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The Primary Source

MISSISSIPPIANA COLLECTION
MAGAZINE GRADUATE LIBRARY

A Quarterly Publication of The Society of Mississippi Archivists

Volume 9

Winter 1988

Number 4

NEWSPAPER PROJECT AWARDED MICROFILMING GRANT

The Mississippi Newspaper Project has received a grant of \$26,317 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to microfilm selected Mississippi newspapers that are in danger of being lost because of negligence, deterioration or destruction. The microfilming will be undertaken in conjunction with the bibliographic phase of the Newspaper Project. A proposal for a two-year microfilming phase of the project has been sent to NEH. The current grant covers an eight-month period, through August 1988.

Glenda Stevens will oversee the daily operation of the microfilming project, assisted by Joe Brent, newspaper archivist, and Michael Johnson, microfilm camera operator. Dale Foster is coordinator of the newspaper project.

WORKSHOPS SET FOR SAC MEETING

Plans for the joint SMA/SALA spring meeting, the first formal meeting of the Southeastern Archivists' Conference (SAC) are progressing. The meeting will be held Tuesday, May 17 through Thursday, May 19, 1988 at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Archivists from the surrounding region are invited to attend.

Workshop chair H.T. Holmes reports that the three concurrent workshops to be held Tuesday, May 17 have been finalized. Nancy Sahli, of National Historical Publications and Records Program, will give a workshop on grantsmanship. Lisa Fox, SOLINET Conservation Officer, will present a workshop on choosing a conservation vendor. The Society of American Archivists will send a representative to conduct a workshop on management techniques for archivists. All three workshops will be daylong sessions with limited enrollment. There will be several concurrent program sessions on Wednesday and Thursday, and it is hoped that nationally-recognized speakers will be available to discuss a national records program and conservation and preservation issues.

Meeting attendees will have opportunities to sample the cultural and historical ambience of Oxford, home of William Faulkner and other literary figures. Also planned is an evening of blues music with James "Son" Thomas and Walter Liniger.

A complete program announcement will appear in the Spring issue of The Primary Source.

The Primary Source (ISSN 0741-6563) is a quarterly publication of news and ideas produced by the Society of Mississippi Archivists, a non-profit organization of professional archivists and other interested persons.

Editorial Staff

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Features editors: Sandra E. Boyd
Alexandra S. Gressitt
University of Southern Mississippi

Book review editor: Michael B. Ballard, Mississippi State University

National events reporter: Terry S. Latour, University of Southern Mississippi

Conservation reporter: Linda Overman, Department of Archives and History

Production manager: Earl M. Hennen, Department of Archives and History

Your contributions, newsnotes and letters are welcome. Send them to:
Suzanne Flandreau Steel, Blues Archive-Farley Hall, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677, telephone (601) 232-7753.

Thanks to Sandra Boyd, Dan Den Bleyker, Clifton Dale Foster, Alexandra Gressitt and Terry Latour for contributions to this issue. In future issues we hope to have an interview with Mississippi's new Governor, Ray Mabus, and a complete program for the upcoming spring meeting in Oxford. We had hoped to have the membership directory in this issue, but computer problems defeated us.

Our feature editors Sandra Boyd and Alexandra Gressitt are very eager to hear from anyone willing to provide a feature article for this newsletter. Articles can be only a few pages in length and may cover any topic relevant to the archival world. We especially appreciate articles on subjects of importance that we do not automatically hear about: see, for example, Linda Overman's excellent coverage of the deacidification controversy in the last issue, or Dan Den Bleyker's thoughtful report on a conference on collecting television newsfilm later on in this issue. Is there anyone out there who can address issues in local records collecting in Mississippi, for example? How about the use of local history materials in genealogical research? Annotated bibliographies on archival topics are also welcome. Please send your literary contributions to Sandra and Alexandra at the McCain Library and Archives, Box 5148 Southern Station, Hattiesburg, MS 39406.

The deadline for the Spring, 1988 issue is March 15.

INSTITUTIONAL SPOTLIGHTS

GREENWOOD-LEFLORE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Greenwood-Leflore Public Library was founded in the fall of 1914. Throughout the years the library has had a strong interest in local history and genealogy which is reflected in its present holdings.

Address: 405 W. Washington, Greenwood, Mississippi 38930

Phone: (601) 453-3634

Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Contact Person: Mrs. Susan Harris, Director

Services Provided: Photocopying; interlibrary loan; names of researchers available.

Holdings: The Library's holdings include 82,999 books and 2,962 non-book materials. Two major collections are contained within the Library: the May Wilson McBee Genealogical Collection, consisting of approximately 3800 books on southern and northeastern states, and microfilm census records, principally from Mississippi; and a local history collection which includes books on Greenwood and Leflore County as well as printed information on the area. Genealogical and some local history materials do not circulate.

FANT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Fant Memorial Library is located on the campus of Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi.

Address: Box W1625, Columbus, Mississippi 39701

Phone: (601) 3297338

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday
2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Sunday

Contact Person: Patsy McDaniel, Special Collections Librarian

Services Provided: Interlibrary loan; photocopying.

Holdings: The Library's holdings include 4150 books, maps, pictures, a vertical file, MUW theses, and miscellaneous scrapbooks and pamphlets. Of special interest are a set of 1900 Columbus, Mississippi, insurance maps, the Tennessee Tombigbee Research Materials, and the Blanche Colton Williams Collection, materials reflecting the career of a Mississippi author noted for her works on George Eliot and Clara Barton.

TUPELO MUSEUM

The Tupelo Museum, founded in 1984, is located just west of the Natchez Trace Parkway off Highway 6 in Westwood Park.

Address: Box 2674, Tupelo, Mississippi 38801

Phone: (601) 841-6438

Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Contact Person: Oren F. Dunn

Services Provided: Special educational and historical exhibits available for viewing; special loan arrangements.

Holdings: The Tupelo Museum holdings include books and paintings by Lee County authors and artists, Indian artifacts and archaeological discoveries, a recreated 1873 homestead, a turn-of-the-century Western Union office, and materials reflecting prominent Tupelo area residents.

MEETING REPORTS

AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE CONFERENCE ON LOCAL TELEVISION NEWSFILM COLLECTING

Between October 21 and 23, 1987, the first conference addressing local newsfilm collecting was held at the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison, Wisconsin. Among the attendees were representatives of repositories holding collections of local newsfilm, major networks, local stations, and repositories contemplating acquiring newsfilm collections. There were also representatives from Canada and two from Switzerland representing Swiss German Retroromance Television.

The conference was sponsored by the National Center for Film and Video Preservation of the American Film Institute (AFI) with grant funding from the National Historic Publications and Records Commission. The conference was divided into twelve working sessions dealing with aspects of acquisitions of newsfilm, processing of newsfilm, uses of newsfilm, and copyright and legal topics related to newsfilm collecting. Each session opened with the presentation of a paper addressing a specific topic which then was followed by a discussion.

