



National Preservation Institute

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Archaeological Curation and Collections Management

Seminar Overview

Become familiar with principles and methods for curation and management of archaeological collections. Topics will include responsibilities under federal regulations (36 CFR Part 79), archaeological standards, collections policies, costs of curation, storage facilities, proper housing of collections, archaeological laboratory procedures, cataloguing systems, and educating the public with archaeological collections.

Agenda

Introduction and participants' problems and concerns

Legal background to collections management

- Federal regulations
- Overview to 36 CFR part 79
- Relationship of NAGPRA and 36 CFR part 79
- Roles and responsibilities
- Finding dispersed collections

Collections Policies

- Collections policies and ownership issues
- Archaeological standards, proposals, and scopes of work
- The cost of curation

Planning for Storage: Evaluating Repositories and their Curation Practices

- Disaster planning
- The Curation Checklist
 - Physical space, environment, security, and fire protection
 - Storage equipment, storage materials, and packing
 - Record keeping
 - Access to collections

Curation Practices

- Laboratory procedures
- Computer cataloguing and inventory

The Benefits of Collections Management: Educating the Public

Field Trip to Curation Facility

Discussion and Wrap-Up