The Archaeological Conservancy

2019 Annual Report
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December 31, 2019

Letter from the President

Since 1980, The Archaeological Conservancy has acquired more than 540 endangered archaeological sites across the country. 2019 was a great year for the Conservancy, as we continued our mission to preserve significant sites across the United States.

This year, the Conservancy continued our commitment to educating the public about the importance of archaeological sites. The preserves we protect are available to the public for guided tours, to descendants of the American Indians who once inhabited the sites, and to archaeologists and other qualified researchers for study. In addition to this, we host lectures around the country for our members and the general public.

Major funding for the Conservancy comes from our members, as well as from corporations, foundations, and special individual contributions. Income from our permanent Endowment Fund supplements regular fundraising. Often we raise money locally to purchase sites in a particular community. In emergency situations, we borrow from our revolving Preservation Fund.

The Conservancy’s quarterly magazine, American Archaeology, is the only popular magazine devoted to presenting the rich diversity of archaeology in the Americas. The magazine helps readers appreciate and understand the archaeological wonders available to them, and to raise awareness of the destruction of our cultural heritage. The ancient people of North America left virtually no written records of their cultures. Clues that might someday solve the mysteries of prehistoric America are still missing, and when a ruin is destroyed by looters, or leveled for a shopping center, precious information is lost. By permanently preserving endangered ruins, we are ensuring they will be here for future generations to study and enjoy.

We look forward to making 2020, the Conservancy’s 40th year, our best yet.

Sincerely,

Mark Michel
President
Mission Statement

The Archaeological Conservancy is a non-profit organization established in 1980 to acquire and preserve America’s most important archaeological sites. Because the majority of endangered sites are on private property, they are not protected by law and are subject to destruction at the whim of their owners.

In order to save archaeological sites throughout the nation, the Conservancy:

- Identifies the most important endangered sites;
- Acquires the property by purchase, gift, or bargain sale to charity;
- Secures the property and stabilizes the cultural resources in situ;
- Manages the archaeological preserve as part of a long-term plan;
- Educates the general public and local officials about the destruction of our cultural heritage and how we can preserve what remains.
2019 ACQUISITIONS

Since its beginning in 1980, the Conservancy has acquired more than 540 endangered sites in 45 states across America. These preserves range in size from less than an acre to more than 1,500 acres. They include the earliest habitation sites in North America, a 19th-century frontier army post, and nearly every major cultural period in between. In 2019, the Conservancy rescued the following endangered sites:

LA 44 (New Mexico)

The Conservancy acquired LA 44, an important Spanish Colonial rancho located just south of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Situated on a low terrace just above La Cienega Creek, LA 44 was occupied sometime between A.D. 1620-1680. The site was first recorded by pioneer archaeologist H.P. Mera as part of a small cluster of seventeenth-century sites located south of Santa Fe along the Camino Real, the trade route to Mexico. LA 44’s residents were likely involved in ranching as well as trading pinon nuts, buffalo hides, wool blankets, and santos to people in northern Mexico.

In 2019, the site and the surrounding property were donated to the Conservancy. Filhioil is a small, seven-foot-tall platform mound that measures 100x100 feet at its base. Soil core samples taken from the mound suggest it was built in two stages and that it dates to the Late Woodland and Mississippian periods. Charcoal recovered from the first stage of the mound indicates that construction was started by the Coles Creek culture (A.D. 700-1200). Pottery sherds and other artifacts indicate Plaquemine people (A.D. 1200-1541) also used the site. Plaquemine is the Mississippian culture variant in the southern Lower Mississippi Valley.

Harmon Site (North Dakota)

The Conservancy has acquired its third archaeological site in North Dakota, a late prehistoric village on the Missouri River just north of Bismarck-Mandan known as the Harmon site. The site has been known to archaeologists for over a hundred years, but has not been systematically studied. In the early 1900s, a local archaeological enthusiast tested at the site, but like so many amateur undertakings, his work produced a few artifacts but no field notes or report. The site was not even recorded with the state until the Smithsonian River Basin Survey of the late 1940s and early ’50s, when archaeologists worked to salvage information from the sites in danger of destruction by dam construction on the Missouri. Being a small site located outside the immediate impact zone of the dams, Harmon did not undergo further study. It remained in pasture for another half-century.

