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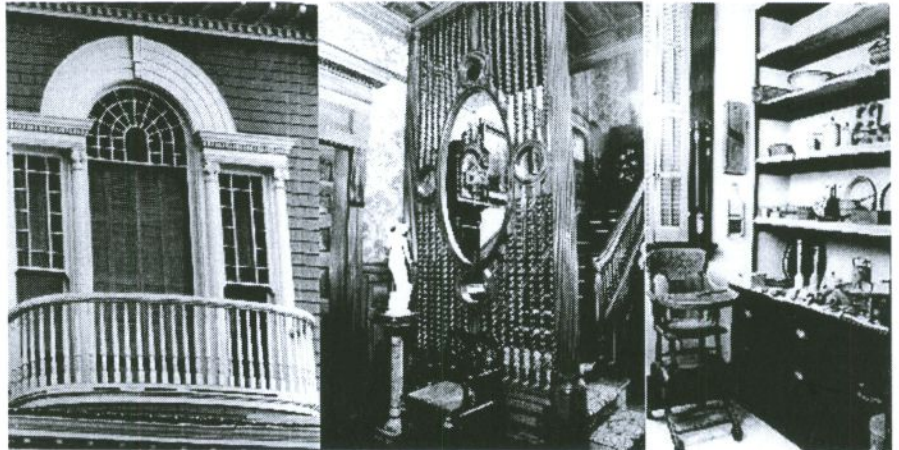
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*(Board members who also are officers are listed on Page 2)*



Heritage House, an example of the rich heritage in Riverside, California, that can be seen while attending the 2004 ACRA Conference, to be held September 30 thru October 4, at the Mission Inn in Riverside.

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### ACRA's Mission

Our mission is to promote the professional, ethical and business practices of the cultural resources industry, including all of its affiliated disciplines, for the benefit of the resources, the public, and the members of the association by:

- promoting and supporting the business needs of cultural resources practitioners;
- promoting professionalism in the cultural resources industry;
- promoting and providing educational and training opportunities for the cultural resources industry; and
- promoting public awareness of cultural resources and its diverse fields.

A basic tenet of ACRA's philosophy is the cost efficiency of private-sector firms in meeting the need for expertise in cultural resource management. ACRA is strongly opposed to unfair competition from tax-supported contracting programs. We believe that a greater benefit to society, and to the resources, derives from the existence of a healthy community of tax-paying, job-generating, private-sector CRM businesses.

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## ACRA SUBMITS COMMENTS ON SAFETEA TO CONGRESS

*SAFETEA is the acronym for the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2003. Together with the Society for Historical Archaeology, ACRA presented this statement on SAFETEA to Congress at the end of January. This is only the most recent example of how ACRA is seeking to play a part in cultural resource policy issues at the national level. If you aren't a member yet, consider joining now and help ACRA support our industry and the resources we care about.*

### **SAFETEA Recommendations on Section 106 and Section 4(F) from the American Cultural Resource Association (ACRA) AND the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)**

The American Cultural Resources Association is the trade association of the billion-dollar a year cultural resource industry. We represent 130 firms nationwide, employing over 2,150 people working in historic preservation, history, archaeology, anthropology, architectural history, historical architecture, and landscape architecture.

Our members are the ones who actually do the work required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 4(f) of the Federal Highway Act on transportation projects. We work closely with State Departments of Transportation (DOTs), State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs), highway engineering firms, and the public. We understand the need for streamlining the process and the need to protect our common heritage. We deal with these issues every day, trying to arrive at a balance that allows economic development, yet protects those historic properties and landscapes important to our history and our sense of who we are as a nation.

ACRA and SHA would like to voice our concerns on the SAFETEA bill and how it addresses historic preservation. There are four specific issues we would like to address in the bill as written by the Administration.

1. Using Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 4(f) of the Federal Highway Act:

Our understanding of the Administration's bill is that when Section 106 is undertaken and produces an agreement and/or MOA, it will satisfy the responsibility of the Section 106 review process, and Section 4(f) will not be required. If there are disagreements on the findings of Section 106, 4(f) will then be required. Section 4(f) will continue to be required for all National Historic Landmarks.

ACRA and SHA, in the interest of streamlining the highway planning process, support using Section 106 to satisfy the project review responsibility when all parties agree and/or sign an MOA. Section 4(f) will also be additionally required when there is disagreement and in the case of all National Historic Landmarks. Section 106 is a successful and flexible mitigation process involving input from interested parties and can provide a solution/MOA that is agreed to by all parties. For the Section 106 process to work properly, it needs to be undertaken early in the highway planning process. This approach streamlines the process, eliminates the need for 4(f) in most situations, and speeds up highway planning and construction. Further, it will take into account the concerns of the public, and preserve those historic properties and landscapes significant to an understanding and appreciation of our past.

2. Secretary of Transportation to provide funds to SHPOs and THPOs. ACRA and SHA support the adequate funding for SHPOs, THPOs, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to implement processes and create tools that streamline and enhance the Section 106 process. This would include hiring qualified compliance review personnel, developing GIS databases for historic property inventories, completing inventories of categories of properties, creating programmatic approaches, creating resource management plans, and for other purposes.

