

April 2007

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ACRA Board at 2007 Spring Board Meeting

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ACRA's Mission

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

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

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

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Congratulations



On April 12, Emma Carol Stull made her entrance into this world, much to the delight of her parents Scott & Laurie Stull.

ACRA Lapel Pins

are available to
employees of member firms
for \$3 each.



ACRA
1744 Washington Ave Ext.
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Make checks payable to:
The American Cultural Resources Association

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mike Polk, ACRA Acting President

I come to you this month as Acting President of ACRA, having been designated as such in early February by President Karen Hartgen. In this position, I am overseeing the ACRA organization during the time that Karen has had to deal with her husband's untimely passing and the many tasks and emotional stress that such an ordeal brings with it. ACRA wishes Karen well during her recovery time.

Over the last several months much activity has taken place on your behalf within the ACRA organization, not the least of which was our annual midyear meeting on March 17 in San Luis Obispo, California. I want to thank board member Nancy Farrell for taking care of hotel and dinner arrangements for the Board Meeting.



Nancy Farrell, Spring board meeting coordinator

In this column I will provide highlights of some of the major, ongoing issues being addressed and tasks carried out by various committees, board members and officers. Please plan on attending the annual meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida, September 27-30, 2007, to find out about the full range of activities taking place in ACRA and take advantage of the workshops,

sessions and networking which will help your businesses grow and become more efficient and profitable.

In the big picture, ACRA continues to be regarded as a major player at the national level of preservation legislation and regulation. Thanks to Nellie Longworth, our Government Relations consultant in Washington, D.C., we are continually made aware of proposed changes to cultural resource legislation and regulation. She also provides information about how we, as an organization and as individuals, can have positive effects in this area, the basis for most of the cultural resources business that is carried out in the United States.

Internally, the Strategic Planning Committee has been moving forward to restructure our administrative operations. The committee has proposed that ACRA move forward toward a full-time management structure. The amount of time needed to have it function as it did during Tom Wheaton's Executive Directorship can only be met by having a near-full time or full-time manager, or to use a management company to provide a range of services. This planning is still ongoing as I write this column.

One of the most important changes coming in ACRA are significant alternations in our website. This is our most public face as an organization and it is vital that the website have an updated look, be easy to use, and have valuable information in it that can be found no where else. This is in the works as you can read in Denise DeJoseph's article within this issue of the ACRA Edition.

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Another important initiative that was proposed at the board meeting in March is to look at the possibility of expanding ACRA's presence beyond the borders of this country. Yes, the vast majority of our members work exclusively within the US and, in large part this is due to the existence of favorable legislation for cultural resources. One might ask why we would want to do this. Many of our members have been making contacts in Europe, in Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Canada and other countries and, in some cases, actually carrying out work there, either alone or in partnership with companies, universities or organizations in those countries. Expansion of ACRA could open up more opportunities to work in new areas of the world.

Another reason is to share our business knowledge with others and learn from them what works in their circumstances. Still another is to share archaeological and historical professional knowledge and techniques. Academic colleagues of ours have been working overseas for over a hundred years. However we, as both cultural resource practitioners AND business people, have unique knowledge, something that academics do not possess: meshing the knowledge and practice of cultural resources and business. As entrepreneurialism grows in various countries, such knowledge will become more and more valuable. Watch for more information on exploration of this initiative.

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE SPRING BOARD MEETING



A variety of other activities are ongoing in the Education, Membership, and other committees. For details on activities of these committees and many others, see the February 2007 newsletter, read future newsletters, watch for information on Membersonly or talk to committee chairs whose contact information you may find on the ACRA website.

As a closing note, I want to let you know that a location has been chosen for the 2008 Annual meeting. It will be held in the fall in Tucson, Arizona and hosted by ACRA member companies Desert Archaeology, William Self and Associates, Statistical Research, Inc., and SWCA. Please plan on attending.



Post board member trip to coastal prehistoric archaeological sites

Acting President Mike Polk behind Madonna Inn cake that was shared by all of the board



Post board member trip to San Simeon and Hearst Castle

**UPDATE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION'S ARCHAEOLOGY TASK FORCE:
ADVISORY COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING
TREATMENT OF BURIAL SITES, HUMAN REMAINS, AND FUNERARY OBJECTS**

By Daniel G. Roberts, John Milner Associates, Inc.

Introduction

Since last reported in this space (Spring 2006), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (ACHP) Archaeology Task Force (ATF) has been moving forward on its three primary initiatives. It will be recalled that these initiatives include 1) revisiting the ACHP's existing (1988) Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Human Remains and Grave Goods, 2) crafting archaeological guidance documents for Section 106 practitioners and participants and 3) identifying strategies for maximizing the potential for archaeological resources under the Section 106 process to enhance heritage tourism and public education. During this period, the ATF, expertly chaired by Julia King, has been focusing its efforts on crafting a new policy statement on human remains to replace the existing (1988) policy. My role with the ATF, along with Kay Simpson, is to serve as a non-voting resource and participant representing SAA, SHA, ACRA, and RPA, and to report on the ATF's activities to those organizations.

Human Remains Initiative

In developing a new policy statement on human remains, the ATF was guided by several overarching tenets, including: 1) the policy would pertain to burial sites, human remains, and funerary objects of all peoples while being mindful of the unique legal standing held by American Indian tribal governments and Native Hawaiian organizations due to provisions of NAGPRA and tribal sovereignty; 2) it would apply only to Federal undertakings subject to review under Section 106 of the

National Historic Preservation Act; and 3) it would emphasize the consultation process codified by Section 106.

