Early Warning: Congress Intends to Review Federal Historic Preservation Laws and Regulations

The Grapevine is reprinting the text of a letter sent to the executive director of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation by three influential members of Congress. Although the letter focuses on restrictions to proposed rules promulgated by the Council, the scope of the letter is quite sweeping in its challenge to the "regulatory burden" of the National Historic Preservation Act, concern over the "protection of private property", and a move to reduce federal historic preservation concerns to only "the most important historic properties in the country." The letter, dated 16 February 1995, is interpreted as an "early warning" that the Congress intends to scrutinize the federal historic preservation system as another example of an intolerable regulatory burden and to reduce the level of federal protection for cultural resources. The Society for American Archaeology will publish an Action Alert in the next issue of the SAA Bulletin addressing concerns raised by this letter and providing points that could be helpful in emphasizing the positive benefits of the federal historic preservation system and the value of cultural resources. However, time is of the essence. Please make your voice heard by writing to members of your congressional delegation.

Signers of the letter are: James Hansen (R-Utah) Chair, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Lands of the House Resources Committee; Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) Chair, Subcommittee on Resource Conservation, Research, and Forestry of the House Agriculture Committee; Barbara Vucanovich (R-Nevada) Member, Interior Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee.
February 16, 1995

Mr. Robert D. Bush
Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
The Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 809
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Bush:

A number of our constituents have contacted us regarding your recently issued proposed rules on protection of historic properties. After careful review of that proposed rule, their comments, and recently enacted amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, it is our conclusion that this proposed rule should be withdrawn, rewritten, and re-issued in draft for additional public comment. Simply stated, it is unacceptable to us that any agency would propose burdensome new regulations on our already over-regulated society, particularly when these regulations exceed the authority of the underlying statute.

The statement in your Impact Analysis that "The Council's regulations in their current and revised form only impose obligations on federal agencies" leads us to wonder if you really understand the scope and effect of your own regulations. Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act is already costing both government and the private sector tens of millions of dollars annually. The cumulative impact of your proposed rule, including such newly articulated policies as requiring that destruction of historic properties always be the "last resort" is that the cost of compliance will increase substantially. Under your proposed regulations, federal agencies will have every incentive to pass increased costs on to an already overburdened private sector and little incentive to reduce overall regulation costs.

Time and time again, whether it be implementation of the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, or a myriad of other environmental laws, we have seen federal agencies extend the scope and effect of the law through the regulatory process. The American public and Congress will no longer tolerate such action by federal agencies. Aspects of your proposed rule which violate this principle, such as the redefinition of the area of potential effects, must be revised.

Two other aspects of your proposed regulations, which are particularly troublesome, are the open-ended timeframes and unlimited public standing. While it is a concept largely foreign to more federal regulatory agencies, time is money to the private sector. The lack of discrete timeframes for many aspects of your proposed rule and the opportunity for reopeners at almost any point (even after the conclusion of the 106 process) must be addressed. Similarly, the open invitation for anyone, at virtually any time in the process, to become an obstructionist for the cost of a 32-cent stamp must be changed. Public involvement is necessary and appropriate, but it must be limited in a fashion similar to that provided in the National Environmental Policy Act where input is sought at the outset and at a single point in time prior to final decision-making. Private parties with some level of standing with respect to a particular proposal should be offered an increased, though still structured, opportunity for input.

By way of further background, we point out to you that at a January 11 hearing before the Interior Subcommittee on Appropriations, several private institutions advocated elimination of all funding for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. We are not yet convinced that such action is appropriate, since we believe there is every opportunity for the Advisory Council to return to its role as a facilitator in the implementation of the Historic Preservation Act, rather than another layer of federal bureaucracy sitting in judgement over federal agencies and the private sector. Toward that end, we request that no later than 60 days from the date and receipt of this letter you transmit, to the Chairman of the House National Parks, Forests, and Lands Subcommittee, amendments which will reduce the regulatory burden of the Act, ensure protection of private property, and ensure that the efforts of the federal government are focused on the most important historic properties in the country.