ACRA and SHA urge the Secretary of Transportation to encourage and provide adequate funding for the States and Tribes to implement processes and develop tools to streamline and enhance the Section 106 process.

3. Exempting the Interstate Highway System (IHS) from Sections 106 and 4(f) when it turns 50 years old in 2006. We understand that there is legislative language to exempt the IHS from listing on the National Register of Historic Places and from the required Sections 106 and 4(f) reviews.

The Interstate Highway System is a category of resources truly eligible for listing on the National Register. However, when there is a need for maintenance such as repaving, guardrail improvement, etc., the Section 106 review should be

waived. For the significant historic structures within the system, i.e. bridges, tunnels, etc., Section 106 review is needed to protect them. We understand that there is an effort under way to address this problem in a programmatic agreement between interested parties, the ACHP, and the FHWA. This agreement would encourage States and Tribes to inventory significant historic properties within the system on a State-by-State basis to identify those that require Section 106 review. Funds would be made available for State inventories.

ACRA and SHA support exempting maintenance of the IHS from Sections 106 and 4(f) reviews as discussed above, but would support this being done in a programmatic agreement within the normal Advisory Council for Historic Preservation process.

4. New Definition of "Prudent" in Section 4(f). The wording proposed in the Administration's transportation bill is ambiguous and confusing. ACRA and SHA believe it will contribute to delays and misunderstandings and should not be enacted.

Thank you for your consideration of the views of the American Cultural Resource Association.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### ACRA'S ACTIVE COMMITTEES

*Submitted By Tom Wheaton, Executive Director*

Normally after an annual conference, I have spent most of the year's association management budget, and things slow down until the end of the year when a new budget kicks in. I thus have a chance to work on the web site, get organized, and rest up for a frenetic spring. No such luck this year.

President Chris Dore hit the ground running, and has been pushing the committees to get organized and to submit goals and plans for 2004. Needless to say, things have been hopping.

Of particular note from my perspective have been the efforts of the Liaison Committee (Chad Moffett, chair), the Education Committee (Susan Lassell, chair), the Conference Committee (Jeanne Ward, chair), and the Government Relations Committee (Kay Simpson, chair). This does not mean the other committees have not been active or that other things are not going on, just that I have had more contact with these committees. This past fall we also came up with a new brochure, thanks to Charissa Wang's staff at Hardlines Design Company, which we used for the first time at the SHA Conference in January.

Chad has been doing a great job of straightening out our liaison list and organizing a core committee to manage our relations with other organizations. We are using the liaisons to keep us abreast of the activities of other organizations, finding out about conferences, and scheduling where and when to send the ACRA display. If anyone knows of a meeting in their neighborhood, please contact Chad ([chad.moffett@meadhunt.com](mailto:chad.moffett@meadhunt.com)) to see if we can arrange to send our table-top display. Getting our name out to the public and potential new members is key to gaining the respect and visibility we need to

accomplish our mission.

Susan's committee is working with Statistical Research Institute Foundation (SRIF) to come up with a revised version of our contract workshop and determine what other workshops it might be worth doing. The committee is also working on issues such as education requirements that would turn out students that we can immediately put to productive use. The committee is also interested in identifying online training sites and graduate programs that we can recommend to the private sector as producing students with the qualifications our members need. Contact Susan at [slassell@hicksenv.com](mailto:slassell@hicksenv.com) if you have any ideas.

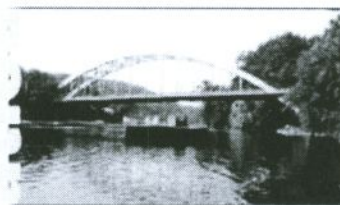
Jeanne has been looking for a conference hotel for the 2005 annual conference. Since this conference will be our 10-year anniversary conference, we felt it appropriate to hold it where we had our first conference, Washington, D.C. Since we are a much more visible organization than we were the last time we were in Washington, D.C., we are looking for a hotel that ties in historic preservation with something above the run-of-the-mill hotel. We also are looking forward to providing some hands-on experience in government relations to our members at the Washington, D.C., conference, and we hope to have some of the movers and shakers from the area provide us with insights into how the system works and to what we can look forward from Congress. This year's conference will be in Redlands, California, and we will shortly have some preliminary information on our web site, so please check it out for updates. ACRA also has signed on a new attorney to check over our conference hotel contracts and to act as our agent in Washington, D.C., where we are incorporated.

Government Relations has become the most active committee recently as we are following two issues very closely. The Cell Tower Working Group, made up of the ACHP, the FCC, the wireless communications industries, NCSHPO, ACRA, and others, is trying to wrap up the cell tower Programmatic Agreement (PA) we have been working on for about three years. This effort has kept Jo Reese, chair of the Cell Tower Subcommittee and Nellie Longworth busy, to say the least. The deadline for the PA is the end of February and if everything keeps going as it has been recently, there may be some significant changes to how cell towers will meet Section 106.