During the ATF's deliberations on this topic, informational exchange sessions were held at the SAA, SHA, and ACRA annual meetings and regional consultation meetings on a government-to-government basis were held in various venues around the country with Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations. An initial "notice of intent" was published in the Federal Register in September 2005, and a draft statement was published for public comment in the Federal Register in March 2006. In all, over 250 letters of comment were received to this point, including responses from the professional archeological organizations, tribal governments, Native Hawaiian groups, federal and other agencies, and individual citizens. All comments were considered by the Task Force, and a revised policy draft was sent in December 2006 to all parties who commented previously. Fifteen letters of comment were received on this draft, including comments from SAA, RPA, and ACRA. The ATF then took into account all new comments, and crafted a group consensus document for consideration by the full ACHP in January 2007.

On Friday, February 23, 2007, the ACHP unanimously adopted a new Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects. The text of the policy consists of eight (8) principles, together with explanatory subtext and definitions. Following are the preamble and the eight principles. The complete text of the policy statement can be found at <http://www.achp.gov/archaeology>

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Adopted February 23, 2007

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

**POLICY STATEMENT
REGARDING**

TREATMENT OF BURIAL SITES, HUMAN REMAINS AND FUNERARY OBJECTS

Preamble: This policy offers leadership in resolving how to treat burial sites, human remains, and funerary objects in a respectful and sensitive manner while acknowledging public interest in the past. As such, this policy is designed to guide Federal agencies in making decisions about the identification and treatment of burial sites, human remains, and funerary objects encountered in the Section 106 process, in those instances where Federal or State law does not prescribe a course of action.

This policy applies to all Federal agencies with undertakings that are subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA; 16 U.S.C. § 470f), and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800). To be considered under Section 106, the burial site must be or be a part of a historic property, meaning that it is listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) encourages Federal agencies to apply this policy throughout the Section 106 process, including during the identification of those historic properties. In order to identify historic properties, Federal agencies must assess the historic significance of burial sites and apply the National Register criteria to determine whether a property is eligible. Burial sites may have several possible areas of significance, such as those that relate to religious and cultural significance, as well as those that relate to scientific significance that can provide important information about the past. This policy does not proscribe any area of significance for burial sites and recognizes that the assessment must be completed on a case-by-case basis through consultation.

The policy is not bound by geography, ethnicity, nationality, or religious belief, but applies to the treatment of all burial sites, human remains, and funerary objects encountered in the Section 106 process, as the treatment and disposition of these sites, remains, and objects are a human rights concern shared by all.

This policy also recognizes the unique legal relationship between the Federal government and tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes and court decisions, and acknowledges that, frequently, the remains encountered in Section 106 review are of significance to Indian tribes.

Section 106 requires agencies to seek agreement with consulting parties on measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to historic properties. Accordingly, and consistent with Section 106, this policy does not recommend a specific outcome from the consultation process. Rather, it focuses on issues and perspectives that Federal agencies ought to consider when making their Section 106 decisions. In many cases, Federal agencies will be bound by other applicable Federal, Tribal, State, or local laws that do prescribe a specific outcome, such as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). The Federal agency must identify and follow applicable laws and implement any prescribed outcomes.

For undertakings on Federal and Tribal land that encounter Native American or Native Hawaiian human remains and funerary objects, NAGPRA applies. NHPA and NAGPRA are separate and distinct laws, with separate and distinct implementing regulations and categories of parties that must be consulted. Compliance with one of these laws does not mean equal compliance with the other. Implementation of this policy and its principles does not, in any way, change, modify, detract or add to NAGPRA or other applicable laws.

Principles: When burial sites, human remains, or funerary objects, will be or are likely to be encountered in the course of Section 106 review, a Federal agency should adhere to the following principles:

Principle 1: Participants in the Section 106 process should treat all burial sites, human remains and funerary objects with dignity and respect.

Principle 2: Only through consultation, which is the early and meaningful exchange of information, can a Federal agency make an informed and defensible decision about the treatment of burial sites, human remains and funerary objects.

Principle 3: Native Americans are descendants of original occupants of this country. Accordingly, in making decisions, Federal agencies should be informed by and utilize the special expertise of Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations in the documentation and treatment of their ancestors.

Principle 4: Burial sites, human remains and funerary objects should not be knowingly disturbed unless absolutely necessary, and only after the Federal agency has consulted and fully considered avoidance of impact and whether it is feasible to preserve them in place.

Principle 5: When human remains or funerary objects must be disinterred, they should be removed carefully, respectfully and in a manner developed in consultation.

Principle 6: The Federal agency is ultimately responsible for making decisions regarding avoidance of impact to or treatment of burial sites, human remains and funerary objects. In reaching its decisions, the Federal agency must comply with applicable Federal, Tribal, State, or local laws.

Principle 7: Through consultation, Federal agencies should develop and implement plans for the treatment of burial sites, human remains and funerary objects that may be inadvertently discovered.

Principle 8: In cases where the disposition of human remains and funerary objects is not legally prescribed, Federal agencies should proceed following a hierarchy that begins with the rights of lineal descendants, and if none, then the descendant community, which may include Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations.

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Discussion

The new policy statement differs from the 1988 version in several ways. While both versions encourage disinterment of human remains only when absolutely necessary, and then in a respectful and dignified manner, the new policy places greater emphasis on early and meaningful consultation and further emphasizes that it is the lead federal agency's responsibility to make the decisions. Whereas the 1988 policy specified that scientific study followed by reburial was the preferred approach or outcome (if avoidance was not possible), the new policy statement is silent on preferred outcomes. The new policy also gives weight to the wishes of lineal descendants and descendant communities in the treatment and disposition of human remains, and in particular calls out the importance of consultation with Indian and Native Hawaiian tribes and organizations. Importantly, the new policy allows for the disinterment of human remains with or without field recordation in a manner developed through consultation.

