

August 2004

ACRA Board of Directors

Laura Black *CHRS, Inc.*
North Wales, Pennsylvania

Colin I. Busby *Basin Research Associates, Inc.*
San Leandro, California

Joan Deming *Archaeological Consultants, Inc.*
Sarasota, Florida

Gloria Gozdzik *Horizon Research Consultants, Inc.*
Morgantown, West Virginia

Karen Hartgen *Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc.*
Rensselaer, New York

James W. Karbula *Hicks and Company*
Austin, Texas

Timothy Klinger *Historic Preservation Associates*
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Diane B. Landers *GAI Consultants Inc.*
Monroeville, Pennsylvania

Terestia Majewski *Statistical Research, Inc.*
Tucson, Arizona

Ron V. May *Legacy 106, Inc.*
San Diego, California

Michael McFaul *LaRamie Soils Service*
Laramie, Wyoming

Chad Moffett *Mead & Hunt, Inc.*
Madison, Wisconsin

Patrick O'Bannon *Historical Research Associates*
Seattle, Washington

Jo Reese *Archaeological Investigations NW, Inc.*
Portland, Oregon

Michael Roberts *Timelines, Inc.*
Littleton, Massachusetts

Joseph Schuldenrein *Geoarcheology Research Associates*
Bronx, New York

Kurt P. Schweigert, *Associated Cultural Resource Experts*
Littleton, Colorado

Steve Tull *URS Corporation*
Florence, New Jersey

Charissa Wang *Hardlines Design Company*
Columbus, Ohio

Jeanne Ward *Applied Archaeology & History Assoc., Inc.*
Annapolis, Maryland

Lucy B. Wayne *SouthArc, Inc.*
Gainesville, Florida

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



Hay bales are used to protect archaeological sites - from *Protecting Archaeological Sites on Eroding Shorelines*, a National Park Service publication (see Page 15).

In This Issue...

Message from The President	pg. 3
Arizona Firms Meet for Summer Fun by Christopher D. Dore	pg 6
2004 Annual Meeting Moves into High Gear by Jeffrey H. Altschul, Statistical Research, Inc.	pg 8
National Resource Conservation Service Training Summit by Tom Wheaton, Executive Director	pg. 12
ACRA August Legislative Update by Nellie Longworth	pg. 14

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.

ACRA OFFICERS

President

Christopher D. Dore, *Statistical Research, Inc.*

President Elect

Ian Burrow, *Hunter Research, Inc.*

Past President

Loretta E. Lautzenheiser, *Coastal Carolina Research, Inc.*

Vice President

Kay Simpson, *Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.*

Executive Director

Thomas R. Wheaton (RPA), *New South Associates, Inc.*

Treasurer

Colin Busby, *Basin Associates, Inc.*

Secretary

Susan Lassell, *Hicks and Company*

Advertising Space Available

ACRA Edition continues to offer advertising space to our members and our prices have not increased for nine years.

Does your company have a special product, service, or publication that would be of interest to some aspect of the CRM community?

Why not consider placing an ad in ACRA Edition?

Advertising Rates:	Per 6 Months	Per Year
Business Card size (3.5"x 2")*	\$100.00	\$175.00
1/4 page (3.5"x 4.75")	\$200.00	\$350.00
1/2 page (7.0"x 4.75")	\$300.00	\$525.00

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE FUTURE OF CRM

Submitted By Christopher D. Dore

This is my last "Message from the President". My term as ACRA president ends at the beginning of October when Ian Burrow assumes the leadership of our trade association. During this last year, I have taken the opportunity to use this column as a forum to editorialize on some of the larger issues that face our industry. This has differed from past ACRA presidents who used the column as a reporting tool to provide the membership with updates on ACRA activities and accomplishments. This year, I have left this task to Thomas Wheaton who contributes a "Message from the Executive Director" in alternate issues. I hope that future ACRA presidents continue to use this column to focus on the larger issues of the day.

In my last message, I thought it would be interesting to speculate on the near future of our industry given some of the trends I have observed over the last few years as an officer and board member of ACRA. This is prompted, too, by a 30-year anniversary rereading of William Lipe's "A Conservation Model for American Archaeology" (Lipe 1974). As a second-generation practitioner of CRM, I am becoming more and more interested in the early years of applied archaeology and the development of the legislation that so prominently shapes our CRM industry today. This interest is being sparked by the upcoming retirement of many of our industry founders. The early literature is idealistic and inspiring as authors such as Lipe and many others discussed, debated, and editorialized on what a CRM future would be like. The contemporary CRM literature is characterized by discussions of *how* we carry out CRM activities within the current framework of compliance regulations. The early literature focused on the larger philosophical issues of *why* we should be doing CRM at all and what an ideal regulatory framework would look like. (One notable exception is Thomas King who is a part of both the early and the contemporary CRM

literature and who still retains both his passion and big-picture perspective on our industry.) Reading Lipe's article again made me speculate about what our CRM industry will look like in the next 5 to 10 years.