The other issue we are following closely is the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA), which needs to be voted on by Congress before the end of February to keep transportation funds from being cut off. ACRA has been working with other organizations to come up with a policy statement that will be presented to FHWA and Congress the first week of February. This bill will probably address Section 106 versus Section 4(f), the Interstate Highway System as a historic property beginning in 2006, funding for SHPOs and THPOs to streamline Section 106 compliance, and other issues of importance to our members. Please keep an eye on this page for further developments.

In the last couple of months, we have gained a number of new members. Since we have not made a formal membership drive, we hope this is a sign that ACRA is becoming recognized as the organization to join if you are a business person in CRM or starting such a business. It is a place to find out what is going

on, to make contacts, and to work together to make a difference. If you want to make a difference, please join a committee. Check our web site for more information (<http://www.acra-crm.org>) and for committee and chair contact information.



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## APPLIED TECHNOLOGIES

### VIRTUAL REAL-SPACE MUSEUMS: INNOVATION IN CULTURAL INTERPRETATION

*By Christopher Dore*

Imagine walking through the past. As you walk you can hear the sounds of people involved in daily activities. You can hear them talk. You can hear the sounds of their environment, both cultural and natural. You can hear the sounds of their tools, their machinery. You see buildings and structures as they exist in another time. You see the faces of people. You see a different world.

Welcome to what I call “real-space museums” and are what I believe to be one of the most innovative applications of technology to the cultural resources industry (CRI) I have seen in many years. Visitors to real-space museums walk through contemporary space that could be an archaeological site, historic neighborhood, or even large features such as ships or trails. While the space is modern, what the visitor experiences relate to another time, but still in the same space. Confused? If you are, it is because we are not used to having time, space, and our senses all converge in a museum setting. In a real-space museum, as the visitors walk through contemporary spaces they experience visual images and audio soundtracks from the past through a computer that they carry. The visual images can be historic photographs, maps, or even video footage. The sounds can be historic recordings, recreated sound effects, or actors reading scripts from textual records. The whole system is tied to individual spaces through the global positioning system (GPS).

Real-space museums are analogous to traditional indoor museums that use audio headsets to provide interpretation, explanation, or additional information. In a real-space museum, you check out a clipboard-sized tablet computer. Tablet computers

are light-weight computers that are all screen and no keyboard. This computer has a built in GPS receiver and is equipped with an audio headset (Photograph 1). You put on the headset and begin exploring. One of the things that is so great about the system is that there is no set route that you have to follow. You explore an environment or setting in the way that you want to. See something that peaks your interest? Go over and see what it is. Does that lead to something else? No problem, go and check it out. As you explore in a nonlinear fashion, your position triggers audio and video data about your location that you hear through the headphones and see on the screen.



Photograph 1. The system includes a tablet computer with a built-in GPS receiver and audio headphones.

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There is no doubt that public interpretation is a larger part of the CRI that it was 10 years ago. Many of the projects we now do have interpretive components to them. The concept of real-space museums takes public interpretation to a completely new experiential level. Which CRI firm came up with this wonderful idea? None of them! Our industry was completely scooped on this one by a group of artists in Los Angeles. Jeff Knowlton, Naomi Spellman, and Jeremy Hight created a project called 34 North 118 West that takes visitors through a historic downtown Los Angeles neighborhood (Photograph 2). Sanborn Fire Insurance maps provide the computerized base map that visitors use to navigate turn-of-the-century Los Angeles. Are Knowlton, Spellman, and Hight strangers to the cultural resources world? Certainly not conceptually. They are well aware of archaeological and historic time depth and see their project as a way to peel away the layers



Photograph 2. Two-thirds of the 34 North 118 West team: Jeremy Hight (left) and Jeff Knowlton (right).

of time. Hight, who is the team's writer, actually has presented a paper called Narrative Archaeology. Knowlton, the project's technical lead, once worked as the head preparator at the Orlando Museum of Art and worked closely with the exhibitions and education staff.

I had the chance to visit with Knowlton and Hight on a recent trip to Los Angeles and experience the real-space museum they had created. It was a blast! While I was certainly intrigued when I first heard about their project, even a tech weenie like me was impressed by the way the project actually worked. To walk through this neighborhood and hear



Photograph 3. Mitchell Eichenseer, Information System Department Director for Statistical Research, Inc. takes the system for a spin and relives Los Angeles' past.

the sounds of trains, people talking, and reflections on the past definitely gave me insights into another time (Photograph 3). While the CRI may have been scooped by Knowlton, Spellman, and Hight on the initial idea, this is a tool that is such a natural fit for our industry's interpretive mission that we definitely need to start using it.

Fortunately, Knowlton, Spellman, and Hight are available to work with cultural resource firms to help create real-space museums for you and your clients. You can reach them by email at [anyone@34n118w.net](mailto:anyone@34n118w.net) and get more information from their web site <http://www.34n118w.net>.

