Office of the President

The SAA Executive Board met on December 1-2, 1986 in Washington, DC. In addition to the formal receiving of reports and routine matters, a wide range of issues was discussed. These included:

1. A discussion of the next steps to be taken in the Society's self-study. For the past two years the Society has conducted an ongoing review of all its business, management, membership and publications services. The purpose is simple: to insure that the Society is doing all it can to properly and effectively serve its members and the discipline.

2. The Board reviewed the Melcher Bill in some detail. Assignments were given to members of the Government Affairs Committee and other advisors to continue an analysis of the Bill and its implications. Senator Melcher is seeking comment and criticism on the Bill before it is reintroduced in the next Congress. The Society will provide its input at the appropriate time. Presumably, when the Bill is reintroduced in the next Congress, it will reflect the comments Senator Melcher has received.

3. The Board agreed to continue development of plans for appropriate observances by the SAA of the Columbus Quincentenary. David Hurst Thomas is chairing the effort. He will be assisted by Don Fowler after Fowler's term of office expires in May, 1987.

4. The Board heard a report from 1987 Program Chair, Timothy Kaiser. A large meeting in Toronto is anticipated. The Board enthusiastically endorsed a plan by the Program Committee to hold a plenary session featuring two Distinguished Lecturers. Details will appear in the Preliminary Program to be mailed out in early January.

5. On December 6, members of the SAA Board, as well as Mark Leone and Phil Speser attended a meeting at the Office of Technology Assessment. The meeting was organized by Jim Judge and Ev Taylor. The meeting reviewed ways in which the archaeological and historic preservation communities might best respond to the suggestions contained in the recent OTA report, Technologies for Prehistoric and Historic Preservation. An ad hoc Coalition for Advanced Preservation Technology was formed to develop an appropriate initiative in response to the report. The Coalition will include SAS, SOPA, SHA, and SAA, as well as other groups. More details will be forthcoming as matters develop.

Don D. Fowler

Mary Greene Honored

On December 1, 1986 the SAA Executive Board hosted a luncheon at the Smithsonian "Castle" to honor Mary Greene, Associate Director of the Anthropology Program at the National Science Foundation. After 26 years at NSF, Mary is retiring. In recognition of her enormous help to archaeologists in particular and anthropology in general, the SAA presented Mary its Public Service Award. As anyone who has dealt with the NSF Anthropology Program knows, Mary has played a key role in helping, advising, and "carrying through" in the complex and difficult world of grant giving. She will be sorely missed.

Annual Meeting Highlights

At the Society's Annual Meeting in Toronto, May 6-10, Program Chair Timothy Kaiser reports that 542 papers have been accepted for presentation. Because of the large number of papers, the meeting has been extended through Sunday morning.

The Program Chair also reports that this year's program will include a pair of Distinguished Lecturers on the topic of "History and Archaeological Theory." These lectures are intended to serve as a stimulating intellectual focus for the Annual Meeting. Scheduled to deliver the lectures are James Deetz (Director of the Lowie Museum and Professor of Anthropology, U.C. Berkeley) and T. Cuyler Young, Jr. (Director of the Royal Ontario Museum and Professor of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto).

Mima Dapches, Local Arrangements Chair, has scheduled a number of Special Events. Included are full day field trips, Open House at the Royal Ontario Museum and Open Houses at various departments and facilities of the University of Toronto. Highlighting the calendar of Special Events is the Reception at the Royal Ontario Museum on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary.

Another special feature of the meeting is a workshop entitled "The Politically Savvy Archaeologist" to be held on Wednesday afternoon, May 6.

Full details, including registration information, will be found in the Preliminary Program.

The street address for the Royal York Hotel, site of the annual meeting, was inadvertently left off the reservation form in the Preliminary Program. The full address is:

Royal York Hotel
100 Front Street West
Toronto ON MSJ 1E3 Canada

To guarantee space at the headquarters hotel, make your room reservations early.
Letters to the Editor

With Just a Wink and a Nod, It Could All Be Gone

How many times have archaeological scholars sought collections in museums and found only "goodies"? How often have museums only curated animal skulls, one or two marine shells from each pit, or edge-worn "tools"? How many archaeologists have found that they must return to the field to recover their own samples because some scholar before them dumped all the repetitive "stuff" after counting the pieces in a field report? With just a wink and a nod, this sort of non-scientific dumping of archaeological collections is done routinely among administrative personnel of curatorial institutions and principal archaeologists.

