

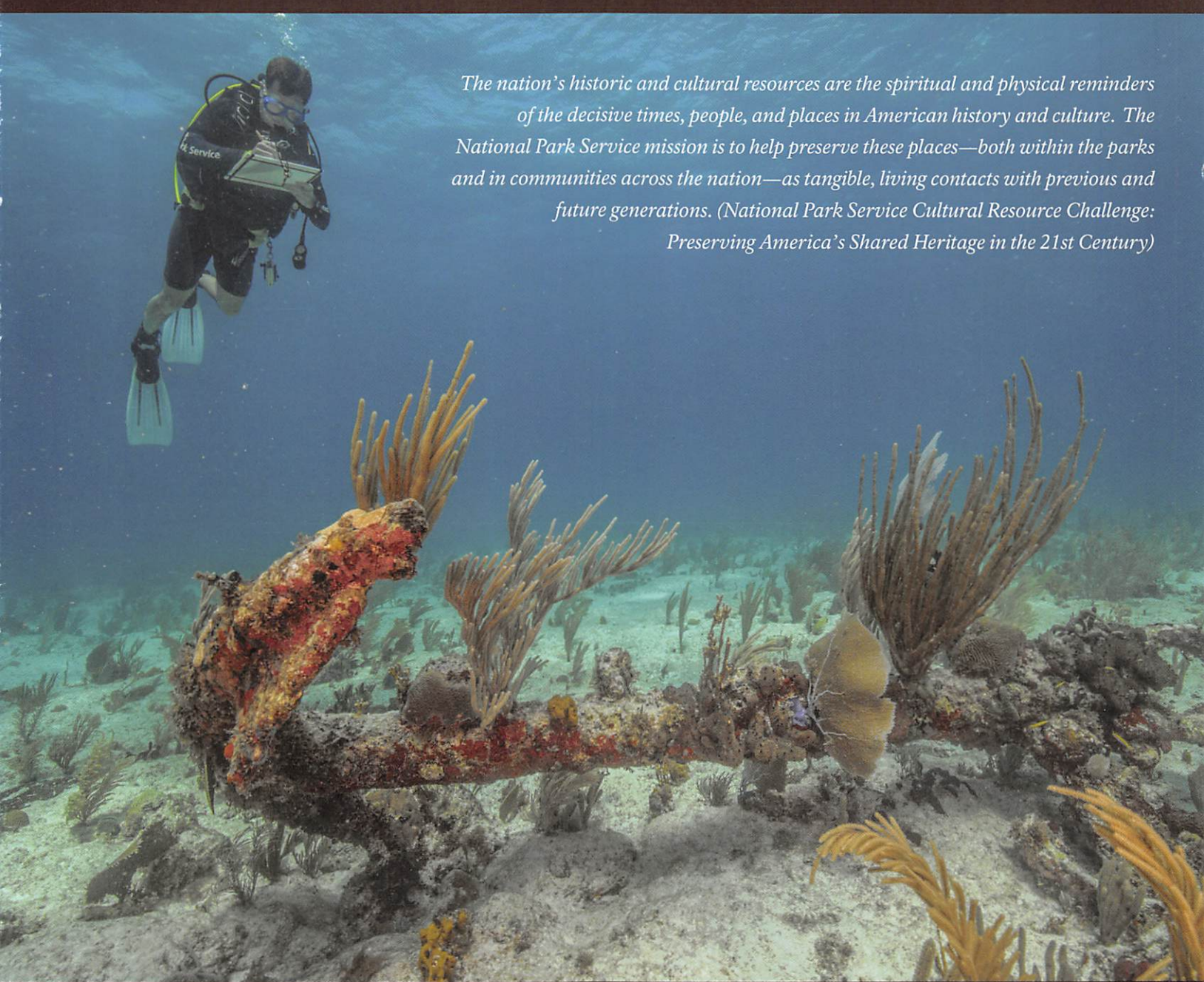
CULTURAL RESOURCES IN THE SOUTHEAST REGION

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# Southeast Cultural Resources Program

