The color also symbolizes violence, both personal and systemic. It helps viewers remember the unnecessary violence and loss that continues in Canada and the U.S. In 2014, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police released a report that identified nearly 1,200 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Now numbers are into the several thousands, but to many non-indigenous people, the issue is invisible.

From story by Frank Hopper, Indian Country Today



Government Accountability Office Releases Report on Native American Cultural Property

In August 2018 the GAO released *Native American Cultural Property: Additional Agency Actions Needed to Assist Tribes with Repatriating Items from Overseas Auctions*. Overseas auction house sales of Native American cultural items have raised concerns among tribes and Federal government that items may have been taken without tribes' consent. While no comprehensive data exist about the world market for Native American cultural items, several tribes have identified items in at least 15 auctions in Paris since 2012. Some tribes have sought to repatriate these items with the help from federal agencies.

GAO reviewed federal agency repatriation efforts. The resulting report examines federal agencies' actions to assist tribes in repatriating cultural items being auctioned overseas; and the laws that address the export, theft, and trafficking of cultural items and any challenges in proving violations of these laws. GAO reviewed federal and tribal documentation on international repatriation; compared federal actions with selected leading collaboration practices; analyzed laws and legal proceedings; and interviewed officials selected for their involvement in international repatriation.

GAO made three recommendations to each of the four involved agencies, including implementing leading collaboration practices and assessing the U.S. legal framework governing the export, theft, and trafficking of these cultural items. The agencies agreed, with the exception of DOJ, who disagreed with the recommendation to assess the U.S. legal framework.

To read the full report, go to <https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-18-537>

GRANTS AND TRAINING

Cotter Award Deadline Extended

The NPS Cotter Award deadline has been extended until 15 April 2019. Consider nominating your exemplary colleagues and collaborators for the two Cotter Award categories.

Nomination guidelines and format can be found at:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1wnSnHGf_s22rtS0iTKMClrD0yRpbSHnb

Contact: Adam Freeburg, adam_freeburg@nps.gov.

Fire Archeology Training Courses

Two Fire Archeology Training courses will be held in Spring of 2019

- April 22 – 26, at Santa Fe Sage Inn, 725 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505
- June 11th-15th, at Lassen National Forest, Forest Supervisors Office, Susanville, CA.

The training provides participants with the foundation to serve as an Archeologist (ARCH) during wildland fire incidents. Archeologist work with Incident Management Teams, Resource Advisors, and fireline personnel to address concerns about the impacts of wildland fire, fire operations and post-fire conditions on cultural resources. Archeologists identify repair needs resulting from fire suppression impacts, Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER), Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR), and restoration efforts. The role of the Archeologists' determining effects on cultural resources, and working with prescribed fires and mechanical treatments will also be explored.

Each course participant is provided with an extensive electronic fire archeology library containing policies, guidelines, technical publications, templates and forms. Nominations will be accepted from all federal, state, and local agencies and non-governmental organizations. Applicants **do not** need to possess a Red Card in order to attend the course.

E-mail nominations to Linn Gassaway (lgassaway@fs.fed.us) by COB Monday, March 25th, 2019. E-mail or call (530-252-6480 or cell 530-249-0532) with any questions.

NAGPRA for Archeologists: Methods, Dialogue, and Technologies

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, NPS National Center for Technology and Training (NCPTT), the Friends of NCPTT, and the NPS National NAGPRA Program, are partnering to offer a four-day course on the statute, regulations, requirements, and compliance aspects of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). The training will be held May 6-9, 2019.

The workshop introduces participants to the purpose and requirements of Native Americans Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Classroom instruction will include discussions with NAGPRA representatives from Indian tribes who will share their responsibilities and experiences. The workshop will conclude with demonstrations of innovative technologies that can be used for documenting artifacts prior to repatriation as well as for current and future research.

Contact: Tad Britt, Tad_Britt@nps.gov, mobile: (318) 521-5641, office: (318) 356-7444

2019 Park NAGPRA Training Series

Registration is now open for NPS Park NAGPRA Program in-person and online classes about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

NAGPRA in the Parks

April 23-25	Webinar	2:00 – 5:00 EDT each day
June 25-26	Classroom	Delaware Water Gap NRA
Sept 10-11	Classroom	Phoenix, AZ
Sept 12	Webinar	Consultation Forum

Tour of Online NAGPRA Resources

May 29 Webinar 2:00 – 3:00 EDT

A Closer Look - NAGPRA Questions from the Field

August 7 Webinar 2:00 – 3:00 EDT

For full class descriptions and to register, visit the 2019 Park NAGPRA Training Series webpage on Inside NPS at <https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/in2-ensure-compliance-to-preserve-and-protect-places/home/nagpra/training-materials-and-eve/2019-park-nagpra-training-series>

Instructor and Contact: Mary Carroll, Chief, Park NAGPRA Program, mary_carroll@nps.gov

Roger Kennedy National Parks Fellowship Program Accepting Applications

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2019 Roger Kennedy National Parks Fellowship Program. The graduate certificate program is offered through the Environmental Resources Policy program, Columbian College of Arts and Science, The George Washington University. It is designed for NPS leaders responsible for preservation and protection of public lands and cultural heritage.

Applications are being accepted through May 3, 2019. Interested applicants should view additional information on the 2019 Kennedy Fellowship Program announcement on the Common Learning Portal.

