# CRM

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Cultural Resources Management Information for Parks, Federal Agencies, Indian Tribes, States, Local Governments and the Private Sector

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Cultural Resources


# The Roving National Historic Landmark—*Jeremiah O'Brien*

## A Successful Public-Private Partnership

### *Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of D-Day*

**Kevin J. Foster**

A crew of veteran seamen, all National Park Service volunteers, sailed the 441-foot-long, National Historic Landmark World War II liberty ship *Jeremiah O'Brien* across the Atlantic to the shores of Normandy. *O'Brien* is the only U.S. ship that took part in the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944, to make the trip back to the invasion beaches for the commemorative activities held June 5–7 this year. Two other veteran merchant ships, the victory ship *Lane Victory* from Los Angeles and the liberty ship *John Brown* from Baltimore prepared for the voyage but were unable to make the journey across the Atlantic.


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**Historical Research in the National Park Service**

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**Cover photos: *Jeremiah O'Brien* on the San Francisco Bay. Photo by John W. Borden. Inset: Volunteers performing restoration work. National Park Service photo by Richard Frear.**

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# *Jeremiah O'Brien*

*(continued from page 1)*

The survival of *Jeremiah O'Brien* is a remarkable achievement by a partnership of government agencies and a dedicated group of Volunteers-In-Parks. The ship was built in 1943, one of more than 2,700 liberty ships of the same design, and made nine voyages carrying troops and war material to Europe and 11 round trips between the Normandy beachhead and the United Kingdom. Moth-balled in February 1946, *O'Brien* was preserved in the Suisun Bay National Defense Reserve Fleet near Benicia, CA.

Following *O'Brien*'s listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, a group of veteran liberty ship sailors formed the National Liberty Ship Memorial, Inc., and began efforts to save what was by then the last surviving unmodified liberty ship. In 1980, *Jeremiah O'Brien* traveled to Pier 3, at Fort Mason, San Francisco, her home berth as an operational memorial.

The ship is operated as a partnership between two federal agencies and the Memorial. *O'Brien* is owned by the Maritime Administration and is on long-term charter to the National Park Service. NPS in turn has formed a cooperative agreement with the Memorial which allows occasional steaming within San Francisco Bay and provides other services to protect and interpret the ship. The Memorial provides the bulk of the work involved in administration, restoration, preservation, and presentation of this historic ship to the public.

*O'Brien* is preserved as a merchant marine memorial and operated as a museum ship. She has proved to be in the best shape of the surviving World War II emergency fleet, partly because of the unique public-private partnership that maintains and displays her. On January 14, 1986, Secretary of the Interior Donald P. Hodel recognized the careful restoration work and thousands of hours of volunteer labor when he proclaimed *O'Brien* a National Historic Landmark.

**National Park Service Liberty Ship Goes to Drydock at San Francisco**

The last American Liberty Ship from World War II, the *SS Jeremiah O'Brien*, in drydock for restoration and painting before being placed on public display at Fort Mason in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The ship is a monument to the two million men and women who built and sailed 2,751 of them during the dark days of World War II when they supplied an embattled free world. The 441-foot freighter is part of the historic fleet of the National Maritime Museum of the National Park Service. Photo by Richard Frear.

In 1992, when *O'Brien* needed hull maintenance and work on the propeller shaft, San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park provided $400,000 from their meager museum fleet budget to complete the work. Congress has also made several special appropriations for *O'Brien* in the last five years.

A cherished dream of many people involved in the preservation of *Jeremiah O'Brien* and the two other extant World War II cargo ships, was to make a commemorative voyage to Europe for the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings. Last year Congress funded part of the preparation for the commemorative voyage by transferring two old ships for scrapping to each of the three historic ship preservation organizations hoping to send their ships to Normandy. The proceeds from the scrapped ships paid for the repairs needed to make the trip.

*(Foster—continued on page 4)*

***Jeremiah O'Brien* at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service. Photo by Richard Frear.**

*(**Foster**—continued from page 3)*

The Maritime Administration and the National Park Service worked together to help make the voyage possible. The charter was modified to transfer responsibility for a safe voyage back to the Maritime Administration, while maintaining the Park Service workman's compensation protections for the Volunteers-In-Parks crew. The Liberty Ship Memorial and several other groups provided funding for the voyage, a certified crew, fuel, port and dock charges and other needs to allow the voyage to be made at no cost to the government.

**The *O'Brien* at her home berth, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA (1984). Photo by Joanie Morgan.**

**Inset photo by Richard Frear.**

On June 6, the ship and her sailors were once again where they were 50 years earlier. During the Allied invasion which freed Europe from Nazi tyranny, *O'Brien* carried 11 ship loads of military goods across the English Channel. Then, as now, *Jeremiah O'Brien* was a survivor despite heavy odds.

*Jeremiah O'Brien* participated in the colossal international memorial commemoration held on June 6, with representatives of most of the Allied nations participating. The veteran liberty ship joined ships of the other Allied nations in a naval review at Southampton, England before leaving on June 5 for the Normandy beachhead. On June 6, the fleet took part in commemorations at Pointe du Hoc and Omaha Beach and on June 7, *O'Brien* demonstrated ship to shore transfer of a vintage cargo using landing craft and amphibious trucks (called DUKWs).

The National Park Service sent two representatives to participate in portions of the voyage. Maritime Historian Kevin Foster represented the Service on board *O'Brien* for the D-Day commemorative activities. San Francisco Maritime NHP Interpretive Ranger Julie Arlinghaus arrived later to provide historical and French language interpretation during ship visits to Cherbourg, Rouen, and Le Havre, France.

The participation of this historic ship and her veteran crew is among the most remarkable events of this tremendous commemoration, but it will not be the only one. Tens of thousands of veterans visited France during the month, including one group of paratroops who recreated the historic parachute landing that they made 50 years ago. The heads of state of at least eight of the World War II Allied nations, including President Bill Clinton, participated in the commemorative activities aboard the warships of as many nations. Pride of place went to *O'Brien* as the only merchant ship amidst this mighty naval armada.

The National Liberty Ship Memorial plans to return the ship to the United States this winter. The National Park Service is proud to have helped to support the volunteers of *Jeremiah O'Brien* in preserving this remarkable ship and making this historic voyage.

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Kevin J. Foster is Maritime Historian of the National Park Service.

**For additional reading on the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of WWII, see *CRM*, Vol. 14, No. 8 and Vol. 15, No. 8**

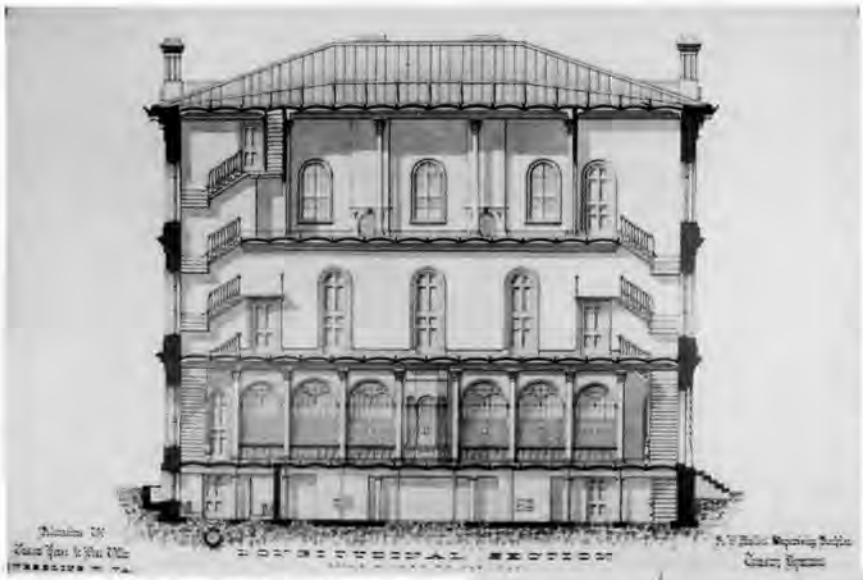
# The Old Wheeling Custom House

## Modern Structural Analysis Meets Historic Needs

**Ed Winant**

The United States Custom House in Wheeling holds a unique place in West Virginia history. It hosted the convention that led to West Virginia's statehood in 1863, earning it the name West Virginia Independence Hall. The building also possesses national significance as one of a series of 10 custom houses designed for the Department of the Treasury by architect Ammi B. Young. Constructed in 1859, it remains important in engineering history as well; as one of the earliest examples of a cast and wrought iron skeletal framed building in the United States, it can be viewed as the architectural ancestor of the American skyscraper.

West Virginia Independence Hall currently houses a state museum. Its history has been well documented and the structure itself has been extensively restored in the past 25 years. But until now, little work has been done to document the early skeletal frame system and evaluate its current loading capacity. West Virginia University's Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology (see sidebar) embarked on such a documentation and evaluation project to aid the museum in its plan to remodel the building to add theater seating, offices, and exhibit space.



**Architectural drawing of the Custom House delineated in 1867 when the building was being renovated. Courtesy the Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology. Right: the Custom House today. Photo by John Nicely, courtesy the Institute.**

The building provides an excellent example of a typical early- 19th-century building design, and our interest extended to studying and documenting it as a structural system. The scope of this project dovetailed neatly with the Institute's multidisciplinary approach. The team assigned to the project included engineers, architects, and delineators who performed structural calculations and produced plans. Rounding out the team were historians and an archival photographer who researched and documented the early cast iron framing system.

Many historic structures that remain in use are viewed as structurally sound by virtue of their continued existence and apparent good condition. However, this can be an erroneous assumption, especially when the materials involved are as unpredictable as early structural cast iron. We therefore wished to provide the museum staff with a modern analysis of the structure and ratings for allowable floor loads, so they could safely plan space assignments.

The team combined traditional historical research and modern "high-tech" instruments to form a detailed analysis, description, and history of the building. The historical component traced 19th-century trends in engineering design and the strength of materials. The modern analysis used ultrasonic testing and computer analysis to model the building as a structural system. However, two factors contributed to the difficulty in structural analysis: the skeletal system is an odd structural combination of iron work framing, masonry load-bearing walls, and interior brick barrel vaults; and the material properties of both the iron and masonry are highly variable and not well known.

The skeletal system derived from the design goal of fireproofing, a great concern for the federal government in the mid-19th century. After the disastrous Patent Office fire in 1834, Congress mandated that the Department of the Treasury and other federal agencies consider new construction techniques to fireproof new buildings. Thus, iron beams were used in the Custom House instead of timber framing, while brick vaults provided support for the flooring system and served to contain any potential fire to a single floor. Thick masonry walls completed the structure, and iron shuttered windows and doors were installed to prevent flying cinders from entering the building. Indeed, the only timber material used in construction was the wooden floor

*(**Winant**—continued on page 6)*

(*Winant—continued from page 5*)

supported by the brick. Although considered fireproof at the time, these features proved ineffective when a similarly constructed custom house in Chicago burned down in the great fire of 1871.

The framework of the Wheeling Custom House consists of a combination of rolled wrought iron beams and girders supported by cast iron columns. Box girders run north-south, supported by the columns, and east-west I-beams rest on the girders. The ends of the girders and beams are set into the exterior load-bearing walls. Columns and additional decorative casting were produced in Wheeling, while the wrought iron sections were brought in from Trenton, NJ.

Rolling wrought iron was a new technology for the time, and while the box girders, composed of two plates and two U-channels riveted together, were easy to roll, the I-beams were more difficult. Forging and rolling caused variances in the material properties of the wrought iron. Foundry problems in rolling the I-sections resulted in wrought iron specimens of variable quality, most of it very poor.

Of critical importance to the project's finite element analysis were detailed engineering drawings of the building showing the location of the structural members. Architectural plans of the Custom House, both original drawings and renovation plans, stylized the placement of the I-beams and, therefore, were not usable for creating a computer model, which requires precise measurements. In addition, the two sets of plans differed as to the placement of some I-beams.

A computer model is only as accurate as the input data, so it was necessary to produce new engineering plans of the Custom House, consisting of a front elevation, a side elevation, and floor plans for the three stories. A field team traveled to Wheeling to acquire the needed measurements. The highly detailed drawings emphasize the placement of the structural system.

The results of traditional, historical, and documentary research were combined with information gathered by two modern methods: non-destructive testing and CAD photogrammetry. Non-destructive tests, using ultrasound, were critical in determining the properties of the wrought iron. With the assistance of the WVU Department of Civil Engineering, we performed several field and laboratory tests to determine the properties of the structural iron work.

An ultrasonic "black box," being developed by WVU's Civil Engineering Department, is a bulky contraption containing a pulse generator and signal receiver. A pulse of ultrasound is sent between two sensors held on the beam in question, and the wave velocity is then measured, allowing material properties to be calculated. The material properties for iron are highly variable, so actual readings are important in order to prepare accurate computer models of the building. An oscilloscope was used to display the readings, but plans are underway to miniaturize the entire testing apparatus into one hand-held instrument. To calibrate the results of the ultrasonics, we also did destructive tests on sections of beams removed during the renovation in the 1960s.

In some cases, we blended traditional and modern techniques to solve specific problems. One difficulty in obtaining data for producing the plans was to locate the I-beams on the second and third floors. The basement has a drop ceiling, which allowed us to place each beam from the first floor with a measurement to the bottom flange. We were not so lucky with the other two floors, both of which are encased in a more permanent plastering. In keeping with the non-destructive nature of our project we decided to locate the iron beams with a metal detector. This worked quite well; tests on the first floor for calibration showed that we could locate the iron beams and differentiate from other metal conduits in the floor. We then carried the tests to the remaining floors, marking the beam locations with masking tape and measuring them in relation to the outside walls with a tape measure.

After completing the structural work, we decided to undertake a HABS-level documentation of the Custom House exterior. This phase of the project, which is now underway, grew out of the desire to expand existing engineering drawings with additional measurements, thus making use of the field work we had already accomplished. We contracted with the National Park Service HABS/HAER office to document the outside facades of the Custom House, using its new CAD photogrammetry system. This effort represents one in a series of cooperative projects which the Institute and HABS/HAER have entered into over the past four years.

The study of the Wheeling Custom House has required several innovative techniques in cultural resource management. The structural analysis in turn has already proven quite helpful in plotting the modern uses of the building. For example, the theater section originally planned for the second floor has been relegated to the basement due to the discovery of structural limitations of the floor systems. The project's current phase gives the hope of finding additional capacity that may allow for more expanded use. We also plan to address the structural safety of a large iron safe on the second floor, which dates from the building's custom house days.

The Custom House structural analysis has provided important information about the geometric parameters of the beams and vaults. The current phase is intended to complement the initial structural work by using the additional material properties gained from the ultrasonic tests, more detailed computer analysis, and a different way to look at how the system behaves.

Mastering these new techniques will be invaluable in handling the structural analysis of any historical building or structure. As the Institute takes on other such projects, it develops a more quantitative knowledge of the material properties of cast and wrought iron, as well as other obsolete building materials. Since these materials fell out of common use before modern materials science flourished around the turn of the century, this is an unexplored field of research. The techniques perfected on the Wheeling Custom House can be used on all types of iron construction, and the ultrasonic testing can be helpful with the analysis of other materials, such as timber. The Custom House project is but one example of the valuable information that a multidisciplinary study can yield.

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Ed Winant is an engineer with the Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

## The Institute

No event had a greater impact on the lives of ordinary Americans than the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century. Today, the physical traces of this Revolution mark the American landscape in cities, towns, and rural areas across the country. From grist mills to coal mines, covered bridges to railroad depots, iron furnaces to factories, industrial structures constitute a vast cultural resource. They provide a vital link with our industrial past while often continuing to perform a useful role in the economy.

It is the mission of **West Virginia University's Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology** to study, preserve, and interpret these icons of our industrial heritage. Founded in 1989, the Institute functions as an academic institution and also provides consulting services in historical documentation and preservation to public and private agencies. Clients have included the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Allegany County (Maryland) Department of Public Works, and R. Goodwyn & Associates. An ongoing relationship with the National Park Service involves the Institute in a variety of HABS/HAER recording and documentation projects.

The Institute takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study and preservation of industrial artifacts and structures. The staff of structural engineers, historians, delineators, landscape specialists, architects, and multi-media experts work together on projects such as the Wheeling Custom House Structural Analysis, described here. Institute projects have included National Register nominations, mitigation studies, preservation plans, academic studies, HABS/HAER reports, and full-scale restoration projects. Industrial archeology is an important focus; Institute teams work to locate, record, and interpret industrial ruins such as abandoned iron furnaces, coal mines, and mills.

Integral to the Institute's mission is to broaden the understanding of American history by studying and interpreting artifacts in their industrial context. For example, covered bridges, far from being quaint relics of a simpler, agriculturally-based era, represent a transitional period when transportation networks expanded to link the emerging markets of a growing national economy. The Institute's West Virginia Covered Bridges Restoration Plan, created for the West Virginia Department of Highways, keeps this context in mind. The Institute also carried out the restoration of West Virginia's historic Phillippi covered bridge, and produced a video documentary on West Virginia covered bridges for West Virginia public television.

**Field School students learn techniques in historical research, measured drawings, large format photography, and surveying. Photo by Lee R. Maddex for the Institute.**

With its biannual Summer Industrial Archaeology Field School, the Institute is training the next generation of industrial archeologists. Students in this intensive, graduate-level six-week course learn techniques in historical research, measured drawings, large format photography, and surveying. This summer the Field School will be held from July 5 to August 12 in the Morgantown, West Virginia area.

Institute publications include a semi-annual newsletter, technical reports, guidebooks, and monographs. Recent technical reports include "Makin' Hole, Pumpin' Oil," an oral history of the early oil and gas industry, and "Northern West Virginia Coal Fields: A Historical Context." Upcoming publications include the monograph "Cement Mills Along the Potomac River" and "Industrial Fairmont (West Virginia): A Historical Guidebook."

To learn more about the Institute, or to receive any of its publications, call the Institute's Communications Department at 304-293-3615.

—Deborah R. Weiner
Institute for the History of Technology
and Industrial Archaeology

# Preservation Partners Working Together for a New Library

**Sandy Moore**

In many rural areas of the United States, libraries are a major part of the community. In Winnsboro, LA, the library has become a major factor, not only in the rural areas, but in the historic downtown district as well. The Franklin Parish Library had been housed in a 5,000-square-foot building for years with no space left for expansion and hardly any parking.

In 1988, Winnsboro became one of only seven Main Street towns in Louisiana. These towns received grant funds from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The local city governments matched these grants and set up the Main Street programs to help revitalize their decaying downtown areas. As with all Main Street communities, a Historic District Commission was formed, meetings began, and ideas were tossed around as to what could be done to bring life back to the old downtown district. In one of these meetings the possibility of a library downtown was mentioned but never fully pursued.

Meanwhile, the Franklin Parish Library Board decided that the library had to have more space and more parking. They focused on the idea of purchasing land on the edge of town and building a new library, doubling the size of their existing facility. Knowing the importance of enlarging the library, parish residents passed a tax millage for the expansion.

The downtown district was really beginning to take on a new look with numerous facade renovations, and new businesses occupying many of the long vacant buildings. In 1991, after talking with Winnsboro Mayor Billy Cobb and Barbara Bacot of the Historic Preservation Office in Baton Rouge, Jack Hammons, who serves on the commission, and I approached the Historic District Commission about putting the library in a vacant building downtown. One of these buildings was the Walters Building, a two-story, former department store, c. 1915, featuring a brick cornice and architrave. The solid masonry building consisted of a first level, second level, and mezzanine for a total of 15,432 square feet. The interior had concrete flooring and plaster walls.

Our first step was to commission architect and professor Lestar Martin of Louisiana Tech University to do a feasibility study and a preliminary layout as a basis for further planning. We paid for these services from consultant fees in our Main Street budget. Louisiana Power and Light came to our assistance by conducting an energy survey on the building.

Every aspect of the project seemed feasible, but the question arose as to whether there would be enough money with the millage to purchase the building and complete this major renovation project. Fortunately, Mayor Cobb was sitting in on the commission meeting and suggested that maybe the Town of Winnsboro could purchase the building and lease it to the library for a nominal fee. It was put on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting and passed by unanimous support by the council members.

With all this information and the sketches in hand, the Main Street Board presented the Franklin Parish Police Jury and the library board with "an offer they couldn't refuse," or so we hoped. Their response was so enthusiastic that they applied for over $200,000 in grant funds to enable them to renovate both floors of the building and almost triple the size of the old library. Joe Landrum, public library consultant with the State

The future Franklin Parish Public Library as it looked in the 1930s. Photo courtesy Winnsboro Main Street program.

The Walters Building before rehabilitation. Photo courtesy Winnsboro Main Street program.