Three areas of weakness in local newsfilm collecting were addressed at the conference. The first was the lack of literature concerning local newsfilm collections. Much of the material presented was taken from sources dealing with other types of motion picture film collections. In many cases these are valuable sources of information to the local newsfilm archivist; in other cases the newsfilm archivist has to approach collecting from a different angle. The second area of weakness was the lack of knowledge about the number of newsfilm collections in existence, and their location. The third was the lack of consensus about how local newsfilm should be collected and processed.

A prime example of this lack of consensus is cataloging. Motion picture film archivists catalog each individual film; however, in newsfilm one seldom finds an individual film unit. One segment of newsfilm can be divided many times. For example, there can be the story which was aired on

the local station on the 6 o'clock news, the story which was aired on the local station on the 10 o'clock news, the out-takes from the story, the trims from the portion of the story which was aired, portions of the story shown on the week in review programs, and the year in review programs. The questions which were brought out at the conference were: should each of these pieces of film be cataloged; should the curator try to restore them to their original order and catalog the restored film segments; or should the cataloging be done at the collection level and an index created for the film segments in the collection? While there was no agreement about the best way to do this, the consensus seems to be developing among newsfilm archivists that the last solution, collection level cataloging, is the wisest, although, one person did suggest that each individual frame should receive its own cataloging entry.

Sam Surratt of CBS News suggested that the cataloging of local newsfilms was aimed too much towards the factual information contained in the film and not enough towards the visual images contained on the film. His suggestions seem to aim towards developing stock film collections from local newsfilm archives and not towards developing the collection as historical evidence. Surratt's comments brought about an interesting discussion about the value of newsfilm as historical evidence. John O'Connor from the New Jersey Institute of Technology expressed the belief that local newsfilm could be too biased to be of value as a primary source of historical evidence, but it does become a valuable resource for producers of film and television productions.

Another area which was widely discussed was weeding of newsfilm collections. While most conference attendees agreed about the need for weeding collections, there was no agreement about the criteria which should be used. In fact, there was some disagreement as to the value of weeding collections. Jerry Yeager of the University of Baltimore and Alan Lewis, an independent audiovisual consultant, found that weeding was too expensive when considering the amount of space it saved. George Talbot of the Wisconsin Historical Society expressed the belief that archives should be more selective in the acceptance of newsfilm collections. If the collection replicates another collection in the repository, it should not be taken.

Fees were another important topic. Some repositories have formally developed user policies with fee schedules, others charge fees as they see fit, and others do not charge fees of any kind. This supports the findings of a survey on the subject done by the Chicago Historical Society in 1986. It was definitely agreed by the attendees that local newsfilm is a valuable source for television and film producers, and film and television producers should be charged for using the material.

The entire proceedings of the conference were recorded and will be transcribed and made available to attendees and to those interested in collecting. One of the most valuable aspects of the conference was the exchange of ideas and the creation of a closer relationship between collectors of newsfilm. In the past, newsfilm collectors have met with the Film and Television Archives Advisory Committee (F/TAAC) of the AFI. While these meetings are valuable, they do not address the specific problems related to newsfilm collections. One of the hopes expressed by the conference attendees was that there would be more meetings which closely address the needs of newsfilm archivists. For further information about the conference, please contact: Dan Den Bleyker, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, P. O. Box 57, Jackson, Mississippi 39202, or Gregory Lukow, American Film Institute, P. O. Box 27999, 2021 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90027.

--Dan Den Bleyker

MISSISSIPPI MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION GRANTSMANSHIP WORKSHOP

A workshop entitled "Grantsmanship: Federal and Private Funding Procurement" was held on Monday, November 16, in Jackson, Mississippi. Co-sponsors of the event were the Mississippi Museums Association, the Society of Mississippi Archivists, and the Manship House, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The one day workshop, led by Dr. David C. Jones, an experienced grants writer and reviewer, was intended for museum, archives, and library personnel. During the morning and afternoon sessions, a number of specific funding sources were identified and various suggestions were shared about making contacts with grant offices, deciding which grants to pursue, and preparing a grant budget.

-- Sandra E. Boyd, University of Southern Mississippi

SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA ARCHIVISTS' FALL MEETING

Approximately 50 people, from Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, gathered in Asheville, North Carolina, on October 22 and 23, for a preconference workshop and the fall meeting of the Society of North Carolina Archivists. Conservation of archival materials was the prevailing theme throughout both programs, although other issues such as collection development and cataloging of photographs were also discussed.

The preconference workshop, "Identification and Deterioration of Photographs," the first such workshop offered by the Society of North Carolina Archivists, was conducted by James M. Reilly of the Rochester Institute of Technology at the Presbyterian Historical Foundation, Montreat, North Carolina. Mr. Reilly's lecture-slide presentation developed themes discussed in his recently published book, Care and Identification of 19th Century Photographic Prints (Rochester, New York: Eastman Kodak Company, 1986) and culminated in a deterioration clinic with participants sharing examples of problems from their collections.

The society's fall meeting was held the following day at Owen Conference Center, University of North Carolina - Asheville. During the morning, participants were offered a choice between two concurrent sessions: 1)"Collection Development for Small Repositories," with speakers addressing collection development in public libraries and religious archives in colleges; and 2)"Cataloging Photographs," in which the pros and cons of using data management systems or traditional cataloging were presented by Morgan J. Barclay, East Carolina University and Jerry Cotten, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Following luncheon, the keynote address, "Preservation: Crisis or Opportunity?" was presented by David J. Olson, North Carolina State Archivist, and was the basis for a lively discussion during one of the afternoon sessions. The other afternoon session, "Manuscript Conservation for Small Repositories," was conducted by Ellen Gartrell, Duke University Manuscripts Department.

-- Alexandra S. Gressitt, University of Southern Mississippi

NATIONAL NEWS

WILSON SWORN IN AS ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES

On December 4, 1987 Dr. Don W. Wilson was sworn in as seventh Archivist of the United States, in a ceremony attended by President Reagan. In his inaugural remarks, Wilson stated that the National Archives "has the potential to influence every area of archives and manuscripts in the United States and most of the world....The time has come for this important agency to serve a broader audience and develop an expanded mission."

"I think that the National Archives can energize. It can coordinate, promote and consult without centralizing or seeking to control. Generations of specialized researchers and ordinary citizens will benefit if we are now able to establish a sound and thoughtful national records policy."

"I believe all agree that the basic mission of the National Archives is to preserve for posterity our nation's most important documents. As Archivist of the United States I intend to fulfill the mission by providing the agency with aggressive, creative, professional leadership ... The tasks facing us are both enormous and challenging. The National Archives today requires leadership, ingenuity, and long-term professional commitment to recordskeeping and public service. Now is a time when there is a greater awareness than ever before of the needs of the National Archives. ... That makes now a time of opportunity, as well as great obligation."

"As seventh Archivist of the United States, I am prepared to fully commit myself to these challenges and these responsibilities." (Quoted in The Dusty Shelf, A Newsletter for the Kansas City Area Archivists, January 1988)

NEH CHAIR CITES THREAT TO "AMERICAN MEMORY"

America's elementary and secondary schools are failing to teach students about their history and culture, says Lynne V. Cheney, chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Cheney's assessment appears in her study, "American Memory: A Report on the Humanities in the Nation's Public Schools", published recently by the endowment.