*The nation's historic and cultural resources are the spiritual and physical reminders of the decisive times, people, and places in American history and culture. The National Park Service mission is to help preserve these places—both within the parks and in communities across the nation—as tangible, living contacts with previous and future generations. (National Park Service Cultural Resource Challenge: Preserving America's Shared Heritage in the 21st Century)*



PRESERVING AMERICA'S SHARED HERITAGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

*The preservation of this irreplaceable heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, economic, and energy benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Americans.*  
*National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.)*

# Cultural Resource Management

*Archeology provides a unique view on past cultures, but also sometimes can focus down to the level of the individual. This artifact, the base of a Native American made ceramic bowl tempered with finely crushed shell, has been engraved on its interior with an unknown symbol. This bowl fragment—like the site of Fort Rosalie itself—may represent the process of creolization, in which different cultural traditions interacting combine to form a unique new culture.*



*The spirit and direction of the Nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic heritage; the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people.*  
*National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.)*

## CRITICAL SERVICES

### Baseline Documentation

Archeological Overview and Assessment  
Archives Processing  
Administrative History  
Inventories (Historic Resources, Historic Structures, and Cultural Landscapes)  
Database Management: Archeological GIS, ASMIS, CLI, LCS  
Ethnographic Overview and Assessment  
Historic Resource and Historic Structures Studies and Reports  
List of Classified Structures  
Museum Cataloging  
Natural History Collections Assistance  
Records Management Guidance

### National Register and NHL Evaluations

Eligibility Determination  
Historic Resource Documentation  
National Historic Landmarks Nominations  
National Register Nominations

### Planning and Stewardship

ARPA (Permitting guidance, Damage Assessments)  
Collection Condition Surveys  
Collections Housekeeping Plans for Historic Resources  
Collections Management Plan  
Cultural Resource Project Management  
Cultural Landscape Reports  
Emergency Operations Plan  
Emergency Response Services  
NHPA Section 106 and 110  
NAGPRA Plan of Action and Repatriation  
PEPC Subject Matter Expertise  
Integrated Pest Management Plan  
Security and Fire Protection  
Scope of Collection Statements

### Research, Science, and Interpretation

All resource types (e.g., archeological, historical, etc.)  
Environmental Science  
Exhibit Planning and Guidance  
Traditionally Associated Peoples

### Other Specialty Services

Archeological Remote Sensing  
Cultural Resources Dive Team  
Heritage Documentation Programs (HABS/HAER/HALS)  
pXRF Elemental Analyses  
Landscape Preservation Maintenance Plans  
Tribal Consultation  
Zooarcheology

## PROJECT EXAMPLES

### ▶ Archeology

Located on a prominent hill overlooking the Mississippi River in Natchez, Mississippi, the site of Fort Rosalie embodies multicultural interaction, settlement, and exchange on the colonial frontier. Fort Rosalie was built in 1717 as a simple rectangular palisade. It served as a node of commerce and governance for the French colony. Tensions grew between French settlers, leaders, and native residents, and the indigenous Natchez attacked and burned the fort on November 28, 1729.

Research by SEAC at Natchez National Historical Park (NATC) has uncovered portions of Fort Rosalie's walls, burned floors, food remains, and numerous artifacts. The fort's documentation was timely. The hill where the fort is located is eroding rapidly. Now that the fort's location has been demonstrated, the park is exploring how to protect and interpret what remains. Archeological data have been used to generate interpretive art and content for waysides and other public materials, to create robust exhibits, to develop critical management strategies, and to enhance understanding of this unique place in our country's genesis.



*This excavation unit exposed a remnant of the exterior wall of Fort Rosalie, and provides tangible confirmation of the historic account of the fort's destruction in 1729.*

### ▶ Cultural Landscapes

Water, wind, storm events, and rising sea levels all join forces to create an ephemeral, ever-shifting landscape at the Outer Banks. Park personnel at Wright Brothers NM, Fort Raleigh NHS, and Cape Hatteras NS are faced with the challenging task of preserving cultural landscapes in a constantly changing environment.



