

Please scroll down to view the addition **Section 5. Code of Conduct at SCA Events**

Article XVI: Code of Ethical Guidelines

Whereas it is the intent of the Society not to violate the Constitutional rights of any Member or citizen of the United States of America, the following guidelines shall be adhered to by the Society for California Archaeology Membership (universities and institutions included) to advise the most ethical course of action in the various archaeological matters which may arise.

Section 1. Ethical Responsibility to the Public

1.1 An archaeologist shall:

- a. Recognize a primary commitment to present the public with the results of field research in a responsible manner, such as publication or public displays.
- b. Actively support conservation of the archaeological resource base by recording sites, advocating protection or salvage in impending destruction, or any other means available.
- c. Encourage conformance with the UNESCO Convention, General Conference, Paris, November 14, 1970, and U.S. Public Law 97-446: Title III, the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act of 1983, which prohibit illicit export or import and/or sale of cultural property.
- d. Contact pertinent representatives of the Native American or other ethnic peoples during the planning phase preceding archaeological programs of excavation or extensive reconnaissance, and it shall be the express purpose of such communications to develop a design for field work in coordination with the interests and sensitivities of those pertinent people.
- e. Encourage careful compliance with procedures specified in state and federal law regarding the discovery of Native American human remains. (See Section 7050.5 of the state Health and Safety Code; and Section 5097.5 et seq. of the state Public Resources Code, Division 5, Chapter 1.75, added by amendments, Senate Bill 297 of 1982, Chapter 1492.)
- f. Whenever a site of religious, ceremonial, or social significance to a Native American or other ethnic community is encountered, contact appropriate representatives of these communities and respect their expressed interests and concerns while considering the archaeological values of the site's resources.
- g. Encourage the complete preservation of any significant cultural site for which the traditional religious beliefs of the pertinent ethnic peoples will not allow scientific excavation/salvage or the cost of salvage is prohibitive.
- h. Support the rights of Native Americans or other ethnic peoples to practice their ceremonial traditions on or near sites, in labs, around artifacts, or other locations.

1.2 An archaeologist shall not:

- a. Collect artifacts or features for the purposes of private collection, sale of the items, or any other nonscientific activity.
- b. Excavate or otherwise disturb any location of a previous Native American settlement, ceremonial locality, cemetery, or other mortuary context which was being used until recently or is still being used, and for which native or other ethnic peoples maintain a sense of spiritual affinity, without the full concordance of those pertinent peoples.

- c. Allow his or her name to be used in the support of illegal or unethical activity.
- d. Advocate unscientific destruction of cultural resources or testify in a public hearing to assist other individuals in a less than scientific destruction of said resources.
- e. Advocate the destruction of identified or known sacred/religious sites of Native American or other ethnic peoples, merely because there are no observable or quantifiable artifacts or features.
- f. Knowingly misrepresent oneself as “qualified” in matters for which there is a reasonable doubt of qualification and in which the existence of a cultural resource is at stake.
- g. Knowingly desecrate, deface, or destroy a Native American or other ethnic people's sacred item or site.

Section 2. Ethical Responsibility to Colleagues

2.1 An archaeologist shall:

- a. Give adequate credit to colleagues in personal communications, known field research, and unpublished manuscripts when writing publications or reports intended for public review.
- b. Make every reasonable attempt to communicate and cooperate with all archaeologists working in the same field area.
- c. Review a representative sample of published and available archived manuscripts (from Regional Information Centers) and collections when conducting surveys or excavations.
- d. Make every reasonable attempt to read current literature on techniques and research designs prior to conducting field work so that as many as possible research designs of colleagues may benefit from the data recovery.
- e. Know and comply with all federal, state, and local ordinances applicable to the data base.

2.2 An archaeologist shall not:

- a. Publish a colleague's active research without written permission, the death of that colleague, or documentation that five years have elapsed since field recovery.
- b. Enter into known or defined research areas with the intent of recovering cultural collections without attempting advanced consultation with colleagues already working there. That consultation should include sharing the proposed research design.
- c. Accuse a colleague of unethical or illegal conduct without adequate documentation.
- d. Institutionally record a cultural resource found by a colleague without citing the original or principal discoverer.
- e. Commit oral or written plagiarism.
- f. Refuse reasonable requests from a colleague to share data, as long as there is an arrangement for full citation.
- g. Be party to the subversion of legal procedures set forth for the preservation of the resource base.

