

**FINAL REPORT, May 2009**

John Auwaerter, Co-Principal Investigator

George W. Curry, Principal Investigator

State University of New York College of Environment Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF)

Partner, National Park Service Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation

Through this task agreement, SUNY ESF has provided critical landscape preservation assistance and advice to National Parks and affiliated areas over the seventeen months project period, working in close collaboration with NPS Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation (OCLP) and staff from the subject parks.

The bulk of the assistance provided through this task agreement has involved continued research, training, and technical views for the cultural landscapes at Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Gateway National Recreation Area, Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania National Military Park, Colonial National Historical Park, 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. This project has also provided NPS with expertise of SUNY ESF faculty and staff in the departments of Landscape Architecture, Forest and Natural Resource Management, and Environmental and Forest Biology.

As specified in the task agreement, all reports and related documentation pertaining to work under this task agreement have 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 2008 Report*

Provided comments on proposed landscape treatment of Roosevelt Farm Lane project at the Home of FDR National Historic Site, Hyde Park, NY.

*May 2008 Report*

Provided comments on proposed installation of above-ground heating oil tank at Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site.

*September 2008 Report*

Provided comments on proposed hedge replacement at the Rose Garden and gravesite at the Home of FDR National Historic Site.

*January 2009 Report*

No Section 106 compliance documentation provided during this period.

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

*May 2008 Report*

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

Taught treatment exercise in SUNY ESF course LSA 681, Cultural Landscape Preservation, spring 2008.

Co-taught cultural landscape treatment studio course LSA 470/670 with Professor George W. Curry at Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, spring semester 2008. Coordinated site visits, meetings, and final presentation to park staff.

Continued to provide 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.

Served as a committee member on a capstone studio project for SUNY ESF graduate student Karen Cowperthwaite at Linwood, a privately-owned historic landscape in western New York, spring 2008.

Presented SUNY ESF work at the annual meeting of the North Atlantic Coast Cooperative Educational Support Unit (CESU) at Gateway National Recreation Area, May 2008.

*January 2009 Report*

Attended a scoping meeting for a proposed cultural landscape report at the Darwin Martin House in Buffalo, New York, June 2008.

Prepared poster and support materials for Golden Gate National Recreation Area in its nomination of the *Historic Resource Study for Muir Woods National Monument* (SUNY ESF, 2006) for a California Preservation Award.

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

*Final Report*

Worked with NPS OCLP staff and landscape architecture students from SUNY ESF and Cornell University on planning and operation of a six-week field school in cultural landscape preservation at Shenandoah National Park Virginia, in June and July of 2008. Over the course of the fall and spring semesters of 2008-2009, worked with SUNY ESF Professor George W. Curry and graduate assistant David Washburn to develop existing conditions plans and organize inventory data for five component landscapes.

Worked with SUNY ESF graduate student Paul Harris on cultural landscape research at Ellwood, Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania National Military Park, Virginia. Work included reviewing archival research, reviewing written material, guiding development of period plans, and coordinating reviews and comments between the park, NPS OCLP, and SUNY ESF.

Worked with SUNY ESF graduate student Bryne Riley on cultural landscape research at the Nelson House, Colonial National Historical Park, Virginia. Work included reviewing archival research, reviewing written material, guiding development of period plans, and coordinating reviews and comments between the park, NPS OCLP, and SUNY ESF.

Worked with SUNY ESF graduate student Jeanie Gleisner on cultural landscape research at the Battery Weed headland, Fort Wadsworth, Gateway National Recreation Area. Work included reviewing archival research, reviewing written material, guiding development of period plans, and coordinating reviews and comments between the park, NPS OCLP, and SUNY ESF. Worked with NPS OCLP staff on the final editing and layout of the final cultural landscape report.

Worked with SUNY ESF graduate student Karen Cowperthwaite and Mehmet Yavuz and NPS OCLP staff to complete mapping of Appalachian Trail in western Massachusetts.

Completed a 95% draft in November 2008 of a cultural landscape report for Floyd Bennett Field, Gateway National Recreation Area based on student work completed in August 2007.

Worked with NPS OCLP staff in fall 2008 on a cultural landscape inventory for Floyd Bennett Field based on prior SUNY research undertaken for the cultural landscape report.

Continued to work with staff from Petersburg National Battlefield on landscape treatment issues at Poplar Grove National Cemetery based on research completed for a draft cultural landscape report in July 2007.

Worked with NPS OCLP staff to finalize and print a hedge management plan for Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish, New Hampshire.

Reviewed drafts of the Viewshed Management Plan for the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site by SUNY ESF Professor Chris Nowak and graduate student Rebecca McGuire.