Visual Traditions in American Indian Art

The current issue of *American Indian Art* 31(2) contains articles by department members William Sturtevant and Candace Greene. These articles are important in that they help define visual traditions in the art of Native Americans, specifically the Iroquois of Northeastern U.S. and the Arikara of the Plains.

Sturtevant’s article details the known works by Tuscarora brothers David and Dennis Cusick, whose work is much admired by their Iroquois contemporaries but based on Euro-American techniques. Greene’s article demonstrates that the Arikara had an active pictorial art tradition, which provides a rich source of information on their culture and history. Below are summaries of these articles.


The article establishes an Arikara identification for two books of drawings in the National Anthropological Archives (NAA), previously cataloged as Sioux, and discusses their value in tracing Arikara history and culture during the nineteenth century, a period of particularly tumultuous change for this Missouri River tribe.

Pictorial art is valued as an indigenous, unmediated record of Native culture and history. Although report-
At the beginning of the nineteenth century two Tuscarora brothers, David and Dennis Cusick (sons of Nicholas Cusick, a Revolutionary war hero), developed a new art tradition, identified and named by William Sturtevant as the “Early Iroquois Realist Style” of watercolors. The style was much admired by their Iroquois and non-Iroquois contemporaries and was subsequently continued by somewhat later Iroquois artists.

The paintings were produced at a difficult period for the Iroquois. After the War of 1812, political influence with the American and British governments had been lost, their land was being expropriated, more Euro-American settlers were arriving, and missionaries and school teachers were urging important cultural changes. The works of art produced by the Cusicks, especially David Cusick, boldly and vividly assert Iroquois identity, political authority, and a long historical tradition in their own country, while documenting aspects of Iroquois identity and life. Theirs is an important body of work, which after an initial period of admiration, slipped into more than a century of oblivion. Sturtevant has over several decades located and identified a small but significant body of work by the Cusicks and some of their successors, while tracking down and reconstructing salient details of their lives. This illustrated article is a systematic examination of the known works of these two artists and the first thorough account of their lives and formative experiences.

An illustration of the tradition of the founding of the League of Iroquois, newly attributed to the Tuscarora artist and historian David Cusick. It shows the Onondaga chief Atotarho, whose “head and body was ornamented with black snakes,” according to Cusick. Atotarho requested the snakes be replaced by a wampum belt when persuaded to join the League. The two standing figures presumably represent Deganavidia (left) and Hiawatha (right), founders of the League of the Iroquois. Water color attributed to David Cusick by William Sturtevant. Courtesy of New-York Historical Society.
2005 CAREER SERVICE AWARDS

This winter the following staff members received career service awards:

30 years - Ruth Selig (AnthroNotes editor)
20 years - Candace Greene
10 years - Laurie Burgess, Igor Krupnik, and Gertrude (Daisy) Njoku

PASSAGES

Best wishes to the following staff members who have left the department to assume new career opportunities:

Amy Putnam left her position as CAP Program Assistant to become Management Support Specialist for MSC. She will be working with Liz Dietrich. Amy can be reached at 301-238-1012.

Becky Malinsky, who managed the imaging lab of the National Anthropological Archives and the Human Studies Film Archives, accepted a position as animal keeper at the National Zoo.

Marita Penny, Repatriation Office fund manager, has left the Department to pursue other goals.

American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 30-December 4, Washington, D.C.

Robert Leopold participated in a panel sponsored by the Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records. His talk was titled “From the Paperless Office to the Paper-free Archive.”

Joanna Scherer participated in the Board of Directors meeting of the Society for Visual Anthropology

Candace Greene chaired the session Social Complexity in Indian Country: Perspectives From Oklahoma.

Dorothy Lippert was a discussant for the invited session, Indigenous and Feminist Archaeologies: Spaces and Places of Intersectionality. Stephen Loring, with Joan Gero, presented a session paper titled “At the Intersection—Yellow Light!*Go Fast!”