Library, acted as a liaison for Tom Jaques, State Librarian, and worked closely with Mrs. Betty B. Jackson, then head Winnsboro librarian, in applying for the grant funding. Funds from The Library Services and Construction Act, Title 2, were awarded to the parish and matched by the monies raised by the millage. The project was underway.

Architect William Mattison, AIA, of Monroe, LA, was hired by the library board to design the "new" Franklin Parish Library. He worked closely with the Winnsboro Historic District Commission and Historic Preservation staff member in Baton Rouge, Barbara Bacot, to satisfy not only all the needs of the library, but also the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Rehabilitation. The construction contract was awarded to Joe Bailey Construction of Monroe, and construction began in July of 1993.

According to now head librarian Paul Ardoin, the construction in the building provided a few surprises. "After demolition began, we found that the two-story building would need additional steel to support the weight of the second floor book collection. Termites were also found in between the two floors. While most wood was still in good shape, additional steel was placed to support not only the second floor, but also the inside brick archways.

"While new libraries face the task of designing buildings which follow the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act, building 'new' libraries in 'old' buildings takes special care. We were lucky to have what amounted to a rectangle downstairs which made it open and easy to build. We did have the task of working with 21 supporting poles. All poles blend into the natural beauty, with the exception of one. One pole ended up right in the center of our upstairs program room. We just try not to put any chairs behind the pole.

"We wanted to keep the look of the Walters building, while still making it easy to find the elevator and the interior stairway. I think that has been done. Brick and mortar were left on the walls. I am proud that inside we have no painted brick. Sheetrock has been used to create work areas, stairwells, offices, the kitchen, and the program room upstairs. The sheetrock has been painted with a texture and color that blends with the mortar. Colors for the tile and carpet inside were an easy selection. We had brick inside and wood book shelving soon to be moved in, which made the selection of light grey and dark grey very simple."

Architect Bill Mattison said, "If I ever do another historic building, I'm not going to assume that there are any parallel or perpendicular lines. The walls and ceilings in the Walters building rarely were uniform when lining up for fixtures or tile."

The construction on the building was completed in February of this year and the library has moved in. What effect has this project had on the town and its residents? Town Councilman and Merchant Association President Jack Hammons states, "First, I'm just excited about saving such a wonderful old building. It makes you happy that this building is now Franklin Parish Library because it means families (children) are once again part of the downtown scene. Happy children, eager to learn, seem to erase the memory of past frustrations and hard work."

Mayor Billy Cobb, so instrumental in making this idea a reality sums it up so well: "Of all the building renovations and restorations in our Main Street Program, located in the Historic Preservation District of our community, the conversion of the Walters building has had the most significant impact in our downtown efforts. This has been achieved through joint efforts of local, state, federal, and public funds. The Town of Winnsboro is very proud and pleased to have been a part of the success of the new Franklin Parish Library facilities. It truly represents the cornerstone and rebirth of our downtown district."

This once vacant, oversized building that only echoed the sounds of the wind through broken windows is now filled with knowledge, the soft sounds of children's activities, and the rustle of pages turning. What wonders we can achieve when partners work together.

---

Sandy Moore is the Main Street Manager, Town of Winnsboro, LA.

**The new Franklin Parish Public Library which opened in March 1994. Photo courtesy Winnsboro Main Street program.**

# Preserving Our Nuclear History

## A "Hot" Topic

**Frederic J. Athearn**

As the Cold War winds to an end, the nuclear industry has retracted on all fronts. Not only have the bomb plants shut down, but so too have the many thousands of uranium mines in the western United States.

The nuclear industry dates back to at least 1896 when it was discovered that a strange ore called "carnotite" was radioactive. With Marie Curie's discovery of the source of radiation, a new industry was born. The demand for radium soared. Prices approached $175,000 per ounce of the material. It was used for both scientific and medical purposes. Some believed that radium could cure any disease—from cancer to warts.

Most of the world's radium came from western Colorado at that time. Areas like Slick Rock, Paradox Valley, and Long Park had mines and, later, mills to refine the carnotite. The Joe Jr. Mill, built along the San Miguel River, at modern-day Uravan, was one of the largest radium producers. Mining camps dotted the rugged mesas of Colorado. Places like Calamity Camp, Monogram Mesa, Slick Rock, Outlaw Mesa, and numerous others housed hundreds of miners.

In the 1920s, rich deposits of pitchblende were discovered in the Belgian Congo. Radium prices dropped and carnotite mining in western Colorado slowed to a stop. The industry, however, survived by extracting vanadium from carnotite. This material is used to harden steel. In the mid-1930s, there was a revival of vanadium production. The Joe Jr. mill was refurbished and the company town of Uravan arose. Vanadium Corporation of America (VCA) built a mill near Naturita, CO, while Gateway Alloys constructed a facility at Gateway, CO.

World War II provided great demand for vanadium. As the mines and mills of western Colorado poured out this alloy, the U.S. Army sent secret teams into the region to study the waste piles for their uranium potential. The Manhattan Project, as atomic bomb development was dubbed, found that the waste piles could be reprocessed for uranium. That was vital to the bomb effort.

In 1943 plants were built at Durango, and Uravan, CO, to reprocess tailings. The "yellowcake" that came from the mills eventually went to Oak Ridge, TN. After enrichment, the uranium was sent to Los Alamos, NM, and used for the first atomic bombs. The two bombs dropped on Japan contained Colorado uranium, thus making western Colorado's contribution to the dawning of the nuclear age quite significant.

After World War II ended, the Cold War began. The federal government guaranteed to buy all the uranium output in the nation—purchases that were considered vital for national security. The newly created Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) oversaw ore buying. Output on the Colorado Plateau boomed. Existing mines operated at full capacity as did the mills. Large operators like Climax Uranium Company, Union Carbide, and VCA signed contracts with the government to produce millions of pounds of yellowcake.

With stable prices and large bonuses, the last great mining boom of the 20th century began. Thousands of would-be miners rushed into western Colorado and eastern Utah armed with geiger counters, tents and jeeps. Hoping to strike it rich like prospector Charlie Steen had in Utah, they combed the Colorado Plateau looking for outcrops of carnotite.

The cookhouse/dining area of the Calamity Camp represents continual use from 1916 into the 1950s. This site is being stabilized and interpreted. BLM archival photo by the author (1993).

Hyped by the national media, uranium miners poured into an area that was totally unprepared for them. This was a very isolated land with few roads, and no amenities. Miners lived in camps, or at isolated mines. There were no schools, no stores, no post offices, no gasoline stations, no water, no sewers, no telephones, no electricity; in fact, no signs of civilization.

Prospectors and their families lived in tar paper shacks, trailers, tents, log cabins, and even caves. This was in the early 1950s! Conditions must have been like the great Klondike rush or perhaps the mining rushes of the 1870s, except this time the miners had cars.

The "boom" lasted until 1958 when the AEC stopped buying uranium. Mining and milling did continue, and production and prices both increased well into the 1980s. Commercial reactors used large quantities of uranium. Most of the market was oriented to these users. However, foreign supplies (such as Canada) and the lack of new

nuclear facilities contributed to the demise of the uranium industry in western Colorado. The big mill at Uravan shut down in 1985, and the mines were closed by 1990.

What is left behind now is the remains of a 100-year-old industry. There are mines, equipment, adits, waste piles, mills, and campsites all over the Colorado Plateau. These are the remains of the three phases of carnotite mining: radium, vanadium and uranium.

The problem lies in the fact that most, if not all, of these sites are being "remediated." That is, they are being removed and the area cleaned up. There are several reasons for this. In some cases the mining companies are under court order to reduce or eliminate radioactive pollution. The mill at Uravan, for example, will be totally torn down, chopped into small pieces, and buried under 40′ of dirt and 10′ of rock. The burial pit is designed for a 1,000-year life and has a sophisticated drainage system that prevents run-off into streams and rivers. The company also has a large bond they would like to recover. Fortunately, the original 1916 wooden boardinghouse is not contaminated and will be saved. The local historical society proposes to make a museum from this historic structure.

**This historic uranium mill at Uravan, CO, will be demolished because of contamination. BLM archival photo by the author.**

Another reason for demolition is bonding. Most mining companies were required to post bonds prior to, and during, their operations. The purpose was to assure that clean-up would occur upon abandonment. Naturally, the companies want to get their bond money back. To do so, they will clean up a site to federal government specifications. In the case of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, the BLM provides the requirements. In the case of AEC lands, the Department of Energy dictates the standards. The problem is that the agencies want the sites cleaned up and the companies want their money back.

In 1987 an old radium camp called Calamity Camp was "rediscovered" by the Grand Junction, CO, BLM Resource Area archeologist. Dating from 1916, it is one of the oldest such sites in the region. It was recorded, mapped, and archivally photographed in 1988. From that project, it was realized that there were hundreds of sites in the region that were about to be destroyed by removal.

That precipitated a recordation project lasting to the present. The BLM Districts in Grand Junction and Montrose, CO, are undertaking a systematic survey of uranium mining areas. As part of this process, archival (medium format) photographs were made of these sites. Everything from the huge Uravan Mill to small mines in Mesa County were photographed. Colorado State site forms are filled out, and maps/drawings are completed. As remediation has speeded up, so too has the recordation effort.

BLM has recorded sites ranging from the 1916 radium camp to 1970s uranium mines complete with Butler buildings. A number of these sites were determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Hundreds of photographs have been shot. The Uravan Mill (private land), alone, took 33 rolls of film. All the photos are finished to archival standards and are kept in archival holders. BLM is notified by a mining company prior to demolition so we can get out to a site and record it prior to remediation.

One of the most tangible results of this project was the creation of a traveling photo exhibit featuring 30 contemporary photographs describing the history of the carnotite industry in western Colorado. Opened in November 1993, the exhibit has been on the road across the nation and is booked well into 1995. The exhibit is available, free, to museums, schools, libraries, etc., through the BLM Colorado State Office.

We have found that recordation through photography and mapping is the most cost-effective method of site preservation. Historic uranium sites pose a unique challenge. They are not only radioactive, but they also constitute a health and safety hazard. In most cases, they cannot be easily decontaminated. Smaller pieces of equipment might be cleaned up for display, but most of the buildings, adits, and associated mining equipment must be buried for safety reasons.

This technique can also be used to record for the archives nuclear sites such as reactors, manufacturing plants (such as Hanford, Washington, or Rocky Flats, CO), and other radioactive places that must be demolished for safety and health reasons. We hope that BLM's efforts at uranium mining site recordation will serve as an example for other agencies (i.e., Department of Energy and U.S. Army) to create cost-effective programs that will at least create a record of our nuclear history.

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Dr. Frederic J. Athearn is the State Historian and the Cultural Heritage Program Manager for Colorado. He is the author of five books and numerous articles on regional history, and created the traveling exhibit mentioned above. For more information, you may call Dr. Athearn at 303-239-3735.

# National Park Service Theme Study in American Labor History

**Robin F. Bachin**
**James R. Grossman**

In cooperation with the National Park Service, the Newberry Library is undertaking a theme study in American labor history. The purpose of this study is to generate National Historic Landmark nominations for sites significant to labor history in the United States. The result of the study will be the nomination of 20 sites for possible designation as National Historic Landmarks by the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior. Through this study we hope to provide a forum for educating the public about the significance of labor in shaping American history.

The preservation and interpretation of historic sites provides many Americans with their most tangible—and accessible—encounter with history education. Unlike books and classrooms, sites (and museums) constitute a context in which families learn history together, in which parents interpret the past to their children, who in turn frame questions in terms of the material readily at hand at the site. Indeed, for many people it is the fact of an artifact's display or a site's preservation that constitutes a given topic as history. Thus at the most basic level, a program to identify labor history sites is essential to increasing public awareness that labor is central to our national history. The very preservation of a mine, kitchen, slave cabin, or factory because of its association with working people sends a message. Even more explicit is the legitimation implied by the preservation and recognition of a union hall, a tavern, or a church in which a group of workers first met to organize, or the site of a strike.

Until a generation ago, American labor history as a field was closely tied to the discipline of economics, oriented toward labor markets, unions, collective bargaining, labor legislation, and other institutional factors. Yet at no time in our history has a majority of the work force been organized. Labor historians began paying increased attention to unorganized workers in the 1960s; at the same time they began to search for the voices of workers to complement the more accessible perspectives of leaders and institutions. A simultaneous increase in interest in general among historians in women, African Americans, and voluntary immigrants from around the globe had especially profound implications for labor history because of their disproportionate representation in the working class.

To learn more about people once considered historically "inarticulate" (if not insignificant), labor historians began shifting their focus from the union hall to the workplace, the community, and subsequently the home. We broadened our definition of what constituted work, learned how to conceptualize the relationship between work process and culture, and became more aware of the centrality of the family economy to working-class life. Most recently, labor historians have developed increasingly sophisticated conceptual tools for integrating race and gender into our understanding of the nature of working-class life. Recent research also has returned to a focus on institutional development, with historians feeding the insights of "the new social history" into a better understanding and broader awareness of organization and its dynamics.

The challenge of this project is to synthesize this extraordinary wealth of scholarship in such a way as to structure a comprehensive compilation and evaluation of sites. This challenge includes as well the complementary process of matching the historical insight provided by this new scholarship with recent developments in materi-

**Union Miners Cemetery: "Mother" Jones Monument, Mt. Olive, IL. Photo by Earl Buskohl, 1968, courtesy the National Register of Historic Places, NPS.**

al culture studies, architectural history, and public history. Our guiding principle in this regard will emphasize the role of landmarks in history education: How do sites help visitors and local residents to better appreciate and understand the role of labor in American history, or the historical experience of work and workers?

We are contacting state historical societies, labor organizations, state preservation officers, and labor scholars in order to solicit suggestions for potential sites. We would like your help in identifying these sites so that we may create as broad a base as possible in the initial stages of the project.

All sites that reach the final nomination stage must meet the National Park Service criteria for National Historic Landmarks, and also demonstrate national labor history significance. The NPS criteria state that the site must be associated with events or individuals that made contributions to American history that are of exceptional national value. In addition, the site or structure must be representative of the location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship at the time of historical significance. Sites which have been significantly altered, moved, or inadequately maintained are not eligible for national landmark status.

In order to determine national labor history significance, we are looking for sites that fit the following categories:

1. Work processes—sites which illustrate the changing nature of the work process, such as the rise of assembly-line production, the mechanization of agriculture, and changes in household labor.
2. Events—sites associated with nationally significant events in labor history, such as strikes or lockouts.
3. People—sites affiliated with significant individuals in labor history, such as labor leaders.
4. Leisure establishments—sites which played a central role in the recreational and leisure activities of workers, such as amusement parks or theaters.
5. Labor education—sites associated with working-class education.
6. Workers' communities.
7. Labor organizing—sites associated with union organizing and political activities, such as meeting places and union halls.

We invite suggestions of sites that fit within each of these categories. Suggestions should include information that we could use in the evaluation process, including a brief description of the site and bibliographic references. We will use this information as we consider each site for National Landmark designation.

For further information, contact Robin F. Bachin and James Grossman, Family and Community History Center, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610; 312-943-9090.

*Reprinted from* Perspectives *(May/June 1994), the newsletter of the American Historical Association.*

**Partnerships and the Labor National Historic Landmark Theme Study**

The *Labor History National Historic Landmark Theme Study* represents a new approach by the National Park Service to sustain high quality research while maintaining close adherence to national standards and guidelines through a partnership with the Newberry Library. This approach will enable the NPS to produce a theme study that will illustrate the latest scholarship in the field of labor history studies with a minimum of cost and oversight.

Through the implementation of this study, the NPS affirms its commitment to creating viable partnerships with workers, labor unions, leaders from state and local communities, and preservation and academic history organizations. Working with our partners we intend to develop strategies to assist communities with the preservation and interpretation of their locally-based but nationally-significant labor history sites and resources. The challenges are great, but rewards resulting from the recognition of the labor history heritage sites in the United States are worth the effort.

The accompanying article by Dr. Grossman and Ms. Bachin, reprinted from *Perspectives*, the newsletter of the American Historical Association, illustrates our comprehensive attempt to tell the story of the history of the American worker in its full diversity.

In recent years with new scholarship, historians have come to understand that while entrepreneurs and industrialists provided the ideas and capital that fueled the American Industrial Revolution, it was American workers of different races, nationalities, and religions coming together who created the modern industrial state. We intend to tell this story and to work with our partners to see that the significant sites associated with America's labor history are preserved and interpreted for the education and enjoyment of the American people.

Dr. Harry A. Butowsky of the History Division of the Washington Office of the National Park Service and Dr. Martin Blatt from Lowell National Historical Park, will monitor the implementation of the Labor Theme Study cooperative agreement. Any general questions concerning the Labor Theme Study should be addressed to Dr. Butowsky, National Park Service, History Division (418), P.O. Box 37127-Suite 310, Washington, DC 20013-7127; phone: 202-343-8155. Any specific questions concerning applicable sites for study within the context of the study or specific essays to be completed as part of the study should be addressed to the Newberry Library in Chicago.

—Harry A. Butowsky

# Architectural Salvage: Historical Tradition or Chronological Confusion?

**Carol Rosier**

*The subject of Architectural Study Collections was introduced in a thematic issue of* CRM *in 1993 (Vol. 16, No. 8). In the following article, which draws on her dissertation, Carol Rosier suggests considerations to be taken into account when historic building materials are reused in both old and new structures. While such reuse is outside the bounds of an architectural study collection, it raises some interesting intellectual and ethical questions and offers information on the salvage industry in Great Britain today.*

Whilst the salvaging of materials is a phenomenon almost as ancient as the tradition of building itself, architectural salvage as a commercial concern is a more recent development. In Britain there has been a well-established trade in architectural antiques and second-hand building materials since at least the 18th century. The last 20 years, however, have witnessed a massive expansion in both the number of outlets and the variety of items available. From a mere handful of dealers in the mid-1970s, Britain alone now has over 1,000 outlets offering items as diverse as genuine Tudor paneling, historic bricks and terracotta through to 1950s bathroom fittings. Salvage is big business: the combined turnover of the dealers is in the region of £75 million (in excess of $100 million) a year. With over 400,000 buildings currently recognised as being of special architectural or historical interest, the difficulty of matching new material to old is a frequent problem in restoration and repair work; the reuse of features and materials salvaged from buildings, which for one reason or another cannot themselves be saved, may offer a valuable alternative to the introduction of wholly new work.

Masonry from the 12th and 13th centuries, retrieved from Stanway Church, Gloucestershire, England, during restoration in 1896, and "preserved" in the north wall of the graveyard. Photo by the author.

Salvaged features and materials are indeed widely used for this purpose, both by historic architects and other preservation professionals in the U.K. as well as a growing number of homeowners concerned to restore period fittings and detailing to their properties. Without doubt the existence of the market serves two important purposes—it provides an incentive for items to be saved and reused and it offers the sympathetic restorer the opportunity to acquire an appropriate replacement for a feature which may have been removed or destroyed. Gone are the days when historic features and materials from buildings about to be demolished were likely to be laid to rest amongst the rubble. However, the commercialisation of the trade in items not originally intended as portable antiques but as integral elements of the building with which they were originally associated does raise questions concerning the implications of their relocation. By no means all salvaged items find a "second life" fulfilling the purpose for which they were intended.

Some concern centres on the potential for pieces sold commercially to be reused in inappropriate contexts. Church fittings are one such example; pulpits in particular are much in demand by disc jockeys for night clubs. In one case, fittings from a number of churches and chapels of different denominations were combined to create an ecumenical flavour to a hotel in Ireland. It could be questioned whether the reuse of such features in a secular context completely at odds with their original connotations is entirely sensitive.

In other instances chronological considerations may take second place in the quest for ambience. The designers of shopping arcades, theme parks, and heritage style developments often look to salvaged items to endow a historic flavour to what are otherwise new-build schemes. Particularly popular for the refurbishment of pubs, wine bars, and restaurants are schemes which use reclaimed architectural features combining them with replica items in an often extremely convincing manner. American diner fittings, for example, are much sought after in Britain where they might be combined with pieces of many different periods and from both secular and

ecclesiastical sources, the finishing touches being provided by reproduction fittings. While creating the desired aesthetic identity, often to suit a transient corporate image, it is a moot point whether such a "mix and match" approach may be misleading not only to future generations but to our own. Rather, in employing genuine items in the cause of "repro-nostalgia," we may be edging ever closer to the realm of "designer-history."

