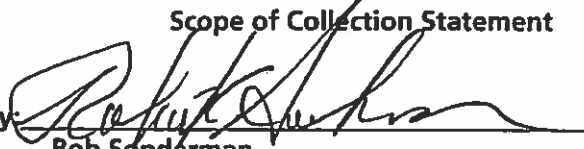


DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL COLONIAL FARM

Scope of Collection Statement

Recommended by:


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Regional Curator, National Capital Region

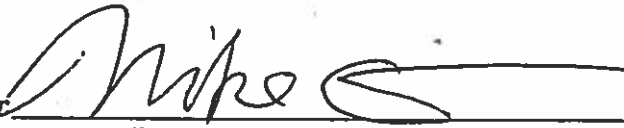
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Date

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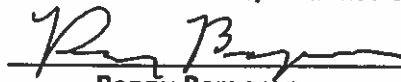

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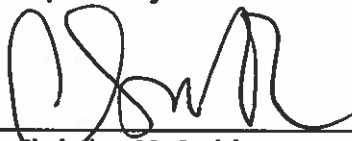

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Executive Summary

National Colonial Farm (NACO) is a living history site and farm located on 151 acres along the Potomac River in Maryland. The western section of NACO runs along the border of Charles County, and then extends into Prince George's County. Originally established by the Accokeek Foundation in 1959, NACO was acquired by the National Park Service (NPS) in part of the enabling legislation *Pub. L. No. 87-362, 75 Stat. 780* that created Piscataway Park (PISC) in October 1961. Following its initial establishment as an NPS unit, PISC (and NACO) were managed as an administrative unit under National Capital Parks. In January 1963, a cooperative agreement was authorized between the Accokeek Foundation and the NPS for the Accokeek Foundation "to conduct various scientific and educational programs including 'an historical restoration and demonstration of a working farm.'"¹ Administration of PISC and NACO transferred to National Capital Parks-East (NACE) unit upon its establishment in 1965. The NPS and the Accokeek Foundation entered into another cooperative agreement in May of 2002. Through the partnership between the NPS and Accokeek Foundation, NACO continues to serve as a living history site that depicts a colonial middle-class, Maryland family farm.

National Colonial Farm's museum collection is a closed collection (non-collecting) that includes both cultural and natural history collections. The NACO cultural collection includes an archeological sub collection comprised of both prehistoric and historic sub components; a historical sub collection which contains tools and equipment; and an archival sub collection with resource management records. NACO's natural history collection contains several fungi, insects and arachnids, and other invertebrate specimens under its biological sub collection. In addition, NACO has one fossil specimen under its paleontology sub collection. The NACO museum collection does not have an ethnological sub component in its cultural collection, and it does not have geological sub components as part of its natural history collection.

NACO's museum collection is stored at the NPS National Capital Region's Museum Resource Center in Landover, Maryland.

Any and all objects, artifacts, and/or specimens collected from the NACO site going forward are accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

For additional information on the NACO museum collection, please contact:

Park Curator
National Capital Parks-East
1900 Anacostia Dr. SE
Washington, D.C. 20020
(202) 692-6049 Office
(202) 690-0852 Fax

¹ *Draft Environmental Assessment of Alternatives for a Development Concept Plan for National Colonial Farm, Piscataway Park* (1980), 2.

B. Purpose of the Scope of Collection Statement

This Scope of Collection Statement (SOCS) defines the scope of present and future museum collection holdings of the NACO museum collection that contribute directly to the understanding and interpretation of the site's purpose, themes, and resources, as well as those objects that the NPS is legally mandated to preserve. It is designed to ensure that the museum collection is clearly relevant to the site.

C. Legislation Related to the National Park Service Museum Collections

The NPS's legal mandate for acquiring and preserving museum collections is contained in the Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC 431-433), the Organic Act of 1916 (16 USC 1 et seq.), the Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 USC 461-467), the Management of Museum Properties Act of 1955 (16 USC 18f), the Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960, as amended (16 USC 469-469c); the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.); the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, as amended (16 USC 469-469c-2); the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended (16 USC 470aa-mm); and the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 (16 USC 5901). As of December 19, 2014, several of the commonly known laws specific to the National Park Service mentioned above have been realigned under Title 54 of the U.S. Code (54 USC).

D. Site History, Significance, Purpose, Themes, and Goals

1. Site History

The archeological record of the Mid-Atlantic region indicates that the first people to inhabit the area that eventually became NACO arrived around 10,000 BC. Several groups of Native American peoples are known to have lived along the Potomac River watershed during this time where they fished, hunted, gathered, and farmed.² This period of settlement was followed by European colonization of the region in the 1600s. By the 1660s, European settlers had established land claims in the region, displacing the Native American peoples.