Jake Homiak was a discussant on the panel, Phantoms, Festivals, Dances, Anthropology and Other Blues: A Conversation with John Bishop and for the session, (Re)Collections and (Re)Production: Visual Economies and Social Memory.

William Fitzhugh presented a talk on “Circumpolar Archaeology: Culture Contacts and Migration in the Arctic” in the invited session, Current Issues in Anthropology: Five Field Updates.

Ann Kaupp and Ruth Selig organized the session Bringing Anthropology to a Wider Audience: Celebrating 25 Years of AnthroNotes, chaired by William Fitzhugh. Session presenters were authors of the publication Anthropology Explored, The Best of Smithsonian AnthroNotes. Ruth O. Selig and Alison Brooks presented a paper, “We Have Met Our Ancestor and He Is Us: Laughing at Ourselves Through Bob Humphrey’s Cartoons.” Other speakers included Tom Dillehay, Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban, Robert Mann, Robert Sussman. Jeremy Sabloff was the discussant.

DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY

NSF Grant Awarded

The National Science Foundation awarded a three-year, $583,773 research grant for a George Mason University/Smithsonian Institution project, “Agent-Based Dynamics of Social Complexity: Modeling Adaptive Behavior and Long-Term Change in Inner Asia.” Principal investigators are Claudio Cioffi-Revilla of George Mason’s Center for Social Complexity and Daniel Rogers, chair of the Smithsonian’s Department of Anthropology. William Fitzhugh, Paula DePriest of SCMRE, Bruno Frohlich, and William Honeychurch
are members of the research team. International collaborators come from institutions in Mongolia, Russia, and Italy.

The project was featured in The Mason Gazette (http://gazette.gmu.edu/articles/7847) featured this project on February 8, 2006, in the online article “Mason Scientists Partner with Smithsonian to Study Civilizations” by Lori Jennings. The project team will “conduct simulation modeling research on long-term interactions between societal and environmental dynamics affecting polities in Inner Asia over the past 5,000 years.” By studying the Mongol Empire the team hopes “to make comparisons and draw conclusions that can be applied to modern-day civilizations, such as looking at societal fluctuations in terms of expansions and declines, and how such dynamics interact with natural and man-made environments like trade networks,” according to Cioffi-Revilla.

Publications:


DIVISION OF ETHNOLOGY

Exhibiton
The exhibition, Mexico, A Traves de los Ojos de Edward Nelson - Exposition Fotografica - 1892 - 1906, on Edward Nelson and Edward Goldman’s photographs, curated and written by Jane Walsh, is now on exhibit at the graduate school of the Humanities Department of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, in Mexico City.

(Palacio) The Palacio Nacional, located on the Zocalo, or central square in Mexico City.

(Teotihuacan) The Pyramid of the Sun and the Street of the Dead taken from the Pyramid of the Moon before much archaeology and restoration had been done in the 1890s.
Bob Laughlin was recently a guest lecturer aboard a passenger ship off the coast of Mexico. Laughlin gave presentations on the Maya and the Teatro Lo’il Maxil, Monkey Business Theatre, which he co-founded, performed a play called “Workers in the Other World. At Puerto Chiapas, President Fox and the governor of Chiapas were present and Laughlin took the opportunity to give the President a copy of his book, Diccionario del corazón. Sna’s president handed President Fox their bilingual DVD El Indio Rey (in Tzotzil with Spanish subtitles).

Publications:


ENDANGERED LANGUAGE PROGRAM
Smithsonian-Utah Publications Series
At the annual meetings of the Linguistic Society of America and the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, held jointly in Albuquerque, January 5-8, 2006, Ives Goddard and Lyle Campbell (Department of Linguistics at the University of Utah) announced the Smithsonian-Utah Publications in American Indian Languages. This new series will be published by the University of Utah Press under the sponsorship of the Center for American Indian Languages of the University of Utah and NMNH’s Department of Anthropology. This publication series is part of the working intellectual partner-ship between the two sponsors that was formalized in December 2004.

