



# Historical Happenings

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

*December*

## WONDERFUL THINGS

The collection from the Steamboat Bertrand is being prepared for use in a celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Steamboat's sinking. Look for updates in 2015!!

## What's New at HQ?

Paige Singh recently completed a 3 month internship here at FWS HQ. She worked with FWS Archaeologists to identify collections containing animal remains so that the information could be used by the Natural Resource Center's Inventory and Monitoring program for potential climate change studies. Paige also oversaw production of HH while she was here.

Thank you Paige for a great 3 months!!

## Around the Regions.... Region 5

### Duvall Bridge Restoration—

Patuxent Research Refuge has many historic landmarks, with Duvall Bridge being one of the more endearing. The structure is an 87' single span,

steel, Pratt truss bridge with a timber deck, supported by steel floor beams and stringer framing. It's one of three surviving steel truss bridges in the County (Figure 1)



**Fig 1. Duvall Bridge prior to restoration.**

Originally constructed c. 1907 by Anne Arundel County to replace an existing wooden bridge, the Duvall Bridge provides passage over the Patuxent River for, what was then, Telegraph Road. At one time, it is reported that this road was the main thoroughfare between Washington D.C. and Baltimore, with the first long-distance telegraph system, constructed in 1844 by Samuel Morse, running along its route.

The namesake of the bridge was taken from the original wooden

bridge, which connected the 450 acre plantation of Dr. Charles Duvall on the south side of the river (Prince George's County), to his saw and grist mill on the north side (Anne Arundel County). The Duvall's farm was sold out of the family in 1906 and, in the next year, Anne Arundel County replaced the wooden bridge with the existing structure. The Duvall plantation passed on to different plantation owners until 1936 when the tract was sold to the U.S. Department of the Interior for the creation of The Patuxent Research Refuge. In 1941, the title to Duvall Bridge was officially given to the U.S. Government.

The importance of the bridge to the general operations of Patuxent Research Refuge cannot be overstated. Although this road is not open to the public, it provides the only access, within the refuge boundary, between the north tract and the rest of the refuge. Without the bridge, Patuxent's response time to the north tract for law enforcement officers increases from 15 minutes to 45 minutes. Also, all maintenance equipment has to be trailered to the north tract over the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, which requires a contracted hauler. However, even with this level of importance, funding maintenance for the structure proved



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difficult at best, and the condition of the bridge was allowed to deteriorate almost unchecked. It was condemned and closed to all access as a result of a structural inspection in 2009 which reduced the load rating to 3 tons (Figure 2).



Fig 2. Extent of degradation present over most of the structural supports

Full restoration of the bridge was proposed and submitted as a deferred maintenance project. The project was funded for design in 2011 and the work was completed in 2013. Due to the severe corrosion and section loss of the truss bottom chords, the five original stringers and the steel floor beams, all these members were replaced, which amounted to a full replacement of the entire bridge superstructure.

The restoration design (Burgess and Niple, Inc.) was sensitive to the need to maintain the historic appearance of the bridge and included elements such as, using bolted connections designed to look like the original riveted connections as well as the use of carriage bolts to tie down the wooden deck, similar to the original construction. Also, with the realization of the difficulty to obtain funding for ongoing maintenance of government facilities, one intent of the design was to seek the best protective coating or paint for the new and existing members of the bridge to inhibit corrosion as much as possible. The refuge decided to use a coating frequently used by the National Park Service on historic bridges,

Termarust 2200, a high ratio copolymerized calcium sulfonate penetrant/sealer (which is just a fancy way of saying that it bonds to steel at the molecular level...just don't try to say it 5 times fast or you might hurt yourself!).

The Contractor awarded the project was Kovilic Construction Company, Inc., out of Franklin Park, Illinois. This company is very experienced in bridge work, even major interstate bridges, and did an excellent job restoring the little 87 foot, two-track bridge in the middle of the forest.

With the completion and opening of Duvall Bridge, operations have now become a little more manageable here at Patuxent Research Refuge (Figure 3). The government staff here at Patuxent also enjoys the bridge for its aesthetic qualities. It is even rumored that the bridge has become a popular lunch spot for groups of researchers from USGS, which are co-located here. So, whether it's for hauling the backhoe to the north tract or it's for someone to find a quiet spot to enjoy their roast beef sandwich, here's to what we hope will be another 100 years of service for Patuxent's historic Duvall Bridge.



Figure 3. Restored and re-opened for operations

*HH staff thanks Teresa Walter, Civil Engineer, USFWS Patuxent Research Refuge for her time in writing this article for us. Thank you Teresa!!*

## Other Agency News

**Advisory Council on Historic Preservation**—is beginning to plan for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act in 2016. Part of the planning involves publication of 106 success stories, referring to Section 106 of the Act. FWS made the list! A story about the Cathlapotle Plankhouse at Ridgefield NWR was released late in June. Check it out: [http://www.achp.gov/sec106\\_successes.html](http://www.achp.gov/sec106_successes.html) and click on Cathlapotle.

**ACHP has also updated several policies as well as their training offerings for 2015. Please check achp.gov for all these updates**

**NPS**—New THPO  
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### TRAINING, UPCOMING EVENTS, EDUCATION, AND NEWS

**FWS CR online course (CLM2117) scheduled for February 2-20, 2015. The course is live in DOI Learn. Register now!**

Contact Catherine Johnson at 304-876-7441 [cathy\\_johnson@fws.gov](mailto:cathy_johnson@fws.gov) for questions or assistance

**New Section 106 training catalog check out:**

[www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html](http://www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html).

Complete information and registration procedures can be found at [www.achp.gov/106](http://www.achp.gov/106).

**Contact:** Cindy Bienvenue, Meeting and Event Manager, at 202-606-8521.

**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



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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.

The next course is: TBD

Contact: Charles Louke (912) 280-5138 for course information.

#### LEGISLATIVE NEWS

None at this time

#### VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS NEWS

There are a number of activities at the Cathlapotle plankhouse. For information on these events take a look at [www.plankhouse.org](http://www.plankhouse.org).



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