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*Christopher D. Dore, Ph.D., RPA, is the Director of the Cartography and Geospatial Technologies Department at Statistical Research, Inc. He can be reached at [cdore@sricrm.com](mailto:cdore@sricrm.com) with comments, suggestions, and submittals for the Applied Technologies column, a periodic contribution to the ACRA Edition.*



## HOW CAN I IMPROVE MY POSTER PRESENTATION?

*Submitted By Jeffrey A. Homburg, Ph.D., RPA, Statistical Research, Inc.*

Posters are an increasingly popular format for presenting research at archaeology and many other professional meetings. Poster presentations have a number of distinct advantages over oral presentations. They are an excellent way to: (1) present graphics that are too complex to be readily comprehended in an oral format; (2) facilitate much more dialogue and interaction between presenters and attendees than is typical of oral presentations; (3) are better for initiating budding archaeologists at professional meetings; and (4) can continue to serve educational purposes after a meeting if displayed publicly. Preparing a high quality poster, however, is more work than a typical oral presentation, and that is a major reason why many are reluctant to try this presentation format. Still, that should not discourage you from trying your hand in poster design. That is especially so with computer programs, like PowerPoint, and better access to plotters capable of printing high-resolution digital images, that make it easier than ever to produce a high-quality poster.

After designing and coauthoring award-winning posters for meetings of the Society for American Archaeology and the Society of Africanist Archaeologists in the last few years, I was asked to summarize my tips for improving the quality of poster presentations, hence this short article. You can also find many other tips online, using the Google search engine with the key words, 'poster presentations.' An example of a poster that I designed and coauthored is available online ([http://www.sricrm.com/homburg\\_poster.html](http://www.sricrm.com/homburg_poster.html)), but be sure to scroll down because it was reformatted vertically for the web. My approach to poster design is drawn mainly from experience in

preparing about 20 poster presentations since 1997 for the Tri-society meetings (American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America), where about half of the nearly 6,000 attendees present their research in the poster format, and a number of archaeology meetings. My general impression is that posters are higher in overall quality at the Tri-society and other scientific meetings than at most archaeology meetings.

The Tri-societies explicitly recognize poster and oral presentations as being of equal status, and posters are even more strongly encouraged at this and other scientific meetings that at archaeology meetings to reduce conflicts between concurrent oral sessions and to free up space. The attitude of most archaeologists and cultural resource specialists with whom I interact is that posters are still secondary in status, but that gap is lessening as the quality improves. Still, we have a way to go and I hope the following recommendations and tips will help you in designing your next poster.

The biggest mistakes in poster design are in trying to cram too much information into a poster and in not explicitly and concisely stating the purpose, methods, and conclusions of the poster. I cannot overemphasize how important it is to avoid crowding in too much data and text. It is much better to reduce the text to an absolute minimum. You should concentrate on breaking the poster up into some basic sections, such as a brief introduction, succinct research objectives or hypotheses, methods, results and discussion, conclusions, and references. I recommend using bullets for the research objectives,

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A C R A E D I T I O N

methods, and conclusions to emphasize the main points you are trying to convey. The methods do not require much elaboration, and if you are using techniques that are already published, you should simply reference that and omit the details. A good poster contains many elements of a written paper, but one written as clearly and concisely as possible. Most of your results should be explained in figure captions, using a few charts, diagrams, photographs, or simple statistical summaries. You should concentrate on just two or three main points, and simply highlight major trends and comparisons. Striking images are crucial for grabbing and holding the attention of your audience. You should use abbreviations and acronyms sparingly, and avoid overwhelming your audience with too many numbers or complicated graphs.


Poster panels are often 4 feet high by 8 feet wide, but you should check to be sure what is available, and design your poster to be at least slightly smaller than that size. For a 4-by-8-foot panel, a width of 7.5 feet or less and a height of 3 to 4 feet is a good size. Your poster should start in the upper left corner and flow from left to right and top to bottom. The poster title, author(s), and sponsoring institutions should be listed at the top of the poster. You should choose one background color or texture (or even a photograph, if it doesn't detract from the message of the poster) for your poster, using contrasting colors where appropriate to group text and images. All lettering must be easy to read from a distance of at least 2 meters. Use bold typeface for headings, labels, and bulleted text to enhance readability. Figure captions and text should be smaller

### Evolving Holocene Landscapes and Cultural Land-Use Patterns in the Ballona Wetlands of Coastal Southern California

**Jeffrey A. Homburg<sup>1</sup>, Eric C. Brevik<sup>2</sup>, Jeffrey H. Altschul<sup>3</sup>, Antony R. Orme<sup>3</sup>, and Steven D. Shelley<sup>1</sup>**  
 1 – Statistical Research, Inc., 2 – Iowa State University Department of Agronomy, 3 – UCLA Department of Geography

**INTRODUCTION**

Models of landscape evolution are central to many archaeological studies, especially those conducted in dynamic coastal settings such as lagoons and estuaries. A general biological study was conducted on the historic Ballona Lagoon of coastal southern California to reconstruct the history of the wetlands. An extensive boring program was completed to document the stratigraphy of organic, detrital, and sediment deposits. Geomorphological, sedimentological, and geochemical data to reconstruct the vegetation of landforms and their effect on human occupations. Three distinct cultural adaptations were identified over the last 7,000 years. The early period (7,000-5,000 B.P.) involved an agricultural, hunter-gathering, and fishing subsistence strategy. A middle period (5,000-1,000 B.P.) was characterized by an inland, agriculture, and fishing on ballfish, and shellfish gathering, and a late period (1,000-200 B.P.) marked by coastal agriculture and fishing in the lagoon.




**RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

- Reconstruct Holocene landscape change in the Ballona Lagoon and adjacent wetlands.
- Evaluate the relationship between archaeological site distributions and Holocene landscapes.

**METHODS**

- Data cores were taken from depths up to 75 m using a hollow-core auger. Composite cores (lengths were made) and depth-based core sections were analyzed.
- Creek systems of the lagoon were mapped.
- Sediment analyses (organic C, and inorganic phosphorus, and sand mineralogy) were completed.
- Stratigraphic, mineral, and sediment cores were analyzed.
- In-core long- or short-term pollen, diatoms, forams, and other microfossils were analyzed using compound microscopes.

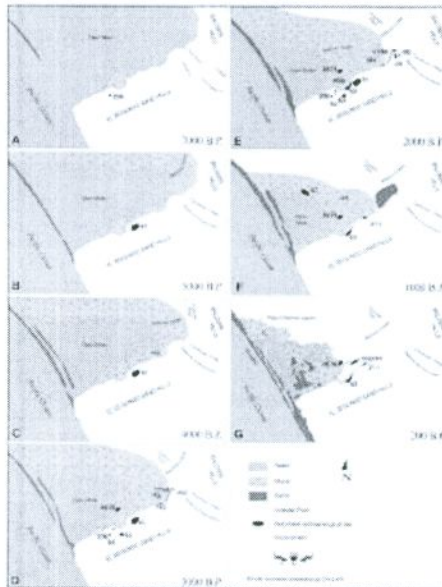


**CONCLUSIONS**

- Estuarine conditions prevailed after a barrier closed off part of Santa Monica Bay at ~6200 B.P. The resulting lagoon stabilized by ~3500 B.P. and then began narrowing dramatically after 2000 B.P. as it continued to fill with Ballona Creek alluvium.
- Diets progressively increased through time as freshwater influences became dominant.
- Human settlement expanded from cliff-top settings to the base of the bluff and into seasonally dry wetlands that formed around the lagoon.
- Human settlement focused to riverine wetlands through time. Wetland occupation focused on the Westchester Bluffs, situated in the Middle period to the Westchester Bluffs and Contra Costa Creek, and culminated in large settlements at the mouth of Contra Costa Creek and the Ballona Lagoon.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Ballona Plankton Collection, the Ballona Bay Research Station, and the Ballona Bay Archaeological and Historical Society provided the data for this study. We thank the following individuals for their help in the field: Robert Cook-Francis, John Gifford, Douglas Grogan, Kenneth Bunker, and Hester. We thank the following individuals for their help in the laboratory: David Borenstein, Robert Cook-Francis, and Douglas Grogan. We thank the following individuals for their help in the field: Robert Cook-Francis, John Gifford, Douglas Grogan, Kenneth Bunker, and Hester. We thank the following individuals for their help in the laboratory: David Borenstein, Robert Cook-Francis, and Douglas Grogan. We thank the following individuals for their help in the field: Robert Cook-Francis, John Gifford, Douglas Grogan, Kenneth Bunker, and Hester. We thank the following individuals for their help in the laboratory: David Borenstein, Robert Cook-Francis, and Douglas Grogan.



**Model of Holocene landscape evolution and archaeological site distributions in the Ballona area over the last 7,000 years.**

**SA**

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGISTS

American Cultural Resources Association

than the type of the headings. As a rule of thumb, the poster title should use a finished type that is about 2 inches tall, with author names at least 1 inch tall, and all other text at least one-quarter to one-half inch tall. All text should be in sans-serif type, like Arial, Helvetica, or Letter Gothic, because it is easier to read at a distance than serif type such as Courier or Times New Roman. It is also easy to read white fonts on a dark-colored background, although black fonts on light background also work quite well, especially in captions. Here are some font sizes that work well: 72-point for the title, 56-point for author's names and affiliations, 36-point for section headings, 20-point for bulleted text and captions, and no smaller than 16-point for other text, except perhaps in references and acknowledgements, which can be as small as 12-point.

Presentation graphics can now be integrated and produced inexpensively using computers. I use Microsoft PowerPoint to prepare my posters, with a page setup at half the size planned for printing. I then print the poster at 200% of this size, as a way to sidestep the maximum width of 56 inches permitted in PowerPoint. For example, to end up with a printed size of 7.5 by 3 feet (or 90 by 36 inches), the page setup needs to be set at a width of 45 inches and height of 18 inches. I recommend printing posters on high quality glossy paper, especially if photographs are included. Here at Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI), where I work, we use Hewlett-Packard's High-Gloss Photo Paper CP (7 mil and 1.067 mm thick). Although durability is improved, posters should not be laminated because that can cause an annoying glare. Commercially, it can be costly to print posters, approximately \$10 per square foot at places like Alphagraphics and Kinkos. Here at SRI, we estimated the actual cost of production at just over \$1 per square foot for the ink and paper, not including the

cost to purchase and maintain the plotter. The Department of Anthropology at the University of Arizona charges individuals \$3 per square foot, so a 3 by 7.5 ft (or 22.5 square feet) poster would cost \$67.50, which is quite reasonable and also allows the cost of the plotter to be recouped quickly if it is used a lot. At the Department of Agronomy at Iowa State University, where I was in graduate school, we recovered the cost of our plotter within one year. To avoid embarrassing or glaring errors, I strongly recommend that you print a small version of your poster so that you can review and edit the draft carefully before printing the final.

