



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

July 2011

Historical Happenings

Notes on Cultural Resource Management in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Historical Happenings provides information on the USFWS Cultural Resources Management program. Information comes from sources such as the Regional Historic Preservation Officers, websites, new sources, as well as other cultural resource management professionals.

Issues are also available on the USFWS Cultural Resources website <http://historicpreservation.fws.gov>. Submissions are encouraged and can be made via email. Please contact Eugene Marino at Eugene_Marino@fws.gov for submission guidelines

HH Debuts a new section called *Manager's Corner!* Opinions and information about Cultural Resources from Refuge and Hatchery Managers.

Manager's Corner: Lou Hinds

I know that most Refuge Managers are proud of their staff. When you look around the country and see the accomplishments in wildlife management and visitor services you know we have really good people working for us. But once in awhile, they do something extra special and that happened to me just recently. I am no different than most managers, a lot to do and little time to do it in. I have started to use the juggling act explanation, "too many balls in the air at one time." The problem is that some of those balls were starting to hit the ground with no hope of getting them back in the air. That was my predicament last March with two cemeteries located on the refuge.

Over a year ago, I had a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) study completed of one known cemetery and one possible cemetery found on Chincoteague NWR. The purpose was to determine how many human remains were actually buried on these sites. These cemeteries were part of a small community known as Assateague Village that prospered from the mid to late 1800s through the 1920s. By the end of the 1920s most of the Assateague Village residents had moved to the neighboring island known as Chincoteague Island. Many of the locals today, called "Teagers," trace their family lineage back to Assateague Village. Verbal history has passed along family stories that suggest when Assateague Villagers relocated to Chincoteague Island they carried their deceased relatives to Chincoteague Island and reburied them there.

However, I had no firm proof only a cemetery with a few head stones and a suspicious site.

The GPR study did confirm the presence of additional bodies in the known Assateague Village Cemetery, and in fact, the other site in question was a small family cemetery with three human remains contained within. But, that is not the end of the story; remember those "balls" I was juggling.

The Chincoteague Island community takes pride in caring for its cemeteries and the two cemeteries located on the Chincoteague Refuge are a visible connection with that community. I wanted to make sure we cared for these cemeteries and properly documented the location of the human remains that were found. To my surprise and delight my maintenance crew stepped up to the pitchers plate and said "hand over that ball" and away they went. While cleaning up vegetation that fell over the winter and mowing the sites they found another headstone, lying flat on the ground under the pine needles and cones. The headstone was for an infant and it moved my maintenance folks in a way that I did not expect. After alerting me to their discovery they asked if I would allow them to bring the GPR crew back to resurvey the area where the infant's head stone had been found. I agreed, but told them they would need to supervise the work and help the GPR crew. After much prep-work (mowing and removing all obstacles so that the GPR could get good solid contact with the ground) the GPR crew returned and did their survey. In addition to the infant, another two children and one adult were found in close proximity to one another. This was something we certainly did not expect. The maintenance team working with the GPR contractor accurately marked the head and foot location of each body with flagging and then collected GPS locations.

Needless to say I am very proud of my maintenance team. They took on the challenge of caring for cultural resource on the Refuge and in doing so added to our knowledge of that resource. One other footnote, the last name on the infant's headstone was Daisey. For those that collect decoys some may remember the name of a famous decoy carver from Chincoteague Island know as "Cigar" Daisey. Do you think there might be a connection?

FWS Regional News:

Region 1/8

Virginia Parks' recently submitted poster session for the Conserving the Future conference was accepted!. The session will focus on the many contributions of archaeology and cultural resources to science within the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Other Agency News

ACHP—The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) is pleased to provide updated guidelines to federal agencies on how to report on their progress in identifying, protecting, and using historic properties in their ownership or control consistent with the requirements of Section 3 of Executive Order 13287 (EO).

The EO calls for federal real property managers to assess on an ongoing basis the status of their inventory of historic properties, their condition and management needs and an evaluation of how an agency's historic properties might be suitable for supporting community economic development. Agencies must also examine their management policies, regulations and operating practices to improve compatibility with the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act. In doing so, agencies may use existing information gathering and reporting systems to meet these requirements. These reports, once provided to the ACHP, are then used to report to the President on the state of the Federal Government's historic properties and their contribution to local economic development.

To assist agencies in meeting these reporting requirements, the ACHP, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, and working closely with members of the ACHP's Federal Agency Programs (FAP) Committee and partners in federal agencies, developed revised advisory guidelines to assist agencies in developing their progress reports. First provided in 2007, these advisory guidelines built upon lessons learned from the first round of progress reports in 2005 and encouraged agencies to focus their next reports on four thematic areas: enhancing and improving inventories of historic properties, integrating stewardship into agency planning, building

partnerships, and managing assets. Based on reports provided by federal agencies in 2008, the ACHP prepared a report to the President entitled "In a Spirit of Stewardship: A Report on Federal Historic Property Management", which was provided to President Obama on February 15, 2009.