The ATF worked diligently on this difficult issue through many long hours of sometimes spirited debate, and all members are to be heartily congratulated for their efforts. There is much to like about the new policy statement. It does a better job of stressing early and meaningful consultation whenever human remains and associated funerary objects are an issue. It better emphasizes that there is no "cookbook recipe" for addressing the disturbance and disposition of human remains, and that all such instances are unique and should be treated on a case-by-case basis. And it correctly recognizes that human remains elicit strong emotional and spiritual responses in many people, and as such their disturbance and disposition should be viewed more broadly as a human rights issue. Like most consensus documents, however, not all provisions of the new policy statement will necessarily be embraced by everyone. Some Indian and Native Hawaiian groups may feel that the policy doesn't go far

enough in taking into account their spiritual concerns or unique legal standing. Other stakeholder groups may feel that the new policy fails to define what constitutes a "descendant community," and emphasizes Indian and Native Hawaiian spiritual concerns over their own. Consultants, regulators, and other practitioners may feel the document focuses too much on process and not enough on providing practical guidance, together with examples of a range of acceptable outcomes. And some in the professional community may feel that knowledge to be gained from the scientific study of human remains will now be more difficult to achieve as an outcome of the consultation process. In short, the new policy statement is not a perfect document for all stakeholders, nor can it ever be.

By adopting this new policy, the ACHP clearly is making a break with the past. By avoiding declarative language regarding preferred or suggested outcomes, the ACHP is putting considerable faith in the effectiveness of the consultation process to achieve viable results. By including specific reference to the wishes of lineal descendants and descendant community groups during that process, however, the ACHP also seems to be saying that knowledge from the scientific study of human remains is a privilege to be gained by consultation with those individuals and groups most directly affiliated with and affected by the treatment of ancestral remains. This is a shift in emphasis that many archaeologists will embrace, but not all. In any event, it will not escape most archaeologists that the new policy is silent in recognizing that scientific study is sometimes an appropriate way to identify ancestral affiliation and, in turn, descendant communities. It will likewise not escape most archaeologists that the new policy is also silent in providing guidance in cases where lineal descendants or a descendant community cannot be identified.

Section 106 Guidance Initiative

With regard to the Section 106 guidance initiative, several ATF subcommittees have been busy circulating internal working drafts on a number of topics, including: what constitutes a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties; what is appropriate consultation; what is appropriate application of the National Register criteria; and what are appropriate alternative mitigation strategies. The intent will be to produce a web-based document organized in question and answer format that will provide guidance to Section 106 practitioners and participants on the topics noted above, as well as others still in development. The development of a draft document is currently scheduled for completion in late summer 2007.

Heritage Tourism Initiative

With regard to the ATF's heritage tourism initiative, an interactive workshop was held at the SHA annual meeting on January 12, 2007 in Williamsburg, and a similar workshop is scheduled for April 27, 2007

at the SAA annual meeting in Austin. The Williamsburg workshop was well attended, audience participation was high, and excellent ideas were voiced. Especially beneficial in providing a context for the discussion were the comments of Dr. Joan Poor, a cultural economist from St. Mary's College. Comprehensive minutes were taken at the workshop, and these and similar minutes from the Austin meeting will form the bases of the ATF's work on this initiative in the coming months.

All SAA, SHA, RPA, and ACRA members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the issues and topics of the ATF's charge. Questions and comments can be addressed to Dan Roberts at droberts@johnmilnerassociates.com or Kay Simpson at ksimpson@louisberger.com

Daniel G. Roberts is President of John Milner Associates, Inc., a private firm specializing in cultural resources and historic preservation consulting headquartered in West Chester, Pennsylvania

ACRA WEBSITE UPDATE NEWS

By Denise DeJoseph, ACRA Website Committee Chair

ACRA members will be happy to know that the website committee is in the process of updating the website to better serve our members and the public. Our task has been to investigate how to make the site work better for our members and for the public as an information tool. We've polled the membership to find out what works, what doesn't and what changes you'd like to see, and we're planning to update the look of the site and improve navigation. Since the Fall 2006 board meeting, the committee has been busy reviewing and revising the site content and interviewing potential website designers.

One of the biggest planned changes to the website is a total overhaul of the 'Hire a Consultant' section to make it easier for agencies and firms to find and hire ACRA members. We'll be contacting the membership soon about submitting information on your firm for listing in this section. Another big change for the site is the discontinuation (for now) of the 'Jobs/Employee' pages. This section may be reinstated at some future date, but our research indicates that the ACRA-L listserv (as well as other internet resources) is already serving our membership well for the purposes of listing open positions. We plan to offer cultural resources 'tutorials' in the public section that will help guide agencies and firms in selecting an appropriate ACRA member firm for their particular project.

ACRA members will continue to enjoy a password-protected area of the site with information available only to our membership, including online access to workshop materials offered at past conferences. Here is a selection of the planned changes for the member and public sections:

Member section:

- o Business Tools:
 - o Wage determination data
 - o Draft employee handbook
 - o Overhead calculation tools
 - o Boilerplate contract templates
 - o Online access to workshop materials
- o Resources for the Board
 - o Past board meeting minutes
 - o Treasurer's report
 - o Board handbook
 - o Articles of incorporation

Public section:

- o Hire a Consultant
 - o A more graphic approach to member listings, including logos and icons that identify services offered.
 - o Searchable database based on member firm location and services offered
 - o Better organization of member listings by location and specialty to guide agencies and others in selecting member firms
- o Cultural resources 'tutorials' that guide agencies and firms in finding and hiring ACRA member firms
- o Excerpts of award-winning reports honored at the annual conference
- o More information on workshops and other benefits of the annual conference

Look for some immediate changes to the website in the upcoming weeks and more progress reports on the update in the future editions of ACRA Edition. Meanwhile, the committee welcomes your ideas, comments, and critiques. Please send me an email at ddejoseph@hrassoc.com.