Along with colonization by European settlers, who later brought with them enslaved Africans, the Mid-Atlantic region developed into interspersed tobacco plantations, small subsistence farming settlements, and other land developments well into the 1800s. With the introduction of improved agrarian technology after the Civil War, farmers in the Mid-Atlantic region expanded the variety of crops planted. In addition to the staples—corn, wheat, and tobacco—fruits, oats, rye, hay, potatoes, and sweet potatoes were grown.³ Agriculture remained the predominate use of land in the area that is now NACO through the mid-20th century.

² Richard J. Dent, *Draft Report of Investigations: Laboratory of Archaeology*, 15 February 1982, 14; National Capital Team/National Park Service with Educational Consultants International. *Assessment of Alternatives: National Colonial Farm Piscataway Park, Maryland*, August 1979, 70-71.

³ Anna Coxe Toogood, *Piscataway Park Maryland General Historic Background Study* (September 1969), 84, 90, 140.

Starting in the mid-1950s, the area that now includes NACO fell under threat from encroaching urban development that would have altered the viewshed across the Potomac River of the Mount Vernon Estate, the home of George Washington, the first President of the United States, and his wife, Martha Dandridge Custis Washington between 1759-1799. Several concerned citizens and community organizations sought to preserve the vista. Of these, Congresswoman Frances Payne Bolton of Ohio, a member of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, purchased a 485-acre farm in Maryland directly across the Potomac River from the Mount Vernon Estate in 1955. In 1957, a land trust organization, the Accokeek Foundation, was chartered to preserve and protect the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Potomac River region.⁴ Bolton served as its first president and donated the farm to the Accokeek Foundation. Shortly after, the Accokeek Foundation established NACO in 1959.

Pressures in the area from urban development continued. A coalition of organizations including the Accokeek Foundation, the Alice Ferguson Foundation, the Moyaone Association, and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association launched an increased program to protect the shoreline along the Potomac River. On October 4, 1961, through *Pub. L. No. 87-362, 75 Stat. 780*, Congress authorized the NPS to acquire lands to preserve and protect a portion of the land along the Potomac River in Maryland included in the viewsheds of Mount Vernon and Fort Washington.⁵ This legislation and the resulting initial land acquisitions created Piscataway Park (PISC) and transferred title of NACO to the NPS initially under the administration of the National Capital Parks unit. In January 1963, a cooperative agreement between the NPS and the Accokeek Foundation granted the Accokeek Foundation permission to manage and conduct scientific and educational programs onsite at NACO.⁶ Administration of PISC and NACO was transferred to National Capital Parks-East (NACE) unit of the NPS upon its establishment in 1965.⁷

In 1981, an 18th century tobacco barn was relocated from South Anne Arundel County and reconstructed at NACO. Later in 1987, a farm house originally built circa 1770—the Laurel Branch House—was relocated to NACO to serve as an example of late 18th century architecture and a middle class domestic dwelling.⁸ While all historic and modern structures onsite at NACO are property of the NPS, only one structure—a barn likely dating between 1880 and 1910 referred to as “the Museum Barn”—is historic in nature to the original cultural landscape prior to the acquisition of the land by Bolton.⁹

In 1992, NPS staff began a museum collection associated with the NACO site.¹⁰ The NPS and the Accokeek Foundation entered into another cooperative agreement in May of 2002 (revised in

⁴ *Assessment of Alternatives*, 71-72.

⁵ Amendments to the initial legislation that created Piscataway Park which increased the size of the park include: *Pub. L. No. 89-513, 80 Stat. 319* (July 19, 1966); *Pub. L. No. 92-533, 86 Stat. 1063* (October 23, 1972) and *Pub. L. No. 103-350, 108 Stat. 3146* (October 6, 1994).

⁶ *NACO Draft Environmental Assessment*, 2.

⁷ “Historic Listing of National Park Service Officials: National Capital Parks-East,” National Park Service, accessed 10 May 2018, https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/tolson/histlist7n.htm.

⁸ Accokeek Foundation, “National Colonial Farm,” accessed 7 March 2018, <https://accokeekfoundation.org/agriculture/>.

⁹ “PMIS 18598: Rehabilitate the Museum Barn at Piscataway Park.” Document provided by Superintendent Christine Smith.

¹⁰ National Colonial Farm (NACO) Accession Book, accessed 10 May 2018.

2018). Shortly after in 2006, the NACE curatorial staff ceased collection activities and transitioned into a closed collection. Any and all future collections associated with the NACO site since have been accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

Through the partnership between the NPS and Accokeek Foundation, NACO continues to serve as a living history site that depicts a colonial middle-class, Maryland family farm. The site features a circa 1770 farm dwelling, an 18th tobacco barn, historical field crop varieties, and heritage animal breeds. NACO continues to protect natural and cultural resources and offers the public interpretative and educational programs managed by the Accokeek Foundation which are centered on environmental stewardship and sustainable agriculture, and recreational opportunities that include nature trails, picnic facilities, a fishing dock, and Potomac River access.