Cheney cites data from an NEH-funded survey showing that more than two-thirds of American seventeen-year-olds cannot place the Civil War within the correct half-century. The same survey showed vast majorities of students are unfamiliar with writers whose works are regarded as classics.

"American Memory" identifies several reasons for these conditions. Cheney blames a curriculum that teaches "children how to think without troubling them to learn anything worth thinking about." Also at fault, Cheney contends, are "social studies" textbooks used in early grades that contain almost no history. American history texts used in high schools are heavy with facts but often deficient in compelling narrative, the report says. Finally, Cheney argues that the system of training and sustaining teachers emphasizes how to teach at the expense of what substantive knowledge shall be taught.

The report lists a number of recommendations for strengthening humanities education in the public schools:

- *More time should be devoted to the study of history, literature, and foreign languages. The report urges replacing "social studies" with the systematic study of history, and making history and literature "a part of every school year and a part of every student's academic life."

- *History textbooks should present the events of the past so that their significance is clear. This means, according to Cheney, providing more

information than names, places, and dates. Textbooks must inform students about "ideas and their consequences, the effect of human personality, and what it is possible for men and women to accomplish."

*Teachers should be freed from excessive study of pedagogy so they can take more courses in history and other humanities disciplines.

Single copies of "American Memory" are available free from the Office of Publications and Public Affairs, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506. (History News Dispatch, November, 1987)

NRPRC RECOMMENDS 30 GRANTS TALLING \$1,167,378

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission met on October 22 and recommended \$880,653 for twenty projects for documentary editions and \$276,725 for nine projects for historical records programs. Also recommended was a \$10,000 subvention grant to help defray publication costs for one documentary edition. This edition is the first paperback to be supported by Commission funds. The grant recommendations were made in response to more than \$2,000,000 in requests.

In addition to funding thirty Records and Publications Program proposals, other Commission business at the October meeting included an update on the forthcoming second edition of the Directory of Archives and Manuscript Repositories. Co-published by Oryx Press, this newly revised and updated edition will be available in the spring of 1988.

The Commission approved the revision of the Publication Program's subvention program. The new plan updates the program's Guidelines, increases subvention amounts from \$10,000 to \$12,000, and allows for Commission support of paperback editions and reprinting now out-of-print volumes.

The Commission selected Cornell University, New York University, and the University of Vermont to serve as host institutions for the 1988-89 Fellowships in Archival Administration. Individual applications are now being accepted by the Commission through February 1. The host institutions will select their fellows in March 1988 and fellowships will begin on or about September 1, 1988.

The Commission also appointed Dr. Nancy Sahli director of the Commission's Records Program. Dr. Sahli replaces Dr. George Vogt who resigned his position at the Commission to become the director of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for consideration of proposals received against the October 1 deadline. The next application deadline is February 1. The Records Program application guidelines brochure may be requested by phone or by mail: Records Program NHPRC - NPR National Archives Building Washington, D.C. 20408 (202) 523-5386. (News From the Archives, Fall, 1987)

NHPRC OFFERS ARCHIVAL ADMINISTRATION FELLOWSHIPS

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has selected three new host institutions for its Archival Administration Fellowship Program. The host institutions for 1988-89 will be the University of Vermont, Cornell University, and New York University.

Fellows receive a \$21,000 stipend and a \$4,200 benefits package. Each fellowship is from nine to ten months long, with the actual length based on

the fellow's and host institution's needs. Individual application materials for the 1988-89 fellowship year and additional information on the fellowship program are available from the commission by calling or writing NHPRC - NP, National Archives Building, Washington, D.C. 20408; (202) 523-5386.

The deadline for applications from individuals is 1 February 1988. Selection of 1988-89 fellows will be made by June, and fellowships will begin in September or October 1988.

In addition to application inquiries, the commission welcomes inquiries from institutions interested in hosting a future fellow. Host applications for the 1989-90 fellowship year will be available next summer, and the application receipt deadline is 15 September 1988. (SAA Newsletter, November, 1987)

NOTABLE ACCESSIONS

The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., will acquire the personal papers of internationally known businessman, philanthropist and citizen diplomat Armand Hammer (b. 1898), chairman of the board of Occidental Petroleum Corporation. The Hammer collection will include correspondence and personal papers documenting Hammer's remarkable career, from his early years in Moscow as a physician and representative of American businesses to a second career as a petrochemical entrepreneur, patron of the arts, and champion of cancer research. A special feature will be the numerous films, recordings, and other audiovisual material, some never before seen by historians, documenting Hammer's contacts with world leaders from Lenin to Reagan. The Library plans a special exhibit from the Hammer Collections on the occasion of his 90th birthday, May 21, 1988. During his lifetime and for an interval thereafter the papers may be consulted only with the permission of Hammer or those authorized to act on his behalf. (College and Research Libraries News, November, 1987)

The University of Texas at Austin has received a collection of papers of Ben and Henry McCulloch, legendary brothers who were Texas Rangers, Indian fighters, veterans of the Mexican War, U.S. Army Marshals and Confederate Army brigadier generals. The papers were donated by Dr. O. Howard Frazier, Jr., director of the thoracic surgery program at the UT Medical School. Spanning the period from the 1830's to the 1860's, they will be of interest to researchers in Texas and Civil War history. The papers depict courtships and marriages, births and deaths, feuds and religious revivals and the daily affairs of life on a hardscrabble Central Texas farm. The collection contains 25 letters each from Ben and Henry McCulloch to their mother, Frances, and 70 other family letters; ten family photographs; a 67-page genealogical record of the McCulloch family; a broadside announcing the March 7, 1862, death of Ben in the Civil War and arrangements for his funeral; and other material related to his death. Ben McCulloch (1811-1862) commanded the Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas forces at the battle of Elk Horn, Arkansas, at the time he was killed; following the war his brother Henry (1816-1895) was superintendent of what became the Texas School for the Deaf. (College and Research Libraries News, November, 1987)

REGIONAL NEWS

GEORGIA NEWSPAPER PROJECT FUNDED

The University of Georgia in Athens has received a three-year grant of \$417,441 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to continue work on the state's newspaper project begun under last year's NEH planning grant. The grant, which contains \$50,000 in matching funds, will fund the filming and cataloging of newspapers located during the first part of the project. To be included are an estimated 3900 titles, and 2.5 million pages are to be filmed. (College & Research Libraries News, October 1987)

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION ANNOUNCES STUDY GRANTS

The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention announces the availability of limited funds for study grant awards for 1988. The grants are to assist researchers in the field of Baptist history whose major sources are in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, operated by the Commission. The deadline for grants available in September is April 1, 1988. For application forms and more information, write: Historical Commission, SBC, 901 Commerce St., Suite 400, Nashville, TN 37203-3620. (Tennessee Archivists Newsletter, Fall 1987)

MISSISSIPPI MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION TO MEET IN STARKVILLE

The Mississippi Museums Association will hold its annual meeting on Thursday and Friday, February 25-26, 1988 at Mississippi State University in Starkville. The registration fee is \$25, which includes 1988-89 MMA membership, Thursday's wine and cheese reception, and Friday's morning coffee and lunch. The special registration fee for students is \$5, which includes 1988-89 MMA membership and Friday's morning coffee. The meeting will include presentations by several speakers and tours of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology and Briscoe Art Gallery. For further information contact Mary Lohrenz, President, MMA, or Jo Miles, Secretary-Treasurer, MMA, Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205, (601) 354-6222.

