

## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

*RADIOCARBON* is an international journal published three times a year in the United States. The editors ask contributors to use simple, straightforward language. We prefer the active rather than the passive voice and encourage the use of "I" or "we" in manuscripts. We also use American spellings rather than British and ask foreign contributors to consult with English-language experts before submitting their manuscripts. All manuscripts, including date lists, pass peer review before acceptance.

Manuscripts should generally follow recommendations in "Suggestions to Authors of the Reports of the United States Geological Survey," 6th edition, 1978, Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. A new edition, which may be printed soon, will be the preferred guide for *RADIOCARBON* manuscripts. For a guide to bibliographic citations, see "Bibliographic Guide for Editors and Authors," 1974, The American Chemical Society, Washington, DC 20036. Unfortunately, 1974 is the latest edition of this useful manual. For general writing, an excellent reference is the 13th edition of "The Chicago Manual of Style," The University of Chicago Press. For Geosciences, we recommend "Writing in Earth Science" by Robert L. Bates, 1988, American Geological Institute, Alexandria, Virginia. We also use "Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary." Reprints of this latest Style Guide are available upon request from the Managing Editor.

We accept manuscripts in triplicate with a cover letter that includes the author's telephone number, Fax number, E-mail address and/or Telex number. All copy, including the abstract, figure captions, acknowledgments and references, must be double spaced, and printed on one side of the paper. Leave adequate margins (minimum size 1" or 2.5 cm) on each edge of the paper and at least 1.5" or 4 cm on the top and bottom. Use *only one* space after a period (full stop) at the end of a sentence, and periods after initials and abbreviations. Number all pages including the references, tables and figures. Do not submit a floppy diskette with a research article or report until you submit the final revised manuscript. Also include one hard copy along with the digital form of the final manuscript. However, date lists, or, *e.g.*, letters to the editor, should be submitted initially on diskette. We prefer WordPerfect 5.1 in IBM format, but we also will accept Microsoft Word and Wordstar in IBM-compatible MS DOS. Please convert text written in other word-processing programs or on other formats (*e.g.*, Macintosh, CP/M) to ASCII, and designate format. We can accommodate either 3.5" (720 kb or 1.44 mb) or 5.25" (360 kb or 1.2 mb) diskettes. We can also download text from E-mail.

### SECTIONS OF THE JOURNAL

Regular issues contain several sections:

1. Research Articles or Reports (for organization, see below)
2. Date Lists (for organization, see below)
3. Notes and Comments, Letters to the Editor, Discussions
4. Radiocarbon Updates – news of interest to the radiocarbon community
5. Laboratories (generally at the end of each volume)
6. Book Reviews
7. Announcements – advertisements, publications, meetings, job openings

## REPORTING $^{14}\text{C}$ DATES

We will continue to report  $^{14}\text{C}$  ages in years BP (Before Present) without the word, "years." [Example:  $2750 \pm 50$  BP]. AD/BC dates or calendric estimates are reported only in conjunction with calibrated ranges. In this instance, use the most recent calibration curves and cite (as of this printing, *RADIOCARBON*, 1986, Vol. 28(2B); a new Calibration Issue is forthcoming in 1992). Designate calibrated ages "cal" [Examples: cal AD 1230; 3270 cal BC]. We use BP, AD, BC as symbols, rather than abbreviations, and thus, do not use periods (full stops) with them.

## SI UNITS

"SI" is an abbreviation for Le Système International d'Unités, an international system of units adopted by many national and international authorities, associations, professional societies and agencies. Inevitably, a few other, non-SI, units have come into use, which leads to controversy and difference among standards. We strongly favor the use of SI units and adhere to this unified system as much as possible. However, we find no single, authoritative list of units and abbreviations that completely satisfies our needs. We draw from three lists that seem to be the most comprehensive: "Standard for Metric Practice" 1976 American Society for Testing and Materials; "Quantification in Science: The VNR Dictionary of Engineering Units and Measures" by M. Melaragno 1991, Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York; and "Guide for the Use of the International System of Units" by Arthur O. McCoubrey 1991, NIST Special Publication 811.

