

excuse for doing nothing; however, some of the companies providing services have kept up the changing pace; others have not. Make sure you identify your needs, then work to find the best match out there.

In many cases, microfilming will still be a necessary component in your strategy since microfilm lasts 10 to 20 times as long as digital media and is not software-dependent as some compressed images and proprietary packages are. Digital images can be used to produce long-lived computer output microfilm, just as digital images can be produced from microfilm. Many major preservation organizations are currently recommending this two-part approach as it provides the best combination of long-term preservation and access advantages for significant materials. Your park may end up using a number of different media depending on the types of collections you hold.

One area that seems to be out of reach because of budgetary constraints is that of training. Numerous sources provide training that has a high price tag attached. What we have learned has

been through trial and error. We have benefited from many phone conversations with people who are also taking these same tentative steps toward a technology which contrasts markedly with the aging archives in their care. It would be desirable to have NPS-sponsored training and a sharing of resources currently found among its staff throughout the agency. There is a great pool of knowledge among all of the parks in the system as well as in other government agencies. We should be working together for the good of the National Park Service.

Some day researchers will be able to access our information resources without leaving the comfort of their own homes. This technological advance will ultimately save the government time and money, put resources in the hands of those who need it most, and help the NPS meet its mission to leave its cultural resources unimpaired for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

*Winona Peterson is a historian at Gettysburg National Military Park.*

Jim Ogden

## Technology and Technology Chickamauga and Chattanooga



*Burnside Fourth  
Model 1864  
Carbine, Fuller Gun  
Collection. Photo by  
Ray Parks.*

**C**hickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park commemorates and preserves portions of two significant Civil War Battlefields—the Battle of Chickamauga and the Battles for Chattanooga. For thousands of visitors, an adjunct to studying the fields of these important engagements is the time spent learning from the Claud E. and Zenada Fuller Collection of American Military Shoulder Arms. Displayed in the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, the Fuller Collection is one of the premier assemblages of our nation's military longarms from the Colonial period through World War I.

With 355 exhibited weapons and several hundred associated items (bayonets, scabbards,

cartridges, and some variant parts), the Fuller Collection reflects significant technological developments that fueled industrial advances in the United States. Amassed by the Fullers over more than 50 years, the collection is a nationally-important cultural resource. Fuller's lifetime of work has been the foundation on which many more recent arms scholars and researchers have built their studies. While some of these investigators have advanced the scholarship on certain weapons much further than what Mr. Fuller was able to do in the first half of the 20th century, Mr. Fuller's work is still a benchmark for those laboring in the field.

Now, a modern technology will help interpret and make Mr. Fuller's knowledge more readily available. This spring, Chickamauga and

Chattanooga National Military Park and the Southeast Field Area's Museum Services Division began the process of converting the data on the Fuller Collection to CD-ROM. In addition to data from the newly updated Automated National Catalog System (National Park Service automated museum catalog) catalog records, Mr. Fuller's 700 pages of typescript notes on the weapons, a pair of photographic images of each weapon, and other data from Fuller's papers will be included in the CD-ROM format. When completed, the CD-ROM will represent each weapon in the Fuller Collection and most of the associated items as well as incorporating Mr. Fuller's knowledge of his collection.

Visitors viewing the collection who desire more information will be able to access the CD-ROM information by entering the weapon's displayed catalog number into one or more terminals in the exhibit area. The system will then display the descriptive data on each weapon from the ANCS catalog card, the text of Mr. Fuller's notes on that weapon, an overall photograph and a

breach area photograph of the weapon, and other applicable data including cross references to related arms in the collection. This electronic system will replace the present need for the visitor to leave the collection display area and inquire at the information desk (where a staff member has to retrieve a bound copy of Mr. Fuller's typescript notes from the National Military Park's Longstreet/Thomas Library). With CD-ROM terminals in the collection exhibit area, visitors will be more directly served and additional research interest will be fueled. A controlled means to provide the visitors with a hard copy of the data is also being explored.

When the project is completed, modern technology will be providing access to technology of an earlier age; Mr. Fuller's legacy to the American people will be entering today's information age.

*Jim Ogden is a historian at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.*

Diane Vogt-O'Connor

## Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records and the World Wide Web

The CoPAR WWW site at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/homepage/exhibits.html>.

**A**nthropology is concerned with the study, documentation and understanding of human biological, cultural, and linguistic diversity. Anthropological archives are unique and irreplaceable repositories of primary data about human and cultural diversity, commonalities among peoples, anthropological research, as well as the history of the discipline.

### *What is CoPAR?*

A new organization created by anthropologists, archivists, librarians, and scholars, the Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records (CoPAR) identifies, preserves, and encourages the use of the archival and manuscript collections documenting anthropological research.

CoPAR's goal is to convince record producers, collectors, and holders that they are stewards

**CoPAR**  
Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records

**Mission and Statement of Principles**

The Council for the Preservation of Anthropological Records (CoPAR) was incorporated in February 1995 to identify, encourage the preservation, and foster the use of the records of anthropological research. Anthropology is concerned with the study, documentation, and understanding of human biological, cultural and linguistic diversity. Anthropological records contain primary data about, and provide the basis for, continuing research on human diversity, as well as the history of the discipline. Anthropological records thus present a unique and irreplaceable segment of human knowledge. CoPAR has as its objective the initiation of programs to: determine the importance of records preservation; provide information on records locations and access; help provide support for existing repositories; provide consulting and technical services; and conduct special projects as needed. This objective is outlined in the following statement of principles:

1. Anthropological records contain irreplaceable information about human and cultural diversity and commonalities. These records are at risk.
2. Professors, collectors, and holders of these records are stewards of them and the information they contain.
3. Stewardship implies certain responsibilities, among them:
  - o To assure that the records are properly preserved and passed on to future generations;
  - o To be aware that information contained in the records has complex meanings for the subjects, producers, collectors, holders, and managers of them;
  - o To be aware that there are often conflicting ethical and legal issues relating to those records and the uses that may be made of them;
  - o To collaborate with subjects, producers, collectors, holders and managers of records to insure the proper preservation of, and access to, those records, and access to, those records.

CoPAR is sponsored by the major anthropological organizations in the United States in cooperation with other relevant professional organizations, such as the Society for American Archivists and the American Library Association, and government agencies, such as the National Park Service.

Workshops