LIAISON COMMITTEE

CONNECTIONS

By Laura S. Black, Chair

This column highlights items of interest to the CRM industry and provides updates on related and client organizations as reported by members of the ACRA Liaison Committee.

Register of Professional Archaeologists

The Register had a very active and productive year under the direction of Jeff Altschul, President, and a very dedicated and hard working Board.

Membership: RPA has 1675 RPA's paid for 2007 and 410 are still outstanding.

Financial Condition: RPA is in excellent financial condition and experienced a budget surplus for the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2006. The RPA board has approved a 2007 budget with a projected surplus.

Other Issues: The Task Forces created to implement the needs assessment has presented their reports, and the board has now turned its attention to their recommendations. The RPA board originally created three task forces to implement the needs assessment: continuing professional education, communications, and recruitment. A fourth task force on requirements for RPA listing was established in the summer.

The Register also has been actively promoting professional ethics and standards by holding forums and roundtables at various archaeological venues and by commenting on various agencies initiatives

and projects that impinge on our ability to live up to our professional standards. The Register has been working with similar organizations in foreign countries to promote archaeological ethics and standards worldwide.

The Register sponsored ethic forums at two of its sponsoring organization annual meetings: the SAA and the AAA. A forum will also be held at the beginning of 2007 at the AIA annual meeting in San Diego and at the SAA meeting in Austin. RPA had representation at the SHA annual meeting in Williamsburg. RPA also held a forum at the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) in Cracow, Poland. At the EAA meeting, the RPA President, Jeff Altschul met with representatives of the three European archaeological organizations that have codes of conducts and grievance procedures: the IAI, IFA, and the Dutch Association of Archaeologists. They discussed common issues and ways to work together in the future.

The Register has also been in discussion with the Colegio de Arqueologos del Peru (COARPE), an organization of professional archaeologists in Peru. The Register and COARPE have explored the feasibility of using registration in our respective organizations as a means of qualifying for permits to perform archaeological investigations in Peru and North America (U.S. and Canada). Discussions are on-going. The Register's forum at the SAA annual meeting in Austin will focus on professional relationships and conduct of North American archaeologists working in Peru.

The Register provided comments to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's draft

"Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains, and Funerary Objects." The Register also provided comments to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places with regards to an evaluation prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy at the Hanford site in Washington.

Elections:

New officers and members of committee and board are:

Deborah L. Rotman - Secretary/Treasurer
 Thomas E. Emerson - Standards Board Member
 Michelle M. Terrell - Standard Board Alternative
 Jim Bruseth - Nomination Committee Chair
 Mark Cassell - Nominating Committee Member

The following is an update on coordination between the Register and COARPE:

As President of the Register of Professional Archaeologists I am pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Register and the Colegio Profesional de Arqueólogos del Peru (COARPE). The MOU represents more than two years of negotiations between the Register and the COARPE. The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) played a pivotal role in the negotiations, and the parties would like to acknowledge the SAA's encouragement and efforts to bring this MOU to fruition.

At its heart, the MOU is about professional conduct and responsibility. It speaks to how archaeologists from different countries will treat each other and the archaeological resources they investigate. Importantly, the MOU provides a mechanism by which North American archaeologists

can apply for permits to conduct archaeological investigations in Peru and by which opportunities will be made available for Peruvian archaeologists to perform and participate in archaeological work in North America.

What's all this about?

There is a long history of North American, particularly U.S., archaeologists working in Peru. For the most part, archaeologists from the two countries have worked together well. Concerns, however, had been raised by Peruvian archaeologists over a number of issues, including the failure of U.S. archaeologists to fulfill permit requirements, their lack of proficiency in Spanish, the failure to publish in Spanish or to make presentations at regional meetings, and ethical breaches of conduct. Recently, the Peruvian permitting system was changed to afford Peruvians greater control over their heritage. Previously, foreign archaeologists could apply to the Ministry of Culture for permits to conduct archaeological investigations. The recent changes limited permit application to members of the COARPE.

Though it is not impossible for foreign archaeologists to join the COARPE, it is difficult. U.S. and other foreign archaeologists were understandably concerned and many felt that unless the permitting situation could be resolved they would need to move elsewhere to pursue archaeological projects. Andeanists raised their concerns to the SAA.

The Peruvians' concerns focused on professional conduct and research standards. In recognizing these concerns, the SAA turned to the organization that it sponsors focused on ethics and standards, the Register of Professional Archaeologists. The SAA requested that the Register

enter into a three-way discussion with the COARPE to determine if there was any common grounds through which a solution could be reached. In these discussions, we learned that the missions of the COARPE and the Register are similar. Both are dedicated to raising professional standards and to improving the conduct of archaeology.

At the SAA annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the parties agreed to have the Register draft a proposal that would allow comparable rights to U.S. and Peruvian archaeologists working in each other's country. Because a significant number of Canadian archaeologists are listed in the Register and Canadian archaeologists also are a presence in Peru, the COARPE agreed to include Canadians in the agreement. Over the last year, the MOU has been the subject of scrutiny by representatives of the SAA, the Register, and the COARPE and by legal counsels of the latter two. It has been revised numerous times, all of which has made it a better agreement.

What does the MOU do?