Consolidation

As most of us already know, a large consolidation movement is underway. This has been happening for nearly 5 years and is expected to continue for at least another 10 years. This consolidation movement is being caused by two major factors. The first factor is the retirement of the many people who started CRM companies in the early 1970s as a response to the market created by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and other environmental legislation of the 1960s. This will create industry-wide instability as a large proportion of firms will soon change ownership. Larger environmental or engineering firms that lack cultural resource departments are purchasing some smaller firms. This is a part of the second factor, that is a client-driven desire to have one-stop shopping for environmental services. From the client's perspective, this both keeps costs down and minimizes the amount of project management required by the client.

It is not only the environmental and engineering firms that are purchasing CRM firms. Some CRM firms are purchasing other CRM firms to allow them to expand into new regions or to acquire additional expertise. As our industry has grown over the last 30 years, company geographic expansion has come primarily from fissioning. Since most geographical and market-sector niches are already filled, future growth for CRM companies will come from a strategy of acquisition. ACRA projects that our CRM industry may be as large as one billion dollars a year. The largest ACRA firms that only provide CRM services, not other environmental services, have

revenues of around 10 million dollars a year. This means that the market share held by the largest firms in our industry is only 1%! I believe that the industry consolidation that is currently taking place will, in 10 years, lead to 5 to 10 CRM firms having 25 to 50% of the market.

Section 106 Changes

Substantial changes are coming to Section 106, largely because of our industry's success over the last 10 years and because the "50-year window" has crossed beyond the threshold of post World War II suburban expansion. In many places of the country, virtually everything is a potential historic property needing consideration. Unfortunately, many of our clients have had enough in terms of both the cost and time involved in cultural resource compliance. I believe that our clients will be successful in changing Section 106 in two ways. First, the 50-year threshold for resources not considered to be exceptional will be changed to 100 years. There already is precedence for this in the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. Second, we will be forced to change the order of our procedures in the implementation of Section 106. Currently, our typical procedure is to identify, record, and evaluate resources. In the future, we will "evaluate" first (through strong contexts and a programmatic framework) and then identify the resources meeting the significance criteria within the area of potential effects. Only resources that are historic properties will be recorded.

End of Archaeological Dominance

Archaeology, and particularly prehistoric archaeology, has dominated the CRM industry since its inception. This, however, is changing. Archaeology, and particularly the archaeology of prehistoric-period resources, is becoming the least relevant CRM discipline. This is most notable in urban areas where most of the resource types are architectural or engineering. In these

built-over areas, even archaeological survey is likely to be a map research and review exercise for historians. Archaeological resources that do exist in these areas are more likely to be historic-period resources than prehistoric-period ones. Even in rural areas and the open expanses of the West, preservation planners are beginning to infringe upon the turf of archaeologists. As the compliance process becomes more front-loaded in streamlined advanced planning, it is the preservation planners that will steer projects away from areas of archaeological significance. Archaeology will always have a place in the CRM of the future, but it will cease to be the dominating discipline.

Private-Sector Research Institutes and the End of Academic Superiority

There is an interesting thing starting to happen in the CRM industry. Some companies are beginning to transform themselves into true private-sector research institutes. The discipline of archaeology has had a much more difficult time establishing an applied component than have other CRM disciplines. Open wounds may have healed, but the scars from the academic/applied split are still very much with our industry. One of the heated topics of debate in archaeology during the early years of CRM was the role of research in CRM investigations. Many argued that private-sector CRM investigations should maintain a quality of research equal to that done by academic archaeologists. While it is true that seminal scientific research has been done on many CRM projects, the reality is that our private-sector priority continues to be to provide clients with the information needed to make decisions in the legal compliance process. This, however, is starting to change.

Over the last 10 years or so, the public funding for "pure" scientific research that traditionally supports our academic colleagues has been decreasing. The amount of money spent on CRM investigations in the private sector is now exceeding academic research money by hundreds or even thousands of times. Plus, the lack of

academic jobs over this same period of time has driven many talented scientists into the private sector. The result has been that now, particularly in archaeology, some CRM companies and CRM projects challenge academic departments in the quality and quantity of research. Advances in archaeology are beginning to shift away from academia and towards the private sector, particularly with the development and use of technology and other hard-science methods, but also to a lesser extent with the development of explanatory theory. CRM-based scientists are publishing results in major journals at historic rates. Some private-sector scientists are even out competing their academic colleagues for research grants from traditional sources such as the National Science Foundation.