In accordance with Section 3 of the Executive Order, federal real property management agencies must report on their progress in identifying, protecting, and using historic properties every three years, making the next reports due to the ACHP by September 30, 2011, and the ACHP's next report to the President must accordingly be provided by February 15, 2012.

In preparation for the next round of reporting under EO 13287, the ACHP has made routine technical edits to the advisory guidelines and added two questions. Question number 8 was added to enhance the ACHP's ability to report on the effectiveness of the federal preservation program. In addition, question 18 was added to address agencies' sustainability goals in accordance with EO 13514, "Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance". The latter question asks agencies to report how sustainability goals are being met, taking stewardship of historic properties into account, and provides several specific questions for agencies to consider as they prepare information on this subject.

The revised Section 3 advisory guidelines are attached to this email for your use. In addition, they are available on the ACHP website at: <http://www.achp.gov/section3/index.html>. The use of these guidelines is not mandatory, and a federal agency with real property management responsibilities can, at its discretion, independently determine how it will report on the progress of its efforts to identify, protect, and use its historic properties.

In order to assist agencies, the ACHP is holding two open houses during which ACHP staff will be available to discuss the reporting requirements, answer questions about the reporting process, and provide examples of previous agency Section 3 reports for viewing. These open houses will be held on Thursday, June 2nd and Tuesday, June 7th, from 2-4 each day in Room M-07 of the Old Post Office Building, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004.

For questions please contact Ms. Caroline D. Hall at (202) 606-8524 or chall@achp.gov.

ACHP—The ACHP is pleased to provide this guidance to assist federal agencies in their efforts to meet the requirements of Executive Order (EO) 13514 while also meeting the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act. Section 2(g) of the EO charges federal agencies to,

“Implement high performance sustainable federal building design, construction, operation and management, maintenance, and deconstruction including by...[among other considerations] ensuring that rehabilitation of federally owned historic buildings utilizes best practices and technologies in retrofitting to promote long-term viability of the buildings.”

This guidance was developed with the support of the President’s Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and was prepared by a work group comprising staff representatives of the ACHP, Department of Defense, Department of the Interior, Department of Veterans Affairs, and General Services Administration.

The goal of this guidance is to assist federal decision makers, usually capital asset managers, facility managers, and other program and project managers, in their considerations regarding sustainability and historic federal buildings. Decision makers will benefit from the ACHP’s recommended strategies to consider historic preservation along with energy efficiency and sustainability concerns; to seek out historic preservation outcomes; and to take advantage of opportunities for meeting historic preservation, energy efficiency, and sustainability goals together in the administration of federal buildings. We request the assistance of Senior Policy Officials and Federal Preservation Officers in distributing this guidance to its intended audience and others in federal agencies who may benefit from the guidance.

See here for the full text
<http://www.achp.gov/docs/SustainabilityAndHP.pdf>

NPS Archeology Program Updates Distance Learning Courses on Interpreting Archeology

Does your park have archeological resources? Are you wondering what they all mean, and how they hang together with the interpretive themes of your park? Do site reports and collections seem like impenetrable obstacles to get at the real story behind them? Are you looking to enrich your knowledge with another perspective, and encourage your audiences in the same? If you answered yes to even one of these questions, check out the four courses that support Effective Interpretation of Archeological Resources: The Archeology-Interpretation Shared Competency Course of Study (Module 440). The courses were created by the NPS to encourage archeologists and interpreters to work together to interpret archeological resources to the public. The courses are particularly useful to volunteers in parks, interns, archeologists, interpreters and educators, and cultural resource managers who wish to hone their public interpretation skills. All four courses are available for credit through DOI Learn – just search by the course name in italics below.

Archeology for Interpreters is aimed at interpreters and educators. It outlines the art and science of archeology, its purposes, methods, and approaches, then puts it all together in a case study. Learn in the process about sensitive interpretations of cultural heritage, resources for more information, and more. Online: www.nps.gov/archeology/AforI/index.htm .

Interpretation for Archeologists helps archeologists looking for effective methods to present their findings in ways that grab attention and cultivate stewardship. The course explains the Interpretive Equation, methods of interpretation, and includes case studies and resources. Archeologists will learn how to weave a story out of archeological resources in engaging ways. www.nps.gov/archeology/lforA/index.htm

Study Tour of Archeological Interpretation investigates the interdisciplinary issues faced by archeologists and interpreters while working together to provide effective and accurate interpretation of archeological resources to the public. Each section introduces choices and strategies for interpreting archeology in parks and historic sites. Take a self-guided tour in person or on-line with the course in hand to evaluate the interpretive techniques applied to an archeological resources. Online: www.nps.gov/archeology/studytour/index.htm .

