



# PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS

Volume 8, Number 4

Summer 1988

## National Parks Study Commission Begins Work

The National Parks and Conservation Association's Commission on Research and Resource Management Policy in the National Park System held its first meeting April 18-19, with NCPH Chair Barbara J. Howe representing public historians.

The commission is an interdisciplinary group charged with addressing "a series of critical policy questions confronting the national parks as we approach the twenty-first century" by looking at both natural and cultural resource management policies and at the role of research in the Park System in general. The commission is reacting to and building upon the National Park Services' own recent planning efforts, but it is focusing on the Park System and not the Park Service.

The audience for the commission's report, due next March, will be the National Park Service, the legislative and executive operations that support the NPS, and the American publics interested in the national parks. "We would like to think that our strategies to implement the results of our work will be ones that park superintendents can use effectively,

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### Erratum

The Summer 1987 issue was mislabeled Vol. 8, No. 4. It should have been Vol. 7, No. 4.

A Quarterly Publication of the National Council on Public History in cooperation with the College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of History, Northeastern University, Boston.

Barbara Howe, Chair  
Theodore Karamanski, Vice-chair  
Brit Storey, Secretary  
Stanley Hordes, Treasurer  
Arnita Jones, Past-chair  
Wayne Anderson, Executive Secretary

## The Records of a Scandal—



"Sharp sparring involving Lt. Col. North, his attorney Brendan V. Sullivan, Jr., at right, and the House Counsel preceded a confrontation between the committees and North over his view that Congress could not be trusted with the secrets of his covert operations." —Washington Post, July 9, 1987.

## Washington Still Working to Document Iran-Contra Affair

By Pat Harahan  
Office of Air Force History

The recent investigations into the Iran-Contra Affair need to be set against the perspective of other national crises and investigations: the Pearl Harbor Attack and the Roberts Commission, the Kennedy Assassination and the Warren Commission, the urban riots of the 1960s and the Kerner Investigations, and most recently, Nixon and the Watergate coverup and the Watergate Congressional hearings and judicial trials.

Public historians, notably Hugh Davis Graham, have been particularly interested in these federal investigations, authoring several articles in *The Public Historian*. Graham, for instance, set the work of the federal commissions on the 1960s urban and campus riots into historical perspective in *TPH* (Summer 1980). Five years later, he categorized and analyzed the work of presidential commissions, characterizing their results as "ambiguous" (*TPH*, Spring 1985).

The Iran-Contra Affair is but the latest in a long series of crises which have triggered large federal investigations. The "public" aspect of the affair began late in 1986 with the published revelation in an obscure Lebanese weekly, *Al-Schirra*, that American government officials were negotiating to exchange arms for hostages.

Rather quickly Reagan Administration denials were followed by a series of presidential press conferences, each more revealing than the previous one. Like the sudden buildup of a late evening summer thunderstorm, the Iran-Contra issue spiraled into a major national scandal within a matter of weeks.

By early 1987 four major investigations were underway: the President's Special Review Board (Tower Commission), the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the Joint U.S. Senate and House Select Committee on the Iran-Contra Affair, and the Office of the Spe-

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# PUBLIC HISTORY CONFERENCES

## McGovern's Keynote Highlights Toledo Mid-America Conference

By Diane F. Britton  
The University of Toledo

History is a valuable tool for public policy makers, keynote speaker George McGovern told an audience of about 200 at the recent Mid-America Public History Conference hosted by The University of Toledo. While it cannot provide all the answers, history lends insights and perspective as one guide to future policy, if it is used cautiously.

According to the former Senator, "Public decision in rational politics necessarily implies a guess about the future derived from the experience of the past." But, the guess needs to be based on comprehensive theories of historical change, not merely specific analogies that often tend to mislead. A related hazard is that varied interpretations of the past allow history to justify conflicting stands on important issues.

McGovern offered the example of the Vietnam War. Most decision makers of the era failed to accept the view that the unrest in southeast Asia stemmed from a legitimate nationalistic revolution. Instead they relied on the "lesson of Munich" in dealing with Ho Chi Minh—a perilous dependence on historical analogy.

While recognizing the limitations of historical experience, McGovern added that he "fervently" hopes that the next President of the United States will have a sense of history. "A president with a keen sense of history will not necessarily always be right, but he will understand the importance of keeping his inaugural oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States."

This country, McGovern noted, has paid an embarrassing and heavy price for the kind of "unconstitutional, illegal, and irresponsible conduct" that has been manifested in such events as Watergate, the Bay of Pigs, and the Iran-Contra scandal. Our next president needs to "have some historical awareness of how important a constitutional government" has been to the United States.

McGovern concluded by suggesting that the President have at least one first-rate historian on his staff.

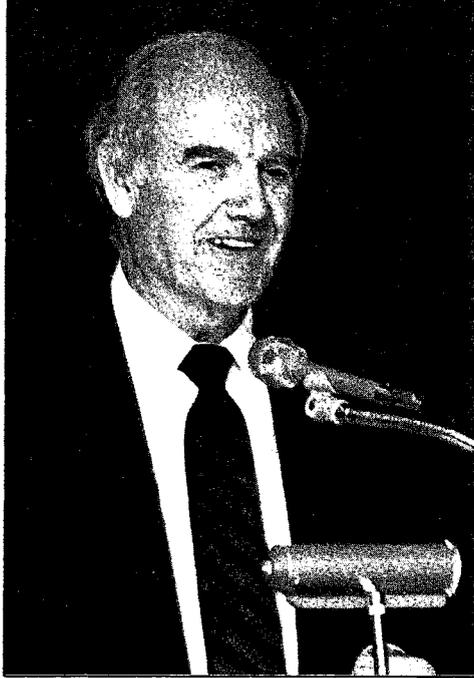


Photo: Bill Hartough

Senator McGovern's speech culminated a day of panel discussions on the role of history in both public and private policy analysis.

George David Smith, President of the Winthrop Group, described the most unique applications of the past in the business world as historically-based management consulting. Careful recording of processes along with comparative analysis can help companies build their futures "on a more solid base of past reality."

Business history will continue to be written for external consumption, Professor Louis Galambos of Johns Hopkins University pointed out, and companies should consider taking an active role in that interpretation. This is accomplished by creating archives, promoting internal and external studies, and encouraging the teaching of business history at the university level. Involvement by business provides a solid research base for historians and insures that their writing reflects both business concerns and those of outside groups.

John Toth of the Dana Corporation added that while many managers understand the importance of history, reality demands that it be cost effective.

Historians also play an important

role in the federal government, according to Senate Historian Richard A. Baker, but appropriations committees sometimes look aghast at the number of people employed in these positions.

One solution is the use of highly-qualified consultants such as Professor Lawrence Kaplan of Kent State University, who described his experiences with the Department of Defense.

