



**National Center for Great Lakes
Native American Culture, Inc.
Post Office Box 1063
Portland, IN 47371
www.ncglnac.com**



Press Release

NCGLNAC Site Plan Underway

Portland, IN – January 13, 2005 – The National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. (NCGLNAC), Portland, IN moved a step closer to the development and construction of their Culture Center with the site survey and inventory analysis of existing features on the site last month by Miami of Indiana landscape architect and designer, Scott Shoemaker from Minneapolis, MN. The site survey and master site plan were made possible by a grant from The Portland Foundation.

NCGLNAC was formed in May 2001 as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Center is composed of Native and non-Native members whose mission is to continue and preserve traditional Great Lakes Native American art, history and culture by helping pass those traditions on to Native Peoples and by educating the general public about the importance of Great Lakes Native peoples, their art, history and culture.

The Jay County Fair Board has generously donated to NCGLNAC over 30 acres of land adjacent to the Jay County Fairgrounds for the future Great Lakes Native American Culture Center. The plan will encompass and maximize the site's varied natural beauty in its woods, pond, and wetlands.

Participating in the site visits and inventory were Scott Shoemaker, Scott's father Gary Shoemaker, Dr. Don Cochran of the Archaeological Resources Management Service of the Department of Anthropology, Ball State University, Don's son and archaeologist Blake Cochran from New York, Jerry Neumayr and Kay Neumayr, Board Chair of NCGLNAC.

The site design that Scott Shoemaker is completing includes determining the best location and orientation for the buildings, outdoor learning areas, gathering areas, native garden area, and reconstructed early 1800's Native American village. The plan will also determine parking configuration, major site ingress and egress, vehicular and pedestrian traffic routes including handicap accessible trails, and general landscape treatment.

Scott Shoemaker holds a bachelor's degree from Ball State University in Landscape Architecture and a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Minnesota, with a minor in Native

American Studies. He is currently seeking his Doctorate from the University of Minnesota in Native American Studies. He has extensive experience in the design of Native American facilities with the Navajo, Omaha Winnebago, and the Gila River Indian Community. Additionally, Scott is an artist that is nationally known for his outstanding Miami ribbon work which is exhibited in several museums.

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For more information, please contact Kay Neumayr, NCGLNAC Board Chair, at 765-572-2574 or kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com