The series, to be edited by Goddard and Campbell, will publish books and monographs on all aspects of the indigenous languages of the Americas, primarily focusing on (1) descriptions and reference works about particular Native American languages: dictionaries, grammars, texts, and other documentation materials; (2) historical linguistic and anthropological linguistic studies of American Indian languages; and (3) works on and supporting language revitalization that address the language needs of Native American communities.

Ives Goddard was consulted for the movie, The New World, about Virginia’s Powhatan Confederacy’s first encounter with Captain John Smith. Goddard is quoted in the online article, “Movie Brings lost Language to Life: Linguist Recruited to Help New Pocahantas Movie be Realistic,” by Bryn Nelson. The article can be viewed at (http://www.newsday.com/news/health/ny-hspoca0125,0,1502587.story

Goddard also was mentioned in the online The Charlotte Observer, Charlotte.com (February 1, 2006). In Lawrence Toppman’s article, “New World spoken here” Toppman writes how Goddard assisted in identifying a linguist for the New World movie.

Publications:


This is the first comprehensive revision of the ethnolinguistic map of the Southeast since James Mooney’s pioneering work for the BAE appeared in 1895. It shows that the Southeast was not dominated by only a few shallow-level language families, but rather was an area of extreme linguistic diversity, most of which is only hinted at in the historical records. The evidence for the linguistic distinctness of many small groups is
presented, and earlier interpretations are reviewed in detail.

This work, which builds on the research of many scholars, grew out of the new synthesis that is presented in the Smithsonian’s Southeast volume of the Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 14 (2004). It fundamentally revises the map of aboriginal North America and opens the way to rethinking many aspects of the prehistory and early history of the Southeast.

Photos of the Southeast Language map and John Wesley Powell’s version from 1915.

PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY DIVISION

Doug Owsley was featured as the “Power Player of the Week” on Fox News, December 4. Host Chris Wallace interviewed Owsley on November 23 to learn more about his pioneering work in forensic anthropology. The four-minute interview discussed Owsley’s research and upcoming exhibit Written in Bone: Life and Death in the Colonial Chesapeake.

Doug Owsley was a consultant and a featured scientist in Sally M. Walker’s children’s book, Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H. L. Hunley (Carolrhoda Books, 2005). Walker, a 2006 ALSC Award Winner of the American Library Association’s Association for Library Service to Children, will be writing a children’s book on the topic of the exhibit, Written in Bone: Stories of Life and Death in the Colonial Chesapeake, curated by Doug Owsley and opening at NMNH in 2007.

Doug Owsley presented a talk, “The Kennewick Man: Nowhere Near the Last Word,” for the Last Word Society at the Academy of Forensic Science Meetings in Seattle, Washington on February 23. Owsley presented background information on the Kennewick case, the resolution of the case to date, and the results from the first and second study phases of the skeleton. This is the first occasion that results have been presented to the public. Owsley now is coordinating the third phase of study for the Kennewick Man, which will involve more than 20 researchers from different specialties.
Doug Ubelaker co-organized a three-day symposium on “Forensic Science, The Nexus of Science and the Law” in November at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C. He also served as a panelist, discussing key themes and topics.

In the Washington Post’s Style section, January 24, the Department was featured in the article “Rest in Pieces: Some of Washington’s Museums Display a Visceral Feel for History” by Peter Carlson. Dave Hunt was quoted, describing some of the collections.

Stephen Loring was a guest of the Labrador Metis Nation at a workshop-symposium in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, February 10-12. The workshop brought together a distinguished group of archaeologists, historians, anthropologists, political representatives and legal scholars to help develop a coherent strategy to explore and explain the extent of Inuit and Metis occupation and history in southern Labrador and along the Quebec North Shore.