Although many would argue that even with the passage of time such schemes will be easily recognisable as reflecting a particular design trend, perhaps a greater danger exists in relation to the introduction of incorrect period detail in domestic contexts. Apprehension on this account is a particular consideration in relation to properties in the classical style because of the importance of proportion. Whilst in the States the description "Georgian" is relatively specific in its use, in Britain the term is often universally applied to all properties dating from 1710 through 1840 irrespective of whether they might be, say, palladian or regency. To the layman owner this can have the effect of blurring the chronological distinctions between the stylistic phases which characterise the period, prompting the mistaken belief that any item described as "Georgian" is automatically suitable for his building. As a result, the particular intricacy or attractiveness of an ornamental moulding may take precedence over considerations of strict historical accuracy. A further complication can arise in relation to regional differences: what may be appropriate for a London or Philadelphia town house of c. 1790 may not be pertinent for a similar sized provincial house of comparable date. Thus, through the medium of salvaged features, the architectural and decorative characteristics of the larger cultural centres can begin to erode local stylistic conventions, effectively confusing regional identities.[1] With the increase in international trade of which there is much, particularly between Britain, the States, Japan and Italy, it may not only be regional but potentially national artistic identities which are being blurred. The export of an English country house, shrink-wrapped, to Tennessee or Tokyo may be apocryphal but perhaps less so than one might wish to imagine.

**Sculpture and garden statuary on display at T. Crowther & Son, Ltd., London. Photo by the author.**

A further problem exists in relation to the potential for overembellishment as the availability of features may tempt owners and developers to "restore" period detail incompatible with the original status of the property, such as the introduction of ornate chimneypieces designed for a town house into an artisan terrace. Equally erroneous are the incorporation of details originally designed for the main reception rooms into the attic and basement storeys, which were generally inhabited by the family's servants and consequently very utilitarian in their decor. This is a particular problem in relation to the subdivision of larger town houses for multiple occupation, either as apartments or offices, where there is often a demand for cornices and fittings in all rooms irrespective of historical accuracy. In many cases there is an added irony which is that, certainly in the early days of such conversions in Britain, period features were often removed in the name of modernity and present-day owners may be seeking to "restore" something grander than what was there in the first place!

It is a point for debate whether the stylistic confusion unwittingly perpetrated by today's owners will mislead subsequent generations. The more blatant cases will probably be as obvious to historians of the future as they are to us now. But in allowing historic features and materials to be used in this way, it raises the question of whether we are making the best use of what is, after all, a non-renewable resource. On the other hand, if the argument concerning the potential archeological legacy is taken to its logical conclusion, the period feature which is inserted into a property precisely of its date and done in such a manner as to make its identification as a later addition virtually impossible, may represent a greater liability. This is by no means as far fetched as it may sound. Such is the concern for attention to detail that some British preservation enthusiasts actually seek out period nails to ensure that their "restoration" is as close to the original as it can possibly be, even down to the method of fixing. To cite instances of this nature is not to condone the misuse of salvaged items but rather to emphasize the point that the more in keeping a feature appears in its secondary context, the more difficult it will be to recognise as such in the future. Recording by the owner of the details of "introductions" is therefore doubly important in such cases. A restoration log book is probably the most valuable bequest the owner of any historic property could make to his successors.

The critical issue which emerges is, therefore, one of education, particularly of owners and developers who act as the custodians of the majority of buildings desig-

*(**Rosier**—continued on page 16)*

*(**Rosier**—continued from page 15)*

nated as being of national or local interest. As regards the homeowner, in general as much seems to be due to enthusiastic ignorance as wilful misunderstanding. Salvage dealers, who in many cases represent an eager restorer's first port of call, could certainly assist in the process of enlightenment, both in terms of providing responsible advice and the more detailed labeling of items. They should be encouraged to include an indication of date and provenance, if known, to give a context for a piece, for example, in addition to pricing information; this would have the added benefit of assuring customers of the legitimate provenance of the item concerned. Dealers, however, only form one link in the chain; they cannot be expected to jeopardise a sale by voicing reservations concerning an item which a client may have determined upon while in other cases their advice may not even have been sought. The availability of authoritative guidance literature on the subject of sympathetic restoration using salvage is therefore essential, as obviously is the willingness of preservation professionals at national, state, and local levels to provide advice.

**Crowther of Syon Lodge who supplied the Waldorf Astoria with Georgian grates from England continues to make purchases in the States. Among their acquisitions are fittings from the Vanderbilt Mansion, formerly situated in Fifth Avenue, New York. No expense was spared in the construction of the building which was demolished in the 1920s. Some of the fittings, including this one, were saved and found their way to the studios of Twentieth Century Fox where they were used in sets. Photo by Crowther of Syon Lodge, Middlesex.**

Growing concern at the potential for the inappropriate reuse of second-hand features and materials, particularly in historic contexts, has prompted some local planning authorities in England to issue guidance leaflets. They stress the importance of using salvaged materials in ways which contribute most to the conservation of the heritage and are suited to the character of the material and its intended setting. One authority has attempted to summarise these considerations into the following series of principles.

*The setting of second-hand materials should respect their original geographical, historical, and social context, in particular that:*

- *building and roofing materials should not be used outside the area in which they were traditionally common;*
- *windows, doorways and other features should not be older than the buildings into which they are introduced;*
- *elaborate decorative features such as 18th and 19th century doorcases and chimneypieces should not be used in unpretentious buildings for which they were not intended.'*[2]

The best form of education it is said is by example. In terms of the information which they contain on the physical processes of construction and the chronological development of house types and detailing in their catchment areas, the study collections of the United States represent a potentially invaluable repository of guidance by historical precedent for the houseowner. The role of the study collection as information, not just for the professional craftsman (see *CRM* volume cited above) but the enthusiastic amateur, is an increasingly significant one in England. In this respect, the study collections of the United States represent a uniquely important, if perhaps as yet not fully recognised, resource.

## Notes

1 Steven Parissien, "Provenance & Propriety" in CONTEXT (The Journal of the U.K. Association of Conservation Officers), No. 24, December 1989, p. 8-9. Dr. Parissien is also the author of two books, Adam Style and Regency Style (Phaidon 1992) which give information on the detailing and interior decoration of properties of the period in both the U.K. and U.S.

2 Lancashire County Planning Department Lancashire Historic Buildings Leaflet—No. 1: The Use of Secondhand Building Materials, 1991.

Carol Rosier is Deputy County Archeologist, Historic Buildings, Oxfordshire County Council. She is responsible for advising on the recording of historic buildings for Oxfordshire County Council in the United Kingdom. She was ICOMOS Drake Scholar at Independence National Historical Park in the summer of 1993 and has undertaken a dissertation on Architectural Salvage in Britain ("Any Old Iron? A Study in Architectural Salvage," University of Bristol, 1992)

# Cultural Resource Management

## Understanding Diverse Perspectives

**Kathy Kiefer**

There comes a point in the business of managing cultural resources where we must take time to assess the results of our efforts. Somewhere between coordinating contracts with archeologists, meetings with agencies and tribes, document review and assessments, MOAs, and PAs, we must step back and ask, "how are these actions benefitting the resource?", and "whose resource are we managing?" The answers are reflected in the diversity of individuals whose lives and careers are dedicated to the protection of the nation's fragile and nonrenewable cultural heritage. There is a large picture here that also reflects the interests and passions of the public.

In an effort to develop a greater understanding of, and appreciation for, the diversity of perspectives regarding the management of cultural resources, the Grant County Public Utility District sponsored a day-long forum during Washington State's first public archeology week. We decided to undertake an event that would provide the public, and those participating, with an opportunity to meet and listen to concerns expressed by each other. The result was a panel discussion among six Native Americans, five archeologists, and the public who participated as observers of the discussion between these two groups. The event was referred to as: *Forum: A Shared Past?* The Forum was designed around 16 questions presented to the panel beforehand. Each panel member had an opportunity to include or revise questions. Some of the questions were:

- What role do Native Americans want to play in educating the non-Indian public regarding archeological issues?
- How can (or have) archeologists integrated Native American concerns and views into their research analysis or publication?
- Does the Native American community feel that archeological publications have any value for future generations of Indian children?

The resulting exchange was a testimony of the intense feelings, and continued need for open dialogue between these seemingly disparate groups.

Panel members openly and courageously expressed their personal experiences, beliefs, fears, and hopes. The intense feelings and expressions of anxiety from panel members allowed the public to experience the depth of both sides of the issue. One high school student commented to a bystander that this was "really serious business." One member of the public asked the Indian community what they would like him to do if he came upon a site. Another member of the public demanded to know what would be left in a hundred years if archeologists continued to dig sites up?

The following is a summary of some of the ideas that came out of the forum.

A Native American looks at an archeological site and an artifact in a completely different way than an archeologist or cultural resource manager. Tony Washines, a Yakama elder, was eloquent in relating the meaning of a projectile point he found on the Columbia River; it did not belong to him, it belonged to a warrior from the past whose efforts to acquire food by the use of the point is part of a continuum of interrelatedness that goes on to this day. He expressed dismay at the way archeologists retrieve, measure, record and then store items from the past which don't belong to them.

Julie Stein, Curator of Archaeology at Seattle's Burke Museum, noted that in the past there has been a tendency by archeologists writing reports to strip the objects of people. She noted that archeology reports did tend to be object-oriented, referring to artifacts and deposits and not people.

Bob Mierendorf, a National Park Service archeologist, responded that the scientific aspect of archeological reports was established a hundred years ago and that the process has become institutionalized. He noted that many of these documents are unreadable by people who are not scientists. He added that he was trained as a scientist, and that however much he feels the need for the Indian community to provide their input, it would be inappropriate to look at artifacts through the eyes of the tribal communities. He went on to note that archeologists need to work with tribal communities because there are ways to get their story out.

Tony Washines responded by stating, "I'm not sure I can reconcile a hundred-year-old discipline with laws set down since time immemorial. It's hard for me to set

*(Kiefer—continued on page 18)*

**Grant County Public Utility District**

The Cultural Resource Program at the Grant County Public Utility District has grown and developed through a relationship with the Wanapum Indians upon whose ancestral winter home one of the utility's hydroelectric dams was built. The relationship is based on openness and dialogue, and a commitment to the protection of all the resources within the utility's two reservoirs. The cultural resource program includes the curation of several large collections of artifacts excavated from two reservoirs prior to inundation. A Wanapum Indian manages the artifact collections and provides advice and design ideas for exhibits in the Heritage Center museum which is operated at Wanapum Dam. The relationship which has developed over the last 30 years has taken a commitment by both groups to seek solutions that take into account the needs of future generations of electricity, consumers, and Wanapum Indians. The challenges they have faced together provide worthy experience which others may find useful to draw upon.

*(Kiefer—continued from page 17)*

aside my teachings, my values. Those things belong to the people, to my father's, father's, father's father. As I take my turn to step on the tracks they made, I do not go back by picking up those things that belonged to them."

Bob Mierendorf explained that many archeologists do little excavation, and that today research includes the documentation of traditional cultural properties which involves working closely with the tribes. He added that archeology can be an imposition to Native American people, but so is rapid development, highways and large federal undertakings. These, he noted, were greater impositions to cultural remains left in the ground than controlled excavations.

Leonard Forsman, a Suquamish Indian, added that his tribe has reaped the benefit of excavation which is proving, in the Washington state courts, Suquamish claims to their ancestral shell-fishing rights. The archeological evidence documents that the Suquamish people have obtained shellfish from a particular location for 2,000 years.

David Rice, A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers archeologist summed up his feelings by noting that archeologists and Native Americans need to keep communicating and building a shared sensitivity toward each other's needs.

The Forum was a first step toward developing a regional dialogue that will involve invested participants. Cultural resource management must, out of necessity, engage diverse perspectives. The results are an increase in understanding and sensitivity toward the resource by all parties. A greater commitment to protect the resource can be realized when individuals appreciate each other's interests and concerns. Cultural resource management is a process, not a result. It is a process that can be directed to include more than routine paperwork and compliance issues. It's a process that can engage the public with it's meaningful human and historic aspects. I asked Richard Buck, a Wanapum Indian who works in the cultural resource program at the Grant County P.U.D., to review this article. His comments, in summary, are as follows:

A resource is something you use, culture is something you live. In a way they conflict with each other. Maybe the work we do should be called cultural heritage management. When it comes to what is referred to as cultural resources from the Indian perspective, the term resource as reference to the land or material possessions that are held within it is not enough. Our heritage is rooted inextricably in the land: it is ancient and complex. What Western people consider as an economic or cultural resource are considered spiritual and inviolable by the Indian people. This is just something to keep in mind.

This is dialogue. This is the process. Ask the interested parties, share with them all aspects of the issue. The process will direct itself naturally in a way that the value of the resource, or heritage issue will be more fully appreciated. Engage the public, engage tribal members, engage each other. If we believe ourselves wise and courageous enough to accept the challenges and responsibilities of protecting this nation's cultural heritage, then involve all of those who care, and the children and grandchildren of those whose legacy we now regard as our purview.

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*Kathy Kiefer is the cultural resource supervisor for the Grant County Public Utility District. Richard Buck is a cultural specialist.*


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For guidelines and grant applications, contact National Park Foundation, 1101 17th St., NW, Suite 1102, Washington, DC 20036, 202-785-4500.

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# The Advantages of Volunteer-Assisted Research

**Charlene James-Duguid**

So often during my 20 years with The Smithsonian Associates (TSA) I heard from scientists that they needed additional funding and workers to turn their bright ideas into actual research projects. For these scholars TSA created a valuable source of support by establishing the Smithsonian Research Expeditions Program (SRE) in 1988. Every year SRE assists Smithsonian researchers and scientists launch approximately 40 projects in fields ranging from volcanology to art history.

"Citizen-scholars"—the title we have given to Smithsonian Associates who participate in Research Expedition projects— contribute both their time and financial support to a variety of research endeavors in the natural sciences, American history, the social sciences, Native American studies, marine biology, and astronomy. In return, they have the unique opportunity to study with Smithsonian scholars and work with the Smithsonian collections. This partnership between scientist and citizen is beneficial to both sides: the scientists gain labor and support for important projects; the Associates experience the rewards of scientific research and museum work.

Although many of our participants are professionals and educators, the projects they choose rarely relate to their work. Most have had a long, abiding interest in the topic, but only as an avocation or hobby. These expeditions are often the chance they have been looking for to immerse themselves in their favorite subject for a few weeks. Prior to the expedition, SRE provides additional background information about the research project to insure that everyone understands the work to be done. This may include books, articles, pamphlets, or a bibliography of works in the field. Once the expedition begins, the Smithsonian staff provides detailed training about the research or conservation methods to be used. Extracurricular activities for the project may include special tours of SI collections or lectures by other scholars about related fields of research.

**Polynesian barkcloth has endured years of folded storage in the Smithsonian. Volunteers unfolded, cleaned, repaired, and prepared for storage these important anthropological samples. Photo by Eric Long, Smithsonian Institution, 1993.**

For the volunteers there are many rewards for getting involved. They gain a greater appreciation for the care and use of the collections. During the expedition, they learn about an area of research and build a dialogue with professionals in that field. After the expedition, they return to their computers and businesses with a greater enthusiasm for their avocation. But the greatest reward mentioned by most volunteers is the bond created between them and their fellow team members. Working together in an unusual place on a unusual project for eight to 12 hours a day forges a closeness of purpose and experience for the participants. They have left their normal lives for a few weeks to work in a conservation lab, archives, or a field research site. And they have stepped beyond their everyday expectations to actively support the growth of scientific knowledge.

For Smithsonian scholars, this is a vital opportunity to fulfill two aspects of James Smithson's original bequest to create a place for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." Expeditions compile significant amounts of information in various fields while simultaneously educating people about the research in progress. Through the projects, scholars have the opportunity to interact directly with members of the public, rather than through their usual medium of the exhibition halls.

Some examples of Research Expeditions will illustrate more clearly the experiences of the participants and scientists.

This summer, for the fifth year in a row, Research Expedition participants will work in the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) to sort, organize, and catalog materials in the Museum archives. Each year NASM acquires thousands of historically important documents—aircraft technical manuals, military files, personal papers, photographs, and motion picture film. All these require proper housing and documentation to allow easy access for researchers and to safeguard them for future generations.

After the first day of training and orientation, the participants work directly with the materials. During this two-week project they will be at two sites, the Garber Preservation, Restoration, and Storage Facility in Maryland and the Archives Mall Facility on the third floor of the NASM. In the past, participants have watched training films or newsreels to determine the proper category for cataloging, have sorted through aircraft manuals to weed out duplicate copies and to place them in acid-

*(**James-Duguid**—continued on page 20)*

*(James-Duguid—continued from page 19)*

**Volunteers do research at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. Photos courtesy the Smithsonian Institution.**

free paper, or have identified and reorganized holdings in the aircraft technical files.

For a different experience with paper, consider the expedition, "Polynesian Barkcloth: Preserving a Tradition." Collected in the mid-1800s by a scientific expedition going through Samoa, Fiji, and Hawaii, these cloths have endured years of folded storage in the Smithsonian. Over time, they have become dusty, dirty, and stiff. To preserve these important anthropological samples they must be cleaned, unfolded, repaired, and stored in an appropriate environment.

After training sessions and a basic orientation given by Natalie Firnhaber, a conservator with the National Museum of Natural History, the Research Expedition volunteers were assigned a piece of the paper cloth to restore. By the end of the expedition, participants had completed the work for their piece, and prepared it for storage. Besides working with the barkcloth, they also viewed other items in the collections and learned about the history of polynesian barkcloths.

An entirely different type of research is also done with the help of SRE participants each year in August at Crow Agency, MT. Since 1913, the Crow Nation has held an annual Fair and Family Reunion on the reservation. This event brings the Crow together each year to dance, renew acquaintances, and rejoice in their culture. I have been collecting data about contemporary Crow culture at the Fair for the last several years and have created an extensive anthropological record of the community.

Research Expedition participants help with this work by interviewing and recording what they see and experience at the Fair. After being trained in social science methods, citizen-scholars meet with members of the community to talk about a variety of topics, including family history, work, social relationships, and tribal history. They also take part in activities at the Fair, like the buffalo feed, and record their observations about their experiences. The data they record is then collated and given to the National Anthropological Archives (part of the Smithsonian) and to the Crow community.

One last example of our research opportunities is the weekend experience for parents and teenagers to work in Front Royal, VA. Since 1975, at a special 3,100-acre Smithsonian facility in the Shenandoah Valley, the Smithsonian Conservation and Research Center has been entrusted with the task of preserving endangered species and studying local flora and fauna. Currently, scientists are studying the impact of white-tailed deer on the vegetation and other animals in the deer's territory.

Participants on this project will be observing and recording information about the birds and small mammals in the Valley. They will set up mist nets and traps, record information on captured birds and animals, and then release them. The information gathered will give scientists an idea of how other animal populations fare in areas with and without deer. Although this is the first expedition for parents and their teenage children to work together on projects, we hope to expand this experiment in the future. Dr. Bill McShea, wildlife biologist at the Smithsonian, will train the participants working with the data collected during the expedition.

In the seven years since Smithsonian Research Expeditions began, over 100 projects have been completed with the help of over 650 volunteers. Data collected on the projects has gone into archives, museum exhibitions, and scholarly books and articles. For SI scholars, the program has provided funding and labor for important research projects which might never have been completed otherwise. But the most gratifying impact has been on our volunteers. SRE has given to "citizen-scholars" the rare opportunity to see and experience documents, materials, and cultures which play an integral part in our world.

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# Historic Preservation and the African American Community

## A Measure of Commitment to Cultural Diversity

**Patricia Wilson**

As the decade of the 90s unfolds, cultural diversity has become a watchword of the historic preservation movement. In the span of a few short years a topic that was once held as the special interest of only a few is now being highlighted in the programs, publications and conferences of both public and private organizations, including the National Park Service (NPS), the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (Trust). The question remains, however, whether cultural diversity will be fully embraced as a guiding principle of the historic preservation movement, or whether it is a mere passing interest that will have little long-term impact.

If the historic preservation movement's interest in cultural diversity is to move beyond the trendiness of "politically correct" rhetoric, a commitment must be made to a broad range of policies, programs, and activities that would change the character of the movement in a profound manner. Preservationists must move beyond academic discussions of cultural diversity to true acts of inclusion. Only in this way will the tenets of cultural diversity become fully and tangibly infused in our efforts to identify, document and preserve resources reflective of our nation's diverse history. This article will review the traditional preservation community's response to one aspect of the question, preserving African American resources, in the hope that we might gain a better understanding of the issues and challenges ahead.

This thoughtful and provocative essay by Patricia Wilson, Regional Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Mid-Atlantic Region, was solicited by *CRM* to address the question of African American participation in the field of Historic Preservation. Specifically, African Americans are underrepresented in proportion to their presence in American history and culture both in terms of resources recognized and preserved, and of active participants in the preservation movement. The question is an important one for at least two reasons. First, it is simply right that African Americans, as members of our society and culture, should be fully involved in an aspect of American society that we (professionals, avocationals and interested parties in cultural resource management) believe to be important, rewarding, and fulfilling. It is a matter of inclusion to redress past exclusion. Second, it is important because America is changing. The complexity and complexion of America in a few decades will be as different from today's as today's is from that of the fledgling and developing nation. It is important that the disciplines and professions that comprise cultural resource management work to foster inclusion for all groups. Failure to do so may well mean that we will spend the future in isolation and irrelevance.