In many hard sciences, most of the major developments are made in private-sector firms that specialize in research. In those fields, the roll of academics is to train applied research scientists. While I don't see academic institutions, at least within the discipline of archaeology, improving much in their training of CRM-based scientists, I do see some CRM companies following the model of private-sector research firms. While this will be a specialty niche within the CRM industry for a long time into the future, the development of private-sector research companies within the CRM industry is quickly becoming a large threat to academic institutions. The next 10 years will bring the end of academic superiority in some CRM disciplines. In archaeology, there has already been a shift in the power structure of the major professional organization: the Society for American Archaeology. The president and a majority of the board of directors are not academic archaeologists.

Compliance Streamlining

Streamlining environmental compliance already is with us. Provisions in the regulations for Section 106 now allow for some efficiency when compliance with both the NHPA and the National Environmental Policy Act is

needed on a project. Other innovative streamlining solutions are being developed within the transportation sector of the CRM industry. This sector is, and will continue to be, the "think tank" and testing laboratory for new models of cultural resource compliance. This is largely due to the Transportation Research Board of The National Academies and the funding that this organization provides.

Streamlining, however, goes beyond regulation and legislation. Streamlining also includes our own industry developing and implementing ways to conduct our research and compliance activities in smarter, more efficient, and more effective ways. The for-profit CRM industry provides economic incentive for streamlining. Our firms stay more competitive and more profitable when we can innovate and get projects done faster and more efficiently than our competition.

I predict that the next 5 years will bring us major changes in the way that we routinely conduct cultural resources work. New technological methods will allow for faster and more reliable resource identification, documentation, and evaluation. Changes in agency priority and the recognition that front-loading projects and advanced planning actually shortens project schedules, saves money, and minimizes adverse effects to cultural resources will provide ample work for future historic preservation planners in our industry.

Recognition of the CRM Industry

Finally, I believe that the next 5 years will bring formal recognition of the CRM industry by the establishment of a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for cultural resources. ACRA has been largely responsible for the visibility and credibility of our industry among law makers and agency staff in Washington. The Small Business Administration may formally recognize our industry in upcoming regulations. If so, the Census Bureau sometimes follows, and it is the

...continued on Page 6

Census Bureau that manages the NAICS system. I believe that continued work by ACRA in Washington, and petitions to the Census Bureau, will allow the CRM industry to receive official industry status in the United States.

The future, even the short-term future, of private-sector CRM is going to be full of changes. The next 10 years of our industry may be the most exciting and most important period since the inception of CRM nearly 40 years ago. There is more talent in our industry today than there ever has been. I am sure that regardless of the challenges we face, a new generation of CRM leaders will find solutions grounded in a strong conservation ethic that would do justice to the CRM visionaries of the 1960s and 1970s.

ARIZONA FIRMS MEET FOR SUMMER FUN

Trying to beat that summer heat, employees from Arizona ACRA firms got together for a pool party on 17 July. Hosted by ACRA board member, Dr. Teresita Majewski (Statistical Research), a group of people representing HRA, Inc.; Conservation Archaeology; Statistical Research; SWCA Environmental Consultants; and some non-member firms (not to be mentioned!) enjoyed pool-side cocktails, barbeque, and cultural resources gossip in Tucson. ACRA's president, Dr. Christopher Dore, who attended the event stated that "I hope that this initial gathering in Arizona will inspire firms in other states and regions to get together, too." Typical of Arizona's summer monsoon season, the hot summer afternoon party ended with a spectacular display of lightening and a refreshing rain shower. Tucson will be the host of ACRA's spring board of director's meeting in 2005.

References

Lipe, William D. 1974 A Conservation Model for American Archaeology. *The Kiva* 39:213-245.

This commentary does not necessarily represent official positions of the American Cultural Resources Association. Have another opinion? Contact ACRA Edition editor Jeanne Harris (ejharris@aol.com).



Mead & Hunt
welcomes
partnering
opportunities.

Architectural historians specializing in:

- Section 106 compliance
- Historical research
- Section 4(f) evaluations
- Cultural resources studies
- Historic bridges
- National Register Nominations

**MEAD
&
HUNT**

www.meadhunt.com
preservation@meadhunt.com
 1-888-273-4555
 offices nationwide



HOW LONG WILL THAT DIGITAL DATA LAST?

It's been a long time coming, but there finally seems to be a consensus on the care, handling, and expected longevity of CDs and DVDs. Unlike the first crude guesstimates, much of this new work is based on accelerated aging tests and real-life experience, prompted in part by librarians, museums, and other agencies who have come to depend on optical media for long-term data storage, as reported in

<<http://lana.com/newsletters/2004/2004-05-20.htm#5>><http://lana.com/newsletters/2004/2004-05-20.htm#5>.