Page Putnam Miller, Director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, summed up the value of the past in her comment that "the rear-view mirror is our only crystal ball."

Saturday's sessions examined the presentation and recording of history. Edith Mayo of the Smithsonian Institution began with a thought-provoking talk which posed the question "Whose past is made accessible to the public and how does it get there?" Funding, Mayo contended, often determines whether an exhibit will be produced, and sponsors generally opt for noncontroversial topics. Public historians need to be aware of the impact they have on shaping public historical consciousness.

Dwight Pitcaithley, Regional Historian for the National Park Service, expanded the topic of his discussion of the "curious business" of historic preservation and the need for greater accuracy in interpretation.

"Funding and public entertainment," according to Joseph C. Porter of the Joslyn Art Museum, are key to making the past accessible through museums.

The final session, Exploring History Where People Live, focused on local history and how it is recorded. Philip P. Mason showed the audience film clips from a series of video tapes produced by the Archives for Labor and Urban Affairs to record the thoughts and aspirations of the working class.

Another method used to bring history closer to home was demonstrated by Cynthia J. Little in a program sponsored by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania which set up a "history booth" at various community events.

And Ted Ligibel of The University of Toledo's Urban Affairs Center discussed the importance of preserving the material past.

These issue-oriented sessions prompted discussion and debate between panelists and members of the audience. Many participants commented on the high quality of the speakers and the education-

# PUBLIC HISTORY CONFERENCES

—McGovern

al value of the talks. Experienced public historians gained new ideas, and the conference provided a good introduction to public history for those just becoming acquainted with the field.

Toledo's waterfront provided the backdrop for the two-day conference, with participants traveling from as far as Hawaii and Washington state. Exhibits sponsored by area organizations, including the Lucas County Public Library, Toledo Metroparks, Canaday Center Archives, and Ohio Historical Society, displayed local public history efforts. A Friday evening reception allowed many of those attending the opportunity to meet personally with George McGovern.

The Mid-America Public History Conference was underwritten by the Department of History of The University of Toledo and was held in cooperation with the National Council on Public History and the Forum for History and Business. It represents the inauguration of a public history program at The University of Toledo.

For more information contact Diane F. Britton, Department of History, The University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio 43606. ■



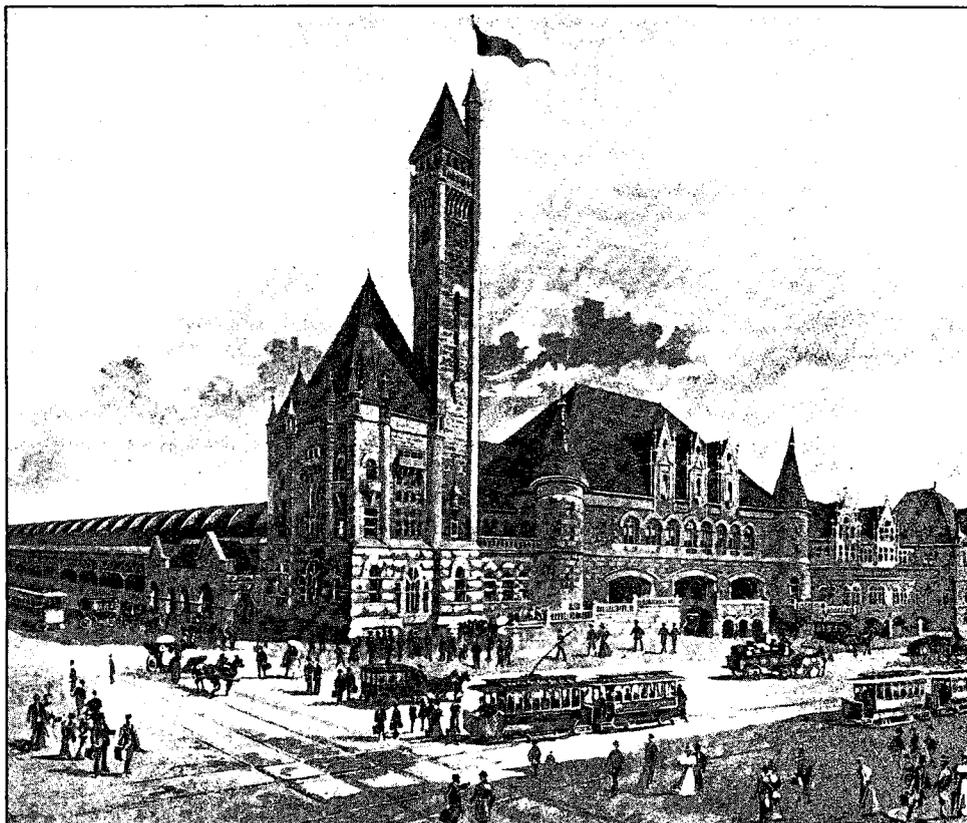
The National Council on Public History promotes the application of historical scholarship outside the university in government, business, historical societies, preservation organizations, archives, libraries, professional associations, and public interest groups.

For details, contact NCPH Chair Barbara Howe, History Department, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506; (304) 293-2421, or Vice-chair Ted Karamanski, History Department, Loyola University, Chicago, IL 60626; (312) 508-2684.

For membership information, contact Executive Secretary Wayne Anderson, History Department, 403 Richards Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115; (617) 437-2677.

For change of address, write UC Press, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Copy for *Public History News* should be sent to Wayne Anderson, History Department, 403 Richards Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115. The deadline for the Fall 1988 issue is September 1.



St. Louis' Union Station, site of one of the tours planned for the 1989 NCPH Annual Meeting.

## Planning Underway for St. Louis Sessions, Tours, and Workshops

By Matricia Mooney Melvin  
University of Arkansas at Little Rock

The final proposals for the 1989 conference have come in, and we now begin the task of selecting the sessions. Our thanks to everyone involved. We have received a number of good proposals, and conference goers should find an interesting array of sessions to choose from in St. Louis.

The local arrangements committee has designed six tours to lure conference participants to explore St. Louis and its environs.

A downtown St. Louis walking tour will feature architectural highlights of the area around the conference hotel.

The Eads Bridge, opened in 1874, is a landmark of American architecture and engineering, and the planned tour will focus on a visual and historical introduction to the bridge and its times.

The Soulard area, now under extensive restoration and renovation, was a port of entry for German immigrants to St. Louis.

The walking tour of this area will end with a visit to Anheuser-Busch, the only remaining brewery of the forty brewing establishments of turn-of-the-century St. Louis.

The rural cemetery movement reached St. Louis in 1849 with the incorporation of Bellefontaine Cemetery. The Bellefontaine tour will offer a splendid example of changing styles and tastes in memorial art.

The tour of the Cahokia Mounds Historic Site will focus on the extensive Mississippian culture developed before the arrival of the Europeans on the North American continent.