This article is offered in the hope of stimulating constructive dialogue toward the end of raising consciousness and designing solutions to promote the inclusion of all groups. To be sure, we have come a long way as a professional community. We have established mechanisms in law and practice that will allow this to happen. But, as Ms. Wilson points out, the previously excluded are not going to come running to us. It is up to us to reach out, to make all people aware of the opportunities for personal fulfillment and the enrichment of society that are among the finest goals of these pursuits, and not only to help them find ways of joining us, but to help us find ways of joining them. The best bridges work in two directions. Ms. Wilson's background as an African American and preservationist with deep experience with the grassroots preservation movement makes her well qualified to address this topic.

—John Hnedak

*Please direct your comments to John Hnedak, Chief, Technical Assistance, CRM, NPS Mid-Atlantic Region, U.S. Custom House, Room 251, 2nd & Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19106.*

### Federal and State Sponsored Activities

The development of federal and state-level programs and strategies to encourage the preservation of resources associated with the African American community may be viewed as critical benchmarks in the preservation movement's response to calls for cultural diversity. According to Antoinette J. Lee in her essay "Discovering Old Cultures in the New World: The Role of Ethnicity," in 1943 the George Washington Carver National Monument in Diamond, Missouri became the first property entered into the national park system primarily for its relationship to African American history. Since this early acquisition other Park Service initiatives have led to the registration and documentation of approximately 90 National Historic Landmarks associated with African American history.[1] Currently, NPS management of sites such as the Maggie Walker Historic Site in Richmond, VA not only help broaden our understanding of American history, but also serve as catalyst for neighborhood revitalization. These sites play a special role in building the public's appreciation of the diversity and richness of African American heritage while providing a local focus of community pride.

While the NPS has made a special effort to identify and properly interpret sites significant to the African American experience there is the realization that its commitment to cultural diversity must be reflected within the agency itself. Today, the NPS continues to face the chal-

*(**Wilson**—continued on page 22)*

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lenge of developing culturally sensitive policies and programs, and hiring African American professionals. Programs targeting historically black colleges, such as the Historic American Buildings Survey courses taught at Hampton University, often serve as the first introduction to the historic preservation profession for African American students. This and other worthwhile efforts should serve as the foundation for future NPS initiatives to diversify the preservation profession as well as its programs.

Despite the Service's laudable record, the policies of state agencies and private organizations rarely reflect the same level of consistent commitment. The amount of activity varies greatly among state historic preservation offices, with those in the South taking the lead. Since Alabama established its Black Heritage Council in 1984, other states have also formed special review boards to encourage the identification of minority resources and help develop outreach programs. A few states, including California, Maryland, and Michigan, have made a solid commitment to the identification and documentation of significant African American sites by undertaking comprehensive surveys.

In 1988 the NCSHPO established a task force to examine the extent of minority participation in state historic preservation programs. Over the course of two years, with the support of a Critical Issues Fund Grant from the Trust, the task force conducted several panel discussions and workshops to gain the input of both professionals and interested lay persons. The task force also distributed a survey to measure the number of minorities holding staff positions in state historic preservation offices. The survey results revealed a glaring absence of minority professionals working in state preservation offices. The vast majority of state preservation offices had never had any minority employees. In those cases where minorities were employed, most were classified as secretarial/support staff. African Americans represented 65% of the identified minority employees.

In response to the survey results and recommendations from the discussions groups, the NCSHPO's task force established four primary goals to guide the cultural diversity initiatives of state historic preservation offices. These included setting up mechanisms, such as the Alabama Black Heritage Council, to bring minorities in the states into existing preservation networks; developing information-sharing mechanisms for the state historic preservation offices; developing public awareness activities and forums for African Americans; and planning and funding professional development programs. While not all state historic preservation offices have established the identification and preservation of African American resources as priorities, the work of the NCSHPO's task force established a clear road map for future endeavors.

Although activities of the NPS and the NCSHPO represent important progress in the effort to recognize African American resources and encourage greater participation of African Americans in the preservation movement, they remain exceptions rather than the rule. While the sensitivity of federal and state agencies to these concerns has certainly grown, concrete action is still needed. The findings of the NCSHPO underline the need for the development of on-going survey, outreach, and professional development strategies that will result in a sustained and fundamental change in state and federal preservation programs.

**Private Sector Activities**

The vast majority of historic sites are preserved due to the efforts of the grassroots preservation organizations. These private sector initiatives have been the catalyst for thousands of local historic district designations, historic site restorations, and the establishment of historic house museums that represent our historic patrimony. Unfortunately, private sector overtures to the African American community have been inconsistent and rarely coordinated. As a result, very few African Americans participate in the mainstream private preservation movement. However, recent developments both within and outside of the preservation movement have encouraged some progress.

New demographic and political realities, particularly in urban and southern communities, have recently made preservationists aware of the need to work with African American leaders and neighborhood representatives. City-wide preservation organizations, such as the District of Columbia Preservation League, have discovered that a diverse membership and broad programming are political imperatives. In a city in which African Americans comprise the majority of the population and where political leaders and agency representatives are often African American, preservationists could ill afford to remain aloof. Instead, a commitment to the preservation of all of the city's resources, black as well as white, had to be evidenced through the organization's leadership, membership and, most obviously, its programs. Surveys of historically African American neighborhoods undertaken in cooperation with traditional neighborhood organizations, documentation and designation of the works of early African American architects, and recruiting interns from the area's historically African American colleges all signal the League's commitment to including the African American community in the local preservation movement. Many more local organizations will face a similar challenge of making historic preservation more politically and socially relevant to a burgeoning and empowered African American population.

Unfortunately, few outreach initiatives have been launched by statewide non-profit preservation organizations. Again, those organizations in the south, such as the Georgia Trust and the Tennessee Heritage Alliance, have taken the lead by diversifying their boards, highlighting African American heritage during annual conferences, and creating new educational programs. The efforts of the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI) represent an outstanding exception. In 1992, HLFI established its African American Landmarks Committee. This committee helps identify significant sites, develops educational programs and serves as an important link between Indiana's traditional preservation community and the African American community.

The Trust developed its first outreach programs in the early 1970s. At that time the organization made its first affirmative efforts to attract African Americans to its Board of Trustees and Board of Advisors. The Trust also co-sponsored the Conference on Historic Preservation and the Minority Community, a gathering held annually from 1972 to 1982. Working with African American preservation advocates, the Trust developed the conference as a forum to focus on specific issues related to the preservation of African American resources. At its high point the conference claimed over 150 registrants. Perhaps more importantly,the conference attracted and encouraged the participation of several of the African American community's first generation of preservation leaders.

Over the last 20 years the Trust has developed a variety of outreach and technical assistance programs to respond to the preservation needs of the African American community with varying degrees of success. Perhaps the Trust's most successful outreach program has been its conference scholarship program. With support from the Getty Grant Fund, the Trust developed its scholarship program to encourage the participation of African Americans and other ethnic groups in its annual conference. The program has brought more than 150 African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans and other minorities to the Trust's 1992 and 93 annual conferences, literally changing the complexion of preservation's largest gathering. Yet despite its 20-year track record, the Trust still has few African American members and remains virtually unknown within the African American community.

The efforts of these private preservation organizations stand in stark contrast to the interests of the broader preservation community. The historic preservation movement is often still characterized as white and exclusive. Appreciation of the contributions of the African American community to American history and culture is still not part of the work-a-day world of the average preservationist. Special programs and initiatives such as those mentioned above are still required to encourage the consideration of African American resources. Further, few private preservation organizations can count African Americans among their board members or general membership. These conditions must be reversed if cultural diversity is to become an integral and sustained aspect of the private preservation movement.

**Barriers to African American Participation**

Today, few African Americans actively support preservation organizations or serve as volunteers. Fewer still are professionals in the field. An examination of the underlying reasons for the limited minority participation of the past may help identify strategies to generate greater participation in the future. In general, the African American community's lack of affiliation with preservation efforts has been dictated by the character of the traditional preservation movement, and by issues and conditions intrinsic to the African American community itself.

From its beginnings with the Mount Vernon Ladies Home Association in 1858, the historic preservation movement has celebrated those sites associated with the great figures and events in the country's political history. The preservation of landmarks such as Mt. Vernon and Independence Hall resulted from the urge to maintain America's colonial legacy. Later, preservationists expressed an interest in architecture as well as history. Here, too, the emphasis was given to resources dating from the colonial period, but the scope of interest quickly expanded to also include outstanding examples of high style architecture from more recent periods. Thus, from the early days of the movement to within relatively recent times, the resources most often preserved were those associated with great events, our heroes of democracy, and the graceful homes and churches of the high and mighty. Preservationists themselves were distinguished as members of the privileged wealthy class, with time and money to spend championing the preservation of old buildings to which they, the elite of their time, had deep, personal connections.

The image of preservation as the avocation of those who care more for buildings than for people persists. With its selective emphasis on high style architecture and grand events, preservation historically has had little to do with common people, especially those who are black. Thus, with little relevance to the African American experience, historic preservation brokered no interest from the African American community.

The lack of appreciation of African American history as an integral element of American history presents yet another obstacle to African American participation in the historic preservation movement. In the past, the persistently Euro-centric inclinations of traditional historians had given little credence to the influences African Americans might have had on the broad themes of American history. Just as African American history was relegated to a side-bar in the history books, the historic preservation movement rarely devoted critical attention to African American resources. In more than a few privately-held house museums, where amateur historians had romanticized and aggrandized the site's significance, a filtered view of history was favored over more accurate interpretations. For example, many African American resources were quietly obliterated as plantation homes were interpreted without reference to the slave economy that supported them, slaves were politely called servants, and other significant resources simply ignored. While most historic sites now offer more accurate interpretations, many African Americans recall these earlier sanitized interpretations and still associate them with the private historic preservation movement.

Like many causes, historic preservation has been supported by a growing social network that has generated the cadre of volunteers that fill the ranks of local organizations. Rarely do these volunteer networks cross racial lines. It is well documented that while the law mandates that the different races work together and attend school together, rarely do they live, worship or play together. Historic preservation has not escaped the segregated nature of our social networks. As noted above, traditional preservation organizations rarely reach out to African Americans for volunteer services,

*(**Wilson**—continued on page 24)*

*(**Wilson**—continued from page 23)*

except when politically expedient or when dealing with an African American resource. As a result, few local preservation organizations are able to maintain memberships that are reflective of the racial composition of their communities. When overtures are extended, many blacks decline, unwilling to be used as tokens or bear the pressures of being "the only one."

The few African Americans that have developed an interest in historic preservation often find their efforts to designate resources significant to their communities frustrated by the application of systems and techniques that cannot or will not accommodate variations more appropriate to the African American experience. Traditional documentation practices depend upon written and other tangible records, but the African American tradition is largely oral. Further, resources associated with the African American community are often of cultural or historical significance, rather than architectural. Although inroads have been made at the national level to encourage the recognition of such sites, many local review commissions remain apprehensive about designation of these resources. The NCSHPO task force noted this as a major frustration to efforts to designate local sites associated with the African American community. As mentioned above, the creation of special commissions such as Georgia's Minority Historic Preservation Committee and Alabama's Black Heritage Council will help encourage and support the identification and designation of resources associated with the African American community.

Yet the lack of African American participation in the historic preservation movement can not be placed solely at the feet of the established preservation community. Issues and conditions within the African American community have also served to limit participation. Perhaps most critical has been the community's preoccupation with more urgent social and political agendas. Issues associated with civil rights, poverty, and equal opportunity are certainly more compelling when weighed against the preservation of derelict buildings. However, programs that demonstrate that historic preservation can be a vehicle for empowerment and self-determination have broadened support within the African American community.

In Pittsburgh's Manchester neighborhood, historic district designation and the Community Reinvestment Act have served as viable tools for residents seeking greater control of their community. Together, these tools have also encouraged increased investment and home ownership in the community. Other African American communities, including Mount Auburn in Cincinnati, New York's Harlem, and LeMert Park in Los Angeles, have also come to support historic preservation because of its contribution to neighborhood revitalization.

Closely associated with preservation's perceived lack of social urgency is the relative lack of financial resources within the African American community to support traditional preservation efforts. Individually, few African Americans enjoy the luxury of leisure or wealth that has characterized the traditional preservation movement. Further, many of those who have recently become part of the middle-class find little cachet in owning older homes and may prefer new things as symbols of their upward mobility. Although this tendency is not exclusive to the African American community, it has contributed to the abandonment of both inner city neighborhoods and rural communities. The vast majority of middle to upper income African Americans are more likely to devote their resources to causes such as education and the prevention of drug abuse that address more urgent needs, than one that is often perceived as aesthetically self-indulgent.

Sadly, many African Americans still find it difficult to celebrate the past. Too often, the past offers only painful recollections of hardship brought on by dehumanizing enslavement, discrimination, and poverty. Generations of African Americans have been taught by white America that their culture offers little of value or beauty. Today, many in the black community still struggle to discard the last vestiges of the crippling self-hatred forced upon them by the dominant, white culture. Other African Americans react with hostility to the notion of preserving, let alone celebrating, resources associated with the oppressive white culture. "It is not my history!" is often exclaimed when an African American is asked to support a landmark designation. "Why should I help preserve a building that I could never go in!" is the retort given in the case of formerly segregated theaters, hotels, and department stores. African Americans must come to understand historic preservation as a constructive means of reminding both the oppressor and the oppressed of the true story.

A case in Ellisville, MS provides a vivid illustration of the controversy that may be generated by the preservation of some resources. When the Jones County courthouse was built, the words "white" and "colored" were incised above the water fountains. It is believed that these are the only extant signs that represent the institutionalized racism that characterized Mississippi's social and political systems from 1890 to 1964. Although there was an attempt to cover the signs with plaster, the signs were recognized by many in Ellisville as part of local history. Controversy erupted in 1989, when the local NAACP demanded their removal. In response, the Jones County Board of Supervisors decided to sandblast the signs. Because the building is a designated landmark, this action required the approval of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The Board of Trustees determined that the signs should be preserved as important symbols of the Jim Crow era. Tension ran high as the town's black and white citizens struggled to determine the appropriate treatment of these painful reminders of Ellisville's segregated past. Finally, as a compromise, the historic signs were covered by plaques to explain their significance. This compromise provided comfort to members of both Ellisville's white and African American communities, but perhaps dulls the impact of an important lesson that children should learn and adults should not be allowed to forget.

The specter of gentrification has also alienated many African Americans from historic preservation efforts. As played out by the media, and exploited by anti-preservationists, historic preservation and gentrification are synonymous. The scenario commonly present-

ed is one in which middle-income whites "discover" a neighborhood and set about changing it under the banner of historic preservation. Instead of the multi-ethnic, mixed income neighborhood they claim to want, the preservationists impose their lifestyles and values on others, drive up property taxes and gradually displace poor families that called the neighborhood home for generations. Low-income blacks are most often victimized by this phenomenon. Because of gentrification, many blacks fear historic preservation, while others react angrily to any attempts to "take over the neighborhood."

In order to nurture greater participation from the African American community in the future, the preservation community must create a welcoming environment, free from gratuitous tokenism or the threat of displacement. The perceived relevance of historic preservation to the aspirations of the African American community must be heightened. On the other hand, the African American community must be ready to celebrate its unique place in America's history. Both groups must shoulder the responsibility of ensuring that the true story of American history is told. Together, the groups must identify strategies that will foster greater appreciation and participation. These strategies must encourage volunteerism, professional development, and institutional access. A dual approach is required whereby historic preservation is made more relevant to the African American community and a new constituency is nurtured.

### The Future

Today, many African Americans still believe that the goal of historic preservation is to preserve those buildings associated with "rich, dead, white men." This perception must be reversed to assure the African American community that historic preservation is relevant to its needs and interests and, indeed, worthy of its support and participation. Historic preservation must be posed as a viable means of meeting critical community goals, such as neighborhood revitalization and building racial pride. Strategies must also be developed to encourage volunteer and professional participation. Collectively, these activities will help generate a stronger preservation ethic within the African American community and build a new preservation constituency.

It has become clear, almost painfully so, that it is often inappropriate and sometimes destructive for the white community to impose its preservation values upon African Americans and other minority groups. African Americans and others rightfully resent "outsiders" telling them about their history and telling them what they should consider significant. The preservation community has a responsibility to encourage greater involvement from these groups to ensure the proper interpretation and appreciation of resources. Further, demographic statistics indicate that those groups currently tagged as minorities will soon, in fact, comprise the majority of the country's population. Preservationists must broaden their constituency to remain a relevant force in the 21st century.

In turn, the African American community, as well as other minority groups, has a responsibility to itself to play an active role in the preservation process. The participation of African American volunteers and professionals and the development of African American preservation organizations such as Landmarks harlem will ensure a more aggressive and sensitive approach to the preservation of African American resources.

The ability to "tell your own story" is empowering. The preservation of significant African American resources will reaffirm, for whites as well as blacks, the race's positive contribution to American history. Finally, a better knowledge and use of landmark laws and other land-use regulations will help protect African American communities from encroachment and exploitation.

The success of the historic preservation movement's efforts to develop a broader preservation constituency in partnership with the African American community will serve as a measure of the movement's resolve to change in a meaningful way. Progress in policy and program development, community outreach, and professional development will provide important benchmarks in the effort to broaden the preservation movement to include those of color. Only then will the African American community and other people of color believe that the current overtures from the preservation community are signals of a strong, on-going commitment to an inclusive and culturally diverse preservation movement.

### Note

1 At present the NPS is engaged in two initiatives that will increase this number, the Underground Railroad Theme Study, and a congressionally-mandated continuation of the earlier African American Theme Study. —JH.

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# Are We Losing Authenticity to Recover Appearances?

**Kay Weeks**

*"Cultural resources are physical entities with qualities such as mass, color, and texture, some of which express historical or cultural associations ... it is the ability to connect one generation to another that gives them their most valued attribute: an inherent capacity to mold and reinforce our identities as social creatures."*

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, NPS-28, Chapter 1.

We can read or write about the past without changing it, but when we begin working on a historic place, we have the capability to change or erase the physical memory, and along with it, the interpretive memory—the story that goes with the place. This is not to suggest that every story is somehow encapsulated in historic building materials, but when properties have been conceived, built, and used by people from the past, it is understood that they convey some meaning about those people from the past.

Since cultural resource management usually involves treatment, historic preservation specialists need to focus more often on the relationship between history, historic places, and loss—not unplanned, arbitrary loss, but planned loss as defined in established standards and guidelines, in particular, restoration and reconstruction.

For the most part, national and international treatment standards, principles, and guides may be described as ethical frameworks or "rules of fair play" for undertaking historic preservation projects. But the rules of fair play themselves have traditionally included options for demolishing materials and the stories they tell (those judged to be of lesser historical value), and also options for re-creating "historic looking" features with all new materials to depict more important times that convey more important stories.

The process that ends in the targeted demolition of historic materials begins with an intellectual judgment about a place's changing occupancies over time and how one occupancy is valued in relationship to another. For example, when historians declare that one portion of history has more value than another, the surgical wrecking ball may swing with impunity, according to restoration philosophy.

The dilemma is that, just as places change over time, so does historical interpretation. But once a place has been reconfigured to represent or explain one certain time (rather than several), the physical losses are more permanent. Although there is a stipulation in restoration that documentation must precede demolition, a written and photographic record is never equal to authentic historic fabric. And although there is a principle that says a reconstructed resource must be clearly marked as a contemporary re-creation, there is no parallel requirement to note physical losses which may have been incurred as a result of treatment.

To restore and reconstruct involve bringing something back to a former or original state, although we all know that recovering the past is a physical impossibility. As the amount of surviving historic material diminishes, the greater the chance for inaccuracy when attempting to depict historic "appearances" with new material. Most important, "packaging a place" through restoration or reconstruction to offer a neat lesson and an experience—now—means that another lesson, based on authentic materials, may not be taught later.

While history and its physical ally—historic preservation—are based on the reasonable idea that not everything should be remembered or saved, what happens when that untidy overlay of later materials turns out to have been worth keeping after all? The demolished layer can always be re-created out of new material, can't it? Not really. Authentic materials "which express historical or cultural associations" put us in direct touch with people from the past and on an emotional level. Even with meticulous documentation, restoration and reconstruction can only be lukewarm portrayals.

Whenever materials are sufficiently intact, we need to recommend and apply the best-case treatment for historic properties in general—preservation. Of all the approaches offered, the preservation philosophy is the least depictive and, therefore, the most apt to yield a rich overlay of meanings, relationships, and values for future generations.

