



February 2020 Archeology E-Gram Print edition

Archeology Program at Manzanar National Historical Site Receives Governor's Award

The California Office of Historic Preservation and California State Parks presented Manzanar NHS a 2019 Governor's Historic Preservation Award for their Manzanar Community Archeology program. The award recognizes significant achievements in preserving the heritage of California. Manzanar's arborist David Goto was joined by numerous volunteers and stakeholders in accepting the award.

Since 2003, Manzanar's Community Archeology Program has provided a unique platform for volunteers to learn about the personal and political consequences of racism within a historical context. Through archeology and historic preservation projects, volunteers are discovering, documenting, and restoring landscape features that tell the stories of Manzanar to more than 100,000 visitors per year.



Dust flies as volunteers dig out the upper pond at Merritt Park, the largest garden in Manzanar.

Community Archeology volunteers have come from Owens Valley towns and across the U.S., as well as from Japan. They have ranged in age from 9 to over 90 and represent diverse communities and experiences. Often, multiple generations of Japanese Americans and tribal members work alongside inner-city youth and local residents, sharing their experiences and perspectives.

Forest Service Finishes Repairs to Trail of Tears

The USFS has finished repairs on an estimated \$2.4 million in damage to the Trail of Tears in Coker Creek, Tennessee. Crews made up of USFS personnel, members from the Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee joined forces with Western Carolina University and Cherokee archeologists in the restorative work. Work to prepare for the restoration was led by archaeologist Brett Riggs, who has worked on the Trail of Tears for more than three decades.

The damage was incurred in 2014 as an attempt to discourage off-roaders and address erosion. The repair work involved removing berms and water bars that were installed to block off-road vehicles. Volunteers compacted soil into dips and pits they left behind, installing erosion control blankets, staking straw bales, and building a split rail fence. Volunteers then sowed plant seeds and planted native grass in work areas and the path itself was sown with grasses durable enough to walk on.

In 2014, the 461-acre tract containing the section of the Trail of Tears at issue was preserved in a joint effort by the USFS and The Conservation Fund. Land acquisition for the protected parcel began more than a decade before with the first tract that had identifiable segments of the Unicoi Turnpike/Trail of Tears roadbed. In 2009, the segment of the Unicoi Turnpike between Hayesville, North Carolina, and Athens, Tennessee, was made part of the official Trail of Tears.

Concerns about erosion and blocking access to off-roaders began in January 2013. Berm and water bar construction work was performed in March 2014. The parcel of land containing the Trail of Tears subsequently was transferred to the USFS, and the trail damage was not discovered until July 2015.

The USFS in September 2016 admitted to the damage, apologized, and committed to repairs.

News from the Society of American Archaeology

SAA's Government Affairs Committee is reviewing proposed changes to the regulations implementing NEPA that were published in the Federal Register on January 10, 2020. The draft rule changes could result in reduced protections for cultural resources impacted by such activity. The committee is working with sister preservation organizations in responding to present a unified message of opposition to portions of the document, some of which include a reduction in the number of projects that would require a NEPA review and a limit in the number of stakeholder groups that could participate in post-review legal proceedings. Recently, 164 members of Congress requested an extension of the public comment period.

On January 23, 2020, the EPA and ACE published a final Navigable Waters Protection Rule to redefine "Waters of the United States." The new definition reduces federal jurisdiction over certain types of waterways and bodies of water. Under this change, some heritage resources once under the Corps' Appendix C regulation might no longer be covered.

Last fall, the USFS released a proposed nationwide programmatic agreement under NHPA to allow phasing of Section 106 compliance during large-scale projects. The proposed agreement "allows the Section 106 review to be phased, meaning some steps could be completed after a NEPA decision document is signed, but before ground disturbance occurs." SAA's Government Affairs Committee is also evaluating this proposal and will develop formal comments, which are due March 1.

To read a fact sheet on the proposed changes to NEPA regulations, go to <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/20200109FINAL-FACT-SHEET-v3-2.pdf>

To read the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, go to <https://www.epa.gov/nwpr/navigable-waters-protection-rule-step-two-revise#Comment>

To read the USFS proposed nationwide Section 106 programmatic agreement, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/heritage/programmatic-agreement>

From report by Society for American Archaeology.