And, conference participants will have the opportunity to have a guided tour of Union Station, the magnificent turn-of-the-century railroad station turned specialty shopping mall.

The workshops are also coming together. Watch for more details in upcoming issues of *Public History News*. ■

## Appointments, Journal Issues, Seminar Plans Head Agenda

By Barbara J. Howe  
NCPH Chair

As you read this, some of you will undoubtedly be returning to work from all-too-short vacations, some of you will be frantically trying to clean off your desks as you eagerly contemplate a few days away from the telephone, and the rest of you will be working away in air-conditioned splendor or, perhaps, greeting visitors to a historic site on a hot, humid day. Whatever your circumstances, I hope your summer is an enjoyable one and that *The Public Historian* and *Public History News* are on your summer reading lists.

These past few months have been spent trying to make sure that the Council is organized for the coming year, or at least making sure that I understand who is doing what. As you'll see elsewhere, there have been official appointments made to a variety of committees. Most of the members are "hold-overs" from last year because a year is a very short time in which to accomplish much in a national organization. I am very grateful to all the committee members who have agreed to stay on to continue their work and, particularly, to all the chairs who have agreed to head these committees for the year. The "committee column" elsewhere on this page will tell you what some of these groups have been accomplishing.

As some of you know, this is the year in which we renegotiate our contract with the University of California Press for the publication of *The Public Historian*. To begin this process, Arnita Jones and I, representing the NCPH; Bob Kelley, representing the University of California at Santa Barbara; and Alain Henon, for the University of California Press, met at the Organization of American Historians' meeting in Reno in late March to discuss the contract. We reviewed a wide range of items that the NCPH board of directors had discussed at its Denver meetings, and I have circulated a memo about those discussions to the board. To date, it seems to agree with the tone of the discussions in Reno—or, at least, no one has called or written with major disagreements.

We are also talking to the History Department at UCSB about the appoint-

ment of an editor to replace Carroll Pursell, who will be on leave at Case Western Reserve University from the fall of 1988. Carroll has agreed to remain our editor for the coming year, but we need to think beyond then if he decides not to return to UCSB.

Finally, to address the idea on continuing education seminars that came from our "brain-storming" session in Denver, Ted Karamanski and I have started some tentative discussions about a cultural resources management seminar that we might hold at Loyola University of Chicago in the summer of 1989. We felt it was important, in planning this workshop, to offer something new to our members who have experience in cultural resources management. At the same time, we wanted to avoid turning out "one-workshop wonders." Therefore, we are thinking about a specialized one-week seminar that Ted tentatively has labelled "Interpreting Industrial Landscapes." The goal is to provide an opportunity for continuing education for historians who might know little about documenting industrial sites while helping those who are experts in "site-specific" investigations understand the "total picture" that historians strive to document.

Preliminary discussions on the workshop concept with the president of the Society for Industrial Archeology and with Robert Kapsch and Eric DeLony of the Historic American Engineering Record are favorable. However, there has been no formal board action taken by any organization, including NCPH, and none can be taken until we get better figures about cost, the possibility of grant support, etc. This will be an item for the NCPH board of directors' meeting in early October. If you have ideas for the workshop, feel free to contact Ted at the Department of History, Loyola University of Chicago, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626, or call him at (312) 508-2221. I'm sure he'd be interested in any and all ideas.

As always, please let Wayne, Ted, me, or any of the members of the board of directors know about any ideas you may have to make NCPH more useful to you. And thanks again to all of you who say "yes" when asked to help with the Council's activities! ■

## News Notes from NCPH Committees

The Curriculum and Training Committee sponsored an ad-hoc meeting at the annual conference in Denver at which it showed "History Goes Public" and discussed the potential audience and the purpose of the new slide tape the committee is working on.

The participants agreed that the targeted audiences should be students and the interested public. With this in mind, the committee will consider developing a curriculum guide to accompany the slide tape in order to explain public history.

Phil Scarpino, the committee chair, reports that the new slide tape will cover three areas. First, public historians as part of a larger community of professional historians, or historians in contemporary life. Second, the kinds of things that professional historians do (teach, research, analyze and interpret, write, edit, manage and collect documents and information). Third, the places that professional historians work (museums, historical societies, community groups, libraries and archives, publishing houses, law firms, classrooms, and as independent consultants).

For further information, or to make comments or suggestions, contact Philip Scarpino, Department of History, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, 425 Agnes Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

The other members of the Curriculum and Training Committee are Gerald Herman, Northeastern University; Glenda Riley, University of Northern Iowa; Karen Smith, Salt River Project; Raymond Smock, Office for the Bicentennial; Daniel Walkowitz, New York University; and Jan-nelle Warren-Findley, Falls Church, VA.

The members of the NCPH's other standing committees for 1988-89 will be listed in the next issue. ■

*Your Executive Secretary/Editor has chosen his own column to kill to make space for other news and features in this unusually tight issue. The column will return in the fall. In the meantime, may everyone's summer live up to all expectations!*

—Wayne Anderson



# Annual Report, 1987-88

## National Council on Public History

**T**HIS PAST YEAR HAS been one of maturing for the National Council on Public History.

The most important step in that direction came when we moved our executive secretariat from West Virginia University to Northeastern University. After three years at WVU, where Barbara Howe served as executive secretary in something of an "overload" capacity, we put the secretariat "out to bid" during the summer of 1987.

Northeastern University offered us the half-time services of Wayne Anderson, its Director of Oral History, as executive secretary, the half-time services of an administrative assistant (now Jo Madden), the counsel of long-time NCPH member Gerald Herman in his role as assistant to the provost at Northeastern, the support of Ray Robinson in his role as chair of the Northeastern Department of History, the assistance of graduate students, and lavish amounts of computer equipment. Needless to say, we accepted the offer!

On November 1, we officially transferred the secretariat to Northeastern. Anderson and Madden are gradually learning the idiosyncracies of the council and its membership, and we appreciate the support and patience of all our members as we make this transition.

It is also now appropriate to thank West Virginia University, one last time, for its support of the secretariat for 3 1/2 years.

### *The Public Historian*

During the past year, *The Public Historian* featured issues-and-analysis articles on such subjects as industrial museums, rural surveys, managing cultural resources information, oral history and copyright, and history in the court room.

The research article "Doing Harm: The DES Tragedy and Modern American Medicine," by Richard Gillam and Barton J. Bernstein, received the G. Wesley Johnson Award for the best article published in vol-

ume 9 (1987).

A special issue on the National Park Service was edited by Michael Schene of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office of the NPS; this appeared as the spring 1987 issue. The long-awaited curriculum issue, edited by Noel Stowe and G. Wesley Johnson, appeared as the summer 1987 issue. The spring 1988 issue featured the first of a series of articles on "Pioneers of Public History," with this one by Sally Gregory Kohlstedt on George Brown Goode and the Smithsonian Institution.