Unit symbols should be printed in roman type, leaving a space between the number and unit. Unit symbols are not followed by a period, but, when used as an adjective, require a hyphen. [Examples: 5 m, not 5m; 5-m depth]. No space separates the numerical value and symbols for degree, degree Celsius, %, ‰, minute and second of plane angle. [Examples: 10°, 10°C, 15%, -25‰, 35'45"]. No space separates a prefix and a symbol. [Example: kiloyear = ka]. Symbols, not abbreviations should follow numerical values. [Example: 5 ka, not 5000 yr]. A short list of preferred symbols follows:

Unit	Symbol	Unit	Symbol
ampere	A	micro	$\mu$
centimeter	cm	milligram	mg
day	d	milliliter	ml
degree Celsius	°C	millimeter	mm
electron volt	eV	million (giga)	M
gram	g	minute	min
hour	h	mole	mol
K	second	s	
kilogram	kg	sievert	Sv
liter	liter	thousand (kilo)	k
meter	m	year	a or yr <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>We continue to use the abbreviation, yr, in some cases, depending on the general context.

## ORGANIZATION OF A MANUSCRIPT

Arrange research articles or reports to include the following sections:

1. **TITLE** – boldface capitals at the left margin – avoid abbreviations [Times Roman 10 pt.]
2. **AUTHOR(S)** – italic capitals at the left margin – full first name or two initials with spaces between and periods (full stops) after initials. [*Example: AUSTIN LONG and R. S. KRA*]
3. Affiliation(s) – roman caps and lower case at the left margin – addresses should be complete, including zip or country code numbers. Add USA for the United States. Use numbered footnotes for more than two addresses, or change of address. [*Example: <sup>1</sup>Present address: Department of Geosciences, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721 USA [8 pt.]*]. For more details, see below.
4. **ABSTRACT.** – boldface small caps [8 pt.] at the left margin. Text begins on the same line, double spaced – a concise summary (*ca. 200 words*), containing objectives, methods and results.
5. **INTRODUCTION** – boldface caps [10 pt. initial cap; 8 pt. for the rest] at the left margin
6. **METHODOLOGY or DESCRIPTIVE BACKGROUND** – all headings are at the left margin
7. **RESULTS or DISCUSSION**
8. **CONCLUSIONS**
9. **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** – should be brief
10. **REFERENCES** – at the left margin [8 pt] – see new style below
11. **TABLES** – initial cap, small caps following at the top left margin of the table. We prefer camera-ready copy, *after our editing*. For details, see below.
12. Figures – with separate captions [8 pt]. For details, see below.

## TEXTUAL ELEMENTS

**HEADINGS** – as above (Introduction, *etc.*)

**Subheading 1** – boldface initial capitals, at the left margin

*Subheading 2* – italics, at the left margin, with a period (full stop) and text following.

*Subheading 3* – indented italics, with a period and text following.

**Paragraphs** – block style, not indented.

**Running Heads** – these appear at the top of each page (after the title page). The righthand, odd-numbered page bears a summary of the title. Authors should check these carefully for meaning and clarity. The lefthand, even-numbered folio bears the authors' names.

**Footnotes** – avoid if possible, but when necessary, cite with superscripts in Arabic numerals in the text and at the bottom of the same page. Footnote an author's address in the same manner, using consecutive numbers for more than two affiliations, *e.g.*, G. T. Cook<sup>1</sup>, D. D. Harkness<sup>2</sup>, B. F. Miller<sup>2</sup>, E. M. Scott<sup>3</sup>, M. S. Baxter<sup>1</sup> and T. C. Aitchison<sup>3</sup>. For footnotes to tables, see below.

**Equations** – center and leave ample space above and below. Use roman, *not* italic symbols. For complex equations, use the Equation Function of your software program. Number equations, enclosing the number in parentheses at the right margin. Use punctuation (*e.g.*, a period) at the end of the sentence or paragraph. Do *not* use punctuation (*e.g.*, a colon) preceding the equation.

**Tables** – must show numbers and titles at the top left margin of the table. Use the Table or Column Function of your software program, or separate columns with tabs. *Do not use the space*

*bar to separate items in the table.* Clearly mark columnar headings, using initial caps and lower case lettering. Avoid double spacing within the table. Do *not* use ditto marks. For footnotes, place the appropriate symbol, in superscript, to the right of the item to be noted. Place footnotes at the bottom of the table (even if it extends beyond one page) and cite in order (from left to right, top to bottom) in the following sequence: \*; \*\*; †; ‡; §; ¶; #. We prefer to receive tables in camera-ready form *after* the editing process (so that we can give you explicit instructions). Identify all tables in the text, so that we know where to place them.

**Figures** – original line drawings, glossies, laser prints or half-tones. Good-quality graphics may be included on the diskette, along with the final manuscript. We can make a laser print of your figures if they are in WordPerfect 5.1. The quality of the end-product depends directly on the illustration that the author provides. Figures should be reduced as much as possible, not exceeding 5.5" × 7.5" (ca. 14 cm × 19 cm) to conform to the page size of the journal. Figures must have captions, numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals. Place figure captions on a separate page, *not* with the figure, unless, of course, they are on the diskette. Provide a key or explain all symbols that appear in the figure, denoting the symbol on the figure or in the caption. Do *not* identify symbols in the text. Identify all figures in the text, so that we know where to place them. Write out the word “Figure” when it is part of the sentence (*e.g.*, Figure 1 shows...) and abbreviate it when it is in parentheses (*e.g.*, (Fig. 1)). Designate multiple parts of a figure with capital letters (*e.g.*, Fig. 1A, 1B). Clearly identify illustrations (by taping a piece of paper to the bottom) with author’s name and figure number. Use gloss-coated paper for laser prints. We reserve the right to reduce figures in order to save space, when possible, without compromising legibility. Some papers necessitate the use of reprinted figures (*e.g.*, a history or overview of a particular subject). In such a case, we ask the author to request permission to reprint the figure or table from the publisher, and usually the author(s) as well. We will provide you with a form for this purpose.

**Measurements** – always use SI or metric units (see above). Use English units only in parentheses, in combination with metric units. Numerical values used in conjunction with units should be in Arabic (*e.g.*, 25 cm). Spell out numbers up through ten when unaccompanied by units of measurement. [*Example*: The procedure lasted eight days, *but*, The procedure lasted 18 d]. For more than one number in a series, use Arabic numbers, with an en dash (-), *not* a hyphen (-). [*Example*: The procedure takes 8–10 d.] Do not join numbers in a range with an en dash; write out prepositions and conjunctions. [*Example*: The procedure takes between 8 and 10 d.]

**Isotope numbers** – precede symbols in superscript (*e.g.*,  $^{14}\text{C}$ ,  $^{36}\text{Cl}$ ). We encourage the use of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in the text. It is acceptable to begin a sentence with  $^{14}\text{C}$ .

**Symbols, abbreviations, acronyms and Greek letters** – clearly define abbreviations or acronyms at their first appearance in the text [*Example*: Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS); one standard deviation (1  $\sigma$ )]. Use symbols, such as  $>$ ,  $<$ ,  $\approx$  with Arabic numerals. For more details, see SI Units, above. We use “*ca.*” or ~ with numerals, but “about” or “approximately” with words [*Example*: The procedure lasted approximately eight days]. Other abbreviations that we use often include: *i.e.*, *e.g.*, *vs.*, *et al.* (all in italics and with periods).

### CITATION OF PUBLICATIONS IN TEXT

Cite all references in the text and in the reference section at the end of the paper. Textual citations should give the author(s) and date with no punctuation between them. Place the citation within parentheses, unless the authors are part of the sentence [*Examples*: (Kalin & Long 1989); Kalin and Long (1989) described...]. A page, table or figure number should follow a colon, after a space [*Example*: Kalin & Long: 6]. We use the ampersand character (&) within parentheses, but not in the text. Cite the names of 1–3 authors and use *et al.* for more than 3 authors [*Examples*: (Taylor, Long & Kra 1992); (Bard *et al.* 1990)]. Separate two or more references by semicolons [*Example*: (Kalin & Long 1989; Bard *et al.* 1990)]. Cite several works by the same author by date only, separated by commas [*Example*: (Trumbore 1988, 1992)]. Repeat multiple citations; do not use *op. cit.* or *ibid.* We allow the author(s) to determine the order (alphabetical or chronological) for multiple references in the text.

Cite data from notes or observations with dates, if known, or as (ms.) in the text, and use the proper citation in the references (see below). Cite an unpublished manuscript (*e.g.*, a doctoral dissertation) with the year in the text. Refer to a personal communication in the text, *not* in the references. Include the date of the communication whenever possible at the end of the citation. [*Example*: W. S. Broecker, personal communication 1991]

### REFERENCES

Place all textual citations in the reference section at the end of the manuscript. Material not cited in the text should not appear in the references. List all authors in the references; do not use *et al.* We require *full* titles of articles and inclusive pages. We do *not* cite references by number. Use initials (with periods) instead of first names in the references. We no longer abbreviate journal titles. For each reference entry, use the hanging indent function of your software program (*e.g.*, in WordPerfect 5.1, press →**Indent** (F4), then ←**Margin Release** (Shift-Tab), and type the entry without hard returns, tabs or multiple spaces).

Arrange citations alphabetically by author's last name. A single-author entry comes before a multiauthor entry beginning with the same name. *Example*:

- Stuiver, M. 1982 A high-precision calibration of the AD radiocarbon time scale. *Radiocarbon* 24(1): 1–26.  
 Stuiver, M. and Pearson, G. W. 1986 High-precision calibration of the radiocarbon time scale, AD 1950–500 BC. In Stuiver, M. and Kra, R. S., eds., Proceedings of the 12th International  $^{14}\text{C}$  Conference. *Radiocarbon* 28(2B): 805–838.

In entries with the same first author, alphabetize by second author, *etc.* For more than one reference by the same author, cite the oldest publication first. Two or more works by the same author in the same year are distinguished by letters after the date. *Example*:

- Switsur, R. 1990a A consideration of some basic ideas for quality assurance in radiocarbon dating. *Radiocarbon* 32(3): 342–346.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1990b Statistical quality control graphs in radiocarbon dating. *Radiocarbon* 32(3): 347–354.

A five-character dash indicates multiple references by the same author. The second and following lines of references should start under the sixth character of the author's name. *Example*:

- Long, A. and Kra, R. S., eds. 1989 Proceedings of the 13th International  $^{14}\text{C}$  Conference. *Radiocarbon* 31(3): 229–1082.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1992 Proceedings of the 14th International  $^{14}\text{C}$  Conference. *Radiocarbon* 34(3): 000–000.

Do not use the extended dash when coauthors follow the first author. *Example*:

- Hedges, R. E. M. 1992 Sample treatment strategies in radiocarbon dating. In Taylor, R. E., Long, A. and Kra, R. S., eds., *Radiocarbon After Four Decades: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*. New York, Springer-Verlag: 165–183.  
 Hedges, R. E. M. and Law, I. A. 1989 The radiocarbon dating of bone. *Applied Geochemistry* 4: 249–253.

Following is our new reference format for:

1. Article in a periodical:

Author's surname, initials of given name, year of publication (no commas before or after), title.  
*Name of periodical* (in italics or underlined) volume(number): inclusive pages. *Example*:

Vogel, J. S., Nelson, D. E. and Southon, J. R. 1989 Accuracy and precision in dating microgram carbon samples. *Radiocarbon* 31(2): 145–149.

2. Book citation:

Same as above for authors and year. Italicize and capitalize title of book. City of publication, publisher: number of pages. *Example*:

Broecker, W. S. and Peng, T.-H. 1982 *Tracers in the Sea*. Palisades, New York, Eldigio Press: 690 p.

3. Article in edited Proceedings:

The citation should follow the examples of Stuiver and Pearson, above.

If an organization is considered the author of an entry, list the organization as author. *Example*:

International Study Group 1982 An inter-laboratory comparison of radiocarbon measurements in tree-rings. *Nature* 298: 619–623.

Works “in press” must actually be in press, *i.e.*, accepted by a journal. “In press” should follow the citation if the date of publication is known. If date of publication is not known, “in press,” set off by commas, should replace the date. *Examples*:

van der Plicht, J. 1992 The Groningen radiocarbon calibration program. *Radiocarbon* 34, in press.

Punning, J.-M. and Rajamae, R., in press, Radiocarbon dates of organic detritus and their possible application to the study of ice dynamics. *Radiocarbon*.

If an author confidently expects to publish a manuscript before the galley proof is returned, he/she may use blank page numbers (000-000). Place (ms.) after the authors for a manuscript that has been submitted but is not yet accepted. *Example*:

Trumbore, S. (ms.) Radiocarbon measurements and soil carbon turnover rates. Submitted to *Ecological Applications*.

Cite an unpublished manuscript, such as a doctoral dissertation, in the same manner, and include the date after (ms.) Do not use italics for an unpublished manuscript. *Example*:

Roeleveld, W. (ms.) 1974 The Groningen coastal area. Ph.D. dissertation, Amsterdam: 252 p.

For a manuscript in preparation, give as much information as possible. *Example*:

Becker, B. (ms.) An 11,000-year German oak and pine dendrochronology for radiocarbon calibration. In preparation.