The problem is hair-raising for California archaeologists who bemoan the old-timers for dumping valuable specimens often agree to dumping once "they have had their way" with the collections. The old "squeezed orange" philosophy which made California archaeologists sit up in the 1960's is actually a common belief system among arrogant CRM archaeologists who actually believe that no one will ever wish to re-examine their collections once they have written their mitigation reports.

The problem is hair-raising for California scholars who are supposed to inherit these time capsules for future research. The PROBLEM lies with a serious communication breakdown among the professionals who administer public and private museums and the CRM donors. Archaeologists from the discipline of anthropology generally get a "C-" mark for demonstrating the multiple value of statistical packages of samples for future educational purposes. Anthropologists, in general, are not good at public outreach. The skills of public relations, relevance synthesizing, and bridging academic themes and theses to museum programs are not easily acquired and often only possible with specific personalities.

Perhaps the problem is only perceived by a minority of "purists" who are naive enough to believe that there is any real long-term value in saving complete samples statistically recovered from sites which were 99% destroyed by bulldozing under permit-enabled projects. Perhaps only those few men and women who carried environmental legislation and permit resolutions forward to approval are naive enough to believe that the money was truly spent for future public benefit. Perhaps those private developers who financed such projects to the tune of millions of dollars really believe that those samples will be "there" for posterity.

In truth, archivists and museum curators liken statistical archaeological collections to boxes of business records and family papers which must be purged for redundancy, irrelevance, and lack of historical value. Unless a case is made as to how a collection can be of future use, it will be purged.

For example, the National Park Service recently submitted for public review "Curation of Federally Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections," pages 25-26, which spells out policies for discards. This policy enables institutions to continue the practice of surrendering Indian ceremonial objects to local tribes, dumping "descriptive data" which has been "recorded and photographed", or deciding what things have "physical integrity" or are of "little intrinsic, research, or educational value" (Policy 79.8).

In a recent Museum Administration Graduate course in Public History at San Diego State University, the prejudices against archaeological collections of "redundance", "physical integrity", and so-called "educational value" became crystal clear from a museum curator's viewpoint. Most archaeological material is considered "dead storage" and of little display value. Routine in museum curation is the culling of samples. At least one museum in Arizona, for example, dumps all the metates, manos, and non-painted pottery in heaps. A curator at Yorktown, VA expressed an eagerness to dump all but the reconstructed bottles from their National Park facility to make room for more displayable antiques. Most plain glass, unpainted pottery, seeds, wood, bones, and non-tools in museums across the United States will find their way to new trash dumps before the turn of the century.

It is time that California archaeologists tackle the problem of selling the values of STUDY COLLECTIONS to the California educational systems. If curation of bulky collections is "the problem", then let us look to parceling sample study collections along with slide strips and accompanying text and loan them to school districts. The registration of study collections to the schools would make them retrievable by future scientists, while making them usable and thus relevant. If we better prepared research designs which demonstrated the cumulative role of study collections as "indices along a linear path from the problem maturation", then the critical survival of intact collections might be understood by museum people. In fact, they might add Study Collections to the National Union Catalogue of Museum Collections (NUCMC) and invite national scholars to visit important collections at their institutions.

California archaeologists must waken to this dilemma. CRM archaeologists need to be more concerned with the long-term curation and utility of collections in on-going educational programs. We must prepare the concluding sections of our reports in such a manner that the collections can be better utilized in the storage places. We have to sell relevancy of samples and make certain that statistical data packages will not be invalidated by museum dumping. We must make certain that while we are out fighting in the pits and trenches to save our heritage before the bulldozers, in the museums it will not be gone with a blink and a nod.

Ronald V. May
Environmental Management Specialist
Department of Planning & Land Use
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite V,
Ma. Sta. 0650
San Diego, CA 92123-1666
Cliff Dwellings might have been built for warfare defense, not comfort.