It is always a good idea to bring some extra supplies in case you encounter a surprise in the type of surface available for displaying your poster. Most posters can be attached to the fabric that is usually on poster panels, using the hook-end side of Velcro tape (which is readily available at most office supply stores), push pins, or transparent tape. Be prepared to answer questions about your research results and interpretations. You should also try to engage your audience in dialogue, or at least put them at ease to ask questions and offer comments or suggestions. You should also bring supporting information that might be appropriate for readers who have more than a casual interest in your research. Examples include pertinent publication reprints, handouts, or small versions of your poster. If you provide small printouts of your poster, I recommend using black text and removing all or most of the background colors printed in your full-size poster. It is also a good idea to bring business cards that can be passed out or exchanged, along with a pad of paper for recording the names and addresses of individuals seeking additional information, and for jotting down interesting comments and ideas.

## IN MEMORIAM OF RONALD A. THOMAS

*Cultural resource management in the Mid-Atlantic recently lost one of its most prominent figures with the death of Ron Thomas. His company, MAAR Associates, was one of the early members of the American Cultural Resources Association. The following is from the obituary in the Delaware Online News Journal, 1/21/04.*



Ronald A. Thomas, age 63 of Wilmington, Delaware, died peacefully at Christiana Hospital on January 19, 2004.

Before starting his own business in 1976, he was with the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs and served from 1965-1976 as the first State Archaeologist, during which time he established a state-wide research program, developed an archaeological compliance process for the State of Delaware, and designed and operated the Island Field Archaeological Museum and Research Center, which was built around a Native American burial ground.

Previously, he was an instructor at the University of Pittsburgh and was an assistant adjunct professor at the University of Delaware, Department of Anthropology. Mr. Thomas was very active in the Archaeological Society of Delaware and served as its newsletter editor for many years. As a member of the Delaware State Review Board for the National Register of Historic Places and the Historic Preservation Grants Selection Committee for the State of Delaware until 1994, Mr. Thomas participated directly in America's and Delaware's preservation efforts. His efforts included not only archaeological resources but also standing historic structures and historical districts. As a member of the Grants Selection Committee, he dealt with grant proposals for funding by the National Historic Preservation Program by numerous governmental and private survey and development organizations. He was a charter member of the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, past president of the Delaware Academy of Science, and was currently chairman of the Unmarked Human Burials Committee for the State of Delaware.

Mr. Thomas was widely published on the prehistoric and historic archaeology of the Middle Atlantic area and acquired a national reputation for his contributions in the field. Mr. Thomas received his undergraduate degree from Penn State University and his master's degree from the University of Arkansas and also took graduate courses at the University of Pittsburgh and Temple University.

He was an avid supporter of public involvement in archaeology, and throughout his career sought to foster understanding and cooperation between the professional community and the many groups interested in preservation and archaeology.

In addition to his family, he leaves behind hundreds of colleagues and coworkers whose lives he touched during his 40-year career.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Archaeological Society of Delaware, PO Box 12483, Wilmington, DE 19850; or to the American Cancer Society, 92 Read's Way, Ste. 205, New Castle, DE 19720.

## ON THE MOVE

The Louis Berger Group, Inc., is pleased to announce three additions and changes to their Cultural Resource Division.

Architectural Historian Amy Seavey (no picture available) has joined their Needham, MA, office and also works part time in their Manchester, NH, office. She is a recent graduate of Cornell University's Historic Preservation Program and has experience in several New England and Mid-Atlantic states.



Patrick O'Neill has joined their Washington, D.C., office as an Archaeologist. He has over 6 years of experience in historic archaeology projects in the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as work in Texas, Kansas, North Dakota, and Idaho.

In addition, Architectural Historian Megan Rupnik, another Cornell graduate who has been with the firm for two years, has transferred from their Washington, D.C., office to the Richmond, Virginia, office.



## ACRA Lapel Pins

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employees of member firms  
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ACRA  
6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Make checks payable to:  
**The American Cultural Resources Association**

## ACRA'S LINKS TO JOBS/EMPLOYMENT

Do you know a student that is looking for a summer job in Cultural Resources Management? Before they apply, tell them to visit ACRA's "Student Summer Job" web page at <http://www.acra-crm.org/jobs.html>, which provides advice on how to apply for a summer job.

ACRA also provides links to 17 web-based bulletin boards and web sites where one can post announcements for open positions in their firm (<http://www.acra-crm.org/archtechjobs.html>).

