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Several factual errors appeared in the article "Bureau of Reclamation gives Undergraduate Unique Opportunity in Cultural Resource Management," Patricia Merewether.

The following corrections have been supplied by Dr. Jeffery Hanson, Albuquerque Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation. This is text from a longer e-mail.

This is in reference to a piece in the Spring 2008 Anthropology Newsletter entitled, "Bureau of Reclamation gives Undergraduate Unique Opportunity in Cultural Resource Management," written by Patricia Merewether. There are some factual errors that are in need of correction. Ms. Merewether reported (second paragraph) that "the U.S. Government exhumed the burials." This is not accurate. It would be more correct to say that the U.S. Army exhumed remains in 1878 and 1886." This correction should also apply to the last sentence of this paragraph.

In the first sentence of the third paragraph, it would be important for the reader to know that Jeff Hanson and Mark Hungerford worked for the Bureau of Reclamation's Albuquerque Office. It was that office that conducted the work and should be credited with the initiative. Ms. Merewether incorrectly refers to the skeleton as wearing "regalia." It was more correctly a uniform. Most importantly in this paragraph, it is inaccurate to say that the "subsequent search... [was] conducted by Hanson and Hungerford." This was a "warranted search" by Federal law enforcement investigators. Hanson and Hungerford were only allowed entrance to act as expert archaeological technicians. As archaeologists we have no authority to search anybody's home. The "articles secured" linking "Gravedigger" with Fort Craig were some Civil War era artifacts (buttons) in boxes labeled Fort Craig, copies of maps of the fort, and copies of correspondence from the National Archives regarding "cemeterial files."

In the fourth paragraph, it is stated that 240 coffins were excavated. In all, 251 coffins were excavated. Also, the number of adults, infants etc., is wrong. We had 64 complete or near complete remains, 23 were juveniles (infants and/or children), 2 were adult females, and 39 adult males.

Thank you for your time.

Jeff Hanson
Archaeologist
Bureau of Reclamation
Albuquerque Area Office.