



# Culturally Speaking

The Cultural Resources Newsletter of California State Parks

Produced by the Archaeology, History & Museums Division

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## Asilomar Social Hall Interior Restored

### Centerpiece of Conference Center

The Phoebe A. Hearst Social Hall is the centerpiece of Asilomar Conference Grounds. Guests' first impression of Asilomar is often the Social Hall, as it is the place where they register for their event or stay. It is also where they come to socialize, enjoy the large fireplace, or relax with a book. Built in 1913, it is Julia Morgan's *piece de resistance* at Asilomar, and sets the tone for her other rustic Craftsman-style buildings on the campus.

### Honoring the Past

Recently, the Social Hall underwent an extensive restoration project.

Initiated by State Parks and its concessionaire, Aramark, the project was designed to bring back some of the faded glory of the building.



Social Hall - 1920s

One of the most visually stunning aspects of this project was the restoration of the original three inch pine flooring. This replaced the existing flooring, which was installed in the 1960s and was out of character with the historic

fabric of the building as well as being deteriorated. The south end of the building, which had witnessed numerous changes over decades of use, was also significantly altered to provide improved administrative space. An intrusive office space which had been built into the main hall space was removed. Original old growth redwood paneling was carefully matched (using reclaimed wood) down to a specially formulated stain. One corner was converted into a café space, where guests will be able to enjoy coffee, tea, light snacks, beer, and wine in a beautiful setting.

(Continued on page 2)

## Editor's Corner

### Keeping Tabs

I'd like to thank all of the people who took time to comment on the new Culturally Speaking Newsletter. It is encouraging to know that it was well received. One of the things that we are trying to do with the newsletter is to inform people of the

various projects throughout the state that involve cultural resources.

If you are working on a project yourself or know of one that you think we should highlight, I encourage you to let us know, or better yet, submit an article to the newsletter.

All of us at Archaeology, History & Museums Division hope that you had a happy holiday.

*Chris Corey*

[ccorey@parks.ca.gov](mailto:ccorey@parks.ca.gov)

Associate State Archaeologist  
Archaeology, History &  
Museums Division





Social Hall Prior To Restoration

**S**tate Parks staff and Palomar community volunteers have been working together for several seasons to preserve, maintain, and restore the Quincy Orchard...



Visitors Enjoying Musical Entertainment

## Asilomar Social Hall Restoration

*(Continued from page 1)*  
Though this space was originally a small store and post office, it had been closed off from the rest of the building to serve as an office in recent years. This work is viewed as an adaptive reuse or rehabilitation in Secretary of the Interior parlance, opening up a space that had been closed to the public for decades. As with the oth-

er parts of this project, painstaking efforts were



Restored Flooring and Registration Desk

made to match original materials. The result of this project is breathtak-

ing today. We feel that much of this building's original sense of place has been returned.

We are also hoping to restore the original concrete deck on the exterior of the Social Hall when funds become available.

*Matt Bischoff,  
State Historian III-  
Monterey District*

## Palomar Mountain Apple Festival Is A Success

### **First Annual Event**

In early California, agricultural communities were bonded by gathering to celebrate important seasonal events. Autumn is the harvest season and, for the agricultural community on Palomar Mountain, the autumn events focused on apples.

The homesteaders who settled on the Mountain in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century planted primarily apple orchards. There were four homesteads with apple orchards that became part of Palomar Mountain State Park (PMSP) in 1931: Doane, Quincy, Oliver, and Bougher. The 110-year-old Quincy Orchard remains near the entrance to PMSP, still producing an abundant harvest of

heritage apple varieties perfect for baking delectable treats and making cider.

### **Celebrating Apple Heritage**

State Parks staff and Palomar community volunteers have been working together for several seasons to preserve, maintain, and restore the Quincy Orchard, with the result that at least 46 heritage trees and 33 restoration trees comprise the orchard today. In October, we decided to celebrate our accomplishments at the Orchard with an opportunity for the Palomar community to celebrate their apple heritage.

### **Old Time Gathering**

Ranger Jessica Murany organized a work day in

the Park and over 100 gallons of apples were picked by the PMSP Orchard Guild and many volunteers. Over the next three weeks, Parks staff, volunteers, and the community worked to make apple pies, cobbler, apple butter and chutney, dried apples, stuffed apples and apple sauce, and of course apple cider. On Sunday, October 23, the Park's Silvercrest Picnic area was transformed into a nineteenth-century Palomar Mountain community gathering. Ladies in pioneer dress demonstrated spinning, quilting, and hand sewing.