The prehistoric Indian cliff dwellers of the American Southwest might not have been as peaceable as has generally been thought since their ruins were discovered a century ago.

Anthropologist Jonathan Haas, director of programs and research at the School of American Research here, talks enthusiastically about what he calls "a very new, different way of looking at things in the Southwest."

For the past four years, Haas has been exploring the mesas, valleys, and canyons around the Navajo National Monument in northeastern Arizona, testing his theories of conflict among the Kayenta Anasazi Indians 700 to 800 years ago.

This past summer, Haas and his research team, with support from the National Geographic Society, found two previously unknown settlements in the Tsegi Canyon system, in the heart of an area that has been intensively surveyed over the past 75 years.

One of the sites, accessible only by a naturally concealed crack in the precipitous sandstone of a 900 ft butte, was a 200 room pueblo, one of the largest ever found in the region and once home to a sizable Kayenta population atop the mesa.

The other new find was a 30 room pueblo, unvisited for more than seven centuries, in a canyon rock shelter that could be reached only by an expedition member who is a skilled climber.

Both locations, Haas concludes, must have been selected for only one reason: defense against possible attackers.

Neither, he thinks, could have been chosen for the reasons customarily attributed to the Anasazi: nearby arable land, readily available water, and protection from the weather.

Access to both required a rugged climb. Water and food sources were a considerable distance away. The mesa-top pueblo offered scant protection from the often harsh elements; the rock-shelter pueblo was built on a relatively steep slant, its narrow ledge of front yard disappearing over a 140 ft cliff.

The combined discoveries helped "blow the whole hypothesis of people moving up to the headwaters of the canyon," Haas says. "No one has ever thought to look on top of that butte for site."

Some Anasazi Indians had dwelt in relative comfort in cliff houses for centuries. But, in support of his argument that this year's find and other late-settled Kayenta cliff dwellings were built for defense, Haas asks, "If they were such great places to live, why didn't anybody live there before A.D. 1250?"

Traditional wisdom has held that drought and other environmental pressures forced the Anasazi up the canyons, closer to dwindling water sources, in the late 13th century. By the beginning of the 14th century they were gone.

Haas takes exception to the conventional wisdom. "What happens when the entire region is in poor condition?" he asks. "It's at that point that warfare breaks out. And it's a raiding-type warfare."

To get away from the raiders and establish solid defensive positions, the Kayenta sought sites such as the inaccessible mesa and rock shelter for their pueblos, Haas thinks. His major conclusion: "Warfare is a last resort for human populations."

Ancestors of the Kayenta Anasazi roamed the Southwest 10,000 years ago. By about 5000 B.C., nomadic bands were formed. Not until about A.D. 500 did a distinctive Kayenta culture start to emerge. Starting about A.D. 700, the Kayenta lived in pueblos.

In the Long House Valley of Arizona, where Haas has done much of his research, small villages appeared between A.D. 1000 and 1150. By 1250, apparently as a result of erosion, drought, and a sinking water table, villages on open sites were abandoned by the hundreds. The Kayenta started building hard-to-reach shelters on the buttes above the valley, once small villages consolidated in five distinct clusters. Pueblos of 75 to 400 rooms emerged.

Significantly, Haas notes, all five clusters were on high hilltops. All were strategically positioned to see each other. When a hill blocked the line of vision between two of the cultures, residents cut a notch in the hill. "The main thing you can infer from that pattern is that they were communicating with each other," Haas says.

And one reason to communicate may have been warfare. Investigation of a nearby burial site disclosed only five males among 42 remains. This led Haas to think that most of the men in the settlement were away fighting battles. "It was tantalizing evidence," he says, "but not convincing."

Searching for conclusive evidence, he used topographic maps and a computer to pinpoint defensive site locations above the region's canyons. Through the computer he then located the sites that were linked visually.

It all came together. Long House Valley, Klettha, and Kayenta Valley had visually linked pueblos in defensive positions, and one pristine site had a six-foot stone wall. Only Tsegi Canyon, with its cliff dwellings, remained a question mark.