The US National Archives and Records Administration requested that the National Institute of Standards and Technology generate data that could be used to develop authoritative care and handling instructions for optical media. That report is now available for free from NIST Special Publication 500-252: Digital Data Preservation Program at: <http://www.itl.nist.gov/div895/carefordisc/>.

There's also third-party reporting, such as this. Government Computer News' headline article for 8-Mar-2004 is on the storage lifetime of CD-Roms. The article can be located at: http://www.gcn.com/23_5/storage/25166-1.html>http://www.gcn.com/23_5/storage/25166-1.html. It is interesting to note that a CD-R will last up to four times as long as a CD (as the aluminum used on a CD deteriorates faster). This is interesting reading and the sidebar has seven steps to prolonging the life of a CD, including do **not** use paper labels, but use a felt-tip pen.

Reprinted with permission from a notice posted on AAC-L@yahoo.com by Steven Foust on July 6, 2004.

ADVISORY COUNCIL TACKLES ARCHAEOLOGY

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has established an Archaeology Initiative to better address problems within the profession. The Council identified three areas of concern: specific guidance on a variety of topics to assist users of Section 106, revisions to the ACHP's 1988 "Policy Statement Regarding "Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods" and strategies to better capitalize on the rich potential of archaeological resources for heritage tourism and public educational opportunities. The ACHP contacted ACRA, SHA, SAA, and others seeking response to the priorities and direction outlined by the Council. The Council is currently seeking responses from the Native American Advisory Committee, tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, and federal agencies.

The ACHP Initiative Committee includes Council members Chairman Dr. Julie King, Mark Rey (representing USDA), Phil Grone (Defense), Fran Mainella (Interior who will be represented by recent appointee Dr. Sherry Hutt), Emil Frankel (Transportation) Edward Sanderson (NCSHPO) and Alan Downer (National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers). The Council staff lead will be Tom McCulloch. The committee will convene at the summer Council meeting scheduled for August 6 in Minnesota.

2004 ANNUAL MEETING MOVES INTO HIGH GEAR

By Jeffrey H. Altschul, Statistical Research, Inc.

Dear Cultural Resource Professional:

Welcome to Riverside! The American Cultural Resources Association's 10th annual meeting will be held between September 30 and October 3, 2004, at the historic Mission Inn in Riverside, California. This year's meeting promises to be exciting, entertaining, informative, and fun. The program is filled with workshops, forums, sessions, and tours on a wide variety of topics critical to cultural resource management professionals. At this year's meeting you can do the following.

- \$ Influence the Small Business Administration's rule change
- \$ Learn about opportunities with the National Park Service
- \$ Position your company for contracts with real estate developers and attorneys
- \$ Learn from the founders of CRM
- \$ Debate ethics and standards in current practices
- \$ Take a workshop on the latest in GIS from ESRI
- \$ Learn the latest on CEQA and historic preservation
- \$ Hear Brian Fagan's outlook on CRM and public outreach

Beyond sessions, there will be tours of historic buildings, catered lunches and dinners, and opportunities to meet up with old friends and network with new companies.

To register, visit ACRA's Web site at <http://www.acra-crm.org> and follow the links for the annual meeting. I look forward to greeting all of you at what will be ACRA's best conference yet.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey H. Altschul, Ph.D., RPA
President, Statistical Research, Inc.
2004 ACRA Conference Host

American Cultural Resources Association 10th Annual Meeting

Mission Inn, Riverside, California September 30th - October 3, 2004

The Mission Inn, a National Historic Landmark Hotel, will provide the backdrop to the 10th Annual Meeting of the American Cultural Resources Association. A wide array of workshops, sessions, and social events will take place over the four-day meeting in late September and early October. Thursday will be devoted to workshops, where the latest in geographic information system (GIS) technology will be presented by conference co-sponsor Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). A second workshop will focus on cultural resource compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). On Friday and Saturday, panel discussions will cover a wide array of current topics, such as transportation, development, and the legal arena; Small Business Administration (SBA) set-aside rules; and business ethics. Networking opportunities and social gatherings will fill out the schedule. A tour of the Mission Inn and a Saturday evening excursion are sure to be highlights of the conference.

Cost: Includes guided tour of the Mission Inn, Friday lunch and dinner, the awards luncheon on Saturday, and Saturday evening's transportation and dinner.

Registration is available from August 16, 2004, through the dates of the conference.

Member, Initial Person in Company	\$325
Member, Subsequent Person(s) in Company	\$245
Non-Member, Initial Person in Company	\$375
Non-Member, Subsequent Person(s) in Company	\$350
Student Member	\$200
Student Non-Member	\$255

Workshops (sign up early, as space is limited)

CEQA Workshop (limit 30)	\$60
ESRI Workshop (limit 30)	\$60

Companies that wish to have table displays can rent tables for \$60 for Friday and Saturday.

