

CESU Agreement # J8100060245

Parks: BAND, CACH, CAGR, ELMO, GRCA, NAVA, ORPI, PECO, PEFO, SAGU, TONT, TUMA, TUZI

Project: 13 Parks Cataloging

Investigator: Rich Lange/Beth Grindell

Project #: UAZCP – 60

Cooperator: Katherine Beckwith, Judy Storry, Anne Iverson, Ashley D'Elia, Caitlin Wyler, Laura Perry, Hannah Mills, and Erin Bilyeu

Final Project Report

This project was started in 2007 to assist 13 parks in achieving and improving accountability for museum collections by cataloging museum objects from various archeological projects at WACC into the Automated National Catalog System (ANCS+). Cooperators Katherine Beckwith and Judy Storry created 842 individual catalog records between 2007 and 2008, totaling 3,298 cataloged items for the following 12 parks: BAND, CACH, CAGR, ELMO, GICL, LAME, ORPI, PEFO, SAGU, TONT, TUMA, and TUZI. This included rehousing, labeling and storing the objects as directed by the NPS *Museum Handbook*. The other artifacts held by the NPS Division of Archeology had either not been washed and/or analyzed, and/or the reports and associated archives for the projects had not been finished or assembled, so cataloging was deferred until this work could be completed by NPS Division of Archeology personnel. The project due date was then extended to June 30, 2010.

Additionally in 2008, funds from the project were used to recatalog records that listed bulk quantities rather than item counts. Archeology items when originally cataloged were often cataloged in bulk lots, for example, as 1 box or as 2 bags, instead of as 500 items. This past practice resulted in unknown actual counts of objects and a substandard level of accountability for collections. The NPS Registrar enlisted volunteers who counted bulk lots of sherds, bones, and lithics to obtain item counts for the lots. Then, Cooperators Storry and Beckwith entered this refined data into the ANCS+ program, resulting in 337 recataloged catalog records, yielding an increase of 11,120 individual items in the electronic database. Park units assisted in this way were: CACH, CAGR, GRCA, NAVA, ORPI, PECO, and PEFO.

In the winter of 2009, the Division of Archeology released a number of project collections, but the organization and documentation of the projects, and the analysis and washing of a large number of items by NPS personnel had still not been completed, so cataloging could not proceed until this work was accomplished. By then no one remained in the Center's Division of Archeology to perform this work, so, student cooperators and Curatorial Specialist Erin Bilyeu inventoried the archeology projects remaining to be cataloged, washed objects from one of the large TUMA projects, and gathered and copied cataloging-pertinent extracts from associated archives so that the Registrar could extract essential field data needed for cataloging to occur. Unfortunately, the remaining funds on this task agreement were expended in this endeavor and no further cataloging occurred.

This project was completed in June 2010.