Haas considers this year's findings "all new stuff" that will shake a large limb on the tree of conventional anthropology. "People are beginning to look at patterns that have been staring them in the face for a long time, and recognize those patterns for what they are," he says.

AAAS Items of special interest to SAA members

The annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, chaired by Richard Ford (Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan), was held in Philadelphia on December 6, 1986. Items of special interest at this meeting to SAA members were:

1. Archaeological papers and symposia for the 1987 annual meeting of the AAAS in Chicago. These will include a Symposium organized by Richard Ford ("Accelerator Radio-carbon Dating and the Reassessment of American Prehistory") and another Symposium organized by William O. Autrey and Leslie Freeman ("The Emergence of Normal Science in Archaeology"). There will also be a paper by Curtis Larsen on Great Lakes archaeology in a symposium organized by Michael J. Donahue ("Great Lakes Management: Socioeconomic and Institutional Considerations").

2. James Wiseman (Archaeological Institute of America) had written to Section H to propose that archaeology be split off from anthropology into a separate section. The consensus at the meeting was not to endorse this proposal. There was agreement, both in principle and on administrative grounds, that the present arrangement accurately reflects a desire to maintain the benefits of regular interaction between anthropology and archaeology and also the fact that the membership of Section H is really too small to facilitate further subdivision. As SAA representative to Section H, I concurred with the decision to reject this proposal.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Gould
Anti-Looting efforts reach Capitol Hill

In accordance with guidance from the SAA Executive Committee, this year the Office of Public Affairs will be looking at federal funding in several areas including anti-looting initiatives, the National Science Foundation and the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). We work closely with the SAA Governmental Affairs Committee on these and other issues including the role of the Departmental Consulting Archaeologist, historic shipwrecks, the Office of Surface Mining regulations, Take Pride in America, the National Historic Preservation Act, and curation.

Looting

Looting of archaeological sites has become a major national crisis. In a December 7, 1986 New York Times Magazine article, the author, Derek V. Goodwin, cited a need for $2 to $5 million to begin increasing protection of sites, enforcing protection laws, and establishing a national anti-looting strike force. The SAA has been working to make Congress aware through meetings with staff aides, and in developing a pamphlet on looting of sites, and laying the groundwork for funding requests. Due to a concerted effort, looting is becoming a Congressional issue.

Senator Dennis DeConcini's (D AZ) staff members have indicated the Senator's interest in taking the lead in securing the necessary funding to begin addressing looting. Senator Jeff Bingaman (D NM) and Representative Bill Richardson (D NM) have indicated a willingness to schedule oversight hearings due to a concerted effort, to obtain new funding for anti-looting efforts.

What You Should Do To Protect Archaeological Resources

The SAA depends on support from archaeologists in the field. There are several ways to help.

• Talk to local newspapers; have articles and editorials on archaeological looting printed. This ensures public education and builds public support.
• Write letters to Congress. Explain to your Congressmen and Senators that, as an archaeologist, you strongly oppose looting; support an addition of $5 million to appropriations for the Department of Interior for increased law enforcement to protect archaeological resources.

A pamphlet on expressing your views to Congress is available from the SAA's Office of Public Affairs, 2000 P St. NW, Suite 305, Washington, DC 20036, for $1.00 and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Next issue: Funding for NSF and the Historic Preservation Fund.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION SERIES

Volume 1: THE BRIEFING BOOK ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL ISSUES $15.00
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Reference Guide - A Supplement to Volumes 2 & 3 $20.00

To order send payment to: Office of Public Affairs Society for American Archaeology 2000 P Street, NW Suite 305 Washington, D.C. 20036

Habicht. Habicht has agreed to take the lead in coordinating DOJ's efforts and to report to the SAA at the end of January on what Justice intends to do.

Earthwatch Grants

For Field Research

The Center for Field Research / EARTHWATCH is interested in supporting archaeological research in the coming year and invites proposals for funding consideration.

Over $3 million will be awarded in 1987 and 1988 to over 200 projects in the sciences and humanities throughout the world; grants range from $5,000 to $85,000. All funds are derived from the contributions of participating volunteers recruited from the EARTHWATCH membership (over 28,000); only projects needing both funds and direct field assistance are eligible.