Spouses & significant others can attend the awards luncheon for \$60 and the Saturday evening event for \$35.

ACRA has reserved a block of rooms at the Mission Inn. Room rates are \$110/night for single occupancy and \$125/night for double occupancy. Room space is limited, so we suggest you reserve your room early. The Mission Inn can be reached at: 800-843-7755 or 909-984-0300 or www.missioninn.com. Tell the reservation desk that you are with the American Cultural Resources Association.

2004 PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Thursday, September 30

8:00-5:00 P.M. ACRA Board of Directors Meeting
(observers welcome)

1:00-5:00 P.M. CEQA and ESRI workshops

Friday, October 1

8:00-9:45 a.m.: Sessions 1 and 2

10:00-11:45 a.m.: Sessions 3 and 4

12:00-1:00 p.m.: Lunch (included in registration fee)

1:00-3:00 p.m.: Sessions 5 and 6

3:00-6:00 p.m.: Tour of the Historic Mission Inn
(sign up for a tour at 3, 4, or 5 p.m.)

6:30-8:00 p.m.: Dinner (included in registration fee)

Saturday, October 2

9:00-11:00 a.m.: Plenary Session

12:00-1:30 p.m.: Awards Luncheon
(included in registration fee)

2:00-4:00 p.m.: Sessions 7 and 8

6:00-10:00 p.m.: Dinner at the Historic Graham Cope Building
(Statistical Research, Inc.'s Redlands Office) (transportation provided and cost included in registration fee)

Sunday, October 3

8:00-11:00 a.m.: ACRA Board of Directors Meeting
(observers welcome)

SESSION ABSTRACTS

So You Want to Start a Business? Lessons from the Founders. This session will be geared toward the second generation of CRM professionals who are thinking about starting a business or have already started one. The panel will consist of ACRA members who started their firms 20-plus years ago. Emphasis will be placed on practical tips of what to do and what not to do.

The National Park Service and the Cultural Resources Consultant: Is There a Fit? This symposium will explore the increasing potential of private sector archaeologists, historians, architectural historians, and others to help the National Park Service achieve the stated aims and goals of its historic preservation program. The speakers will identify and define those goals, talk about how contracting works within the agency, and provide specific kinds of business and professional opportunities available to the private sector cultural resource community.

Small Business Set-Asides: What Do the New Rules Mean to Me? Representatives of the Small Business Administration (SBA) will provide an overview of the small business set-aside program. A discussion of pending changes to the small-business size determination will follow. The forum will provide ACRA members with an opportunity to discuss their concerns with the SBA while the proposed regulations are still being finalized.

The National Park Service and Private Sector Cultural Resource Professionals: A Forum. Building on Session 2, this forum provides an opportunity for ACRA members to interact with representatives of National Park Service contracting. It will be an opportunity to raise questions and get answers from knowledgeable preservation specialists and contracting personnel. This is your chance to find out how your business can profit from a relationship with the National Park Service and be involved in cutting-edge preservation programs and issues.

Who Me? Ethics and Standards in CRM. How do we handle ethical problems inherent in CRM? Curation, contracting, and business practices are a few of the topics that will be discussed. Following the successful Register of Professional Archaeologists/ACRA forum that was held at the Society for American Archaeology annual meeting in April, we will divide the room into two groups and give each side an

ethical dilemma from CRM. The two sides will then debate the issue.

CRM and DOT: The Times, They Are a Changing. Many CRM firms depend on Department of Transportation (DOT) work. But the tried and true methods of complying with Section 106 are undergoing fundamental changes. Streamlining is not simply another administrative initiative. It has the backing of politicians, transportation managers, planners, engineering and environmental firms, and others. Is your firm ready for these changes? What can you do to position your firm to be competitive in this new DOT environment?

The Legal Landscape. It is becoming increasingly common for CRM professionals to work closely with the legal profession. Often, this is in the form of assisting clients to defend legal challenges to environmental documents. Another area is ARPA, with CRM professionals being hired and advised by attorneys for both the plaintiffs and defendants. Attorneys are increasingly becoming more involved in the conduct and oversight of CRM firms. What exactly are these attorneys for, and how can you best market your firm?

How to Market to Private Developers? A large part of the CRM market is private developers who must comply with municipal, state, and federal laws affecting historic properties. Often these developers have little knowledge about CRM. How do they select a firm? How can you better position your firm to obtain this work? Representatives of some of the largest southern California developers have been invited to attend. These developers have spent more than \$10,000,000 in CRM services. Their answers to the questions above will surprise you.