ARCTIC STUDIES CENTER

In the Media

William Fitzhugh was interviewed on November 30 by NPR’s Gabriel Spitzer of Morning Edition for a program on “Erosion Jeopardizes Homes, Artifacts in Alaska.” An increasing rate of erosion has been taking place in Alaska in recent years, causing extreme threats to archaeological sites, homes, and even whole villages. While homes and villages can be moved, the threat to archaeological sites is so great that many are being lost. The show featured the erosion taking place at the Ipiutak site, in particular, one of the most important sites known in Alaska—a 1500 year-old village with hundreds of house pits and large cemeteries containing some of the most important and artistic finds ever excavated in the North.

Fitzhugh was also interviewed in December by phone by the Washington Post for the “Kid Page” on reindeer subjects.

Workshops

William Fitzhugh, Dan Rogers, Bruno Frohlich, Paula DePriest (Department of Botany) and other Mongolia researchers took part in a National Geographic Workshop, “Focus On Mongolia,” on December 6. They discussed research and educational topics of potential interest for future National Geographic programming and collaboration.

Symposium

Mongolia project members Paula DePriest, Bill Fitzhugh, Bruno Frohlich, Bill Honeychurch, and Dan Rogers, attended the Eurasian Steppe Archaeology Symposium at the University of Pittsburgh, February 10-11. The meeting provided scholars from Europe, Russia, the U.S., and China an opportunity to discuss the latest developments in Bronze Age archaeology of the Eurasian steppe, an emergent research region that has begun to receive great attention in recent years. Fitzhugh’s talk, “Deer Stones and Khirigsuurs: A Bronze Age Ceremonial Complex in Hovsgol, Mongolia,” described recent field work by Smithsonian team members Frohlich and DePriest, and Rae Beaubien of SCMRE. A special focus of the meeting was the large amount of new data becoming available from the Eastern Steppe of Mongolia and northern China, resulting from the work of the University of Pittsburgh and Smithsonian teams. Program highlights included highly informative keynote lectures by Colin Renfrew of Cambridge University and Liudmila Koryakova of Ural State University.

Presentations

Igor Krupnik delivered a one-hour illustrated lecture to mental health workers and family therapists at the Georgetown Family Center/Bowen Center for the Study of Family, on December 1, as part of the monthly Professional Lecture Series. His talk, “Give Me My Grandfather’s Picture: Faces, Photos, and Memories,” focused on his work with northern communities on historical photographs from museum collections in the U.S. and abroad, his collaborative projects in “knowledge repatriation” with Native Alaskan and Siberian com-
munities, and also on the special issues that accompany people’s emotional encounter with and interpretation of early photographs of their deceased relatives and ancestral sites.

Stephen Loring attended the World Archaeological Congress Inter-Congress in Osaka, Japan, January 12-15. He presented a paper titled “Knowledge Repatriation at the Smithsonian’s Arctic Studies Center, National Museum of Natural History” in the session, The Ethics of Practice in International Archaeological Research.

On February 24, Noel Broadbent lectured at Brown University on his Saami archaeology research project and led a seminar on research proposal writing for graduate students and staff of the university’s Anthropology Department. On February 25 he gave a public lecture on the Andree expedition to the North Pole in the Haffenreffer Museum. This program was made possible thanks to support by the Arctic Research Consortium of the United States.

Noel Broadbent and Rosmarie Osmund of the University of Maryland are organizing a free lecture series and seminar, “Nordic and Saami Religions During the Viking Age,” to take place at the University of Maryland Language Center on April 20. Among the guest speakers will be Dr. Thomas DuBois, University of Wisconsin, author of Nordic Religions in the Viking Age (1999). A series of additional lectures on Saami themes is planned for September-October in collaboration with the Royal Norwegian Embassy. This series is made possible by a NSF $30,000 grant supplement.

Exhibit
The exhibit, Frost: Life and Culture of the Sami Reindeer People of Norway, on view in NMNH’s Baird ambulatory, has been extended to June.

Consultations
On January 23 - 27, Noel Broadbent was in Stockholm and Uppsala meeting with Saami project collaborators Jan Stora and Eva Hjarthner Holdar and his graduate student, Britta Wennstedt Edvinger. At the University of Stockholm he gave a well-attended lecture on their research project in the Department of Archaeology.