Application procedure: Preliminary Proposals should be submitted approximately 14 months prior to the intended project date; exceptions will be made in some cases. Upon favorable review, a Full Proposal will be invited.

For further information contact:
James A. Chiarelli, Program Officer Center for Field Research Box 403 680 Mt. Auburn St. Watertown, MA 02172 (617) 926-8200

National Park Service Fellowships

The Archeological Assistance Division, National Park Service, seeks two archaeologists (one GM-193-13 and one GS-193-11/12) in its Washington, D.C., office. The Division serves as a liaison with bureaus and offices in the Department of the Interior and in other federal agencies in matters dealing with archaeological resources; develops archaeological standards, guidelines and regulations; develops and implements the national archaeological data base of federal activities; oversees and coordinates the national archaeology program, and reports to the Congress on the program.

The salaries for these positions are as follows: GS-11-$26,381 per year; GS-12-$31,619 per year; GM-13-$37,599 per year. The applicants selected for these positions will be eligible to participate in life and health insurance programs provided by the federal government. 

Retirement coverage will be determined upon entrance on duty.

For further information, please contact:
Terrie Fajardo National Park Service Personnel Operations Branch Rm. 2328, P.O. Box 37127 Washington, D.C. 20013-7127 (202) 343-4163
Penn Anthropologist adapts Laser and Computers to speed Archaeological exploration

Harold L. Dibble, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Arts and Sciences, has adapted the traditional surveyor's tool, a theodolite equipped with laser-beam measuring device, to locate artifacts and has written a computer program that records and compiles their locations at the site.

According to Dibble, the two advances have revolutionized the process of archaeological field work -- the measuring routine that once took well-trained workers one minute, now takes five seconds; the sorting and collating of measurements that once took field laboratories days to analyze, now are processed and mapped within hours.

"It's basically saving 50 percent of our time in measuring artifacts and increasing our accuracy by 300 to 500 percent," said Dibble, who is associate director of an ongoing Middle Paleolithic excavation in southwest France sponsored last summer by the National Geographic Society.

Leading the La Quina dig along with Dibble, who is the project's computer specialist, are co-directors Arthur Jelinek, professor of anthropology at the University of Arizona, and Andre Debenath from the Institut de Quaternaire at the University of Bordeaux.

"It used to be with the old-fashioned techniques that a dig could take forever," Dibble said recently from his office in Penn's University Museum. A Paleolithic site, such as the La Quina project about 100 miles northeast of Bordeaux, could take up to 60 years to fully excavate using traditional techniques, he noted. But with these innovations, a site of its size could be finished within ten to 15 years. While complete excavation of La Quina is not planned, Dibble said Paleolithic exploration is now just entering a new era because of these extraordinary savings in time and money.

Although laser-equipped theodolites have been employed for mapping and surveying for over five years, Dibble was the first to adapt its new speed and accuracy to map and measure archaeological artifacts as they're unearthed.

With the theodolite, workers can measure the location of a bone and immediately enter the data into a small micro-processor wired to the surveyor's tool. Gone is the tedious process of handwriting the data at the site, and later transcribing dozens of numbers for analysis. Not only is the process quicker, said Dibble, but with the computer's ability to record more dimensions of an object, accuracy is greater.

Back at the base camp, the small field computer uploads its data into a more powerful personal-size computer that processes the measurements and creates a color-coded diagram of the day's work. Archaeologists can then analyze the log that evening for new information or clues to the site.

Dibble said he knows of no other archaeological team currently using his exact process, and expects almost all projects to adopt his computer software within two to three years. As he recalled of last summer's experience with the new equipment: "This was the first project I'd ever experienced where the lab was up-to-date with the work going on in the field."

Within two to three years, Dibble expects to perfect his next advance -- computer digitalized images. He is presently working on a program which will sketch more than just the rough dimensions of an object, but will create three-dimensional drawings.

His current software represents artifacts as relatively primitive stick images. Although his computer is programmed to assign a different color to each material -- such as white for human bones, or red for stone tools -- the jumble of colored lines on the screen or printout can present "visual noise" to archaeologists attempting to analyze objects unearthed from one sector.