2. Significance

The following statements of significance have been identified by NACE curatorial staff for NACO:

- NACO contains important archeological remnants, both prehistoric and historic, that offer opportunities for interpretation of human settlement of Native Americans, African Americans, and colonists in southern Maryland along the Potomac River.
- NACO preserves the scenic viewshed of Mount Vernon Estate, the historic plantation house of George Washington, the first President of the United States, and his wife, Martha Dandridge Custis Washington between 1759-1799.
- NACO is significant for its depiction and interpretation of 18th century middle-class tobacco-farming colonists, including farming methods, crafts, and lifestyles.

3. Purpose

The purpose of NACO as stated in the *Draft Environmental Assessment of Alternatives for a Development Concept Plan for National Colonial Farm, Piscataway Park* (1980) is as follows:

The farm is operated as a public facility to educate by means of a demonstration farm portraying 18th century agriculture, to study and propagate species of plants and animals that were used domestically in the 18th century, and to interpret the facts resulting from these studies in demonstrations, exhibits and publications. The protection from intrusion of the view across from Mount Vernon is of primary concern in the course of the farms [sic] operation.

4. Themes

NACE curatorial staff has identified the following interpretive themes for NACO:

- **Human Settlement of the Area.** NACO protects and preserves both prehistoric and historic archeological remnants that exemplify Native American, African American, and European colonial land use along the Potomac River during the 18th century.

- **Preservation.** NACO serves to protect and preserve the scenic viewshed of Mount Vernon, the historic plantation of George Washington, the first President of the United States, and his wife, Martha Dandridge Custis Washington between 1759-1799 .
- **Eighteenth Century Colonial Farming.** NACO depicts an 18th century farm which allows visitors the opportunity to experience interpretive programs related to agriculture, animal husbandry, and recreation in an outdoor setting.

5. Goals

The following goals have been identified by NACE curatorial staff for the NACO museum collection:

- Support the site's resource management, interpretive program themes, and objects.
- Identify, inventory, and assess the site's cultural and natural resources to form a basis for implementing management strategies.
- Document and protect NACO's cultural and natural resources to preserve the integrity and diversity of the site and surrounding ecosystem for the enjoyment of present and future generations.
- Provide information to the public through traditional means such as exhibits, publications and interpretive programs, or new technology, including electronic access through websites, online databases, and emerging communication methods.
- Support scientific research through documentation, preservation, and access.

E. Laws, Regulations, and Conventions Related to Museum Collections

Archeological materials, except inalienable and communal property (as defined by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 [25 USC 3001-13]), recovered from within the site's boundaries through systematic collection are National Park Service property, must be retained by the NPS in accordance with 43 CFR 7.13 and *NPS Management Policies* (2006).

In accordance with the NPS Research Permit and Reporting System, permits to collect natural resource specimens state that retained specimens remain Federal property and will be incorporated into a NPS museum collection. As stated in 36 CFR 2.5, any natural history specimen collection permits issued by the PISC Superintendent require the following conditions: specimens placed in displays or collections will bear official NPS museum labels and their catalog numbers will be registered in the National Park Service National Catalog; and specimens and data derived from consumed specimens will be made available to the public and reports and publications resulting from a research specimen collection permit shall be filed with the PISC Superintendent.

In addition to legislation related to NPS museum collections, the site is also subject to Service-wide NPS policies and guidelines. *NPS Management Policies* (2006) lays the foundation by which the NPS meets its responsibilities toward museum collections and provides policy standards and requirements for preserving, protecting, documenting, and providing access to, and use of NPS museum collections. *Director's Order #28: NPS Cultural Resources Management* (1998) states, "The

National Park Service permits and encourages the acquisition of museum objects by donation, purchase, exchange, transfer, field collecting, or loan when these objects are clearly significant to an area." *Director's Order #24: NPS Museum Collections Management* (2008) and the accompanying *NPS Museum Handbook I-II* (1998-2006) ensure that NPS museum collection managers and staff have information on NPS standards and actions to successfully and ethically comply with *NPS Management Policies* (2006) regarding museum collections. These documents also provide a means of measuring and evaluating progress in preserving, protecting, documenting, accessing, and using museum collections. *Director's Order #12: Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making* (2011) and the accompanying handbook create a method in which the NPS is to follow for projects. The NPS is to follow the decision-making process laid out in *Director's Order #12* which includes impact analysis for museum collections. The process can also include cultural resource surveys including archeology. The objects associated with the archeological surveys are placed in a NPS museum collection for future curation and research. It is the responsibility of the NPS to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources that might be impacted through site projects.