Wynola Valley Orchards brought orchard information and historic varieties of apples for tasting. Children made apple

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Palomar Apple Festival

*(Continued from page 2)*  
 sachets and corn husk dolls, carved apple heads, and spun yarn necklaces with a drop spindle. A local band provided pioneer music. After all the baking and preparation, there were ample treats for everyone to sample and even ice cream to top it off. Dave Robarts supervised two cider presses and visitors (particularly the children) provided the labor to produce gallons of apple cider to taste.

State Parks Historian

Alex Bevil led a tour of the Quincy Orchard, providing an overview of its history, heritage characteristics, and insight into turn-of-the-century agricultural life on Palomar Mountain. It was a delightful day, with over 150 visitors, some of which were enjoying their first visit to the park.

### **Festival's Future**

Although Palomar Mountain State Park is slated to be closed in July 2012, the Orchard Guild will maintain the historic orchard

as a volunteer commitment. The Palomar Apple Festival participants had such a great time that there are plans to host the festival again next year at a community park on the Mountain. We hope to be celebrating the return of the Palomar Apple Festival to Palomar Mountain State Park in the near future.

*Sue Wade,  
 Associate State Archaeologist-  
 Colorado Desert District*



Palomar Mountain State Park

**W**<sup>e</sup>  
are

*proud to represent  
 the breadth of our  
 parks, collections  
 and programs by  
 incorporating  
 information and  
 active links  
 highlighting park  
 activities, events  
 and exhibits*

## Developing Online Museum Collections

### **eMuseum Goes Global**

Though closures and restricted access to some of our historic parks and their collections are looming, the Department's Online Museum Collections (eMuseum) continues to grow and flourish. Since its launch in February 2010, the online global community has been able to access, enjoy and learn about the Department's extensive collections.

Public access to images and information about the museum collections is provided by eMuseum, an application which draws data from the statewide museum collections database known as The Museum

System (TMS).

### **Quarterly Offerings**

Each quarter, four unique collections are highlighted on the website. eMuseum offers great



Transferware Plate From The Cooper - Molera Adobe (Monterey SHP)

flexibility in how and which collections are featured. We are proud to represent the breadth of our parks' collections and programs by incorporating information and

active links highlighting park activities, events and exhibits.

Recently featured collections have included seasonal activities and park events such as "An Old-Fashioned 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration" with turn-of-the-century images of the Wilder family festivities; specialized areas of collecting such as our horse-drawn vehicles, and transfer print ceramics from historical archaeological sites throughout the state. The Online Museum Collections also features materials in current exhibitions such as the Jean-Léon Gérôme painting recently lent by

*(Continued on page 5)*



Cascade Ranch (Año Nuevo SP) From The Boggs Collection



The Begole Archaeological Research Center During Construction

**B**y the time of his passing, he had recorded an astounding 3,000 sites, or approximately a quarter of all the recorded sites in the entire State Park system

#### The California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE)

A grant from the CCHE provided funding for installation of artifact and document storage and curation units at the Begole Center. The Endowment was created to raise the profile and scope of California's historic and cultural preservation programs. Information on the Endowment can be found on their web site at: <http://www.library.ca.gov/grants/cche/>

## A Tribute To Bob Begole

### Archaeology Weekend

I had the honor of being part of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Archaeology Weekend at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP) during the weekend of April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of this year. The event was organized by the Colorado Desert Archaeological Society (CDAS) as a tribute to Robert S. Begole. The weekend was a wonderful tribute to the man who devoted his life to studying and preserving the past at ABDSP.

### Thirty Eight Years of Volunteer Work

Bob earned financial success early in life, which allowed him time to devote to studying the ancient past in the Anza-Borrego Desert. He dedicated 38 years as a volunteer surveying and documenting archaeological sites. By the time of his passing, he had recorded an astounding 3,000 sites, or approximately a quarter of all the recorded archaeological sites in the entire State Park system.

I was introduced to Bob Begole on one of my early trips to ABDSP. Bob was an avocational archaeologist with a gift for seeing traces of human activity on a desert landscape. He took me to some of his special

sites: the remains of prehistoric dwellings in Harper Canyon, the geoglyphs at Split Mountain, and the trails and shrines near Travertine Point. I was in awe of his ability to see the trails, cairns, artifacts and other sites so readily.



Robert S. Begole 1919-2010

For many years Bob maintained all the records, photos, maps, books and collections in a small trailer that he purchased and set up in the park. He integrated maps, site records and field notes in a sophisticated archive. Bob was able to identify and record an extensive inventory of archaeological sites that hold the key to a long human history in the desert.

