

# National Park Service, Archaeology Program

Program Information	
Program Name	National Park Service, Archaeology Program
General Description / Special Programs	<p>The National Park Service (NPS), Department of the Interior, is responsible for managing the 84 million acres of the National Park System, whose 401 units are visited by almost 300 million people every year. Over 74,000 archeological sites have been recorded in NPS units; the Service also cares for 36 million artifacts and records associated with archeological collections and investigations. To fulfill this management mandate, archeologists and other cultural resource experts carry out projects at parks, archeological centers, and program offices across the country. The NPS assists archeology and historic preservation activities carried out by other Federal agencies, States, Tribes, community groups, and local governments. The NPS carries out cooperative projects with these entities and with colleges, universities, advocacy organizations, professional associations, museums, and private groups. The Archeology Program national office is part of the NPS headquarters in Washington, DC. The program promotes the identification, evaluation, documentation, conservation, protection, and interpretation of archeological resources in the National Park System, and provides national leadership, coordination, and guidance for Federal and other public archeology programs. NPS archeologists at centers, parks, and regional offices carry out activities that implement these general functions. The Archeology Program website (<a href="http://www.nps.gov/archeology/">www.nps.gov/archeology/</a>) maintains up-to-date information about archeological resources management, educational resources, public outreach, publications, research activities, and training. The website provides links to cultural resources laws, regulations, policies, standards, guidelines, and technical information. The Archeology Program headquarters office maintains information on looting and vandalism of archeological sites. Five distance learning courses are available through the website (<a href="http://www.nps.gov/archeology/tools/distlearn.htm">www.nps.gov/archeology/tools/distlearn.htm</a>): Archeology for Interpreters; Interpretation for Archeologists; Study Tour of Archeological Interpretation; Managing Archeological Collections; and Assessment of Archeology Interpretation. The National Archeological Database (NADB) is maintained in cooperation with NPS field offices and the Center for Advanced Spatial Technology (CAST), U of Arkansas. NADB consists of interrelated Reports, Permits, and MAPS databases on archeological investigations (<a href="http://www.nps.gov/archeology/TOOLS/Nadb.htm">www.nps.gov/archeology/TOOLS/Nadb.htm</a>).</p>
Established	
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State	DC
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Website	<a href="http://www.nps.gov/archeology">http://www.nps.gov/archeology</a>

## Program Details

Experience Offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internship</li> </ul>
Research Facilities	<p>RESEARCH FACILITIES: Research facilities are located at the Midwest Archeological Center, National Capital Region Museum Resource Center, Northeast Cultural Resources Center, Southeast Archeological Center, Intermountain Cultural Resources Center, and Western Archeological and Conservation Center. FACILITIES FOR VISITING SCHOLARS: Use of research facilities, collections, and libraries by visiting individuals may be arranged on request. Prior approval to visit collections is required.</p>
Library Resources	<p>Most park units have libraries of varying sizes; centers have more extensive libraries and records. Holdings consist mainly of reports on archeological, ethnographic, historical, curatorial, and architectural studies undertaken in park units.</p>
Internships Available	
Internship Info	<p>Internships are sometimes available for advanced undergraduates and graduate students through the National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE) (<a href="http://www.preservenet.cornell.edu/employ/intern.cfm">www.preservenet.cornell.edu/employ/intern.cfm</a>). The program offers paid internships of variable length throughout the calendar year. Assignments and schedules are arranged on an individual basis. Most NCPE interns are located in Washington, DC. Archeological centers, parks, and other offices sometimes offer internships and should be contacted directly about openings.</p>
Internship Required	
Publications	<p>Archeology technical briefs, archeological studies, and Federal archeology reports are published by the Archeology Program (<a href="http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/TOOLS">www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/TOOLS</a>). Individual NPS research facilities, centers, and other offices publish reports on cultural resources investigations conducted in park units. For further information on these reports (that includes archeological overviews, field surveys, excavations, and special projects) contact the Archeology Program headquarters office or the center, research facility, or park unit that produced the report. Many NPS archeology reports are available from the NPS History E-Library at <a href="http://www.nps.gov/history/history/hisnps">www.nps.gov/history/history/hisnps</a>. Information about current events and topics relating to NPS archeological activities are available through the monthly Archeology E-gram. To subscribe, e-mail a request to <a href="mailto:dca@nps.gov">dca@nps.gov</a>.</p>
Collections	<p>The NPS maintains collections of over 121 million museum objects related to National Park System units. The collections include archival documents; archeological, ethnographic, and historic artifacts; furniture; clothing; photographs; paintings; sculpture; and paleontological and geological specimens. Collections are located in NPS units and research facilities, and museums and universities across the U.S. More information about NPS collections is available on the Archeology Program website, the NPS Museum Management website (<a href="http://www.nps.gov/museum">www.nps.gov/museum</a>), and at individual NPS units and facilities.</p>
Misc Information	<p>RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES: The NPS seeks cooperative relationships with recognized educational and scientific institutions and other qualified individuals or organizations whose research programs or interests complement park objectives related to the interpretation, protection, and stewardship of archeological sites, collections, and reports. The NPS encourages and supports appropriate independent research and NPS facilities and assistance can be made available to qualified individuals who conduct authorized research. ARCHEOLOGICAL AND SPECIAL USE PERMITS: Individuals, groups, and institutions desiring to conduct archeological investigations in NPS units must contact the park superintendent for information about compliance with cultural resource laws and regulations, NPS policies, and any additional archeological and special use permitting requirements. Archeological research unrelated to park management objectives may be authorized when there is compelling evidence that the proposal is essential to significant research concerns and can be reasonably achieved by studying sites on park lands. More information about requirements for conducting archeological research in NPS units is available through the Permits section of the online NPS Archeology Guide (<a href="http://www.nps.gov/archeology/npsGuide/permits">www.nps.gov/archeology/npsGuide/permits</a>).</p>
Certs Offered	