We appreciate your attention to our comments and look forward to working with you toward a resolution.

Sincerely,

James V. Hansen
Wayne Allard
Barbara F. Vucanovich

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Members of your congressional delegation will receive mail addressed as follows:

The Honorable __________________
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable __________________
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
large collections (25 boxes or more) normally require pre-shipment inspection. Also, for curation purposes, all collections need to be ready to go on to our storage shelves when they are delivered.

The Trust looks forward to the arrival of your prepared collections by scheduled appointment. Please call Ronald Orr at 410-514-7671 (message service) or 410-788-0506 (Garrett Building Office) for appointments and/or questions.

New Mexico

Heritage Preservation Week

New Mexico Historic Preservation Division will co-sponsor, with others, events across the state celebrating Heritage Preservation Week, May 13-21. A flyer of events will be printed in April. To obtain a copy, contact New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, 228 East Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87503.

New Register File at HPD

A legislative appropriation has enabled the Historic Preservation Division to buy a modified spacesaver filing system to house all rural survey files, city survey files, thematic survey files, and nomination files for properties placed on the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Cultural Properties. This system will decrease the required storage space, providing for more efficient usage of records.

Individuals with an interest in this collection can arrange with HPD for someone to guide them through these files. For an appointment, call 505-827-6320.

Ohio

Ohio Archaeological Inventory Isolated Find Site Form

The Ohio Archaeological Inventory Isolated Find Site Form is now available from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. The form is a single page that includes information on the location, temporal affiliation, reporting information, and primary reference for the isolated find. The form is to be completed using the applicable instructions in the Ohio Archaeological Inventory Instruction Manual. For copies of the form or for further information, contact Al Tonetti, Archaeology Manager, Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497, 614-297-2470.

Land Survey Records Transferred to the Ohio Historical Society

In November, the Office of the State Auditor relinquished historical land records for Ohio to the Ohio Historical Society. Transferred to the State Archives are the original land survey field notes, land survey plats, tract and entry books, and index cards related to federal lands and Virginia Military District lands in Ohio.

These records are available to researchers at the Library/State Archives Tuesday through Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm, or send research inquiries to the Library/State Archives, Ohio Historical Center, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497. For further information, call 614-297-2510.

Texas

State Historical and Archaeological Sites to be Computerized

The Texas Department of Antiquities Protection (DAP) has been awarded a $1.5 million grant from the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act's (ISTEA) highway enhancement program, a federal program administered by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot). The funding will enable DAP to computerize all of the state's historical and archaeological sites into a single database, which will allow DAP staff and outside researchers to access site information quickly and efficiently.

The first step will be a user survey. Aimed at individuals and groups who will need to use the new database, the survey will be designed to learn what users want the database to do and to develop any of these capabilities as resources allow. A presentation on the project is anticipated during the spring Council of Texas Archaeologists meeting. For more information, call Jim Bruseth at 512-463-5863.
Open Letter

TO: SAA Officers and Board Members
From: Charles M. Niquette
Date: March 9, 1995

Subject: Lobbying

As you are aware, the political shift in the 104th Congress and in many state governments is challenging preservationists to revisit and rejustify government's role in preservation. We need to work hard to protect the advances made in preservation legislation over the past 25 years and to develop and promote new proactive, bipartisan initiatives. Already we have seen the Republican majority make major headway towards the passage of new legislation that may, down the road, have a major impact on preservation such as in the case of unfunded mandates and property rights issues. Based upon recent letters, directives and scrutiny received by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, whose budget hearings are ongoing, it seems clear that the Republican majority includes individuals who would seek to repeal the National Historic Preservation Act, or those who would seek to reduce its effectiveness to a point where only those sites listed on the National Register and effected directly by federal undertakings would be subject to Section 106 review. All of this being the case, it is important for the SAA to develop strong ties to the SHA, SOPA, Preservation Action, NCSHPO, the National Trust and other preservation minded groups, and to insure that our lobbying efforts are well integrated, coordinated and focused. If we do not actively move in this direction, many of us will be seeking alternative employment opportunities!

