Coop

Four Health Benefit Options With Society Membership

For some time now, the Society for American Archaeology has offered its members and their families a benefit quite apart from those professional benefits with which most members are familiar. It's called the SAA Group Insurance Program. Sponsored and endorsed by the Society for American Archaeology, the Program offers members and their families low-cost protection against financial hardships resulting from death, disability or serious illness, through four distinct plans. They are: Term Life, Disability Income, In-Hospital Indemnity, and Medicare Supplement. Here's a brief description of each.

SAA Term Life Insurance. The Plan may be used by members under age 70 who are actively employed to provide basic life insurance coverage, or to supplement existing coverage. Member coverage up to $2,250,000 is available to a maximum of $225,000; spouse coverage is available up to a maximum of $75,000; and all children can be covered for $5,000.

SAA Disability Insurance provides invaluable monthly benefit payments to help replace income that is otherwise lost when a member is unable to work as a result of total disabilities. All members under age 60 who are actively employed have full-time may apply for coverage and monthly benefit options range from $200 to $1,600. Members may select to have benefits begin either 30, 60, or 180 days from the onset of disability.

SAA In-Hospital Indemnity Insurance provides up to $200 per day for members and $100 per day for spouses while hospitalized due to an accident or illness. All members under age 65 are eligible to apply and acceptance is guaranteed. Benefits paid directly to the member and may be used however the member chooses. Benefits (doubled for time spent in an intensive care unit) are payable up to 365 days for each covered accident or illness. SAA Medicare Supplement Insurance, the most recent addition to the program, helps members and their spouses, age 65 and over, pay those medical expenses not covered by Medicare. With worldwide coverage, the Plan offers a choice of options - Preferred and Basic. While both options offer the same benefits for hospital confinement, the Preferred Option also provides expanded benefits to cover private duty nursing and prescription drugs.

While SAA Group Insurance rates are kept competitive because of the Society's mass-purchasing power, the already attractive group rates can be even better once a member has enrolled in the program thanks to "experience credits" given in years when claims experience is good. These credits actually reduce the amount members pay to renew coverage, and are given as a percentage of the semianual cost. While they cannot be guaranteed, credits have been declared every year since the Term Life Plan started. On April 1, 1987, a credit of 20% was given to members with life insurance coverage in force and on June 1, 1987 a credit of 20% was also declared on the In-Hospital Plan during 1986. It's easy to learn more about the SAA Group Insurance Program. Either write: Plan Administrator, 1255 23rd Street NW, Washington, DC 20037, or call toll free (800) 424-9883 (in Washington D.C. area: 296-8030). The Administrator will be pleased to help you with any questions you might have about the SAA Insurance Program.
The Federal Archaeology Program New Initiatives

Local Archaeology

Archaeology at the local level will be the focus of two coordinated sessions at the 41st National Preservation Conference and the annual meeting of the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC). On Friday, October 9, a workshop by the Archeological Assistance Division of the National Park Service will examine important preservation issues that confront local organizations concerned about archaeological properties for which they have responsibilities. The discussion will be based on three perspectives: local interests, agency programs, and national coordinations. This workshop will be held at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C., and is part of the NAPC annual meeting. These issues will be treated in practical terms on Saturday, October 10, when the “how-to” of local archaeology will be presented. Four archaeologists, Charles Cheek, Pam Cressey, Mark Leone, and Stephen Potter, will present different aspects of successful locally-oriented programs and projects, including an opportunity to examine the laboratory and exhibit at Alexandria Archeology. The session will be held in the Alexandria Archeology lab, and transportation will be provided from the Washington Hilton. For additional information contact Richard Waldbauer, Archeological Assistance Division, (202) 343-4110; or Cherilyn Widell, Executive Director, NAPC, (202) 265-8847.

Training

A new course titled, "Federal Archeology Program Management," was offered by the Archeological Assistance Division (AAD) of the National Park Service in June, 1987. It brought together experienced archaeologists and cultural resource managers from federal agencies and state historic preservation officers to participate in seminars devoted to important issues in public archaeology. Topics included archaeology and the National Register/National Historic Landmarks Programs, a status report on the National Archeological Database, curation of archaeological collections, underwater archaeology, enforcement of the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), cultural resources management and industrial archaeology, and preservation technology. Seminars were conducted by instructors with particular expertise on the topic. The course culminated in a series of working groups designed to develop activities which may be implemented as part of efforts to improve the Federal Archeology Program. The working groups provided an opportunity for participants to interact closely based upon their own agency experiences and responsibilities.

