



## History of Anthropology Newsletter

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### Announcements

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Request for information about the Chicago Anthropology Society*

Alan L. Bain, Archivist, Director, Technical Services Division, Smithsonian Institution Archives, seeks information on the records of the University of Chicago Anthropology Society, which was founded in 1894 and ended sometime in the 1930s or early 1940s. Anyone knowing about such a group, or knows where its records are located, should contact him at the Capital Gallery Building Suite 3000 MRC 507, 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2520, Telephone: 202-633-5903; e-mail: [baina@si.edu](mailto:baina@si.edu)

### *New online resource: American Journal of Science*

Started in 1818, the American Journal of Science (originally called The American Journal of Science and Arts) is the oldest scientific journal published without interruption in the United States. Today the Journal deals only with geology and related earth science, but for many years it covered a wider range of scientific and artistic endeavors. Recently, staff members at Carnegie Mellon University's library created an online collection, which contains over 140 volumes of the Journal. For historians of science and those with a curiosity about what scientists and others found of importance in the 19th century, this collection will be invaluable. The site is rounded out by a FAQ area and a link to other digital collections created by Carnegie Mellon University. Available at <http://ajs.library.cmu.edu/>

### *Anthropological Workshop on Digital Preservation and Access Held on May 18-20, 2009*

On May 18-20, 2009, a workshop was held in Arlington, Virginia to evaluate and potentially decide on the basics of a strategic integrated four-field plan for digitally preservation and access (DPA) to anthropological research materials (AnthroDataDPA for short). The workshop was funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Wenner-Gren Foundation. The principal investigators, Carol R. Ember, Eric Delson, Jeff Good, and Dean Snow, each represented one of the traditional subfields of anthropology. Three groups of people were invited to participate: 1) individuals who are actively involved in and/or planning the creation of digital object repositories; 2) individuals from institutions involved in the creation of international standards and metadata to enhance interoperability and long-term preservation; and 3) representatives of organizations that represent the various fields of anthropology in the United States. There were also observers from political science, NSF, NEH, and Wenner-Gren. Breakout groups discussed data preservation, data access, methods and standards regarding metadata, digitization methods and standards, long-term preservation methods and standards, decisions regarding depositors, privacy and ethical concerns, copyright and intellectual property, and funding/support and field-wide coordination. After presenting the results of their subgroup discussions in a plenary session, breakout chairs received further input from the whole group.

The principal investigators plan to disseminate the workshop results and proposed plan online to the broader anthropological community and ask for commentary and suggestions for revision. They also plan, via appointed representatives, to liaise with major anthropological organizations as well as additional organizations engaged in or planning DPA activities. A revised plan will be posted by the spring of 2010. Future steps, not part of the existing grant, are to seek funding to set up the computer infrastructure to coordinate activities across anthropological institutions and other

distributed libraries using existing data and to begin to integrate new and existing collections of primary anthropological data into the coordinated system.

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