Contact: Lisa N. Matarazzo, lisa_matarazzo@nps.gov

National Park Service Offers Basic Museum Documentation Training

The NPS is offering training in the fundamental documentation skills needed to care for NPS museum collections at the Stephen T. Mather Training Center, Harpers Ferry, WV, on June 11-13, 2019. There is no tuition; the benefitting account is responsible for travel and per diem.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2019

Contact: Kathleen Byrne 304-535-6204; kathleen_byrne@nps.gov or Kayleigh Hendley 304-535-6128; kaleigh_hendley@nps.gov

SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC: Your Favorite Archeology Podcasts

By Karen Mudar

In the last E-Gram, I asked you about your favorite archeology podcasts. Here is what you told me:

Rick Pettigrew reports that *Audio News from Archaeologica* is the first and the longest-running archeology podcast, the grand-daddy of them all. The Archaeology Channel has been producing it every week since June 2001. Audio news covers archeological happenings from around the nation and around the world.

(<https://www.archaeologychannel.org/audio-guide/audio-news>).

Josh Guerrero reminds us that he hosts a podcast called *15 Questions with an Archeologist*, through the NPS Southeast Archeology Center. It's an interview show that seeks to ask as many archeologists as possible the same 15 questions. These questions are designed to cover the areas in which archeologists are most often queried. They are also designed to provoke thought and commentary on our profession.
<http://15questionswithanarcheologist.libsyn.com/>

Amy Broussard says, "One of my favorite podcasts is *Criminal*. The program covers true crime of all sorts. I was pleasantly surprised when they released an episode on the Effigy Mounds incident (Episode 72: Bears, Birds, and Bones). I thought it was very well done - they interview Jim Nepstad and talk about NAGPRA. Bonus - the host Pheobe's voice is remarkably calm and soothing!" (She's right!)

<https://thisiscriminal.com/episode-72-bears-birds-and-bones-7-3-2017/>

(Don't forget, too, that the NPS-produced *In Effigy* deals with the same issues.)

Liz Vehmeyer writes, "The National Heritage Area Program, produced out of the Northeast office, has a podcast series *National Heritage Areas Podcast*. We currently have two "seasons" up and are working on a third. While it isn't focused on archeology per se, it does talk all things heritage and history - some episodes by topic or National Heritage Area, and some more specific to the National Heritage program." Program Manager, Peter Samuel discusses different types of arts, trails, and history programming in the country's heritage areas. Each episode dives into how heritage areas, including archeological districts, operate and work to benefit their communities.

https://www.nps.gov/subjects/heritageareas/nha_podcast.htm

In addition to your suggestions, here are podcasts that I found:

The NPS *Southwest Archeology Podcast* explores archeological projects and historic preservation at NPS sites in the southwest. Get a behind-the-scenes view of how NPS archeology works through interviews

with park staff, university researchers, and tribal partners. The show is produced by the Southern Arizona Office, and interviews include both NPS employees and partners.

<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1758/nps-southwest-archeology-podcast.htm>

Mesa Verde Voices is a podcast that connects the past with the present through stories about people, places, and agriculture in the American Southwest. As you might expect, it explores archeology and prehistory at Mesa Verde NP. Federal archeologists and land managers, in particular, will find a number of the episodes, #Visitwithrespect and Two Spirits, for example, helpful in working through challenges at their land management units.

<https://www.mesaverdevoices.org/>

NCPTT Podcasts is an eclectic mix of podcasts hosted on the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. The search function doesn't seem to be working, but it is easy to scroll down through 85 podcasts on a wide variety of historic resources topics.

<https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/blog/category/product-catalog/podcasts/>

The **Archaeology Podcast Network** appears to have a long evolutionary history. **CRM Archaeology Podcast** was a biweekly show that explores issues related to contract and professional archeology. It was designed to help the field and practitioners of archeology and to help new college graduates navigate the confusing world of contract archeology. In 2014 the **CRM Archaeology Podcast** was rolled into the newly formed **Archaeology Podcast Network (APN)**. They say, and it appears to be true, that they have an amazing back catalogue of content.

<https://www.archaeologypodcastnetwork.com/>

Naked Archeology is hosted by any one of the Naked Scientists. Based at Cambridge University's Institute of Continuing Education (ICE), the Naked Scientists are a team of scientists, doctors and communicators whose passion is to help the general public to understand and engage with the worlds of science, technology and medicine. Created and launched in 2001, the Naked Scientists was one of the first podcasts to exist and is now one of the world's most popular science shows. And, if you would like to hire a Naked Scientist to appear at an event or deliver a live show at your venue, you can!

<https://www.thenakedscientists.com/podcasts/archive/naked-archaeology>

Despite the name, **Archeological Fantasies** tackles serious subjects. Join Sara Head, Ken Feder and Jeb Card as they explore the wild world of pseudoarcheology. They look critically at topics ranging from Transoceanic travelers, Ancient Aliens, and Vikings in America, to archaeological evidence of Big Foot.

<https://archyfantasies.com/tag/podcast/>

There are a surprising number of **TED Talks** on aspects of prehistory and archeology. Sarah Parcak, who has been using satellite imagery to identify looting, among other features, has give several TED talks, which are available.

<https://www.ted.com/talks?sort=newest&topics%5B%5D=archeology>

In honor of Women's History Month, here are a few podcasts for and about women archeologists:

Women in Archaeology is produced by (surprise!) women, but doesn't focus exclusively on women. Podcast content is quite eclectic, ranging from earthy and informal discussions among women archeologists, to more formal presentations about pioneering female archeologists.

<https://womeninarchaeology.com/>

The Dirt Podcast is produced by Anna Goldfield and Amber Zambelli. Their goal is to reach as wide an audience as possible, so it's sort of an "edutainment" podcast. They want people to be able to enjoy the stories with no academic background needed. All the stories are thoroughly researched, and cover multidisciplinary topics from all over the world. I wasn't able to listen to any, but the offerings look amazing, and cover a wide range of archeology-related topics.

<http://www.bu.edu/archaeology/2018/07/02/the-dirt-podcast-started-by-alumna-anna-goldfield/>

Enjoy!

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 at www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm on the NPS Archeology Program website.

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