Other laws, regulations, directives, and conventions, pertinent to the NACO museum collection include: *Curation of Federally-owned and Administered Archeological Collections* (36 CFR Part 79, Section 79.10(c)), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 USC 1531 - 1543); the Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 USC 668a); the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 USC 703 - 711); the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 (42 USC 1996); *Disposition of Federal Records* (36 CFR Part 1228); Preservation, Arrangement, Duplication, Exhibition of Records (44 USC 2109); NPS Special Directive 87-3, the 1983 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES); and the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (implemented in the United States by P.L. 97-446 in 1983, 19 USC 2601). As of December 19, 2014, several of the commonly known laws specific to the National Park Service mentioned above have been realigned under Title 54 of the U.S. Code (54 USC).

F. Structures, Landmarks and Site Resources Listed on National or International Registries

National Colonial Farm is within the boundaries of Piscataway Park, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) on October 15, 1966 as NRHP #66000144.

II. TYPES OF COLLECTIONS

The legal mandates, resource management goals and objectives, and interpretive themes stated in *Section I* of this SOCS provide general direction for acquiring materials. NPS museum collections are divided into two main categories: cultural (archeology, ethnology, history, and archives) and natural (biology, geology, and paleontology). The guidelines identified in the following section for each sub category are intended to direct collecting and to prevent arbitrary and excessive growth, while ensuring that the collection remains relevant to the site's mission and purpose.

As stated in *Section IV* of the *NPS Museum Handbook* (2000), reproductions which are acquired for exhibition purposes are managed as part of the museum collection until it is determined that they have reached the end of their useful life. Original objects and reproductions acquired exclusively for living history and reference library materials acquired by the NPS are managed separately from the

museum collection. NPS policies and procedures followed for library materials are outlined in *Director's Order #28: Cultural Resources Management Guideline, Section A. Chapter 2* (1998).

A. Cultural Collection

NACO's cultural collection functions to support the mission of PISC, and its resource management programs, scientific research, interpretation, and education by providing preservation and baseline data of the site's cultural resources. Additionally, it is meant to document changes these resources are undergoing because of internal site conditions and external effects, and to guarantee the protection of important cultural resources whose in-situ preservation cannot be assured.

Cultural collections from the site, or those directly associated with persons or events commemorated by the site are more desirable than similar materials without primary association. NACE staff has determined that the NACO collection is a closed collection (non-collecting). Any and all future collections generated from the NACO site are accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway park museum collection. To ensure that only relevant materials are collected, future growth is restricted to those that fulfill the following:

- Needs identified in approved planning documents and resource studies.
- Service-wide initiatives.
- Enhancing the understanding of and promoting increased stewardship of cultural resources.
- Cultural resource baselines, inventorying, and monitoring activities.
- Regulatory and compliance activities such as those mandated by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970.

NPS cultural museum collections are subdivided into four disciplines: archeology, ethnology, history and archives. NACO's cultural collection currently consists of archeological and historical sub categories. Ethnological and archival sub collections have not been developed. The NACO cultural collection is housed at the NPS National Capital Region's Museum Resource Center in Landover, Maryland.

The following identifies, by discipline, components of the NACO cultural museum collection.

1. Archeology Collection

Archeological collections are generated in response to cultural resource management requirements related to legal mandates and by research authorized under the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended (16 USC 470aa-mm). The archeology collection includes artifacts and ecofacts recovered as part of archeological projects conducted within the site's boundaries.

Archeological materials recovered within the boundaries of the site and all associated documentation are the property of the United States and will be maintained in the museum collection in accordance with 43 CFR 7 and *NPS Management Policies* (2006) [except inalienable

and communal property, as defined by NAGPRA]. Archeological materials may be recovered only by NPS archeologists or archeologists affiliated with approved institutions, in compliance with the Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities (34 Stat. 225) and ARPA, as amended (16 USC 470a-mm) as issued by the regional director. Artifacts and specimens recovered as a result of an ARPA investigation become part of the collection once the case is closed.

Uncontrolled surface collecting by visitors or park staff is illegal according to the *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Volume I* (36 CFR 2.1). Artifacts found on the surface should not be removed from their original location by the finder; instead, they should be reported to the Resource Manager of the site. If materials are turned in to the NPS, appropriated measures must be taken to ensure that the finder collects no more material, the precise provenience information is recorded, if possible, and the subject objects and data are delivered promptly to the NPS. Unless the items are determined to be archeologically significant by a professional archeologist, surface finds should not be cataloged into a NPS museum collection.

