



Archeology Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



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Forest Service's Passport in Time Program now Multi-Agency

Beginning in 1989, the Forest Service has provided information about archeological projects on Forest Service lands to volunteers seeking suitable projects through the Passport in Time (PIT) clearinghouse. In 1991, PIT became a national program and since its inception, more than 14,000 PIT volunteers have contributed more than 605 person **years** of labor to archeological projects in national forests. In 2006, PIT announced that the program would also host information about volunteer opportunities at archeological sites and historic structures sponsored by other federal agencies. In 2006, PIT expanded clearinghouse listings beyond national forests to include any projects that are sponsored by any government agency, college, university, or archeological research firm wishing to include volunteers in the accomplishment of archeological or historical research. PIT projects may be field, lab, or office based; and may include survey, excavation, artifact processing, analysis, archival research, recording oral histories, rehabilitation of historic structures, or interpretation. While prospective volunteers may search the website for free, the Forest Service charges an administrative fee to sponsoring agencies.

To learn more about PIT or volunteer archeological activities, visit www.passportintime.com/

Archeology at Voyageurs NP

Over the past 20 years, archeologists and cultural resource specialists at the NPS Midwest Archeological Center and at Voyageurs NP have collaborated with members of the Bois Forte Ojibwe bands to carry out research on historic use of the park. The study area is part of an intact ecosystem contained within Quetico Provincial Park, Forest Service Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and Voyageurs NP. The ongoing project combines archeological and archival research to investigate the use of the area between the 1700s and 1950s by Bois Fortes bands. Field work and archival research have identified over 50 sites, and identified some of the ways that the Ojibwe were able to maintain off-reservation settlements, community structure, and traditional subsistence strategies well into the 1950s. At present there is only one allotment inside the park, but at the beginning of the 20th century more than 30 Native American families owned land inside of the boundaries of the present-day Voyageurs NP. Park staff have shared the results of their research with local families to help identify places where parents and grandparents lived, worked, and were sometimes buried.

NPS archeologist Jeff Richner has summarized this research in an article in the March 2007 issue of the Society for American Archeology *Archaeological Record*. "The Bois Forte Ojibwe's Historic Use of the Voyageurs National Park Area" describes the program of archeological research that has been carried out in the last several decades in Voyageurs NP, and the collaborations that have developed between park archeologists and the Native American communities.

For more information about archeology at Voyageurs NP, go to the National Archeological Database (NADB; www.cast.uark.edu/other/nps/nadb/nadb.mul.html) and query on Koochiching County, MN. There are at least seven references!

To read the full article, go to <http://www.saa.org/Publications/theSAAarchRec/mar07.pdf>

To learn more about Voyageurs NP, go to <http://www.nps.gov/voya/>

First Finds from Excavation of President's House in Philadelphia

Archeologists working at the site of the President's House at 6th & Market Streets in Independence NHP have located remains of the actual house. These findings are shedding new light on Presidents George Washington and John Adams residence from 1790 to 1800. "We're very excited," said NPS Archeologist Jed Levin. "It was a long shot that any portion of the house would survive. And now we're learning things we might otherwise never have known!"

Excavations in the kitchen where Hercules – one of at least nine enslaved Africans who toiled in the Washington household – presided as George Washington's chef, have unearthed a large portion of the southeast corner wall and foundation along the south wall of the main house. As Levin explains, "Based on documentation, we thought the President's House kitchen was only one story, so we didn't expect it to have deep foundations. But now we know it also had a basement." A coin dated to 1833 from an upper level confirmed that the Presidents house was torn down in 1832 and another structure built on the lot.

This particular excavation is part of the preparation for commemoration of the President's House site. The team, headed by Kelly/Maiello Architects and Planners, will design and build a new permanent outdoor installation commemorating the President's House and all its occupants – including the nation's first two presidents, their families, and the enslaved Africans who lived and worked in the Washington household.

For more information about Independence NHP visit <http://www.nps.gov/inde/>

NPS Southeast Archeological Center Receives Award

The NPS Southeast Region Division of Education and Interpretation has awarded the Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) the Keeper of the Light Award the highest award it bestows. The award recognizes the critical role that education, interpretation, and outreach play in cultivating an understanding and appreciation for America's rich cultural heritage.

For nearly two decades, through its Public Interpretation Initiative and other activities, SEAC has contributed to public education, interpretation, and outreach. The award recognizes significant public outreach activities. SEAC's public education activities aid the NPS in accomplishing the NPS education/preservation mission set by the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Strategy for Federal Archeology.

For more information about the Southeast Archeological Center, visit <http://www.nps.gov/history/seac/>

Pecos NHP to host Pecos Conference

The 2007 Pecos Conference will be held on August 9-12 at Pecos NHP. This year's conference theme is **Galisteo Basin Archeology**. In addition to the customary conference presentations and activities, the 2007 conference will highlight current research and preservation efforts in the Galisteo Basin and northern Rio Grande. Two mini-symposia, a Friday evening lecture, and Sunday tours to several Galisteo Basin archeological sites are planned.