Beginning with the fall 1987 issue, we welcomed Carroll Pursell as the editor of *The Public Historian*. Pursell, a specialist in the history of technology, has been the director of the public history program at the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB). Shortly after accepting the position of editor, Pursell received a sabbatical position at Case Western Reserve University, and he will be on leave for the 1988-89 academic year. The NCPH board of directors has asked Pursell to continue to serve as editor for 1988-89 while we work with the History Department at UCSB to choose his replacement.

David Trask of the U.S. Army Center of Military History has agreed to serve as chair of the editorial board of the journal, replacing David Kyvig of the University of Akron, who was on sabbatical in Norway during the year.

New members of the editorial board appointed for 1988-90 are James Huhta of Middle Tennessee State University, Donald Ritchie of the U. S. Senate Historical Office and Roberta Miller of the National Science Foundation. Those reappointed for 1988-90 terms are Andrew Achenbaum of the University of Michigan and George David Smith of the Winthrop Group.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the members of the editorial board whose terms expired at the end of 1987: Louise Kerr of Loyola University of Chicago; Jannelle Warren-Findley, historical consultant; and Ronald Marcello of North Texas State University.

Our contract with the University of

California Press to publish the journal will expire at the end of 1988, and the board of directors of the council officially notified the press that we would like to open negotiations on contract revisions. Under the contract, this notification had to be given to the press by December 31, 1987. Our negotiations will be tripartite, with the University of California at Santa Barbara, the council, and the press all needing to agree on the terms.

### *Public History News*

During the summer of 1987, we learned that Todd Shallat of Boise State University was no longer able to serve as editor of our newsletter. We appreciated the professional touch that Shallat brought to the newsletter and wanted to continue the format that he developed.

At the same time, the board of directors has long talked about wanting to centralize the newsletter and executive secretariat responsibilities in one place. When we learned that Wayne Anderson had had experience with newsletters and that Northeastern was going to be so generous with its computer budget, it seemed logical to move the newsletter to Northeastern.

Anderson's first issue came out at Christmas, after a transition issue edited by Arnita Jones during the summer. With the cooperation of committee chairs and other contributors, we are now back on schedule with the newsletter.

### *Careers for Students of History*

About ten years ago, the American Historical Association published a pamphlet entitled *Careers for Students of History*. With the publication now out of print and out of date, the AHA wanted to have the pamphlet revised. At the December 1987 council board of directors' meeting, James Gardner of the AHA asked the NCPH to undertake the revision of this pamphlet as a joint project of the NCPH and AHA.

The board asked Barb Howe to write the pamphlet, with board members acting as the editorial board. NCPH then signed a

contract with the AHA, whereby the AHA's author's fee would go to the NCPH.

Howe produced a draft of the pamphlet by the March 1988 meeting of the board of directors. Beth Grosvenor Boland of the National Register of Historic Places took on the task of coordinating the comments received from members of an ad hoc editorial board. Howe's revision was to be submitted to the AHA by July 1, 1988.

The pamphlet is organized to illustrate the skills of historians as educators, researchers, writers, editors, administrators, etc. It is designed to address *all* aspects of the historians' work, including traditional teaching positions and public history positions. We hope that this will be an important way to show students that the work historians do is exciting, varied, and vital.

Please look for this pamphlet as it is advertised through the AHA and NCPH, and please buy it through the NCPH, as that will enrich our coffers!

### *Guide to Continuing Education for Public Historians*

In an effort to provide information to practicing public historians, NCPH produced its first *Guide to Continuing Education for Public Historians* in the summer of 1987. Michael Wade of Appalachian State University served as chair of the committee that worked on this publication.

The guide was distributed as the "premium" for our institutional sponsors renewing for 1987-88, but we are sorry to say that it has not been as popular as we had hoped. We are working on improving the marketing efforts for all our publications and hope to improve our promotion of the guide soon. In the meantime, you can order your copy of this and all other NCPH publications by using the order form in the newsletter or by writing to the secretariat.

### *Consultants Directory*

In 1981, the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History published a consultants directory, listing historians available to do contract work. Since this publication has been out of print for several years, NCPH decided to produce its own on-line consultants directory that would be more timely and more descriptive of the consultants' work.

We planned this to be an on-line directory, so that the initial listing fee of \$100 per page would include a reduced rate on annual updates. We also agreed that at least one of the principals in firms listed had to have a graduate degree in history or American studies.

Planning for the directory began during 1986-87, but we were unable to find an institutional home for the project until the University of South Carolina agreed to provide the support needed.

Under the direction of Connie Schulz at South Carolina and Anna Nelson, as chair of the Publications Committee, plans for the directory went forward in 1987-88. Announcements were sent to various professional journals, to those who had been listed in the 1981 directory, and to all NCPH members.

At the March 1988 board meeting, we appointed a committee headed by Karen Smith of the Salt River Project to generate additional listings and a marketing scheme for the directory. We now have sold about 50 pages in the directory, have listings from all the major firms we know of, and have a contract with a graduate student at South Carolina who will be responsible for the production of the directory.

It is our expectation that the directory will be available for distribution in early September 1988. Please watch the newsletter for information on this publication.

### *NCPH's Public History Series*

The board of the NCPH has decided to sponsor the publication of books we feel are important to our membership.

Under a sales agreement with the Robert E. Krieger Publishing Co., Krieger reprinted the *Report of the Committee on the Records of Government* during 1987. NCPH receives a royalty on all copies sold and an additional royalty on all copies sold if NCPH was directly responsible for the sale. Therefore, when you order your copy, please note that you are a NCPH member.

The board has also agreed to work with Ted Karamanski of Loyola University of Chicago on an anthology on ethics for public historians. This will be published by Krieger. Karamanski is the editor because of his work as editor of the special ethics issue of *The Public Historian*. Work on the book is underway, and we are awaiting the final contract from Krieger at this time. There will be a royalty split between Karamanski and the NCPH on this work.

At the March 1988 meeting, the board agreed to work with Arnita Jones and Philip Cantelon, both of History Associates, Inc., on an anthology on corporate archives issues. We are also awaiting the final contract from Krieger for the publication of this book, and there will again be a royalty split between the editors and the NCPH.

The board then agreed that a committee should be charged with recommending what books we will endorse for publication and which publishers we will use. During

1988-89, the publications committee will take on that responsibility. It should also be noted that Barbara Howe's royalties as acquisitions editor for Krieger's public history series are assigned to the NCPH for all books published with the NCPH imprimatur.

As these books become available, we hope you will purchase them for your library, your personal use, and your students/colleagues. If the series is to continue, publishers must know that NCPH members are eager to have these works.