NACO's archeology collection includes:

a. Artifacts and Specimens

- 1) Prehistoric Material (10,000 BC - 1600s AD).** This sub category contains prehistoric artifacts and specimens excavated from NACO that date between 10,000 BC and the Contact Period—1600 AD. It contains approximately 818 Native American artifacts including ceramics, charcoal, lithics, projectile points, and tools.
- 2) Historic Material (1600s AD - 1900s AD).** Archeological artifacts excavated from NACO dating from the Contact Period (1600s) to the 20th century are included in this sub category. Materials from Native, European, and African American sites are appropriate. This sub group contains approximately 213 historic artifacts, including household and utilitarian items; glass and ceramic artifacts; and architectural fabric.

- b. Future Collections Activity.** Future collections activity in this area will concentrate on the acquisition of artifacts and specimens excavated at the site through archeological research studies and compliance projects. NACE has determined that any and all future archeological collection artifacts and specimens generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

2. Ethnology Collection

At present, the NACO does not have ethnological materials in its museum collection. Should collection of ethnological materials begin at NACO, this sub collection will include:

- a. Future Collections Activity.** Future collections activity in this area will concentrate on the acquisition of outstanding examples of ethnological materials which are currently not represented in the collection noted in the site's approved planning documents. NACE has determined that any and all future ethnological collection items generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

3. History Collection

The history collection is an important component of the interpretive and resource management programs that support the site's mission and purpose. Priority for acquisition is given to documented site-related objects. When a large quantity of an object is available, priority is given to acquiring the best preserved example.

The following categories have been identified as components of the NACO history collection as developed from the site's statements of significance, interpretive themes, and purpose as identified by park curatorial staff:

- a. **History of NACO (1959 - present).** Objects and artifacts collected for this subgroup illustrate the history of National Colonial Farm. This subgroup contains five (5) objects: a hoe, a mold, irons, and a button.
- b. **Future Collections Activity.** Future collections activity will concentrate on the acquisition of outstanding examples of historical objects noted in the site's approved planning documents which are not represented in the collection. NACE has determined that any and all future historical collection objects and artifacts generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

4. Archive Collection

Archival collections consist of all types of documents, regardless of format. Documents may be in hardcopy (paper) or any kind of magnetic, electronic, digital, or film technology. Materials may include documents; manuscripts; drawings; field notes; films; laboratory reports; maps; oral histories; blueprints; photographic negatives' prints and slides; reports; and audio and video tapes that document the site's development, history, and/or mission. Carbon copies, photocopies, and other duplicates may be regarded as original documents depending on specific circumstances.

National Park Service policy and procedures for archival collections are outlined in *NPS Management Policies* (2006), *Director's Order #11D: Records and Electronic Information Management* (2012), the *Museum Handbook, Part II, Appendix D: Archives and Manuscript Collections* (2008), and the *NPS Records Disposition Schedule* (2010).

The following categories have been identified as components of the NACO archival sub collection:

- a. **History of NACO (1959 – present).** Archival materials in this sub category include documentary materials that illustrate the history of National Colonial Farm established in 1959 through to present.
- b. **Resource Management Records.** All records associated with cultural (archeological and ethnological) and natural history (biological, geological, and paleontological) resource management studies are retained as part of the museum collection. These may include: field notes; maps; interview schedules, oral histories, tapes (video and audio), interview transcripts; negatives, prints and slides; data sheets (all subject to restrictions of confidentiality, if any); artifact inventories; analytical study data; computer documentation

and data; reports generated by investigations; as well as any other documents generated through permit.

- c. Future Collections Activity.** Current and future archive collection materials are managed in accordance with *Director's Order #11D: Records and Electronic Information Management (2012)* and the *NPS Records Disposition Schedule (2010)*. The Records Management Committee examines all site files before they are transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration or disposed of, to ensure the retention of important official records. NACE has determined that any and all future archival collection materials generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

B. Natural History Collection

The purpose of NACO's natural history collection is to support scientific research, resource management and education; provide baseline data of the site's natural resources; document changes these resources are undergoing because of internal conditions and external effects; preserve important or locally significant species collected in response to specific research or interpretive needs; and to guarantee the protection of important paleontological specimens whose in-situ preservation cannot be assured.

The natural history collection must support these goals. This ensures that only well-documented and appropriate specimens are retained. NACE staff has determined that the NACO collection is a closed collection (non-collecting). Any and all future collections generated from the NACO site are accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway park museum collection. Future growth is restricted to specimens and associated records generated through authorized scholarly research and selective acquisition based on:

- Needs identified in approved planning documents and resource studies.
- Service-wide initiatives.
- Enhancing the understanding of and promoting increased stewardship of the natural resources.
- Natural resource baselines, inventorying, and monitoring activities.
- Regulatory and compliance activities such as those mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970.