Department of the Interior Finalizes Plans for Extraction in Former National Monuments

DOI has finalized plans to permit drilling, mining and grazing in areas that had once been protected as two national monuments. The decision comes more than two years after boundaries of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante were changed to shrink the areas protected. Bears Ears contained tens of thousands of cultural artifacts and rare rock art. In the rock layers of Grand Staircase, researchers have unearthed 75 million-year-old dinosaur fossils. The lands also encompass grazing land and significant

amounts of oil, gas, and coal that the administration plans to develop. BLM has received 15 mining claims on lands excluded from the two national monuments since their boundaries were redrawn.

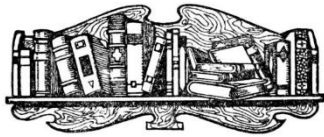
DOI and USDA officials who manage the lands have said the new plans balance the region's economic interests against the need to safeguard natural and cultural wonders. Under the plan, much of Bears Ears and nearly 1 million acres in and around Grand Staircase are open to grazing. BLM will also make two new routes in Grand Staircase open to off-road vehicles, which archeologists and conservationists are concerned could damage vulnerable artifacts and natural features. Casey Hammond, DOI's acting assistant secretary for land and minerals management, notes that the areas excluded from monuments are still protected by federal environmental laws.

The 1906 Antiquities Act empowers a president to protect public lands of archeological significance. President Bill Clinton first designated Grand Staircase-Escalante NM in 1996. President Barack Obama designated Bears Ears NM 20 years later. President Trump's administration redrew those boundaries so that Grand Staircase is half its former size and Bears Ears has shrunk by 85 percent.

A coalition of groups sued the administration immediately after the new boundaries were announced, arguing that the Act does not give a president the authority to revoke the national monument designations of their predecessors. The Justice Department last year sought to have the two lawsuits dismissed, but a federal judge denied the motions.

From story by Sarah Kaplan and Juliet Eilperin, Washington Post

The Federal Archeologist's Bookshelf: Shipwrecks and the Maritime Cultural Landscape of the



Gulf of the Farallones Delgado, J.P., Schwemmer, R.V. & Brennan, M.L., *Journal of Maritime Archaeology* (2020) Published online 21 February 2020 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11457-020-09254-0>

The waters of the Gulf of the Farallones are a diverse and expansive maritime cultural landscape that includes at least 400 historically documented shipwrecks. This article summarizes a multiyear scientific mission to assess shipwreck sites in the Gulf of the Farallones and nearby waters. A series of sites were identified not only through archeological dive surveys, but also through newly available nineteenth-century archival records that speak to the value of using these sources in maritime archaeological research. In all, twelve sites were documented. The project characterized these sites within the parameters of a regional maritime cultural landscape.

GRANTS AND TRAINING

John L. Cotter Award- Call for Nominations

The John L. Cotter Award for Excellence in NPS Archeology honors the long and distinguished career and pioneering contributions of Dr. Cotter. The award recognizes the archeological accomplishments of NPS staff or a partnership researcher within a unit or units of the National Park System. Submit nominations for professional achievement or project excellence by March 13, 2020.

The call for nominations and fillable nomination form are shared with DOI staff on OneDrive. Nomination submissions can be uploaded there. If there are problems with folder access, or if non-DOI staff is submitting, nominations may be emailed directly to adam_freeburg@nps.gov.

Contact: Adam Freeburg, committee chair (adam_freeburg@nps.gov)

National Park Service and National Park Foundation Offer Women In Parks Grants

The NPS and the National Park Foundation request proposals for the Women In Parks Innovation and Impact Grant program funded by the National Park Foundation. The grants support projects and programs with a more comprehensive American narrative that includes the voices of women whose vision, tenacity, and resilience moved them to climb mountains, take down barriers, shape history, protect the environment, and lead social movements. The initiative increases awareness about the 19th Amendment's centennial and the women who continue to shape our world.

A total of up to \$300,000 is available. Grant requests may not exceed \$25,000 per application; there is no minimum threshold and only one grant request may be submitted per park or regional program office. Parks and programs are encouraged to submit proposals for a wide range of projects including (but not limited to) women's history research, interpretation or program delivery; expanding women's representation in diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives; preservation and access to women's history collections; internships that support the 19th Amendment centennial/women in parks activities; scientific/technical activities led by female NPS staff; or other highlights of women NPS trailblazers.

The best proposals will 1) promote meaningful engagement regarding women's histories and the 19th Amendment between and among NPS parks and programs and the public; 2) leverage existing programs, relationships, and resources within the NPS and 3) collaborate with local community organizations, educational institutions, partners, other NPS parks and programs, and/or engage volunteers.