Grant Received
Noel Broadbent just received additional NSF funding in the amount of $149,989 for his project, The Search for a Past: The Indigenous Saami of Northern Coastal Sweden. These additional funds bring his total award up to $506,806.

Jacqui Graham (Univ of Minnesota) and Jane Kershaw (Oxford) excavating a seal hunting site at Hornslandet, Sweden (July 2005)
ARCHAEOBIOLOGY PROGRAM

Publication

In the Media
*Trends in Genetics* (TIG) posted on-line the in press article “Documenting Domestication: The Intersection of Genetics and Archaeology,” co-authored by Melinda Zeder, Bruce Smith, Eve Emshwiller (Department of Botany, Field Museum of Natural History) and Daniel Bradley (Smurfit Institute of Genetics, Trinity University, Ireland). The article will be published as the cover article in the March issue of *TIG*. The article examines the various ways in which archaeologists and geneticists document the process of plant and animal domestication, highlighting areas of cross-illumination between genetics and archaeology in tracking the origin and diffusion of domestic species. This is the first such article to bring together researchers working on both plant and animal domestication, using both archaeological and genetic approaches. The article draws from the forthcoming book, *Documenting Domestication: New Genetic and Archaeological Paradigms*, co-edited by the article’s four authors. The book will be published by the University of California Press in the spring of 2006.

HUMAN ORIGINS PROGRAM

International Symposium in China
In December, Rick Potts and Jennifer Clark visited China to attend a four-day International Symposium on the Migration and Evolution of Humans in the Old World, co-organized by Potts and his Chinese colleagues. The symposium took place in the Bose region, where Potts has co-directed excavations for the past decade. Forty-six foreign and Chinese scientists participated. The symposium featured the research findings of Potts’ Bose project and visits to several of the project’s excavation sites. Potts delivered three papers and led presentations at two of the field sites. He also gave a public lecture to students, participated in two press conferences, and gave three media interviews, including an hour-long interview with CCTV (China Television).

In honor of the occasion, two museums in Guangxi Autonomous Region opened exhibitions on the discovery of handaxes by Potts’ team, as originally reported in *Science* in 2000. Potts’ research continued with a visit to the famed early human site of Lantian in China’s Loess Plateau region. New research suggests that the site of the oldest definite Homo erectus cranium in China is 1.2 to 1.4 million years old; the site also preserves the oldest known Acheulean handaxe in East Asia. In Beijing, Potts continued his collaboration with geologists working on a manuscript regarding the Yuanmou site, South China, dated to 1.7 million years old.

Kudos
Rick Potts has been named a standing member of the Scientific Advisory Council of China’s Paleomagnetism and Geochronology Laboratory, which is based at the Institute for Geology and Geophysics, Beijing.

HOP Featured in Leakey Biography
*The Leakeys: A Biography*, by Mary Bowman-Kruhm (Greenwood Press, 2005), extensively quotes Rick
**Potts** and describes the research of HOP at Olorgesailie, Kenya. This new biography, which covers three generations of Leakeys who have conducted fieldwork in East Africa for fossil evidence on human origins, is aimed at high school students and the general public.

**In the Media**
**Rick Potts** was quoted in a feature article on the evolution/intelligent design debate in The Washington Post Magazine, February 5 issue.

**NMNH Presentation**
**Deborah Cunningham**, postdoctoral fellow, presented a lecture, “Human Origins: What We Know,” in the Baird Auditorium, February 3rd. She explained to a large audience the current state of our knowledge about human evolution. Following the lecture, Cunningham answered audience questions for forty-five minutes.

**LATIN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM**

The NMNH catalogue of the exhibit, *The Spirit of Ancient Colombian Gold*, is an important Smithsonian contribution to South American archaeology and culture. **Abelardo Sandoval**, curator of the exhibit, and **Betty Meggers** co-authored the catalogue essay, “To See the World Through Other Eyes.”

