

Matt Meacham and Donald Peting

The University as Partner



Partnerships, a rewarding technique for accomplishing difficult tasks during times of diminished resources, have been increasing across the nation. This thematic issue of *CRM* focuses on cultural resource management partnership projects in which the University of Oregon has played a pivotal role. The projects occur at three geographic scales—local, regional, and national; within three chronological settings—past, present, and future; and include three distinctive groups of people—current and former students, faculty and staff, and people in local, state, and federal agencies. Some of the articles describe projects, and others are derived from presentations to the Pacific Northwest Conference entitled Forging Partnerships: Principles and Practice, held in July 1994 in Portland, Oregon. This thematic issue is to a great extent a spin-off of that activity that celebrated the achievements of cooperative efforts.

The comprehensive array of articles will not surprise those familiar with the University of Oregon's School of Architecture and Allied Arts. Founded in the Beaux Arts tradition in 1914, the school quickly abandoned that mode of inquiry and pioneered an integrated, cooperative approach to learning about art and design. More recently, the interdisciplinary Historic Preservation Program is an outgrowth of that approach—it draws upon the faculty and coursework from the related disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture, planning, and art history for its core curriculum. The strength of this program is derived in large

part from the form and commitment of those academic programs, and from the commitment of the students, individuals, and organizations outside of the academic milieu. Much of the coursework is not merely theoretical, but involves hands-on practice in collaboration with others.

The first few articles in this issue are derived directly from the Partnerships conference of last summer. Henry

Kunowski and Lisa Sasser, both of whom presented papers at the conference, have new articles that document their reflections upon the new verb form, “to partner.” E. Gail Throop moderated discussions at the conference, and her article fulfills the same role here—to make the bridge between theory and application, moving the issue to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic area described in part by the next article. The Columbia Gorge is one of the places with which the University has been a partner in projects at the national scale, and Kenneth Helphand relates how a design studio investigated aspects of the historic Columbia River Highway.

The next two articles describe projects that are local in the sense they are closer to “home” but still of regional and national significance, as students and former students describe the restoration of National Historic Landmarks on the University of Oregon campus. Both articles refer to the partnerships that made the projects possible: James Wentworth documents the process from the administrative point of view, and George Bleekman explains how and why the work was done.

The *CRM* has been around for nearly two decades, and the last index, or guide, to the *CRM* appeared nearly nine years ago. A chance remark to a University graduate student led to a volunteer effort indexing the entire set of articles—some 1,100 or so. The project has also led to discussion about how the index and the *CRM* itself can take advantage of the computer network.

The articles by Ken Guzowski and Richa Wilson discuss a 19th-century cemetery that is exceptional in historical significance but with budget and organizational issues that are all too familiar. Through a coordinated effort between local, state, and national organizations, the preservation of this historic resource has already proved successful in many ways. The Field School at the Pete French Round Barn is another example of how a University can assist in recognizing and protecting artifacts, and can also help pass along skills and attitudes which are cultural resources themselves.

Cover photo: Deady Hall, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR. Photo courtesy University of Oregon Archives.



School of
Architecture and
Allied Arts c. early
1950s. Photo cour-
tesy University of
Oregon Archives.

The final article brings the issue back to the Partnership conference, where Lee Roth delivered a lecture about Native American architecture. His intention was that conference attendees might gain some understanding about Native American ideas regarding their cultural resources and be able to form more effective partnerships based on mutual understanding and respect. That is a very worthy goal for us all—one that the interdisciplinary program in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon strives to implement and use as the basis for contributing to the community while learning to practice as members of the larger community.

Matt Meacham is a graduate student in Historic Preservation at the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, University of Oregon, and also holds a Master's Degree in Architecture from that School.

Donald Peting, Associate Dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, is Director of the Historic Preservation Program and a preservation architect.



Matt and Don served as guest editors for this special University issue of CRM. The guest editors wish to thank Ron Greenberg for the privilege and honor of serving as guest editors, and acknowledge Bill Freeman for his excellent technical support. In addition to the student authors, this issue owes much to: Nicole Sabourin, Magdalen Trebbien and Amanda Welsh, undergraduates in Historic Preservation; Erin Hanafin Berg, Karin Link, Chris Ottaway, and Suzanne SanRomani, graduate students; and Julie Foster and Liza Kazebee, administrative assistants.

Henry C. Kunowski

Soupstones, Nails, and Boiled Axe

In July of last year, during a week of perfect Oregon weather, representatives from a dozen federal and state agencies, and Indian Tribes gathered to discuss the future of cultural resource management in the region. Billed as a “first of its kind,” the *Pacific Northwest Conference - Forging Preservation Partnerships: Principles and Practice* sprang from a growing interest in the recent successes of creating a unique stew of interorganizational training and development partnerships. These partnerships also grew from several mutu-

al interests and constraints—primarily a shared mission to protect cultural resources and diminishing funding and staff reductions. By combining limited funds and professional staff, training, education, and resource protection could be accomplished. As Roger Kennedy, Director of the National Park Service, succinctly stated during his conference keynote address, “We either hang together, or we will hang separately.”

The catalyst and funding for the conference came from the National Park Service’s Cultural Resource Training Initiative. In addition to the