

APPENDIX B: PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIETIES

A. ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIETIES

Organizations and societies are involved in various aspects of museum work. This section provides a list of the major organizations and societies in the United States that provide professional guidance to individuals and institutions in the various functions of museum and archival work:

1. American Association of Museums
1575 Eye Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
202/289-1818

The American Association of Museums (AAM), founded in 1906, addresses the concerns of the country's museum community as a whole and represents art and natural history museums, zoos, botanical gardens, arboretums, planetariums, science and technology centers, nature centers, children's museums, and historic museums, sites and societies. Members include museum directors, curators, registrars, educators, marketing and development directors, public relations personnel, and others. The AAM's Accreditation Program has long been a leader in establishing professional standards for museums and museum professionals. Publications include a bi-monthly journal, Museum News, and a monthly newsletter Aviso. The AAM Bookstore stocks publications that address such topics as collections management, museum ethics, conservation, marketing, and fund raising. The association holds annual national and regional meetings. Write or call the association for information on membership, publications available through its bookstore, and other programs of the association.

2. American Association for State and Local History
530 Church Street
Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219
615/255-2971

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), founded in 1940, is a national non-profit

organization that serves agencies and people who work to preserve and interpret history, including historical societies, museums, historic sites, parks, libraries, archives, historic preservation organizations, and schools and colleges. In recent years this association has been instrumental in organizing the forum on "A Common Agenda for History Museums." Publications include a bimonthly magazine, History News and a monthly newsletter, History News Dispatch. The association's extensive sales program provides publications and educational materials (e.g., books, technical leaflets, reports, slide-tape, and video programs) on the documentation, preservation and interpretation of history, including the care and conservation of museum objects. The association sponsors seminars, workshops, and an annual meeting. Write or call the association for information on membership, publications available through the sales program, and other programs of the association.

3. Society of American Archivists
600 South Federal Street
Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60605
312/922-0140

The Society of American Archivists (SAA), founded in 1936, promotes the preservation and use of records materials (e.g., manuscripts, films, maps, photographs, sound recordings, and machine readable records). This society provides a wide range of educational workshops, maintains an active publications program, and promotes cooperation, growth, and development in the archival field. Publications include a quarterly journal, American Archivist, and a bimonthly newsletter, SAA Newsletter. The SAA's publication program offers basic manuals on the arrangement, description, access, conservation and care, and exhibition of archival collections. The society sponsors an annual meeting. Write to or call the society for membership information, a catalog of sales publications, and other programs of the society.

4. Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
121 Trowbridge hall

University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242-1379
312/335-1822*

The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC), founded in 1985, represents the interests of natural history collections and the people associated with the management and care of these collections. Membership includes individuals within the fields of anthropology, botany, geology, paleontology, zoology and others interested in the development and preservation of natural history collections. Publications include a journal, Collection Forum, and a newsletter, SPNHC Newsletter. The journal, published twice a year, provides up-to-date technical and documentary information on the care of natural history collections. The society conducts annual meetings that include formal presentations, and workshops. Write to or call the society's treasurer for information on membership.

* Current until December 1997

5. American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works
1717 K Street, NW
Suite 301
Washington, DC 20006
202/452-9545

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), founded in 1972, addresses the concerns of the conservation profession. Members include conservators who practice in all of the material specialties (e.g., paintings, books and paper, textiles, wood, photographic materials, and objects of leather, ceramic, glass, and stone), and conservation scientists. Librarians, archivists, and curators may also be members. This organization has adopted and published "A Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice" for the conservation profession in the United States. Refer to Appendix C. Publications include a biannual journal, Journal of the American Institute for Conservation and a bimonthly newsletter, AIC Newsletter. The newsletter includes information from the various specialties, health and

safety updates, preventive conservation information, and a list of conferences, courses, and seminars. The association sponsors an annual meeting including a pre-meeting workshop. The association also maintains an annual directory of its membership. Write to or call the association for membership information.

6. National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property

3299 K Street, NW, Suite 602
Washington, D.C. 20007
202/625-1495

The National Institute for Conservation (NIC) was founded in 1982 by leaders of the diverse conservation community to alert federal officials to the vital role of conservation in museums and libraries, and to examine collections-care needs. It is the successor of the National Conservation Advisory Council, founded in 1973. NIC provides a national forum for cooperation and planning among institutions and programs concerned with preserving our nation's cultural heritage. It provides information, programs, and projects in support of scientific research and professional training, and seeks to enhance public understanding of conservation. Recent initiatives include training of collections-care specialists and the identification and preservation of America's historic outdoor monuments.

