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I. Editorial

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The current "buzzwords" now being heard by those doing work in the history of archaeology are identification, preservation, and curation of documentary materials. The sad state of preservation and storage of documentary materials related to the history of archaeology seems to be a universal cry amongst many of us involved in various facets of research in the history of archaeology. In our research travels, many of us have contacted institutions who have documentary collections that are in a deplorable state of preservation. We recognize that the sad state of preservation of documentary records will threaten the clarity of future histories of archaeology. As researchers, it is incumbent upon each of us to become involved with the preservation process. We should become involved with helping institutions and repositories enhance their levels of preservation and encourage that records find an "archival home" before their destruction occurs. In many ways, knowledge about the prehistoric and historic culture history of the United States is being threatened due to a lack of attention being paid to the preservation and curation of documentary materials. During the conduct of our researches, an extra effort should be made to identify collections in danger of being permanently lost and we should encourage preservation and proper curation. More frequently than not researchers in the history of archaeology are the front line defense in identifying documentary materials in need of preservation. In doing this we will enhance the preservation materials related to the history of archaeology now and for years to come.