Conference Highlights

- **Biltmore Estate:** More than a century ago, George Vanderbilt created a larger-than-life country retreat in North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains. Its centerpiece—Biltmore House—provided 250 rooms of hospitality to family and friends. Today, Biltmore Estate continues to offer a gracious escape from everyday life. Marvel at the grandeur of America's largest home filled with Vanderbilt's collection of fine art and antiques. Stroll through gardens created by America’s father of landscape architecture, Frederick Law Olmsted. Enjoy estate-raised foods, and savor award-winning vintages at Biltmore's winery. For information about Biltmore, visit the official website at [www.biltmore.com](http://www.biltmore.com) (best viewed in Internet Explorer), or the Biltmore Estate Pathfinder created by R. Ferrell, Graduate Student in Library Science at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

- **Grove Park Inn:** Bruce Johnson, coordinator of the Arts and Crafts Conference at the Grove Park, will lead us on a tour and speak about the history of this famous resort inn, built in 1913 overlooking the Asheville, North Carolina skyline and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Its splendid views, old world charm, peerless amenities, and a long tradition of exceptional service and hospitality make it a place to savor as one of the most enduringly original and exciting resorts in America. For more information about the Grove Park Inn, visit the official website at [www.groveparkinn.com](http://www.groveparkinn.com). Author, woodworker, and collector Bruce Johnson originated the Grove Park Inn conference 12 years ago, hoping to lure perhaps 75 collectors to the inn during the off-season. About 300 came the first year, with a third of them returning each year since then, and others have joined the parade. He is also the recipient of the Craftsman Farms Foundation's 1999 "Als ik Kan" award. and is the author of: *The Book of Mottos from the Grove Park Inn*, 1996. *Built for the Ages: a History of the Grove Park Inn*, 1991. *The official identification and price guide to arts and crafts: the early modernist movement in American decorative arts, 1894-1923*, 1988. *Craftsman furniture made by Gustave Stickley at the Craftsman Workshops, Eastwood, N.Y.*, 1989.

- **Walking tour of downtown Asheville:** Operated by the Public Art Administration in the Asheville Department of Parks and Recreation, the Asheville Urban Trail is a unique opportunity to explore 100 years of Asheville's architectural and local history. Conducted by local historians, this 2-hour walk covers nearly 2 miles of the downtown area. For further information, please visit their website at [www.ci.asheville.nc.us/parks/urban.htm](http://www.ci.asheville.nc.us/parks/urban.htm).

- **Grovewood Gallery:** The Grovewood Gallery is a historical presence in the area, founded in 1901. It contains a gallery and workshops for contemporary and traditional arts and crafts, affording a unique
opportunity to see artists and at work. For more information, visit Error!
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• Exhibition of Biltmore Industries Archives at UNC-Asheville
• Panel discussion on the Arts and Crafts Movement in Asheville and the region.
And much more!

Schedule of Events

Thursday, November 7
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  Welcome party/get-together, Hotel Lobby
Dinner - On your own

Friday, November 8
7:45 a.m.  Meet in Hotel Lobby for travel
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.  Travel to Biltmore House
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Biltmore House tour and presentation, Biltmore House
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.  Lunch - on your own - Biltmore grounds or village
2:15 p.m.  Meet at Group Sales Office for travel
2:30 p.m.  Travel to Grove Park Inn, Group Sales Office
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.  Talk by Bruce Johnson on the history of Grove Park Inn and tour of Inn  Grove Park Inn
4:30 - 5:45 p.m.  Tour of artists/crafts workshops and stores (guide tentatively booked)
5:45 p.m.  Meet at front door of Grove Park Inn
6:00-9:00 p.m.  Dinner  Grovewood Café
9:00 p.m.  Return to Hotel Lobby

Saturday, November 9
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.  Business Meeting/LoPresti Awards --Breakfast included
Renaissance Hotel meeting room
9:30 a.m.  Meet in Hotel Lobby

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  Asheville Urban Trail - architecture and history tour  Pack Center

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.  Lunch - on your own, Downtown Asheville

1:30 p.m.  Meet in front of Hotel

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.  Travel to UNC-Asheville

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.  Guest speakers: Frank Thomson and Mike McCue  UNC-Asheville, Ramsey Library

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.  Demonstration of image databases by Lee Sorensen, Rachel Kuhn and Sarah McCleskey  UNC-Asheville, Ramsey Library

4:30 - 5:00  Tour of exhibition of Biltmore Industries Archives  UNC-Asheville, Ramsey Library

5:15 p.m.  Meet at front door of Ramsey Library

5:30 p.m.  Return to Hotel

6:00 p.m.  Dinner - On your own

**Sunday, November 10**
No events scheduled, but feel free to travel in the area or visit other local attractions