

...the Voice of Cultural Resources Management

The Cultural Resources Management Industry:

Providing Critical Support for our Nation's Infrastructure through Expertise in Historic Preservation

Cultural Resources and Infrastructure in the United States

Section 106 reviews are not an obstacle to infrastructure development. Since its passage in 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act has provided local communities an important role in commenting on federal undertakings. The Act requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. Many of these undertakings involve maintaining and building our nation's infrastructure. Historic properties are cultural resources listed in or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. For example, in 2017, more than 101,500 Federal actions (undertakings) complied with the National Historic Preservation Act. As a result of information collected during these undertakings, decisions were made on the historical significance to the Nation of over 81,900 historic buildings, districts, objects, and sites.

A Resource for Efficient Regulatory Review

The CRM industry helps achieve balance between development needs and preservation values, as Congress intended when it passed the NHPA. Private CRM firms carry out most investigations of historic properties, working both for private industry and for federal, state, and local governments, so that their clients can meet their legal obligations on time and on budget. ACRA firms are a resource for efficient, predictable, and effective permitting review.









The American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA): The Voice of the CRM Industry

ACRA is the trade association for private businesses engaged in CRM. We help:

- Advocate for conditions that allow the CRM industry to thrive
- Improve business efficiency of ACRA member firms
- Improve the practice of cultural resource management

The Scope of the CRM Industry

- There are about 1,300 CRM firms nationwide
- These firms employ some 10,000 CRM professionals: archaeologists, architectural historians, historians, and architects. These professionals generate work for an increasingly diverse group of other specialists and support staff, including engineers, planners, environmental scientists, cartographers and geographic information systems (GIS) specialists, information technology professionals, graphic artists, writers/editors, word processors/layout specialists, human resource professionals, accountants, and other administrative staff
- These firms generated over \$1 billion in revenue in calendar year 2016



ACRA: A Resource for You

In addition to being experts in identifying historic properties, CRM firms are small, private, for-profit businesses that understand budgets, jobs, and how our economy works.

This combination gives ACRA a unique perspective on historic preservation issues, especially those related to Federal and state laws, regulations, and programs.

From our national headquarters in Washington, D.C., we can quickly put you in touch with our government relations and legal counsel, our experienced officers and board members, and with ACRA firms all across the country.



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