CONSERVATION NEWSNOTES

ETHERINGTON TO JOIN INFORMATION CONSERVATION, INC.

Information Conservation, Inc., the corporate parent of General Bookbinding Co., Joseph Ruzicka-South, Inc., and Library Bindery Co. of Pennsylvania, has announced the creation of a new division of the company to be under the directorship of one of the leading conservators in the world. Mr. Don Etherington, formerly Assistant Director/Chief Conservation Officer of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center in Austin, Texas has agreed to join ICI as Vice President of Conservation and Preservation, effective November 1, 1987.

John R. (Jack) Fairfield, President of Information Conservation, Inc., indicated that Mr. Etherington will be operating out of Greensboro, North Carolina, and the Joseph Ruzicka plant but will be available to consult with the Ohio and Pennsylvania company customers for conservation services. "This is a major step for a commercial bindery to take. We have been listening to our customers and believe the library community will welcome the availability of a full-service conservation and preservation operation",

said Fairfield. "We feel very fortunate to be associated with Don Etherington and compliment him on his willingness to join the private sector in establishing this Division within our corporate family".

Etherington's credentials are known throughout the world as superb. He was educated and trained in England and came to America in 1970. His job credits in the last seventeen years started with the Library of Congress as the Assistant Restoration Officer and he served in that capacity until 1980. He joined the University of Texas at Austin as Chief Conservation Officer until accepting this new position.

Etherington's professional credentials include Fellowship in the American Institute for Conservation and Internal Institute for Conservation. He is an active member of the American Library Association, Guild of Book Workers, and many other international and national associations. Etherington is a renowned Design Bookbinder and has exhibited his work worldwide. He co-authored, with Matt Robert, Bookbinding and the Conservation of Books, A Dictionary of Descriptive Terminology (1982).

His efforts in organizing and conducting workshops have spanned the globe during the last ten years and Mr. Etherington and ICI plan to continue to offer his services as a consultant where and when needed.

VIDEOS HIGHLIGHT USE OF RARE MATERIALS, DISASTER RECOVERY

How to Operate a Book, by Gary Frost and Terry Belanger, is the latest video offering on rare book use and preservation. Frost narrates the video, which ties the development of book structure with suggestions for the use and handling of rare items. He also argues against the use of original items unless the research project absolutely requires it. The 30 minute video comes with a transcript, and is available for \$250 from Book Arts Press, 109 Britania Circle, Durham, NC 27704, telephone 800-247-9437.

ARMA has produced a 13-minute video on disaster planning entitled The Inside Track to Disaster Recovery. It is available in both VHS and Beta. For more information contact ARMA International, 4200 Somerset, Suite 215, Prairie village, KS 66208.

BOOK REVIEWS

Bearman, David. Optical Media: Their Implications for Archives and Museums. Pittsburgh: Archives and Museum Informatics, 1987. (Archival Informatics Technical Report: Part 2 of Archival Informatics and Newsletter and Technical Report, Volume 1, Number 1, Spring 1987.) Inserts, glossary, appendices, bibliography. 73 pp. \$45. Paper.

Optical storage media are touted as having wide-ranging applications in information management. In this technical report, David Bearman, a noted consultant in the field, examines these technologies and assesses their capabilities in an archival and museum environment.

Videodiscs, compact discs, optical digital disks, and their various forms are the types of optical media examined. The report begins, appropriately, with an insightful overview of the advantages and disadvantages of optical media in archival and museum applications, including a discussion of preservation and access considerations. This is followed by a description of the underlying technologies, presented in terms understandable to most non-technocrats.

Administrators will find Bearman's discussion of the steps involved in implementing an optical media project of much interest. The author takes a systematic approach to the process, beginning with the identification of a promising application and following through with considerations of planning, staffing, system design, and finally, actual production. Especially useful is the review of previous and ongoing optical media projects, both successes and failures. These projects demonstrate several creative uses of optical media and serve as a basis for planning future applications.

Interspersed throughout the volume are helpful inserts that provide supplemental information on such subjects as commercially available optical products, cost calculations, commercial production firms with archives and museum experience, and professional resources. The report also contains informative appendices, including a directory of optical projects in archives and museums, a guide to vendor sources, and a selective bibliography on the subject.

Though the author presents a balanced discussion of the potentials and shortcomings of optical media, he makes it clear that these technologies have a viable place in an archival or museum setting. The future prospects, however, are still unclear, for as Bearman points out, other technologies, including improved magnetic storage devices, will be competing with optical media in the years ahead.

Perhaps the best one word description of this report is "practical." It is a storehouse of timely information on the current stage of development of optical media and an up-to-date briefing on projects using these technologies. The author demonstrates a commanding knowledge of both the technical and administrative aspects of these media and, more importantly, their integration into archival and museum work. This report will be extremely beneficial for anyone considering such projects.

--Clifton Dale Foster
Infographics Information Services
Mobile, Alabama

McGee, Laura, editor. Records Management Resources: An Annotated Bibliography for Local Governments. Pasadena, California; International Institute of Municipal Clerks, 1987, pp. iii + 46, \$10.

Originally conceived as a means to promote the exchange of information among local records managers, specifically municipal clerks, Records Management Resources accomplishes much more. Although it is not comprehensive, and is based on a random survey of local, provincial, and state records management programs, it is the only such resource available.

Records Management Resources is divided into four sections. The first and primary section is a bibliographic listing by state or province and city of published local, provincial, and state records management and records retention manuals, including a brief descriptive passage on topics covered in each manual, cost of publication when known, and ordering information. The second section includes the random survey conducted by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and its results. The third section is a list of records management organizations and the fourth section a brief bibliography of general publications on records management.

For readers, however remotely or actively responsible for local records, this bibliography is an invaluable resource for local records management information.

--Alexandra S. Gressitt
University of Southern Mississippi

PUBLICATIONS NOTED

The Life of a Document: A Global Approach to Archives and Records Management by Carol Couture and Jean-Yves Rousseau. (357 pages, appendix, bibliography, 1987). Order from Vehicule Press, P.O. Box 125, Place du Parc Station, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2W2M9. Copies are \$25 (ISBN 0-919890-51-1) for paper bound. Described by Library Journal as "a primer on archival management," this book covers records management, research use of archives, and the role of archives in society. Includes a glossary, bibliography and many useful checklists.

A Citizen's Guide on Using the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 to Request Government Records. House Committee on Government Operations, 1987. Available from Dept. 36-XZ, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402-9325. Stock Number 052-071-00752-1. Copies are \$1.75 prepaid. The report is up-to-date on changes in the laws, and discusses requirements for agency response, fees and fee waivers and appeal procedures.

