Kentucky . . . Here we come!
Teaching Archaeology for the Common Good

The eighth annual Project Archaeology Coordinator’s Conference will be held at Shaker Village in Pleasant Hill, Kentucky on October 23-26, 2006.

The Shaker Village will be an exciting conference location. Amenities include miles of walking trails, great food, and a historical setting. For more information, please visit the village website at http://www.shakervillageky.org.

The theme for this year’s conference is Teaching Archaeology for the Common Good. We will be discussing the book Teaching History for the Common Good by Keith Barton and Linda Levstik. If you would like to order a copy of the book at a 20% discount, please contact Crystal Alegria.

Other Conference topics will include introducing Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter and working on regional Shelter Investigations.

To register for the conference, please contact us at (406) 994-6925 or calegria@montana.edu.

Project Archaeology awarded grant from the American Honda Foundation

We are pleased to announce that the American Honda Foundation has awarded Project Archaeology a grant to offer culturally relevant, inquiry-based science education to three culturally diverse urban areas (San Diego CA, Kansas City MO, and Washington DC). This project will use archaeology as a tool to connect these underserved audiences to science education and improve science literacy, thereby increasing interest in science and technology careers. Project Archaeology staff will offer professional development to educators of elementary aged African American students. These educators will receive Investigating Shelter and a new investigation currently under development called, Investigating a Slave Dwelling and use them in their classrooms.

This project will expand Project Archaeology by helping establish new programs and sustain existing state and regional programs.
Hello Everyone,

Our new draft curriculum, Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter, is in the classroom! Two teachers in Bozeman, Montana and two teachers in Craig, Alaska piloted the unit this spring. The Montana teachers used “The Plains Tipi” investigation and the Alaska teachers used “The Northwest Coast Plankhouse” investigation. It went well at both sites and all the teachers are giving us a lot of good suggestions for improvement. We are also planning to pilot Investigating Shelter and one or two of the investigations for Native American students in southern Utah this fall.

Project Archaeology was represented at two conferences this year. I attended the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings in Sacramento, California in January and Megg Heath attended the Society for American Archaeology meetings in San Juan, Puerto Rico in April. We both made many new contacts with archaeology educators and reconnected with lots of long time supporters.

Archaeology educators in Georgia, Minnesota, Illinois, Northern California, and the Washington DC area have recently contacted us to plan new state and regional programs. Hopefully, we’ll be adding more programs to our growing network soon.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! We’re looking forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Coordinator’s Conference at Shaker Village in October.

Best,
Jeanne

**West Virginia Facilitators Training**

Marshall University and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History hosted a Project Archaeology facilitators training June 20-23, 2006. The training was held at Camp Washington-Carver in Clifftop, West Virginia. Camp Washington-Carver is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was originally a 4-H camp for African-Americans. The camp is now run by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, and hosts various heritage education programs throughout the summer.

The Council of West Virginia Archaeology received two grants to fund the training, one from the West Virginia Humanities Council and the second from the WV Division of Culture and History. **Valerie McCormack**, the West Virginia Project Archaeology Coordinator, organized the facilitator training.

The first night of the training featured Doug Wood of History Alive! Mr. Wood gave a presentation as Chief Ostenaco, a contact period Cherokee Chief. On the final day of the training, the group worked on a shelter investigation for West Virginia, using data from the Buffalo Site, a NRHP listed protohistoric village. We are happy to welcome West Virginia to the Project Archaeology Network!
Excitement is building as Project Archaeology is launched in Kansas. The Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) is the sponsoring agency in consultation with the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). Inspired by the new national curriculum, State Archeologist Robert J. Hoard and Public Archeologist Virginia A. Wulfkuhle wanted to develop Kansas-specific materials that mesh with the units of shelter for grades 3-4, subsistence for grades 5-6, and migration for grades 7-8. Encouraged by KSDE advisors, Hoard and Wulfkuhle conducted a competitive search for a consultant to create a series of three topical readers for kids and an accompanying teacher manual keyed to the KSDE standards. Cali Letts of Windrose Consulting in Salt Lake City was hired as the curriculum writer.

To ensure that the Kansas project started on a solid footing, Jeanne Moe was invited to participate in the organizational meeting in Topeka in early May. Jeanne and Cali arrived in Kansas on May 9. May 10 was a very long, intense, but productive day in true Project Archaeology style. It started with a morning meeting that included KSHS Executive Director Jennie Chinn (herself a former classroom teacher and KSHS Education/Outreach Division Director), KSHS Acting Education/Outreach Division Director Mary Madden, and several other key education leaders in Kansas. In the evening, another meeting was held with six educators, including social studies and language arts teachers from a variety of grade levels and school districts. Two American Indians were recruited for this group. These individuals will form the core of an advisory group that will review drafts of the readers; some will go on to test appropriate materials in their classrooms.

While in Kansas, Jeanne and Cali visited a small Woodland-age burial mound (Stallard Mound) and the site of Hard Chief’s Kansa village in Topeka, the Kaw Indian Mission in Council Grove in the heart of the Flint Hills, and the Native American Heritage Museum at the Iowa, Sac and Fox Mission in Highland, Kansas. On Friday and Saturday, Cali and Virginia headed west on a 1,200-mile road trip to familiarize Cali with the variety of environmental regions and archaeological sites in the state. They stopped to tour the Pawnee Indian Village State Historic Site in Republic, El Cuartelejo at Scott County Lake State Park, and the homeland of the Wichita Indians around Lindsborg, Kansas. And the exhilarating part is that the journey is just beginning!
Research trip to Colorado by Erika Malo, Student Research Assistant for Project Archaeology

The first week in August Crystal Alegria and I went to Northwest Colorado to collect data for two shelter investigations, an archaic basin house and a rockshelter site. This project is a result of a partnership between Colorado BLM, Rockies Express (REX) Interstate pipeline and Project Archaeology. While in Colorado, we worked with Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc. and Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc. They generously allowed us to visit their sites and gather information for the two shelter investigations. The first day of our trip we visited a rockshelter site and an open air habitation site with the Metcalf crew. We spent the second day with the Alpine crew and visited two archaic basin-house sites.

This is the first time Project Archaeology staff have visited archaeologists in the field and communicated our data needs for the shelter investigations. The on-site communication will benefit the shelter investigations greatly, not only with photographs of the excavation, environment and artifacts, but also with the face-to-face conversations and interviews with the field crews.

The rockshelter and basin house investigations will be completed by early spring, and we plan to do professional development with teachers in Northwest Colorado in early summer. A few teachers from the workshop will be selected to join Jeanne Moe and Metcalf Archaeological Consultants in the field next summer to excavate a rockshelter site.

It was a productive research trip that will result in two shelter investigations to be used throughout Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah.