

Editor's Note: For reasons of space, the five papers dealing with the cultural resource program and its impact on oil shale development are presented in summary form below.

TRI-STATE OIL SHALE ARCHAEOLOGY
AND
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Bruce E. Rippeteau

SUMMARY

Side by side, or intermingled, with the oil shale resource is an important cultural resource, evidence of human behavior in prehistoric and historical time. This second resource is considered sufficiently valuable to be protected by both state and federal laws. One of the duties of the state archaeologist's office is to protect these evidences of man's past, and yet not obstruct or delay development of the oil shale resource.

Cultural resource management, under the body of law enacted over the last 20 years, is primarily a federal responsibility, but administration of the program is handled by both state and federal agencies, usually assisted by qualified archaeologists, working under contract.

Bruce E. Rippeteau, state archaeologist, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

Most people, or firms, concerned with oil shale development, are aware of their responsibilities under the laws governing cultural resources; most would comply with established administration procedures if they thought them feasible.

To make the cultural resource program work, the state and federal agencies in charge of the program need timely information on which to base management decisions. The oil shale development industry can also help by offering possible solutions to any problems that may arise in the course of normal operations.