Plenary Session. Before California: A Conversation with Brian Fagan. Brian Fagan is a noted archaeologist and author of many books geared toward the public and students. His most recent book, *Before California: An Archaeologist Looks at Our Earliest Inhabitants*, was commissioned by the Society for California Archaeology to provide the general public with an accessible and readable account of the Golden State's prehistory. *Before California*, awarded the Society for American Archaeology's 2004 book award, draws heavily on the results of CRM. Brian will speak about the importance of including the public in publicly supported archaeology.

WORKSHOPS

ESRI Workshop. This workshop offers an introduction to GIS for CRM professionals, combining lectures, hands-on exercises with ArcView 9 and extensions, and take-home handouts. Topics include creating point features from tabular data such as GPS output, bringing existing hard-copy maps into your GIS, digitizing features on screen, joining tabular data to features, querying data in a GIS, and exploring your data using labeling and symbology. GIS techniques applicable to inter- and intrasite analysis, data management, visualization, and surface modeling will be demonstrated and discussed.

CEQA: What Is It and What Does It Mean for the CRM Professional? This will be a workshop on cultural resource compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). More historic preservation is conducted in California in conjunction with CEQA than any other preservation law. Yet, most cultural resource consultants remain ignorant of many of the laws' conditions and requirements. This workshop will offer a primer on CEQA, its components related to cultural resources, and possible legislative changes in the offing.

TOURS

Mission Inn. The Mission Inn Foundation will provide guided tours of the hotel, including the chapel, historic rooms, and public spaces. The tours will take place Thursday afternoon.

Redlands. Saturday evening we will take a bus tour to the Inland Empire community of Redlands, where the meeting co-sponsor, Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI), will host an evening of food, drink, and music.

THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE TRAINING SUMMIT

By Tom Wheaton, Executive Director

On June 23-25, 2004, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) held a summit in St. Louis that focused on how it conducts training for Technical Service Providers (TSPs). ACRA was invited by Sarah Bridges, the NRCS' federal preservation officer, for the purpose of presenting the private sector and to provide input from the CRM world. ACRA was represented by Karen Hartgen and by me, but there were other past and present ACRA members present, including Terry Klein of ACRA Associate Member SRI Foundation, whose primary goal is CRM training, and ex-ACRA member Steve Del Sordo, who is now on the Advisory Council staff as liaison with the Department of Agriculture. Other CRMers present included Claudia Nissley, representing the National Preservation Institute, also a training organization, and Alan Laveillie, representing the Public Archaeology Laboratory, a non-profit. I mention these names to show the sizable presence of CRM at the meeting. Most of the 50 or so attendees were NRCS staff, with a few universities involved in training programs for the NRCS, and a few folks representing a scattering of other types of service providers. None were represented by as a large group as CRM. I feel this shows Sarah's, and hopefully the NRCS', seriousness about working with cultural resource TSPs and incorporating CRM more closely into their programs.

Why is this of interest to ACRA members? The main reason is that the NRCS has been mandated by Congress to outsource as much of their work as possible. The mechanism for doing this is the Technical Service Provider system. Over the course of the next few years, more and more money will be earmarked for Technical Service Providers, and less and less will be contracted out through their traditional contracting system. Currently, there is relatively little CRM work being conducted through the TSPs, but this will change, and unless contractors have been qualified as TSPs, there will be fewer chances to contract with the NRCS in the future. Training is required to become qualified as a TSP, and that is why the summit was held.

In order for ACRA members and the other private sector attendees to decide if it is worthwhile to go through

the training and become certified, the main question to the NRCS was exactly how much money is being spent on our specialties now, and how much is expected to be available in the future. We also were curious to know where in the country this would be made available. Unfortunately, there were no answers to these questions. Presently, a total of around \$40 million has been earmarked for TSPs, but most of that is going for Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) of which cultural resources is a very small part, if present at all. We were told that overall, this total will increase significantly. Whether the amount of cultural resource work also will increase significantly, however, is unknown. The NRCS is very state focused, and while one state may decide to emphasize Section 106, another may have other priorities; and there is apparently not much the folks at the national level can do to force compliance, although it is clear that Sarah is trying very hard.

There appear to be two major avenues for ACRA members to profit from the TSP system, one has been mentioned, direct contracting as a certified TSP. The other is by providing training to TSPs or helping a training organization, such as SRIF, to provide training. The contracting system seems to be geared toward very small companies or individual consultants. They are currently developing a not-to-exceed cost system that may mitigate against anything more than direct labor overheads. Projects tend to be small, a few acres of farmland, a retention pond, etc., and under \$1,000 to \$2,000. Contracting is often done with individual farmers with the money coming from the NRCS through the farmer or sometimes directly from the NRCS. CRM projects tend to be paid directly by the NRCS. There occasionally may be the opportunity for a larger project or a planning document that larger firms might be interested in providing, but these appear to be the exception. Larger firms might be more interested in providing or helping to provide training to those seeking TSP certification in a particular state. This would probably not be steady work, but would involve a commitment in time and resources that an individual or small firm might not be able to make. It also has been suggested that ACRA members

might work at the state level with a national training organization that would provide the overall direction and administration of the program.