### Generous Donor

Bob Begole was generous with his time and money. He donated over \$500,000 to build the Begole

Archaeological Research Center (BARC) at park headquarters. He also donated funds for a library and even donated his four-wheel drive vehicle to the park. Archaeology Weekend was a lot of fun and I enjoyed participating in the ceremonies. Coming back to ABDSP always brings warm memories of earlier visits and my work in the park.

### Continuing Legacy

Bob's legacy continues today with the work of the CDAS and park staff. His contributions allow others to learn from his experience and continue to unlock the secrets of the past.

*John Foster, Supervisor,  
Cultural Resources Program  
(Retired Annuitant)-  
Archaeology, History &  
Museums Division*

*Many thanks to Joan, Sue and especially the CDAS volunteers who continue Bob's work.*



The Begole Archaeological Research Center

## eMuseum

(Continued from page 3)

Hearst Castle® for exhibitions in Paris and Madrid.

We encourage you to contact us regarding collections of special interest to you and your park unit. We can provide the technical know-how to highlight your collections, and collaborate with you in creating your online presentation.

### Additional Features

#### Slated

As eMuseum evolves,

additional parks will be included, documentation will become more thorough, and enhanced features such as GIS capability will be added.

You can view the site by going to: <http://www.museumcollections.parks.ca.gov> or by clicking on the Museum Collections icon at the bottom of the State Parks homepage.

For assistance in creating a highlighted collection in

eMuseum, contact:

Linda Walton  
(916) 653-3578

[lwalton@parks.ca.gov](mailto:lwalton@parks.ca.gov)

or

Winnie Yeung  
(916) 654-4728

[wyeun@parks.ca.gov](mailto:wyeun@parks.ca.gov)

in Archaeology, History & Museums Division.

*Paulette Hennem,  
Museum Curator III-  
Archaeology, History &  
Museums Division*



Mount Tamalpais -1915, From The Boggs Collection

## Governor's Historic Preservation Awards Presented

### State Parks Receives Three Awards

The 26th annual Governor's Historic Preservation Awards were given to 12 deserving recipients on November 17. These awards are presented annually under the sponsorship of the State Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and California State Parks to individuals, organizations, companies, and public agencies whose contributions demonstrate notable achievements in preserving the heritage of California.

This year, projects ranging from historic contexts for modern architecture to cultural revitalization for the Kawaiisu were awarded.

Three of the awarded projects are directly involved with State Parks archaeologists, historians, curators, or programs. We congratulate our colleagues who worked on the following projects:

#### Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant

This award recognizes California State Parks and its partners for their restoration of the former Casa de Bandini restaurant to the period when the building was operated as the Cosmopolitan Hotel, from 1869 to 1874. The restoration is remarkable due to the building's long history, adobe walls dating back to 1829, second floor wood-frame construction, and association with significant people and events. The hotel's

180-year history reflects cultural and architectural changes as San Diego evolved from a Mexican pueblo to an American frontier community. Cultural resource colleagues from the San Diego Coast District, with some assistance from Southern Service Center cultural staff, were heavily involved in the project.

#### The Kawaiisu Project

This award recognizes the Kawaiisu Project, a multidisciplinary project by the Kawaiisu people which are undergoing an active cultural renewal. This cultural renaissance is demonstrated by recent efforts to teach their language, practice traditional arts, gain federal recognition, and collaborate on a

**T**hree of the awarded projects are directly involved with State Parks archaeologists, historians, curators, or programs



Red Rock Canyon SP

(Continued on page 6)

## Governor's Awards



Michael Sampson,  
Associate State  
Archaeologist, Co-  
Author of SB 1034

**O**ver the course of four days, more than seventy firefighters have been introduced to the ... rooms, archives and artifacts of eleven historic structures in Sonoma State Historic Park



Carol Dodge (Center), With  
Sonoma Valley Fire Crew  
Members

(Continued from page 5)  
new exhibit on traditional and contemporary Kawaiisu life at the Tehachapi Museum. The *Handbook of the Kawaiisu*, which documents much of this information and includes CDs of Kawaiisu language lessons, received a seed grant from California State Parks in 2006. The *Handbook of the Kawaiisu* has chapters devoted to Tomo-Kahni SHP and Red Rock Canyon SP in recognition of the importance of these two parks to Kawaiisu culture. The Kawaiisu culture area is a large region including the western Mojave Desert and the southern Sierra Nevada mountains to the edge of the San Joaquin Valley.

