



CHRONICLE™
HERITAGE

TRUSTED CULTURAL RESOURCE EXPERTISE ACROSS THE CARIBBEAN



Chronicle Heritage is a cultural resource management firm with over 40 years of experience in archaeology, built heritage, and heritage planning, operating from 22 offices across the United States. With a dedicated local presence in Puerto Rico and longstanding work in the Caribbean dating to the 1980s, our team brings practical regional experience to terrestrial and underwater investigations, compliance reviews, and community engagement across the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Our staff have collaborated directly with territorial preservation agencies, served on the Advisory Council for the Protection of Territorial Archaeological Patrimony, and are authorized to conduct all phases of Federal and local compliance work in the region. By combining local knowledge with national resources, we help clients navigate complex regulatory requirements while supporting successful project delivery throughout the Caribbean.



PROJECTS



LOCATION

Guayanilla, Puerto Rico

CLIENT

Catholic Diocese of Ponce
Catholic CRO, LLC

PROJECT DATES

January 2025–Ongoing

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICES

Chronicle Heritage is conducting a Phase II archaeological investigation within the historic Immaculada Concepción Parish Church located in the urban core of Guayanilla, Puerto Rico. The project is being carried out in partnership with the Catholic Diocese Recovery Office and is funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance Program, requiring full compliance with FEMA's Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) review process under Section 106 and 112 of the NHPA.

The church, constructed between 1838 and 1840, sustained severe structural damage during the December 2019 and January 2020 earthquakes. As a FEMA-supported undertaking, the Diocese plans to stabilize and restore the building by installing a temporary shoring system that will involve ground disturbance within the historic church interior and adjacent areas.

Chronicle Heritage has prepared a Phase II Research Design and Archaeological Monitoring Plan to guide archaeological fieldwork aimed at identifying, documenting, and evaluating previously unrecorded cultural deposits, including the potential presence of human burials, architectural remnants, and other historically significant features. Field investigations are expected to commence by the end of 2025 and will include controlled hand excavation of a 33% sample of the construction impact area. All work will be conducted in coordination with FEMA, the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture (ICP).

This work contributes directly to FEMA's EHP compliance obligations while supporting the long-term preservation of a culturally and historically significant Puerto Rican religious landmark.



LOCATION

Caguas, Puerto Rico

CLIENT

Black and Veatch PR

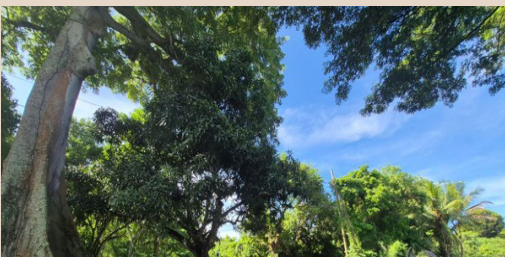
PROJECT DATES

January 2015–Ongoing

PHASE III ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION OF THE CAGÜITAS SITE WITHIN THE AGUAS BUENAS-CAGUAS SANITARY LINE, PUERTO RICO AQUEDUCT AND SEWER AUTHORITY

Chronicle Heritage conducted intensive excavations at Cagüitas, a multicomponent precontact site in east central Puerto Rico, between 2015 and 2016. The data recovery was conducted for PRASA under contract to Black and Veatch Puerto Rico, PSC in support of the construction of a sanitary trunk sewer line across the site. PRSHPO determined Cagüitas is significant and eligible for listing to the NRHP, thus requiring mitigation or intensive excavations to address impacts to the site from construction activities.

The mitigation project was conducted in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with a grant from the United States government's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Fieldwork, analysis, and reporting was suspended in August 2015 due to project fiscal concerns. The project resumed in 2024, and Chronicle Heritage staff completed the removal of previously identified human burial remains and associated artifacts in a location within the project APE. An End of Field Summary Report has been submitted to PRASA and PRSHPO. The processing of over 40,000 artifacts, analysis of human burial remains from 18 locations, specialty material analyses, and reporting are currently underway. Analysis and reporting are expected to continue through 2025. Chronicle Heritage staff anticipates assisting PRASA and Black and Veatch Puerto Rico, PSC with the protection and monitoring of cultural resources during the project's construction phase.



LOCATION

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

CLIENT

Virgin Islands Department of Public Works

PROJECT DATES

2025–Ongoing

MAHOGANY ROAD (ROUTE 76) ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING PLAN

Chronicle Heritage prepared an Archaeological Monitoring Plan (AMP) for a roadway improvement project along Mahogany Road (Route 76) on the island of St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, undertaken by the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Public Works (DPW) with oversight by the Virgin Islands State Historic Preservation Office (VISHPO). The 5.64-mile project corridor requires pavement rehabilitation, drainage improvements, and retaining wall repairs along a culturally sensitive route that has served as a significant transportation and agricultural corridor since the early nineteenth century. The corridor passes through or adjacent to 28 previously recorded archaeological sites, including precontact Saladoid-period villages, plantation-era historic properties, and NRHP-listed resources, with six sites intersecting the project area directly.

Chronicle Heritage's approach combined archival research, including examination of VISHPO site files, Danish cadastral maps, historic aerial photographs, and USGS quadrangle maps, with a systematic monitoring program designed to meet VISHPO Guidelines for Cultural Resources Investigations. The plan details artifact recovery, analysis, and curation protocols, including specialized procedures for the treatment of human remains under V.I. Code Title 29, § 960, with artifacts transported to Chronicle Heritage's Tallahassee laboratory before permanent curation in the USVI.

The AMP was accepted by VISHPO and establishes the full procedural framework for monitoring across an anticipated two-year construction period, including weekly reporting requirements, escalation protocols for unanticipated discoveries, and a final monitoring report due within 30 days of construction completion.

BREAK NEW GROUND

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