include concentration, connectiveness, contiguity, description, measurement, and propinquity.

A hypothetical application for this type of spatio-temporal analysis requires us to assume that a community implemented a TGIS at the beginning of the century, and has been storing the states, events, and evidence of the physical environment through today. Suppose this community wanted to determine the retirement rate of buildings in order to identify potential areas of blight or opportunities for new construction. To determine the retirement rate of the building stock, the analyst needs access to all building permits to establish a sample period, typically spanning between 15 and 30 years. From these permits, the analyst extracts the demolition permits and the construction date of these buildings, and determines the life span of each building. The mean average of these life spans represents the retirement. With the accumulated data in the TGIS, planners could determine the retirement rates in various districts, compare the differences in those rates, and conduct analysis on the events and evidence in those areas to determine causal trends for variances in rates. When building demolitions are viewed in this manner, relative to the entire building stock rather than as isolated events, it becomes clear that encouraging maintenance to support natural life spans would be more productive than attempting to prevent building abandonment. So, the TGIS helped prove the soundness of a preservation strategy for the community.

The potential uses of a TGIS in CRM are numerous and only limited by our hesitation to adopt this technology. The preservation planning goals of a community are more likely to succeed if a TGIS operates in tandem with its planning department and other decision-making institutions. This is due to the fact that TGIS models historic trends, while processing other data types. CRM professionals are, inherently, experts in temporal analysis, and therefore have an opportunity to shape the outcome of this emerging technology.

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Note

* Gail Langran, *Time in Geographic Information Systems.* Diss. University of Washington, Seattle, 1989. (Ann Arbor: UMI, 1989. 9000269).

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Visiting National Register Sites on the Web

Interested in touring historic places in some of America's greatest cities, or following the path of the Underground Railroad? Now you can take these trips without leaving your office or home when you visit the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places Web site and check out Discover our Shared Heritage—a series of National Register online travel itineraries.

Cosponsored by the National Park Service and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, the itineraries help travelers plan trips that link a variety of historic places from National Parks, to National Historic Landmarks, to state and locally significant historic resources. Each itinerary consists of a self-guided tour which includes a brief historical essay and a description of each place's significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The itineraries provide visually stimulating maps, photographs, locational information, and links to other Web sites where visitors can get information about the cities. The itineraries and maps can be printed from the Web site so that the public can use them while touring.

Currently available online are travel itineraries for the Georgia-Florida Coast, Baltimore, Chicago, Seattle, Detroit, and sites associated with the Underground Railroad. Additional geographic and thematic itineraries are in development. You can learn more about the National Register of Historic Places and take these tours by visiting the National Register's homepage at: <www.cr.nps.gov/nr>.

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Patrick Andrus
National Register