### *"History Goes Public" Revisions*

Philip Scarpino of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis agreed to chair the Curriculum and Training Committee for 1987-88 to begin work on the revision of "History Goes Public," our slide-tape show. It appears that the first of a possible series of productions will be focused on undergraduate and graduate students who need a basic introduction to public history. Scarpino's committee will continue to serve during 1988-89 so that we may hope to have a production to preview at the 1989 annual meeting.

### *The Craft of Public History*

We opened negotiations with the American Association for State and Local History and Greenwood Press to sell the remaining copies of *The Craft of Public History* through AASLH. Since AASLH is vigorously expanding its marketing of publications, this seems like an excellent way to sell the remaining copies of this work. At press time, negotiations were still incomplete.

### *Corporate Archives Directory*

The NCPH board agreed to submit a grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities to create a directory of corporate archives in the United States. This on-line directory would provide a valuable resource to historians working in corporate archives and to those wishing to do research there.

Arnita Jones prepared the grant application and would be the project director. Arizona State University's College of Business agreed to provide the institutional base for this project, and we appreciate the support of Noel Stowe, Associate Dean of the Graduate School at ASU and past chair of NCPH, in arranging this cooperation. Valuable contacts with the Society of American Archivists have also been generated through this effort. We hope to proceed with the project with or without NEH support.

## NCPH's Archives

NCPH established an agreement with the archives of the University of Colorado at Boulder in early 1987 to deposit the NCPH archives at that institution. The removal of the executive secretariat from West Virginia University to Northeastern University provided the perfect opportunity to send the first of our records to Colorado during the summer of 1987. Each year, the executive secretary will send off appropriate back files to Colorado.

Cassandra Volpe of the University of Colorado archives met with the NCPH board at its March 1988 meeting to explain the archives' procedures. The university has agreed to make available any materials we may need at any time and will distribute extra copies of our publications to interested parties. We are grateful to the University of Colorado for its cooperation in this endeavor.

## Cultural Resources Management Committee

Stan Hordes of HMS Associates led the Cultural Resources Management Committee through another year of discussions with the National Park Service and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Again, the major focus was strengthening the credential requirements for historians doing CRM work and ensuring a place for historians in CRM projects. We worked closely on this issue with Page Putnam Miller of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History and now seem to be getting the attention of the appropriate people.

## Mid-America Public History Conference

The University of Toledo's Department of History asked Barbara Howe to help them plan a Mid-America Public History Conference for April 29-30, 1988. The NCPH board of directors agreed to cooperate with this conference, lending its name, mailing list, encouragement, suggestions for speakers, publicity, and fortunately for NCPH, no money. Diane Britton of the University of Toledo served as conference chair.

While the conference should technically be described in more detail in the 1988-89 annual report for NCPH, since it took place after our annual meeting for 1989, it is imperative to note here that this was an extremely successful conference and the NCPH appreciated the opportunity to work with the University of Toledo in this endeavor.

As a result of the university's request,

the NCPH board agreed that it needed more detailed policies on cooperative efforts with other organizations. An ad hoc committee presented a preliminary report on policies for joint meetings at the March 1988 board meeting. This report was adopted and will be formalized at the fall 1988 board meeting.

## Awards Committee

NCPH established an Awards Committee to determine what awards the organization should give to recognize service, publications, etc. Chaired by Pat Harahan of the Office of Air Force History, this committee presented the board with a preliminary report on the proposed James Phinney Baxter Prize at the March meeting. This prize is to be funded by History Associates, Inc., and is to recognize the contributions of those new to the world of public history. A more complete report will be available for the fall 1988 board meeting.

## Public History at the AHA and OAH

The NCPH continued its "tradition" of sponsoring a luncheon on December 29, 1987, at the annual meeting of the AHA in Washington, DC. This year, the luncheon was co-sponsored by the Society for History in the Federal Government, and that arrangement will continue for the 1988 luncheon at the AHA in Cincinnati.

The sold-out luncheon generated such interest that people came just to hear the announcements about various public history activities. An interesting exchange about the status of monographs in defining the work of public historians was undoubtedly the highlight of the meeting.

The 1988 OAH luncheon in Reno also technically came as part of the 1988-89 NCPH year, but we can note here that it was also quite successful.

## 1988 Annual Meeting

We gathered at the historic Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, Colorado, for our tenth annual NCPH meeting from March 3-6. Meeting alone for the first time in several years, we drew a crowd of over 200 for a stimulating series of sessions, field trips, plenaries, and an unforgettable dinner at Bent's Old Fort Restaurant, with a menu and after-dinner entertainment that defy description.

On Thursday, March 3, NCPH cooperated with the Society of American Archivists to host a seminar on documentation strategies. We appreciate the support of the SAA in scheduling this seminar at the time of our conference, as it allowed us to continue our "tradition" of offering

workshops as part of the conference agenda.

The conference officially began with a plenary on the state of the public history profession. Panelists were Larry Tise, executive director of the American Association for State and Local History; Paul Putz, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers; Donn Neal, executive director of the Society of American Archivists; and Jerry Rogers, associate director for cultural resources of the National Park Service.

A plenary on Saturday morning was entitled "Political Concerns for Historians" and featured John Burns, archivist of the State of California; Don Wilson, archivist of the United States; Nellie Longworth, executive director of Preservation Action; and Page Putnam Miller, executive director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History.

Friday afternoon field trips to the Denver Service Center of the National Park Service, the Denver Branch of the National Archives, the Denver Public Library, the Colorado Historical Society, and the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District provided an opportunity for public historians in the Denver area to "show and tell" us about their work.

A Friday morning seminar on public history in Colorado was designed to allow academic and public historians in the state to "meet and greet" and discuss areas of cooperation, issues of common concern, etc. The seminar proved to be so stimulating that we are considering a similar session at each conference so that academic and public historians can gather in each conference state. "Out-of-staters" provide additional perspectives on opportunities and problems.

The Saturday evening festivities began with our annual business meeting, adjourned to the Western History Collection of the Denver Public Library for a wine reception, and concluded with a banquet at the Brown Palace Hotel. Armita Jones, outgoing chair of the NCPH, gave her address at the banquet, challenging us to consider the issue of credentialing in fields close to public history.

We are very grateful to Brit Storey of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for his work as chair of the Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee for the Denver meeting. We also wish to acknowledge the cooperation of his other committee members.

## Future Meetings

The 1989 NCPH meeting will again be a joint meeting with the Organization of

American Historians. This will be held next April in St. Louis. Patricia Mooney Melvin of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock is the chair of the NCPH Program Committee, while Katherine Corbett of the Missouri Historical Society chairs our Local Arrangements Committee. We look forward to having you meet with us in St. Louis!

The 1990 NCPH meeting will be held in San Diego, California. The date is still uncertain, but we are pleased that Ray Brandes of the University of San Diego has agreed to work with us on plans for that meeting.