7. Regional and State Museum Conferences and Associations

There are several regional museum organizations that are under the auspices of the American Association of Museums. These conferences include the New England Museum Association, the Mid-Atlantic Museum Association, Southeastern Museums Conference, the Midwest Museums Conference, the Mountain-Plains Museums Association, and the Western Regional Conference. These regional associations sponsor annual workshops and meetings for

their membership. Write to or call the American Association of Museums for a current list of addresses for these regional associations.

8. Regional Conservation Guilds and Associations

There are several regional conservation associations located throughout the country. These groups usually hold monthly meetings that address special topics in conservation including museum environment and other preventive conservation issues. Write to or call the American Institute for Conservation for a current list of the names and addresses of these regional associations.

B. MUSEUM JOURNALS AND TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

This section provides information on journals and technical publications that may be pertinent to museum property.

1. ASC Newsletter

This newsletter, printed bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October, and December) is available by subscription from the Association of Systematics Collections (ASC). The newsletter contains articles on systematic natural history collections, as well as brief notes on funding sources, meetings and conferences, and book reviews. For information on subscribing to this newsletter, write or call:

Association for Systematics Collections
1725 K Street, NW
Suite 601
Washington, DC 20006-1401
202/835-9050

2. Curator

Curator, the quarterly publication of the American Museum of Natural History, is available by annual subscription. This journal provides timely articles on philosophical directions in the museum profession, documentation and care of museum collections, and specific articles on solving storage and exhibit problems. For information on

subscribing to this journal write to:

Curator
Subscription Service
P. O. Box 3000
Dept. HHH
Denville, NJ 07834

3. Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI/ICC) Notes and Newsletter

The Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) publishes a series of technical notes on museum collections care topics (e.g., the museum environment; disaster management; equipment; and techniques of caring for specific types of objects, including paintings, leather, skin, ethnographic materials, textiles, and photographic materials). A complete set of these technical notes can be obtained from the institute by writing to the address below. The Institute's Bulletin is also available upon request. For information on obtaining the notes and the newsletter, write to:

Canadian Conservation Institute
1030 Innes Road
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0M5
613/998-3721

4. U.S. National Park Service (NPS) Publications

The National Park Service publishes several publications that provide guidance on a variety of curatorial topics. For information on obtaining the publications, write to:

National Park Service
Curatorial Services Division
P.O.Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127
202/343-8142

The NPS Museum Handbook, Part I, Museum Collections, provides guidance on the preservation and protection of museum collections and related professional issues. Revised in 1990, Part I contains 850 pages and 91

illustrations and is available from the Superintendent of Public Documents, GPO stock number 024-005-01078-5. Part II, Museum Records, is currently being revised and will be available in 1997 and Part III, Use of Collections, is now being written for publication in September, 1997.

National Park Service Conserve O Grams are brief, technical leaflets distributed periodically to provide curatorial staff with up-to-date, detailed instruction on museum collection preservation activities needed to perform routine collections care. Plans are to make the series available by subscription. Write to the address above for information concerning availability.

The NPS Automated National Catalog System (ANCS) is a microcomputer-based database management system for museums. This user-friendly system validates discipline specific and collection management data, produces a variety of standard reports, and can readily respond to ad hoc queries. The classification system is applicable to cultural objects and natural history specimens from throughout the United States. The ANCS program disks and accompanying User Manual are available from the address above.

C. FUNDING ORGANIZATIONS

The unit's cooperating association may apply for Federal funding for a museum property project on behalf of a unit. In addition to these national resources, units' cooperating associations are encouraged to explore state and local funding organizations that may offer programs of support. Units should write to the organizations listed below for further information on the types of grants that are available:

Institute of Museum Services
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506
202/606-8539

National Endowment for the Arts
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Museum Property Handbook
(411 DM Volume I)
Appendix B

Washington, DC 20506
202/682-5400

National Endowment for the Humanities
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506
202/606-8438

The J. Paul Getty Trust provides grants to institutions for the conservation of art collections, including surveys to determine the condition and conservation needs of such collections. Units with art collections may apply directly to the Trust for such grants. Write to the following address for information on this funding program:

The Getty Grant Program
1200 Getty Center Drive
Suite 800
Los Angeles, CA 90049-1685
310/440-7320

For a list of other foundations that provide grants to museums consult The Foundation Directory, published by the Foundation Center located in New York City. For a copy of this directory, write to the following address:

Foundation Center
79 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10003-3076