



# Archeology Program

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## July 2020 Archeology E-Gram Print edition

### **Lisa Baldwin Selected as Superintendent of Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument**

Lisa Baldwin is the new superintendent of Salinas Pueblo Missions NM. Baldwin, an archeologist by training, has a strong background in resource preservation and cultural resources management with the NPS. She previously served as the chief of resource stewardship and science at Dinosaur NM.

Baldwin has also served as the cultural resources program manager at the Flagstaff Area Monuments in Arizona that includes Wupatki, Sunset Crater Volcano and Walnut Canyon national monuments. She also worked as a project manager for the NPS Vanishing Treasures Program and recently completed a detail as the acting chief of cultural resources for the NPS Inter-Mountain regional office.

Before joining the NPS, Baldwin worked as an archeology technician and lab assistant for the Gila River Indian Community in Phoenix, Arizona. Baldwin earned her MA in anthropology with a focus in Southwestern archaeology from Northern Arizona University and dual BA in anthropology and history from Arizona State University.

Baldwin assumed her new role on July 5, 2020.

### **NPS Park NAGPRA Program Celebrates New Internal Website**

The NPS Park NAGPRA program has completed rebuilding the internal website that provides information and guidance for NPS staff working with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). The site is now live and includes the following sections, as well as Quick Links to other resources and contact information for NPS regional NAGPRA coordinators:

- NAGPRA GUIDANCE -- Guidance for NPS Compliance with NAGPRA (Appendix R to NPS Cultural Resource Management Guideline), Notice Templates, Frequently Asked Questions, Glossary, Sample Documents
- TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES -- Calendar of scheduled classes, webinars
- RECORDED WEBINARS -- Recordings of past webinars
- INFORMATION CENTER -- Published Notices; List of Unclaimed Cultural Items; 1993 NPS Servicewide Summary; Memos from the Associate Director Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science; NAGPRA Records Schedule; Contaminated Collections
- REPORT AN INADVERTENT DISCOVERY/INTENTIONAL EXCAVATION -- Form to submit information about an inadvertent discovery/intentional excavation to the Park NAGPRA program.

NPS employees can access the NPS Park NAGPRA site at <https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/nps-nagpra?CT=1596474901778&OR=OWA-NT&CID=768ab3ae-0db7-73da-d8c7-5881e0ebe8cb>

### **Program Trains Military Veterans for World of Archeology**

Within a quiet lab, are scattered fragments of America's storied past.

"I never thought I'd be doing anything like this," said Kenneth McNeill, an eight-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He also spent three years in the reserves and now is a part of the "Veterans Curation Program," which provides training in archiving and archeology. The artifacts come from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who discovered the items at sites across the country during the excavation and construction of major projects, like dams and canals.

“The Army Corps of Engineers had a need for people to do this curation work and the veterans have a need to find work and gain new skills and feel comfortable getting back into the workforce,” said Sarah Janesko, administrator of the Veterans Curation Program.

The lab spaces are provided around the country by New South Associates, a company which specializes in archeology and partnered with the Army Corps to train the veterans. In just over 10 years, the program has trained nearly 700 veterans, with 72% of them landing permanent jobs, some with the Smithsonian and NPS, while another 19% have gone on to further their studies in college.

To learn more about the Veterans Curation Project, go to <https://veteranscurationprogram.org/>

*From story by Maya Rodriguez, the Denver channel.com*

### **National Museum of Natural History scans NPS Fossils**

The Digitization Program at NMNH has recorded a collection of fossils collected from NPS lands and has put them online for everyone to enjoy.

Ok, so it's not archeology, but it's still pretty cool. Check it out!

<https://3d.si.edu/collections/nationalparkservicepaleobiology>

**The Federal Archeologist's Bookshelf:** This month we have a twofer – an article *by* an NPS archeologist and an article *about* an NPS site.

Ritual Economy and the Organization of Scioto Hopewell Craft Production: Insights from the Outskirts of the Mount City Group. Timothy D. Everhart and Bret J. Ruby *American Antiquity* (2020) Vol. 85:279-304.

This article offers insights into the organization of Scioto Hopewell craft production and examines the implications of this organization through the lens of ritual economy. We present a novel analysis of investigations at the North 40 site, concluding that it is a craft production site located on the outskirts of the renowned Mound City Group. High-resolution landscape-scale magnetic survey revealed a cluster of three large structures and two rows of associated pits; one of the buildings and three of the pits were sampled in excavations. Evidence from the North 40 site marks this as the best-documented Scioto Hopewell craft production site. Mica, chert, and copper were crafted here in contexts organized outside the realm of domestic household production contexts. This analysis of the complex organization of Scioto Hopewell craft production provides grounds for further understanding of the elaborate ceremonialism practiced by Middle Woodland (AD 1-400) societies and adds to the known complexity of craft production in small-scale societies. Furthermore, this article contributes to a growing body of literature demonstrating the utility of ritual economy as a framework for approaching the sociality of small-scale societies.

Convergency of Evidence Supports a Chuska Mountains Origin for the Plaza Tree of Pueblo Bonito, Chaco Canyon. Christopher H. Guiterman, Christopher H. Baisan, Nathan B. English, Jay Quade, Jeffrey S. Dean, and Thomas W. Swetnam *American Antiquity* (2020) Vol. 85: 331-346.

The iconic Plaza Tree of Pueblo Bonito is widely believed to have been a majestic pine standing in the west courtyard of the monumental great house during the peak of the Chaco Phenomenon (AD 850-1140).

The ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) log was discovered in 1924, and since then, it has been included in “birth” and “life” narratives of Pueblo Bonito, although these ideas have not been rigorously tested. We evaluate three potential growth origins of the tree: Pueblo Bonito, Chaco Canyon, or a distant mountain range. Based on converging lines of evidence- documentary records, strontium isotopes, and tree-ring provenance testing – we present a new origin for the Plaza Tree. It did not grow in Pueblo Bonito or even nearby in Chaco Canyon. Rather, it originated from the Chuska Mountains, over 50 km west of Chaco Canyon. The tree was likely carried to Pueblo Bonito sometime between AD 1100 and 1130, although why it was left in the west courtyard, what it meant, and how it might have been used remains mysteries. The origin of the Plaza Tree of Pueblo Bonito underscores deep cultural and material ties between the Chaco Canyon great houses and the Chuska landscape.

**GRANTS AND TRAINING:** none reported at this time.

**SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC:** will be back soon.

*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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