The cultural resource TSP training, one of 42 certification categories, currently consists of two sections. The first section is separated into six parts that can be completed online at <http://techreg.usda.gov/> in a few hours. This section provides information on what the NRCS expects from TSPs, and from cultural resource consultants, and how the NRCS works. The second section provides training at the state level and has a field component. This section may take 2-3 days to complete, and may cost several hundred dollars if other categories are any guide. However, for most states the training programs have not been written yet. Much of the training summit, at least for CRMers, con-centrated on how to approach this state-level training.

Since so much depends on how much work there will be and whether it is worth taking the training, and thus how much demand there might be for training in a particular state or region, it was impossible to come to any concrete solutions at the training summit. It was recognized that if the projects will be mostly small ones that only small companies or individuals can reasonably compete for, and that if these companies are the least likely to have the resources to devote to a 2-3 day training program, there should be some way to show competence short of taking a formal training course. Such state by state training might be better reserved for companies and individuals with no experience in a state, while those with demonstrated experience in the state might be certified otherwise (reports accepted by the SHPO, etc.).

We had to constantly point out that CRM is unlike many of the other disciplines at the summit. Much of the training for the other disciplines consisted of teaching a technique, such as soil testing or applying insecticides, that the NRCS has particular expertise in and that most folks apparently do not learn in school. The nature of our work precludes a short, 4-hour course on a technique to be qualified, and most of us need an MA to meet DOI guidelines (which have been adopted by the NRCS, thanks to Sarah.) It was interesting to see that many NRCS staff were aware of cultural resources, and along with the relatively large numbers of CRMers at the meeting, I think the NRCS upper-level staff heard us.

What does all of this mean for ACRA members? I think it means that our members should become aware of the TSP system, but should do so with their eyes open. This is a rare attempt by a federal agency to precertify cultural resource practitioners, and as such it is worthy of note. It is definitely a work in progress, but assuming that more CRM will be required in the future, and more money will be devoted to it, it is something for our members to investigate more fully and keep informed about. It also might be a good idea to contact your state level NRCS office, introduce yourself, and find out what the future of cultural resources looks like in your state. Some states may need a little encouragement, of course.

Some asides-

Some members have encountered problems when they have tried to become certified on the NRCS TechReg website. One problem has been that the system is set up to certify individuals rather than companies. Once a person in your company has been certified, others can be certified and grouped under the same company; but first a single person must qualify. If you have any questions about using the website and what is required, please contact Wendell Oaks at wendall.oaks@co.usda.gov.

The NRCS uses self-certification with respect to experience and education. If you check the resumes of the individuals and companies who have been certified for CRM, you will find that a large number of them are not qualified or even come close to the DOI standards. Some folks who fulfill the DOI standards have listed themselves in many states for which they cannot possibly be qualified since training has not even been developed for those states. Sarah is aware of this, as is the NRCS, and new rules are being put in place to provide sanctions for these folks.

Many individuals have completed the introductory TSP registration process, but are on hold until they have completed the online training. If you are one of these, you need to complete the training to be listed as certified. For the time being, most states will not have an in-state training requirement, so we are somewhat in limbo, but completing the online training will be required in any case.

As soon as ACRA receives some concrete information on the size and distribution of the market, we will let members know.

ACRA AUGUST LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Nellie L. Longworth, Consultant to Government Affairs Committee

SECTION 106 REGULATIONS AMENDMENTS BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON AUGUST 5, 2004

The amendments to Section 106 - published in the Federal Register on July 6, 2004 - were approved by the Advisory Council at their May 4, 2004 meeting and became effective on August 5. While decisions in two court cases - National Mining Association v. Slater and Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association v. Slater - upheld Section 106 regulations against several challenges, there were two subsections that were invalidated. Five areas of current regulations have been amended.

This summary is for your information only and is not a legal interpretation. No action is required of the committee. This summary also will be posted on ACRA's web site (<http://www.acra-crm.org/>).

The Identification and Evaluation of "No Effect"

The amendment to 800.4 deals with an agency's Section 106 determination of "no effect." Such a finding must be documented by the agency official and forwarded to the SHPO/THPO. All consulting parties, Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, and the public also must be notified of the finding. If, within 30 days of the receipt by the SHPO/THPO of an adequately documented agency finding there is no objection, Section 106 responsibility has been fulfilled.