Section 3. A Code of Scientific Ethics

3.1 An archaeologist shall:

- a. File copies of all site survey records and EIR/EIS survey reports, evaluation/testing reports, and excavation reports at the appropriate California Archaeological Inventory Regional Information Center within 30 days upon completion of the project.
- b. Prepare a research design orienting a scientific data recovery strategy to attempt to solve valid archaeological problems in all field research which disturbs the original context of cultural resources.
- c. Make arrangements prior to field investigations for curation of all field notes, photographs, maps, graphs, recovered artifacts, features, ecofacts, soil samples, and other data. This arrangement should include future availability by colleagues and the public.
- d. Attempt to involve pertinent Native American and other ethnic cultural centers (and museums) in the educational analysis, display, and long-term care of scientific collections.
- e. Make arrangements for security at all open excavation sites where vandalism is possible.
- f. Obtain all necessary permits and permission from landowners prior to conducting field work.
- g. Integrate as many research problems as possible into salvage operations to insure future utility of the recovered data.
- h. Make all possible efforts to maintain detailed provenience records and narratives of field work and data collection and analysis so that future archaeologists may reconstruct the chain of logic in connection with their own data collection and analysis.
- i. Contact all known archaeologists conducting active research within the regional boundaries of an agency-required environmental study and consider their opinions when evaluating the "significance" of sites. Also, make a reasonable attempt to integrate their data needs into survey and excavation designs in that region.
- j. With the exception of emergency situations, avoid the destruction/sacrifice of upper midden strata to expedite the examination of lower levels. However, this caution is not valid if the upper levels have been adequately sampled.
- k. Prepare a summary site report on all excavations within five years of completion of field work.

3.2 An archaeologist shall not:

- a. Encourage unscientific recovery of cultural remains.
- b. Carry out collection or excavation of cultural resources without a research design or solely for the purpose of teaching field techniques.
- c. Sign or enter into a contract which prohibits recording of sites at Regional Information Centers, filing of reports at public institutions, or sharing of data among colleagues.
- d. Publish or make available to the public the precise locations of cultural sites where there is a reasonable potential for vandalism of the sites to occur as a result of that action.

Section 4. A Code of Ethical and Professional Standards

4.1 An archaeologist shall:

- a. Make every possible effort to avoid relationships or actions which could legitimately be interpreted as conflict of interest.
- b. Avoid at all times possible bias in objective assessment of "site significance" or the "adequacy" of a report from friends, employers/employees, instructors, or business clients.
- c. Avoid the appearance of discrediting the work of a colleague for personal gain, such as money, political benefit, or even vengeance.
- d. Make full informational citation of all sources used in written reports. This shall include listing of personnel.

4.2 An archaeologist shall not:

- a. Fraudulently encourage agencies or firms to conduct archaeological surveys or tests on properties where it is confidently known that there is/are no cultural resources.
- b. Accept a contract to perform archaeological investigation in any situation where personal security might bias conclusions.
- c. Publish sensitive data on Native American peoples or other ethnic groups without their advice on the matter.
- d. Assist anyone in locating cultural sites when it is known that the sponsors intend to destroy the sites to avoid scientific salvage or the preservation efforts of some other group.
- e. Interfere with (or join into) a legal/contractual dispute over the "adequacy" of a study/report or "significance" of resources without first conferring with the colleague who was the primary consultant and informing that person of his or her intent to enter into the matter.

Section 5. Code of Conduct at SCA Events

The following behaviors are prohibited at the SCA Annual Meeting and SCA events:

- Harassment of any kind, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and coercion
- Physical or verbal abuse, including bullying
- Unwelcome comments and/or exclusionary behaviors related to an individual's age, sex, gender identity and expression, perceived sexual identity, appearance or body size, military status, ethnicity, individual lifestyle, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or cognitive abilities, political affiliation, race, religion, or nationality
- Intimidation, stalking, or following

SCA strictly prohibits retaliation to ensure that SCA event participants feel comfortable coming forward with their concerns without fear of reprisal.

Retaliation is when someone penalizes another person for:

- Reporting, or expressing an intent to report, what the person believes in good faith to be assault, harassment, or any conduct prohibited by the SCA as stated herein

- Assisting another in reporting assault or harassment, or any conduct prohibited by the SCA
- Participating in any SCA inquiry, review, or investigation pertaining to misconduct
- Having previously reported assault, harassment, or misconduct, and/or having participated in an inquiry, review, or investigation, whether the potential violation occurred at SCA or elsewhere