**PALEOINDIAN PROGRAM**

**Publication**

Papers included in this volume address important topics surrounding the debate over the initial prehistoric colonization of the Americas. These topics include the archaeological evidence for Clovis and Pre-Clovis sites in North America and South America, as well as genetic and skeletal evidence. The concluding chapters address the changing perceptions of Paleoamerican prehistory, public policy and science, and future directions. Anthropology Department members who contributed to this volume are:


Photographs by Chip Clark.


Kennewick Man

Dennis Stanford just returned from the Burke Museum in Seattle, Washington, where he examined the projectile point that was imbedded in the over 9,000 year-old Kennewick Man. While in Seattle, he gave a lecture on Paleoindian Archaeology at the Washington State Police Crime Lab.

Presentation

Dennis Stanford attended the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, February 16-20. He organized a symposium on New World Origins titled First Human Entry into the Americas: A Critical Assessment of New Models and New Evidence. His paper, “The evidence for a North Atlantic entry of humans into Eastern North America from Europe with an emphasis on Solutrean connections,” received a great deal of press attention.

Stanford was interviewed for Norwegian Public TV, and German and Australian TV, among others.
ANTHROPOLOGY OUTREACH OFFICE

Teacher Workshop on Forensic Anthropology

The Department of Anthropology sponsored the teacher workshop, “What Bones Can Tell Us: Forensic Anthropology at the Smithsonian,” February 3, in the Rose Seminar Room. Forty-seven high school science teachers from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia, attended, many of whom are teaching or who have been asked to teach a forensics course. This workshop was a behind-the-scenes opportunity for teachers to learn about the history of forensic anthropology, human osteology, applications for forensic analysis, and forensic case studies, as well as receive hands-on experience. Dave Hunt and Marilyn London were the instructors. Volunteer Leise Meier provided hands-on training. Nancy Shorey did a remarkable job with refreshments. Ann Kaupp was the principal organizer.

COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES PROGRAM

New Donations of Film and Archaeological Collections

The Human Studies Film Archives (HSFA) received John Marshall’s final body of work on the San of the Kalahari Desert. Marshall is well known for producing the classic, The Hunters (1957) and the television series, N’lai, the Story of a !Kung Woman (1978).

The HSFA maintains 488,000 feet of unedited film (226 hours) that Marshall shot from 1951-1978. The final body of Marshall’s original film, video and audio documenting the Ju/’hoansi was recently deposited in the HSFA by Documentary Educational Resources. John Marshall died April 22, 2005, having made a significant contribution in the establishment and holdings of the Human Studies Film Archives.

“A New Collection of Taino Artifacts from the Dominican Republic” is a new entry on the Department’s website under Collections. “The Taino were the first indigenous people of the western hemisphere to meet Spanish explorers. When Christopher Columbus landed on Hispaniola in 1492, the native inhabitants of the island identified themselves as Tainos – a term that meant “good,” “prudent,” or “noble.” Collected in the Dominican Republic, the artifacts in the newly-accessioned M.H. Sanborn and Keriakou Family Collection provide information about the same cultural group that first encountered Columbus.” Dan Vitiello authored the text and Carrie Beauchamp posted the text and images.
Repatriations

Risa Arbolino represented the museum for two repatriations. Descendants of Pahkatos Owyeen, a man who died in the Big Hole Battle of Nez Perce War in August of 1877, traveled to D.C., to retrieve the skeletal remains on December 19. On December 20-21, Horace and Andrea Axtell, Nakia Williamson and Robert Taylor, from the Nez Perce Tribe, traveled to D.C., to repatriate the remains of a single individual from Fort Lapwai, ID.

Completed Reports

Eric Hollinger, Cheri Botic, and Stephen Ousley completed a report titled “Inventory and Assessment of Human Remains Potentially Affiliated with the Northwestern Band of Shoshone in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.” The report recommends that the skeletal remains of two individuals killed at the Bear River massacre in Idaho, in 1863, be offered for repatriation to the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation. The remains of one individual obtained in 1880 or 1881 near Yellowstone National Park were identified by the collector as Bannock and are recommended to be offered to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho.