NISTF Papers. The Society of American Archivists announces the availability of the first in its new series of Occasional Papers, "Towards National Information Systems for Archives and Manuscripts Repositories: The National Information Systems Task Force (NISTF) Papers. 1981-1984", by David Bearman. In addition to a lengthy introduction, this report contains two NISTF working papers and two talks on the policy implications of NISTF's work. This collection has great relevance to archivists today, containing numerous unexplored political and technical opportunities for the profession. The "NISTF Papers" may in fact be better understood in 1987 that they were when written in the early 1980's. 119 pp. \$10 members; \$12 nonmembers. Order from the SAA office, 600 South Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605.

Archival and Manuscript Repositories in North Carolina: A Directory (109 pages, 1987). Order from the Society of North Carolina Archivists, P.O. Box 20448, Raleigh, NC 27619. Copies are \$12 plus \$2 for postage.

Papers Relating to the Visual Arts at the Historic New Orleans Collection, is the latest Manuscripts Division Update (Volume 6, 1987) from the Historic New Orleans collection, 533 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 523-4662.

North Dakota County Records Management Manual, compiled by Ann Alexander, Rick Bock and Jerry Newborg, is the result of a yearlong grant project of the North Dakota Association of Counties that included record surveys and compilation of records retention schedules. Procedures outlined in the manual are being adopted into the North Dakota Administrative Code. Available for \$25 from North Dakota Association of Counties, Box 417, Bismarck, ND 58502.

Records Management for Parishes and Schools, compiled by David P. Gray, Diocesan Archivist for the Diocese of Bismarck, North Dakota, has been reprinted by the Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists. The manual contains a step-by-step process for establishing a records management program; provides information on care of archival materials; and includes records management forms, glossary, canons relating to parochial archives,, and a records retention schedule governing retention of 225 records common to parishes and schools in the Diocese of Bismarck. Copies are \$3.25 each, \$2.75 each for 50 or more. Order from Sr. Catherine Louise La Coste, Diocese of San Diego, P.O. Box 80428, San Diego, CA 92138.

CONSERVATION PUBLICATIONS

Preservation Guidelines in ARL Libraries, SPEC Kit #137. (September 1987). Order from SPEC, Office Management Studies, 1527 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Copies are \$20 prepaid.

A revised edition of Ann Clapp's Curatorial Care of Works on Paper is now available. Contact Nick Lyons Books, 31 W. 21 St., New York, NY 10010, (212) 620-9580.

SOLINET Preservation Leaflet No. 5, "The Invasion of the Giant Spore," is now available. It deals with controlling mold outbreaks in libraries. Earlier leaflets in the series include: No. 1, "Environmental Specifications for the Storage of Library and Archival Materials," (April 1985); No. 2.1, "Some Sources of Conservation/Preservation Supplies and Equipment," (Rev. October 1986); No. 3, "Preservation of Nonprint Materials in Working Collections: A Basic Bibliography," (December 1985); and No. 4.1, "Some Sources of Custom-Fit Book Boxes," (Rev. April 1986). Contact Lisa fox, Preservation Program, Southeastern Library Network, Inc., 1201 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30361, (404) 892-0943.

George Martin Cunha's report "Mass Deacidification for Libraries" has appeared in Library Technology Reports, vol. 23, no. 3, May-June 1987. In the 114-page report Cunha points out that mass deacidification is most suitable for new books or materials not yet seriously damaged by acid. He reviews all known experiments with mass deacidification, investigates six methods, and discusses the DEZ and Wei T'oo methods, both described as "excellent." Copies of the single issue are available for \$45 from ALA Publishing Services, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. (American Libraries, October 1987)

NEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI REPOSITORIES

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

A grant of approximately \$5000 has been awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities for the microfilming of the Judith Sargent Murray collection. The collection, donated in 1987, comprises eighteen letterbooks, three volumes of poetry, one volume of essays, and miscellaneous other writings. Murray, who published extensively in the late eighteenth century under the pen name "Constantia," was an early feminist and sister of Territorial Governor Winthrop Sargent. The collection covers the period 1765 to 1818.

The Mississippi Newspaper Project has received a \$1700 grant from the Mississippi Library Commission under Title III of the Library Services and Construction Act. The funds will be used to purchase a microcomputer which will be used to store and analyze data concerning the condition of newspapers located during the project. The analysis will help the staff of the Newspaper Project set priorities for filming deteriorating newspapers.

Mississippi State University

Anne S. Wells collaborated with D. Clayton James in the recent publication of A Time for Giants: Politics of the American High command in World War II (New York: Franklin Watts, 1987, 317 pp.)

Michael Ballard attended the annual meeting of the Mississippi Library Association in Biloxi in October and the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association in New Orleans in November. He presented a lecture/slide program on the post-war image of Jefferson Davis in the South to the MSU chapter of Phi Alpha Theta and to the Starkville chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Congratulations to SMA member Connie Cartledge, who worked in the Manuscripts Department while earning her M.A. in history at MSU. Connie has accepted a position with the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress.

University of Mississippi Blues Archive

The Blues Archive has received a grant of \$1100 from the Chancellor's Partners Program of the University of Mississippi. The funds will be spent for photographic equipment to be used for further documentation of the oral history program.

Suzanne Steel attended the annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in Ann Arbor in November. She has been named to the Society's Archiving Committee, and to the Task Force on Copyright of the Society of American Archivists.

Cataloger Elaine White has resigned to move to Champaign-Urbana, where her husband Mike has obtained a research position. During just over two years at the Archive Elaine cataloged over 70% of the 9000-volume Goldstein Folklore Collection. Her expertise and her quiet good humor will be sorely missed.

CALENDAR: MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

February 25-26, 1988 Mississippi Museums Association Annual Meeting, Mississippi State University, Starkville. Call Jo Miles at (601) 354-6222 for more information. (See article p. 10 this issue)

March 13-17, 1988 AASLH "Care and Preservation of Two Dimensional Collections". Workshop in Montgomery, Alabama. Call (615) 255-2971 for more information.

May 17-19, 1987 Society of Mississippi Archivists annual meeting in conjunction with the Southeastern Archivists' Conference, University of Mississippi, Oxford. Contact Suzanne Steel, (601) 232-7753.

ACCESSION REPORTS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History--Manuscript Collection

Anderson, A.C. Papers. 1905; 1907; 1913-1915. 12 items.

Series of personal and confidential letters written by United States Senator James K. Vardaman to Judge A. C. Anderson of Ripley, Mississippi. The letters candidly discuss contemporary national and state politics and politicians. They contain valuable commentary about the activities of Theodore G. Bilbo, Hubert D. Stephens, Earl Leroy Brewer, Edmond F. Noel, and others. A few of Judge Anderson's replies to Vardaman's letters are included. Presented by Tommy Covington, Ripley Public Library, Ripley.

Black, Narcisa L. Diary. 1861-1886; n.d. 2 bound volumes.

Diary maintained by Narcisa L. Black (born August 27, 1810), wife of John H. Black (born February 4, 1805), both of whom lived near Corinth, Mississippi, in what was then Tishomingo County. Included with the diary are Black family bible records. The diary had previously been made available to the Department for microfilming in February 1973. Presented by Dr. and Mrs. Fayette Williams, Corinth.