With digitization, a full representation of each artifact is displayed and, as with the present software, archaeologists can order the computer to display any given sequence or category of material, either visually or through printed copy.

Next year's dig in France will resume in June and continue through July. While National Geographic has been approached for this season's general funding, Dibble must still seek independent contribution for his computers. Last year, he received almost $30,000 worth of equipment from IBM, Hewlett-Packard, and other private sources.

This year, plans to proceed with the digitized graphics already appear on track -- in December, he received word of a substantial gift from a private donor earmarked for "development and exploration of computer graphics for archaeological exploration."

Computers Help Archaeologists Record Indian Mounds

Indian mounds are among the most precious archaeological resources available for the study and appreciation of prehistoric Louisiana cultures. Unfortunately, they are also among the most endangered by modern development and agricultural practices. Recently, two Louisiana State University archaeologists have developed a new method of preserving information about these sites using computers.

Malcolm Shuman and Dennis Jones have just completed a survey and computer mapping project of 24 mounds located in East Feliciana, West Feliciana, and East Baton Rouge parishes. They have produced a series of three-dimensional, computer generated maps of each mound.

Now, if the sites are destroyed, at least archaeologists will have highly accurate models of the mounds. Using a sophisticated computer program, they can also hypothesize about the original size and shape of the mound when the Indians built them. The information could even be used to reconstruct the mounds.

This method of archaeological site study has many advantages. It is easy to gather the data needed for the computer programs and, unlike archaeological excavation, it is completely nondestructive. The archaeologists simply map the mounds like land surveyors, using a transit instrument and measuring rod to determine differences in mound elevation. Then, this information is fed into the computer, and using programs called SYMAP and ASPLEX, Shuman and Jones are able to produce a three-dimensional picture of the mounds from any angle.

Another phase of the work has been a real benefit to the West Feliciana Parish School Board, which partially funded this project. Shuman and Jones produced educational videotapes about Louisiana archaeology, the mound project, and the use of computers in archaeology. The three videos will be used in high school classes in West Feliciana Parish.

Meanwhile, Shuman and Jones are planning an identical project for Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, and St. James parishes. Partial funding for both projects is being provided by the National Park Service through grants awarded by the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. (Archaeology News 3(2):3)
Advisory Council
On Historic Preservation
Publishes Revised Regulations

On September 2, 1986, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation published its revised regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), in the Federal Register at 51 FR 31115. These regulations, which will take effect on October 1, 1986, will replace the Council's January 30, 1979, regulations, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties."

The Council's regulations govern the review process established in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106 review, as this process is usually called, requires all Federal agencies to take into account how their activities affect historic properties and to afford the Council an opportunity to comment on these activities and effects. This process ensures that Federal agencies consider historic values as they plan and carry out Federal actions and projects.

The revised regulations were unanimously approved by the full 19 member Council on July 21, 1986, culminating a five year effort to streamline the review process. Said Council Chairman Cynthia Grassby Baker of Denver, Colorado, "The Council is extremely pleased with the new regulations, which strike a careful balance between historic preservation and Federal project needs. I am delighted that we were able to publish the new regulations, which enable us to put them into place in time for the beginning of the new fiscal year."

Agencies Provided with Additional Compliance Options

The Council's revised regulations, while retaining much of the basic process established in earlier regulations, provide alternative procedures that allow agencies more flexibility in developing ways to resolve conflict between their program needs and preservation values. Agencies will still follow five review steps: (1) identification and evaluation of historic properties that may be affected by agency action; (2) assessment of effects on the identified properties as a result of agency activity; (3) consultation to mitigate adverse effects; (4) rendering of Council comment; and (5) proceeding with the undertaking. However, once the regulations go into effect on October 1, agencies will have more options available to them in taking these steps.

Regulatory changes that improve the Section 106 review system include:
• Providing agencies with more autonomy and flexibility in meeting the statutory requirements of Section 106;
• Allowing States to develop their own substitute review processes to take historic values into account;
• More clearly defining the roles of Section 106 participants;
• Setting forth special procedures for use when Federal actions are proposed in response to a declared emergency;
• Simplifying procedures for determining whether a property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and therefore eligible for Section 106 review;
• Encouraging agencies to use Programmatic Agreements; and
• Encouraging agencies to complete their Section 106 review documentation in such a way that it can also be used to satisfy requirements of other statutes.

