

## EDITOR'S CORNER

In February, at the request of the journal editors and the SAA Publications Committee, the Society signed an agreement with JSTOR to make back issues of *American Antiquity* available electronically. JSTOR is an independent not-for-profit organization founded in 1995 with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Its purpose is to convert back issues of journals into electronic formats to save space and capital costs for libraries, and to improve access to journal contents for students and researchers.

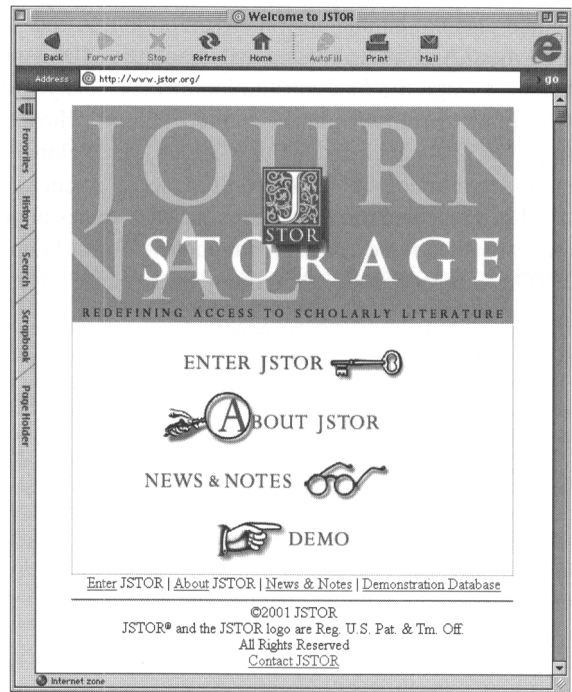
At present, 724 institutions in the United States can access JSTOR's database, as can researchers at 229 institutions from Argentina to Vietnam. The list of participating institutions, and much additional information, is available at <http://www.jstor.org/about/>.

JSTOR currently offers searchable access to back issues of the following journals in anthropology:

- *Annual Review of Anthropology*
- *Anthropology Today*
- *Current Anthropology*
- *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute/Man*
- *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*
- *Proceedings of the Royal Anthropological Institute*

as well as over a hundred other journals in many other disciplines, including *Ecology*, *Science*, and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. (Not all institutions have access to all journals; access depends on level of participation in JSTOR.) JSTOR does not provide access to current issues; coverage of most journals begins with volumes that are 2–5 years old. For *American Antiquity*, JSTOR will make issues available as they become five years old.

The process of scanning our back issues is done at no cost to the Society. While this is good, it does mean the Society cannot dictate which of its journals JSTOR chooses to make available. Although we nominated *Latin American Antiquity* to JSTOR at the same time as *American Antiquity*, for the moment at least JSTOR has agreed to make only the backlist of this journal available. We who are involved with producing the Society's journals intend to reapply to JSTOR on behalf of *Latin American Antiquity* as the back-



list for that journal grows, or we will find other means to make it available electronically. Meanwhile Latin Americanists can find some comfort from the fact that *American Antiquity* published Latin American materials up through 1990.

JSTOR maintains two databases of the journals it backlists: images of the texts, which it delivers as “economy” or high-quality PDF files for downloading, and text files produced using optical character recognition software on the scanned images. Searches are made against the text files and as a result can be very flexible. For example, a search of all anthropology journals now indexed by JSTOR for the word “Fairbanks” in the full text of the article, within 10 words of “Ocmulgee” or containing “Ocmulgee” in the title and “archaeology” in the abstract, yields one “hit”: Prehistoric Archaeology in the Southeastern United States, 1970–1985, by Vincas P. Steponaitis, in *Annual Review of Anthropology*, Vol. 15 (1986), pp. 363–404. Searches can further be limited by publication dates, to specific journals within one or several disciplines, or to articles, reviews, or opinion pieces only. Materials so discovered can be downloaded, and printed freely in whole or in part. To those of us who can remember toiling in libraries and tussling with copying machines to much less effect, all this seems quite incredible.

Electronic access to our back issues will benefit research and encourage an historical perspective; evidence suggests, not surprisingly, that students and researchers are much more willing to use materials in this form than they are to search out the original paper copies (Guthrie 2000). JSTOR’s value for trivia fans should also not be underestimated. Who introduced “paradigm” to Americanist archaeological research, and when? And what about mental templates, MDS, or GIS? Was Emerson F. Greenman one of the 31 individuals to sign the first constitution of the Society, and when did that happen? (Hint: find his obituary.) According to Yale word historian Fred Shapiro, who has used it to find the first usage of “population explosion” (1952), “personal computer” (1968), and “global warming” (1971), JSTOR is “a gold mine for studying the terminology of the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences” (Malakoff 2001:39).

This broad electronic access to our back issues ought to be coupled with an effort to provide members only with electronic access to our current issues. I hope this will eventually be possible; in the meantime, JSTOR will be very useful to many of us. Look for back issues of *American Antiquity* on-line in about a year at <http://www.jstor.org>.

TIMOTHY A. KOHLER

### References Cited

- Malakoff, D. (editor)  
2001 Random Samples. *Science* 291:39.
- Guthrie, K. M.  
2000 Revitalizing Older Published Literature: Preliminary Lessons from the Use of JSTOR. *PEAK Conference*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, March. Online. Available: <http://www.jstor.org/about/preliminarylessons.html>.

### Errata

In the article in the January issue entitled Deciphering the Organization of Production in Chaco Canyon (C. M. Cameron and H. W. Toll, *American Antiquity* 66:5-13), a sentence was truncated due to a printer’s error. The complete sentence, which begins on p. 7, should read “A procession of institutions conducted fieldwork in Chaco Canyon including the American Museum of Natural History (employing George Pepper and Richard Wetherill), the Smithsonian Institution and National Geographic Society (fieldwork led by Neil Judd), and the University of New Mexico (excavations directed by Edgar Lee Hewett).”

In the same number, Color Photo 2 was flopped (inverted), as can be seen by comparison with Color Photo 1 above it, which is correct.