The MOU allows archaeologists that are citizens of or working in the United States or Canada, who are registered professional archaeologists (RPAs), and meet other requirements of COARPE membership (such as proficiency in Spanish and previous experience in Peru) to apply for permits from the Ministry of Culture to perform archaeological investigations in Peru. By virtue of requiring RPA as a permit requirement, the COARPE guarantees that U.S. and Canadian archaeologists can be held accountable through the Register's grievance procedures.

Likewise, Peruvian members of the COARPE who wish to pursue archaeological opportunities in

the U.S. and Canada and who meet the requirements for listing in the Register can become RPAs.

Grievances filed against members of the COARPE that are also listed in the Register for professional conduct within Peru will be adjudicated by the COARPE; otherwise grievances will be administered by the Register.

The signed Spanish version of the MOU and its English counterpart are posted in the Members Only section of the Register's website (www.rpanet.org <<http://www.rpanet.org>>). If you have questions or comments about the MOU please contact me through the Register's business office (info@rpanet.org <<mailto:info@rpanet.org>>).

Finally, I would like to invite all of you to the formal signing ceremony of the MOU, which will take place at the RPA Forum at the SAA annual meeting, Friday, April 27, 2007, 1pm-4pm in Ballroom E at the Austin Convention Center. Dr. Ruth Shady will represent the COARPE; the Register will be represented by the Board of Directors. I hope you will stay for the forum, the subject of which is the RPA-COARPE MOU. A distinguished panel has been assembled to discuss the issues involved in the MOU.

Jeffrey H. Altschul, Ph.D., RPA
President

Submitted by:

[Donald J. Weir, RPA, Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group, Inc.](#)
[ACRA Liaison to RPA](#)

Ohio Archaeological Council

The Ohio Archaeological Council (OAC) is participating in the planning and execution of Ohio's second annual Statehood Day (March 1, 2007), a day when Ohio's history community, composed of more than 400,000 Ohioans, advocates for history-related issues with our state legislators. (Legislative priorities for 2007 are contained in a separate file.) We also will participate in the Ohio Environmental Council's (OEC) lobby day on March 27. The OAC is an eco-network member organization of the OEC.

Our semi-annual meeting in May will consist of a program by the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) presenting the results of recent archaeological investigations at OHS sites, and in September our program will focus on recent advances in Ohio Hopewell archaeology. The September program will kick off Ohio Archaeology Month (October), of which the OAC is the primary sponsor.

The OAC continues to be a consulting party on a number of Section 106 federal undertakings, and our members-only grant program is active. With the Archaeological Society of Ohio, Ohio's organization of artifact collectors and amateur archaeologists, we are participating in meetings with the OHS in order to improve relationships among Ohio's three principal archaeological organizations.

At the request of incoming Governor Strickland's transition team, the OAC submitted comments on the role of the private, non-profit OHS in state government. In these comments, we reiterated our position cautiously supporting moving the State Historic Preservation Office from the OHS

to a state agency. Our comments are available on the OAC's website, www.ohioarchaeology.org.

Submitted by:

[Al Tonetti, ASC Group, Inc.](#)
[Trustee, Ohio Archaeological Council and](#)
[Chair, Government Affairs Committee, OAC](#)
[ACRA Liaison to OAC](#)

American Planning Association-Northern California Chapter

Urban design and Preservation at 2007 APA Conference

The American Planning Association's Urban Design & Preservation Division is taking advantage of the 2007 conference setting in Philadelphia, one of the country's most livable and historic cities, to offer a number of special programs.

- A training workshop on site planning in downtown Philadelphia will be taught by Bob Yakas, AIA, AICP, with a hands-on exercise. Bob teaches at Portland State University and is a senior designer with Myhre Group Architects in Portland. The session will be offered Saturday, April 14.
- Also on April 14, "The Philadelphia Block," a walking tour of downtown Philadelphia, will be led by author and urban designer Todd Bressi, principal with Brown & Keener Bressi, Philadelphia. Todd has extensive experience in urban design and public art planning and teaches at the University of Pennsylvania.

- Jennifer Morris, AICP, of AKRF, a New York City environmental and planning firm, will moderate a panel on "Green Design in Historic Preservation," on Monday, April 16. Panelists will discuss the challenges of making historic architecture "green."
- A second panel, "Where Urban Design and Historic Preservation Intersect," will be moderated by Diana Painter, PhD, AICP, on Tuesday, April 17. The session will focus on three cities grappling with the balance between historic preservation and revitalization. Participants will be Martin Black, city manager of Venice, Florida, who will speak on his city's plans to reinstate the 1926 John Nolen plan for Venice; Amy Miller Dowell, development manager for the Portland (Oregon) Development Commission, who will talk about the Ankeny-Burnside Development Framework, currently in the adoption stages; and John Gallery, executive director of Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, who will speak to Philadelphia's current efforts to preserve the city's historic heritage in the face of redevelopment pressures.

Submitted by:

[Diana J. Painter, PhD, AICP, Painter Preservation & Planning, Petaluma](#)
[ACRA Liaison to SAH.](#)

Diana is also involved with APA and provides this update on preservation-related activities in that organization.

American Society of Landscape Architects

Built for Change? Modernism in Minneapolis - ACRA showcased at American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Meeting

This past fall the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) co-hosted its annual meeting with the 43rd International Federation of Landscape Architects World Congress in Minneapolis. The annual meeting was well attended by historic landscape architects and landscape historians alike. Educational sessions and tours included many historic landscapes in and around the Twin Cities.

Chad Moffett (Mead & Hunt, Inc.) serves as the ACRA liaison to ASLA and participated in an educational session titled *Built for Change? Modernism in Minneapolis*. The session provided three case studies on the challenges faced by modernist landscapes in Minneapolis designed and constructed in the later 1960s through the late 1970s. Moffett was joined by ACRA member Charlene Roise (Hess, Roise and Company) along with landscape architect Jean Garbarini of Close Landscape Architecture. The session was moderated by Charles Birnbaum of the Historic Landscape Initiative, National Park Service and founder of the Cultural Landscape Foundation.