The Council is developing new informational material explaining procedures and requirements under its revised regulations. These materials, which are scheduled for publication this fall, will be sent to State and Federal historic preservation officers, preservation organizations, and agency offices that receive periodic Council mailings. Copies may be requested from:

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 809
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 786-0503 (FTS 786-0503)

About the Council

In addition to administering the Section 106 review process, the Council also serves as the primary policy advisor to the President and Congress on historic preservation matters. The 19 member Council includes the Secretaries of The Interior, Transportation, Treasury, Agriculture, and Housing and Urban Development; the Director of the Office of Administration; the Architect of the Capitol; the Chairman of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; the President of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers; and ten members appointed by the President -- a governor, a mayor, four historic preservation experts, and four members of the general public. Council offices are located in Washington, D.C., and Denver, CO.

Patterns Of The Past

Patterns of the Past, the radio series on archaeology produced by Western Public Radio since 1984, is going out of business. Efforts to obtain further funding for its two- and five minute programs have failed, despite strong support from the Society for American Archaeology and many archaeologists. It has proved impossible to keep it on the air after the initial two year period funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Patterns was a great success, reaching a weekly audience in the millions on National Public Radio, the Longhorn Radio Network, and on Voice of America. Its short programs highlighting a recent discovery, a new idea, or a new archaeological method proved the viability of this approach for bringing the past to a wide audience - without the aid of expensive TV time.

Efforts to obtain funding for a new series will continue. In the meantime, I would like to thank all those colleagues - in the hundreds - who responded to our appeal for program materials. I only regret that we were unable to use all of their ideas. I would also encourage others to exploit the rich field of radio for publicizing their research. With vivid writing and a short, punchy format you can work miracles, and reach a very large local or national audience indeed.

Brian M. Fagan
Department of Anthropology
Univ of California at Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Honors

School of American Research
Welcomes Three Resident Scholars

Three anthropologists have arrived at the School of American Research in Santa Fe to begin one-year advanced research residencies funded by the Weatherhead Foundation of New York. Thomas Killian, Ph.D. candidate from the University of New Mexico will prepare a monograph on the practice of horticulture by tropical agriculturalists, Dr. Timothy Kohler, Assistant Professor at Washington State University, will work on a synthesis of recent research on the Anasazi of Southwestern Colorado, and Dr. Carla M. Sinopoli, who received her degree from the University of Michigan, will complete manuscripts on ceramic production, distribution, and use in South India.
Designation of Bruce Smith
As Regent’s Publication Program Fellow

The Regents’ Publication Program was established in a further means of realizing the Smithsonian’s commitment to the publication of contributions to knowledge. The specific aims of this program are to foster the publication of scholarly works of a broader scope and significance that reach beyond the boundaries of disciplines or specialty, and to match more closely the research efforts of staff to the publishing capabilities of the Smithsonian Institution Press.

Dr. Bruce Smith, Department of Anthropology, National Museum of Natural History, has been designated as the first Regents’ Publication Program Fellow. Dr. Smith submitted a proposal entitled “An Interpretive Synthesis of the Prehistory of the Southeastern United States”. He will write an interpretive summary of the major trends and developments along a 10,000 year span of cultural evolution from existing archaeological data bases, concentrating on the origins of sedentism, plant husbandry, and ranked societies.

I am sure that the Smithsonian community joins me in congratulating Dr. Smith on this singular honor.

Robert McC. Adams
Secretary

NEH Names Varner for Museum Post

The National Endowment for the Humanities has appointed Dudley Varner as assistant director of its Division of General Programs for Humanities Projects in Museums and Historical Organizations. Varner has worked for the past 20 years in museums and historical organizations as executive director, curator, and board member, most recently serving as executive director of the California State Agricultural Museum. He was curator of the Texas Memorial Museum for eight years and established a program in museum studies and coordinated classes in museology and museography at the University of Texas in Austin. He was recently a member of the California Council for the Humanities.