With this as a preface you should know that I am extremely disappointed to learn that the SAA has decided not to renew CEHP's contract after June of this year. Apparently, the Executive Director, President and Board of Directors feel that the SAA is best served by in-house lobbying efforts directed by Don Craib. I have nothing against Don, I think he is a nice guy, but I do not think that he has the knowledge and experience to act as our sole lobbyist. Certainly, he has not yet met any sort of test of time or circumstance that has showcased his abilities on behalf of the preservation community at large. He will gain this experience and demonstrate his ability over time, but now is not the time to experiment! The move on the part of the SAA to replace CEHP with Don does not represent the best interests of SAA's membership and especially those of us who belong to the CRM community. Loretta has 20 years of experience on the Hill and has had a major role in drafting multiple pieces of legislation that effect all of us directly. Her contacts are of incalculable value. For as long as I have known Loretta, she has given 110% for preservation, working long hours and doing it because she cares, not because she is being paid to do a job. In fact, I would venture to say that she has worked as many hours for preservation without compensation as she has for payment over the years. Kathleen has not been at it as long as Loretta, but she has a M.A. in anthropology, drive, commitment and a proven track record for her lobbying abilities. With Newt nipping at our heels, we must rely increasingly on the help of CEHP. Now is NOT the time to release CEHP from their contract with the SAA. Loretta's commitment, experience and contacts provide an important link between preservation groups and encourages a unified approach towards our lobbying efforts. CEHP is not the hired help; rather, Loretta and her people are part of our family and very effective members at that! I urge you all to re-think your decision not to renew CEHP's contract.
FERC
Notice of Cultural Resources Industry Outreach Training Course

The Office of Pipeline Regulation (OPR) staff will convene another session of its cultural resources compliance training course. The one-day training course will be held on May 3, 1995. The session is being offered in conjunction with the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) 60th Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 3-7, 1995. However, attendance at the course is independent of attendance at the annual meeting for other purposes. We are holding this course so that additional members of the regulated pipeline industry and interested individuals and organizations can gain an understanding of:

* how the Commission gives the industry and the public an opportunity to assist the Commission in meeting its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and other historic preservation laws and regulations; and

* what cultural resources information the industry needs to file with the Commission before and after the Commission issues a certificate.

We encourage interested organizations and the public to take advantage of this course.

The course will include the following topics:

* Objectives and requirements of the Commission regarding compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and related historic preservation laws;
* Guidance for reporting on cultural resources investigations;
* Definition of cultural resources terms used by the Commission in the compliance process; and
* Efficient strategies for planning and conducting cultural resources investigations.

OPR’s training course will be held at the Minneapolis Hilton and Towers, 1001 Marquette Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota. For hotel reservation, call 612-376-1000 and identify yourself as an attendee of the course offered in conjunction with the SAA Conference. Special hotel room rates are available until April 11, 1995.

The OPR staff and Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation, the Commission’s environmental support contractor, will conduct the training. There is no fee for the course, but you must pre-register. A cultural resources training session is also being planned for Denver, Colorado, in September, 1995.

If you would like to attend the May 3, 1995, session, or indicate your preference for other courses and locations, please call the number listed below to obtain a pre-registration form. Because space is limited, please mail or fax the registration form by March 23, 1995 to:

Ms. Donna Connor
Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation
470 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
617-542-8805
fax 617-695-1587.

You will receive confirmation of pre-registration and additional information before the Commission’s training course.