The Archeological Assistance Division plans to offer this course twice in 1988 at eastern and western U.S. locations, if there is sufficient interest among government and other archaeologists to support it. The course is open to interested individuals on the federal, state, local, or private sectors. Several two-day seminars on law enforcement and archaeology are also being planned for regional locations. For further details and registration information, contact Richard Waldbauer, (202) 343-4110.

Proposed Regulations for Managing Federal Archeological Collections

On 28 August 1987, proposed regulations (36CFR79) concerning the requirements for the care and management of federally owned or administered archaeological collections were published in the Federal Register. There is a 60 day period during which interested individuals, agencies, and organizations can comment on the proposed regulations. Comments received during this period will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the final regulations. Copies of the proposed regulations can be obtained by contacting Michele Aubry, Office of the Assistant Director, Archeology, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127 (202-343-1876).

Peer Review of Federal Archeological Projects

During the week of September 13th, Drs. Frank C. Leonhardt (University of Idaho), Steven Sigstad (Forest Service), and Stephen Williams (Harvard) participated in a review of a joint Bureau of Reclamation/National Park Service archeological project at Jackson Lake in Wyoming. This review was organized by Dr. Bennie C. Keel, the Departmental Consulting Archeologist as part of efforts to oversee the effectiveness of federal archeological activities and recommend improvements where deficiencies are found. This is the third such review; the first was done a few years ago for the Dolores Project in southern Colorado, the second during the summer of 1986 for the Central Arizona Project. For further details of these efforts, contact Frank McManamon (202-343-4101) or Bennie Keel (202-343-1876), National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

Bush to Head President’s Council

Robert D. Bush, Ph.D., has been named Executive Director of the President’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. He currently serves as Director of the Wyoming State Archives, Museums and Historical Department in Cheyenne; he is the State Historic Preservation Officer for Wyoming. The appointment was announced by Council Chair Cynthia Grasby Baker of Denver.

The Council is an independent federal agency that advises the President and Congress on preservation policy matters, and is responsible for administering the federal historic preservation review system established under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Bush presently serves as Wyoming State archivist, museum curator, and historian, in addition to his duties as State Historic Preservation Officer. He is executive secretary of the Wyoming State Historical Society. His former positions include Assistant Director and Head of Research, the Historic New Orleans Collection; Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of Nebraska; Assistant Professor of History, Nebraska Wesleyan University; Assistant Instructor in History, University of Kansas; and teacher, Social Studies and Language Arts, Oak Lawn, IL.

Bush succeeds Robert R. Garvey, Jr., who retired from the post of the executive director in March 1986 after having served in that capacity for 19 years. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is comprised of seven federal agency heads, four historic preservation experts, four members of the general public, a governor, and a mayor appointed by the President, the chair of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the president of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers. The Council’s professional staff, which Bush will head, is located in Washington, D.C. and Denver, CO.
Quantitative Archaeologists, 1988-89

The Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara, seeks applications for a position at the Assistant Professor level beginning July 1, 1988. We are looking for an individual with proven expertise and publication in advanced quantitative methods in archaeology. Completion of the PhD is required at the time of the appointment. Geographic area of specialty is open.

Applications, including curriculum vitae and samples of published or unpublished work that demonstrate the applicant's quantitative skills, together with names of three references, should be sent to: Professor Brian Fagan, Chair, Search Committee, Dept of Anthropology, Univ of California, Santa Barbara CA 93106, (805)961-2163. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is December 30, 1987.

The University of California is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Proof of US citizenship or eligibility for US employment will be required prior to employment.

Assistant Professor Tenure Track
McGill University

Applications are invited for a tenure track position (subject to final budgetary approval) at the Assistant Professor level (base $32,474 per annum). Commencing September 1988. A successful candidate will have completed a PhD and will have a strong commitment to field research in the archaeology of eastern Canada. Candidates with competence to analyze skeletal materials and to integrate biological and cultural data in research and teaching are preferred. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada. Applicants are asked to send curriculum vitae and names and addresses of three references to: Professor Michael S Bisson, Dept of Anthropology, McGill Univ, 855 Sherbrooke St West, Montreal PQ H3A 2T7 Canada. The deadline for receipt of applications is January 15, 1988.

