

EDITOR'S CORNER

American Antiquity and Space

"*American Antiquity* is a quarterly journal which publishes papers on the archaeology of the New World and on archaeological theory, method, and practice worldwide" (Editorial Policy and Style Guide for *American Antiquity*, *American Antiquity* 48:429). Redefinition of the journal's scholarly place in archaeology discussed in the January 1990 Editors' Corner requires minor alteration in our traditional partitioning of space—archaeological space as well as journal space.

Past journal editors and Society officers were well aware that much New World archaeology took place in a non-English-language context. The first tangible evidence of this realization was simultaneous publication of abstracts in Spanish. Following soon after was the creation of the new Society journal, *Latin American Antiquity*, which provides space dedicated to archaeological research and scholarly interests of Latin Americanists. To assist in getting this new and important journal established, authors of papers on Latin American regional topics submitted to *American Antiquity* are referred to *Latin American Antiquity*. The article by Benz and Iltis and the reports by Monaghan and by Andrews and Hammond in this issue began their production history under the previous editor. Papers on archaeological theory and method or on broadly relevant themes, issues, and problems continue to be actively sought for publication in *American Antiquity* regardless of whether they use Latin American examples and data.

The creation of *Latin American Antiquity* makes possible more space in *American Antiquity* for articles on North American topics and themes. Table 1 provides information on the distribution of articles, reports, and comments by region under the four previous editors. An archaeologist might be tempted to treat Sabloff, Dincauze, Watson, and Wood as "sites," each with article, report, and comment "assemblages" subdivided into regional "types." Furthermore, an archaeologist might wish to compare these "sites" according to assemblage diversity (see McCartney and Glass, this issue) or by computing the Brainerd–Robinson similarity coefficient (see Cowgill, this issue). The points I wish to make, however, can be apprehended by inspection.

Table 1 clearly indicates uneven regional coverage, a fact provisionally interpreted to represent uneven participation by regional archaeologists in the most prominent, English-language forum for scholarly debate and the major publication outlet for archaeological research. To attempt to redress this imbalance and, in part, to control for provincial biases, I am actively encouraging submission of manuscripts that touch on regions that have been underrepresented in the pages of *American Antiquity* during the past decade. Table 1 also hints at interesting trends in archaeological practice and publishing.

Space within the pages of *American Antiquity* remains essentially the same save for minor alterations. Although the manuscript-submission categories—article, report, comment, and forum—are unchanged, the criteria characterizing each deserve reiteration. All papers must be original, of excellent scholarly quality, at the cutting edge of knowledge, concise, and significant to audiences of varying breadth.

Articles generally are longer than reports and address topics of major importance in a way that reaches out to a broad audience of professional archaeologists and informed public.

Reports, on the other hand, may be more technical, address a specific topic, and reach a relatively narrow audience.

Comments correct major errors of fact or provide critical new information to a paper published in *American Antiquity*. Comments do not address differences of interpretation or opinion.

American Antiquity, 55(3), 1990, pp. 449–451.
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Table 1. Relative Frequency of *American Antiquity* Articles, Reports, and Comments by Editor and Region.

	Sabloff			Dincauze		
	Articles	Reports	Comments	Articles	Reports	Comments
Regional papers^b						
North America						
Greater Southwest	4.5	11.7	21.6	14.3	7.1	10.9
Plains	2.2	2.9	—	8.5	—	15.2
Great Lakes	2.2	7.4	16.2	2.9	4.8	—
Northeast	4.5	4.4	2.7	2.9	—	8.7
Southeast	4.5	1.5	—	8.5	9.5	4.4
Northwest	—	1.5	—	2.9	—	—
California and the Great Basin	2.2	11.7	16.2	5.7	—	6.5
Alaska	4.5	1.5	—	—	2.4	—
Canada	2.2	1.5	8.1	2.9	2.4	—
Eastern Arctic	2.2	—	—	—	—	—
Latin America						
Mesoamerica	53.3	38.2	27.1	31.5	54.7	30.4
Central America	2.2	—	—	—	4.8	—
South America	13.3	14.7	8.1	11.4	14.3	17.4
Caribbean	2.2	1.5	—	—	—	—
Other	—	1.5	—	8.5	—	6.5
Total regional papers (N)	(45) 100%	(68) 100%	(37) 100%	(35) 100%	(42) 100%	(46) 100%
Topical papers (N) ^c	(12)	(29)	(34)	(16)	(15)	(19)

Note: Marjorie Anne Bennett, editorial assistant, compiled the information presented here.

^a The Fiftieth Anniversary issue (Vol. 50, No. 2) is included only under topical papers.

^b Regions are those used in the CURRENT RESEARCH section of the journal.

^c Frequencies (N) included here for comparative purposes.

Forum is an essay of opinion on current issues or topics of immediate significance to a broad audience.

Each volume of *American Antiquity* (four issues) contains approximately 900 pages. Rising printing costs dictate that this page limit remain unchanged even as the ease of word processing extends manuscript length. In opposition to these inflationary forces is my wish to publish more of the excellent papers being submitted. I encourage all authors to exercise economy in their use of words, tables, and figures. I remind authors also that well-written, concise papers move relatively quickly into print. Together we shall conquer space.

J. Jefferson Reid
Editor

Table 1. Extended.

Watson ^a			Wood		
Articles	Reports	Comments	Articles	Reports	Comments
13.9	12.1	9.5	26.1	17.4	18.7
—	10.3	9.5	2.4	6.5	12.5
18.6	1.7	9.5	4.8	6.5	9.4
4.7	6.9	—	—	2.2	3.1
13.9	13.8	—	9.5	6.5	6.3
—	1.7	—	—	—	—
2.3	15.5	23.8	4.8	6.5	6.3
—	1.7	—	2.4	6.5	—
7.0	3.5	—	7.1	2.2	9.4
—	—	—	—	—	—
11.6	15.5	38.2	21.4	30.4	18.7
2.3	3.5	—	—	—	—
14.0	6.9	—	11.9	10.9	9.4
2.3	1.7	—	4.8	2.2	3.1
9.4	5.2	9.5	4.8	2.2	3.1
(43) 100%	(58) 100%	(21) 100%	(42) 100%	(46) 100%	(32) 100%
(35)	(11)	(10)	(13)	(15)	(14)