### The Passage of Senate Bill 1034 (California ARPA)

During the State Parks' *Cultural Resource* training in 2009, the instructor challenged the cultural resources staff to come up with California legislation that would mimic the federal Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA). Associate State Archaeologist Michael Sampson took up the challenge on his own time, and within two years of his initial efforts, Senate Bill 1034 became law. This is the first California archaeological resources legislation passed in over 30 years. The new bill adds to provisions in the State law for allowing public agencies to recover full costs of restitution for criminal activities at archaeological sites, historic

buildings, and other cultural properties. It also provides enhanced criminal penalties and compensation to State Parks for looting of archaeological sites in parks. This award recognizes former State Senator Denise Ducheny, who carried the bill, Michael Sampson and Dr. Susan Hector, who wrote the legislation and worked to get it passed. The bill was sponsored by the Society for California Archaeology.

Michael Sampson was also honored by State Parks with the 2010 Hill Award for Inspiration in recognition of his extraordinary service as a State Archaeologist.

Leslie Steidl,  
Associate State Archaeologist-  
Northern Buttes District

## Diablo Vista District Works To Protect Collections

### Disaster Prevention and Response

How do we assure that our valuable cultural resources are protected from potential disasters? What are the best practices for assuring that damages are kept to a minimum or avoided? One of the recommendations of the Advanced Museum Collections Management Training on Disaster Preparedness is that we familiarize local emergency responders with our

buildings and collections.

This message was taken to heart by Sonoma State Historic Park and Diablo Vista District Staff this past summer.



Cal Fire Employee Checking  
Hydrant

### Firefighters Tour Historic Buildings

Over the course of four days, more than seventy firefighters -volunteers and crew from the Sonoma Valley Fire and Rescue Authority (SVFRA), the Glen Ellen Station, and CalFire have been introduced to the entryways, attics, staircases, rooms, archives and artifacts of eleven historic structures in Sonoma State Historic Park. In

(Continued on page 7)

## Diablo Vista District

*(Continued from page 6)*  
 addition to touring the structures, firefighters were introduced to the history of the Sonoma Mission, the Vallejo Family, and historic buildings and artifacts that form the foundation of the local community.

One of the benefits of the training was forging closer relationships between firefighters and State Parks staff. Groups toured the structures seeking the best entries and exits into buildings and rooms while exchanging ideas regarding safety, security and salvage.

Although fire crews were aware of a hydrant near the entrance to the Vallejo Home, the viability of an older hydrant behind the maintenance shop was unknown. Firefighters

were able to confirm that this was still an active hydrant. The time it took to verify this additional source of water could prove invaluable in protecting resources.

### Protective Measures Shared at Training

Another recommendation from the Collections Management Training was the use of Knox Boxes. The boxes provide a secure, exterior location for keys and site plans that State Parks staff and fire department personnel can access. In an emergency when Park staff is unavailable, access to keys and plans will help to assure access to buildings and structures.

Kris Quist from the Monterey District shared an idea involving an easily recognizable "red folder" containing locations of

water, gas and electrical systems and floor plans. These are superimposed with priority artifacts to be retrieved from each room as conditions allow. Also in the folder, and in the wallets of the response team members, is the Pocket Response Plan; a list of phone numbers to be called in the event that collections are threatened.

With proper planning and continued efforts to maintain emergency response information, set up annual inspections, and employ fire safe practices, we are confident that State Parks will succeed in our mission to preserve and protect our valued resources.

*Carol Dodge,  
 Museum Curator I- Diablo Vista District*



Mission San Francisco Solano, Sonoma SHP

*One of the primary benefits of the training was forging closer relationships between the firefighters and Park staff*

## California State Indian Museum Basket Weaving Demonstrations

Saturday, January 14, 2012  
 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Demonstration is Free With Price of Museum Admission  
 Adults-\$3.00  
 Youth 6 to 17 Years Old-\$2.00  
 Children 5 and Under -Free

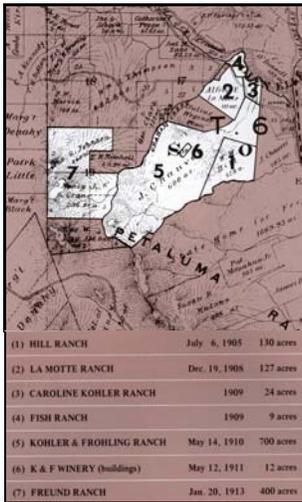
California State Indian Museum  
 2618 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