For a paper that was presented at a conference but not published, give the author, (ms.), year, title, site and date of the conference. *Example*:

Barnhill, J. L., Jull, A. J. T., Lange, T. and Donahue, D. J. (ms.) 1991 Methods for dating of Oriental textiles by accelerator mass spectrometry. Paper presented at the 14th International  $^{14}\text{C}$  Conference, Tucson, Arizona, 20–24 May.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Book reviews should not exceed two pages and should bear headings as follows:

*The Environmental Record in Glaciers and Ice Sheets.* Edited by Hans Oeschger and C. C. Langway, Jr. Report of the Dahlem Workshop, Berlin, 13–18 March 1988. Chichester 1989 John Wiley & Sons, 400 pages.

The reviewer should sign the review at the lower righthand corner and give his/her full affiliation.

## SPECIAL ISSUES

The length of a manuscript in a regular issue is unrestricted, but may not exceed 12 printed pages (*ca.* 600–700 words per page, including *ca.* 4 figures and 2 tables) in Conference Proceedings. The Editors, Associate Editors and outside referees read all papers, and judge them on scientific merit and relevance to the journal. Presentation of a volunteer paper at a conference will not guarantee publication in the Proceedings issue. If the publication of an accepted manuscript is delayed, we will place it in the next available regular issue. The editors will consider for publication only those manuscripts submitted in proper format by the conference deadline. Workshop Proceedings, whether or not associated with an International Radiocarbon Conference, may appear in a Special Issue. Discussions, *i.e.*, questions and answers following a session, or communications about an article, may be appended to papers. Proceedings follow the general program schedule of the conference or workshop. Other Special Issues include, *e.g.*, the Calibration Issue.

## THE PUBLICATION PROCESS

The following scenario describes the *RADIOCARBON* publication process: An author submits a manuscript to the *RADIOCARBON* office. We acknowledge receipt of the manuscript, schedule it for a particular issue and select one or two reviewers. We consider the relevance of each review, augment it if necessary, and return the edited manuscript to the corresponding author, along with the reviewers' comments. The corresponding (usually the senior) author prepares the final, revised version of the manuscript, adhering to the recommendations of the editors and reviewers, and returns it to the *RADIOCARBON* office, along with a diskette and original figures. We then prepare galley proofs directly from the diskette, size and make prints of the figures and send the proofs to the author for final checking. We enclose an offprint order form along with the proofs. The author carefully marks corrections in red and returns the order form (even if no offprints are wanted), proofs and manuscript to *RADIOCARBON* within three days. We then prepare a camera-ready copy of the issue, and send it, along with mailing labels and an offprint order form, to the printer (press), who prints, binds and mails the books. We cannot estimate, with a high degree of certainty, the duration of this process, as numerous factors and variables may affect any aspect of publication.

## DEADLINES

Generally, we adhere to the following schedule:

<u>For</u>	<u>Date</u>
No. 1	Sept 1
No. 2	Jan 1
No. 3	May 1

### DATE LISTS

In general, the format of the date list should follow the style shown in the most recent issue of *RADIOCARBON*. Entries should be brief and precise, yet informative and easily understood by the general reader as well as by the specialist. A *Comment* or *General Comment* should follow every sample or series description, in which the submitter(s) of the sample(s) discuss(es) the significance of the result. Authors should make liberal reference to published literature. When this is not available, it is the responsibility of the dating laboratory to collect the pertinent facts, by requiring the submitter to provide them in publishable form. We encourage the use of maps, tables and figures to fully describe the location of sites, the provenience and comprehensive data surrounding the sample(s). Authors should also describe, in some detail, the methods of collection, storage, sample pretreatment and measurement that they have used. Also, we would like to know the standards, protocol for quality assurance and the calibration program that the laboratory uses.

For geochemical measurements, the accepted standards are:

1. 0.95 times the age-corrected (to AD 1950) activity of NBS Oxalic Acid I ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -19.0\text{\textperthousand}$ )
2. 0.7459 times the age-corrected activity of Oxalic Acid II ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -25\text{\textperthousand}$ ); see Stuiver (1983) *Radiocarbon* 25(2): 793.

Report geochemical measurements as per cent of modern carbon (pMC), but where  $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$  assays are available or reasonably assumed, we recommend the  $\Delta$  notation. See Stuiver and Polach (1977) *Radiocarbon* 19(3): 355–363 for further discussion. List values of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  when known. Laboratories should retain records of  $\delta^{14}\text{C}$  values in accessible form, whether or not they are published in the original entries.

Dates should be expressed in years BP (before AD 1950). Report calendar estimates and ranges in the *Comment* as cal AD/BC, citing the specific calibration curve and program used to calculate the estimate. We recommend using the curves and programs in the Calibration Issue (1986) and the forthcoming calibrations and program in 1992. Always cite the laboratory number, e.g., A-1320, when referring to a date in the same list or another publication. If the date has been published previously, give the reference.

