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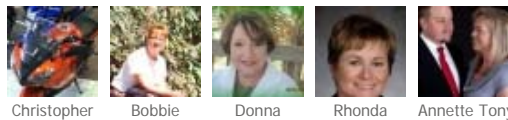
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Blue Ridge Parkway Guide News

Satellites Help Bring Moses Cone Home

July 8, 2002

A hundred years ago, Moses Cone may have used the stars to find north. Today an array of navigational satellites maintained by the Department of Defense give land planners at the Moses H. Cone Memorial Park "smart bomb" accuracy in locating natural and cultural resource features. The Moses Cone Management Plan, a two-year in depth study to identify, analyze, and consider best and appropriate uses for all of the estates nearly 3,500 acres, is using global positioning system technology to map the estate's features. The National Park Service considers the Moses H. Cone Memorial Park, which is part of the Blue Ridge Parkway, it one of its most important cultural resource. "Mapping is not a very glamorous part of the project, but a necessary first step", emphasizes Dr. Houck Medford, executive director of the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation which has arranged the private funding for the contractual components of the study. "When you consider that Parkway communities are standing in the wings to turn the Moses Cone Estate and Flat Top Manor into a finely cut and polished diamond, it is difficult to be patient. The National Park Service has never been faulted for being too comprehensive." Dan Brown, Parkway superintendent indicates "that the on-going planning effort and its associated public participation will create an exciting new vision for the Cone Estate as a visitor attraction where experiencing history will be combined with recreational activities." The Cone Plan Study, a two-year process, will have numerous input opportunities for the general public once all the features are identified and catalogued. The funding for this project has come from the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, Mrs. O. Bliss Williams of Charlotte, the Richard J. Reynolds, III and Marie H. Reynolds Foundation, and the Helen M. Clabough Charitable Foundation The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation is the private supporting foundation for the Blue Ridge Parkway. Its authority to request and receive funds on behalf of the Parkway is vested in a formal cooperative agreement with the National Park Service. The Foundation can be contacted at P.O. Box 10427, Winston-Salem, NC, 27108, 336-721-0260 or through its web site, www.brpfoundation.org -- Courtesy National Park Service



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