



## Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



### November 2019 Archeology E-Gram Print edition

#### **Society for American Archaeology Changes Bylaws to Address Harassment**

SAA President (and retired NPS anthropologist) Joe Watkins has announced that the organization has adopted a new bylaw. The amendment received 1,560 ballots in favor and 446 against. In accordance with the vote, Amendment 2 went into effect November 20, 2019.

The new amendment affects Article 4-Membership, Section 13-Termination of Membership. It states (in part) “Upon being presented with credible evidence that an individual has been found, by a court of competent jurisdiction or an administrative or regulatory body (the “Adjudicating Body”), to have engaged in conduct or actions contrary to the ideals, objectives, and accepted standards of the Society as set forth in these Bylaws, Board policies, or the SAA Principles of Archaeological Ethics, or for other reasons at its discretion, the Board may... remove the member from the membership rolls for a specific term or permanently...Such conduct or action shall include, but is not limited to, sexual assault and harassment.”

The day after the new bylaw went into effect, the Board of Directors utilized Article 4, Section 13 to ban a member from attending the 2020 annual meeting, following credible information about the member’s arrest for felony aggravated stalking of a University of Georgia student.

The Board will be developing and publishing policies to implement this amendment, and will continue to keep members informed throughout that process.

The full amendment is available at <https://www.saa.org/quick-nav/about-saa/society-bylaws>.

#### **Wyoming Names New State Archeologist**

The Wyoming State Archeologist’s Office has named Spencer Pelton as the new state archeologist. Pelton’s research experience is in the early prehistory of hunter-gatherers of the High Plains and the Rocky Mountains. He is also a faculty member of the University of Wyoming Department of Anthropology.



**The Federal Archeologist’s Bookshelf: Dynamic Communities on the Mesa Verde Cuesta** Kelsey M. Reece, Donna M. Glowacki, and Timothy A. Kohler. 2019 *American Antiquity* 728-747.

This article systematically and quantitatively characterizes interaction dynamics and community formation based on changes in spatial patterning of contemporaneous households. The authors develop and apply a geospatial routine to measure changing extents of household interaction and community formation from AD600 to 1280 on the Mesa Verde Cuesta, in Mesa Verde National Park, in southwestern Colorado.

Results suggest that household spatial organization was shaped simultaneously by the maintenance of regular social interaction that sustained communities and the need for physical space among households. Between AD600 and 1200 households balanced these factors by forming an increased number of dispersed communities in response to population growth and variable environmental stressors. However, as population re-bounded after the mega-drought of the mid-1100s, communities became increasingly compact, disrupting a long-standing equilibrium between household interaction and subsistence space

within each community. The vulnerabilities created by this change in community spatial organization were compounded by a cooler climate, drought, violence, and changes in political and ritual organization in the mid-1200s, which ultimately culminated in the complete abandonment of the Mesa Verde cuesta by the end of the thirteenth century.

## **GRANTS AND TRAINING**

### **ARPA for Cultural Resources Professionals**

Go beyond flakes, features, and fauna, to a working knowledge of Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and its implementation! This dynamic, interactive class is taught by highly-experienced instructors including an archeologist and a Special Agent. Course content is supplemented with real case studies. You will learn about the nexus between ARPA and related cultural resource (and some natural resource) laws, including NAGPRA, NHPA, and SURPA. ARPA can be applied to incidents like vandalism, arson, museum theft, and failure to comply with §106. The class explores different ways of using ARPA and embracing other disciplines within cultural resource management.

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Articulate ARPA to lay and professional audiences
- Articulate and utilize the three costs and values used to provide monetary values to resources and damages to archeological resources
- Understand the steps required to produce a Resource Damage Assessment and to produce such a document into evidence supporting a criminal cultural resource crime
- Testify in court in support of the prosecution

This class is developed for cultural resource professionals, including archeologists, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and staff, architects, and curators.

Tuition: No tuition cost. Travel costs must be paid by attendee's home park, program, or office.

January 27-31, 2020 in Russellville, Arkansas

May 4-8, 2020 at North Cascades National Park

August 3-7, 2020 at Mojave National Preserve

September 14-18, 2020 at Maui or Big Island (exact location TBD)

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### **SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC: Message From the Archeology E-Gram Staff**

For the past 15 years the Archeology E-Gram has provided timely and useful information about training, educational resources, research, and archeological events to archeologists in the NPS, other Federal agencies, and the wider archeological community.

The E-Gram got off to a slow start in 2019 as a result of the longest shutdown in the history of the Federal government – an epic 35 days! Since then, we celebrated with Jim Harmon and Vergil Noble their retirements. We mourned the loss of our colleagues Cal Calabrese, Larry Aten, Joe Labadie, and Dennis

Stanford. We also celebrated the appointment of Lonnie Bunch III as the most recent Secretary of the Smithsonian. While Bunch was Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture the NPS supported the Slave Wrecks Project.

The Federal Archeologist's Bookshelf reviewed a number of books and articles this year, including:

**Heroes of the Underground Railroad Around Washington DC.** By Jenny Masur (retired NPS employee)

**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)

**Magnetic detection of archaeological hearths in Alaska: A tool for investigating the full span of human presence at the gateway to North America.** Urban, Thomas M., Jeffrey T. Rasic, Claire Alix, Douglas D. Anderson, Linda Chisholm, Robert W. Jacob, Stuart W. Manning, Owen K. Mason, Andrew H. Tremayne, Dale Vinson. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 211: 73-92. 2019.

**Preparing for the Future Impacts of Megastorms on Archaeological Sites: An Evaluation of Flooding from Hurricane Harvey, Houston, Texas.** L. A. Reeder-Myers and M. D. McCoy. *American Antiquity* 84(2) 292-301. 2019.

**Knowledge co-production in climate adaptation planning of archaeological sites.** S. Fatorić and E. Seekamp *Journal of Coastal Conservation*. Published online 15 May 2019. (This utilized data collected during an ongoing NPS climate change project.)

**Encountering Hopewell in the Twenty-first Century, Ohio and Beyond. Volume One: Monuments and Ceremony** Edited by Brian G. Redmond, Bret J. Ruby, and Jarrod Burks.

**SAA Archaeological Record.** Vol. 19:4.

**Native American Cultural Property: Additional Agency Actions Needed to Assist Tribes with Repatriating Items from Overseas Auctions; and Additional Federal Actions Needed for Infrastructure Projects (GAO-19-22)** in which GAO reviewed federal agencies' processes for consulting with tribes on infrastructure projects. They recommended development of a centralized data base with tribal contact information to facilitate appropriate consultation.

ICOMOS released **The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging Cultural Heritage in Climate Action.**

2019 also marked the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the introduction of race-based slavery into the Virginia colony. Numerous individuals and organizations have used the occasion as opportunities to examine painful issues relating to this commemoration.

Recently, we experienced the loss of a newspaper searching service previously available through the Department of the Interior. While we are working to establish other ways to search for national news about federal archeology, the E-Gram is decidedly smaller as a result.

We encourage you to submit news items, training announcements, report titles and summaries for “The Federal Archeologist’s Bookshelf,” and suggestions for other features. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone who contributed to the Archeology E-Gram. The production and editorial staff of the Archeology E-Gram wish you and your families all the best for the coming year.

*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](http://www.nps.gov/archeology/public/news.htm) on the NPS Archeology Program website.

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