All collecting activities must be in compliance with 36 CFR 2.5, the Research Permit and Reporting System, *Director's Order #77: Natural Resource Protection* (under development), and *NPS Natural Resources Management Guideline* (1991). All researchers must comply with applicable state and Federal laws regulating collecting, documenting collections, and other associated activities. No collector (including park staff) can work in the site without first obtaining a signed permit. The collections section of the permit application must be completed, documenting where collections of specimens and associated records will be housed. Pursuant to 36 CFR 2.5(g), all specimens, associated field data, and project documentation resulting from a collection permit issued by the

PISC Superintendent will be accessioned into a NPS museum collection. Questions related to collecting within the site should be addressed to the site's Research Coordinator.

Uncontrolled surface collecting by visitors or park staff is illegal according to the *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Volume I* (36 CFR 2.1). Specimens found on the surface should not be removed from their original location by the finder; instead, they should be reported to the Resource Manager of the site. If materials are turned in to the NPS, appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that the finder collects no more material, the precise provenience information is recorded, if possible, and the subject specimens and data are delivered promptly to the NPS. Unless the items are determined to be significant by a subject-matter expert of the respective discipline (biology, geology, or paleontology) they should not be cataloged into a NPS museum collection.

Natural resource specimens collected outside the site boundaries will not be included in a NPS museum collection unless the specimens are required to illustrate interpretive exhibits, to augment specific site-related research projects, or to demonstrate effects on NPS resources. Written permission from landowners or appropriate officials must be obtained when collecting occurs on their land. This documentation, or copies, must become part of the NPS museum collection accession records.

Existing NACO natural history collections have been acquired through natural resource research permits issued to researchers conducting surveys within site boundaries. Collections associated with research permits are accessioned and cataloged in the Interior Collections Management System (ICMS), and stored at the NPS Museum Resource Center or with an approved non-bureau repository.

The *General Agreement for Custodianship of National Park Service Natural History Collections* (2012) was signed by the National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution. According to this agreement, the NPS may offer selected natural history specimens to the Smithsonian Institution. If the Smithsonian accepts the offer, the Smithsonian will gain permanent custodial responsibility of the specimens. The NPS retains ownership. The agreement makes NPS natural history collections more available to researchers through the Smithsonian.

NPS natural history museum collections are subdivided into three disciplines: biology, geology, and paleontology. NACO's natural history collection currently consists of biological and paleontological sub categories. A geological sub collection has not been developed. The NACO natural history collection is housed at the NPS National Capital Region's Museum Resource Center in Landover, Maryland.

The following identifies, by discipline, components of the NACO natural history museum collection.

1. Biology Collection

NPS biological collections may consist of all of the kingdoms of life collected within park boundaries. These include: Animalia, Chromista, Fungi, Monera, Plantae, and Protozoa. Biological collections document the non-human biology of the site at a given time and place. When researchers make observations about the park environment, they often collect voucher specimens to vouch for, or testify to, their observations. If these specimens are not destroyed or consumed in analysis, they become part of the park's collection.

Biological collections can inform site planning, natural resource management, cultural landscape management, and interpretive programs. Over time, NPS biological collections can also document changes in the environment and changes in species. Natural history collections made from the same location at different times can document patterns of change in ecosystems. These collections can provide baseline data on species diversity and abundance prior to a disturbance such as a fire, volcanic eruption, flood, or insect infestation. Such data may guide restoration efforts and aid in documenting patterns of how invasive species may enter an area after a disturbance.

Specimens in NPS biological collections can include: pressed plants mounted on herbarium sheets, specimens mounted on microscope slides (such as algae and pollen), seeds collected specifically as museum specimens and not for propagation, bones (osteological collections), eggs and nests, animal skins, animal tissues or whole animals or plants preserved in liquid, mounted or freeze-dried animal specimens, marine and fresh water shells, insects mounted on pins or in vials, and casts of tracks and tunnels.

The NACO biological collection contains specimens which can be classified within the fungi; insect and arachnid; and other invertebrates categories. The site does not have collections from the following sub categories recognized by the NPS for biological collections: flora; mammals; birds; reptiles and amphibians; and fish.

- a. **Fungi.** This sub collection contains twelve (12) species of lichen including: *Candelaria concolor*; *Leproloma sp.*; *Lecanora caesiorubella*; *Cladonia peziziformes*; *Flavoparmelia caperata*; *Myelechroa aurulenta*; *Punctelia rudecta*; *Cladonia chlorophaea*; *Heterodermia albicans*; *Candelariella efflorescens*; *Phaeonophyscia rubropulchra*; and *Physcia millegrana*.
- b. **Insects and Arachnids.** Ten (10) moth species are included in this subgroup of collecting: *Dyspyralis illocata*; *Choristoneura conflictana*; *Epiblema boxcana*; *Epiblema obfusca*; *Chionodes obscurusella*; *Dichomeris picrocarpa*; *Drepana acruata*; *Agonopterix eupatoriella*; *Phaneta radiatana*; and *Gretchena deludana*. Other insect species included in this subgroup of collecting: one (1) beetle (*Liopinus punctatus*).
- c. **Other Invertebrates.** This sub collection contains three (3) species of mollusks including: *Corbicula fluminea*; *Crassostrea virginica*; and *Elliptio complanata*.
- d. **Future Collections Activity.** Future collections activity in this area will concentrate on the acquisition of biological specimens collected at the site in part of research studies and compliance projects. NACE has determined that any and all future biological collection specimens generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection. Biological specimens associated with the agricultural and animal husbandry programs administered by the Accokeek Foundation at NACO are not collected or accessioned into the PISC museum collection.