## Welcome to the New, Farewell to the Old

The NCPH wishes to thank its outgoing officers for their work in the past year: Arnita Jones, chair; Barbara Howe, vice-chair; Brit Storey, Secretary; Karen Smith, treasurer; and Michael Scardaville, past-chair. We would also like to thank our out-going board members for their work: Beth Grosvenor Boland, Claudia Bushman, John Kern, Anna Nelson, Kenneth Owens, and Howard Rosen.

Our new board will be led by the following officers: Barbara Howe, chair; Ted Karamanski, vice-chair; Brit Storey, secretary; Stan Hordes, treasurer; and Arnita Jones, past-chair.

New board members elected to three-year terms are: Diane Britton, Pat Harahan, Steven Lubar, Raymond Merritt, James Williams, and Beth Luey. Diane Britton, as the top vote-getter on the board slate, was also elected to a three-year term on the executive committee. Jeffrey Stine and Gordon Olson were elected to the nominating committee.

NCPH thanks all those who were willing to run for a position this year. We appreciate your interest in the organization.

**Barbara J. Howe**  
Vice-chair, 1987-88

## 1987-88 Officers and Executive Committee Members

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Barbara J. Howe, Vice-chair  
West Virginia University  
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National Register of Historic Places  
W. Elliot Brownlee  
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Scholars

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Edited by MaryAnn Campbell  
Northeastern University

## • JOBS/FELLOWSHIPS/ GRANTS/AWARDS

**The National Museum of American History** seeks a Curator for the history of American science. Direct inquiries and requests for announcement #88-117F to: Dr. Ramunas Kondratas, NMAH, Room 5000, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560; (202) 357-2145.

**The National Museum of American History** seeks a Curator for maritime history. Inquiries and requests for announcement #88-98F to: Deputy Chair, Dept. of History of Science and Technology, NMAH, Washington, DC 20560; (202) 357-2025.

**The National Museum of American History** seeks a Curator in the history of technology. For information: Dr. Bernard Finn, Search Committee Chair, Room 5025, NMAH, Washington, DC 20560; (202) 357-1840.

**The Winterthur Museum** seeks an Assistant/Associate Editor for its museum publishing program. Send resume and salary requirements to: Human Resources Manager, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE 19735.

**The Conner Prairie** outdoor history museum seeks a Director of Programs. Send resume to: Polly Jontz, Executive Director, Conner Prairie, Box 50605, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

**The Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society** seeks a Director. Send resume, references, salary history to: Cyril Lotz, Chair, Search Committee, P.O. Box 275, Buellton, CA 93427.

**The Lorahatchee Historical Society** seeks an Executive Director. Salary commensurate with qualifications and prior experience. Resume and salary requirements to: Lorahatchee Historical Society, P.O. Box 1506, Jupiter, FL 33468.

**The Naper Settlement** living history museum seeks a Director of Interpretation and Public Programs. Send resume, references, and salary expectations to: Coordinator of Human Resources, Naper Settlement, 201 W. Porter Ave., Naperville, IL 60540-6525.

**The Harris County Heritage Society** seeks a Curator. B.A./M.A. in history or material culture. Send letter of application, resume, and three professional references to: Robert Oliver, Chairman, Harris County Heritage Society, 1100 Bagby, Houston, TX 77002.

**The Dutchess County Historical Society** seeks a Curator of Collections and Education. Send resume to: Director, Dutchess County Historical Society, P.O. Box 88, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602.

**The Illinois Humanities Council** seeks an Executive Director with an advanced degree in the humanities preferred and demonstrated administrative ability required. Deadline: *August 8, 1988*. Information: Lynne Waldeland, Chair, Search Committee, Illinois Humanities Council, C/O Provost's Office, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115.

**The National Endowment for the Humanities' Interpretive Research Program** has funds available for research. Application deadline: *October 1, 1988*. For additional information: Interpretive Research Program, Room 318 IR, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 786-0212.

**The North Caroliniana Society** has several fellowships available for research in North Carolina's cultural resources. For more information: Dr. H.G. Jones, Secretary-Treasurer, NCS, University of North Carolina, Campus Box 3930, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3930.

**The American Association for State and Local History** announces the continuation of their Grants-in-Aid Program for Research in State and Local History for 1988-89. Contact: Sheila Riley, Project Coordinator, AASLH, 172 Second Ave. North, Suite 102, Nashville, TN 37201; (615) 255-2971.

**The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library** announces the establishment of the Marjorie Kovler Research Fellowship. For additional information contact: The Director, John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Boston, MA 02125.

**The Walter P. Reuther Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs** Travel Support Program at Wayne State University has grants available. For further information and application forms contact: Philip P. Mason, Director, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202; (313) 577-4024.

## • MEETINGS/CALLS FOR PAPERS

**The Society of American Archivists'** 52nd annual meeting will be held *September 29-October 2, 1988*, at the Westin Peachtree Plaza, Atlanta. Contact: Georgeann Palmer, SAA, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605; (312) 922-0140.

**The Strong Museum** in Rochester, NY, will hold a symposium and workshop, "Culture and Comfort: The Draped and Upholstered Interior, 1850-1930," *October 14-16, 1988*. Contact: Florence Smith (716) 263-2700, ext. 212.

**The American Association for the History of Medicine** will meet *April 27-30, 1989*, in Birmingham, AL. Deadline for papers: *October 15-1988*. Submit proposals to: Judith Walzer Leavitt, Chair, AAHM Program Committee, Dept. of History of Medicine, 1415 Medical Science Center, University of Wisconsin, 1300 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706.

**The National Trust for Historic Preservation** will hold its 42nd National Preservation Conference in Cincinnati *October 19-23, 1988*. Call or write: Joanne Doyle, NTHP, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 673-4100.

**The New England Historical Association** will hold its fall meeting *October 22, 1988*. Papers invited. Contact: David Courtwright, University of Hartford, W. Hartford, CT 06117.

**The American Military Institute** will hold its annual meeting *April 14-15, 1989*, in Lexington, VA. The conference theme is "Military Education and Thought." Papers welcome. Deadline: *October 31, 1988*. Send proposals to: AMI Conference Coordinator, Dept. of History and Politics, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA 24450.

**The Oral History Association** will hold its annual meeting *October 19-22, 1989*, in Galveston, TX. All subjects concerning oral history welcome. Deadline: *November 30, 1988*. Contact: Michael L. Gillette, Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, 2313 Red River, Austin, TX 78705.

**Preservation Alumni, Inc.** invites one-page abstracts of papers for a Symposium on *Preservation and the Quality of Life* to be held in *January, 1989*, at Columbia University. Contact: Preservation Alumni, Inc., Preservation and the Quality of Life Symposium, Box 669, New York, NY 10272; (215) 985-0609.