Conservator/Laboratory Supervisor

Maritime Explorations, Inc., is currently involved in archaeological excavations at the wreck site of the pirate vessel, WHYDAH, sunk in 1717 off the coast near South Wellfleet, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Testing of the site has been conducted since 1984 with the retrieval of significant artifacts from the period of the wreck. These artifacts are currently being stored and processed at Maritime Laboratory in South Chatham, MA.

The conservator/laboratory supervisor would be responsible for conducting long and short term conservation efforts on the artifacts from WHYDAH. The conservator/laboratory supervisor would also direct the conservation technician, laboratory technician, laboratory assistant technician, and volunteers in the conduct of laboratory analysis and record keeping consistent with museum quality collection management standards.

The applicant must have a graduate degree in Museum Curation/Conservation with one year experience as a laboratory supervisor or 6 years experience in artifact conservation with one year experience as a laboratory supervisor is required.

The applicant must be able to maintain laboratory and curatorial records relating to artifacts retrieved from underwater contexts and direct a small staff and volunteers in the accomplishment of this mission. A high degree of competency regarding the conservation of all types of material from underwater contexts is required.

SALARY: $ 27,000.00/year
STARTING: Immediately
P.O. Box 1174, South Chatham, MA 02659 (617-432-8960)

Staff Archaeologist

Orange County environmental planning and transportation firm seeks a full-time staff archaeologist to join cultural resource management staff. Position requires anthropology Ph.D., writing and communication skills, research and project management, experience and ability to direct archaeological field work. California field experience desired. Send resume, salary history, and sample of writing to Beth Padon, LSA Associates, Inc., 1 Park Plaza, Suite 500, Irvine, CA 92714.

CAPT: Today's Technologies Can Preserve Our Past

CAPT is the national Coalition for Applied Preservation Technology. It is a group of professionals, individuals, institutions, federal agencies, and universities whose goal is to establish a multi-disciplinary National Center for Preservation Technology.

Such a center was one of the major recommendations made in the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment's report, Technologies for Prehistoric and Historic Preservation (1986). Among other things, OTA recommended creation of a national center that could facilitate the transfer of technologies to the preservation field. For more information write to CAPT, c/o Fore-sight Science & Technology Inc., 2000 P Street NW, Suite 305, Washington, DC 20036.

CAPT seeks a broad based national constituency. Local, as well as national, support is needed; encouraging participation of people in all cultural resource fields. Your interest, expertise, and advice are vital to our efforts. CAPT's intent is to build a coalition that does not compete with other entities, but complements and assists them to achieve the level and quality of preservation so needed to protect our national heritage.

Current Exhibitions

Maxwell Museum University of New Mexico "From the Centerplace: Contemporary Zuni Pottery and Its Makers" presents more than 90 contemporary and historic Zuni pots, jars, bowls, and animal figures, examining the traditional designs which inspired them. "Portraits of New Mexico," features prints from original negatives of New Mexicans which were made between 1870 and 1920. "Daughters of the Desert: Women Anthropologists and the Native American Southwest 1880-1980" examines the important role women have played in the research, presentation, and preservation of the Native American cultures of the Southwest. Culled from the contributions of more than 1600 women, this largely photographic exhibit focuses on 40 women who began their research in the Southwest before 1940. (Until November 30) "Sacred Paths" focuses on the Spanish and Native American religious experience in the Southwest from the Prehispanic era. (November 1, 1987-January 30, 1988.)
Understanding Dill and May

I was pleased to note the recent letter by Ronald May and the response by C.L. Dill in your pages. Both address the issue of museum repository responsibility for long term care and retention of archaeological assemblages.

I am an archaeologist who, like Dill, has assumed administrative tasks in a museum environment. Like May, I too, have observed the often capricious appearing state of museum management under increasing monetary pressure. I have been struck, however, with the fact that museum administrators and research archaeologists who often come from the different worlds of training represented by the humanities on the one hand, and the social sciences on the other, end by speaking past each other.