Bains Gap (Alabama)

Bains Gap is located on the Choccolocco Creek in northeast Alabama. The artifacts found on the property include stone tools as well as pottery. The previous owner grew up on the property and over the years his family had amassed several boxes of pottery, pipe fragments, projectile points, and other lithic tools. The diversity of projectile points suggested that the site was occupied during several different time periods. Not only was it situated on a major creek, it also contained two active, and one intermittently active, springs.

Bains Gap was occupied from the end of the Paleo-Indian period to the Mississippian period. The earliest occupation of the site is represented by Dalton, Kirk, and Big Sandy projectile points. At that time, the site was probably a temporary camp for hunter-gatherers. My students have also found two parallel stockade trenches around part of the village. Ceramics associated with the inner stockade indicate that it dates to the Woodland period, and the outer stockade trench contains post molds and artifacts associated with the later Mississippian period. The presence of stockades during both time periods, with the earlier one enclosing a smaller one and the later one enclosing a larger area, could mean a threat persisted through both eras.

Filhioil Mound (Louisiana)

The Filhioil Mound is a Cole Creek/Plaquemine-period mound located on a natural levee of the Ouachita River about twelve miles south of Monroe. It is part of the Indian Mounds of Northeast Louisiana Driving Trail and is home to the historic Filhioil-Watkins Indian Mound Cemetery, also known as Cut-Off Cemetery.

Evelyn Mound (Georgia)

Near the banks of the Altamaha River in southeast Georgia sits the Evelyn Mound, a Middle Woodland period (200 B.C. – A.D. 500) flat-topped, pyramidal mound. This
mound, and several others, are on land that once was the Evelyn Plantation and is now a residential neighborhood.

The mound was identified and recorded in the 1930s by archaeologist Preston Holder for the Works Progress Administration. He excavated the site for two months, and he considered it to be the most important site that he investigated on the Georgia coast. The mound was built over a burned charcoal and ash layer and a Deptford midden. In Coastal Georgia, the Deptford culture (500 B.C. – 200 A.D.) is defined by the presence of paddle-pressed, sand-tempered pottery. The layer of burned charcoal and ash overlaying the Deptford midden is indicative of a fairly common practice during the Woodland period, which was to ritually burn the ground prior to building a mound on it. The mound was built in two stages, and it was used by Swift Creek culture (A.D. 100-800), a people known for their distinct pottery type called Swift Creek Complicated Stamped.

Fort St. Pierre (Mississippi)

High on the bluffs of west-central Mississippi, above the confluence of the Yazoo and Mississippi rivers, sits the ruins of Fort St. Pierre. Established in an area occupied by the Yazoo and Koroa tribes, Fort St. Pierre was the northernmost outpost of French Colonial Louisiana in the Lower Mississippi Valley, and it was intended to be a trading post along the Mississippi River. It is one of only two sites from this period to be designated a National Historic Landmark in the state of Mississippi.

Constructed in 1719, the fort was a substantial complex featuring a large palisade and a moat that was built to house 100 marines and 200 French settlers, though far fewer people actually resided there. It was intended to be a trading post with Native Americans, but because of its distance from the French capital of New Orleans, it was poorly supplied. Archaeological investigations revealed that the inhabitants of the fort obtained most of their supplies from local Native Americans.

Haynie (Colorado)

The Haynie site, which was occupied between about A.D. 500-1280, contains two massive, multi-storied great houses (known as the east and west great house) built in the Chaco Canyon style, as well as other masonry architecture, kivas, and dense trash middens. The five-acre site is located in the heart of the Mesa Verde archaeological region just east of Cortez in southwest Colorado.

Haynie is one of three sites within the Lakeview community that contains at least four great houses, one great kiva, and multiple small houses. While the east and west great houses were looted in previous years, there are still significant intact deposits. The great houses were built in the core-veneer style – the core is earth and rubble and the veneer covering it is carefully coursed masonry of the local sandstone – which is a hallmark of the great houses in Chaco Canyon and the Aztec Ruins National Monument, located south of Haynie. This suggests the Lakeview community’s close affiliation with the Chaco regional system during this period. Tree-ring dating showed that Haynie’s east great house was built in A.D. 1111, during the height of Chaco’s influence in the region.