(916) 324-0971 [www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum](http://www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum) [www.CIHC.parks.ca.gov](http://www.CIHC.parks.ca.gov)



Demonstrations By Dixie Rogers, Karuk Basket-weaver

## Jack London Home and Ranch National Historic Landmark



Jack London's Property Acquisitions 1905-1913

*I had noticed the way the soil was washed down the hillsides by the rain, and I determined to prevent that, which I did by grading the land, making it over into rolling contours and abrupt terraces...*

*Jack London*  
1916



Jack London SHP

### The Home and Ranch

Jack London would come to call it his Beauty Ranch. Yet, before he set eyes on the rolling sweep of land above Glen Ellen, just north of Sonoma, it held names like Hill Ranch, La Motte Parcel, and the Kohler and Frohling Winery. For London these names represented waste, hurry, and excess. Agriculture in California, he believed, possessed a restless, pioneer energy, churning through topsoil and groundwater like loose placer with little thought of permanence or sustaining the state's rich resources over time.

He acquired the first piece of his ranch and home in 1905. As cash and willing sellers emerged, London continued to purchase surrounding lots over the next several years intent on righting staid farming practices and establishing production methods rooted in balance and efficiency. The process was slow and scattered, a product of London's own scattered interests and changing finances. He and his wife Charmian travelled a great deal, and the couple's many ventures absorbed royalties, story advances, and precious time. When home, the Londons, along with Jack's older sister Eliza

Shepard, the principal ranch manager, built barns, raised concrete silos, laid a stone piggery, terraced the more rigid slopes to harness available moisture, and transformed a collection of disparate homesteads into a cohesive example of new agricultural techniques that utilized organic fertilizers and shielded ground sediment and



Jack London 1876-1916  
California State Parks-Jack London Collection  
#243-76-36-8

minerals. Governed by an inherent respect for the land and the burdens of manual labor, London still intended his ranch to operate at a profit and resisted suggestions that the ranch was a wealthy man's plaything.

### Balancing Profit and Innovation

Yet, like the radical politics that defined much of London's outlook and art, such agricultural experimentation tested the limits of practical success. Although London never retreated from the ambitious model, his desire for

sustained profitability remained elusive for the remainder of his short life. The ranch required frequent bolster from London's sometime sizeable, but ever liquid fortune. Declining health and shifting priorities (Jack and Charmian began building the Wolf House in 1912) further complicated ranch management, although the last years of his life, 1912 through 1916, coincided with frenzied development on the ranch. The distinctive buildings and structures that remain today, and best evoke the purposes of California's definitive writer, were built during this final period in Jack London's life.

### National Historic Landmark Status

The Jack London Home and Ranch was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1983. Today, the ranch makes up most of Jack London State Historic Park, which with shared regret is slated to be closed in the summer of 2012. However, California State Parks is actively pursuing a partnership with the Valley of the Moon Natural History Association to keep the park open to the public. Notwithstanding productive arrangements to provide access to this important historical park,

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Jack London Home And Ranch

(Continued from page 8)  
stewardship responsibility of this significant resource will still rest with State Parks, and work in this realm is underway and ongoing. A Historic Structures Report for Charmian London's

House of Happy Walls (built after Jack London passed away) is near completion, along with Cultural Landscape Reports that examine the ranch landscape and provide detailed treatment

for its continued preservation.

*John Fraser,  
State Historian II-  
Archaeology, History  
& Museums Division*



Jack London Ranch ca. 1912  
California State Parks - Jack London Collection  
#241-76-346-3

## Documenting Hungry Valley SVRA's History

### Documenting The Historic Context

The archaeologists at the Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHV), Alicia Perez and I, are presently conducting oral interviews with various Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) staff, both current and retired, to capture a better picture of the historic built environment that once existed within the SVRA. The goal is to develop baseline data that can be used to create a solid historic context for the SVRA to be used to evaluate the resources and contribute to the park's interpretation program.

### What's In A Name?

One of the first things that we began looking for was the origin of the name "Hungry Valley". I had no idea, and decided to find out. Research led to the 1978 cultural resources inventory that was completed for the park. Personal communi-



Kelsey Ranch-1978

cation with two ranchers in 1978 provided the origin of the name. The ranchers told the story of how their fathers began calling the ranch lands "Hungry Valley" as they ran cattle through it during the early 1900s. If the 1978 researchers had not done oral interviews, the origin of the name "Hungry Valley" may have been lost.