*The Bodie Island Light Station at Cape Hatteras National Seashore was constructed in 1872. A Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) gives the park guidance in preserving such historic properties in the dynamic environment of the Outer Banks.*

The Cultural Landscapes Program provides assistance to these parks in a several ways. With the baseline documentation of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), the parks' cultural landscapes are identified and evaluated for historical significance and integrity. Cultural Landscape Reports (CLRs) give parks treatment recommendations that guide the preservation of these historic properties. The most recent CLRs written for the Outer Banks Group are for Ocracoke and Bodie Island Light Stations. A collaboration is also underway between Facilities and Cultural Landscapes, including park, SERO, and WASO personnel. Through their efforts, the contributing resources identified in CLIs, and the treatment recommendations of CLRs, are cross-walked into FMSS. As a result, parks are better equipped to use CLIs and CLRs to maintain cultural landscapes for future generations.

### ▶ Cultural Anthropology/ Ethnography

Cane River Creole National Historical Park (CARI), outside of Natchitoches, Louisiana, preserves the resources and cultural landscapes of the Cane River region at the Oakland and Magnolia Plantations, and enhances understanding of its peoples and traditions through research, interpretation, education, and technical assistance. CARI preserves a rich legacy of American Indian, French, Spanish, Creole, and African American

history, ecological knowledge, foodways, and culture that is still practiced by the region's traditionally-associated peoples. Traditionally-associated peoples (TAPs) are a living group of people whose cultural traditions are closely tied to the resources in national park units.

The Research and Science Branch assisted the park in conducting oral history interviews and ethnographic consultations with the TAPs connected to CARI (including plantation descendants and elders) on their traditional practices, resource use, and folklore. The vital information gathered through the ethnographic interviews filled in gaps in the historical record, provided a foundation for managing natural and cultural resources of the park, and for ensuring compliance with federal and state resource protection mandates.



*Ethnographic and oral history interviews with Traditionally Associated People of Cane River Creole NHP included interviews of the last commercial fisherman of the Cane River community at his store in Cloutierville, Louisiana.*

### ▶ Historic Architecture

Gulf Islands National Seashore is located in Florida and Mississippi, and is a place of myriad riches – blue-green, sparkling water, magnificent white beaches, and fertile coastal marshes. The forts of Gulf Islands National Seashore span almost 150 years, from the Spanish colonial Bateria De San Antonio (1797) to the World War Two-era Battery 234. The historic structures at Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island date back to the mid-1800s when the Fort was built to defend Pensacola Bay.

As a result of the proposed Gulf Islands National Seashore Pensacola Bay Ferry Service project and its repurposing of historic structures on Fort Pickens, the Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division (CR Planning and Stewardship branch) provided not only treatment documents via Historic Structure Reports; but also provided technical

assistance through advisory consultation with the park, State Historic Preservation Officer, architects, and engineers. This site planning review and design and construction document technical review resulted in substantial changes to the proposed rehabilitation plan and served to further protect and preserve the character-defining features of the historic structures within their cultural landscape.



The forts of Gulf Islands National Seashore reflect the historic value of the anchorages at Pensacola Bay, Florida and Ship Island, Mississippi. Most striking among these are the American Third System forts: Fort Massachusetts (pictured here), Fort Pickens, Fort Barrancas, and the Advanced Redoubt, all of which saw action during the Civil War.

## History

The CRPS makes every effort to support the preservation efforts of stewards of National Historic Landmarks. National Historic Landmarks are historic resources that illustrate or provide an example of nationally-significant U.S. history and retain a high degree of integrity. The SERO's primary responsibility is to identify and nominate new properties for designation, monitor the condition of existing NHLs, and provide technical assistance to maintain their historic appearance to a high degree.



Rosedown Plantation, a Louisiana State Park and National Historic Landmark, contains an 1830s planter's residence as well as 18 acres of associated historic plantation-era garden landscapes.

Rosedown Plantation NHL, which is a Louisiana State Park designated in 2005 for Landscape Architecture and Architecture, is an exceptionally rare example of an antebellum mansion complete with its historic designed landscape, termed the tout ensemble. The National Park Service provided opinions and guidance on plans to move four non-historic buildings onto the plantation's 18-acre historic core. CRPS' involvement was instrumental in the State park staffs' ultimate decision not to add non-historic features to the plantation.

## Museum and Archival Services

Park museum and archival collections are inextricably interwoven, and are primary, non-renewable park resources. They are intimately tied to the park's purpose and serve as a park's cultural, natural, and institutional memory. Within national parks, museum and archival collections serve four basic functions:

- *Resource Documentation*
- *Physical preservation and protection of resources*
- *Research*
- *Public programs and outreach*



Museum Technician Mercedes Harrold analyzes a collection from the Lamar Site at Ocmulgee National Monument (OCMU). The site was excavated from 1934-1938 by the Civil Work Administration (C.W.A.), Civilian Conservation Corp (C.C.C.), and Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.).

Our mission is to support and strengthen park management, partnerships, and programs that preserve and protect natural and cultural resource collections within Southeast Region units of the National Park Service, and make those collections accessible for research, education and public enjoyment.

## The Cultural Resource Challenge

Since 1997 there has been a loss of almost 30 percent of cultural resource management positions in our national parks. Losses continue as budgets remain tight. The Historic Preservation Fund, which provides the primary support for the partnership programs, has remained largely flat since 1980. The elimination of the Save America's Treasures and Preserve America funding has significantly reduced the support for survey and treatment of our heritage resources both in national parks and in local communities. Nationally recognized reports by groups like the National Academy of Public Administration have repeatedly documented these challenges over the past decade, most recently in 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2011.

In addition to age-old threats such as weather, looting, and neglect, recent years have seen the rapid advancement of new threats and challenges like climate change; national initiatives for sustainability and energy conservation; and calls for continued relevancy to current and future constituents. These threats and needs were unknown or unconsidered by the visionaries of 1916 and 1966.

Today it is critical that the NPS look forward and recommit to preserving the nation's cultural resources. We must build on key programs, prioritize use of existing resources, and identify critical actions that will best meet the needs and challenges confronting us in the 21st century. The Cultural Resource, Partnerships, and Science Division and the Southeast Archeological Center represent key assets for the SER in this effort. Founded upon an economy-of-scale model, the centralization of practitioners in these units allows subject matter expertise and on-the-ground assistance to be shared as widely and cost-effectively as possible. It is our responsibility and pleasure to work with our parks and partners to meet the mandates set forth for us in 1916.

*The service thus established shall. . .conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and. . .provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.  
National Park Service Organic Act (54 USC 100101(a), 100301 et seq.)*

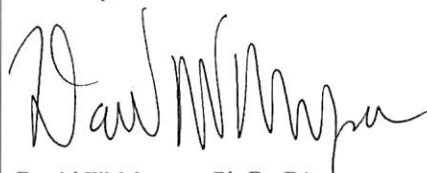
# Cultural Vision

The Southeast Region of the National Park Service is home to some of the nation's most treasured cultural resources spanning thousands of years of our past, from millennia of pre-contact history through the Space Age. These places are distinctively authentic. They are fundamental to our notion of heritage. They are an intrinsic element of what creates sense of place and identity. They are those rare places that a person can visit and expect, upon return, to later find them and the experience they provide largely unchanged. They are, in short, priceless. It is both our great privilege and great responsibility to steward our cultural resources unimpaired into the hands of our children, and theirs, down through generations.

Here we offer a glimpse of cultural resources located within the Southeast, showcasing a few select projects sponsored and supported by the Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) and the Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science Division (CRPS). These projects illustrate some of the ways in which our offices are able to support parks in their role as resource stewards, as well as our partners. Together our efforts build awareness of cultural resource issues on a larger stage. We invite you to take a moment to enjoy these vignettes, and to reflect on how we might be able to assist your efforts to protect, interpret, and share these resources so critical to the American experience.