Bowers, Laura Boddie. Collection. 1917-1919; n.d.

Includes World War I era letters written by Sergeant Duaine Boddie Morgan to his sister while he was stationed at a field artillery unit in Jackson, Mississippi, and afterward when he was stationed in France. A photographic postcard of Sergeant Morgan is also included. Presented by Laura Boddie Bowers, Canton.

Ciceronian Circle Records. Accretion. 1983-1985. 1 bound volume.

Accretion to the records of the Ciceronian Circle, a group first organized in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, in 1965. The club was named in honor of Roman intellectual Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.). Club members meet socially from time to time to present papers on a variety of topics of general scholarly interest. Presented by William D. McCain, Hattiesburg.

(Corinth) "The Battle of Corinth." Civil War Poem. n.d. 1 item.

Early, and possibly contemporary manuscript of a twenty-stanza poem recounting the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, October 3-4, 1862. Presented by John S. Townsend, Jr., Auburn, Alabama.

Garland, Robert. Letter. 1827. 1 item.

Letter dated October 10, 1827, written by Robert Garland, Vicksburg, Mississippi, to Isaac Caldwell, s.l., challenging him to a duel. The letter was delivered to Caldwell by Garland's second, Major Perkins. Presented by Jeanne C. Oglesby, Jackson.

Glenn, A. Papers. 1862. 3 items.

Includes a medical certificate signed by Confederate surgeon W. R. Fontaine, Okolona, Mississippi, exempting D. W. [P_____] dated September 15, 1862; a letter written by A. Glenn, Mississippi City, Mississippi, to his brother [Colonel D. C. Glenn?], s.n., s.l., dated December 5, 1862, discussing his pending discharge and plans for Christmas; and a letter written by Colonel George B. Wilkinson, Yazoo City, Mississippi, to Colonel D. C. Glenn, Mobile, Alabama, dated December 9, 1862, discussing troop movements and military strengths near Vicksburg, Grenada, and the Yazoo Pass and confiding that Vicksburg may eventually fall to the Union army. Provenance unknown.

Hearn, David Russell, and Family. Papers. 1873-1877; 1881-1884; 1886-1887; 1891-1909.

Series of diaries kept by both David Russell Hearn and his wife, Martha Jane Mixon Hearn. The Hearn family lived at Rose's Bluff, Madison County, now the site of an exclusive housing development. Also included are a friendship book and diary belonging to Alice Hearn and a baby book belonging to Hagamon Power Hearn, Sr., grandson of David Russell Hearn. Presented by Hagamon Power Hearn, Sr.

Hoskins, William Walton. Papers. 1881; 1893; n.d. 5 items.

Two letters, one annotated program, and one broadside pertaining to editor, lawyer, minister, and poet William Walton Hoskins, best known for his anthology entitled Atlantis, and Other Poems (1881). Hoskins was also involved in the Christian temperance and prohibition movement, lecturing throughout the South. An inscribed copy of the anthology is also included. Purchased from Charles Apfelbaum, Valley Stream, New York.

Kelly, Peggie Peacock. Letter. January 31, 1892. 1 item.

Letter written by Reverend J. H. Nichols on behalf of Peggie Peacock Kelly, a former slave living in Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, trying to learn the whereabouts of her brothers and sisters from whom she had been separated by sale many years earlier. The letter is addressed to Kelly's former master, William Peacock, Shelbyville, Tennessee. Presented by Carl F. Andre, Jackson.

Mayers, Alonzo G. Papers. 1853; 1858; 1864; 1866; 1873; 1875; n.d. 8 items.

Includes a variety of documents evidently arising from the legal practice of Alonzo G. Mayers, law partner of Robert M. Lowry. Of interest are letters written to Mayers from the widow of Provisional Governor William L. Sharkey and a Confederate real and personal tax roll from 1864. Presented by Willard L. McIlWain, Greenville.

McCain, William D. Collection. Accretion. 1985-1986. 2 bound volumes.

Journal recording the experiences and impressions of William D. McCain during a trip he and Raymond Mannoni made to various western European countries including England, Germany, Italy, Scotland, and Spain, November 2-14, 1985; and a journal recording the experiences and impressions of William D. McCain during a trip he and various family members made to England and Scotland, May 17-31, 1986. Presented by William D. McCain, Hattiesburg.

Mississippi Federation of Business and Professional Womens' Clubs. Papers. Accretion.. ca. 1960s-1980s. 5 c.f.

Minutes, correspondence, printed material, and other records pertaining to the activities of the Mississippi Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. Presented by the Mississippi Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Jackson.

Pitts, John George Washington. Letters. 1859; 1861; 1862-1863. 33 items.

Letters written by John George Washington Pitts, a Confederate sergeant who served in Company E, Thirteenth Mississippi Infantry, to his wife, Jane, who lived in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. Most of the letters were written from various cities and towns in Virginia, including Culpepper Court House, Fredericksburg, Leesburg, Malvern Hill, Richmond, and Winchester. Presented by Jerry Don Watt, Wylie, Texas.

Research Club (Jackson) Records. Accretion.. 1979-1987. 1 l.i.

Includes minutes and yearbooks of the Research Club, Jackson, Mississippi. Presented by Mrs. Frances Preston Mills, Jackson.

Robinson, Thomas Mitchell. Papers. Accretion. ca. 1910s-1960s. 1 c.f.

Correspondence, photographs, maps, ephemera, and other records documenting the military and political career of long-time Jackson resident Mitchell Robinson. Presented by Mrs. Mitchell Robinson, Jackson.

Sutter, Frank. Ledger. ca. 1889-1893. 1 item.

Ledger containing copies of outgoing letters, diary entries, and accounts of Frank Sutter, a former mayor of Pass Christian. Presented by J. J. Hayden, Perkinston.

Wallace, Jesse Thomas. Diary. February 19, 1893-August 2, 1895. 1 item.

Diary of Jesse Thomas Wallace, longtime chairman of the history department at Mississippi College and president of the Bank of Clinton. The diary sporadically records Wallace's experiences as an itinerant teacher in Carroll, Covington, Holmes, and Simpson counties. Presented by Rob Jackson, Ridgeland.

Whitehead, Alan. Civil War Collection. 1860; 1862; 1865. 3 items.

Anonymous article from the December 29, 1860, issue of Punch, or the London Charivari politically satirizing Governor John J. Pettus and Mississippi on the eve of the Civil War; a letter (and typescript) dated May 29, 1862, from an unidentified quartermaster to "Miss Alice," describing Union General Henry Wager Halleck's advance on Corinth, Mississippi, from April 29-June 10, 1862; and a lease signed by assistant quartermaster Captain J. S. Van Patten on September 11, 1865,

pertaining to the Manlove House, Vicksburg, Mississippi. Presented by Alan Whitehead, Greenwood.

Graphic Records

Beadle, Richard Henry. Collection. Accretion. ca. 1952. 4 items. (.25 l.i.)
Two 4" x 5" black and white copy negatives and two 8" x 10" black and white copy prints of black poets Sterling Brown, Arna Bontemps, Melvin Tolson, Owen Dodson, Langston Hughes and Margaret Walker Alexander at the seventy-fifth anniversary of Jackson State University. Made available for copying by Mrs. Anita Beadle Scott, Jackson.