Iron Hill Cut Jasper Quarry (Maryland)

Just beyond the trees along Interstate 95 in northeast Maryland, near the Delaware state line, sits a large jasper outcrop. It was formed through a unique process of chemical weathering that took about 140 million years. Most jasper in the Mid-Atlantic was formed through tectonic activity coupled with specific environmental conditions that caused minerals to be replaced in a host rock, such as limestone. This unusual deposit of jasper comprises several known quarry sites in northeastern Maryland, northwestern Delaware, and southeastern Pennsylvania that are known as the Delaware Chalcedony Complex. The Iron Hill Cut Jasper Quarry is part of what is referred to as the Iron Hill formation, which is part of this complex. The site is one of several sites in this complex that were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983 because of their archaeological significance. It is one of a number of quarries in the area that were used by Native Americans for thousands of years.

Shackleford Creek (Texas)

The Conservancy has acquired a one-acre preserve in east Texas just south of Tyler that contains a single-component Late Caddo residential settlement dating to the early-to-mid-sixteenth century A.D. The site is located within a new housing development. The developer, Shackleford Creek Land Company, had to build a bridge over a creek to enter the development, and consequently they applied for a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE).

As recommended by the COE as part of the permitting process, the developers hire archaeologists to survey the land within the subdivision for any intact archaeological resources. While conducting the survey, Tejas Archaeology, a cultural resource management firm hired by the developer, identified the site, which was named Shackleford Creek. Subsequent test excavations yielded intact deposits including cultural features as well as chipped and ground stone tools, ceramic vessel sherds, and animal and plant remains. Wanting to preserve the site, the developer donated it to the Conservancy.
Big Pond Furnace (Pennsylvania)

From 1750-1895, Cumberland County is south-central Pennsylvania was home to a booming iron industry that consisted of nine furnaces, or iron works. Large deposits of iron ore and limestone along the South Mountain range, plus its dense forests for charcoal and slopes for water-powered mills, made this region a prime location for iron production.

But in the late 1800s tariffs on iron products coupled with an economic depression closed the country’s remaining furnaces, many of which were dismantled or lost to memory. The Big Pond Furnace, which was acquired by the Conservancy, is one of the few remaining furnace sites associated with the charcoal iron industry from this time period that is relatively undisturbed. Its name refers to a pond, likely a natural sinkhole, located a mile north of the site.

Fortified Hill Earthwork (Ohio)

The Fortified Hill Earthwork, one of the last remaining relatively intact Hopewell earthworks on private land in Ohio, was recently purchased at auction by conservationists. Fortified Hill is a so-called hill fort enclosing about seventeen acres of the ridge overlooking the Great Miami River. It has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1974.

Hilltop enclosures were once fairly common in southwestern Ohio, but almost all of them have been destroyed by residential sprawl, mining, and mechanized agriculture. The Fortified Hill earthwork has been known to archaeologists since 1836, when it was mapped by local antiquarian James McBride, an esteemed Ohio pioneer politician who mapped many of the earthworks along the Great Miami River.

In addition to his Fortified Hill map, McBride produced a map of a six-mile section of the Great Miami River south of Dayton that denoted Fortified Hill as one of seven monumental earthworks located along the river. Today, Fortified Hill is the only one that remains relatively intact.
2019 TOURS

For more than 30 years, the Conservancy has conducted tours ranging in length from four days to two weeks. Expert guides always accompany our tours, providing unique insights about the places we visit. Tour regions include the American Midwest, Southeast, Southwest, and East, as well as Mexico and Central and South America.

Belize and Tikal
January 3-13, 2019

Our tour began on the coast of Belize, where we toured Belize City, saw Altun Ha, and took a boat ride up the New River to Lamanai, a Maya trading center established more than 3,000 years ago and occupied until A.D. 1641. From the coast we traveled to the inner reaches of the country and explored the splendid mountaintop palace of Cahal Pech.

A ferry ride took us to the ruins of Xunantunich, which was once an important trading center. There we toured El Castillo, a classic example of the Maya technique of constructing a pyramid over an older pyramid. From Xunantunich we visited the recently excavated ceremonial site of Caracol, the largest Maya site in Belize. We also visited Yaxhá, a city nineteen miles southeast of Tikal that features an impressive series of plazas and platform groups. At Tikal, we spent two days exploring one of the most magnificent Maya centers situated in the Petén rain forest. Thought to have had a population exceeding 75,000, Tikal once spanned an area of more than twenty-five-square-miles.

Maya of Chiapas and Tabasco
February 16-26, 2019

This tour took us to some of the more out-of-the-way, but spectacular, Maya ruins in southern Mexico that flourished between A.D. 300 and 900. We began in the tropical lowlands and ended in the fabulous highlands of Chiapas among the modern Maya people. We saw tremendous pyramids, unbelievable sculptures and murals, and modern arts and crafts.

We began our adventure with a visit to the major Olmec site of La Venta, with its great earthen pyramid. We then visited Comalcalco, Palenque, Bonampak, and Yaxchilán. Then we left the tropical lowlands for a long climb into the Chiapas mountains to the large Maya center of Toniná. The site is dominated by its acropolis, which rises in terraces and buildings some 233 feet up the side of a steep hill. We continued climbing to reach the colonial-Indian town of San Cristóbal de las Casas, where we spent two nights. We then visited the charming Tzotzil Maya villages of San Juan Chamula and Zinacantán.

Aztecs, Toltecs, and Teotihuacanos
March 23-April 1, 2019

Before the arrival of the Spanish, cultures that might have long since vanished from central Mexico constructed magnificent temples and pyramids. Today, these monuments of the Aztecs, Toltecs, and Teotihuacanos remain a testament to the fascinating people who built them.

This tour took us to a number of sites, including those once inhabited by the Olmec, a culture known throughout the region for its art style. We also visited the monuments of the Aztec, a civilization that witnessed the arrival of the Spanish. Then we explored Teotihuacan, once a great urban center with a population of 200,000.

San Juan River
May 25 – June 1, 2019

Our river adventure traveled through the heartland of the Anasazi world. From the vantage point of Utah’s San Juan River, we experienced one of the most scenic regions of the Southwest.

We began our adventure with two full days of site visits on land, then we boarded our rafts and floated down the San Juan River for four days, stopping often to visit Anasazi ruins accessible only by river. At night we camped under the spectacular Southwestern sky.

Ohio Mound Builders
June 5-9, 2019

Massive mounds and earthworks, some nearly seventy-feet tall and others covering hundreds of acres, are the legacy of the Hopewell and Adena cultures that dominated the Eastern United States from 800 B.C. to A.D. 400. Archaeologists have found exotic mica objects, copper ornaments, burials, and the remains of wooden structures and stone structures at many of the mound sites. The significance of the mounds, which often were built in animal and geometric forms, is still a subject of great study.

Our tour, which began in Columbus, Ohio, took us to the Newark Earthworks, a magnificent Hopewell Mound complex
that once covered more than seven miles; Chillicothe and the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, now a flourishing center of Hopewell research; Serpent Mound, a massive effigy mound that stretches more than 1,400 feet; and many other fascinating sites. Throughout the tour, expert archaeologists gave their insights into the world of the mound builders.

**Chaco Canyon in Depth**
September 7-15, 2019

This tour explored the vast cultural system of Chaco Canyon and the extensive network of outlying communities that developed in northwestern New Mexico and southwestern Colorado from A.D. 800 to 1130. We visited Pueblo Bonito and other spectacular great houses in Chaco Canyon as well as the great kiva at Casa Rinconada. We hiked to some of the most spectacular and remote sites in the canyon. We also had the unique opportunity to visit many of the most important outlying communities that are integral parts of the entire Chacoan complex still being uncovered by researchers. Scholars are struggling to understand how this vast system developed and operated, and why it suddenly collapsed around A.D. 1130. To complete the experience, we toured the modern day Pueblo of Acoma and spent two memorable nights camping in Chaco Canyon. Some of the leading Chaco experts joined us.

**French and Indian War**
September 7 – 14, 2019

We traveled across New York and Pennsylvania to explore the rich history and archaeology of the French and Indian War. This epic struggle involved Native Americans, the English and French Empires, and Colonial forces and was one of the first global conflicts and a defining moment in American history. On our journey we met with historians, archaeologists, and native people at a variety of archaeological sites, museums, and interpretive centers. Some of the sites we visited were Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain, and Ganondagan State Historic Site. We also stayed overnight in picturesque Lake George, and stopped at Niagara Falls.

**Cliff Dwellers**
September 12- 22, 2019

This past fall the Conservancy brought back one of its most popular Southwestern tours. This trip provided an exciting look at the region’s spectacular prehistoric cliff dwellings. Ancient Southwestern groups experimented with building their houses in cliff faces and rockshelters. These structures not only offered protection from the weather, but many of them also served as natural solar collectors during the winter.

We met in Phoenix and started the tour with a visit to the Hohokam platform mounds. Then we visited the Sinagua pueblos in the Verde Valley and around Flagstaff. We also toured majestic Monument Valley and Oak Creek Canyon. We saw the cliff dwellings of Montezuma Castle in the Verde Valley, Cliff Palace in Mesa Verde, and the White House Ruin in Canyon de Chelly, just to name a few. The trip also included a visit to Lorenzo Hubbell’s historic trading post, a stop at Second Mesa at Hopi, a jeep tour of Canyon de Chelly and walking tours of some of the Conservancy’s preserves, including Yellowjacket and Boon Pueblo.

**Native Peoples of Florida’s Mangrove Coast**
October 12-18, 2019

For over a thousand years the Calusa, Tocobaga, and Seminole people dominated southern Florida. They developed complex civilizations, created breathtaking artwork, and constructed monumental earthworks. Time and again, they defeated those who attempted to subjugate them. Our exciting journey took us from the ancient mound center of the Tocobaga at Crystal River to the man-made island of Mound Key, the Calusa’s capital. Along the way, we visited the key sites of Florida’s original inhabitants, explored the unique estuarine environment in which these people lived, and encountered a variety of wildlife such as manatees, dolphins, and alligators. Jeffrey M. Mitchem, an expert in early Spanish and Native American contact in the Southeastern United States, joined us.
Oaxaca
October 25 – November 4, 2019

This tour features Oaxaca, Mexico during the Day of the Dead, one of the most unusual festivals anywhere. On this day, people prepare home altars and cemeteries welcome the dead, who are believed to return to enjoy the food and drink they indulged in during life. Rather than being a morbid occasion, it’s a celebratory one.

Our tour explored the Mixtecan and Zapotecan archaeological sites in the region, including Mitla, Monte Albán, San José Mogote, and Dainzú. We explored Oaxaca’s museums and markets as well as several craft villages featuring weaving, pottery, carved animals, and other local art.
2019 RESEARCH

All Conservancy preserves are open for research by qualified scholars. Here are some of the research projects that took place on Conservancy preserves in 2019.

Holy Ground Village Site (Alabama) - This site was an 1813 Creek Indian Village, and its acquisition was the Conservancy’s 400th Site. Dr. Greg Waselkov of the University of South Alabama, with financial assistance from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama finished work on excavation units that exposed several Creek houses. This was done in October and November of 2018.

Atkeson Pueblo (Arizona) – The National Park Service partnered with the Verde Valley Archaeology Center and Verde River Institute to map ancient architecture at the preserve, using the latest in high resolution mapping technology. To accurately capture the site, a combination of techniques must be utilized. First a 3-D laser scanner was used to record standing walls. Next overlapping digital photographs were taken from a pole-mounted camera and a drone. Photographs and scan data were then combined and georeferenced to create a scaled 3-D digital model of Atkeson in its entirety. The digital model is a snapshot of the site’s current appearance and condition and can be used for archaeological research or site management in the future.

Sugar Loaf (Arizona) - The Conservancy has completed work on fencing of the Sugarloaf archaeological site near Cornville, Arizona. This significant archaeological site was acquired by the Conservancy in 1991 and is one of the few remaining Tuzigoot Southern Sinagua phase ruins (A.D. 1330 to 1425). It is considered one of the ten most significant archaeological sites in Arizona. This project has been funded in part by a grant from the Southwest Intervention Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Haynie (Colorado) – Since 2016, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center researchers have drafted detailed maps of the major cultural units on the property. They also employed drones that took aerial photos that were used to create a high-resolution digital elevation model of the site, and they collected infrared data that will allow for the examination of landscape features. In addition, the researchers collected photogrammetry data of the east and west great houses to create a 3-D model for purposes of research and educational outreach. As a result of this work, Crow Canyon has confirmed the site’s cultural integrity. In addition, to continuing their testing and educational programs at the site, Crow Canyon researchers have begun stabilization work on the east great house in preparation for subsequent archaeological testing. The stabilization work is designed to slow the effects of weathering and to protect researchers and program participants from falling rocks.

Powell Tract – Cahokia Mounds (Illinois) – Dr. Ken Horsley and Ken Williams offered a practicum in geophysical prospection to the public over a July weekend at TAC’s Powell Tract Preserve at the World Heritage site of Cahokia. Although rain interfered, a small magnetometry map was produced that relocated a portion of a poorly recorded excavation conducted in the 1960s. This will be a useful planning tool for further research, and the public outreach will benefit both TAC and Cahokia Mounds Historic Park.

Bogie Circle (Kentucky) – Ed Henry successfully defended his dissertation research undertaken at TAC’s Bogie Circle Preserve, KY in 2015-17. He was awarded a Ph.D by Washington University of St. Louis. His final report, based on the dissertation, was submitted to TAC, fulfilling his requirements under the research agreement.

Sharrow (Maine) – The replacement of a bridge near the Sharrow site in Maine required archaeological testing under the direction of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The report for this work, which began in late 2018, details the results of the excavation of test units in the area where bridge work has been proposed. Excavations show deep stratified deposits with Archaic through Woodland period artifacts. It is expected that more work may be required depending on the plans for further construction.

Jaketown (Mississippi) – Graduate students from the University of Washington, St. Louis continued their
research from the previous year. They focused on re-excavating older trenches to collect soil samples from re-exposed wall profiles. This allows for specialized analysis and to have a better understanding for the stratigraphic layers associated with the late Archaic/Poverty Point occupation at Jaketown. Students are looking for additional clues as to how these prehistoric peoples used and modified the surrounding landscape and environment.

**Lyon’s Bluff (Mississippi)** – In October 2019, staff from the University of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology conducted a metal detector survey at the Lyon’s Bluff site in Mississippi. This is part of an ongoing survey of sites in the area that may contain evidence of the de Soto Entrada.

**Leonard Rock Shelter (Nevada)** – In July of 2019 the University of Nevada’s Great Basin Paleoindian Research Unit returned to the Conservancy’s Leonard Rock Shelter with the hope of finding artifacts associated with the gravel in a new test pit. Archaeologists often remark that the most significant finds of a project come in the final days of fieldwork, and so it was that Ph.D. student Nicole George uncovered an obsidian biface directly above the gravel on the final day of the project. The position of the biface atop the Younger Dryas gravel confirms that people first occupied the shelter shortly after Lake Lahontan receded, albeit somewhat later than initially believed.

**El Camino Real (New Mexico)** – Three sites in the Galisteo Basin were recently nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, including El Camino Real – Rancho del Río Santa Fe, a one-acre Conservancy preserve. A grant from the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Division helped fund the nomination. The site is one of only four remaining pre-Pueblo Revolt (1680) Spanish Colonial sites documented along the lower Santa Fe River of the northern Rio Grande Valley.

**Galisteo Basin (New Mexico)** – Aspen CRM Solutions, a Santa Fe-based cultural resource management consultant company, used drones to create aerial maps of several Conservancy preserves in New Mexico’s Northern Rio Grande Valley in 2017. As the drone flies, it collects location information that can be used to create digital models and topographic maps. The data can also be used to make digital 3-D representations of the sites that can help researchers visualize and interpret the landscape. Aspen CRM Solutions has produced aerial maps of four preserves – Arroyo Hondo, San Marcos, Lodestar, and Manzanares.

**San Marcos (New Mexico)** – Last summer a crew of Conservancy site stewards, volunteers and University of Colorado students, directed by Ph.D. candidate Kaitlyn Davis, conducted agricultural surveys and soil collection around San Marcos Pueblo. Davis’ project investigates agricultural practices before and after Spanish colonization at four pueblos – two pre-Hispanic (Poshuouingeh and Pueblo Blanco) and two colonial-era (Ku’uyemugeh and San Marcos) – to understand how Puebloan agriculture changed as a result of Spanish colonization. The researchers used tree-ring records and other historic environmental data to estimate precipitation, temperature, and other factors that would have affected the productivity of the fields around each pueblo. They also consulted ethnohistoric documents and oral traditions to learn how social and economic constraints influenced the pueblos’ agricultural practices.

**Lamoka Lake (New York)** – A team of researchers and volunteers led by Samuel Bourcy and Dr. Matthew Sanger of Bingham University conducted a geophysical survey of the Lamoka Lake site in southern New York. The goal of this research was to identify the locations of features that had been uncovered during previous excavations with the intent of creating a more accurate map of the site and locating areas where more features may be present.

**Tram (New York)** – In the fall of 2019 a geophysical survey was conducted at the Tram site in New York under the direction of Jarrod Banks of Ohio Valley Archaeology Inc. in conjunction with archaeologists Dr. Marie-Lorraine Pipes and Dr. Paul Pacheco from the State University of New York Geneseo campus. Magnetometer results show the likely location of the palisade ditch and embankment that surrounded the village site, as well as the possible locations of longhouses. Researchers hope to use these results to guide future
excavations at the site aimed at better understanding the size of the village and its layout.

Harmon Village (North Dakota) – In preparation for planned 2020 excavations, The State Historical Society of North Dakota and Archaeo-Imaging Lab of the University of Arkansas undertook a non-destructive geophysical survey and photographic drone survey of the Harmon site along the Missouri River near Bismarck, ND during summer 2019. The survey revealed that although damaged by decades of neglect, the site still possesses great research potential. According to the researchers, the survey showed that significantly more of the fortification ditch is preserved beneath the soil than surface indications suggested along with a previously unknown second bastion. Over a dozen circular and rectangular house basins were detected and approximately 125 subterranean storage pits.

Junction and Steel Complexes (Ohio) – The purpose of the 2019 field season of the Woodland Ohio Monumentality Project (WOMP) was to gather data relating to the construction and use of the most prominent earthwork at the Steel Group – the circle. Information gathered from the previous seasons determined that the Steel Group is a Middle Woodland (AD 1-400) earthwork site, with at least 13 earthen enclosures. Excavation during the 2019 season bisected the ditch and embankment of this enclosure and sampled a portion of its interior. In total, the 2019 field campaign of WOMP ran for 59 field days (June 9 – August 7) during which 47 meters of sediment were excavated to the base of the plowzone, 17 features were identified, 156 artifacts were recovered, and 64 samples (phytolith, micromorph, botanical, charcoal, flotation) were collected.

Ebbert Spring (Pennsylvania) – The Conservancy’s Ebbert Spring Preserve and Heritage Park in Antrim Township in south-central Pennsylvania opened in August of 2019. The park consists of over twelve acres of protected area, featuring a network of trails with interpretive kiosks telling the story of the site and the surrounding region. The heart of the park is Ebbert Spring, which pumps over 600 gallons of water a minute and continues to supplement the local water supply. The park is a culmination of a long-term effort by the Conservancy, in close partnership with Antrim Township, the Allison-Antrim Museum, and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, to protect one of the most important prehistoric sites in Pennsylvania.

Mary Rinn (Pennsylvania) – In May 2019, Dr. William Chadwick, graduate student Jessie Hoover and volunteers from Indiana University of Pennsylvania excavated four square meters of the Mary Rinn site to determine the presence of absence of intersecting village palisades suggested by previous geophysical testing. The excavation was able to determine the presence of one palisade but due to time constraints did not extend deeply enough to reach the possible second palisade. A total of 847 artifacts were recovered including prehistoric pottery, stone tools, and fire-cracked rock. While many questions remain about the Mary Rinn site, it is now confirmed that it was a palisaded village.

Queen Esther's Town (Pennsylvania) – In the summer of 2019 students from Binghamton University under the direction of Dr. Siobahn Hart, Dr. Timothy de Smet, and Dr. Nina Versaggi, continued research at the Queen Esther's Town site in northern Pennsylvania. This work focused on the southern portion of the site where numerous artifacts dating to the 18th century have been reportedly found. An initial survey of the area consisted of surface collection and controlled metal detecting. This was followed by limited excavations to look for evidence of building foundations or other structures.

Adelbert Smith Family Preserve (Utah) – An information kiosk was recently installed at the Adelbert Smith Family preserve in north-central Utah. The project was made possible through the efforts of generous donors, volunteers, schools, and government agencies. The new kiosk was funded through a grant from the Utah Department of Transportation. Two interpretive panels are now on display at the kiosk located by the entrance. A tri-fold brochure is also available that provides visitors details on the rock art and cultural contexts of the
petroglyphs and establishes guidelines so that the irreplaceable cultural material on the site is not harmed or destroyed during visits.