**The National Park Service** will hold a symposium entitled "War & Peace: A conference on Battlefield Preservation and Interpretation" *November 16-18, 1988*, at Gettysburg National Military Park. Individuals wishing to be on the program should submit ideas to: Bruce Craig, National Parks & Conservation Association, 1015 31st St., NW, Washington, DC 20007. ■

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Page Putnam Miller  
Director, National  
Coordinating  
Committee for the  
Promotion of History



## FY'89 Appropriations Process Underway

We are still in the initial stages of the appropriations process. NCC has provided testimony on the appropriations for the National Archives, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission's grants program, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Park Service.

Only one of the subcommittees involved had voted on the FY'89 budget by the deadline for this column. The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government has recommended to the House Appropriations Committee a FY'89 budget for the National Archives of \$125.9 million.

This includes \$4 million for the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions' grants program, \$4.1 million for the Kennedy Library, and \$117.8 million for the National Archives. This represents an \$8.1 million increase over the President's request.

## Larger Role Urged for Historians in NPS and National Historic Landmark Program

In February the NCC testified before the House Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands on the proposed FY'89 budget for the National Park Service and discussed the role of historical research in the NPS and the National Historic Landmark Program.

The subcommittee's recommendations from this hearing were published as a part of the "Report to the Committee on the Budget: Views and Estimates of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives." In a section on preservation, the report stated: "The committee strongly recommends that the National Park Service establish an ongoing and substantial cooperative effort with the major professional and scholarly societies to research and publish National Historic Landmark Theme Studies."

The NCC is currently working with appropriations committee staffers to encourage the implementation of the sub-

committee Report recommendations regarding the role of historians in the NPS.

## NHPRC Grants Program Reauthorized

On March 30 the House passed H.R. 3933, legislation to reauthorize the grants program of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee has unanimously recommended S. 1856, and it was expected to come to the floor for a vote soon after the deadline for this column.

One of the major differences between these two bills is the authorization level. The Senate calls for \$10 million for each of the next five years and the House specifies a gradual increase of \$5 million for FY'89 and '90, \$8 million for FY'91 and '92, and \$10 million for FY'93.

Although the Senate bill had not yet passed, there was considerable discussion over a possible compromise on the funding level. One proposal that seemed to have some support was \$6 million the first year, \$8 million for the next, and \$10 million for the last three years.

## Five Nominated for NEH Council Seats

The Senate recently received the nominations of five persons to fill some of the eleven vacancies on the National Endowment for the Humanities' Council.

They are Charles Ritcheson, a historian and University Librarian at the University of Southern California; William P. Wright, a businessman, Chairman of the Texas Committee on the Humanities; Gary McDowell, a historian and former NEH employee who is now a fellow at the Wilson Center; Patrick Butler, Vice-President of the *Times Mirror*; and Edwin Delattre, former President of St. John's College and a fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

## NCC Comments on NPS Management Policies Draft

The NCC has submitted comments on the Cultural Resource Management Section of the National Park Service's draft on management policies.

The NCC emphasized the need for a strong commitment to historical research which provides the basis for both the preservation of the historical resources within the national parks and the interpretive programs of the historic parks.

In a May 25 letter commenting on the

draft of the management policies, the NCC recommended a more central role for research in the NPS with increased cooperation between research and interpretive staffs and clear mandates that park historians have an opportunity to attend professional historical association meetings and have opportunities to engage in dialogue with other historians.

## Office of Personnel Management Redrafts Job Qualifications

OPM is in the process of redrafting the minimum qualifications for 95 professional occupations, including both historian and archivist. The qualifications for archivist remain basically unchanged.

While this effort at standardization of professional positions upgrades the minimum qualifications for historians, the draft does not require a degree in history nor a specified number of history courses.

In a letter to OPM commenting on the draft, the NCC recommended that history follow the same standards for entry level GS-5 positions as sociology, psychology, economics, and anthropology, by requiring a degree in the designated discipline.

The absence of a positive education requirement in the past has led some federal officials to conclude that historians are not professionals and has permitted persons with little background in history to fill historian positions. ■

## NCPH Publications

To order: Send check or money order to:  
National Council on Public History  
Department of History, 403 Richards Hall  
Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115

• *Public History Education in America: A Guide*

Members: \$7.50; Non-members: \$9.00

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

• *Guide to Continuing Education for Public Historians*

Members: \$5.50; Non-members: \$7.00

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

• *Public History Syllabus Packet*

Members: \$8.00; Non-members: \$9.00

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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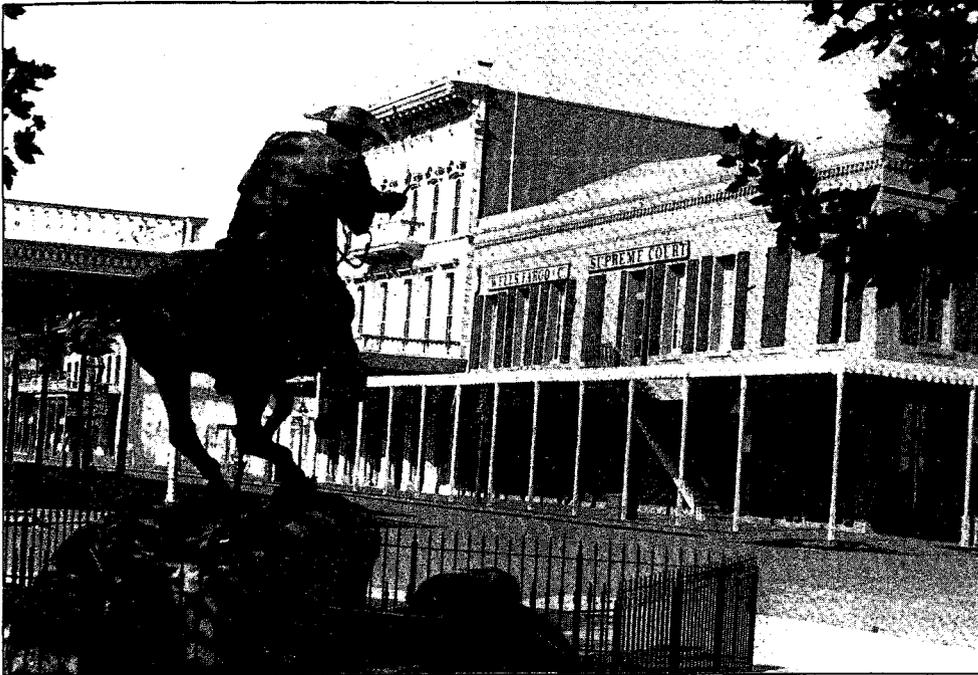
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# CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



Part of Old Sacramento, a major California historical renovation project.

## Forming A Network For CRM Historians—

*Send In Your Cards and Letters, Your Names and Addresses....*

Cultural resources management, abbreviated as CRM in familiar usage, is the most recent area of professional practice to gain a distinct identity. All but unknown to the historical profession ten or even five years ago, today CRM is recognized as an important area for public historians, with a growing cohort of successful practitioners employed in public agencies and private consulting roles.