Assessment of Archeological Interpretation draws from the earlier courses to create an evaluative framework for your interpretive program. It’s a handy way to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the program, and develop ways to improve and polish it.

www.nps.gov/archeology/aiassess/index.htm

For more information, contact Teresa Moyer (202)354-2124

New THPOs

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656 Agency Main Street
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Legislative News

Vice President Biden met with the congressional leadership four times this week in the hopes of breaking the impasse about the size and scope of a deficit reduction agreement necessary to get all sides to agree on raising the debt ceiling. The hope is that an agreement can be reached to at least extend borrowing

authority of the federal government through the end of 2013. There is also growing sentiment among some GOP Senators to include elimination of previously sacrosanct tax credits as part of the deal and a draft Senate budget resolution is pending introduction that proposes the very same thing. However, there is also a strong undercurrent in both chambers to delay elimination of 'tax expenditures' for consideration as part of a major tax reform and overhaul later on. To make matters worse, the GOP congressional leadership pulled out of the budget negotiations altogether late on Thursday over including any revenue or tax increases in the final deal and called on President Obama to become personally engaged in the talks. The collapse of talks and additional delay in reaching a debt deal will render any appropriations markups in the coming weeks into nothing more than a budget cutting exercise that will require further drastic reductions in spending. At this point, it would appear nearly impossible for the Interior Appropriations subcommittee to mark up and approve Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) funding at the President's proposed F'12 budget level (\$61 million) and even FY'11 level funding (\$54.5 million) could be in peril when markup takes place July 6th. Preservation funding has already taken a serious hit with the loss of funding for both the Save America's Treasures (SAT) and Preserve America (PA) programs.

The July 6th appropriations subcommittee markup will also be the first salvo in a battle to preserve the Antiquities Act of 1906, the most powerful tool the President has in preserving threatened natural and cultural landmarks. House Appropriations Committee member Dennis Rehberg (R-MT) is expected to offer an amendment to the draft FY'12 Interior appropriations bill that could either defund, diminish or destroy the Antiquities Act of 1906. Rep. Rehberg has previously introduced stand-alone legislation to prohibit the monument proclamations under the 1906 Act in the state of Montana. Similarly, an amendment was offered by Rep. Dean Heller (R-NV) to defund the Antiquities Act during consideration of the FY'11 continuing resolution (CR) in March, which was defeated by only four votes in the House. If passed in subcommittee, the Rehberg amendment could be difficult to extract as odds are that all FY'12 spending bills may be rolled into an omnibus spending bill because of the uncertainty created by the debt-ceiling talks and potential deficit reduction agreement.

Training, Upcoming Events, Education, and Volunteers and Friends News

Webinars for the Interior Collections Management System

The Dept will be hosting the webinars for the following topics

6 July: Inventory
7 July: Intro to Archives
20 July: Import / Export
21 July: Checklist
26 July: Inventory
27 July: Intro to Cultural Resources

These webinars will be listed on DOI-Learn and registration will be through DOI-Learn. These will be scheduled to take place on the appointed date at 2:00 PM EASTERN TIME. A tentative schedule is noted below

For more information contact:

Roger S. Durham
Staff Curator and Training Coordinator
Interior Museum Program
Office of Acquisition and Property Management
Department of the Interior
1801 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20006
202-254-5523

The Managing Museum Property Course will be held on 11-15 July at the USGS National Training Center, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado. Registration is through DOI-Learn. Please distribute this to your staffs and colleagues. Questions should be directed to:

Roger S. Durham
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202-254-5523

Archeological Resources Protection Training Program

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) presents this thirty-seven hour class which provides training in all aspects of an archeological investigation and subsequent prosecution of the crimes. This premier class is taught by accomplished instructors that are nationally recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. The class cumulates in a twelve-hour archeological crime scene practical exercise where law enforcement officers and archeologist work as a team to investigate and document a crime scene. Attendees will gather and process physical evidence, write incident reports, executive summaries, search

warrants, damage assessments, and provide testimony in a courtroom scenario.

This 37-hour course is taught by accomplished instructors who are nationally-recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. Enrollment is limited to federal or state law enforcement officers, archeologists and prosecutors. For registration information, please contact FLETC at 912-280-5188 or email charles.louke@dhs.gov

Next class: August 22-26, 2011 in Fayetteville, North Carolina

Friends Group News

There are a number of activities at the Cathlapotle plankhouse.

For information on these events take a look at www.plankhouse.org