Moffett currently serves as chair of the Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network of ASLA. He is currently working to strengthen the information exchange between ACRA and ASLA and to foster educational opportunities to inform ASLA members

how the benefits of working with ACRA member firms to assist with providing context sensitive solutions, cultural resource and NEPA compliance, and work consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and the Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes.

Submitted by:
[Chad Moffett, Mead and Hunt, Inc.](#)
[ACRA Liaison to ASLA](#)

National Council on Public History

Santa Fe, New Mexico is hosting the 29th Annual Meeting of the National Council on Public History (NCPH) April 12-15, 2007. Topics related to technology and the public history field, and CRM, are scattered throughout the conference's sessions. These include a range of technological resources for information gathering and research, as well as a range of technological avenues for dissemination of information to a variety of audiences.

Submitted by:
[Laura S. Black, Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc.](#)
[ACRA Liaison to NCPH](#)

Please feel free to inform the committee of any thoughts, issues, news, or announcements that may be of interest to ACRA and a liaison organization.

If you would like to become involved in the development and operation of the committee, and/or if you are involved with CRM industry or client-related organizations and would like to be an ACRA liaison, please contact Laura Black at lblack@chrsinc.com.

Annual Meetings and Conferences

Society of Architectural Historians
[April 9-15, 2007 in Pittsburgh, PA](#)

Society for American Archaeology
[April 25-29, 2007 in Austin, TX](#)

American Institute of Architects
[May 3-5, 2007 in San Antonio, TX](#)

TRB Committee ADC50
[July 22-25, 2007 in Flagstaff, AZ](#)

American Society of Landscape Architects
[October 5-8, 2007 in San Francisco, CA](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CURRENT PRESERVATION NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

By Nellie Longworth, Government Affairs Consultant

The Democrats have taken over the leadership of Congress but have such a slim margin that they, alone, will never be able to override a Presidential veto. Therefore, it's politics as usual. The money is still very tight and concerns about the deficit are more talk than action. The Budget process is underway and there are shortfalls in most discretionary programs, including historic preservation. The appropriations process is moving very slowly with the spending spotlight on the war and funding needs of our troops.

While Mr. Pombo is no longer sending darts our way, there are members who are still desirous of changing Section 106. A colleague met with Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA) on Lobby Day seeking his support for a Historic Rehab Credits bill before Congress this session. Some may remember Rep. Nunes as the chair of the National Parks Subcommittee hearing on the Discussion Draft two years ago. Mr. Nunes is still bitter about our treatment of the "good faith effort" Mr. Pombo made to correct Section 106. He characterizes the success on our part as a failure to fix a broken Historic Preservation Act.

The Farm Bill

The big issue for the archaeological community this year is the Farm Bill. This happens every 5 years and is always one of the most controversial issues that Congress must deal with. It is a big bill covering everything from crop subsidies, ethanol energy needs, rural development, nutrition, forestry, livestock, food

stamps and conservation. The House and Senate do their own bills which will probably be very different but must be reconciled by September 30, 2007.

In 2002, grassroots lobbying was successful in adding a few words to the Farm Bill's description of "eligible land" for the federal Farmland Protection Program (FPP). With the words "contains historical and archaeological resources," preservation became a catalyst for the protection of farmland through a successful easement program. This program allows a farmer with historic or archaeological resources on his property to protect the farmland forever.

The FPP Easement Program. The FPP easement prohibits the owner of the farm - in perpetuity - from dividing the land or selling it for development purposes. The benefit to the farmer is that the easement reduces the value of the land (important for local taxing) and the loss is negated by a cash award to the farmer.

How the Program Works. The farm owner will contact an easement holding entity which may be a governmental entity or non-profit organization such as the Farmland Trust, Nature Conservancy. The easement holder will determine the fair market value without the easement and the value of the land with the easement. For example, Farmer Jones's has 100 acres with a historical farm house eligible or on the National Register of Historic Places or State Register. The fair market value is \$800,000 (\$8,000 per acre). The same land with an easement is valued at \$400,000 (50% loss in value).

Upon agreement with the farm owner, the easement holder will apply to the US Department of Agriculture which will make a block grant available in the amount of \$200,000 (50% of the lost value.) The easement holder will match the federal block grant. The easement produces a cash award of \$400,000 unless the farmer decides to make a contribution of "no more than 25%" of the reduced value for other lucrative tax breaks. The farm owner receives much-needed money and will continue agricultural activity. This program has been well received in rural areas threatened with suburban growth - New England, Middle Atlantic, and California - and slows the decline of our nation's farmland. There are about 2 million farms in the US today and estimates prevail that in 10 years, there will be just 700,000 to 800,000 farms.

There is a problem though, the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program will sunset on September 30, 2007. Therefore, it is important to generate support to reauthorize this program.

The 2007 Farm Bill is in its earliest stage: The first step is the Budget Resolution which lays out the funding levels for all agencies of the federal government for FY08. This has just been announced and a quick look shows tight money for agriculture...there is an increase in monies for conservation of farmland BUT it can be used only if other programs are cut to bridge the gap.

Who are the main players in the Farm Bill? The House Agriculture Committee Chairman is Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN) who is working closely with his subcommittees to; hopefully, introduce a bill in early May. The Senate Agriculture Committee is chaired by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) and most expect the Senator and his Ag staff to write their bill. The House and Senate Ag committees do not talk to each other.

You May Be Able To Help On This....