ACRA
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* Business workshops
* Professional seminars
* Printed and audiovisual materials
* Contacts with academic and other associations
* Internships
* Promote and influence public policy
* Legislation and regulation
* Public funding for cultural resources
* Consistent application of laws and regulations
* Grassroots awareness and advocacy
* Promote public awareness of cultural resources and its diverse fields
* Networking with other local, state, federal, and private organizations
* Media
* Public outreach

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Conference Calendar

March 30-April 1, 1995 - Preserving the Recent Past - The immense preservation challenges of evaluating, maintaining, and reusing historic resources from the 20th century will be the subject of an in-depth, three-day conference at Chicago's historic Palmer House Hotel. Developed for architects, preservation officials, architectural conservators, historians, planners, engineers, landscape architects, and cultural resources managers, the conference is the first of its kind to focus on preserving the recent past. More than 80 leading experts from the US and abroad will examine the difficult philosophical and practical issues associated with identifying and maintaining buildings, structures, and landscapes designed between 1920 and 1960.

A single $265 will cover all educational sessions, a comprehensive handbook, and a festive opening reception. "Preserving the Recent Past" will provide an unprecedented opportunity to learn about the challenges facing 20th century historic resources and to obtain essential information on the most recent practices and technology to ensure their long-term preservation.

For additional information on conference registration, contact: 217-244-7659. For more information on conference agenda, contact 202-343-6011.

April 7-9, 1995 - the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference annual meeting will be held at the Sheraton Fontainbeau Hotel, Ocean City, MD. Room rates are $75 (single or double). For reservations, call 800-638-2100. For further conference information, contact Edward Otter, 10017 Raynor Road, Silver Springs, MD 20901.


April 22-23, 1995 - Pathways to American Culture -- Conference on Transportation Community and Settlement Patterns - A national conference on transportation choices, community, and settlement patterns will examine structures. For information, contact Michael McMahon, Department of History, West Virginia University, Woodburn Hall 202, Morgantown, WV 26506-6303. Ph. (304) 293-2421, ext. 5242; E-mail: MMCMAHO@WNVM.WVNET.EDU

April 21-23, 1995 - Missouri's 10th Annual Preservation Conference will be held at the St Louis County Government Center, Clayton, MO. For further information, call 314-751-7959.

May 3-7, 1995 - Society for American Archaeology will hold its annual meetings in Minneapolis, MN. Contact: SAA, 900 2nd Street, NE, #12, Washington DC 20002, 202-789-8200.

May 5-7, 1995 - Second Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Food and Culture will be sponsored by Boston University. For information, contact Rebeca Assisi, Director of Special Programs, Boston University 808 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215, 617-353-9852, fax 617-353-4130.

May 11-14, 1995 - Society for Industrial Archaeology will hold its annual meeting in Baltimore, MD. For general conference information, contact Dennis Zembala 410-727-4808, FAX 410-547-6838.

May 24-28, 1995 - American Fur Trade Conference will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. For information, contact Barry Moody and Bill Wicken, 7th NAFTC, Gorsebrook Research Institute, St Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3H 3C3.

June 2-3, 1995 - Mining History Association will hold its annual meeting in Nevada City, CA. For further information, contact William H. Muligian, Jr., 502-762-6571 or 502-762-2231.

June 2-4, 1995 - Mid-South Archaeological Conference will be held in Jackson, Mississippi. For further information, contact Sam Brooks, 601-965-5518 or Evan Peacock, 601-285-3264.

July 24-29, 16th International Congress for Caribbean Archaeology will be held in Basse Terre, Guadeloupe, French West Indies. Contact Gerard Richards, Mission Archeology et Patrimoine, Consell Regional de la Guadeloupe, Avenue Paul Lacave 97100 Basse Terre, Guadeloupe, French West Indies, 590-804-079, fax 590-807-308.

September 15-16, 1995 - Durango Conference on Southwest Archaeology will be held in Durango, CO. Contact: David Phillips, SWCA Inc., 8100 Mountain Road, NE, Suite 109, Albuquerque, NM 87110, 505-254-1115.