Contact: Karen Lee at 202-796-3114, klee@nationalparks.org

NAGPRA Grants Now Available for FY20

The National NAGPRA Program is currently accepting applications for the Consultation/Documentation and Repatriation grant programs. Deadlines to apply are February 14, 2020, for Consultation/Documentation and April 10, 2020 for Repatriation grants.

For more information, go to <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/grant-opportunities.htm>.

Contact: Sarah Glass, Notice and Grant Coordinator, National NAGPRA Program, 202-354-2201

National Park Service Offers Innovative Photography Techniques for Archeologists

The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training is offering Innovative Photography Techniques for Archeologists and Historic Preservationists June 22 - June 26, 2020, at Mesa Verde National Park. The objectives of the course are to provide archeologists and other cultural resources professionals with methods and technologies to become better photographers. Learn to fully exploit your camera capabilities and know when and how to use the right camera for the specific job.

Topics include:

- Camera basics and light
- Advanced methods
- Digital High Dynamic Range (HDR) Photography
- Architectural photography
- Reflective Transformation Imaging (RTI)
- Close Range Photogrammetry
- Drone-acquired Aerial Photography
- Thermal and Near-Infrared Aerial Photography

Instructors include Neil Dixon, The Front Standard Photography; David Knoerlin, FDI Precision Photography; Jesse Casana, Dartmouth University. The photography classroom sessions will be held on the old Mesa Verde Research Center building. The cost is \$500.

Lodging is available within Mesa Verde National Park at the Far View Lodge. A promotional rate is now available for reservations in (800.449.2288) and online (www.visitmesaverde.com) with PHOTO20 as the promo code. 22- 25, 2020.

Contact: [Tad Britt@nps.gov](mailto:Tad_Britt@nps.gov) or fax (318) 356-9119

National Park Service Offers Wilderness Training

The NPS Wilderness Stewardship Division will offer **Preservation of Wilderness Character Training** on May 5-7, 2020 (with travel on May 4 and May 8) in Baraboo, WI, with a site visit to Aldo Leopold's historic property. The target audience for this training includes wilderness coordinators, and NPS staff and partners that work in and with wilderness -- including those working in natural and cultural resource management, interpretation, facilities, law enforcement, trails, and administration (in parks, regions, and national offices). Training objectives include:

- Understanding the mandates of the Wilderness Act and NPS policy regarding preservation of wilderness character.
- Understanding and applying the nationally standardized definitions of the qualities of wilderness character as derived from the Wilderness Act.
- Learning about the wilderness character “building blocks” including wilderness character narratives, baseline assessments, and ongoing monitoring.
- Integrating wilderness character preservation into park planning, management, and operations-- including application of the Minimum Requirement Analysis (MRA) process.
- Supporting the interagency Wilderness 2020 Vision.

This is a tuition-free course, and thanks to support from WASO Learning and Development, financial aid is available to support travel costs for participants.

Final application deadline: March 9, 2020.

Contact: Erin Drake, erin_drake@nps.gov

Workshop on Archeology of Firearms: Insights into the Human Past

The NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), the Springfield Armory NHS, and the Friends of NCPTT are sponsoring the Archeology of Firearms. The workshop will demonstrate methods for studying firearms, firearm parts, and ammunition components found in archeological contexts, and the information, analytical techniques, and conceptual approaches used to understand the material residues of guns and investigate human behaviors that involved firearms use.

Start date: 18 August 2020, 8:30 am; End date: 20 August 2020 at 4:30 pm

Location: Springfield Armory, NHS, 1 Armory Square, Springfield, MA 01105, meeting will be in the classroom of the museum/visitors center.

Lodging address: Holiday Inn Express, 145 State Street, Springfield, MA 01103 (413) 285-8436. Group Code: Archeology of Firearms (or AOF) Group rate \$119.00.

Contact: Tad Britt (318) 521-5641 [Tad Britt@nps.gov](mailto:Tad_Britt@nps.gov)

Field School Opportunity at Kaibab National Forest

Northern Arizona University is collaborating with the Kaibab NF, to mount the first field season at Apex, Arizona, a 1920s/1930s logging town along the Grand Canyon Railway. The field school will focus on survey and excavations of the schoolhouse, domestic features, and sites of labor. There will also be field trips to the Grand Canyon and prehistoric sites around the area.

Undergraduate and graduate students with an interest in historical archeology looking for hands on experience in excavation, survey, mapping, and artifact analysis are encouraged to apply. Students must have 12 anthropology credits and instructor permission to enroll.