2. Geology Collection

Geological collections document all aspects of the geology of the park and inform park planning and development, natural and cultural resources management, and interpretation. Specimens in NPS geological collections include: rocks (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic), mineral

specimens, surface process materials, ores, samples of cave formations, soils, samples from quarries that produced building stones, extraterrestrial materials, and environmental samples.

The NACO museum collection does not have geological materials in its museum collection. Should collecting of geological materials begin at NACO, this sub collection will include:

- a. **Future Collections Activity.** Future collections activity in this area will concentrate on the acquisition of geological specimens collected at the site in part of research studies and compliance projects. NACE has determined that any and all future geological collection specimens generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

3. Paleontology Collection

Paleontology specimens are fossils of plants, animals, or naturally occurring tracks, impressions, and casts. NPS paleontological collections cover the entire span of geological time and represent all kingdoms of life. Fossils can be divided into two main categories—body fossils (petrified wood, fossil bones, fossil shells, fossil plants, fossil tissue, fossil pollen) and trace fossils (tracks, trails, burrows, borings, gnaw or bite marks, coprolites). Fossils range in size from microscopic pollen and spores, studied with scanning electron microscopes, to dinosaurs 100 feet in length. In addition, NPS paleontological collections often include human-made molds and casts of specimens.

The following collecting categories have been identified for the NACO paleontology sub collection:

- a. **Fossil Specimens.** This sub collection contains one (1) fossil specimen of a common oyster (*Ostrea sinuosa*).
- b. **Future Collections Activity.** Future collections activity in this area will concentrate on the acquisition of paleontological specimens collected at the site in part of research studies and compliance projects. NACE has determined that any and all future biological collection specimens generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.

III. MUSEUM COLLECTIONS SUBJECT TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT OF 1990

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (NAGPRA) (25 USC 3001-13), requires, in addition to other actions, a written summary of unassociated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony by November 16, 1995. NACE has determined that the NACO museum collection does not have any collections that fall within the scope of the NAGPRA categories.

IV. ACQUISITIONS

NACE continues to acquire objects that relate to NACO through donation, purchase, exchange, transfer, field collection, research, and loan. NACE has determined that any and all collections generated from NACO will be accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum

collection. Acquisition of museum objects is governed by NACE's ability to manage and preserve materials according to *NPS Management Policies, Chapter 5* (2006), the standards for managing museum objects, in *Director's Order #28: Cultural Resources Management Guideline* (1998); *Special Directive 80-1 Guidance for Meeting NPS Preservation and Protection Standards for Museum Collections* (1990); and the *NPS Museum Handbook II* (1998-2006). In accordance with NPS policy, donations with limiting conditions are discouraged.

Museum objects must be acquired, accessioned, and cataloged in accordance with the *NPS Museum Handbook, Part II* (2000). In accordance with *Director's Order #44: Personal Property Management, Chapter 10* (2008), all proposals for the acquisition of firearms and ammunition, except archeological field collections, must be reviewed and approved by the Regional Curator. Acquisition of firearms included on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) list of prohibited and restricted weapons required concurrent review by the Regional Curator and Regional Law Enforcement Specialist.

The PISC Superintendent, by delegation, represents the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior in accepting title to and responsibility for all museum objects. The PISC Superintendent bears the ultimate responsibility for the acquisition, proper care, and management of the NACO museum collection. The PISC Superintendent has delegated the day-to-day care of the collection to the Park Curator.

All permanent acquisitions must receive formal approval from the PISC Superintendent before they can be accepted into the museum collection. Upon receipt, all newly acquired objects and related documentation must be turned over to the Park Curator. The Park Curator prepares, for the PISC Superintendent's signature, all instruments of conveyance, and letters of thanks, acceptance, or rejection, and transmits them as appropriate to the donor, lender, vendor, or other sources of acquisition.

V. USES OF THE COLLECTION

NPS museum collections may be used for exhibits, interpretive programs, research, and other interpretive media such as publications based on museum objects. The governing consideration on the use of museum objects is the conservation of each object in question and of the NACO collection as a whole.