I asked several historic preservation specialists to comment on the philosophy of restoration and reconstruction—the idea of purposely destroying materials from one time in history and putting something back that has been lost to time. I also asked them to share a site-specific example of material loss resulting from treatment and what, if any, the interpretive consequences were. The short essays that follow reveal the "passionate" cross-section of opinion that exists about historic places, treatment, and interpretation both inside and outside the National Park Service.

## Suzanne L. Turner

### Supporting Life in the Big House: A Story Untold

A historic landscape celebrates change and resists restoration. In the rare case that significant documentation survives to warrant restoration of a single significant period, the landscape still has a built-in entropic urge to change and to evolve. The essential nature of landscape is that it is a layered, massaged, intertwined artifact—the stratigraphy of the ground beneath the land's surface is echoed in the more irregular stratigraphy above the surface, representing actions by many people over long periods of time.

A case-in-point is the landscape of the Shadows-on-the-Teche, an 1830s brick house built on a hundred-acre site in the small hamlet of New Iberia, LA. Southern domestic landscapes of the 19th century were composed of a main residence surrounded by a complex of outbuildings, gardens, and yards in which the work that

supported life in the Big House took place, and the people who did the work, lived. In 1861, Adrien Persac, an itinerant house portrait-painter known for his attention to accuracy and thoroughness, recorded the Shadows twice—in front and back views. Both paintings show portions of the outbuildings—a detached kitchen, and small brick cottages that were probably slave quarters.

The site survived relatively undisturbed, except for a brief occupation by Union troops in 1863, and remained in the ownership of the Weeks family until its last family, Weeks Hall, bequeathed it to the National Trust for Historic Preservation at his death in 1958. In the 1920s, Hall had rescued his ancestral home from several decades of neglect. Photos from this time show the brick quarters buildings in a deteriorated condition. As Hall began the restoration of the house and garden, he demolished these surviving outbuildings. He had considered replacing them with flanking garden pavilions that his architect, Richard Koch, had designed, but these were never built.

In 1958, the Trust began the long process of preparing this private estate for public visitation and interpretation. One of their first decisions was to remove the dense bamboo hedge that had screened Weeks Hall's home from the bustling metropolis of New Iberia, as it had grown rapidly during the first half of the century. Working with Koch, the decision was made to reconstruct one of the outbuildings as a ticketing center, gift shop, and public restrooms. The design of the small structure was based on the photographs of the quarters, and it was built upon the foundations of the original structure. But the building was determined to be too small for its intended use, and was finished out as a public restroom and storage space for gardening tools. It is still used for this purpose.

Today, over 30 years after the Trust took over stewardship of the property, a plan for the preservation and interpretation of the Shadows' landscape has been completed. The conceptual approach is to interpret the early-20th-century landscape as Weeks Hall designed it, while allowing remnants of the earlier layers, such as the footprints of the outbuildings, to be interpreted. The dilemma, of course, is that the foundations and archeological record of one of these buildings is hermetically sealed beneath the concrete slab upon which the "new" building rests.

For now the restrooms are a necessity, and the decision is to live with the irony and cultural mindset of an earlier time. Future plans are to develop a visitor's center off-site, and then the fate of the brick building will have to be determined—whether to destroy a structurally sound reconstruction of a period building so that it can be determined if any of the archeological record has survived, or to interpret the outbuilding as a reconstruction of a slave quarters, or as an example of how preservation thinking has changed. *Suzanne L. Turner is Professor and MLA Program Coordinator for the School of Landscape Architecture, Louisiana State University, in Baton Rouge.*

## Billy Garrett

### Clarifying Stories for Public Education

The question being posed for this discussion is whether the benefits of restoring a historic property justify an attendant loss of potentially significant historic fabric. Minimizing fabric loss is, of course, a primary consideration in historic preservation. But for some, this prescription has become the objective and the sole basis upon which to judge all historic preservation work. To me, this is an over-reaction—a confusion of ends and means. Bottom line, I believe that restoration must be recognized as a viable treatment for historic properties without the albatross of "fabric loss" around its neck.

Restoration, rehabilitation, and preservation are but three of many tools available for management of historic properties. The decision about which of these treatments to pursue should depend on a wide range of factors, both positive and negative, resolved in the context of individual properties. In addition to fabric loss, factors deserving consideration include the historic associations of a property, its historical integrity, physical condition, potential uses, ownership, and available financial support for treatment, operation and maintenance. Proper weighing and consideration of all these factors are central to effective management of any historic property.

The last and, in some sense, most vital factor to be considered when choosing a historic preservation treatment is interpretive clarity. Cultural resources exist to tell stories—to serve as heuristic devices that will stimulate the mind and the spirit. This purpose is greatly aided by the relative degree of authenticity possessed

*(**Weeks**—continued on page 28)*

**The original Little Kinnakeet Life-Saving Station, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Manteo, NC.**

***In the 1990's restoration, those features representing the Coast Guard occupancy will be removed and the complex returned to its original appearance. Photos courtesy Cape Hatteras National Seashore.***

(*Weeks—continued from page 27*)

by a historic property. Equally important to this process is the ease with which people can relate to a historic resource as a thing from the past. This quality, historic character, is particularly important when the property under consideration is owned and operated specifically for its interpretive value.

All properties change over time. Without application of a treatment, the historic character of every historic property is somewhat obscured by accretions, deletions, modifications, and deterioration. Historic preservation treatments slow, but do not stop, this process. Guided by the Secretary's Standards, properties can be managed so that changes minimize damage to historic materials, accommodate contemporary use, and are sympathetic to the historic character.

Although concerns with fabric, use, and character run throughout the Secretary's Standards, each of the primary treatments could be viewed as favoring one concern over the other two. Rehabilitation, for example, acknowledges the pragmatic requirements of use while providing sideboards on fabric loss and character enhancement. Preservation, by contrast, places emphasis on fabric retention with a concomitant restriction on use and change in character. Restoration focuses on clarification of historic character, limits use, and provides measures for mitigation of fabric lost from other periods significant in the history of the property.

As a matter of policy, the preferred treatment for National Park Service properties is not restoration, but preservation. However, where documentation is sufficient and interpretive needs are best met with a restored property, restoration is permitted. One such project is the restoration of Little Kinnakeet Life-Saving Station in Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Like other similar facilities, the Little Kinnakeet Station was modernized and expanded after incorporation of the Life-Saving Service into the Coast Guard. In order to distinguish operational differences between the two agencies, plans call for removal of all Coast Guard modifications evident on the exterior of the complex.

This is not to say that the Coast Guard was historically insignificant, either generally or in the case of Little Kinnakeet. Rather, it is an acknowledgement that in the broader view of resource management, Little Kinnakeet is a logical choice to tell the story of the Life-Saving Service as it operated on the Outer Banks of North Carolina during the 19th century. True, some historic fabric from the Coast Guard era will be lost, but the gain will be a clearer picture of an important national agency that has been nearly obscured by its successor. Taken together, both factors provide a balanced basis for evaluation of the proposed treatment. But between the two, loss of historic fabric would not be an adequate basis upon which to judge this restoration project; enhancement of historic character in the interest of public education is much the fairer measure of its success.

*Billy Garrett is Chief, Falls Church (VA) Office of the Eastern Team, Denver Service Center, National Park Service.*

## Dwight T. Pitcaithley

### Re-Creating the Past

Contrary to popular opinion, the National Park Service does not have a legislated mandate to re-create the past. There is no body of law, regulation, or guideline that declares the past undecipherable to the present unless it is reproduced in all its original three-dimensional glory. A thoroughgoing analysis of federal preservation law from the 1906 Antiquities Act through the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 in its various amended forms, reveals no suggestion that the highest and best use for a historic site is its reincarnation in its original form.

The primary function of the National Park Service is to preserve for future generations physical evidence from the past that has survived to the present. In many, if not most cases, these surviving elements are able to tell their own story with only a little help from historians and interpreters. Others require a more aggressive interpretive program to make them understandable and relevant to contemporary viewers. And a small number need major physical intervention and manipulation to be appreciated.

Yet when planning the future of these important places, seldom does the discussion include an exploration of all treatment and interpretive possibilities available. The assumption underlying all planning efforts is that if the site/building/complex is not restored to its appearance during some earlier "Golden Age," the resource is not getting the respect it deserves and the National Park Service is not being a good steward. Preservation planners somehow believe that only by making a site "just the way it was" can the site be properly interpreted.

This "Brigadoon Syndrome" misses the point of what historic preservation is all about. Historic sites are important to our culture because they have acquired significance with the passage of time. And only through the passage of time can their place and meaning in history be determined. It is ironic, then, that the first thing "preservationists" want to do is remove all vestiges of time from a site.

Cultural resource planners and interpreters could indeed provide greater interpretive opportunities if they began their analysis of a site with an eye toward preserving the tangible remains from the past. If, upon thorough examination and exploration of all interpretation options, the site could not be made intelligible, then, and only then, should re-creation be considered. In short, planners and managers should presume that preservation is the highest and best treatment for a site and move toward the restoration end of the treatment spectrum only after preservation is determined ineffectual.

Unnecessary and rigid restoration dictates often destroy important features that add to the richness of a site. One example of a damaging restoration that was avoided is the Stone Cottage at Val-Kill, the home of Eleanor Roosevelt. Constructed in 1925 following designs by Franklin Roosevelt, the Stone Cottage retained its original Dutch Colonial configuration until the late 1950s. During the last years of Mrs. Roosevelt's life (she died in 1962), one of her sons built a dormer window on the front of the dwelling and converted the screened-in front porch to glass.

During the initial stages of planning for the site, a strong interest surfaced in restoring the cottage to its original, FDR designed, appearance. Restoration proponents argued

After substantial discussion, work on Val-Kill in Hyde Park, NY (Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site) followed a preservation, rather than restoration, philosophy. As a result, the changes made over time to the cottage were retained. Photo by Dwight Pitcaithley.

that the original Dutch Colonial look was most appropriate because of its link to FDR and that the site should commemorate Eleanor's early life there, not the period near her death. Restoration opponents believed that if Val-Kill was to interpret the life of Eleanor Roosevelt, the entire story of her years there, including the presence of her then adult children, must be presented. Ultimately, the NPS decided that Eleanor Roosevelt's occupancy would be interpreted in its entirety and that the 1962 appearance of the site would be preserved. A potentially damaging restoration of the cottage to its 1925 appearance was averted and the site, with all of its idiosyncrasies, remains today in its 1962 configuration.

While admittedly some sites should be restored, many others function perfectly well with their layers of history intact. As a preservation organization, the National Park Service should reestablish a preservation philosophy as the cornerstone of its planning efforts. Interest in re-creating the past should be tempered by Ada Louise Huxtable's reminder that "it has been a short distance down the yellow brick road from Williamsburg to Disneyland."[1]

*Dwight T. Pitcaithley is a historian who serves as Chief, Cultural Resource Services for the National Capital Region, National Park Service.*

**Note**

1 Ada Louise Huxtable. "Inventing American Reality." *The New York Review of Books*, xxxix (December 3, 1992), p. 25.

## Laura B. Feller

### Interpretive, Rather Than Structural, Solutions.

When National Park Service specialists get together, we often speculate about how to set preservation priorities rationally. Accepting that not everything can be protected, we wonder how to manage the inevitable losses that time inflicts on the landscapes and buildings in our care. Some of us decry what we see as our failure of will or ability to exercise judgment about the significance of various resources—to say "this is more important than that." This raises the interpretive questions posed by Kay Weeks' comments. When do we know enough to make intelligent, informed decisions about what to protect and how to interpret it? How do we, in our cultural resources management programs, acknowledge that the study of the past involves a continuing process of analysis and re-interpretation, and that each era will look back at the past differently and ask different questions of the tangible physical evidence of the past?

As Kay Weeks points out, these questions involve not only decisions about which sites or structures will be protected or treated, but also decisions about treatments like restoration that involve interpretation and editing of the resources. When you compare the work of a documentary editor to a restoration or reconstruction, though, the analogy is not exact. Editors do not destroy the original documents from which they have extracted the most telling, revealing, significant passages. Restoration does mean the destruction of the raw material of history, someone's history. Whose story do we obliterate when we restore a building, and why? What are our obligations—to future generations—to protect their ability to make their own judgments about what kinds of historical evidence are meaningful to them?

My own opinion is that when we turn to restoration or reconstruction as a preferred treatment, it is because we seek easy answers to an interpretive problem. Too often, we try to restore or reconstruct to a specific moment in time because, interpretively, we do not want to address history as a continuum of human experience and as a process of continuing analysis. We recognize that it is

*(**Weeks**—continued on page 30)*

The Lockwood House, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia. The house is shown in 1906, after modifications had been made for its use as Storer College. In the 1960s, these modifications were removed to return the house to its pre-Civil War appearance. Photo courtesy Harpers Ferry NHP.

*(Weeks—continued from page 29)*

impossible to truly re-create the past. Nonetheless, in some cases we try to re-create past appearances through restoration or reconstruction. Sometimes we do this at the expense of preserving real physical evidence of past human activities. While informed judgments about relative significance are an important function of cultural resources management, it is also true that the next crop of historians or visitors may very well make a different judgment about what is significant in historical memory. We need to provide some latitude for such reinterpretation in our decisions about restoration and reconstruction.

Just to look at one case in point, we can consider the Lockwood House at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, WV. It was originally built as the paymaster's house for the U.S. armory. After the Civil War it became a key building for Storer College, a historically black college founded in 1865-67. In the 1960s, the NPS emphasis was on the era of John Brown's raid and the Civil War. We made a decision to restore the building's exterior to its appearance at that time, which involved removing a third-story mansard roof that dated from the Storer College period. By no means do I criticize the intentions of those who made this decision; this was the usual, widely accepted thing to do at that time. However, it is still true that by 1980 our conception of the historical importance of Harpers Ferry had expanded to include the story of Storer College. By that year, the park's Development Concept Plan called for interpretation of Lockwood House within the Storer College theme.

I would argue that we need to seek interpretive, rather than structural, solutions to the interpretive problems that often motivate restoration and reconstruction proposals. Today, there is a wealth of media that can present visitors with a visual picture of past conditions, without destroying tangible physical evidence of the continuum of a building's or a landscape's history. We need to use those. We need to have more faith both in visitors' imaginations and their understanding of history as a continuing process, and in our own ability to interpret that process. We also need to make decisions about treatments with respect for the needs of future generations of visitors to reinterpret history and to use park resources as evidence in their reinterpretation. *Laura B. Feller is a historian in the History Division, National Park Service, Washington.*

## Lonnie J. Hovey

### Revisiting a Restoration: The Octagon as a Case Study

The philosophy of restoration, or any other treatment option, is a matter of choosing the appropriate path. Making choices when handling historic sites or buildings can prevent their deterioration or hasten their destruction. The Octagon, a house built between 1799-1801 by Colonel John Tayloe and located on New York Avenue in Washington, DC, provides a unique opportunity to study the different philosophical approaches that architects have used in dealing with older buildings. As the nation's oldest museum devoted to architecture, the house has had architects for owners since it was purchased from descendants of the Tayloe family. The American Institute of Architects (AIA) began renting The Octagon for use as their national headquarters in 1898, eventually purchasing the building in 1902.

One of AIA's first restoration projects occurred between 1910-1911, to meet their stated goal of restoring the building to its original condition. The original marble tile floor of the entrance hall had been removed and a wooden floor installed by the family descendants when the house became a rental property in 1855. Prior to the marble floor being restored, AIA had removed a pair of doors, pilasters, and a fanlight which had been installed between the entrance hall and the adjacent stair hall. AIA correctly observed that the door and fanlight elements were not original to the arched opening because they obscured the decorative detail on the arch fascia and hid some decorative coffers in the larger arch's intrados. Determining that the material was later than the original construction of the house permitted the removal of the doors, pilasters, and fanlight.

Recently, this decision has been re-analyzed with a different conclusion. The American Architectural Foundation's (AAF) Historic Structure Report for The Octagon, compiled by Mesick-Cohen-Waite Architects from Albany, NY, scrutinized the assorted changes made to the building over time and made various recommen-

**Photo by Frances Benjamin Johnston, c. 1898, documents the early-19th-century fanlight, pilasters, and panel doors (in their open position) between The Octagon's entrance and stair halls. Removed 100 years later by the AIA, the partition will be restored. Library of Congress photo courtesy AIA Library & Archives.**

dations. Based on surviving photographs of the doors, pilasters, and fanlight, the carpentry details are very similar to extant woodwork in the building. But further analysis was deemed necessary before an approach could be selected.

Through careful research, it is now theorized that the doors and fanlight might have been part of a sizeable bill which was paid in November 1814. It is possible that the doors were constructed to help control access into the house during the brief, but important, tenancy of President Madison after the British burned the President's House. The doors would have helped to keep the public at bay while the Madisons were inside. The paint analysis confirms that the second finish remained on the wall until the AIA rented the property.

Based on the results of these investigations, the AAF has made the decision to restore the interior of the entrance hall to the second finish period, and proposes to reconstruct the doors, pilasters and fanlight which were unfortunately removed and lost in the 1910-1911 restoration campaign. Overall, the current project seeks to preserve and conserve as much of the original building fabric as possible, while improving the building's systems. As stewards of this architectural treasure, it is The Foundation's obligation and responsibility to maintain The Octagon for future generations. The documentation being compiled as part of the current restoration is being used as an educational opportunity for the profession to learn from the past. *Lonnie J. Hovey, AIA, is Preservation Coordinator for The Octagon, a National Historic Landmark in Washington, DC.*

## Paul L. Hedren

### A Perspective on the Reconstruction Quandary

In her introduction to these essays, Kay Weeks makes an eloquent case for the significance of history continuum, and that restoration and reconstruction—the most radical historic preservation treatments—can necessarily force arbitrary conditions on a place and its values. One hopes, of course, that the intellectual processes challenging historians, planners, managers, and other keepers of the nation's cultural treasures properly weigh the consequences of the treatment decisions they make for these places. I fully believe they do.

**Definitions**

The ultimate treatment of a historic structure is...based on considerations of use and the historic character that should be presented to the public." *Cultural Resource Management Guideline, NPS-28,* Chapter 8. (rev. 1994)

"**Restoration** is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period." The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.* (rev. 1992)

"**Reconstruction** is defined as the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific time and in its historic location." The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.* (rev. 1992)

As the manager of a historic property partially reconstructed in the late-1980s, I have had ample opportunity to weigh-in on the reconstruction debate. Indeed, in the specific case of North Dakota's Fort Union Trading Post, a conscious decision was made to transform a century-old archeological site having no surface remains into a reflection of a heady business and architectural complex from the mid-19th century.

Fort Union's reconstruction meant sacrificing portions of its archeological component and transforming a grassed-over plain (both legitimate dimensions of the site's history continuum) into a re-created edifice. The managers deciding Fort Union's fate in the mid-1980s agonized greatly over their decision, but inevitably chose a course of action. As a result, intangible and oft-times abstract resources were made tangible, and Fort Union's continuum of history was made to include a re-created complex.

*(**Weeks**—continued on page 32)*

**Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, Williston, ND. Archeological remains are shown in 1987, including the northeast bastion, east palisade wall, and small section of the north wall. Right: The reconstructed Bourgeois House, shown in 1992, serves as the visitor center. Photos courtesy Fort Union NHS.**

*(Weeks—continued from page 31)*

Whether the Fort Union decision was a good one or not may never be satisfactorily answered, and opinions are sharply divided. But as managers remember that they are ultimately stewards of public resources, and as they weigh legitimate public opinion in their debate, and as they duly agonize over the tangible versus intangible, and abstract versus obvious, reconstruction will remain among treatment options and choices, just as Fort Union.

Interestingly, something of a parallel to Fort Union's post-life history/park-era development quandary exists on the Northern Plains, where planners and managers seem to be taking quite a different tack. Late in 1868, Lakota Indians burned all vestiges of the much-hated Fort Phil Kearny, a military post once guarding the storied Bozeman Trail. Today the fort's elusive archeological remnant is a Wyoming state historic site, and the park is minimally developed. As existed at modern-day Fort Union, there was and may still be a considerable local interest in reconstructing some or all of the post. But in Fort Phil Kearny's case, historians have eloquently elevated its century of barrenness to a primal value in its history continuum. In the why and how of the fort's destruction by Lakota Indians, the lack of a tangible resource after 1868 is a powerful statement. In essence, today at Fort Phil Kearny, nothing is everything.