Cost: \$2,077.00 (based on 2019 summer tuition and subject to change), includes transportation to and from Flagstaff and the site, meals, and field school housing. Not included: housing outside of field days and personal expenses.

Contact: Emily Dale at emily.dale@nau.edu

SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC: Will Climate Change Promote Archeological Looting? An Example from Old Detroit, Oregon

A historic drought in 2015 and repairs to the Detroit Dam's spillway gates in December 2019 dropped Detroit Lake, Oregon, to levels low enough to reveal a "ghost wagon" in a ghost town. The lack of snowfall caused water levels in 2015 to drop to the lowest they've been in almost 50 years, approximately 143 feet below capacity. Low water levels on these two recent occasions revealed house foundations, fish ponds, and other relics of the railroad town of Old Detroit, including a horse drawn wagon.



The "ghost wagon" (Photo: David Zahn /Appeal Tribune)

Each time, the reservoir returned to normal and the wagon vanished back into the mud and water — a low-oxygen environment that's kept it preserved more than a half-century. While droughts are unpredictable, the Army Corps of Engineers said they have no plans to **drop the reservoir so low** in coming years. That might be for the best, archeologists think, given fears of vandalism and the thorny questions of how best to experience artifacts in context on the landscape.

"We've had a lot of looting over the years in Detroit Reservoir. People come in and take pieces of Old Detroit," USFS archeologist Cara Kelly said. "They think it's okay. But under federal law, it's illegal to dig, damage, excavate or remove anything from an archeological site like this one."

Old Detroit began around 1880 as a construction camp for the workers building the Oregon Pacific Railroad along the North Santiam River. There was hope the railroad might eventually cross the Cascades into Central Oregon, but it never happened. Instead, loggers in Old Detroit sent millions of board feet down the railroad line to the Willamette Valley.

At its height, Old Detroit featured a school, hardware store, cafes, taverns, a church and a movie theater. Former residents remember the downtown tucked along the Santiam River; there was a cobbler, a telephone company, the USFS office, a hotel, and many other businesses and homes. But floods that plagued farmers and landowners downstream soon put Old Detroit on the endangered list as Detroit and Big Cliff dams were planned — part of the Willamette Valley Project that's shaped northwest Oregon.



Old Detroit existed from 1880 to 1952, born as a railroad construction camp for workers who built the Oregon Pacific Railroad deep into the state's forestland. (Photo: PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE ZAHN)

The wagon was built by the Milburn Wagon Company in Toledo, Ohio, around the turn of the 20th century. With extra spokes, metal encased hubs, and a special 'Oregon brake,' it was built to engage rough terrain. Business owners in the present Detroit approached the USFS about excavating the wagon and putting it on display. But displaying it is likely impossible. "The issue is that in trying to remove it, it would just fall apart," said Kelly. It has only been the low-oxygen environment that's preserved it.

If a helicopter was somehow able to scoop out the wagon — and its pieces fortified in the casts used for dinosaur bones — it would still need to be displayed in a state-of-the-art facility that only exists in a few places on the West Coast, and nowhere near Detroit. "It would be very expensive and all of that would still be no guarantee that it wouldn't be damaged," said Molly Casperson, ACE district archeologist.

At the same time, looting and vandalism have been a major problem at many archeological sites, including Old Detroit. "It's an extremely hard thing to balance because it is this cool teachable moment, and a great opportunity to see an artifact like this on public land," Casperson said. "Ninety-five percent of the population is respectful and wants to see it preserved for the next generation. But there is also a very small subset that aren't respectful, and an artifact like this is non-renewable. Generally, people not knowing it's there is the best way to stop them from being damaged,"

For years, in central Oregon organized looters pillaged Native American sites and sold the artifacts on the black market — often to buy drugs. Thirteen people were convicted in Oregon in the early 2000s. "It happens a lot, and it's not always for drugs," said Casperson, who added that the Corps is planning a stepped-up effort at education and enforcement of artifact laws.

To prevent future damage or looting of sites such as the Detroit Lake wagon, the ACE is starting a program to educate and enforce federal laws at archeological sites. Future efforts include public presentations, social media, newspaper articles and visits to schools, in addition to placing signage

throughout Corps-managed lands that identify illegal actions related to the removal or destruction of archeological resources. "While it is our first priority to educate and have a dialogue with the public, part of this will include enforcing the law," Casperson said. "The three principles of this program can be summed up as educate, outreach, and enforce."

From story by Zach Urness, Salem Statesman Journal

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.