When I became editor of *JSAH* in 2006, I saw digital publication as the journal’s next frontier and set it as a goal of my editorship. Now, as my editorship comes to an end, it is gratifying to report on the successful outcome of this initiative.

For almost a decade, we have experienced the benefits of electronic access to *JSAH* through JSTOR, which has become a preferred point of entry to the journal especially for research and teaching, but our online presence has two basic limitations. First, it excludes the most recent volumes, primarily for financial reasons relating to the sustainability of *JSAH*. The three-year rolling embargo means that the current volumes of the journal are the least accessible. Second, the online format replicates the printed page, as if the computer were a paperless photocopier machine. Word searching and effortless retrieval of back issues are powerful draws to our JSTOR incarnation, but the inculcation of digital research and reading habits has raised expectations. It no longer makes sense to derive our online presence from the printed page; why not reinvent the online edition to optimize electronic resources?

In January 2007, funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation supported a planning process for electronic publication with both SAH-specific and broader aims. The first aim was to support sound business planning to enable SAH to make the transition to electronic publication; the key perceived risk was the attrition of members who might access the journal through university portals. The second aim was to design a multimedia interface that would potentially serve a wide range of journals. Websites with video and audio clips, zoomable images, geographic information system (GIS), and other features are commonplace on the Internet, but these assets have yet to be deployed in the publication of scholarly journals. The Mellon-funded planning had three components: a risk assessment and business plan that set baseline financial performance standards; design of a prototype developed with ARTstor to demonstrate the innovative features that were established as desiderata; and a request for proposals to select a publishing partner with the technical capacity and desire to develop the prototype as a fully functional publication platform. In the summer of 2008, that planning process culminated in the selection of the University of California Press as our partner.

Beginning in 2010, the University of California Press will publish *JSAH* both electronically and in print. Members will receive dual editions (unless they opt for one format only), with parallel content, except still images in the print edition will replace the online multimedia. The University of California Press will also modernize the print publication process and help editors manage the heavy flow of submissions with an electronic editorial management program. Moreover, in moving from a self-publishing operation to a full-service publisher, SAH will benefit from the press’s marketing resources, which surpass what we can do on our own.

The online edition will be designed for a multimedia, digital environment. Text and image will be perfectly synchronized; no awkward flipping back and forth to find a picture. In fields such as architectural history where illustrations are not decorative but constitutive of the argument, this synchronization should liberate authors and readers to more probative use of visual evidence. Color and zoomable images will be regular features, allowing authors to explain and readers to see buildings with greater attention to the significant detail. *JSAH Online* will also accommodate video and audio clips, which will enrich discussions of the experiential and processional dimensions of architecture, among other things. Finally, the University of California Press will work with Atypon, its technology partner, to build the capacity to present three-dimensional models, integrate a GIS, and link in the future with the images in the Architecture Visual Resources Network (AVRN) for the inculcation of digital research and reading habits has raised expectations. It no longer makes sense to derive our online presence from the printed page; why not reinvent the online edition to optimize electronic resources?

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SAH is on the brink of realizing the project’s most ambitious goals. The University of California Press has declared its intention to revise its journals’ platform to emulate the *JSAH* multimedia prototype. Thus our work to go beyond the standard, black-and-white presentation, with norms rooted in print publication, is poised to have a wider impact.

Over the next year, the project team—the University of California Press, Atypon, and SAH—will translate the prototype into an operational interface, and *JSAH* will publicize submission standards for the new types of multimedia content. *JSAH* passes to the extremely capable hands of the new editor David Brownlee, but I will continue to supervise the development of *JSAH Online* through its launch in March 2010. It is unknowable how, over time, online publishing and research practices will evolve, but the enhanced capacities of *JSAH* position it to attract cutting-edge, born-digital research dependent on electronic transmission, such as three-dimensional modeling, strengthen the scholarly mission of SAH, and expand its international outreach.

In final words as editor, I would like to pay tribute to my partners in the publishing enterprise: Krista Sykes and Jo Ellen Ackerman, the outstanding team that produces *JSAH*; the review editors, anonymous peer reviewers, and contributors whose standards of excellence distinguish our journal and embody the ideal of a scholarly community; and the directors of SAH, and Pauline Saliga, executive director, for their enthusiastic support of the electronic evolution of our signature journal. *JSAH* stands poised to play a leadership role in digital humanities in the twenty-first century.