

Provide Ongoing Technical Assistance for Cultural Landscapes in National Parks

Task Agreement No: **J1851-06-0016**, 9/30/2006-1/31/2008

SUNY 18 (SUNY RF#1057672-1-40636)

Project thru Great Lakes-Northern Forest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (SUNY-NPS-08)

FINAL REPORT, February 2008

John Auwaerter, Research Scientist, State University of New York College of Environment Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF)

Partner, National Park Service Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation (NPS OCLP)

Through this task agreement, SUNY ESF has provided critical landscape preservation assistance and advice to National Parks and affiliated areas over the sixteen month course covered by the funding, working in close collaboration with NPS OCLP and staff from the subject parks. This task agreement has also provided the means to draw on the expertise of SUNY ESF faculty and staff in the departments of Landscape Architecture, Forest and Natural Resource Management, and Environmental and Forest Biology.

The bulk of the assistance provided through this task agreement has involved informal phone and e-mail communication with parks and NPS OCLP staff to provide documentation and answer questions on cultural landscape research findings from completed, separately funded projects. Most of this assistance has gone toward Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Gateway National Recreation Area, and Petersburg National Battlefield.

This project has also involved general support of the cooperative agreement between SUNY ESF and NPS OCLP, including participation in SUNY ESF and NPS OCLP staff meetings, preparation of newsletters and updates on NPS OCLP work, and serving on SUNY ESF graduate student thesis committees as part of the training component of this task agreement.

As specified in the task agreement, all reports and related documentation pertaining to work under this task agreement has been provided to NPS OCLP for its review.

Specific projects include the following (report dates are for preceeding time period):

I. Section 106 Compliance Documentation

January 2007 Report

Home of FDR National Historic Site: Provided assessment of project, "Construct Bellefield Entrance Ramp." Assessment developed through discussions with staff from the NPS Northeast Regional Historic Architecture Program and NPS OCLP.

May 2007 Report

Attended 1-day Section 106 Advisors meeting with New York SHPO, Waterford, NY, along with staff from NPS OCLP.

September 2007 Report

Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site: Provided assessment of project "Establish Handicapped Parking Area & Access Path." Discussed issues with NPS OCLP staff that worked on Cultural Landscape Report for the site.

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Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site: Provided assessment of project “Emergency Repair, Main Entrance Road.” Discussed alternatives with staff from Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites.

Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site: Provided assessment of project “Sealcoat Asphalt Roads.” Discussed alternatives with staff from Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites.

Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites: Provided assessment of project “Roosevelt Farm Lane.” Developed assessment based on previous research on the landscape and on discussions with staff from NPS Northeast Regional Office and Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites.

January 2008 Report

No Section 106 compliance documentation provided during this period.

II. Recommendations on the Condition of Landscapes (& Misc.)

May 2007 Report

Assisted NPS OCLP staff with preparation of nomination of “Cultural Landscape Report for the Mansion Grounds, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park,” for an American Society of Landscape Architects research award.

Taught treatment exercise in SUNY ESF course LSA 681, Cultural Landscape Preservation, spring 2007.

Attended 2-day GIS training at Syracuse University in support of CLI for the Appalachian Trail, Shenandoah National Park, a collaborative project of SUNY ESF and NPS OCLP completed in fall 2007.

Scoped CLR for Marin Headlands, Golden Gate National Recreation Area working with park staff and NPS OCLP.

Scoped CLR for Nelson Landscape, Colonial National Historical Park working with park staff and NPS OCLP.

Scoped CLR for Roger National Memorial Williams Memorial working with park staff and NPS OCLP.

Scoped CLR for Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site working with park staff and NPS OCLP.

Provided park staff and SUNY ESF Department of Forest and Natural Resource Management with assistance on scoping of project to inventory historic forest plantations at Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites based on prior research..

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Participated with NPS OCLP staff and park staff in three-day cultural landscape treatment workshop at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and prepared two reports summarizing findings of the workshops.

Lectured on research methods for cultural landscapes in SUNY ESF course LSA 640, Introduction to Research Methods, fall 2007.

Wrote newsletter article for Golden Gate National Recreation Area on Muir Woods Historic Resource Study.

III. Site History, Existing Conditions, Historical Integrity, and Significance Documentation

Final Report

Assisted NPS OCLP staff with documentation of historical integrity at Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site based on prior research of historic system of hedges.

Worked with NPS OCLP staff and SUNY ESF graduate students on completion of three-volume Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in Shenandoah National Park, Virginia.

Worked with History Program staff in the Northeast Regional Office of NPS to address issues of historical significance at Fort Tilden, Gateway National Recreation Area.

Completed final printing and distribution to park and federal repositories of "Historic Resource Study for Muir Woods National Monument," Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Created digital version of report.

Completed with help of park staff the final draft of National Register of Historic Places nomination for Muir Woods National Monument, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Reviewed and discussed with NPS OCLP staff significance documentation for Cultural Landscape Inventory, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park