But is this explanation enough? To me the name denotes a negative image of the environment: a treacherous valley where man was in constant battle with the elements, and his stomach. Further reading of the 1978 inventory stated that as many as seventy separate homesteads and ranches once

occupied the lands now encompassing Hungry Valley SVRA. Some rarely lasted more than three years.

The land was used for cattle grazing since it was a Mexican land grant, from the late 1830s until the end of that century. The area was also mined for various minerals from the early 1900s through the 1930s. The homesteading was often sporadic and short-lived. The terrain is rugged and isolated, and the area earned a bad reputation for being riddled with outlaws and grizzly bears.

Despite Hungry Valley's reputation, homesteads began to pop up after the US Homestead Act of 1862 and small farms and cattle ranches were established. Early ranching was difficult, and many of the smaller ranchers sold to larger landowners.

(Continued on page 11)

**A** <sup>s</sup> *many*  
*as*  
*seventy separate*  
*homesteads and*  
*ranches once*  
*occupied the*  
*lands now*  
*encompassing*  
*Hungry Valley*  
*SVRA*



Kelsey Ranch-2011

## In Our Corner



Margaret Kress, Assistant State Archaeologist

**I** find it challenging to maintain a balance between recreation and preservation of cultural materials within the park



OHV Trail at Ocotillo Wells SVRA

*This month's employee highlight features Margaret Kress, Assistant State Archaeologist with Ocotillo Wells SVRA.*

### **Tell us how you first got involved in the field of Archaeology?**

I studied archaeology in college and became interested in Physical Anthropology. I pursued an MA in Forensic Anthropology from the University of Montana. After graduating, I volunteered at the San Bernardino County Museum in the Archaeology Department, and through Dr. Joan Schneider, I heard about a seasonal position that was open at Ocotillo Wells District. I was hired as an Assistant State Archaeologist at Ocotillo Wells in 2009.

### **What has surprised you most about working in Archaeology with DPR?**

The amount of cultural materials that we are able to preserve in situ, and the many different disciplines that I work with in the District surprises me. It is amazing the things that can be accomplished when you have a great group of people working together.

### **What do you find most challenging about your job?**

I find it challenging to maintain a balance

between recreation and preservation of cultural materials within the park. No one is one hundred percent happy about every project, but by keeping positive and working with others in the district, there is usually a solution that meets the requirements of each group.

### **What do you wish other people knew about the Archaeology at DPR?**

I wish more people knew that the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division has archaeologists at headquarters and in the Ocotillo Wells District. We are working hard on inventorying the OHV parks and implementing Cultural Management plans.

### **What might someone be surprised to know about you?**

I have played the piano for almost 23 years, and I began my higher education as an art major before switching to anthropology.

### **What would you tell someone considering a career in Archaeology?**

I would tell them to enroll in some field schools to get a feel for field work, not only to gain experience before choosing archaeology as a career, but to see if you really like it.

### **What do you think will change about the Archaeology at DPR over the next five years?**

I think that we will need to continue to improve efficiency with limited resources. I hope that we will someday have a way of submitting and sharing documents through an online database that can be accessed by all of the State Parks archaeologists. Not only would it be more efficient for submitting documents, but it would also promote standardization and data sharing.

### **If you weren't working in the field of Archaeology, what would you be doing?**

I would be staying within the field of Anthropology, working as a forensic anthropologist or in a lab or museum.

### **What do you enjoy doing when you aren't on the job?**

I enjoy spending time with friends and family, and using my weekends to explore San Diego.

### **What else can you tell me about the Archaeology at DPR?**

DPR has an eclectic group of passionate archaeologists that are working hard at preserving the many beautiful and

(Continued on page 11)

## In Our Corner



Ocotillo Wells SVRA

*(Continued from page 10)*  
 unique archaeological sites within our parks. Our sites range from pre-historic sites to historic sites from WWII, mines, oil wells and more. Preserving these sites is important not only for the data collected from them, but for the enjoyment of future generations and

the sacred importance to the many groups of Native Americans in the state.

*Michelle Bryans & Debbie Gillespie-Archaeology, History & Museums Division*

### Looking Ahead

The next issue of the Culturally Speaking Newsletter is scheduled to arrive in your mailbox in March of 2012.



## Hungry Valley SVRA

*(Continued from page 9)*

### Building Upon Past Work

Thankfully, the historic research that was developed in the 1978 cultural resource inventory was remarkable, and it has been a useful tool for understanding the remaining cultural resources at the SVRA. We know where people came from, who they were, what they did, and why they left. Now it is up to us to determine what resources remain of the ranching history in the park.