Burton, Marcellus Fenton. Collection. 1923. 15 items. (.75 l.i.)
Twelve black and white photographs of the construction of the Edwards Hotel in Jackson and three photographs of an unidentified building. Burton was the superintendent of construction for the Virginia Bridge and Iron Company. Presented by Mrs. Linvil G. Rich, Clemson, South Carolina and Mrs. C. William Smith, Christianburg, Virginia.

Coovert, J.C. Collection. n.d. 2 items. (.5 l.i.)
Two 16"x20" black and white prints of scenes of cotton picking and weighing. Transferred from the State Historical Museum.

Espy, Mike. Photograph. 1987. 1 item. (.25 l.i.)
One 8"x10" black and white portrait photograph of Representative Espy. Presented by Mike Espy, Washington, D.C.

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper. 1881. 1 item. (.25 l.i.)
One newspaper leaf with an illustration depicting an incident in a census enumerator's work in Mississippi. Transferred from the State Historical Museum.

Gordon Marks & Co. Inc., Print Collection 1971, 1976, 1981-1986. 10 items. (.75 l.i.)
Ten 8"x10" limited edition prints, some full color reproductions, distributed annually as Christmas cards by the Gordon Marks advertising agency. An original work depicting a historic Mississippi structure is created by an agency artist each year. Presented by Gordon Marks & Co., Inc., Jackson.

Highsaw, J. Frank. Collection. ca. 1910 - 1945. 1 item. (2 l.i.)
One 12.5"x15"x1.75" album of photographs related to the Columbus and Greenville Railroad. Transferred from the Manuscript Collection.

Missionary Ridge. 1863. 1 item. (.25 l.i.)
One pencil sketch of the view in front of Missionary Ridge by J. D. Sample of Summit during the Civil War. Transferred from Cartographic Records.

Mississippi Photographers Collection. n.d. 15 items. (2 l.i.)
Three cabinet cards, five cartes-de-visite and six miscellaneous photographs by Mississippi photographers. This accession establishes an artificial collection of representative samples of photographs by Mississippi photographers. Presented by Carl F. Andre, Jackson.

Mississippi State Federation of Labor. 1938. 1 item. (.25 l.i.)

One 8" x 32" black and white panorama of the Mississippi State Federation of Labor at Gulfport during July 1938. Presented by Mr. Albert Spann, Jackson.

Richardson, Thomas. Photographs. n.d. 2 items. (.5 l.i.)

One 20"x24" black and white crayon portrait of Richardson, the first black postmaster of Port Gibson, and one 8"x10" tintype of Richardson's mother-in-law. Presented by W.D. Lum, Port Gibson.

Tougaloo. ca. 1910. 14 items. (1 l.i.)

Fourteen black and white photographs depicting scenes on a road between Jackson and Tougaloo and plantation activity near Tougaloo. Presented by Mrs. Margaret Deere, Weslaco, Texas.

(Welty, Eudora) "Eudora Welty as Powerhouse" 1987. 1 item. (.25 l.i.)

One 30"x22.25" silkscreen print of artist John Sokol's portrait of Eudora Welty. Transferred from the State Historical Museum.

Cartographic Records

Carte des Etats-Unis de l'Amerique : suivant le Traite de Paix de 1783 / Jean Lattre. 198?. 1 item. Purchased from The Newberry Library Bookshop, Chicago, Ill.

[Eastern North America] / V. Coronelli. 1977. 1 item.

Purchased from The Newberry Library Bookshop, Chicago, Ill.

Louisiana and Mississippi / H. S. Tanner. 1820. 1 item.

Purchased from High Ridge Books, Inc., Rye, N.Y., in September 1987.

Mississippi / Rand McNally & Co. 1910. 1 item.

Purchased from Art Source International, Boulder, Colorado.

Official map of the state of Mississippi / State Board of Immigration & Agriculture, E. G. Wall, Commissioner. 1882. 1 item. Removed from MA/A12/1882 as variant item.

Partie meridionale de la Louisiane avec la Floride, la Caroline et la Virginie / D'Anville. 1776. 1 item. Purchased from The Old Print Gallery, Washington, D.C.

Plan of Concord : the plantation and residence of the late Major Stephen Minor / Dougherty. 1987. 1 item.

Photographic copy (color) of original item purchased by the State Historical Museum from The Jenkins Company, Austin, Texas. The original item has been accessioned into the Museum collections.

Mississippi State University -- University Archives

Butler, Eugene. Papers. Accretion. 1917-1980s. 7 cu. ft.

Correspondence, editorials, speeches related to Butler's editorial work on Progressive Farmer and Southern Living magazines. Also included is material on the MSU Class of 1913, of which Butler was a member. Presented by Eugene Butler. Collection is open.

College of Arts and Sciences. University Honors Program. Papers. 1970s-1980s. 9 cu. ft.

Office files containing correspondence and subject material related to the MSU Honors Program, formerly known as the Stephen D. Lee Honors Program. Collection is open.

Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society. Papers. 1960s-1985. 1 cu. ft.

Files of the MSU Chapter. Presented by the chapter. Collection is open.

Intercollegiate Athletics. Information Office. Papers. 1950s-1980s. 11 cu. ft.

Correspondence, photographs and promotional material related to all areas of MSU athletics. Collection is open.

Mid-South Educational Research Association. Papers. Accretion. 1986.

2 cu. ft.

Papers read at meetings of the Association. Given by Vernon Gifford. Collection is open.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Papers. ca. 1971-1974.

41 cu. ft.

Files, publications, and miscellaneous items from the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs during the tenure of Robert Wolverton. Presented by the Office of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Collection is open.

University of Southern Mississippi -- McCain Library and Archives

Adams, John Q. Letters. 1862. 13 Items.

Letters written by John Q. Adams of the 60th Illinois Volunteers to his wife Sarah (Kate). Adams was stationed in northeast Mississippi in the early summer of 1862, but saw little action. The letters contain general information about the life of a soldier. Collection is open.

American Civil Liberties Union, Southern Regional Office. Papers. 1964-1970. 1 cu. ft.

A collection of legal papers dealing with various civil rights cases of the late 1960's and 1970 in which the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) was involved. Also included in the collection is a report of the activities for the first five years of the Southern Regional Office of the ACLU. Collection is open.

Bailey, Nelson H. Letters. 1862. 5 Items.

A collection of five letters from Nelson Bailey of the 29th Ohio Infantry, to his sister, relating his experiences in the Union army. He speaks of long marches and attacks on the Confederate lines, chronic delays in being paid, problems with getting a furlough, and the boredom of long encampments. Collection is open.

Belcher, Granville W. & Mary Caroline. Letters. 1862-1864. 79 Items.

A collection of letters written during the Civil War between Granville W. Belcher of the 57th Virginia Infantry, and his wife, Mary Caroline Dickinson Belcher. Belcher describes many aspects of army camp life,

such as poor rations, constant marching, and loneliness. There are also additional letters between members of the Dickinson and Belcher families. Collection is open.