Bill Billeck, Elizabeth Eubanks, Angela Lockard, and Philip Cash completed the Inventory and Assessment of Human Remains and Funerary Objects Potentially Affiliated with the Arikara in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. This is the largest report that has been completed by the Repatriation Office. The report recommends that the remains of 1,308 individuals in 1,240 catalog numbers and 14,451 objects in 801 catalog numbers be offered from repatriation to the Three Affiliated Tribes (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara). The remains of 1,288 individuals are most likely affiliated with the Arikara, nine are affiliated with the Mandan, and eleven are affiliated with the Mandan or Arikara. The remains of one individual is most likely affiliated with the Sioux. It is recommended that these remains be offered jointly to the Cheyenne River Sioux and the Standing Rock Sioux.

The remains and objects derive from over 40 locations, including such well known sites as Leavenworth (39C09), Sully (39SL4), Cheyenne River (39ST1), Mobridge (39WW1), Nordvold (39CO31-33), Rygh (39CA4), Buffalo Pasture (39ST6), Leavitt (39ST215), Indian Creek (39ST15), Breeden (39St16), Black Widow Ridge (39ST203) and Swan Creek (39WW7).

Consultations

On December 05-12, Eric Hollinger, Bill Billeck, Cheri Botic, and Sarah Zabriskie hosted a consultation visit by Tlingit representatives from Angoon, Alaska. The delegates included Leonard John, Garfield George, Peter Jack, Edwell John, Jr. and Harold Jacobs, representing Kootznoowoo Inc. Shane Brown, a guest from Yakutat, accompanied the delegation as an observer. The group viewed Tlingit ethnology collections from Angoon and discussed repatriation issues. The delegation extended their thanks to the Repatriation Office staff and to all those in the museum who worked to expedite the repatriation of the Killer Whale Hat last year to Marc Jacobs, Harold’s father. Edwell John, who will probably assume Marc’s role as leader of the Dakl’aweidi clan, gave special thanks on behalf of the clan. The Repatriation Office was also able to facilitate a meeting at MSC between the Angoon delegation and representatives from the Repatriation Office of the American Museum of Natural History.

On December 19, Eric Hollinger, Cheri Botic, and Sarah Zabriskie hosted Mary Beth Moss, representing the Hoonah Indian Association, Hoonah, Alaska. Mary Beth viewed ethnology collections from Hoonah and discussed repatriation issues.

Meetings and Presentations

Dorothy Lippert attended the World Archaeological Congress’ Inter-Congress on “Co-existence in the Past, Dialogues in the present” in Osaka, Japan, at her own and WAC expense from January 10-15, 2006. Dorothy did not present a paper, but participated in meetings of the WAC Council.

On February 13, Dorothy Lippert made a presentation as part of the session “Working with Traditional
In November and December, Eric Hollinger, Mike Frank, and Dennis Stanford gave flintknapping demonstrations for Cindy Wilczak’s class from the University of Maryland and Alison Brooks’s class from George Washington University.

Risa Arbolino and Bill Billeck attended the NAGPRA review committee meeting in Albuquerque, N.M., on November 14-15.

Eric Hollinger, Bill Billeck, Greta Hansen, and Sarah Zabriskie gave a tour of the Anthropology ethnology collections to Elizabeth Resek (EPA), Elizabeth Dederick (EPA), and Christine Chaisson (Lifelines). They have been working on environment health policy and risk assessment for Native Americans in Alaska. Aron Shugar (SCMRE contractor), Paula DePriest (SCMRE), and Jesse Johnson (NMAI) also met with the EPA representatives to discuss how the museum and the EPA could cooperate on approaches to assess the pesticide treatment of the collections. Elizabeth Resek and Christine Chaisson also gave a presentation on EPA’s Tribal Lifeline Project: An Overview Calculating the Exposure and Risk to Tribal Communities from Chemicals in the Diet and Environment in the joint SCMRE and Anthropology seminar on January 13.