First inspired and organized by A.V. Kidder in 1927, the Pecos Conference has no formal organization or permanent leadership. Open to all professional and avocational archeologists and the general public, the Pecos Conference is an important opportunity for students of Southwestern prehistory to meet.

The 2007 conference is sponsored by the NPS; Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology; US Forest Service; New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division; and the School for Advanced Research.

For more information about the Pecos Conference and to register, go to www.swanet.org/2007_pecos_conference/

Archeological Resources on NPS History Program website

The NPS History Program, which posts information about unpublished and out of print reports and books about national park resources on the NPS History Program website, has surpassed the 2,000 document mark. First developed for internal use to facilitate access to hard to get resources, the studies available on the website reflect the wide diversity of research carried out in the National Park system. Now in the 10th year of the project, the website boasts over 2,000 electronic copies of reports and books, and over 1500 articles on anthropology, history, architecture, biology, geology, and other topics. In addition, selected out of print park handbooks, and interpretive guides are available.

Project manager NPS Historian Harry Butowsky notes that “these publications were written by some of the best people the NPS ever employed.” Butowsky, whose recent activities include collecting oral histories from Pearl Harbor survivors and historians, has received the prestigious George Wright Society Communication award, partly for the History website. Butowsky continues work to identify documents for the website, and happily accepts suggestions of titles of out of print or unpublished documents pertaining to the NPS. All of the publications can be located through internet search engines and printed.

Of particular interest to archeologists is the Archeological Research/Publications in Archeology/Anthropology Papers Series, http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/archeology/index.htm. These publications were the culmination of a series of archeological and anthropological research studies conducted by the NPS starting in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Originally published as the Archeological Research Series, the series was retitled Publications in Archeology, following the establishment of the Office of Professional Publications. The Anthropological Papers Series was discontinued after only two titles were published. Three publications from these series are now available electronically, which can be reached through the “Classic Publications” button on the homepage. Others will be posted as they become available.

Underwater archeologists will be interested in the series of Submerged Cultural Resource Studies <http://www.nps.gov/history/history/hisnps/submerged.htm>. Currently, 15 reports are posted and others will be posted as they become available. The majority of the studies report on the results of work completed by the NPS Submerged Resources Center in units of the national park system.

The website also hosts electronic copies of publications from the NPS “Fauna Series,” which will be useful to zooarcheologists (http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/fauna.htm). The studies are an outcome of the wildlife survey program initiated by George Wright in 1929. The website has eight out of print publications from this series, including the first, by George Wright, “Fauna of the National Parks of the United States,” and two by noted biologist Adolph Murie.

To visit the website, go to <http://www.nps.gov/history/history/>

Speakers at Archeology Field School, Vancouver National Historic Reserve

Experts in the fields of history and archeology will speak during the seventh annual archeology field school at the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, a program of the Northwest Cultural Resources Institute. These fascinating talks are open to the public. The lectures will address topics ranging from the archeology of Jamestown to the Rogue River Indian wars at Fort Lane in southern Oregon. The field school is a joint undertaking of the Northwest Cultural Resources Institute; Fort Vancouver National Historic Site (NPS); Portland State University; Washington State University, Vancouver; and the Vancouver National Historic Trust Reserve.

All of the talks will be held in the Auditorium of the Pearson Air Museum.

For more information about the Fort Vancouver NHS go to <http://www.nps.gov/fova/>

Projects in Parks: Battlefield Archeology at King’s Mountain NMP

Although portable metal detectors have been used recreationally since the development of the equipment in the mid-1940s, little common ground had been established between archeologists and metal detecting hobbyists. A wildfire in 1984 that consumed the tall grass covering the Little Big Horn Battlefield provided a unique opportunity for an innovative archeologist and a group of metal detector hobbyists to establish a mutually beneficial relationship. This collaboration on the plains of Montana provided the basis for a whole new line of inquiry which came to be known as Battlefield Archeology. Projects undertaken on battlefields in the Southeast United States by staff of the NPS Southeast Archeological Center employed and further modified, and improved battlefield archeology methods to provide new and/or revised interpretations of battles associated with the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Indian Wars, and the Civil War, including the King's Mountain Battle of the Revolutionary War.

NPS employees who can access the NPS intranet can read the full report by going to **Projects in Parks** <<http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3670>> on InsideNPS. Other readers can access the full report through the *What's New* page <http://www.nps.gov/history/archeology/NEW.HTM> on the Archeology Program website.

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 National Park Service and other public agencies. Recipients are encouraged to forward *Archeology E-Grams* to colleagues and relevant mailing lists. Past issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* are available on the *Archeology E-Gram* webpage <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3867> on InsideNPS; and on the *What's New* page <http://www.nps.gov/history/archeology/NEW.HTM> on the Archeology Program website.

Projects in Parks is a feature of the *Archeology E-Gram* that informs others about archeology-related projects in a national park. Prospective authors should review information about submitting photographs on the *Projects in Parks* webpage. The full reports are available on the *Projects in Parks* webpage <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=3&prg=279&id=3670> on InsideNPS; and through individual issues of the *Archeology E-Gram* on the Archeology Program website.

Contact: dca@nps.gov to contribute news items, stories for "Projects in Parks," and to subscribe.