Inevitably, preservationists must weigh their actions against the larger spectrum of history enveloping their treasures. Fort Union's post-life barrenness failed to capture even the remotest sense of its original life and greatness, so the place was partially reconstructed. Fort Phil Kearny's destruction and century-long barrenness may prove to be its most intriguing and enduring value, ultimately leading planners and managers wisely around any prospect of reconstruction. Beyond buried archeology, in neither case were there physical remnants to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore. In both cases was the debate prolonged and learned, fully cognizant of physical and interpretive memory, and entirely befitting the extraordinary cultural properties involved. *Paul L. Hedren is Superintendent, Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, North Dakota/Montana.*

**For additional reading on this subject, refer to *CRM*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (1989) and Vol. 13, No. 1 (1990).**

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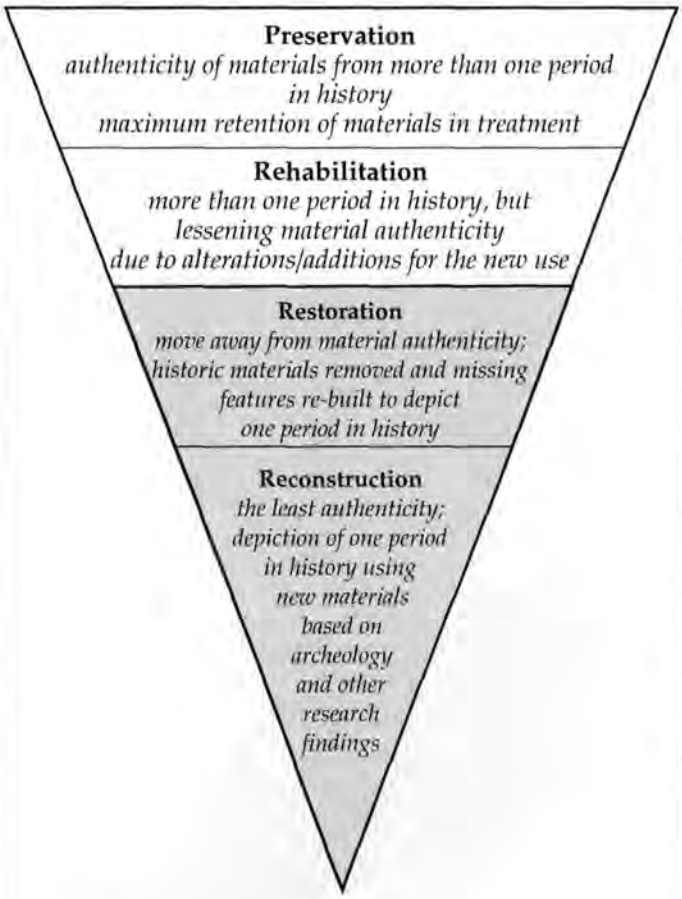
Kay Weeks is an art historian who serves as technical writer-editor for the Preservation Assistance Division, National Park Service. She has written several other articles on the subject of treating historic properties and is an author of *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.*

**Treatment Options/Predicting Loss and Change**

*Preservation* requires retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric, along with the building's historic form, features, and detailing as they have evolved over time. *Rehabilitation* acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or new uses while retaining the building's historic character. *Restoration* allows for the depiction of a building at a particular time in its history by preserving materials from the period of significance and removing materials from other periods. *Reconstruction* establishes a limited framework for re-creating a vanished or non-surviving building with new materials, primarily for interpretive purposes.

An inverted pyramid suggests the varying degree of material retention following treatment, and emphasizes the shift from material authenticity to historical depiction in restoration and reconstruction.




Graph: Kay Weeks

# Archival and Manuscript Materials at the NPS

Diane Vogt-O'Connor

Archival and manuscript collections are accumulations of documents with a common creator or collector. Any information recorded in a tangible form may be an archival document including such materials as architectural drawings, archeological field notes, audiotapes, correspondence, diaries, electronic records, ethnographic records, graphic prints, manuscripts, motion picture films, natural and cultural history resource management records, natural history field notes, photographs, reports, and videotapes. The National Park Service manages archival and manuscript collections as part of the park museum collections since they have permanent value as park resources. Making up over 41% of NPS museum collections, archival and manuscript collections document changes to parks over time, serving as a site's memory.

### Who Uses Archives?

Park archeologists, ethnographers, historians, interpreters, managers, and scientists use these audio-visual, electronic, and textual materials as baseline data for cultural and natural resource management activities. Park staff and outside researchers also use archival and manuscript materials for research, exhibitions, and publications such as administrative histories.

These archival and manuscript collections include **acquired materials** created by individuals and organizations original to the park sites or related to park-topical interests as well as park-produced **cultural and natural resource management records.**

Acquired archival materials, such as the papers of Thomas Edison or Frederick Law Olmsted, provide historical evidence related to the site. Without these acquired archives, the historical significance of the site would be diminished; therefore, they are **integral parts of a park's resource base as well as being resources in their own right.** Frequently original to the park site, these collections provide the historical source material for exhibitions, interpretation, reference, and understanding the site's significance. These collections convey the park's history in many voices from the personal papers of the individuals whose life the park celebrates to those of individuals and organizations that existed on or near the park site over the years.

The resource management records created by the park staff are the baseline data used in studying, interpreting, and managing NPS cultural and natural resources. Important resources in their own right, these park-created collections are essential for discipline-related studies such as anthropology, archeology, botany, cultural landscapes, entomology, geology, historic architecture, history, mammology, and paleobiology. Without both kinds of archival and manuscript collections, the NPS's ability to manage its resources and document the history and significance of the parks, as well as the people and events which shaped them, would be lost.

### How are Archival and Manuscript Collections Different from Other Research Materials?

Although the collection may also be related by subject matter, by document type, or by the creating entity (e.g., individual, family, or organization), an archival collection has a shared creator or collector. An archival collection accumulated by a single individual, family, or organization may contain items, such as letters or photographs, created by many different people.

Therefore, in archives the principle of "provenance" is used, rather than authorship. Provenance is defined as the entity (e.g., individual, family, or organization) that created or accumulated the collection, as well as the collection's history of ownership. In applying the principle of provenance, archivists do not mix or interfile collections from separate sources.

A single archival collection consists not only of the audio-visual, electronic, and textual documents, and their history of ownership, but also the original order in which the various materials have been placed. Most archival collections have an internal arrangement or order. This order was either imposed by the collection creator when the collection was produced or imposed by the individual who assembled the materials. This internal order, called "original order," is critical to the collection's interpretation and use.

The collection's original order provides physical evidence of the creator's actions, relationships, and work patterns. Preserving the collection's original order significantly enriches the value of the collection for researchers. The position of the document in the file often indicates who saw it, who modified it, who used it, and when. Archival research is often the only way to discover, "What did he know and when did he know it?"

Archival and manuscript collections may be as small as two items or as large as many million items. Larger collections are often correspondingly diverse in the documents they contain and complex in their levels of arrangement. Archivists use the concept of "series" to identify and manage documents within complex collections. A series is a natural grouping of documents arranged or maintained as a unit within a file system because of the shared circumstances of creation, receipt, format, or use.

### What Do Archivists Do?

Archivists seek to provide physical and intellectual control of the collections for which they are responsible by evaluating, collecting, preserving, arranging, describing, and providing reference service. Physical control refers to managing the rehousing, environment, and security of the documents. Intellectual control refers to managing the informational content of the documents so that necessary materials may be located for reference and research.

The Curatorial Services Division is currently working with park and regional staff to locate non-current audio-visual, electronic, and textual records in the parks. NPS

*(Vogt-O'Connor—continued on page 34)*

*(Vogt-O'Connor—continued from page 33)*

parks contain museum archival collections both created and acquired by NPS staff. As described in the *Departmental Manual* ("Museum Property Management," Part 411, 1/8/93) and NPS-28, *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, there are several categories of archival and manuscript collections found within the parks, including active and inactive official federal records and non-official records.

**The National Archives and the National Park Service**

Referred to as "records" by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the NPS *Records Management Guidelines*, official records are defined as the original documents created and received in the course of performing the daily work of the NPS, including audit records, budgets, central park correspondence files, contracting records, financial records, law enforcement records, legal records, museum records (e.g., accession, loan, catalog, and inventory records), permits, personnel records, and so forth. These records are produced to meet a federal requirement of tracking or record-keeping.

Official records are managed according to the *Records Management Guideline*, NPS-19. With the exception of permanent records (such as museum records), official records are said to have a "life cycle" through which they pass—from active daily use in the offices, to inactive storage with access available for reference, to disposition.

Disposition of inactive official records can include any of several actions—such as destruction, transfer to another agency, or official transfer to a Federal Records Center (FRC) or to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)—depending upon the requirements of NPS-19. Official records may be transferred to low-cost FRC storage facilities for a period in order to determine their potential value for reference, research, legal requirements, or fiscal purposes.

These official records—with a few exceptions—are not essential to the management of park resources. After they are no longer needed for current use, the disposition is determined by the park records manager according to NPS-19. Under no circumstances may official records be added to the park's museum or library collections.

The original copy of an official federal record is the "record" copy, while other copies, duplicates, or variant records (which the National Archives does not collect) may be called "sub-official," "non-official," or "non-record copies." Official federal records are managed using NPS-19, and the services of NARA and the Federal Records Centers (FRC). **By law, NARA has responsibility for the official records of the federal government.**

NARA operates the FRCs, which provide free storage and access to inactive official government records awaiting destruction or transfer to NARA. Until transferred or destroyed, these official records remain under the control of the originating agency (NPS) and the FRC must contact the NPS before initiating destruction or transfer procedures. Note: The FRC is not an appropriate place to store non-official records such as resource management collections.

Museum records—such as accession, catalog, loan, and inventory records—are maintained permanently in the park for use in controlling museum objects. Other official federal records that have not been identified for permanent retention in the parks but which are needed for current business must be appraised through NPS-19. As necessary, these active records are certified by the Archivist of the United States (NARA) for long-term retention in the park. After official federal records are judged to no longer be needed for current use, they must be disposed of by the park's records manager in accordance with the records schedule provided in NPS-19.

Because NPS museum archival and manuscript collections are **made or acquired for reference or exhibition purposes, they are non-official records** (i.e., non-record materials) as defined by NARA (44 USC 3301).

Most original archival materials that remain permanently in the parks are non-official records either created outside of the NPS—such as the archives of an association—or generated during the course of conducting business, but not qualifying as official federal records—such as reference collections of copy or duplicate documents. Thus, both the Thomas Edison papers and the field notes of a park archeologist are non-official records (i.e., non-record materials).

Non-official records that were created for reference or exhibition are museum property if they fit the park's Scope of Collection Statement and the park's archival appraisal criteria. For purposes of control, publications that are rare or original to the site are also managed as museum property, although they may also be cataloged in the library system.

**Park Staff and Museum Archival and Manuscript Collections**

As materials are discovered by park museum staff in warehouses, attics, basements, and offices they are surveyed to determine their contents and status under NPS-19. If the materials are official records, such as personnel, permit-granting, law-enforcement, audit-related, legal, or financial records, as defined by NPS-19 and NPS-28, the museum staff remind the records manager of the need to determine their disposition, such as eventual transfer to a FRC.

The curator cares for the park's non-official collections by first assembling all existing collections documentation in order to get an overview of the various collections. The curator then physically surveys the potential non-official archival holdings of the museum on a collection-by-collection basis. The survey gathers information on the collection's title, dates, provenance, subject matter, size, document types, arrangement, restrictions, and condition. This survey may be completed as part of a Collection Management Plan (CMP).

Once the survey is completed, a collection-level survey record is produced describing what the curator discovered about the collection. This record includes the collection title, dates, provenance, size, document formats and processes, subject matter, arrangement, restrictions, and preservation state. The preliminary collection-level record provides essential information which may be useful for the creation of a preservation problem list, the ordering list for supplies, a collection-level record, and the collection evaluation for appraisal.

The next step, the collection appraisal or evaluation, determines if the park will keep the collection based upon NPS-19, the park's Scope of Collection Statement, whether the collection is site-related or not, and whether it has intellectual, artifactual, evidential, monetary, associational, or other values.

If accepted into the museum collection, archival and manuscript accessions must first be accessioned and then factored into all park planning and management documentation. The collection is then stabilized by basic cleaning and rehousing in archival storage such as acid-free folders and boxes. The collection's original order is carefully maintained. As the rehousing proceeds, the curator keeps notes on the collection's arrangement and any preservation or legal problems noticed such as copyright or privacy issues. The curator **does not** rearrange the collection as the rehousing proceeds. Following rehousing the collection is placed in a stable and secure environment.

During rehousing, a listing of folder headings is produced to provide intellectual access to the collection. Curators may add additional information to the original folder headings. Subject headings, inclusive dates, creator or correspondent's names, and document types may be added to the original folder titles to create a more detailed container list.

Once this folder list (i.e., container list) is produced, edited, and fact-checked, it is indexed. The indexed folder list is attached to the edited collection-level survey record for use as a preliminary finding aid. After the editing and indexing of the folder list, two steps remain to be done. First, the expanded information from the folder-list is then selectively added to the collection-level survey record, which is also edited and fact-checked. Second, the curator then catalogs the collection into the Automated National Catalog System (ANCS) using the updated collection-level record as the basis of the catalog record.

Item-level inventories or databases of all documents in a collection are produced only very rarely for particularly small or extremely valuable collections as this work is labor-intensive without providing good intellectual access to the collections. The archival approach involves providing good access to all collections at the collection-level, the series-level, and the folder-level in that order **before** attempting to provide access to any one item within a collection.

In parks whose museums contain many archival or manuscript collections, park staff prepare a brief guide to all the park's archival holdings as soon as the survey record has been edited and spell-checked and any important new information discovered about the collection during the folder-list preparation is added to the survey record. Such an indexed multi-collection guide is a major asset for researchers, as it helps identify which collections will be useful for further research.

Ultimately, it is the park curator who provides research access to the processed collections and manages them on a day-to-day basis. Curators provide the preliminary physical and intellectual access to museum archival and manuscript collections—unless there is a special restriction on the material due to donor conditions, preservation, or legal reasons such as copyright or privacy concerns.

When providing reference access, curators are responsible for implementing security, monitoring and documenting researcher use of collections, and preserving collections through the enforcement of special handling and duplication procedures. Without these policies and procedures, the documents may be stolen, damaged, or worn out from frequent use. Guidelines for carrying out these responsibilities are available in the *Museum Handbook,* Part I, Appendix J, and Part II, Appendix D.

The curator's remaining tasks are to set the priorities for collections processing and conservation and to work with regional staff to prepare a processing plan indicating the phases, products (e.g., database, finding aids), and resources needed in any final processing of the collection.

The above described steps are the basic archival activities for park curatorial staff. Beyond this work the staff will be involved in communicating their additional archival support needs for collection arrangement, conservation, and finding aid production to the regional and Washington offices so that archivists can be hired for the next, more advanced, stage of archival work, and so that funds may be programmed for future work.

### Training Needed for Archival Work

Unless the curator has received both classroom and hands-on training in archival collection arrangement, description, preservation, and finding aid production, this more advanced work should be completed only by a regional, park, or contract archivist. Parks with archival and manuscript collections must obtain training for their curators in archival work. Archival training opportunities are regularly listed on the NPS Servicewide Curatorial Bulletin Board and the Ranger Activities Morning Report. Both are on cc:Mail. The regional curator may encourage a trained park curator to undertake some archival arrangement and description work under the supervision of an archivist.

The archivist arranges and describes a collection to make a collection fully accessible to researchers. The archivist may produce a finding aid and database or park-wide name and subject index, depending on the requirements stated in the processing plan. The archivist identifies other necessary work, such as conservation, and may update the ANCS catalog record, as well as add any new documentation to the museum accession files.

Once the collection is processed and park access and usage policies and security are in place, the archivist can assist in publicizing the collection through the *National Inventory of Documentary Sources* and the *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections* uploading into the Research Library Information Network and the Online Computer Library Center.

NPS archival collections are the institutional memory of the National Park Service and may be significant resources in their own right. As informational resource bases, they allow us to track changes to the parks over time. With proper care, they will provide key data to park staff well into the 21st century.

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Diane Vogt-O'Connor is Senior Archivist, Curatorial Services Division, National Park Service, Washington, DC.

# Park History Advisory Committee

## Draft Statement of Goals and Accomplishments

**Barry Mackintosh**

This is a report on the purpose, progress, and outcome of the recent NPS History Programs Strategic Planning Meeting held in Baltimore, MD, which will henceforth be known as the Park History Advisory Committee (PHAC).

The Vail Agenda and the Humanities Review Committee of the National Park System Advisory Board have called upon the National Park Service to strengthen its professionalism in historical research and interpretation. To this end they have recommended certain changes within the NPS organization and greater interaction with outside academic institutions, professional organizations, and scholars.

With these recommendations in mind, the NPS History Division hosted a meeting in Baltimore on March 29–31, 1994, to identify constructive ways to improve the bureau's history programs and initiate steps to implement them.

Before the meeting, the participants had been asked to propose issues for discussion. They responded with 25 suggested topics, nearly all of which received attention in 21 group discussions held during the first two days:

Making NPS historical studies more usable
Promoting professionalism
What is an NPS historian?
Streamlining Section 106 compliance
The role of the research historian
Supporting interpretation
The role of historians in park planning
More studies with less money
Servicing our customers/historical societies
Preserving and interpreting cultural landscapes
National Historic Landmarks Survey/special resource studies/national significance
Strengthening ties with academia
Using new technologies
Interpreting the big picture
The role of the History Division
Historians in the parks
The new social history
The bias for historic-fabric-related research
Improving communications
The National Register program

The groups concluded their discussions by proposing specific actions to resolve problems and improve programs. Then and in a final plenary session in which each group's findings and recommendations were presented, participants volunteered to take responsibility for initiating or carrying out the various actions. The History Division was targeted with general responsibility for some of them, and committees were formed to collaborate further on many. At the conclusion of the meeting the chief historian committed the History Division to move immediately on several recommended actions:

- Coordinating preparation of an NPS historians' handbook, to include such topics as alternative ways of accomplishing research projects, serving management better, taking advantage of new technologies, and publishing guidance;
- Preparing a directory of NPS historians, with information on their professional backgrounds and specialties;
- Expanding the list of NPS historians in the *AHA Directory of History Departments and Organizations* to include historians in regional offices, centers, and parks;
- Publishing annually in *CRM* a list of NPS-related historical research projects recently completed or underway;
- Issuing a computerized history newsletter to improve communications among NPS historians;
- Adjusting Cultural Resources Preservation Program criteria to encourage history studies addressing multiple parks or topics where cost-effective;
- Establishing annual awards, funded by NPS cooperating associations, for the best book, journal article, and dissertation on NPS history by outside scholars.

Other recommendations will be adopted following additional input from small task forces and Washington Office review.

The meeting adjourned with a strong sense that the discussions had been focused and productive, that the recommendations were sound, and that the participants were prepared to translate them into positive results. It was a good beginning.

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Barry Mackintosh is Bureau Historian for the National Park Service.

# The National Maritime Alliance

**Kevin J. Foster**

The United States is a maritime nation, founded on wealth wrested from and carried upon the water. This maritime heritage is an essential aspect of our country's history. The preservation of these unique resources and their rich legacy have been sorely neglected. Many irreplaceable lighthouses, vessels and other structures are endangered; too many have been lost. What little of this national heritage that exists does so through the heroic efforts of individuals and groups across the country.

Organized maritime preservation was long considered a hodge-podge collection of people working toward diverse, but related, goals. The field was recognized as multiple small constituencies rather than one larger, inclusive constituency. Most people consider the maritime preservation movement to include these subfields: lighthouse and ship preservation; traditional skills education in sailing and boatbuilding; maritime museums; historic canals and waterways; nautical archeology; and

historical societies, folklorists, ethnographers, archives, and libraries with maritime collections.

While there have always been a few individuals and organizations that worked with multiple maritime subfields, there has been a movement toward more cooperation and communication in the last 20 years between different maritime heritage interests. The outgrowth of this movement was the formation in 1987 of the National Maritime Alliance. It is a direct descendant of the Maritime Heritage Task Force, the organization that has advised and worked with the National Park Service since the early 1980s. For the first time leaders of all of these diverse maritime heritage and preservation groups began to act in concert.

The Alliance was formed as an IRS 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation to "advance the shared interests of organizations dedicated to the preservation of America's maritime heritage." Since 1993, the Alliance has represented the maritime preservation community through a cooperative agreement with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Trust closed its own maritime program in September 1993, transferred its records to the Alliance and began partially funding the Alliance's technical assistance program. In February of this year, the Alliance received a grant from the J. Aron Charitable Foundation to establish a national resource center using the maritime files from the National Trust. The contents of the files are being transferred onto a database so that the information can be more readily available.