## MEMBERS UPDATE

### AEOSCREEN - BACK IN BUSINESS

Aeoscreen is back in business producing archaeology screens and we're hoping to reconnect with all our previous customers, plus add some new ones. We offer a full line of screens, designed for any field situation, from large scale excavation to backpack survey. You can check them out on our website at <http://www.aeoscreen.com>.

Aeoscreen began in 1989, in the proverbial garage in Seattle—though it had nothing to do with either software or the grunge music scene. Starting the business was prompted in no small part by my own experience as a field archaeologist with the Great Archaeological Paradox, namely the god-awful contraptions devised for sifting dirt by folks whose life's work is the study of tools and their utilization. The idea from the beginning was to develop simple, effective pieces of equipment which were easy to use, lasted a long time, and wouldn't hurt you.

From 1989 to 1998 Aeoscreen hit the road more than a few times, operating from an assortment of storage units, garages, and sheds until we settled in Silver City, Nevada. Business expanded nationwide, and our screens were used on expeditions to Russia, China, Jordan, and several were even purchased for use in exhuming and investigating war crimes sites in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In 1999, we put the company in mothballs to pursue some other interests, primary among them building our own house.

Aeoscreen is now at a point that is equivalent to the time in the development of a CRM business when one realizes they have to move from the spare bedroom to that rented office downtown. I've gone into partnership with my brother-in-law, a professional woodworker based in New Denver, British Columbia, and, as can be seen on the web site, we are expanding the range of our business. We are targeting additional markets in forensics, gardening, rock and gem collecting, or any other endeavor in which people find themselves searching through dirt. However, archaeology screens are still the flagship Aeoscreen product. Sales and marketing are based in Silver City, Nevada, but the screens themselves are manufactured and shipped from New Denver. They are the same, time-tested Aeoscreen models, with a few minor improvements, and each one is built by my brother-in-law and/or myself, as I also spend a fair amount of time in Canada.

It is important for our customers to remember that, compared to shipping from Silver City as Aeoscreen did for many years, delivery from Canada takes longer. For the western U.S., we need two to three weeks; three weeks to a month for the eastern U.S. I won't name names, of course, but those archaeologists out there who in years past had me overnighting screens to your motel rooms in the field ("Did you bring the screens?" "No, I thought you did.") will have to give us a little more lead time.

—Erich Obermayr

## BECOME INVOLVED AS AN ACRA LIAISON

ACRA members who serve on a related organization are encouraged to become an ACRA liaison. By becoming a liaison, you will help keep ACRA members informed of local CRM issues, and issues in related disciplines and client organizations.

Liaisons function as a local point of contact for ACRA, and report on issues of local interest and/or concern to the ACRA membership. The committee relays information and facilitates communication between related cultural resources organizations, client organizations, and ACRA.

Interested individuals please contact Chad Moffett, Liaison Committee Chair, at [chad.moffett@meadhunt.com](mailto:chad.moffett@meadhunt.com) or by calling 952-941-5619.

## New Member Firm

### Preservation Economics

Preservation Economics of New York, NY, provides its clients with heritage management and planning services focused on value identification, value enhancement, and financial planning. For more information, please contact Joseph Kunkemoeller at 212-672-1877 or [preservationecon@aol.com](mailto:preservationecon@aol.com).

### Richard Grubb & Associates

Richard Grubb & Associates is a New Jersey based firm offering the full suite of cultural resource services with a client-sector emphasis in telecommunications, transportation, and water/sewer. For more information on Richard Grubb & Associates, see their web page at <http://www.stonewall-computer.com/Grubb/>.

## SPRING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The ACRA Board of Directors will hold their spring meeting on 20 March 2004, in Albany, NY. The meeting will begin at 9 am and is open to employees of member firms. I personally invite you to come to this meeting and see what your Board is doing for your business and our industry. If you do plan on attending, please let our Executive Director, Thomas Wheaton, know in advance. You can find his contact information on our web site: <http://www.acra-crm.org>.

The board meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Albany located downtown at State and Lodge Streets. Reservations must be made by 3:00 pm on 20 February to receive the ACRA rate. Reservations are made by calling 1-800-227-6963 and by mentioning ACRA.

Please note that none of your dues money goes to pay for the travel expenses of Board members. Board members donate their time and money on behalf of you and your business! Thanks (and a plug) goes to Karen Hartgen of Hartgen Archaeological Associates (<http://www.hartgen.com>) who donated her time serving as local coordinator for this board meeting.

-- Christopher Dore, ACRA President

## CONNECTIONS

*Submitted By Chad Moffett, Liaison Committee Chair*

*The liaison committee seeks information about upcoming events of interest to the CRM community. Please provide the date, location, theme, and a web link for national organizations to [chad.moffett@meadhunt.com](mailto:chad.moffett@meadhunt.com).*

### National Park Service

Michael R. Polk of Sagebrush Consultants L.L.C. visited the contracting division of the National Park Service (NPS) in Denver and completed a report on the visit, as well as wrapping up the 5-year run of the Federal Contracting subcommittee's work, which was detailed in the December 2003 ACRA Edition.