For example, May seems to feel that a formal justification for retention of statistically representative collections in little-read and jargon-filled CRM reports, will help solve the attrition problem whereas Dill (more realistically points to the use of spatial and financial planning as a solution. Both ignore the fact that museums have procedures in place to cope with the problem. I allude here to formal de-accessioning rules that should standardize and regulate the removal of all museum objects. Assuming, therefore, that museum personnel adhere to their own rules for acquiring and disposing of objects, the problem ideally would be solved if archaeologists helped to establish museum procedures and to monitor their implementation.

I speak of the ideal in the sentence above because we all realize that no institution as diverse as a museum can regulate and standardize the behavior of all their employees at all times. Although museums continue to improve in this area, there will always be some slippage. It therefore falls on the shoulders of the social sciences to begin to analyze patterns of artifact attrition. By so doing, archaeologists will learn a great deal. As an example, I am presently responsible for inventoring and reconciling the records of a great many archaeological assemblages that have been curated by the California Department of Parks and Recreation for many years. In the process of using micro-computer technology to help with this onerous task, I began to notice that patterns of artifact loss were beginning to emerge from the data. As all human behavior (thank goodness) exhibits such patterns, it should have come as no surprise that past decisions about what to toss from the repository would be amenable to analysis. Yet the consistency of the data so far recovered is astounding. I have completed the analysis of about 50 collections (perhaps 45,000 entries) with about 50 more collections to go. Results have so far isolated several different variables that seem to account for most artifact loss. These results are in some cases counter-intuitive. For example, in testing to find if small items were more prone to loss, I discovered that the opposite is actually the case. Most importantly, I have found that the most useful guidelines for understanding why specific categories of items are missing are the values of the curators who oversee their care. Thus, historic objects within largely prehistoric collections are more likely to be lost, as are categories of items termed "slag," "cobbled," "rock," or even "core." It may be instructional to Ronald May to learn that the curators, in these cases, were all archaeologists.

I intend to fully document these and other such findings after work is completed on this project but would like to make two simple points here. The first is that archaeologists must certainly be alone in the naive assumption that museum curation is a passive activity. The second follows, and is that archaeologists must therefore analyze the process of object attrition within the museum context before curating collections are used for research purposes. Else sampling, often the most critical decision archaeologists regularly deal with, will be imposed by otherwise easily understood historic factors and archaeologists will be fooled again.

Bob Kautz, Consultant
Office of Interpretive Services
California Dept of Parks and Recreation
1280 Terminal Street
West Sacramento, CA 95691

A Response to May

How many times have archaeologists sought to study collections in museums only to find the original archaeologist donated just the field reports and the "goodies?" How often have archaeologists saved only decorative pottery or "representative examples" of lithics? How many archaeologists have found that they must return to the field to recover their own samples because some archaeologist dumped all the repetitive "stuff" in the back dirt after counting the pieces for the field report? With just "a wink and a nod," this sort of non-scientific dumping of archaeological collections is done routinely among archaeologists.

Ronald May seems to want to point the finger at the museum profession, though archaeologists get a few kicks in passing, for these abuses of the past which he says continue today. However, the real issue here is not who is to blame for "dumping" collections, past, present, or future. The problem lies with the space crisis in American museums, in large part a result of now routine retention of all materials recovered through CRM survey and excavation. The question is two-fold: is there any basis for culling collections, and if not who pays to curate them?

I am the curator of a repository which manages archaeological collections -- artifacts, ecofacts, and archives -- recovered through CRM activities funded by a federal agency. Although the mitigation activities have been going on for some 20 years now, only within the past 5 years has the curation problem been recognized and potential solutions proposed. This is hardly surprising; ten to twenty years ago the major crisis in historic preservation was destruction of our archaeological heritage. Preservation by excavation received the attention and funding. Curation of the recovered materials was not seen as a major issue. When the barn is burning the major concern is not where the cows are going to sleep tomorrow night, but rather whether there will be any cows left. These archaeological sites demanded salvage excavation, often very rapidly under adverse circumstances. Sometimes the resulting collections were saved in toto and donated to a nearby museum. Sometimes the collections were saved in toto and kept by the original contractor. And sometimes the collections were sorted and culled by either or both of the principal ar-

1988 Crabtree Award Nominations

Nominations for the 1988 Crabtree Award are now being accepted. The Award recognizes outstanding contributions by avocational archaeologists to New World archaeology. Send nominations to: Dr Tom Hester, Dept of Anthropology, Univ of Texas at Austin, Austin TX 78712-1086, (512)471-5959.
The only professional response to this issue is to save everything. Yet where are we to store all of this material? And who is to foot the bill? The current collection management cost at the CAP Repository where I work is almost $80 per square foot per year. What archaeologist, or even Federal agency, can afford to pay these kinds of costs— in perpetuity, mind you — and have that space occupied with ketchup jars or old tires which were surface collected from a site? Or fire-cracked rock? Or box after box of lithicdebitage?