Media

Eric Hollinger and Bill Billeck were interviewed for a story on Barrow, Alaska repatriation issues in the Anchorage Daily News.

Board Position

Dorothy Lippert has been elected as one of six members of the Society for American Archaeology Board of Directors. Lippert will begin her three year term at 2006 Annual Meeting of the SAA in San Juan, Puerto Rico in April.

JOHN WESLEY POWELL LIBRARY OF ANTHROPOLOGY

The exceptional loyalty of Anthropology Department members to the library has been amply demonstrated in the last few months. Not only have individuals continued to donate books and/or serial issues to the collection, but have also facilitated the donation of private collections and funds to support the library’s mission.

A totally unexpected and very welcome gift was a $10,000 check specified for use by the “John W. Powell Library of Anthropology for books and serials.” The money from an anonymous donor through the Shoniya Charitable Fund will greatly enhance the library’s support of the high quality research being done by Smithsonian anthropologists. The Cullman Library was also the beneficiary of Shoniya largess, receiving $25,000 for the purchase of books on Native American language, history, and culture. As for the meaning of Shoniya: It appears to be an Algonquin word. Ives Goddard tells us that there is “speculation it may have been a very early borrowing from the name of a Spanish or French coin,” but says he has never seen the evidence. “It means coin, silver, money, or sometimes all three, depending on the language.”

Lucy Thomason was the inspiration for a gift of $1,000 to the library from William H. Plank, a friend and associate. The money will be used to help us fulfill a primary component of our mission—preservation. This will include protective covering for some older items and conservation care for selected others. The library is most thankful for this very generous donation!

Bob Laughlin was instrumental in arranging the donation of a complete set of R. Gordon Wasson’s publications to the library. Wasson, a banker and amateur mycologist, began his lifelong collecting of “references to mushrooms and toadstools in the folklore of the world” in 1927. His investigations led him to many different countries, including Mexico where he was one of the first outsiders to participate in Mazatec Indian sacred mushroom rituals. Wasson integrated his findings with information from other fields, such as history,
archaeology, religion, art, and medicine, to produce beautifully illustrated books and dozens of articles. Sound recordings are included with the texts. The donor, Robert S. Greene, a jazz musician and long-time friend of Laughlin’s, had the volumes beautifully bound in Italy and presented them in excellent condition.

The family of former BAE employee Albert S. Gatschet (1832-1907) donated his books, articles, and papers still in their procession to the library. (Gatschet, a Swiss scholar, came to the U.S. in 1869 and began work on American Indian vocabularies collected during the Wheeler Survey. He was later employed by John Wesley Powell on the Rocky Mountain Regions survey and then the BAE doing both linguistic and ethnographic work with a variety of different Indian groups.) Gatschet’s material came via FedEx to the library where it was first opened, reviewed, and enjoyed by a number of different people. Gatschet’s library materials join those of many of his colleagues already in the stacks. Archival material will go to the NAA. The NAA was initially approached by a Gatschet family member, and Rob Leopold then referred her to us. Thank you Rob!

Maggie Dittemore

Least We Forget

This past year, colleagues who were important contributors to Native American history and political reform passed away. They were:

Historian and author Alvin Josephy (1915-2005), the founding chairman of the National Museum of the American Indian, authored many books, among them The Patriot Chiefs and Now That the Buffalo’s Gone and edited the anthology Red Power, a noted account of the campaign for Indian rights. His latest edited book, Lewis and Clark Through Indian Eyes, is scheduled to be published by Knopf in the coming year.

Vine Deloria Jr. (1933 -2005) was best known as the author of Custer Died for Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto and also God Is Red: A Native View of Religion. He was a member of the Standing Rock Sioux, a legal scholar, theologian, and social activist dedicated to raising public awareness about Native American life.

Bea Medicine (1923-2005) was an advocate for human rights and authored books on Native American women and wrote numerous articles on Plains Indian culture. She taught at the college level at various schools and took a personal interest in the education of Native American children. She was from the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.


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