### Putting It All Together

Unfortunately, most of the built environment from the early homesteads and ranches has vanished. Gnarly juniper fence lines still stretch across wide sections of land. Wooden posts in the ground form a corral-like shape. An alignment of pine trees reveals a missing fence.

These are the vestiges of human history left for us to record.

Reconstructing the past historic picture of Hungry Valley is no easy task. Several of the site records from the 1978 cultural resource inventory were incomplete. Our files contain handwritten forms and steno pads with notes scratched into margins. Some of our sites are simple pencil marks on an old map that have not been verified.



Hungry Valley SVRA

Vestiges of historic land use have been anecdotally pointed out to Alicia and me by SVRA staff members as we drive through

the park. "So and so lived there," an environmental scientist would say. "National Velvet was filmed there in the forties," a ranger tells us. "It used to be called Honey Valley because of the bee-keeping," a Superintendent says. Clearly, there are still people who remember what the things looked like in 1978 and where resources are. It came time to document the stories before they were lost.

This will help us get an idea of the historic landscape features at Hungry Valley SVRA. Lessons from the past make us better resource managers today, and remind us to complete our documentation. Someone may benefit from our efforts 30 years from now.

*Kelly Long,  
 Associate State Archaeologist-  
 OHMVR Division*

**L**essons  
 from the  
 past  
 make us better re-  
 source managers  
 today, and remind  
 us to complete our  
 documentation



Kelly Long Surveying



Ted Holm, Records Management Analyst II

**T**he CRO consults with Department staff to help with maintenance of the centralized Records Management Program

*The mission of the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) is to provide leadership and promote the preservation of California's irreplaceable and diverse cultural heritage.*

## Getting To Know The Central Records Office

### File Maintenance and Storage

I can recall a time in the not too distant past when people were predicting a "paperless society" with the advent and widespread use of the personal computer. Today we know that what really happened was quite the opposite, and the need for storing and maintaining all of the files on the various media has actually increased greatly rather than decline.

### Where Does It All Go?

Have you ever wondered where all of the State Parks correspondence, maps, brochures, compact disks, manuals and other files go when they are no longer in active use? The Central Records Office (CRO) is the repository for these, and we are

available to assist in managing this information, regardless of format, by making sure that the materials are appropriately handled according to State requirements. The CRO consults with Department staff to help with maintenance of the centralized Records Management Program to assure that records are properly stored and maintained.

### What Are Records?

The term "records" as it applies to the State Parks Department is defined as any papers, maps, exhibits, magnetic media, microfilm, photographic films and prints, e-mails and other documents produced, received, owned or used by the Department. Essentially, documents that are developed

or received by the Department are considered to be records and are to be maintained by the Central Records Office. Upon receipt of the documents at CRO, they are coded and scanned for storage. The storage time varies by individual record. If a document is determined to have historical significance, then it is sent to the Department Archives for preservation and storage. If your Division requires assistance with storage of your files or materials, you may contact me at the Central Records Office at (916) 445-9017, or [tholm@parks.ca.gov](mailto:tholm@parks.ca.gov)

*Ted Holm, Records Management Analyst II- Business Management Services Section*

## OHP Preparing Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

### A Five Year Plan

One of the many projects currently being managed by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) is the update of the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan for California (State Plan). Many people are not aware of it, but OHP is required to prepare a plan every five years as a condition of a grant from the Federal government to administer preservation programs in California. The State Plan addresses

important issues facing preservation at the moment, describes an ideal vision for preservation in California, and puts forth goals and objectives to be accomplished during the plan's lifespan.

### Public Outreach

The current State Plan team is new to the plan update process, and they are bringing new ideas and fresh approaches to researching and crafting the next State Plan. We've

spent the past ten months conducting public outreach to gather ideas and opinions for incorporation into the new State Plan. The team felt this was an important phase if we wanted this to be a plan that the entire state can support.

The State Plan isn't simply a plan for the OHP, but a plan for all of California, with goals and objectives that everyone

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Jenan Saunders Discussing The New State Plan

Photo: Stephen Schafer 2011

**W**<sup>e</sup>  
*began our outreach process with a series of "listening sessions" held at various locations throughout the state*

## Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

*(Continued from page 12)*

involved in preservation can embrace and support. It is for this reason that the plan development process involves extensive outreach to ensure that it is meaningful to as many individuals, agencies, and organizations as possible.

### **Workshops Held**

We began our outreach process with a series of "listening sessions" held at various locations throughout the state. The sessions focused on two general areas: current issues of concern, and a vision for what preservation in California would look like in a "perfect world." Most sessions were open to the general public; one took place during a workshop of the State Historical Resources Commission, and another

involved Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. An additional session is planned with college students from the Sacramento area.