This is not just a problem for the museum profession, or indeed for those in the field of archaeology. Solutions to the problem must be worked out by all involved: sponsoring agencies, archaeologists, and curators. And it is vitally important for us to get our act together, for if we don't Congress will take the initiative from us. They will probably look at the cost of curation, and the preservation mandates which state that we must curate these materials once they have been excavated. And they will realize that although we must curate the recovered artifacts, we don't have to dig them up. As the question has already been stated: Just how many Preclassic pithouses do we have to excavate? We must take up these important questions ourselves, before they are taken from us.
As one of the Society for American Archaeology's few British members (Bray 1985:450) and a regular reader of American Antiquity, I wish to endorse heartily the comments of the incoming editor concerning referees' comments (Wood 1987:449). I applaud his decision to return to would-be authors copies of the review forms completed by their referees, but can well understand his dismay at the strength of language sometimes used, if what gets published in American Antiquity is typical. Not being an American I am frequently startled by the vituperative pettiness of comments published in earlier papers, compared with such correspondence in other (European) scientific journals. Criticism is always useful when it is constructive. However, far too much of the comment published in American Antiquity is negatively derogatory. I hope that the present Editor will strive to ameliorate its tone.

Norman Hammond suggested some years ago (1984) that all referees' comments on submitted manuscripts should be signed so that the author knew who had written the criticisms he/she had received. This would have two beneficial effects: the author would be enabled to discuss adverse comments with his/her referees and the latter would be less likely to make unnecessarily harsh comments in knew they could be identified.

Archaeology is a discipline with a limited number of practitioners many of whom are over-familiar with and dismissive of their fellow researchers' qua competitors' ideas. It is hence singularly liable to the rivalries inherent in narrowly inbred subjects. It might therefore be useful if American Antiquity adopted a policy followed by such journals as Quarternary Research which publishes a list naming its panel of referees. In the case of American Antiquity this could be done to coincide with each change in editorship. The editor could then allow the authors of manuscripts submitted for publication to provide a list of those referees to whom they did NOT want their article sent for comment, since they were known to hold diametrically opposed views to the author's own. Such a practice would be analogous to the right of a plaintiff to challenge potential jury members. Obviously no author could be allowed too long a list of undesirable names or the system would be abused. However a short list of three or four names ought to be sufficient.

It has long been traditional for commentators on published material to sign their reviews and be thereby publicly forced into responsibility for their criticisms. The same should apply even more to the referees of unpublished material, against whom the unjustly treated have otherwise no redress.

References cited:

On Constructive Criticism
by Esmee Web

School of American Research Celebrates 80th Anniversary

The School of American Research, the oldest center for advanced studies in anthropology in the United States, marks its 80th anniversary in December. It is headquartered in Santa Fe. It was founded in 1907 by Edgar Lee Hewitt as a branch of the Archaeological Institute of America. In that capacity it excavated and preserved some of the Southwest's most impressive Indian ruins, including Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde, and trained many archaeology students.

Under the 20-year leadership of Douglas Schwartz the School has added innovative programs to its archaeological research. These programs have helped support the work of more than 800 scholars from around the world as resident fellows and many Indian artists. The School's endowment has grown from $150,000 to $13 million. "We are working to reveal the shape of humanity," says Schwartz, "reaching beyond the diversity of our species to its underlying unity. But to understand our species requires the support of a wide range of projects by scientists, humanists, and artists," he continued. Schwartz says the research projects at the School are as varied as human nature. They have included the feeding habits of infant baboons; human life in the Amazon Basin; the development of Pueblo pottery; and the role of Gandhian philosophy in India.

The School Indian Arts Research Center houses a collection of more than 7,500 pieces. It is considered to have the best collection of Pueblo Indian pottery in the world and contains one of the world's largest collections of Indian art.

The School of American Research Press publishes scholarly books and books for the general public while the School's membership program strives to make the results of anthropological work known to the widest possible audience.