SEAC and CRPS interact with the parks daily through one on one contacts, but parks also shape the goals and activities of these two units formally, through the Southeast Region Cultural Resource Advisory Council. The Council is composed primarily of park staff who advocate for improving park cultural resource management. They advise the SER Directorate on national and regional issues affecting cultural resources, and serve as a source of information and communication regarding cultural resource management issues. They use their park perspective to identify common causes and emerging issues. They advise and provide input for the development of policy and direction. Council members serve as critical liaisons with parks over the Servicewide Comprehensive Call, and with other SER committees and programs. The members advocate for professional cultural resource management within parks and programs, and advocate for NPS partnership programs that build preservation capacity at all scales.

Sincerely,



David W. Morgan, Ph.D., Director,  
Southeast Archeological Center



Dan Scheidt, SER Chief,  
Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and  
Science Division



NPS archeologist Jessica McNeil uses a GPS unit to record features of the historic landscape of Brotherton Farm at Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park. Documentation and inventories of historic resources are part of the critical services provided by the Southeast cultural resource programs.

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## CRPS Mission Statement

The Southeast Regional Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science Division preserves and protects unimpaired the region's cultural resources for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations, so that all may experience the collective expression of who we are as a people. In collaboration with parks and partners, the Southeast Regional Cultural Resource, Partnerships, and Science Division supports stewardship through applied expertise in Historic Architecture, Cultural Landscapes, Museum and Archival Services, History, and Cultural Anthropology.

**Cultural Resources, Partnerships,  
and Science Division**  
**Southeast Regional Office**  
100 Alabama St. SW  
AFC-1924 Bldg, 6th Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Phone: (404) 507-5600  
Fax: (404) 562-3202

## SEAC Mission Statement

The Southeast Archeological Center's mission is to preserve and protect irreplaceable archeological resources for the benefit of the American people. SEAC accomplishes this by promoting heritage values globally through partnerships and technical assistance, and through focused archeological resource management within NPS. SEAC conducts and shares high quality anthropological research and interpretation, based on cutting edge, multi-disciplinary methods and science. SEAC provides timely research, interpretive, and management support to park, public, and professional audiences.

**Southeast Archeological Center**  
**National Park Service**  
2035 E. Paul Dirac Drive  
Johnson Building, Suite 120  
Tallahassee, FL 32310  
Phone: (850) 580-3011  
[www.facebook.com/NPSSEAC](http://www.facebook.com/NPSSEAC)  
Twitter: @NPSSEAC

## Southeast Region Cultural Resource Advisory Council

The Council is a body established by the Regional Leadership Council (RLC) to provide vision, coordination, support, and guidance of cultural resource stewardship and management throughout the Southeast Region. The Council works to advance cultural resource awareness and stewardship in park and region management and operations, and to support public and private partnerships for the preservation of cultural resources throughout the region. The Council works to protect and preserve cultural resources through interdisciplinary consultation and coordination, professionalism, and leadership. The Council works collaboratively with cultural resource program managers. The Council provides a platform and forum for dialogue on cultural resource matters.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

The stewardship vignettes shared here are a small portion of the ongoing effort of the Southeast Archeological Center and the Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science Division to support parks and partners as they document, interpret, share, and preserve America's unique, authentic heritage. For more details on these projects, past projects, and future projects, please see:

### SEAC

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NPSSEAC](http://www.facebook.com/NPSSEAC)  
Twitter: @NPSSEAC  
Content: [www.nps.gov/seac/tnk/tnk.htm](http://www.nps.gov/seac/tnk/tnk.htm)

### CRPS

Content: <http://share.inside.nps.gov/sites/SER/CRD/default.aspx>

*The Southeast ... is charged with protecting and preserving  
the resources that tell the story of our ancestors.  
Cultural Resource Division Business Plan 2013*



*The historic Hensley Settlement is part of the cultural landscape of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park.*

*COVER: The National Park Service protects, documents, and interprets resources on land and beneath the waves. This 19th-century ship's anchor was discovered during a magnetometer survey of the waters surrounding Buck Island Reef National Monument during the Slave Wrecks Project, a joint effort between NPS, The Smithsonian Institution, and The George Washington University, and international collaborators.  
(Photo courtesy of Susanna Pershern, NPS SRC)*