The sessions provided fodder for an online survey this past summer. The responses received were useful in determining what issues to focus on and where our attention should be concentrated in the next phase of the outreach process.

Following the close of the survey, OHP staff conducted a series of interviews with several people involved in preservation in California, including local government representatives, non-profit advocacy groups, former OHP staff members, and State Historical Resources Commissioners. These

interviews allowed us to dig deeper into certain issues than would have been possible through the listening sessions or the surveys.

Due to the success of those interviews, we created a second online survey in "narrative response" format, using some of the questions developed for the interviews—as a means of giving those individuals whom we couldn't interview in person an opportunity to respond to the same questions as the interviewees, and, therefore, to add to the information we have available to us as we write the plan. Our plan is to have the survey available from mid-December through mid-January.

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## Revisiting The Little Sycamore Site

### **Proposition 84 Funds Enable Artifact Analysis**

Originally excavated in 1952 by William Wallace, the "Little Sycamore" site, or CA-VEN-1, helped to refine a prehistoric occupation interval known as the Millingstone Period for the abundance of stone food processing tools encountered at these sites. The site is a prehistoric village locale in the Angeles District within Leo Carrillo State Beach.

The site was again examined by State Parks archaeologists during a site stabilization project in 2000 to check the coastal erosion damage and minimize pedestrian impacts to the site. In 2010 Proposition 84 cultural stewardship funds were provided to reexamine and expand upon earlier research with additional analysis of materials recovered from the site stabilization excavations.

### **New Data Emerges**

Conducted by the Southern Service Center and Angeles District seasonal archaeologists and volunteer interns, the reexamination of site materials continues to augment our knowledge of this site and its inhabitants. Two distinct peaks of Millingstone Period occupation were recorded; one that corresponds to 8,400 years before present,

*(Continued on page 14)*



Archaeologists and Interns Analyzing Artifacts From CA-VEN-1

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### Our Mission:

*To provide inspiration and leadership in acquiring, conserving, and managing cultural resources that represent California's rich history and diverse population.*

*To foster an appreciation of the extraordinary value of California's cultural heritage for the enjoyment of present and future generations through access, education, service, and stewardship.*

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## Culturally Speaking

### Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

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Although we know there is more work to be done, we can sense that we're nearing the home stretch. Our timeline is to bring draft goals and objectives before the State Historical Resources Commission in late January for review and discussion. We hope to have the draft plan adopted at the Commission's meeting in May – which, fittingly enough, is Preservation Month. (Look for information about the plans OHP is

making for Preservation Month 2012 in the next issue of this newsletter.)

#### Social Media Outreach

One of the positive outcomes of the State Plan outreach process has been getting OHP on the "social media map." The office now has a Facebook page, Twitter and Flickr accounts, and even a YouTube channel. You can find links to these sites from our homepage at [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov)

Thanks to all those readers who have already contributed to the plan development process, and we look forward to hearing from the rest of you to share ideas and information with us. If you have questions about the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan, please don't hesitate to contact me at (916) 445-7019 or

[jsaunders@parks.ca.gov](mailto:jsaunders@parks.ca.gov)

*Jenan Saunders, Acting  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer*

### The Little Sycamore Site

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which is one of the earliest dates for this site. The goal of the current project was to revisit the original research questions set out in 2000 by former State Parks Archaeologist Herb Dallas in order to provide a better picture of life at the site. Contrary to Wallace's 1950s characterization of the site's occupants being "simple" people with a meager toolkit, the new data indicates that people at the site participated in a wide range of subsistence practices and most likely lived in the area year round.

These findings are reflected in the cultural materials found at the site. The most abundant artifact class encountered at the



Students Sort Artifacts From CA-VEN-1

site is dietary marine shell. Other material, including bone and stone tools, shell beads, a projectile point and a variety of faunal remains all point to a diverse toolkit. The location of the site itself

would have provided the site's occupants a variety of resources from both land and sea. Time was not available to analyze the complete collection due to the sheer wealth of cultural material that was recovered. Should the opportunity and funds become available for further research, there is little doubt that additional details will emerge from this significant site.

*Karen Shabel, Archaeological  
Project Leader-Southern  
Service Center*

### Publications In Cultural Heritage #29

#### Carrizo Creek Stage Station Featured

The upcoming issue documents history and archaeology of this historic

stage station in Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Look for more information in the next Culturally Speaking Newsletter.