Schwartz says the School bases its support of scholars on the belief that society can benefit from a deeper understanding of why people behave as they do--from the study of human culture.

Special Anniversary events include the publication of Spanish American Blanketry by H.P. Mera, a history of Santa Fe, a history of the School of American Research, a lecture by Jane Goodall and special anthropology workshops.

Dr. Louise M. Robbins Dies at 58

Dr Louise Marie Robbins, 58 of High Point, NC died in June. She was one of the world's foremost authorities on forensic anthropology, and professor anthropology at the University of North Carolina.

She authored a book, "Footprints: Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation," published in 1985, and contributed chapters to a number of publications, most recently to "Laetoli," edited by Dr. Mary D. Leakey and published by Oxford University Press this month. Her articles appeared in a variety of professional journals. Her forensic casework came from law enforcement agencies across the nation, Canada and several foreign countries.

She was a diplomat of the American Board of Forensic Anthropology and was on the executive board and the credentials testing committee. She was a past president of the Southern Anthropological Society. She was a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the American Anthropological Association, and a member of other professional groups.
New Executive Director Named for American Anthropological Association

Archaeologist Eugene L. Sterud has been named Executive Director of the American Anthropological Association. He replaces Edward J. Lehman, the preceding Executive Director, who served the Association for twenty years. Sterud received his doctorate in anthropology from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1976.

Eugene "Gene" Sterud comes to the Association from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in Washington, D.C., where he has served since 1983 as a Senior Program Officer in the Division of Research Programs. Previously, from 1978 to 1983, Sterud was Executive Director of the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) in New York. From 1970 to 1977 he taught anthropology at the State University of New York in Binghamton.

At NEH, Sterud brings a variety of academic, managerial, and fundraising experience to the Association. Trained in fundraising and non-profit management at the New School for Social Research, he helped AIA obtain federal and private-foundation grants, including a challenge grant from NEH to generate $2.3 million to increase the Institute's general endowment, improve the American Journal of Archaeology, and organize a development office to continue fund raising for research and publication.

At NEH, Sterud administered archaeological research grants and the research conferences program. For the past two years he has been in charge of the International Re grants program, involving grants to the American Council of Learned Societies, the International Research and Exchanges Board, the Social Science Research Council, and the CSCPRC program of the National Academy of Sciences.

As an academic archaeologist, Sterud has done fieldwork on North American Indian sites as well as at prehistoric excavations in Greece, Sweden, and Yugoslavia. He also took part in excavating the ancient urban site of Sardis in Turkey.

The American Anthropological Association, founded in 1902, is the world's largest organization of professional anthropologists. Its purposes are to encourage scholarly and professional communication among anthropologists and to promote the public understanding of anthropology.

U.S. Restricts Import of Cultural Artifacts From El Salvador

Prehistoric artifacts from the southwestern region of El Salvador are prohibited from entering the United States, beginning September 11, 1987. The announcement was made in Washing­ton by Marvin L. Stone, deputy director of the U.S. Information Agen­cy.

The import restrictions are the first imposed by the United States under the 1970 UNESCO Convention on illicit trade in cultural property. The United States became a state party to the Convention with the passage of the 1983 Cultural Property Implementation Act (PL 97-446).

The U.S. import restrictions are in response to an emergency request from the Government of El Salvador for help in protecting archaeological sites in the Cara Sucia region from wanton looting.

Significant stone and ceramic artifacts dating from 1500 B.C. to A.D. 1550 have been found in the region. Since the United States is considered a major market for the artifacts, the imposition of the U.S. import restrictions and should reduce the incentive for pillage and illicit dispersal of the material. Artifacts from the region will now be admitted to the United States only with the prior export approval of the Government of El Salvador.

The Salvadoran request was received by U.S. Ambassador Corr in March 1987 and referred to the U.S. Information Agency, which is responsible for policy decisions under the Cultural Property Act. It was reviewed by the President's Cultural Property Advisory Committee, composed of ar­chaeologists, art dealers, and representatives of the museum community and the general public.

After investigating the situation in El Salvador, the Committee unani­mously recommended that emergency import restrictions be imposed. On behalf of the President, Deputy Direc­tor Stone made the determination to impose emergency import restrictions in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Treasury. Other countries that have ratified the UNESCO Convention are eligible to submit requests for U.S. import restrictions to protect archaeological and ethnological objects that comprise their cultural patrimony. A request from the Government of Canada is pre­sent­ly under review by the Cultural Property Advisory Committee.