Brandon, Gerard Chittocque. Letter. January 9, 1829. 1 Item.

A letter from Gerard C. Brandon, governor of Mississippi, to John Murphy, governor of Alabama, concerning accounts between the two states. Collection is open.

Burney, Madge. Papers. 1913-1953. 1.35 cu. ft.

Correspondence, newspaper clippings, speech material, and photographs reflecting Madge Burney's activities with the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Children of the Confederacy. There are also small quantities of material concerning the Wayne County Red Cross, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Collection is open.

Burwell, Andrew and Mary E. Letters. 1864-1865. 55 Items.

Letters reflecting the war experiences of Andrew Burwell, who was with the 5th Wisconsin Infantry, and his wife Mary. Mary's letters are concerned with life on the homefront and focus upon her increased responsibility in matters of finance and the upkeep of the family property. Burwell's letters cover events revolving around Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign and the Army of the Potomac in the Siege of Petersburg, and provide commentary on camp life. Collection is open.

Carter, William Hodding. The Angry Scar Manuscript. 1959. .45 cu. ft.

A typescript of The Angry Scar: The Story of Reconstruction, written by Hodding Carter, a part of Doubleday's series entitled "Mainstream of America". The Angry Scar deals with the decade following the Civil War and how the South and its people lived during Reconstruction. Collection is open.

Citizen's Council Civil Rights Collection. 1954-1977. 1.35 cu. ft.

A collection of materials concerning the Citizen's Council, the Klu Klux Klan, the NAACP, other civil rights groups, and the civil rights movement in general. Also included are materials pertaining to the Democratic Party of the State of Mississippi, the Young Democrats of America, and the Democratic National Committee. Collection is open.

Dabney, Thomas Gregory. Collection. 1892-1965. .25 cu. ft.

A collection of miscellaneous materials relating to Thomas Gregory Dabney. Included are five photographs of the Dabney family; recollections of his sister, Letitia Dabney Miller; memoirs written by Joseph H.D. Bowmar; various articles about Thomas Dabney and his levee involvements; and letters pertaining to the Thomas Gregory Dabney Monument and the address given by Oscar Johnston in 1938. Collection is open.

Foote, Henry Stuart. Letter and Autograph. August 20, 1853. 2 items.

A letter written by Henry S. Foote in response to George H. Morrow's request for information about the relationship between Lynn Boyd and Henry Clay and a short biographical sketch of Henry S. Foote. Collection is open.

Fourchy, Alexander and Nixon, John. Papers. 1837. 18 Items.

Various English and French drafts of two documents concerned with the formation of a society whose purpose was the purchase of a tract of land encompassing the old fort at Biloxi and Camp Estrauche. A villa was to be erected as a monument to the origin of Louisiana. Also included are a rough sketch of a sea map of Biloxi and a list of names of the six members of the Society. Collection is open.

Harwell, J.D. Letters. 1923. 3 Items.

Three letters written by J.D. Harwell to J.E. Boos of Albany [New York]. The letters describe Harwell's experiences with the 20th Alabama Infantry during the Siege of Vicksburg and his unit's action during the Atlanta Campaign of 1864. The letters also chronicle two Confederate Veteran Reunions which Harwell attended. Collection is open.

Holmes, David. Letter. December 29, 1822. 1 Item.

One original letter from Senator David Holmes of Mississippi to the Secretary of the Navy. The letter endorses the recommendation made by Judge Thurston Speaks of Missouri that Hamilton E.V. Robinson, also of Missouri, be appointed as a midshipman. Collection is open.

Jefferson Davis Soldiers' Home Records. 1920-1954. 2.7 cu. ft.

A collection of records from the Jefferson Davis Soldiers' Home, Beauvoir, at Biloxi, Mississippi, which was used as a Confederate Veterans Home from 1902-1957. Materials document the operation of the home and include records of the home's board of directors and superintendents, as well as payroll and budget records, and inmate files. Collection is open.

McNutt, Alexander G. Letters. 1838-1840. 3 Items.

A collection of three original, signed letters from Governor Alexander G. McNutt. The first is written to J.M. Bullack, Secretary of State, of Kentucky, and acknowledges the receipt of several Kentucky acts. The other two letters, addressed to Ralph North, probate clerk in Natchez, Mississippi, concern appointments in Natchez. Collection is open.

Mississippi Education Association Records. 1966-1974. 1.35 cu. ft.

A collection of correspondence, committee minutes and reports, notes from formal and informal discussions, newspaper clippings, press releases, and publications from the Mississippi Education Association (MEA), the Mississippi Teachers Association (MTA), and the National Education Association (NEA). Most materials relate to the merger between MEA and MTA. Collection is open.

Monaco vs. Mississippi: Research pertaining to a suit by a foreign state against a state of the Union. 1833-1934. 1 Item.

A photocopy of a 19 page research paper focusing on a legal proceeding referred to as Monaco vs. Mississippi. The researcher outlines the pertinent facts relating to the issuance of bonds in 1833 and the 100 year effort to collect on them. Collection is open.

"Political Correspondence" (Lowndes County, Mississippi). 1860. 1 Item.

An anti-secession broadside which records the sentiments of citizens in Lowndes County who were opposed to withdrawal from the Union without exhausting every constitutional means available. Also recorded are names of representatives to a state convention and some of the persons in attendance at a meeting of local citizens. Collection is open.

Powers, Ridgely. Letter. May 16, 1873. 1 Item.

A letter written by Ridgely Powers, Governor of Mississippi, to George H. Williams, Attorney General of the United States. Powers nominates Robert J. Alcorn to be U.S. Marshall in Mississippi, in the event that his earlier nominee, General E.J. Castillo, failed to receive the post. Collection is open.

Rankin, Thomas J. Letters. 1861-1862. 7 Items.

Letters from Thomas J. Rankin of the 7th Regiment, 3rd Mississippi Brigade to his wife Sarah in Fordsville, Mississippi. The letters detail conditions in Rankin's regiment and discuss the high incidence of sickness and desertion. Collection is open.

Walcott, E.D. Letter. September 3, 1828. 1 Item.

A letter from E.D. Walcott, of Walnut Hills, Mississippi, to Hugh White of Allentown, Pennsylvania. Walcott discusses the popularity of Andrew Jackson and how Walcott's strong feeling against Jackson caused a confrontation and potential duel between him and a neighbor. The letter also includes family news and mentions Walcott's difficulties with his agricultural endeavors. Collection is open.

Whitfield, James. Letter. October 19, 1838. 1 Item.

A letter from James Whitfield to Henry Buchannon of Columbus, Mississippi, while Whitfield was on a buying trip to New York. Whitfield discusses vendors and prices and explains the differences between river banking institutions and interior banking institutions. Collection is open.

OBITUARY NOTICE

Frank E. Bridgers, who worked at the Central Reference Division of the National Archives from 1935 to 1965, died on May 13, 1988. With Meredith B. Colket, Jr., he authored the Guide to Genealogical Records in the National Archives. Since his retirement in 1965 Mr. Bridgers resided in his native town, Laurel, Mississippi.