Thus far, CRM historians have lacked a consistent, reliable means to communicate about matters of mutual concern.

The NCPH has given attention to CRM issues at its annual meetings, prompted by its committee on CRM affairs. National organizations such as the Organization of American Historians and Western History Association include CRM among the variety of topics addressed by their standing committees on public history, and a few state committees have given high priority to CRM issues. But as yet there has been lacking any basis for bringing CRM historians together in a national network.

With cooperation from the NCPH Board of Directors, Kenneth Owens, now the head of the NCPH committee on CRM, will undertake three initiatives to begin establishing a national CRM network.

1. Assemble a mailing list of historians with an interest in CRM topics. This list will be compiled by placing notices in various professional journals and newsletters.

2. Begin publishing an expanded CRM section in *Public History News* as a regular feature, with Owens serving as the first editor. All persons who ask to be placed on the CRM mailing list will receive two free issues of *Public History News*, whether or not a member of NCPH.

3. Investigate potential funding sources for launching an independent, self-sustaining CRM newsletter, if the response to the first two initiatives is encouraging.

At this point, the size of a potential CRM national interest group remains undetermined. These initiatives should provide a way to identify and bring together those historians who share a concern for CRM as a vital area of public history.

If you would like to be included among the members of this group, please fill out and mail the form on this page.

If you are in contact with other historians who should be included but who may not otherwise see this notice, please call it to their attention. ■

### — Parks Study

ones that will go beyond simply saying 'send more dollars,' " Howe reports.

The NPS has designated a liaison team, headed by the Policy Division chief and including two historians, to try to insure adequate communication between the agency and the commission.

Howe notes that because the commission is an independent body, "We are free to say what we want, but we must realize that the National Park Service is free to disregard our advice."

The commission is divided into four sub-committees, as follows: values and purposes and the role of research; management and organization of NPS research programs and comparative analysis of federal and other research programs; interface between research and resource management; and holistic approach to management intervention, natural regulation, scene management, and object conservation. This last sub-committee will combine the ideas of the others.

Howe serves on the sub-committee on values and purposes and will be responsible for the cultural resources portion of its report. The other topics to be addressed by the group are inventory and monitoring procedures, the 1962 Leopold Commission report on the parks, relationships to other park systems, and natural resources.

Howe invites comments related to cultural resources or any other part of the report. They can be sent to her at the Department of History, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506, for distribution to other members of the sub-committee.

The full commission will meet to consider the sub-committee reports in August, and a draft of the final report is expected to be ready in November. ■

**Please include me on the mailing list of historians interested in Cultural Resource Management matters.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Professional position \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Kenneth Owens, Director, Capital Campus Public History Program, History Department, California State University, Sacramento, CA 95819-2694.

cial Prosecutor. Of these efforts, the Special Prosecutor continues to work through the legal system progressing towards a measure of individual justice.

The purpose of this article is to inform public historians of the federal government's effort to document the Iran-Contra Affair. Crises of government and questions about public accountability may occur at the state or local level, and responsibility for articulating professional standards and procedures could accrue to us.

The first investigative body to examine the Iran-Contra documents was the President's Special Review Board, better known as the Tower Commission. Chaired by former Senator John Tower of Texas, this commission conducted a two month investigation of the National Security Council. Empowered by President Reagan, the Tower Commission interviewed 53 individuals, reviewed NSC legislative histories, commissioned a series of case histories on the relationship of the NSC to the presidency, and issued its published report in February 1987.

Interestingly, the case histories were prepared by university and institutional historians and political scientists from Harvard, Ohio State, Rochester, the National Defense University, and the Smithsonian Institution. The final disposition of the Tower Commission's records has not yet been determined. Because it was a presidential commission, its records will be sent to the Reagan Presidential Library. But, because of their significance, a duplicate set may be housed in the National Archives.

The second investigative body, the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee, held a series of hearings in December 1986 and January 1987. The record of these hearings is in the possession of the committee. However, on January 29, 1987, a 65-page committee print outlined an official chronology

of the Iran-Contra Affair. Documents supporting this chronology remain with the committee, which traditionally controls its own records. It has a policy of periodic review after twenty years and public release of declassified documents after fifty years.

The Joint U.S. Senate-House Select Committee which held public, televised hearings on the Iran-Contra Affair sprang to life in early January 1987. The enabling resolutions required the committee to investigate four major areas: arms sales to Iran, the possible diversion of funds to aid the Contras, the possible violation of Federal laws, and the involvement of the National Security Council staff in the conduct of foreign policy. Chaired by Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii, the select committee consisted of eleven senators and fifteen representatives. The public "life" of the committee ran but eleven months, from January to November 1987.

What is the documentary record of this committee? According to the final report, the Committee and its staff reviewed 300,000 documents consisting of over a million pages. Five hundred people were interviewed or deposed as witnesses. Forty-four days of public hearings were conducted, transcribed, and videotaped (262 hours of public testimony). The bulk of the documents came from the White House, Department of State, Department of Defense, Central Intelligence Agency, and Department of Justice.

Virtually all of these documents were indexed in a computerized data base. The Senate Select Committee staff had responsibility for the computerized filing of the documents. Each page of every document was assigned a code number which, with the addition of certain other numbers, allowed for reasonably easy retrieval. Later, during the hearings, a text-oriented data base search system permitted the scanning of some of the summary docu-

ments.

This use of computers by the joint select investigative committee is another reminder of how ubiquitous computers have become in contemporary life. During the hearings, new terms sprang up. "Prof Notes," for instance, were not a professor's notes on old, yellow legal pads, but messages generated over a highly sophisticated computer system used by the NSC staff.

This system recorded the textual message, along with the time and day that it was entered. Another item, diskettes, which were used in certain key word processors, were requested but not received by the Congressional investigators.

To date, the published record of this Joint Senate-House Select Committee consists of a 690-page summary report, 11 volumes of public hearings, 2 volumes of source documents, and 27 volumes of depositions. A single volume on the chronology of events is in preparation. The unpublished record includes classified documents, interviews, classified exhibits, and some classified testimony.

Because there were two separate select committees, the disposition of the unpublished records differs. According to R. Michael McReynolds, Director, Legislative Archives Division of the National Archives, the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Senate Select Committee physically transferred its remaining records to the National Archives. By their direction, a portion of these records at the Archives is now open to the public (the videotapes, press releases, and hearing transcripts). The disposition of the House Select Committee's unpublished records has yet to be formalized.

Like all previous investigations, the Iran-Contra Affair is set in time, place, and people. Consequently, public historians should view it in all its dimensions: political, diplomatic, archival, and governmental. ■

## Public History News

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