Report of Task Agreement # J8100100267

Park: Mesa Verde National Park
Project: Collection Condition Survey
Investigator: Rich Lange
Project Number: UAZCP – 227
Cooperator: Ms. Margaret Kipling, Ms. Audrey Harrison

Final Project Report

Cooperator Kipling performed an on-site collection condition survey of a group of 79 historic planters at Scotty’s Castle at Death Valley National Park. The survey was entered into a Filemaker Pro database, and included information about the current condition, treatment priority, proposed treatment, estimated treatment time, and level of expertise required. A summary report was provided to the Scotty’s Castle Curator. Working with the DEVA Museum Technician, all objects were photographed as part of the survey. Training on ceramic desalination techniques was given to park staff, so that some routine treatments could be undertaken at the park with existing staff.

The cooperators, with NPS conservators, performed an on-site collection condition survey of over 2900 objects in storage at Mesa Verde National Park. Objects surveyed included objects in storage which may be used for exhibit. The survey was performed on-site from May 23-27 and June 13-17, 2011. During the survey, training was provided to cooperator Harrison on conducting collection condition surveys. This completed a comprehensive survey of the collection which had been included in UAZCP-194 and UAZCP-208. Using the data from all objects surveyed, a summary of observed previous campaigns of restoration, as they could be connected to different time periods, archaeological projects, or accessions into the collection was compiled. The survey was entered into a Filemaker Pro database, and included information about the current condition, treatment priority, proposed treatment, estimated treatment time, and level of expertise required.