The Maritime Alliance has co-sponsored several National Maritime Preservation Conferences with the National Park Service and the National Trust. These conferences are the only comprehensive maritime preservation meetings held on a regular basis in this country. The most recent conference was held on Thompson Island in Boston Harbor. In the opening address of the conference, Michael Naab, then Director of the Maritime Office of the National Trust, summed up the direction in which maritime preservation is moving:

"No matter what field of maritime preservation we're in, we share a great deal. This conference is designed to bring us together as One field."

The Alliance has also worked closely with the National Maritime Initiative of the National Park Service, which is tasked by Congress to cooperate with the maritime preservation community. As the voice for that community, the Alliance is a natural partner in preservation with the National Park Service.

Working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Alliance has also been seeking support and participation from maritime industries, marine unions, and other professional organizations that celebrate the maritime tradition. These groups have expressed a clear need for additional support for maritime heritage education and preservation. This support must come from beyond the traditional sources of preservation funding.

In the past the federal government has provided one-time financial support to maritime resources through two acts: in 1979 the Maritime Heritage Preservation Grants Program awarded five million dollars to 220 projects in 26 states; and, over three years beginning in 1988, three million dollars in grants were made to over 200 lighthouse projects across the country.

**National Maritime Heritage Act**

In 1993 Congressman Tom Andrews of Maine introduced a bill into the House of Representatives calling for the creation of a national maritime preservation and education program. The program would be administered as a preservation partnership between the Maritime Administration of the Department of Transportation (DOT/MARAD) and the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior (DOI/NPS).

If the bill is passed it will provide funds from the sale (for scrapping) of Defense Reserve Fleet ships of DOT/MARAD to be transferred to the DOI/NPS, for the promotion of maritime heritage, history, preservation, and education.

The Secretary of the Interior, working through NPS, would administer the maritime heritage grant-in-aid program through the State Historic Preservation Offices and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP). The NTHP would expand their existing cooperative agreement with Maritime Alliance to include assistance with the grant program.

This bill has been introduced in both the House of Representatives and in the Senate, and is in revision in the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee at the present. If passed, the National Maritime Preservation Act promises to be a tremendous boon to maritime preservation and education in the United States.

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Kevin J. Foster is Maritime Historian of the National Park Service.

**Park Practice Program**

The editors of the Park Practice Program are seeking input from professionals in cultural resource management who wish to share their ideas or success stories with their colleagues.

The Park Practice Program publications *TRENDS*, *GRIST*, and *DESIGN* provide a vehicle for sharing technical information among professionals in park and recreation agencies, states, academia, local governments, and the private sector. Cooperatively produced by the National Park Service and the National Recreation and Park Association, a private, non-profit organization, this publications program has been in existence for over 40 years and features timely, practical information on both natural and cultural resource management and operations.

Recently, a 4-issue series of *DESIGN* featured Preserving Historic Materials; *TRENDS* has focused several issues on Cultural Resource Management; and *GRIST* has offered a variety of "how-to" preservation tips. These quarterly publications offer a compendium of technical information which is beyond reproach in the field and they maintain their usefulness long after the publication date. The library format and matching 3-ring binders provide easy, on-the-shelf storage and ready reference.

Articles and ideas, and requests for subscription information should be sent to Managing Editor, Park Practice Program, National Park Service (781), P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; 202-343-7067.

# Preservation Resources

## Review

*Museum Curatorship in the National Park Service, 1904-1982* by Ralph H. Lewis. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Curatorial Services Division, Washington, DC, 1993. 396 pp.

Reviewed by Frederick L. Rath, Jr.

There is no one better able to present a detailed history of the development of professional museum curatorship in the Service than Ralph Lewis. He was hired as a museum assistant just prior to the appointment in 1935 of Ned Burns as superintendent of field laboratories in the newly-created Museum Division. Ned was named chief of the division in August 1936, and in the next 17 years—until his death in 1953—through his actions and the dictates he enunciated in his *Field Manual for Museums*, he became known as one of the great pioneer leaders in the profession. He was succeeded by his principal assistant, Ralph Lewis, who quietly and ably stepped into the master's footprints; in a reorganization in 1964, he became chief of the Branch of Museum Operations. He retired in 1971, but since that time, living in Harpers Ferry, he has been a constant observer, volunteer helpmate, and author on Park Service curatorial affairs. His *Manual For Museums* was published by the Service in 1976 and the present publication, conceived in 1978, completes the story of how two men, with their staffs, were able over a 35-year span to put in place one of the most distinguished museum programs in the world and one of the largest. It's a fine story.

*Museum Curatorship* was 15 years in the making, with too many Park Service personnel to acknowledge here, aiding and abetting Ralph's tireless efforts to research and unravel the complicated story. The first five chapters (220 pages) deal with museum development in the parks to 1982. It is perhaps not surprising that Yosemite and Yellowstone pioneered in establishing collections—flora, fauna, and even minerals—and Casa Grande was displaying archeological specimens long before the Park Service came into being in 1916. Soon thereafter, however, the Secretary of the Interior set the official policy by authorizing both educational and recreational use of the parks, as well as the establishment of museums. By 1919, Director Stephen Mather had named a National Parks Educational Committee and within a few years it could be said that ethnology and history were accepted as secondary subject areas. The museum program began to blossom when Horace Albright became director in 1929 and soon appointed Verne Chatelain as the first chief historian. In fairly short order at Colonial and then at Morristown, museum planning on a broad scale was underway. The era came to a significant end, for the activity culminated in enactment of the Historic Sites Act of 1935 with a clear legal authority to operate museums.

In the years ahead, with major underwriting by FDR's NRA and its satellites, the Park Service surged forward. Lewis recounts warmly how in 1941 Ned Burns and his colleagues were able to produce the first *Field Manual for Museums*. It was—and still is—a classic statement of how far the Park Service had come in regularizing this facet of its educational mission, the care and handling of its burgeoning collections and their use and interpretation for a public seeking their heritage on the road. Looking behind what the Park Service was doing, Ned Burns summed up the final step, interpretation, for me when he said, "Never overestimate the knowledge of your visitors, but never underestimate their intelligence." I came to know—as Ned did—that in the field you would run across men and women occasionally who had specialized knowledge in depth and then you listened and learned.

The first 15 pages of Chapter Six, "Furnished Historic Structure Museums," interested me particularly because it deals with the period of my involvement with Park Service. In it Ralph Lewis corroborates my own belief that at Morristown, under the direction of Superintendent Elbert Cox and Historian Melvin Weig, the pieces of a new kind of interdisciplinary approach were falling into place. (Charles Hosmer noted this later and wrote knowingly about it in *Preservation Comes of Age*.) What was happening at the Ford Mansion and the Wick House in Morristown and at the Vanderbilt Mansion and the Roosevelt Home in Hyde Park after World War II was that the interdisciplinary approach to the problems of restoring and furnishing Park Service historic houses was being defined. It was exciting to be a small part of it, as I was, and to meet the men and women who were initiating it. And, interestingly enough, the expertise being developed in the Service led almost directly to the eventual formation of the National Trust for Historic Preservation when David Finley, director of the National Gallery, asked for the assistance of Chief Historian Ronald Lee to help solve the problems at Hampton, a great 18th-century mansion at Towson, MD. Finley and Lee, with Horace Albright and George McAneny, were principal catalysts in forming the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings, which in turn directed the movement to establish the National Trust. The leapfrog effect?

Lewis calls collections "the heart of the museum" at the beginning of the next chapter and then offers some stupefying figures. By 1976 there was a total of 9,701,959 specimens in the parks, an estimated 92.5% archeological and manuscript materials. Since only half of them had been cataloged, a National Catalog was authorized in 1977. There are detailed accounts here of the two major categories of collections, natural resources and cultural resources. And that in turn leads naturally to collection management, which gets full treatment in Chapter Eight where accession policies and procedures, museum records, specimen protection and routine care, and curatorial staffing are discussed.

In the final chapter, "Conservation of Cultural and Scientific Objects," Lewis reviews the two phases of what took place between 1916 and 1982. He proceeds from the empirical phase (1916-1948) to the scientific conservation phase that developed during the next 34 years. In the first phase, observation and experiment proceeded largely from the defining of the work conservators do by Harold Plenderleith of the British Museum Laboratory in his *Preservation of Antiquities* and the pioneering and new standards being developed at the Fogg Museum, Harvard University. Slowly, carefully, the Service began to formulate its program of scientific conservation that is in place to this day.

Historians of the future will have to use this book; they will find that the evidence is documented at the end of each chapter and is bolstered by a comprehensive bibliography and index. *Museum Curatorship in the National Park Service* is not for bedtime reading; it is a stalwart piece of research and thoughtful observation by a man who helped to bring this aspect of the Service program to fulfillment. We have a right to be grateful to Ralph Lewis for giving us this overview.

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Historian Fred Rath has contributed several informative and entertaining articles to *CRM*, including "Reflections on Historic Preservation and the National Park Service: The Early Years" (Vol. 14, No. 4); "Oral History: The Hyde Park Project" (Vol. 16, No. 10); and a review of Roger G. Kennedy's *Rediscovering America* (Vol. 17, No. 1).

## Publications

### Composition Ornament

The Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service announces the release of *Preservation Brief 34: Applied Decoration for Historic Interiors—Preserving Composition Ornament* by Jonathan Thornton and William Adair, FAAR. It describes the history, appearance, and characteristics of this uniquely pliable decorative material that was originally used to simulate the appearance of more expensive wood decoration. The manufacture of

architectural "compo" is described and its history traced in a variety of interior settings from the 18th to late-20th centuries. Guidance is provided to help identify it and prescribe appropriate treatments, depending upon whether the project goal is preservation or restoration. The Brief is available from the Government Printing Office for $1.50 (stock number: 024-005-01137-4). For further information on ordering Preservation Briefs 1-33 through direct GPO sales or using GPO's convenient standing order service, write Preservation Assistance Division (424), National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

**Historic Landscapes**

The National Park Service is pleased to announce the publication of *Presenting Nature: The Historic Landscape Design of The National Park Service—1916 to 1942*, by Linda Flint McClelland. This study, published by the National Register of Historic Places, was developed primarily to encourage nomination of historic park landscapes of national and state parks to the National Register of Historic Places. The idea for the study came from the growing interest in landscape preservation and the concern that, while significant park buildings and structures were being recognized, the larger landscapes of which they were an integral part were being overlooked. The objective was to develop a national context for identifying, evaluating, and registering the vast number of historic park landscapes influenced by the design ethic developed and practiced by the National Park Service. The largest group of these are areas of national, state, and local parks developed by the CCC under the direction of landscape architects, architects, and engineers of the National Park Service in the 1930s. The initial funding for this study came from a grant from the Horace Albright (now Albright-Wirth) Employee Development Fund of the National Park Foundation, a non-profit organization devoted to supporting National Park Service employees and initiatives.

To order a copy, free of charge, write to Linda McClelland, Interagency Resources Division (413), National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127. A review by Jim Steely, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission, will appear in a future issue of *CRM*.

**New England Antiquities**

The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA) announces the revival of its publication *Old-Time New England*, a journal devoted to the architecture, household furnishings, domestic arts, manners and customs, and material culture of the New England people. After a seven-year hiatus, SPNEA plans to recommence publication of the journal in March 1995.

Featuring pictorial, descriptive, and analytic presentations of architecture and artifacts of historical and aesthetic interest, essays on methods of identifying, interpreting, and preserving artifacts, and explorations of social history, regional craftsmanship, and aspects of daily life, *Old-Time New England* constitutes a valuable resource for students of New England and American history and culture, and offers fascinating reading for those interested in regional history, architecture, and antiques.

*Old-Time New England* is now accepting submissions for the March 1995 issue. Manuscripts must be received by July 15, 1994, for consideration for the March issue. Manuscripts received thereafter will be considered for forthcoming issues. The deadline for receipt of manuscripts for the next issue is December 1, 1994.

For details, write to: Editor, *Old Time New England*, SPNEA, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114.

**CAMP**

As the nation's only national organization with the dual objectives of military history and historic preservation, the Council on America's Military Past (CAMP) extends an invitation to membership. Representing diverse professions ranging from historians to archeologists, museumologists to architects, engineers to authors, active and retired military of all ranks from four stars to no stripes, genealogists to archivists, and just plain hobbyists, the council's only requirement for membership is an interest in its objectives. Recognition of the role played by the military in the foundation and protection of the nation is the reason for CAMP. Organized at a time that the military and national security and patriotic values generally were in public disfavor, CAMP was and is intended to preserve and disseminate the record of the military's accomplishments.

To receive a descriptive brochure and information on membership, write to CAMP, P.O. Box 1151, Ft. Myer, VA 22211-0151.

**NADB**

The National Archeological Database (NADB) is a communications network, available 24 hours a day, which provides on-line access to information important to preserving America's archeological heritage. The network, which cites over 100,000 reports of archeological investigations, will soon offer nationwide access to federal excavation permits issued before 1984 and mapping capabilities to display data at state and county levels. NADB is a system for gathering information as well as disseminating it. To keep NADB records current, the National Park Service works in partnership with federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies, professional societies, and educational and scientific organizations.

For an information brochure about the NADB-Network and technical assistance, contact the NADB program coordinator at the Archeological Assistance Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; 202-343-4101.

**National Trust Library Collection**

Established in 1986 on the campus of the University of Maryland at College Park, the National Trust for Historic Preservation Library Collection (NTL) serves the nation as a central repository for permanently valuable materials pertaining to historic preservation. The NTL staff has prepared a computerized index to its preservation periodicals; the index is also available in book form and contains 5,400 citations to articles published between 1987 and 1990. In addition, NTL maintains an index to publications generated by the nation's various State Historic Preservation Offices, currently citing approximately 350 records; an index to the National Trust for Historic Preservation *Information* series; and a nationwide index to unpublished historic structure reports and archeological site studies. Each database is continually updated. NTL encourages all preservationists, both individually and collectively, to apprise it of recent studies and publications, and to notify it of the availability of materials of lasting importance. Through the help of a nationwide network of preservationists, NTL will continue to fulfill its role as the country's most significant single source for historic preservation information.

The NTL collection is located in the McKeldin Library, on the campus of the University of Maryland at College Park, and is open to the public by appointment from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, and without an appointment from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Due to the special nature of the collection, all NTL materials must be used on site. For further information on the holdings of the NTL, its use, or donations to the collection, contact: The National Trust for Historic Preservation Library Collection; Sally Sims Stokes, Curator; McKeldin Library; University of Maryland at College Park; College Park, MD 20742; 301-405-6320.

**US/ICOMOS Special Issue**

The US/ICOMOS Specialized Committee on Earthen Architecture has published its second annual newsletter which describes preservation activities in earthen architecture by its members in the United States and abroad. The issue contains a wide variety of information regarding ongoing earthen architectural conservation efforts in research, planning, stabilization and restoration. To obtain a copy, contact US/ICOMOS, Decatur House, 1600 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006; Phone: 202-842-1866, Fax: 202-842-1861.

# Viewpoint

## Letters

Dear Editor:

I read the *CRM* Thematic Issue (Volume 17, No. 3), "NPS, its Partners, and International Historic Preservation," with interest and found the articles to be very informative. However, I noted with disappointment that there was no inclusion of any reference to the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and the Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) in Rome. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation serves as the United States Government agency responsible for coordinating international study through the Centre and has held this responsibility as part of its duties under the National Historic Preservation Act since 1970. ICCROM offers a wide range of training courses which have been attended by a number of American students, including NPS staff. There are a number of American universities, museums, and cultural organizations which are also associate members of ICCROM. In addition to the Council's representation in the General Assembly of ICCROM's 90 members, the United States is represented on the Executive Council of the organization by the director of the Conservation Center of the Smithsonian Institution.

*CRM* readers may obtain the Council's Fact Sheet about ICCROM by writing to: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Old Post Office Building, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 809, Washington, DC 20004.

Robert D. Bush,
Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

### Cataloging Archival Materials

Dear Editor:

J. Steven Moore's article "Cataloging Archival Materials: The Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials" (*CRM* Vol. 17, No. 4) provides a fascinating glimpse into the history of the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials and the National Park Service Inventory and Condition Assessment Program (ICAP).

NPS manages archival collections such as those cited in Moore's article under the museum collections program. Item-level cataloging of archival and manuscript materials as the article describes is not an approach generally recommended by National Park Service archival guidance (as expressed in the *Museum Handbook*, Part II, Appendix D). Archival descriptive practices are "top-down" rather than "bottom-up"—providing an overview of all archival collections found in a park before providing more detailed description of any one collection or item.

The Chief Librarian recommends the use of Pro-Cite for cataloging library publications. It may, on occasion, also be used by library staff to provide cross-references to research materials held outside the library, such as archival materials in museum collections. For an overview of archival descriptive strategies see the article on page 33 of this issue of *CRM*.

Diane Vogt-O'Connor
Senior Archivist
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# Tribal News

### Keepers of the Treasures National Tribal Cultural Organization Holds Third Annual Meeting

*Patricia L. Parker*

"Keepers of the Treasures—Cultural Council of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians" held their third annual membership meeting and workshop May 1-4, 1994, at the Warm Springs Indian Reservation in northern Oregon. More than 200 tribal representatives attended from approximately 60 tribes, Alaska Native groups, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

A two-day workshop, "Repatriation: The Implications and Implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act" preceded the business meeting. Attorney Walter Echo Hawk from the Native American Rights Fund, pointed out that "the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act is human rights legislation designed to restore property, provide equal protection under the law, and ensure freedom of religion." Earlier that morning, Mr. Louie Pitt, government affairs officer for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, made the same point, "NAGPRA is new," he said, "but the people (whose graves were disturbed) were always ours."

**Traditional undertakers from the Warm Springs Reservation in northcentral Oregon share their experiences with tribal representatives from across the nation at the conference on repatriation sponsored by the Keepers of the Treasures—Cultural Council of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. Photo by Chris Milda.**

The repatriation theme was punctuated by presentations from the Warm Springs community on their multi-faceted programs to strengthen and protect their cultural traditions. Traditional dances were presented by children from the Head Start program and other tribal members during "Indian Night Out." Warm Springs elders honored the participants by attending each of the meeting sessions.

One of the most moving sessions came on the last evening when several tribal elders shared some very personal and poignant experiences as tribal undertakers—those who prepare the dead for their journey. For them, caring for those who die today is clearly linked to caring for those who died a century ago and now again need the help of elders to return to the earth. Lawrence Hart of the Cheyenne Cultural Center in Oklahoma presented a very beautiful and emotional videotape documenting the repatriation of Cheyenne ancestors, including some of the victims of the Sand Creek Massacre from the Smithsonian Institution and the Peabody Museum.

**Tribal representatives listen to presentations during the Keepers of the Treasures meeting held at the Warm Springs Reservation. Photo by Chris Milda.**

Presentations were made by Tessie Naranjo and Martin Sullivan, members of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Review Committee, and by Tim McKeown, National Park Service, Archeological Assistance Division NAGPRA program leader. The Smithsonian Institution was represented by Thomas Killion, Director of the Office of Repatriation at the Museum of Natural History and Clara Sue Kidwell, Assistant Director for Cultural Resources, National Museum of the American Indian.

Delbert Frank, Chairman of the Warm Springs Cultural Heritage Commission, praised the Keepers of the Treasures organization, saying that while he attends many meetings for Indian people, he especially appreciated hosting this one as the Keepers "are taking the most meaningful stand on cultural leadership."

Information on the Keepers of the Treasures organization is available from Gordon Pullar, President of the Board of Directors of the Keepers of the Treasures, 707 A Street, Suite 205, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; 907-272-9531, and from Mary Stuart McCamy, Project Director, Keepers of the Treasures, 666 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20003; 202-547-9009, ext. 3313.

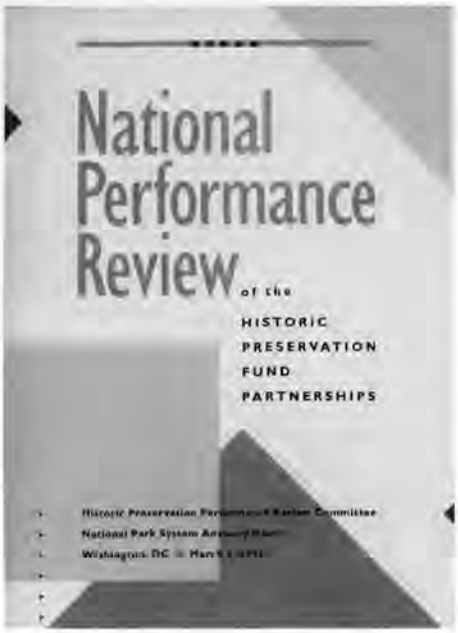
The Keepers of the Treasures organization has received support from the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund grant program for Indian tribes, Alaska Native groups, and Native Hawaiians and technical assistance and training from the tribal heritage program of the National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division, Preservation Planning Branch. Its founding followed recommendations given by tribal representatives to the National Park Service contained in a National Park Service report sent to Congress in 1990 entitled, *Keepers of the Treasures—Protecting Historic Properties and Cultural Traditions on Indian Lands.*

For information on the Historic Preservation Fund grant program, a copy of the *Keepers of the Treasures* report, a brochure on federal assistance available for tribal cultural programs, and information on the tribal provisions of the 1992 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, contact Patricia Parker, Deputy Chief, Preservation Planning Branch, Interagency Resources, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington DC 20013-7127; 202-343-9505. For information about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and grant program, contact Tim McKeown, NAGPRA program leader, Archeological Assistance Division, National Park Service at the same address; 202-343-4101.

