

FOREWORD

This is the Object Specialty Group's first volume of *Postprints*. They were initiated in an effort towards greater communication with our colleagues, in hopes that our willingness to exchange information, techniques and experiences would promote the collective growth of knowledge and professionalism in our field. The *OSG Postprints* were created partly because the presentations in our meeting this year formed a cohesive body of material on environmental issues. They are also the reflection of the modification of our annual meeting, which allowed us time to talk to each other this year in informal discussion groups. The need to document this part of our meeting was clear, and we hope our colleagues unable to attend the meeting in Albuquerque will benefit from our discussions by the dissemination of this information.

The *OSG Postprints* is a non-juried compilation. Papers and notes are printed as they were received from the authors. Authors are encouraged to submit entries presented here for publication in the *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works* or in other juried publications. We recognize the fact that not all the information we find valuable and interesting lends itself to formal presentation or publication; these *Postprints* are intended to reflect the diversity of information and format we have incorporated into our meeting, and it is our hope that they remain rather informal and all-inclusive.

I would like to thank all the contributors to this volume for their participation. Special thanks are due to the coordinators of the small discussion groups, Jerry Podany, Bettina Raphael, Scott Odell, Ginny Naudé and Brian Considine, who set the tone for our first experience of controlled mayhem, and to Jerry, Ginny and Brian for providing summaries of their groups' discussions.

Pamela Hatchfield
OSG Chair