January 2-7, 1996 - the Society for Historical Archaeology will hold the 29th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology in Cincinnati, OH. Abstract deadline is May 1, 1995. For more information, contact Marlesa A. Gray, general chair, at Gray & Pape, Inc., 1318 Main Street, Cincinnati, OH 45210-2314, 513-665-6707, fax 513-287-7703, e-mail 76554.3313@compuserve.com
The Roaring Twenties on the Gulf Coast

"The Roaring Twenties on the Gulf Coast" is the theme of the 15th Annual Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference, October 5-7, 1995. Persons interested in presenting papers, chairing sessions, or putting together a session panel should contact Glen Costen, Program Chairman, at 904-484-1449, or send a summary of the proposal and curriculum vitae to him at Pensacola Junior College, 1000 College Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32504-8998.

Hunter-Gatherers to Horticulturalists: The Archaic Prehistory of the Ohio Area

The object of the 4th Ohio Archaeological Council Annual Conference is to synthesize archaeological research on the Archaic stage (ca. 10,000 - 3,000 B.P.) in Ohio and surrounding areas. Papers are invited on all aspects of archaeological research on the Archaic. The Plenary Session will focus on synthesizing the Archaic prehistory of the Ohio area. Papers addressing more specific topics and individual site research will be included in a "Contributing Paper Session." A poster session is planned.

Persons interested in participating in one of the three sessions are encouraged to submit a 250-word abstract to the Conference Coordinator by May 15, 1995. Please submit abstracts to, or for further information, contact:

Kent Vickery
OAC Conference Coordinator
Dept. of Anthropology
University of Cincinnati
PO Box 210380
Cincinnati, OH 45221
513-556-5787
fax 513-556-2778

Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology

The 1996 Society for Historical Archaeology Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology will be held in Cincinnati, OH, January 2-7, 1996 (Please note that these dates are a week earlier than previously published). The dual themes for the conference are "Bridging Distances: Recent Approaches to Immigration, Migration, and Ethnic Identity" and "Forging Partnerships in Public Outreach and Education."

Participants may submit presentations in four categories: major paper, research report, organized session, poster display. Each contributor should submit a title and abstract using the 1996 application form. Abstracts must be received by the Program Coordinator no later than May 1, 1995. SHA membership is not a requirement for presenting a paper at the conference.

The ever-popular reserved round table luncheons focused around a theme or topic will be available. Topics relevant to education and public outreach, or immigration, migration, and ethnic identity are especially encouraged, although other topics are most welcome. Persons interested in volunteering to lead a round table should send a description of the theme or topic to the Program Coordinator.

Also the photo contest is being revived, with categories of color archaeological site image, color archaeological field work in progress image, color archaeological labwork in progress image, color artifact image, black and white images, and color portraits. Details and guidelines for entries are included in the Abstract Registration Package.

To obtain abstract registration material, contact:

Dr. Kim A. McBride
SHA Program Coordinator
Dept. of Anthropology
211 Lafferty Hall
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506-0024
606-257-1944
fax 606-323-1968
e-mail:
KAMCRB00@UKCC.UKY.EDU

Eastern States Archeological Federation

The Archaeological Society of Delaware will host the 1995 annual meeting of the Eastern States Archeological Federation on October 26-29, 1995, in Wilmington, DE. Individuals or groups wishing to make presentations should submit symposium proposals with disk abstracts and/or paper abstracts to the program chair by June 1, 1995. Proposals (typed or on WordPerfect 5.2 or 6.0 disk) should include abstracts as well as names, addresses, and phone numbers of individual presenters. Suggested symposia topics include but are not limited to: state society or local chapter site surveys & excavations; special and analytical methods (e.g., use of geomorphology, experimental lithic studies); military sites archaeology; coastal sites. Individual papers are also desired for open sessions. Send program information to:

Faye L. Stocum
Program Chair
Delaware State Historic Preservation Office
#15 the Green
Dover, DE 19901
302-739-5685
fax 302-739-5660

