

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

FUTURE PARK LEADERS of EMERGING CHANGE

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to support the *Future Park Leaders of Emerging Change* (FPL) program as a pathway for exemplary students in higher education (advanced undergraduate students, graduate students, and recent graduates) to apply their skills and ideas to park-based challenges and solutions. The Initiative offers 12-week paid internships which allow students to gain valuable work experience, explore career options, and develop leadership skills through mentorship and guidance while helping to advance NPS efforts on emerging management issues. Successful students may be eligible for non-competitive hire into federal positions for which they qualify following completion of all academic requirements.

PROTECT, REMOVE, RETAIN: DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE TREATMENT OF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES ON JAMESTOWN ISLAND

Colonial National Historical Park
Jamestown, Virginia

INTERNSHIP BLURB

The Intern will complete an Archeological Strategic Management Plan for all archeological sites on Jamestown Island. The Intern will also develop communication talking points for staff to use on the park website, in briefings, visitor talks, and public speaking engagements on how the park is addressing climate change impacts on archeological sites on Jamestown Island.

INTERNSHIP PROJECT BACKGROUND

The primary purpose and mission of Colonial National Historical park is to interpret the history of Colonial America, 1607-1781. The Park's enabling legislation specifically identified Jamestown Island as a nationally significant archeological site that tells the 17th century history of the first permanent English settlement that expanded into a Colonial bicameral government which influenced 18th century political thinkers to establish independence from the England. Later archeological excavations of the island identified even early presence of 8000 years old paleo Indian occupation, extending the cultural stories to a much earlier time. Fifty nine sites on the island excluding the original and expanded fort have been identified during a 7 year extensive archeological assessment and are currently interpreted through waysides, tours and interpretive foundations delineating original buildings.

The island is eroding and being inundated with higher water levels due to Global Sea Level rise (SLR), regional land subsidence and increased storm events. A 2016 Summary of effects of SLR on the most vulnerable sites identified 24 of the original 50 existing sites are currently in the process of being destroyed. Current SLR models indicate that sites will sustain complete loss of its sites: only 2 of those

archaeological sites will remain completely above water by 2065. The remainder will be partially, and many almost entirely, destroyed or submerged. An ongoing groundwater study is collecting data to determine how rising groundwater will impact sites within the island.

INTERNSHIP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Archeological Strategic Management Plan is to collect all relevant data and studies the park already has, synthesize the risks of each site and propose an adaptation response to climate change impacts for each site over time. It has been the goal of the National Park Service to preserve and protect natural and cultural resources for future generations. When resources are at risk, park management must determine how to protect for as long as possible, and make the difficult decision of documenting and then relinquishing or removing sites.

The Intern responsibilities will include:

- Go back to the original field notes and determine the depth profiles of archeological sites, and any other relevant field note information regarding the condition of each site. Field check sites as necessary.
- Collaborate with the park hydrologist and USGS scientist to determine the impact groundwater levels may be to each site. The park is undergoing a multi-year monitoring program and testing for salinity and tidal fluctuations.
- Compare the data from the 1999 Comprehensive Archeological Assessment, the 2016 updated inventory of site conditions and the Park's 2017 Vulnerability Risk Assessment to confirm that the risk level of loss for all archeological sites have been correctly identified and prioritized.
- Collaboration with NPS staff and Island partner archeologists, Preservation Virginia, to develop a protocol for addressing each site's current and future status with the purpose of retaining intact archeological sites on the island for as long as possible without losing them to the weather or water.
- Draft a document for review and edit the final manuscript for the plan.

The intern will also coordinate with park interpretive, natural resource and groundwater staff, to develop a communication product that explains how the strategic plan addresses the climate change impacts to the island. The target audience will be adults and high school children. This would include:

- Present the strategic plan for park management staff
- Develop a resource brief of new findings that can be posted on the park's social media sites.
- At least 4-5 web posts will be required during the course of the internship to highlight the work being done to adapt to sea level rise.
- Develop talking points for interpretive staff to visitors about the current and future plans of archeology sites.

QUALIFICATIONS

This internship is targeted to graduate students or recent graduates in field of archeology. A background in environmental or climate science is highly desired. Preference will be given to candidates who have completed archeological field schools, have ArcGIS, ArcMap, and data collection and show samples of communication products or projects. The candidate must be self-motivated and has the ability to collaborate across the science and history spectrum that represents the character of this park.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Leadership skills in the following areas can be developed for the motivated candidate:

Collaboration: Working successfully with Park Interpretive and Resource staff, and partners Preservation Virginia during work sessions will result in successful outcome solutions of the Strategic Management Plan.

Communication: The Intern is expected Initiate and lead the discussion of prioritizing sites and their treatment over time with Park, Regional and National Archeologist, based on the analysis findings. He/she will initiate creative ways to write science communication products for the general public and science teachers.

Confidence: The intern will be encouraged to use his/her analytical skills initiate some creative solutions to problems and present the solutions that define this issue clearly in a presentation to park management.

DATES OF POSITION

The preferred starting date is May 13, 2018, however dates of the position are flexible, depending upon availability. Ideally the intern will work 480 hours between May 13 and early to mid-August 2018.

COMPENSATION

This initiative supports one student at \$16/hour for 12 weeks, or 480 hours.

HOUSING

As of December 2017, park housing availability is not confirmed. If available it will be a three bedroom house located within the city of Williamsburg (pop. 15,000). There is a possibility that the intern may need to share the house with other interns or seasonal staff. If the house is not available, there are numerous housing options within the commuting area in the form of apartments, rooms and houses to share. There are two universities within 10 miles of the park for roommate opportunities: William and

Mary College and Christopher Newport University. A housing subsidy may be available to the intern for rental housing.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Colonial NHP is located on the southeastern peninsula within the Virginia Coastal Plain. It is a 8900 acre oasis in the midst of a developing urban area known as Tidewater Virginia. Shopping and entertainment activities are within 10 to 30 minutes from any part of the park. Colonial National Historical Park includes the Colonial Parkway which connects two other units of the park: Jamestown, the site where the first permanent English settlement began (1607), and Yorktown, the site of the final siege of the American Revolution (1781). The park lies in between two major tidal rivers, the James and the York. The Outer Banks and Cape Hatteras Seashore are 3 hours away: the Eastern shore is 1.5 hours and the mountains are 3-4 hours away. Kayaking, fishing, boating and bicycling are sports favored by many in this area. Norfolk and Richmond are both mid sized cities located an hour in opposite directions from the park. Bush Gardens, Water Country and Colonial Williamsburg are located in Williamsburg. Summers here are very warm and humid, often reaching 100F for a week's stretch at time.

The office location will be on Jamestown Island in or near the Visitor Center. Work in the office will be done independently from Park supervisory staff, which are located in Yorktown. Jamestown Island in the summer is full of great wildlife and is known as a birding hotspot. It is also known for ticks and mosquitos. When working in the field, be prepared to work in the hot weather in protective clothing to avoid insect bites and thorns. Terrain is mostly flat, but there may be a need to access the edges of swamps when coring or investigating drill sites. Jamestown Island has a fully serviced visitor center for staff and visitors, including a staff kitchen and dining area, copying machines, water and restrooms.

CONTACT INFORMATION

National Park Service Supervisor:

Dorothy Geyer

Dorothy_Geyer@nps.gov

757-898-2433