Title, authors and affiliations are the same as for general articles. Date lists need no abstracts; they start with an introduction and acknowledgments. Divide date lists into sections, e.g., **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SAMPLES**. Further subdivide dates under geographic headings, e.g., *UNITED STATES*, *Illinois*, etc. Each sample should have a descriptive name, usually that of the locality of collection, and preferably, a name different from those of all other samples. Each description, for a series or a single sample, should include the following: Laboratory number, descriptive name, date expressed in years BP (all in **boldface**),  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  value (in *italics*), sample material, with identification information, if relevant, specific location, including stratigraphic provenience, geographic coordinates, collector and submitter, with dates and affiliation, *Comment(s)* and/or *General Comment*. *Example:*

**ISGS-1264. Mauvaise Terre Creek paleochannel, MVT 1B**  $9750 \pm 70$   
 $\delta^{13}\text{C} = -28.1\text{\textperthousand}$

Primarily uncarbonized, nonconiferous (diffuse porous and ring porous) wood and bark, some herbaceous plant debris, 4.67–4.80 m below ground surface in the Illinois Valley; near the base of a stratified and laminated silt unit filling an old meander channel of Mauvaise Terre Creek, incised into the Keach School Terrace; from Scott County, 5 km southwest of Oxbile (39°40'50"N, 90°37'00"W). Collected 1983 by D. S. Leigh; submitted by E. R. Hajic, D. S. Leigh and D. L. Asch.

*Comment:* This date provides a minimum age for the Keach School Terrace. See Hajic (1987).

Some specific guidelines follow:

- In a series title, the word, "series," is lower case. Indent sample numbers under the series heading.
- Be as specific as possible when identifying the sample material. Use the Linnaean name in parenthesis following the popular name, if the sample is a plant or animal fossil. Include the name of the person who identified the sample. Italicize species names, but not the word, "species" or "sp."
- Give the precise geographic location, including latitude-longitude coordinates, in parentheses. Do not use Lat and Long; use N, E, S, W, e.g., (39°40'50"N, 90°15'50"W), leaving no spaces between units. National Grid References (NGR) should also be included in parentheses.
- Describe occurrence and stratigraphic position (but not stratigraphic sequences), including depth or elevation, or cultural association, including period or name of culture, in precise terms. Explain interpretations of stratigraphic or cultural associations in the *Comment*.
- Use decimals, e.g., 5.5 km from the coast.
- Leave a space between number and measurement unit, e.g., 32 cm, not 32cm.
- *Comment*: usually compares the date with other relevant dates, for which the author should provide sample numbers and references. Interpretive material, summarizing the significance of the  $^{14}\text{C}$  measurement belongs here, as do technical matters, e.g., chemical pretreatment, special laboratory difficulties, etc. Include calendar estimates and calibration information here. We cannot overstate the importance of this section, for it is here that the author should describe the significance of the date.
- *General Comment*: usually deals with a series or group of related samples. Include initials in parentheses before the colon for both *Comment* and *General Comment*. Both start at the left margin. Capitalize the first letter of the first word after the colon. See example, above.
- We have discontinued the abbreviated style with which we have been associated for so long.

In recent issues, we have been publishing site-specific interpretive literature on  $^{14}\text{C}$  dating of a particular area or site. These papers represent combinations of research articles and date lists (comprising results from several laboratories) that carefully analyze and explore the ramifications of  $^{14}\text{C}$  results. Prepared by consumers rather than producers of  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates, these articles are extremely valuable for a wide range of scientific disciplines, and we encourage contributions of this nature. The following are examples:

- Erlandson, J., Walser, R., Maxwell, H., Bigelow, N., Cook, J., Lively, R., Adkins, C., Dodson, D., Higgs, A. and Wilber, J. 1991 Two early sites of Eastern Beringia: Context and chronology in Alaskan interior archaeology. *Radiocarbon* 33(1): 35–50.
- Kirch, P. V., Flenley, J. R. and Steadman, D. W. 1991 A radiocarbon chronology for human-induced environmental change on Mangaia, Southern Cook Islands, Polynesia. *Radiocarbon* 33(3): 317–328.
- Mead, J. I. and Agenbroad, L. D. 1992 Isotope dating of Pleistocene dung deposits from the Colorado Plateau, Arizona and Utah. *Radiocarbon*, this issue.