Do you own a farm? Were you raised on a farm? Do you have family in farming? Did you grow up in a rural community? Are you concerned about the loss of farmland?

If you answered "yes" to any, we are going to need your help. SHA, SAA and ACRA will be working together on a grassroots lobbying effort for all who share a concern about the loss of farmland, especially those with historical and archaeological resources. As soon as we can view the House and Senate versions of the Farm Bill, we will be seeking your support. **AND YOU WILL NOT HAVE TO COME TO WASHINGTON DC!**

If you are already interested, please contact Nellie Longworth - Nellbabe@aol.com. And you will more about this in the weeks to come.

ACRA MEMBERSHIP REPORT - SPRING 2007

By Lucy Wayne, Membership Secretary

As determined at the Fall 2006 board meeting, the new position of Membership Secretary was established to work with the Executive Secretary and Treasurer in an effort to improve the dues process and relieve both of those people of some of the burden of their jobs. The Board appointed me to the position and also specified that the initial dues notices should be mailed (rather than emailed) in November 2006, with follow-ups prior to the due date of February 15, 2007.

Working closely with ACRA Treasurer, Karen Van Citters, and Executive Secretary Scott Stull, the various existing membership and dues lists were correlated to come up with a master list which appeared to correctly reflect the current membership. This entailed eliminating some duplicate entries, making sure all current members were on the list, and clarifying some confusion over firms which were listed under more than one name or under incorrect names. We believe the current list is correct. I also obtained a list from Scott of previous ACRA members who dropped out. My staff and I searched extensively to get current names and addresses for the firms on this list.

In November, I generated the dues notices and mailed them with a cover letter, developed by the Membership Committee, and a stamped return envelope. The notice form was revised with input from me and the Membership Committee to clarify the size levels, change where dues should be sent and add a place to indicate interest in serving on the board or a committee or as an officer.

By December 31, 70 members (42.68%) had renewed. Interestingly, the smallest firms renewed the fastest-probably because they have less accounting bureaucracy to deal with.

In late January, additional reminders were made on MembersOnly and second notices were sent to those who had still not paid. At the end of February, email reminders were sent to the members who had still not paid. As of April 10, 2007, 127 members have paid (77.4%); approximately 43% of these paid prior to December 31, 2006.

A list of unpaid members was provided to the Board, Membership Committee and MembersOnly. As a result, several of the unpaid companies have been contacted by other members and encouraged to rejoin. Hopefully this will be a successful endeavor and more will renew.

By agreement with Scott, President Karen Hartgen and Acting President Mike Polk, those who have not paid their dues have been removed from MembersOnly and the web page, since they are no longer members in good standing. Nor can their employees be nominated to the board or as officers until they pay up. As soon as they pay, full membership benefits will be reinstated.

As of April 10, we have collected \$70,020 in dues. The current unpaid amount is \$16,680, some of which companies have indicated are "in the mail." The other interesting numbers are that 13 members increased in size, while only two decreased (both small from Small 2 to Small 1).

If you know any members who have not paid their dues, or former members who could be enticed back, please contact them and encourage them to stick with ACRA. The Board is working hard to address members' concerns and provide additional benefits to members. Also, if you know of firms who you think should be ACRA members, do contact them and encourage them to join.

2007 ACRA AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

By Charissa Wang Durst, Awards Committee Chair

It's that time of year again! This year, we've made a change and split the Quality Product category into a large and small project subcategory, to better compare similar projects. In addition, we've included a list of potential evaluation criteria to help you with the narrative. The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 2007 ACRA awards is JUNE 29, 2007. Awards will be presented at the 2007 ACRA Annual Meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida. The 2007 categories are:

Industry Award

An award presented to an ACRA company's client (mining, energy, transportation, etc.) that has shown a commitment, above and beyond what is required to meet regulations, to the preservation of cultural resources. This could be a single project, or recognition of on-going commitment.

Eligibility criteria include submission by an ACRA member firm in good standing, the nominee's on-going adherence to following the spirit and law of cultural resources laws/standards, commitment to supporting thorough and outstanding research/documentation, and specific examples of projects, actions, or funding for work above and beyond simple compliance with the law.

Public Service Award

Recognition of an ACRA company or an employee of an ACRA company that has made a long-term contribution to the study, management, and/or protection of cultural resources or has contributed volunteer efforts and resources for the betterment of their immediate community, county, state, etc. These include efforts toward training students for CRM careers, internships, etc., and school programs, environmental programs, preservation programs, and interpretive programs.

Eligibility criteria include work or current employee of an ACRA member firm in good standing with examples of long-term ongoing commitment to volunteer and community service activities or a specific event/project that went above and beyond what is typically considered for donated/volunteer services.

Quality Product Award - Large Project (>\$50,000)

Recognition of a high quality product from a large project produced by an ACRA member company. The product can be in the form of innovative or long-term research, preservation of a cultural resource for future generations (such as a building or archaeological site), or an outstanding report, book, brochure, etc.

Eligibility criteria include projects completed by an ACRA member firm in good standing and may consist of any cultural resources management field or combination of fields whose total budget exceeds \$50,000.

Quality Product Award - Small Project (<\$50,000)

Recognition of a high quality product from a small project produced by an ACRA member company. The product can be in the form of innovative or long-term research, preservation of a cultural resource for future generations (such as a building or archaeological site), or an outstanding report, book, brochure, etc.

Eligibility criteria include projects completed by an ACRA member firm in good standing and may consist of any cultural resources management field or combination of fields whose total budget is \$50,000 or less.

