

Internship Positions at Petrified Forest

Situated on the southern Colorado Plateau, Petrified Forest National Park preserves an incredibly diverse archaeological record of 13,000 years of human history. This summer the park is hosting four internships from May 28 to August 10, 2018 for graduate, recent graduates, or senior undergraduate students in archaeology who are interested in gaining further experience in archaeological practice.

Students will work as integral members of a large survey crew led by park archaeologists. The internships focus on supporting archaeological reconnaissance of park lands. Additionally this opportunity will provide them with many learning opportunities as they work to: carry out archaeological survey and site recording; manage and process archaeological data; and perform professional and public outreach. Interns will also have the chance to work on independent park-focused research projects and present at a professional conference.

At Petrified Forest National Park archaeologists encounter numerous prehistoric sites. The oldest site at the park retains evidence of Paleoindian lithic procurement and tool manufacture. Archaic sites provide information for understanding land use strategies. Moreover Petrified Forest harbors evidence relevant to understanding the transition from hunting and gathering to an increasing reliance on agriculture. Also scattered throughout the park are Basketmaker villages and Pueblo settlements — from early small one room structures to late pueblo buildings hundreds of rooms in size — that reveal information about early populations occupying the landscape. Some of the first ceramics found on the Colorado Plateau can be seen here, with later ceramic assemblages becoming more highly varied, with some wares from many locations of manufacture. These sites are complemented by an amazing collection of Rock Art that stylistically dates at least as far back as the Basketmaker Period.

Petrified Forest also contains a number of Protohistoric and Historic sites. Foundations of stone hogans and ornate inscriptions carved on rock faces provide evidence for the presence of early Navajo and European occupations during Protohistoric and early Historic times. Late Historic period sites are associated with western expansion, exploration, and settlement and include: a standing stage coach stop; the remains of trading posts; a portion of Route 66 with a hotel that stood alongside the famous highway; and homesteads. In addition, the park harbors numerous sites and structures associated with the 1930s New Deal programs.

Applicants should be strongly motivated by a desire to develop the range of skills necessary to carry out archaeological fieldwork, manage and explore data, and perform research and public outreach. Applicants are required to have attended an archaeological field school or have the equivalent level of experience. Interns will receive housing in the park free of cost, as well as a weekly stipend of \$150. Travel costs to the park are not included.

Please provide a letter of interest along with a copy of your CV and the contact information for three professional references by March 9, 2018 to:

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Please forward this call to any other students who may be interested!