The annual meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel, on Concord Pike (Route 202), North Wilmington. Room rates will be $64 (single or double), which includes continental breakfast. Display space and a book room will be available during the meeting. Please contact the local arrangements chair to reserve space. Also, anyone requiring special arrangements to attend the meeting sessions, according to the American Disabilities Act, should contact:

Ronald A. Thomas
MAAR Associates, Inc.
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About the Worldwide Email Directory of Anthropologists

WEDA, the Worldwide Email Directory of Anthropologists, is a listing of museums, academic departments, government agencies, private companies, journals, unattached scholars, and any other institution or individual engaged in teaching or research in anthropology, its subfields, or any of its related fields. WEDA is intended to be used as a reference tool, to assist in communication between the scattered members of our discipline. It is not to be used for commerce, or for bulk mailings that do not relate to anthropology. Please contact me if you are not listed, are listed incorrectly, or know someone who should be listed. Feel free to circulate this listing as widely as you desire. It is free. The easiest way to access WEDA is through gopher to wings.buffalo.edu and through the menu string Academic/Academic Departments/Anthropology/WEDA, or through a WWW browser to the URL http://wings.buffalo.edu/academic/department/anthropology/weda/. Once there, you will have the option of searching the directory by way of keywords (Boolean searching is possible), or by actually browsing the whole file. You may then download the file, but be advised it is updated almost daily.

Each entry contains the address and phone/fax number, plus the names and email addresses of people who use email. Optionally each person may list their research interests as a series of keywords. Some entries include a contact person, someone who is willing to serve as a go-between for others who do not have email addresses. Examples: AIA (Archaeological Institute of America List) Center for the Study of Architecture, Box 60, Bryn Mawr, PA, USA, 19010 Ph: 215-526-7925 Fax: 215-526-7926 Subscription: listserv@cc.brynmaur.edu Postings: aia@cc.brynmaur.edu ETTELJORG, Nick (Owner) n_eteljorg@cc.brynmaur.edu

If you want to be added to the directory, if you have corrections, or new information to add about others, please contact Hugh Jarvis at this address: hjarvis@acsu.buffalo.edu

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Loretta Neumann
CEHP, Inc.
Washington, DC

Charles Niquette
Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.
Lexington, Kentucky

Patrick O’Bannon
Kise Franks and Straw
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Job Announcements

Historical Archaeologist Position Open

The University of South Florida, Department of Anthropology, seeks a historical archaeologist for a tenure-track (9-month) assistant professor position starting fall 1995. The position is contingent upon the availability of funding; salary is competitive. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in Anthropology. Preference will be given to candidates with teaching experience, a strong research record in southeastern U.S. historical archaeology, archaeological methods (including quantitative analyses), and museology/exhibits preparation. USF offers graduate degrees in archaeology emphasizing both research (method and theory) and public archaeology (including CRM and contract archaeology, interpretation, education, and historic preservation). For further information contact Nancy White (813/974-0815; e-mail nwhite@luna.cas.usf.edu). Send letters of application, vitae, and names and addresses of three references to Search Committee, Dept. of Anthro., University of South Florida, 4202E. Fowler Ave. SOC 107, Tampa, FL 33620, no later than 30 March 1995.

Historic Interpreter/Craftsperson

Historic interpreter/craftsperson sought for 18th and 19th century South Carolina rice plantation. Must be able to demonstrate and interpret trade skills and site’s history. Positions available for a carpenter or cooper, blacksmith and potter. Housing and benefits available. Please send resume to: Middleton Place, Ashley River Road, Charleston, SC 29414.
The Grapevine
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$30.00 Each corporate subscription is entitled to be included in the newsletter’s quarterly corporate listing for one year. This corporate listing, giving address, phone number, and contact person, will be printed at the back of these issues. New corporate subscriptions will be listed each month.

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3670 Quincy Avenue, Suite 203
Ogden, UT 84403