Varner received a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Arizona and taught at California State University in Fresno. He is a specialist in the archaeology of the American West and has published professional papers on numerous topics in anthropology, archaeology, and history.

Meeting Calendar

Society for California Archaeology

The Society for California Archaeology will hold its annual meeting April 16-18, 1987 in Fresno, CA at the Centre Plaza Holiday Inn, 2233 Ventura St., Fresno, CA 93821. They are holding a block of rooms for SCA members; reservation deadline is April 1, 1987. Call (209) 268-1000 for reservation information.

The meetings will be co-sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service (Sierra National Forest), National Park Service (Yosemite National Park), and the Fresno Archaeological Society. For further information contact:

Meeting Chair: Greg Greenway
Forest Archeologist
Sierra Natl Forest
Ctr 1130 "O" Street
Fresno, CA 93721
(209) 487-5163

or Program Chair: Scott Carpenter
Park Archeologist
Yosemite Research Ctr
P.O. Box 700
El Portal, CA 95318
(209) 736-2000

Chocmool Annual Convention

The 20th Annual Chocmool Convention, the Archaeological Students Society at the University of California, will be held November 1987. Among the topics to be explored are: the conditions under which conflict emerges, the role of conflict in cultural development, the means cultures develop to either resolve or diffuse conflict. How do we identify and interpret competition, conflict, and warfare in the archaeological record?

For further information please contact:

1987 Conference Committee
Department of Archaeology
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
T2N 1N4

Lithic Analysis at the University of Tulsa

The University of Tulsa is offering an intensive, three-week combined lecture-discussion-laboratory class in various facets of archaeological lithic analysis June 8-27, 1987. Instructors for the course will be George Odell (Tulsa), Mark Newcomer (London), and Jacques Tixier (Paris). At the conclusion of the course there will be a three day symposium in lithic analysis attended by about 15 prominent scholars. Three credit hours are awarded upon successful completion. Costs are $825 (undergraduate) or $915 (graduate). Enrollment is limited. For further information please contact:

George H. Odell
Department of Anthropology
The University of Tulsa
600 South College AV
Tulsa, OK 74104-3189
(918) 592-6000
Toronto Airfares Discounted

The SAA has arranged a special 30% discount for attendees traveling on AIR CANADA or US AIR to the Society's annual meeting in Toronto and has appointed CW TRAVEL MANAGEMENT COMPANY as the official agency.

US AIR serves 90 cities in the US and two Provinces in Canada.

In addition to many cities in Canada, AIR CANADA serves the following US points: Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, New York, San Francisco, and Tampa/St Petersburg. The special fare on AIR CANADA entitles attendees to be upgraded to Business Class.

To take advantage of these special fares, SAA participants need only to call CW TRAVEL between 8:30AM and 5:30PM EST Monday through Friday at 1-800-424-5499. (In metropolitan DC area call 202/775-5830.)

Those who purchase their tickets directly will receive $100,000 flight insurance free.

Placement Services of Annual Meeting

SAA invites applicants and employees to use the Placement Service; it will operate at the Annual Meeting in Toronto, May 6-10. The Placement Service brings together at the Annual Meeting those seeking positions and those with positions open.

Position Open listings are posted on bulletin boards in the Placement Center where they may be viewed by applicants. If an applicant is interested in pursuing one of the open positions, the applicant requests an interview by filing a message to the prospective employer at the Placement Center's Message Desk.

Likewise, a directory of registered applicants is made available to employers. If an employer finds an applicant who interests him or her, the employer can leave a message for the applicant at the Placement Center's Message Desk. The employer may then also reserve a time for interviews in the room set aside for this purpose at the Placement Center.

This match-making service is made available by SAA to its members at no charge. Forms and information for preregistering with the SAA Placement Service are available from:

SAA's Executive Offices
1511 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Call for Volunteers

If you would like to receive free meeting registration and a free SAA membership for one year, volunteer to work twenty hours during the meeting in half-day shifts. Volunteers are needed for the following on-site meeting services: message center, membership desk, advance registration, placement service, and session monitoring.

To volunteer you should write to:

J.A. Miller, SAA
1511 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005