Generally, NPS and Interior contacts were eager to meet with us to discuss contracting issues. ACRA will be meeting with the NPS again to continue the discussion of contracting procedures. Kay Simpson and the Government Relations Committee will continue to coordinate ACRA's efforts with the NPS. Please contact Mike or Kay to help with committee work or for more information.

### National Council on Public History

Laura Black of CHRS, Inc., is the ACRA liaison to the National Council on Public History (NCPH). The CRM Committee of the NCPH has spent the last year and a half working towards a number of goals including the development of an NCPH Mentor Program for historians working or interested in working in CRM. The Committee identified the target audience and goals. The focus will now move towards logistics. Other NCPH CRM Committee tasks include developing a model syllabus for an "Introduction to CRM" course. These efforts are to be coordinated with the Curriculum and Training Committee, and other organizations, including ACRA.

ACRA was well represented at the 2003 NCPH Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas. A number of ACRA member firms participated in the poster session highlighting a wide range of projects. The poster session was well attended and a crowd remained after the official end of the event. In addition, the large ACRA display unit was set up at the conference and was well received. For more information on the NCPH visit <http://www.ncph.org/>.

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the NCPH will be a joint meeting with the American Society for Environmental History. The title and theme for the conference is "Cultural Places and Natural Spaces: Memory, History, and Landscape." The joint meeting will be held at the Fairmont Empress in Victoria, British Columbia, March 31-April 4, 2004. ACRA again will be represented at the conference!

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

American Association for State and Local History  
*"Not Your Ordinary Workshop Series" for 2004 (various dates & location)*

The American Association for State and Local History has scheduled dates and places for the 2004 "Not Your Ordinary Workshop Series." These workshops include a two-and-a-half day schedule of interactive sessions, a team of experienced faculty who work in the field, and a comprehensive notebook of curriculum materials. There are three workshops from which to choose. Registration for each of these workshops is \$250. For more information about the workshops or to register, visit <http://www.aaslh.org/>.

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*...continued on Page 17*



American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting, September 29-October 2, 2004, St. Louis, Missouri

The 2005 annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA) will focus on the theme of Archives and Artifacts, providing an especially good opportunity for public historians to present their work and stimulate discussion about key issues in the field. The AHA's Task Force on Public History encourages colleagues to develop proposals for roundtables,

workshops, and other nontraditional modes of conference presentation, as well as more-traditional sessions, on a broad range of public-history related topics. For further information, go to <http://www.theaha.org/ANNUAL/2005/CFP2005.htm>. Proposal deadline is February 16, 2004.

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CONNECTIONS contains updates by ACRA member liaisons to promote CRM and is hosted by the Liaison Committee. Please send your update to [preservation@meadhunt.com](mailto:preservation@meadhunt.com).

### HIRE A CONSULTANT

Do you need to hire a CRM consultant? Why not check out ACRA "point & click" web page at <http://www.acra-crm.org/consultantspage.html>

#### Find a Cultural Resource Consultant by Location or Specialty

The interface includes the following buttons:

- Specialties (Left Column):**
  - HABS/HAER Documentation
  - Subsistence Studies
  - Anthro/Ethno TCPs
  - Historic Architecture
  - Landscape Architecture
  - International
- Specialties (Right Column):**
  - Geomorphology
  - Preservation Planning
  - Underwater Archaeology
  - Architectural History
  - Archaeology
  - History
- Locations (Bottom):**
  - Section 8a
  - Cultural Resource Suppliers

# ACRA

EDITION

6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave., Stone Mountain, GA 30083

## ACRA's Members-Only Listserver

ACRA now has an online discussion group just for members. "MembersOnly" is a listserver that operates much the same way as ACRA-L, with the exception that it is only available to ACRA members. Its purpose is to offer the board, members, and the executive director a venue to share the latest news from ACRA; promote dialogue between members on current issues; and enable members to post announcements or inquiries.

To subscribe to the list, a member must contact ACRA's Executive Director, Tom Wheaton. Once you have supplied Tom with your e-mail address, he will subscribe you to this list. Contact Tom at 770-498-5159 or e-mail: [tomwheaton@newsouthassoc.com](mailto:tomwheaton@newsouthassoc.com).

## 2004 ACRA EDITION SCHEDULE

DEADLINE	PRODUCTION
February 3	February 17
April 7	April 21
June 2	June 16
August 4	August 18
October 6	October 20
December 1	December 15

### ACRA Edition

is a bi-monthly publication of The American Cultural Resources Association. Our mission is to promote the professional, ethical and business practices of the cultural resources industry, including all of its affiliated disciplines, for the benefit of the resources, the public, and the members of the association.

This publication's purpose is to provide members with the latest information on the association's activities and to provide up-to-date information on federal and state legislative activities. All comments are welcome.

### Please address comments to:

Jeanne Harris, Editor  
ACRA News  
[ejharris@aol.com](mailto:ejharris@aol.com)

or

Thomas Wheaton,  
Executive Director  
c/o New South Associates, Inc.  
6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave.  
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