UNR CRM Workshops

In May, 1987 the University of Nevada, Reno initiated a program of continuing education for CRM profes­sionals. The program is supervised by Don Fowler, managed by Susan Rodri­quez, and sponsored by the UNR Historic Preservation Program, the Anthropology Department, and the Division of Continuing Education. Week­long workshops will be offered during the UNR "mini-terms" in January and May of each calendar year. The May, 1987 workshops were led by Don Hardesty and Gary Haynes of UNR, and John Fagan of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District. Hardesty conducted a workshop on developing significance criteria in the analysis of historic archaeological sites. Twenty six people attended from as far away as Tennessee and Alaska. Haynes and Fagan conducted a lithics workshop. Fourteen people attended, the limit set for the session. Feedback indicates that both were highly successful.

January, 1988 workshops will include: 1. Ceramics analysis (focus­ing of Southwestern and Great Basin wares), led by Robert C. Euler, retired National Parks Service archaeologist and long time expert on ceramic analy­sis; 2. Exhibits design for agencies, small museums, historic houses, etc., led by Catherine S. Fowler, Director of the UNR Anthropology Museum and member of the UNR Museology Program Com­mittee, and Douglas Sutherland, Curator of Exhibits, Nevada State Museum; 3. Recordation of archaeological data, led by Jesse D. Jennings, of the Universi­ties of Utah and Oregon. Dr. Jen­ning's workshop will feature the ex­cavation, by work-shop participants, of several minia­ture archaeological sites, and learning the Jennings system of data re­cording. He has pioneered the technique of "Table Top" archaeology as a teaching device for many years.


Further information may be ob­tained from: Mari Novak, Continuing Education, UNR (702-784-4606), or Don Fowler or Susan Rodriguez, Historic Preservation Program, UNR (702-784-6851).
Meeting Calendar

Conference on Small-Scale Societies

The Fifth Annual Visiting Scholar's Conference, entitled "Between Bands and States: sedentism, subsistence, and interaction in small-scale societies" will be held on April 15-16, 1988 in Carbondale, Illinois.

Four half-day sessions will focus on specific aspects of community organization in prehistoric small-scale societies. The opening session will examine the general nature of sedentary, small-scale societies. Two subsequent sessions consider case studies respectively of hunter-gatherers and food producers. The closing session will examine the interaction and articulation of small-scale societies with one another and with more complexly organized groups.

 Anyone who would like a paper to be considered for inclusion in the conference is encouraged to write for further information. Abstracts should be submitted by December 1, 1987. Authors whose paper has been accepted for the conference will be notified in January. A volume of selected conference papers will be published.

Requests for further information should be addressed to Susan Gregg, Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901.

Call For Papers

Ferris State College welcomes proposals for papers or entire sessions for its first annual conference on Humanities, Science, and Technology to be held March 11-12, 1988. The conference will provide a unique forum emphasizing concerns that transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries. This will include such sessions as medical ethics, the politics of scientific research, history of science and technology, art and technical innovation, etc. Proposals should include a 300 word abstract and the participant's vitae. All proposals are due December 1, 1987. Please indicate if you are interested in serving as a session chair or commentator. Proposals should be submitted to: Coordinating/Program Committee, Department of Humanities, Ferris State College, Big Rapids, MI 49307 (616-592-2758) or (616-592-2771).

Wood Identification Workshop

The Ninth Annual Wood Identification Workshop will be held at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst on January 19-22, 1988. Dr. R. Bruce Hoadley, Professor of Wood Science at the Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, will be the instructor. The cost of the workshop is $235, which includes the four-day workshop, registration fee, textbook, hand lens, coffee break, and gala class dinner. This is an introductory workshop—no prior training in wood technology is necessary. Topics for discussion will include survey of anatomical features of wood used in identification, sampling and specimen preparation, and identification procedures. Approaches and methods appropriate to the identification of wood in historic objects are also covered. Class size is limited to 20 persons. Registrations are accepted from October 1 until the class is filled. To receive more information or registration materials contact: Alice E. Szlosek, Program Coordinator, Division of Continuing Education, Goodell Building-Room 608, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. (413-545-2484).

Wood Identification Workshop

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