If under the same process and timing, there is disagreement to the "no effect" finding from the SHPO/THPO, the agency official will either consult with the objecting party or forward the finding in writing, including the reasons for the disagreement and supporting documentation, to the Council for review. When the agency official forwards a finding to the Council, it will notify all consulting parties of the request and make the documentation available to the public. Upon receipt of the information, the Council has 30 days to review and, if warranted, will forward an opinion about the finding to the agency official. Upon receipt of the Council's opinion, the

agency head or delegated senior policy official will prepare a summary of the decision which contains evidence of the Council's opinion and provides it to the Council, SHPO/THPO, and consulting parties.

If the agency revises the initial opinion, the Section 106 process will proceed in accordance with the revised opinion.

If, after taking into account the opinion of the Council, the agency affirms the initial finding of "no effect" to the Council, the agency's responsibilities under Section 106 are fulfilled. The Council shall retain a record of the agency response and make it available to the public.

Assessment of Adverse Effect

The amendment to 800.5 retains the criteria defining adverse effects and adopts a process that is identical to the above when there is an objection by the SHPO/THPO, consulting parties, and/or the Council to a determination of "no adverse effect."

Unless the Council is reviewing a finding of "no adverse effect," Section 106 will be fulfilled if the SHPO/THPO agree with the finding and there are no objections from consulting parties during the 30 days following receipt of the written finding.

If the agency revises the initial determination of "no adverse effect", the process will proceed in accordance with the revised opinion.

If, after considering the opinion of the Council the agency affirms the initial finding of "no adverse effect", the agency will inform the Council, SHPO/THPO, and consulting parties, and the agency's responsibilities are fulfilled under Section 106.

NEPA Coordination with Objection to Agency Determination of No Adverse Effect,

A similar process exists under Section 800.8 in the coordination with an objection to the original determination of no adverse effect by the agency within the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

Council Can Determine Exemption of Program or Category of Undertaking.

In addition to a federal agency, the amendments give the Council authority to determine that a program or category of undertakings is exempt from review under the following conditions: the actions within the program or category qualify as undertakings; the potential effects to historic properties are foreseeable and likely minimal or not adverse; and the exemption is consistent with the purposes of the Act. The proponent of the exemption must inform the public, SHPO/THPO, tribes and National Hawaiian organizations, and the Council will review an exemption proposal to insure that the criteria has been met and has taken into effect the views of the public and effort to inform the interested parties. The Council can approve or reject the proposed exemption within 30 days of receipt. The agency official and Council can determine that there are circumstances that need review and terminate an exemption with 30 days notice. The proponent of the exemption must publish notice in the Federal Register.

Definitions

There is a definition amendment and a new definition. The revised definition of "undertaking" is "a project, activity or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a Federal agency; those carried out with Federal financial assistance and those requiring a Federal permit, license or approval." The change in definition of an undertaking deletes "those subject to State or local regulation administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a Federal agency" in current regulation.

The new definition is "senior policy official, means the senior policy level official designated by the head of the agency pursuant to section 3(e) of Executive Order 13287."

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGY PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Our Collective Responsibility: The Ethics and Practice of Archaeological Collections Stewardship

- Edited by Dr. S. Terry Childs of the National Park Service's Archeology and Ethnography Program and published by the Society for American Archaeology. The book collects articles on ethical issues concerning the stewardship of archeological collections and offers very practical examples of collections management and care. In particular, articles cover project budgeting for curation, the long-term preservation of archival and digital records, access and use of collections, Native American issues, and collection rehabilitation.

Technical Brief 18, Protecting Archeological Sites on Eroding Shorelines: A Hay Bales Approach

- by Robert M. Thorne. This is the Archeology and Ethnography Program's latest online Technical Brief, available at:

<<http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/pubs/techbr/TCH18A.htm>>.

Dr. Thorne is an authority on site stabilization and preservation who describes an inexpensive, yet effective method to preserve archeological sites along lakeshores through the use of hay bales.

More Technical Briefs offering alternative treatments to preserve and protect archeological sites, as well as information about archeological contracting, collections management, public outreach and education, and other important topics can be found at:

<<http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/pubs/techbr/>>.

ACRA

EDITION

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

ACRA's Members-Only Listserv

ACRA now has an online discussion group just for members. "MembersOnly" is a listserv 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.

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

advertising space available

ACRA Edition offers advertising space to our members. Does your company have a special product, service, or publication that would be of interest to some aspect of the CRM community?

Why not consider placing an ad in **ACRA Edition**?

Advertising Rates:	Per 6 Months	Per Year
Business Card size (3.5"x 2")*	\$100.00	\$175.00
1/4 page (3.5"x 4.75")	\$200.00	\$350.00
1/2 page (7.0"x 4.75")	\$300.00	\$525.00

* Business cards can be scanned.

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

or

Thomas Wheaton,
Executive Director
c/o New South Associates, Inc.
6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave.
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083
770-498-5159