

and forms created by the researcher, data from previous projects were entered into the database and the data manipulation tools were pilot tested. When the research tools were refined they were used as part of the data entry process in the current archival research on the Impact of Advocates for National Recreation Services. This enabled the researcher to enter references and notes about the archival materials directly into the database, at the archives and have the data available for analysis much more quickly than was previously possible.

The purpose of this poster session is to encourage discussion of the value and use of computers and this particular tool.

C-PF-04

**COMPUTER ASSISTED RESEARCH TOOLS IN
RECREATION HISTORY**

S.E. Markham (Acadia University, Canada)

While some historians may view the use of computers as mere electronic gadgets, in this project they were viewed as useful tools to assist in the collection, storage and manipulation of data. Of those three uses, the most important ones were collection and storage, with the manipulation of data being driven, not by the computer program, but by the researcher's questioning and desire for speedy retrieval of information for analysis.

"Q&A Version 4.0" Database and Word Processor was selected for this work. Using the "Q&A" program and the database