The Awards Nomination Form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Who Can Enter

Architects, archaeologists, historians, students, and professionals working in the cultural resources management field in the United States, either in the public or private sector, may submit a nomination for any of the three (3) categories. For projects, nominations must have been directed and substantially executed in the United States not more than five (5) years ago. Nominations for the Public Service Award and Quality Product Awards must have been executed by an ACRA member in good standing; nominations for the Industry Award must be submitted by an ACRA member in good standing.

2. Providing Additional Material and Publication

If the nomination should win, the entrant agrees to make available further information and graphic material as needed by ACRA. ACRA Edition is granted the first opportunity for publication of the award announcement and supporting information about the project or work.

3. Projects Fact Page

To ensure the jury's clear understanding, each entry must contain a single page that lists, in English, the nomination's facts under the following headings:

- o Award Category
- o Name of Nominee
- o Basis of Eligibility

In addition, for the Quality Product Awards, you must augment your submission with the following information:

- o Start and Finish Dates
- o Client or Source of Funding
- o Project Budget
- o Name and Location of Client
- o Form of Final Products

4. Narrative

Nominations must contain a one-page synopsis that explains how the nominee meets the submission requirements. You may submit copies of reports or

..continued on Page 22

PLEASE NOTE:

- o Multiple nominations may be made in any or all categories.
- o All ACRA award nominations will be good for three (3) years. Any nomination that does not receive an award the year it was submitted will automatically be considered for the following year, and if no award is received, again for the year after that.
- o If you submitted a nomination in 2006 that did not win, it will be automatically reconsidered for the 2007 Awards, and again in 2008 if it does not receive an award in 2007. Similarly, if you submit a nomination this year and it does not win an award, it will automatically be reconsidered for 2007 and 2008.
- o Submit THREE identical copies of your nomination.
- o If you are nominating a substantial, multi-volume report, please consider submitting the three copies on a CD in PDF format.

examples of the product, but items must be accompanied by the one-page synopsis. For the Quality Product Awards, evaluation criteria may consist of the following to assist jurors in deciding whether the product is truly an excellent example of its type:

- o Are methods and results detailed enough that another researcher can easily reconstruct what was done and what the results are?
- o Are methods and results detailed enough that another researcher can adequately evaluate the findings?
- o Are methods and results detailed enough that another researcher can accurately relocate the project locale, test locales, and significant cultural features documented in the work?
- o Were any innovative techniques used that increased the amount of information recovered or improved the interpretation of results?
- o Did the report demonstrate awareness and concern for property types not traditionally covered by the type of survey (i.e., archaeology reports noting buildings or TCPs, history reports noting possibility of archaeological deposits)?
- o Did the report note areas or buildings of interest not covered by the project area but would probably be of interest to future researchers, without going beyond the scope of the project?
- o Does the project integrate the environmental and historical context with the results?
- o Did the report synthesize all cited data sources to support the conclusions?
- o Are recommendations justified/supported by the content of the report?
- o Have recommendations been made within the context of the NRHP criteria?
- o Does the report add important new knowledge to understanding of regional archaeological and/or historical contexts/issues?
- o Is the report, as a whole, understandable and accessible to professional and layperson alike?
- o Did public outreach receive attention as an integral component of the project?

5. Graphic Materials

Please submit graphic material in 8-1/2"x11" format. This requirement is mandatory for project entries only. However, non-project entrants are also encouraged to submit applicable supplementary material (newspaper clippings, etc.) in a bound 8-1/2"x11" format.

6. Entry Forms

Each nomination must be accompanied by a signed entry form. Reproductions of the form are acceptable.

7. Submission Format

All required pages of each entry must be firmly bound in binders. No slides, original drawings, videos, or unbound materials will be reviewed. Materials not in 8-1/2"x11" format will not be reviewed. Materials in 11"x17" or other format folded down to fit in an 8-1/2"x11" format are acceptable. PLEASE SUBMIT THREE (3) COPIES OF THE NOMINATION.

8. Return of Entries

All entries become the property of ACRA and will not be returned. ACRA reserves the right to distribute, publish, or otherwise utilize the materials in the entry as part of its program and mission. Please do not submit your originals.

9. Entry Deadline

Deadline for receipt of entries is JUNE 29, 2007. All entries must show a postage mark as evidence of being in the carrier's hands by that date. Hand-delivered entries must arrive at ACRA's Award Chair office by 5:00 pm on JUNE 29, 2007. To ensure timely arrival, ACRA recommends using a carrier that guarantees delivery within a specified number of days.

10. Winners

Winners will be notified by e-mail approximately one month before the annual meeting. You will be requested to submit digital images of the nomination

than can be used in the award presentation. In order to encourage nominators to invite their clients to the annual conference to be present at the awards ceremony, ACRA has set up a fund to assist in defraying these costs.

11. Publications

Winners will be asked to submit three (3) media sources of their choice to receive official ACRA press releases of their awards.

ADDRESS ENTRIES TO:

CHARISSA WANG DURST
ACRA AWARDS CHAIR
c/o Hardlines Design Company
4608 Indianola Avenue
Columbus, OH 43214

The Awards Nomination Form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

1744 Washington Ave Ext, Rensselaer, NY 12144

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 Secretary, Scott Stull. Once you have supplied Scott with your e-mail address, he will subscribe you to this list. Contact Scott e-mail: stull@hartgen.com.

2007 ACRA EDITION SCHEDULE

DEADLINE	PRODUCTION
February 5	February 19
April 9	August 23
June 10	June 24
August 5	August 19
October 14	October 28
December 3	December 17

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 Edition
ejharris@aol.com

or

Scott Stull,
Executive Secretary
c/o Hartgen Archaeological
Associates, Inc.
1744 Washington Ave Ext.
Rensselaer, NY 12144
stull@hartgen.com

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