

For more information, contact:
Samantha Brown
Manager, Development & PR
812.682.4488
sabrown1@usi.edu



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG IN NEW HARMONY

Archaeological dig will take place outside of historical building

NEW HARMONY, IN (May 2, 2008) – An archaeological dig scheduled for May 13 – June 13, will take place outside Community House No. 2. The dig is intended to help collect information and artifacts from Community House No.2 that can be discussed on Historic New Harmony's tours and shown in exhibits.

Bill Wepler, Historical Archaeologist for the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites, and Dr. Michael Strezewski, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Southern Indiana, will be the on-site directors. In addition, there will be about ten USI students and volunteers scheduled to work at the dig.

Historic New Harmony's daily tours will include the dig. Students will provide on-site interpretation when a visitor is taken to Community House No. 2. There will also be an open house at the site, available to the public on Saturday, June 7, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

During the dig the archaeologists hope to learn more about how Community House No. 2 was used in the nineteenth century and to pinpoint exactly where the Harmonist barn was located. A historical map showing several structures on the property, including the community house, as well as the summer kitchen and the barn will guide their investigation. The dig will help obtain a better understanding of what goods and products were available to New Harmony residents during different time periods. Wepler, Strezewski, students and volunteers will also search for privies and wells where people used to deposit their trash.

For more information about the archeological dig or to arrange an interview, please contact either Bill Wepler at bwepler@dnr.in.gov or 317.232.8178 or Dr. Michael Strezewski at mstrezewsk@usi.edu or 812.464.1931.

About Historic New Harmony:

Historic New Harmony is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve New Harmony's utopian legacy by inspiring renewal and fellowship between people and communities through its programs and collections. Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. For more information on Historic New Harmony, please visit www.newharmony.org.

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