**Ely Mound (Virginia)** – Maureen Meyers of the University of Mississippi directed excavations at the Conservancy’s Ely Mound Preserve in the far western part of Virginia this summer. Meyers has spent several years conducting research at nearby Carter-Robinson Mound, and her work at Ely will build on research in the region. She and her crew conducted more than 300 shovel tests, identifying a number of areas with artifact concentrations, which they then excavated further. Several thousand artifacts were recovered in the process. The researchers also uncovered house remains, including intact burned logs dating to the thirteenth century as well as eighteen posthole features and a possible plaza area in front of the mound.

**Silver Mound (Wisconsin)** – Archaeologist Robert Boszhardt, (University of Wisconsin- LaCrosse, retired) used newly available LIDAR aerial photography to identify two previously undetected quarry-pit clusters on the Conservancy’s Silver Mound Preserve, Wisconsin. The new clusters will be “ground-truthed” in 2019.

**2019 LECTURES**
As part of the Conservancy’s public outreach program, we sponsor lectures around the country. This is an excellent opportunity to reach out to our members.

**March – May 2019 – Ancient Sites and Ancient Stories 2019**

Working with Southwest Seminars, this popular Santa Fe lecture series was held every Monday for three months and featured nine prominent archaeologists and scholars.

**AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY MAGAZINE**
The Conservancy’s 23,000 members received our quarterly magazine American Archaeology. Launched in 1997, American Archaeology is the only magazine devoted exclusively to the rich diversity of archaeology in the Americas. By sharing new discoveries, national news, events, and Conservancy successes, the magazine makes learning about ancient America as exciting as it is essential. It can be found in bookstores like Barnes and Noble across the United States. The Conservancy also distributes the magazine at archaeology meetings and other events.
### THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue and other support</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$1,780,724</td>
<td>$1,495,195</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$3,275,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminars</td>
<td>816,841</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>816,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions of archaeological sites</td>
<td>529,100</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>529,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>452,613</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>452,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (Note 5)</td>
<td>27,519</td>
<td>187,469</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>214,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil and gas royalties and lease bonuses</td>
<td>44,231</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>44,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine sales and advertising</td>
<td>39,928</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>39,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site rental</td>
<td>33,669</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in value of annuities (Note 8)</td>
<td>18,890</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other</td>
<td>11,226</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions (Note 12)</td>
<td>956,116</td>
<td>(956,116)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue and support</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,258,244</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,179,161</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><strong>5,437,405</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expense

**Program services**

| Acquisition, conservation, and management | 1,506,236     | -                      | -                      | 1,506,236 |
| Education                                 | 946,232       | -                      | -                      | 946,232  |

**Supporting services**

| Management and general                     | 248,009       | -                      | -                      | 248,009  |
| Fund-raising                              | 470,711       | -                      | -                      | 470,711  |
| **Total expense**                          | **3,171,188** | -                      | -                      | **3,171,188** |

**Change in net assets**

| 1,087,056                                  | 1,179,161     | -                      | 2,266,217 |

**Net assets, beginning of year**

| 40,310,063                                  | 690,010       | 951,867                | 41,951,940 |

**Net assets, end of year**

| $41,397,119                                 | $1,869,171    | $951,867               | $44,218,157 |
# The Archaeological Conservancy

## Statement of Functional Expenses

For the Year Ended July 31, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Services</th>
<th>Supporting Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>**Acquisition, Conservation,</td>
<td>**Management and Fund-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Management</td>
<td>raising**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td><strong>General</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salaries</strong></td>
<td>$ 706,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll taxes and benefits</td>
<td>156,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminars</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member mailings</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeological sites contributed to others</td>
<td>246,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeological sites maintenance</td>
<td>179,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional office expense</td>
<td>71,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeological sites property tax</td>
<td>72,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting services</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and meals</td>
<td>16,594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office supplies</td>
<td>14,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>9,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest expense</td>
<td>18,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational communications</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization of charitable annuities</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues and subscriptions</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other</td>
<td>8,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total before depreciation</strong></td>
<td>1,500,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Depreciation</strong></td>
<td>5,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 1,506,236</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>