## Bulletin Board

### National Performance Review Report Available

The National Park Service has issued the report, *National Performance Review of the Historic Preservation Fund Partnerships.* This report was prepared through the efforts of the Historic Preservation Performance Review Committee of the National Park System Advisory Board, which was convened in October/November of last year. The purpose of the Committee was to examine the Historic Preservation Fund Partnership in the spirit of National Performance Review to ensure efficiency and simplicity of NPS technical assistance, grants administration, and administrative procedures; to




improve customer service; and to make recommendations as to actions required to achieve the objectives. The Committee included representatives of the Advisory Board, the National Park Service, State Historic Preservation Offices, local government preservation commissions, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The report examines five major program areas: Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Administration for State and Local Governments, State Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plans, Certified Local Government (CLG) and Local Government Historic Preservation Programs, Preservation Tax Incentives, and the National Register of Historic Places. The Committee looked at how the five program areas operate through all levels of government and how they interact with the private sector and program customers.

Copies of the printed report, with an accompanying letter from Director Roger G. Kennedy, are available from the Interagency Resources Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Mail Stop 413, Washington, DC 20013-7127. Comments and suggestions on the implementation of the report's recommendations may be sent to Jerry L. Rogers, Associate Director, Cultural Resources, National Park Service.

### Rewards for Downtown Revitalization

America's best revitalized historic downtowns and traditional neighborhood commercial districts will be recognized by a new national awards program. The *Great American Main Street Award,* launched by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Center and St. Louis-based stock brokerage, Edward D. Jones & Co., is designed to promote successful downtown revitalization achievements and reward communities whose efforts at bringing new economic vitality to their towns are among the country's most innovative and successful. The *Great American Main Street Award* will recognize five communities each year that best demonstrate active public and private participation in their revitalization process; broad-based community support; success in boosting their downtown's economy; and adaptive use and preservation of key historic downtown buildings.

Applications will be available July 1, 1994, and are due no later than November 15, 1994. For more information or to obtain an application, write the National Main Street Center, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036, or call 800-441-2018.

### New Theme Study

The *Paleo-Indian National Historic Landmark Theme Study* is a multi-year partnership effort to recognize and protect nationally-significant properties associated with America's earliest inhabitants. This cooperative project is being conducted through the National Park Service, the National Historic Landmarks Archeology Committee, and State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. The project will use the NHL Theme Study framework to develop a nationwide Historic Context that will serve as a vehicle to identify, evaluate, and nominate Paleo-Indian archeological properties as NHLs; update documentation or clarify boundaries of existing Paleo-Indian NHLs; and develop or refine planning guidance that can be used by State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, National Park Systems units, and other federal, state, and local agencies. The study is scheduled for completion in September 1994. If you are interested in participating in this study, write to: Robert S. Grumet, Project Coordinator; Cultural Resource Planning Branch, P.R.P.; Mid-Atlantic Region; National Park Service; 2nd and Chestnut Streets, Rm. 251; Philadelphia, PA 19106-2878.

## Call for Papers

**The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works** (AIC) will hold its 23rd Annual meeting in St. Paul, MN June 6-10, 1995. The general session will address the topic of "Ethics in Conservation." Deadline for receipt of abstracts is October 3, 1994. For

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more information, contact AIC, 1717 K Street, NW, Suite 301, Washington, DC 20006; Phone: 202-452-9545; Fax: 202-452-9328.

**The University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Architecture** and the East-West Center invite paper proposals for the *First International Symposium on Asia Pacific Architecture: The East-West Encounter*, to be held in Honolulu, HI, March 22-24, 1995. The symposium will address topics on the culture and architecture of the Asia Pacific region, focusing on sociological, political, anthropological concerns, business practice issues, history and theory, traditional architectural responses to regional climatic factors, and architectural and planning case studies from Hawaii and elsewhere in the Asia Pacific region. Papers should address the encounter between western and eastern architectural traditions in Asia and/or the Pacific Basin and may be in the following areas: architectural history and criticism, climatic response and architectural forms, vernacular architecture, contemporary architectural practice, and issues in urban planning. Submit a 250-word abstract of the proposed topic by September 1, 1994, to the Symposium Coordinator, School of Architecture, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI 96822. For more information, call 808-956-7225.

A joint meeting of the **Southeastern Archaeological Conference** and the Midwest Archaeological Conference will be held November 9-12, 1994, in Lexington, KY. The deadline for abstracts is August 1, 1994. Contact SEAC/MAC Committee, 101 American Bldg., University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0100; Phone: 606-257-1944. Fax: 606-323-1968.

### Sculptural Monuments Workshop

The NPS Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (MARO) and the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property (NIC) are conducting a series of 3-day workshops on the care of monuments. Lectures, on-site tours, and instructional videotapes will give participants a solid grounding in the practical and theoretical aspects of the long-term care of public monuments and outdoor sculpture. Eight workshops will be held at locations throughout the U.S. beginning in October 1994, and continuing through November 1995. The first workshop will take place October 20-22, 1994, in Savannah, GA. Other workshop sites include San Diego, Portland (Maine and Oregon), Minneapolis, Oklahoma City, Philadelphia, and Kansas City (Missouri). For additional information, contact Dennis Montagna, NPS-MARO, at 215-597-5824.

### Database Workshops

The History Computerization Project now offers free workshops and a printed tutorial on the use of computer database management for historical research, writing, and cataloging. Those unable to attend the workshops can still obtain the 80-page workshop tutorial by mail. The workshops and tutorial give organizations and researchers a chance to see how easy it can be to build an historical database, at no cost or obligation. The project, sponsored by the Regional History Center of the University of Southern California and the Los Angeles City Historical Society, is building a Regional History Information Network through which researchers and repositories can exchange information. The Los Angeles Bibliography Project has created a database of source materials and a directory of historical repositories. Both projects employ the History Database program, running on IBM PC compatible computers. The computer classroom includes 10 IBM PCs connected to a shared database. The course textbook, *Database Design: Applications of Library Cataloging Techniques*, by David L. Clark, is published by the TAB division of McGraw-Hill. For a current workshop schedule and a free copy of the tutorial contact: History Computerization Project, 24851 Piuma Road, Malibu, CA 90265, or phone 818-HISTORY, or 818-591-9371.

### MAAM Fall Meeting

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums (MAAM) will hold its annual meeting November 13-16, 1994, in Annapolis, MD and Washington, DC. Included are two sessions on architectural elements titled, "Rooms, Roofs, and Railings: The Management of Architectural Collections." For registration information, contact MAAM, P.O. Box 817, Newark, DE 19715-0817; 302-731-1424.

## Courses

CRATerre-EAG, the International Centre for Earth Construction, offers a regular training program on earth construction and earthen architecture. The courses are taught by a multidisciplinary team of specialists from CRATerre-EAG and the School of Architecture of Grenoble. The next course on *The Technology of Compressed Earth Blocks* will be offered November 25, 1994. For more information on these courses, as well as others available in 1995, write to: CRATerre-EAG, Mrs. Marina Trappeniers, 60 avenue de Constantine—BP 2636, 38036 Grenoble Cedex 2, France.

# Information Management

## Pro-Cite Comes to NPS

**Diane Mallos Woods**

It is now easier than ever before to put your bibliographic collections on computer. The reason is Pro-Cite, the bibliographic software package recommended by the National Park Service Library Program. Pro-Cite, produced by Personal Bibliographic Software, Inc. (PBS) of Ann Arbor, MI, packs a lot of power for processing up to 20 different types of "library" or bibliographic materials, all in one database or in many separate databases—the choice is yours.

Based on the MARC Format (Machine Readable Cataloging format), a national library data standard, and now an NPS standard, (see NPS Special Directive 94-1), Pro-Cite provides 20 pre-designed forms for easy data entry of a wide range of media, including books, journals, reports, newspapers, dissertations, trade catalogs, letters, manuscripts, conference proceedings, maps, music scores, sound recordings, motion pictures, audiovisual materials, video recordings, art work, computer programs, and data files at the item level. It is also possible to customize forms for local use.

Pro-Cite distribution and implementation is a major thrust of the NPS Library Program in this and future years. Pro-Cite will be the means of putting volumes of NPS bibliographic data into categorized electronic form. Once this is accomplished, the options for sharing bibliographic data within and outside the NPS will be dramatically increased. To assist park libraries, the NPS Washington Office Information and Telecommunications Division (ITD), home of the NPS Library Program, purchased 100 copies of Pro-Cite this year and will add more next year. The Inventory and Monitoring Program also purchased 100 copies for Natural Resources use at parks. The two programs have coordinated their Pro-Cite distribution efforts.

The Information and Telecommunications Division plans to implement Internet connections throughout the NPS during the next two years (see following Report on Internet p. 43). When this happens, having data accessible in electronic form will enable NPS libraries and other NPS bibliographic projects, such as the Cultural Resources Management Bibliography, the Natural Resources Bibliography, the Denver Service Center's Technical Information Center, the National Archeological Database (all of which are working with Pro-Cite), and

others to share bibliographic data and provide widespread access to related information.

All Pro-Cite packages distributed by the Library Program will include some extras. These extras include an NPS-specific instruction manual entitled, *Pro-Cite in the National Park Service*, a label-producing program for book and/or folder labels, a canned authority list (pick list) of NPS region and park alphacodes, and an opportunity to participate in a Pro-Cite users' group on cc:Mail. In addition, those who have already entered data into the "NPS Library System," a dBase III+ Clipper program previously distributed by Harpers Ferry Center, will be able to obtain a conversion program to bring their data into Pro-Cite without re-keying entire records. These in-house products and services, in addition to the manufacturer's own excellent written documentation and telephone help service, should cover most of the support needs for Pro-Cite. Those who made this year's Pro-Cite application deadline will receive a copy this summer.

The NPS Library Program's Pro-Cite distribution and implementation process is being planned and carried out by a work group composed of members of the Library Advisory Committee and others. The group is under the direction of the Chief Librarian, Diane Mallos Woods. The work group consists of four teams, each responsible for one of the following: distribution, user aids, conversion program development and labels program development—all the tasks needed to implement Pro-Cite at libraries throughout NPS.

If you have any questions, contact your regional librarian or Diane Mallos Woods, Chief Librarian, via cc:mail (preferred) or at 202-343-4430.

## *Special Report*

# Telecommunications Networks and Internet in the NPS

**Betsy Chittenden**

The following report, written in a Q&A format, was prepared for all National Park Service employees. It is printed here for the benefit of *CRM* readers who might not otherwise receive this information.

**Q: What telecommunications network? Do we have one?**

A: Yes, and it is undergoing a major expansion and upgrade. Over the last few years, NPS has completed the ParkNet project, which set up new communications services (cc:Mail and videoconferencing) and standardized certain communications that are used for administrative systems, such as personnel and finance. While these are great improvements over what was available (or not available) previously, in many locations communications are still very slow and unreliable. Internet and other information highway connections are not currently available. The system as a whole will not support the rapidly increasing communications needs of the Service and the coming requirements of electronic government, such as electronic funds transfer. To meet our new and growing communications needs, we are now in the process of implementing ParkNet II. A major part of the ParkNet II project is to switch most of our communications to a new, Departmentwide network called DOINET. DOINET will be the Department's high-speed backbone communications network for administrative systems and cc:Mail. ParkNet II will also bring an Internet connection to all parks, allowing parks access to all Internet services.

**Q: How will communications be different than they are now?**

A: For some parks, ParkNet II will provide a "dedicated" connection to the network. This means that the park will be directly wired into ParkNet/DOINET, eliminating the need for modems and dialing. For those parks that cannot be wired, ParkNet II will provide a piece of equipment called a "dial-up router", which is combination high-speed modem and computer. This will be used to dial into a single location, rather than separate dialing locations for the different systems as is done now. The result will be a dramatic increase in the speed and ease of cc:Mail and administrative system connections in most locations. For the very remote, "communications-challenged" parks, ParkNet II will use satellite technology to provide adequate service.

**Q: What about Internet? I hear a lot about it, but I don't understand why I need it.**

A: Internet is the world-wide communications "highway" for academic institutions, government, business, and private citizens. Increasingly, it is the world's library: most university library catalogs, and many databases and documents are available on Internet, some nowhere else. In NPS, scientists and resource managers will need Internet to do research and communicate with peers. Data exchange with the National Biological Survey will take place over Internet. The GIS community will use Internet to exchange and make available the very large spatial data sets that they use. As the NPS builds partnership relationships with educators, the environmental community, and others, we will be able to communicate using Internet. The NPS will also be able to use Internet to make our information available to a wider audience. The NPS Library Program will play a key role as the NPS develops the capability to reach out via Internet, and to provide NPS information to students, visitors, and the general public.

**Q: What will all this cost us?**

A: The Service must make an initial investment in specialized computers and other equipment, and some software that allows communications between our DOS personal computers and the network. The individual cost per park will vary between about $4,000 to about $30,000, depending on the size of the park and the type of connection to be installed. The total cost of the initial equipment investment Servicewide is estimated to be around $4,000,000. There is $1,000,000 in the FY95 budget to begin purchasing equipment, and we are searching for more funds. Some of the circuits used will be FTS2000 telephone lines, and some will be DOINET trunk lines. The cost of the DOINET circuits are being spread among all DOI bureaus: our share is about equal to the costs of our few existing dedicated circuits that DOINET will replace, so that we will have vastly increased service for the same money. Overall, the Service will save money through ParkNet II almost immediately by increasing the speed of communications, and sharing a large portion of the costs with other DOI bureaus. Interestingly enough, the Department has decreed that while use of DOINET is optional, paying for it is mandatory.

**Q: I don't know much about computers, and even less about telecommunications, and it sounds pretty technical. Who's going to run this for the NPS, particularly in light of the streamlining and reengineering going on?**

A: Short on FTEs[1] but not on enthusiasm, ParkNet II is being done by a team of people across the Service. The project is spearheaded by the WASO Information and Telecommunications Division, but much of the legwork is being done by the information management personnel in the regions and service centers. Eight communications FTEs have been requested in the FY95 budget, to begin to meet the need for telecommunications specialists in the field. If approved by Congress, these FTEs will be placed around the Service in strategic parks to act as communications "circuit riders" to provide on the ground technical assistance to parks. One great advantage to modern communications equipment is that problems can be diagnosed, and often fixed, "remotely," by experts who can be located across the country. This allows a team approach to managing the network, using geographically dispersed Washington Office (WASO), region, and park personnel. Even so, adequate technical support remains a large issue at the levels we have now. Additional technical support staff and strategies will eventually be required, particularly as more locations get local area networks.

*(**Information**—continued on page 44)*

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**Q: What about security? I read in the papers how hackers are always breaking into computers over Internet. Will my computers and data be safe?**

A: Security is an extremely important issue on any communications network. There are a number of security measures already in place on DOINET and on the various computers that are hooked to it, and we are in the midst of a Servicewide study of telecommunications security being conducted with the assistance of the National Security Agency. For the moment, the NPS Internet connection is one-way only, going outbound: in other words, NPS employees can go out over the Internet, but outsiders cannot come into any NPS computers. By the way, security of voice telephones is also a major issue: there was a major "break-in" by a hacker to a park telephone system last year, where $40,000 worth of long distance calls were illegally routed through—and billed to—the park. And yes, we were stuck with the bill.

**Q: What training will be required, and for whom?**

A: Since most of the technical support will be handled either by the "circuit riders" or remotely by the regional and WASO experts, only minimal technical training needs are anticipated at the park and office level. However, we do anticipate a need for assistance and training in using the Internet and the information highway, which we anticipate meeting in three ways. First, we will be working with the Employee Development Division to provide training in how to "surf" the Internet. Secondly, an Internet menu will be developed for NPS employees, to find and connect to information available over Internet. Finally, the NPS Library Program will assist park and regional librarians and others across the Service in developing Internet research expertise.

**Q: What's involved in making NPS information available to the public, and other NPS employees, over Internet?**

A: The simplest form of making information available involves putting information on computers, called "file servers" devoted to that purpose, and making them accessible via Internet. However, it is helpful to provide some organized access to the information by means of special software, called "client server software", that provides the menu mentioned above. (Some of the common ones are "Mosaic", "Gopher", and "WAIS"—all available for free on the Internet.) We anticipate that both NPS employees and the public will have an Internet menu of NPS information available. When a user makes a menu choice, he or she is automatically routed to the server where the information lies. What happens at that point, what the user is able to do—whether search or manipulate a database, or simply download a database or an electronic copy of document—is determined by the owner of the information on that file server. Where the file servers are actually physically located is inconsequential—they can be centrally located or run by any park or program office willing to maintain them. Several offices around the Service are in various stages of planning to set up file servers. The Denver Service Center library is currently experimenting with client server software and prototype access menus.

**Q: Do we have any Internet access at all right now?**

A: Yes. Last fall, the NPS obtained an Internet license and opened a gateway to Internet through the Bureau of Reclamation and a regional Internet provider called "Colorado Supernet" in Denver. As parks and regions go onto DOINET, they have this Internet access, so NPS offices in Denver and Alaska now have direct access to Internet. In addition, anyone with access to cc:Mail can send and receive mail on the Internet now through a special cc:Mail gateway : contact your local cc:Mail Hub Coordinator for instructions (listed in cc:Mail by region, i.e. "RMRO Hub Coordinator"). By the way, the NPS addresses on Internet will all end in "@nps.gov"—i.e. roger_kennedy@nps.gov—giving the NPS a uniform Internet "identity."

**Q: What is the status of the ParkNet II project? Is it real, or is it waiting for funds in some undetermined budget year?**

A: The NPS began implementing ParkNet II in earnest last fall, after the announcement of the formation of DOINET. To date, the Denver and Alaska regional offices have connected with DOINET using their own funds, and are using it for all their cc:Mail and administrative systems traffic. Three other regional offices (Seattle, Atlanta, and San Francisco) and some WASO offices are expected to go on the network within the next six months, again using their own funds. Also last fall, 20 "Netblazer" modems were purchased by the Inventory and Monitoring program and are being placed in selected parks and offices around the Service to test non-dedicated, dial-in access to the network. Park-level analysis and costing is now underway, with the goal of being ready to spend the $1,000,000 earmarked for equipment purchase in the FY95 budget, and any other funds that might surface, the moment that they become available. The question is not whether or not ParkNet II will proceed, but only how fast. With the increasing recognition Servicewide of the importance of communications, we are hopeful that resources will be made available and that the project will move quickly.

**Q: How does ParkNet II relate to the reengineering and reorganization of the Service going on right now?**

A: The modern communications infrastructure provided by ParkNet II will be absolutely essential in a streamlined NPS, particularly as the "electronic government" becomes a reality. This fact has been recognized in numerous discussions and papers, including the Director's White Paper, the Vail Agenda, the National Performance Review reports, and others. By their nature, communications infrastructures are flexible and adaptable, largely independent of organizational changes. Communications nodes are placed as much with regards to technical, cost, support, and line-sharing considerations as to organizational structure. The ParkNet II communications infrastructure is being deliberately designed to be as flexible and organizationally independent as possible, since it is during times of organizational change that a reliable communications infrastructure is most needed.

**Q: What about the future? Does this come to my desktop?**

A: The goal of ParkNet II is to upgrade communications to the park level, but to bring ultra-modern communications to each employee requires local area networks, or LANs, in every park and office. Many parks already have LANs, and for these locations it is easier to bring full communications services to each employee. But for those who do not, the electronic highway for the moment will reside on only a few computers in the park. To achieve the goal of the electronic highway access for every NPS employee will require a major effort and commensurate funds and staffing. To begin this process, the Deputy Director has authorized the creation of a Servicewide Telecommunications Infrastructure Improvement Project Task Force, composed primarily of park superintendents. This task force, which will meet initially this fall, is being formed to oversee the development of a major communications budget initiative, beginning with the FY 1997 budget year, to provide desktop access and quite probably other new communications services.

## Note

[1] FTE, or full-time equivalent, is the term used to refer to the position or employment "slot" assigned to a given organization for staffing purposes.

Betsy Chittenden is a management analyst in the Information & Telecommunications Division of the National Park Service.

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