In accordance with *NPS Management Policies, Chapter 7* (2006), the NPS will not exhibit Native American disinterred skeletal or mummified human remains, or photographs or replicas. There will be no display of grave goods or other objects if culturally associated Native Americans object to such an exhibit.

Any and all uses of materials from the NACO museum collection will be consistent with the preservation standards set out in *Director's Order #28: Guideline for Cultural Resources Management* (1998). Any consumptive or destructive use of museum objects will comply with the requirements and restrictions on such use detailed in *Director's Order #6: Guideline for Interpretation and Visitor Services* (2005), and *Director's Order #24: NPS Museum Collections Management* (2008).

To fulfill the principal purposes of the NACO as described in *Section I: Introduction* of this SOCS, the objects in the museum collection may be used for exhibits, research, and interpretive programs under the following conditions:

- All exhibits or displays containing museum objects must have proper security and appropriate environmental controls to ensure their long term preservation.
- Objects will be available for research purposes consistent with the preservation of the collection, subject to the guidelines outlined in *Director's Order #28* (1998) and *Director's Order #24* (2008). No use of the museum collection will be permitted without a curatorial staff present. Prior arrangements must be made to examine museum collection materials. Non-NPS researchers who wish to use the collection must complete an application form, which will be reviewed by NACO Park Curator.
- Museum objects will not be used in interpretive demonstrations. Exhibits may be incorporated into programs through organized tours or other non-consumptive techniques.
- Requests for consumptive analysis or testing of museum materials will comply with restrictions and procedures outlined in *Director's Order #28* (1998).
- Objects may be loaned to qualified institutions for exhibition or research use. No loans are made to individuals. Institutions must meet NPS museum standards for security, handling, and exhibition of museum objects. Sensitive materials may require additional conditions prior to a loan commitment. Expenses related to the loan of museum collection objects, including shipping and insurance, will be assumed by the borrower.

VI. RESTRICTIONS

Restrictions in addition to those applying to the use of the museum collection outlined in *Section IV: Acquisitions* of this SOCS are as follows:

In accordance with *NPS Management Policies* (2006), 7.5.6. *Consultation* and 5.3.5.5 *Museum Collections*, and *Directors Order #24: NPS Museum Collections Management* (2008), curatorial staff should consult with traditionally associated peoples and other cultural and community groups for whom the collection has significance. Archeological objects in the museum collection shall be made available to persons for use in religious rituals or spiritual activities in accordance with *Curation of Federally-owned and Administered Archeological Collections* (36 CFR Part 79, Section 79.10(c)). Requests to borrow non-archeological material for religious ritual or spiritual activities will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. The NPS will not approve research on human remains and associated funerary objects without the consent of the affected group(s).

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.), the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended (16 USC 470aa-mm), the National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998 (16 USC 5937), and *NPS Management Policies* (2006) 4.1.2. *Natural Resource Information* and 5.2.3 *Confidentiality*, the NPS may withhold from the public sensitive information concerning: rare, threatened, or endangered species; commercially valuable resources; minerals; paleontological resources; archeological and other cultural resources;

objects of cultural patrimony and sensitive ethnographic information; information provided by individuals who wish the information to remain confidential; the identities of individuals who wish to remain anonymous. Inquiries of this nature will be referred to the regional Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Officer for consultation and possible review.

Restrictions may be placed on the publication of images or manuscripts in the museum or archives collection if these materials are subject to copyright, and the National Park Service does not hold the copyright.

All endangered, threatened, or rare plants and vertebrate and invertebrate animals will be collected only when accidentally killed or when dead from natural causes. The collection of threatened, endangered, or rare plant and animal species will comply with *NPS Management Policies* (2006), be in accordance with the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and will be strictly limited according to the applicable rules of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Final disposition of type specimens will be determined at the Service-wide level and will adhere to recognized conventions established for specific disciplines.

The NPS will not knowingly be a partner to or encourage in any way the trafficking in illicitly collected materials.

VII. MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

NACE curatorial staff has identified the following management actions required to maintain and improve the NACO museum collections:

- Review and revise, when necessary, this Scope of Collection Statement every five years so that it remains supportive of, and consistent with, any changes in the site's mission. Any revision to this document requires the approval of the PISC Superintendent.
- Review archeological collection items (NACO 00007, NACO 00008, NACO 00907, NACO 00908, and NACO 009913) to ensure that items classified as *prehistoric* under the *Class 1* field are correct; update records accordingly as needed.
- Review the historical sub collection objects and artifacts and review them for potential deaccession as needed.
- Ensure that NACE curatorial staff is included in the rehabilitation efforts of all historic structures at NACO to ensure significant architectural fabric elements are collected as needed.
- Ensure that any and all future collections generated from NACO are accessioned and managed as part of the Piscataway Park museum collection.