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The Primary Source

A Quarterly Publication of The Society of Mississippi Archivists

Volume 10

Summer 1988

Number 2

SAHLI SUGGESTS GOALS FOR NATIONAL RECORDS PROGRAM

Over the last several years there has been growing interest in the need for a national records program. The opening session of the Southern Archivists' Conference featured Nancy Sahli, Director of the NHPRC Records Program speaking on "A National Records Program: Where Is It Now and Where Is It Going?" Sahli addressed the current status of a national records program, accomplishments achieved already and directions for future action. The session was moderated by Dr. Edwin C. Bridges, Director, Alabama Department of Archives and History.

In spite of a plethora of recommendations and lists — a 12 point list endorsed by the Ad-hoc Annapolis Committee, an 8 point list of NHPRC recommendations, Larry Hackman's proposals in the April issue of History News, and the 10 point program proposed by Don Wilson in his recent "State of the Archives" address, -- suggesting standards or guidelines for a national records program, there is no mandated national policy. Ms. Sahli suggests that the variety of recommendations limits any kind of concerted action. Progress has been piecemeal. Some elements in the various national records program agendas have been fulfilled, including a state and national planning guide, progress in research and development, increased interaction between the National Archives and the non-federal archival community, and promotion of documentary editions.

Five goals which Ms. Sahli suggested include developing a national records policy to be endorsed by Congress, consolidating existing national records program elements lists into a single agenda document for long range action, establishing mechanisms for cooperation among all levels (local, state, and federal programs), improving avenues of communication and recognizing our own limits and abilities both economic and institutional.

SAA MARC WORKSHOP POSTPONED

The SAA workshop "Understanding the MARC Format for Archival and Manuscripts Control" originally scheduled for June in Jackson, Mississippi has been rescheduled for August 29-30 at the Radisson-Walthall Hotel in Jackson. It will be taught by Kathleen Roe of the New York State Archives and Michael J. Fox of the Minnesota Historical Society. Registration is \$175.00, which includes two SAA-published cataloging manuals. For more information contact Tim Ericson at SAA, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60605, telephone (312) 922-0140.

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Your contributions, newsnotes and letters are welcome. Send them to:
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The deadline for the Fall 1988 issue is September 15.

Our thanks to Sandra Kaye Behel for the book review, and to Sara Clark for her lively report on "Security in Depth." The editor extends her appreciation and thanks to Sandra Boyd, Joe Brent, Alexandra Gressitt, Terry Latour and Linda Overman for their thorough coverage of the sessions at the SAC meeting.

A section of this issue focuses on the continuing opposition to certification, which seems to be gathering steam on a grass roots level despite SAA's determination to forge ahead. The anti-certification movement is spearheaded by the Kansas City Archivists, who have allowed TPS to publish their arguments against certification. Various other regionals are in the process of polling their members, though there is some doubt that SAA would pay attention to their results in any case.

In the meantime SAA's Interim Certification Board has chosen 75 SAA members to receive a sample certification by petition form. Your Editor is among the "Lucky 75" and can report more than a few reservations about the form: it displays an elitist outlook toward regional activities, devalues activities in related areas, and exemplifies the extremely disorganized outlook toward education and training which characterizes the profession at this point. The form provides ammunition for those who argue that educational accreditation and institutional standards should precede individual certification.

--Suzanne Steel

FROM THE PRESIDENT

With eighty-five paid registrations and mostly positive comments on the evaluation forms, it seems safe to say that the recent Southern Archivists' Conference meeting in Oxford was a success. A report on the various sessions can be found elsewhere in this issue. Questions brought up during the discussion following the closing lunch concerned the future of SAC, particularly with regard to how large it should become and in which geographical directions it should grow. A valid concern is that if it gets too large, travel may be prohibitive and one of the purposes of the organizations would be defeated.

It was decided at the meeting that there will be a SAC mixer at SAA in Atlanta in the fall (September 28-October 2). It was agreed, with the initiative before Congress to increase NEH's preservation budget, that SAC should investigate the possibility of submitting a grant application. The presidents of the societies of Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee archivists are to appoint three persons each to a committee to look at needs, draw up a proposal and write a grant application. Persons interested in being considered for the committee should contact me as soon as possible.

Membership fees were due at the annual meeting. Membership committee chair Dan Den Bleyker reports that less than forty persons have renewed their membership to date. He will be sending a letter of reminder soon.

A list of officers, directors and committee chairs appointed to date can be found in this issue. Please contact me if you are interested in chairing or serving on a committee. The next executive council meeting will be held on September 20, 1988, at 10:30 a.m. at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Jackson. Two additional meetings have been scheduled for January 10 and April 11, 1989.

The annual meeting of the society will be held in Hattiesburg in May 1989. The program committee, which is chaired by Julia Young, will be happy to have suggestions for session topics, workshops, etc.

I am looking forward to serving as president of the society this year and hope to be able to look back on it next spring as a successful venture. The executive council and I will be calling on many of you for assistance -- on committees, for program session topics, for workshop ideas, for articles and other needs. So -- if any of you have a burning desire to volunteer before you are called, GO FOR IT!

Linda Overman

SAC NEWS

TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS JOIN SAC

At their April meeting the Tennessee Archivists voted unanimously to join SAC. The vote came in time for several Tennesseans to attend the SAC meeting in Oxford. Perhaps there is a meeting in Tennessee in our future?

INSTITUTIONAL SPOTLIGHTS

MUW ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

Founded in 1978, the Mississippi University for Women (MUW) Archives and Museum is located in the historic Orr Building, a part of The W since the school's founding in 1884.

Address: MUW Archives and Museum
W Box 369, MUW
Columbus, MS 39701

Phone: (601) 329-4750

Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:00-4:30
Thursday 1:00-4:30

Contact Person: Mrs. Gloria L. Atkinson, Director

Services Provided: Group tours on special occasions such as W Day and Homecoming; special arrangement for research in the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Collection.

Holdings: MUW Archives and Museum holdings include correspondence and records of past presidents of The W, the Peyton Collection of rare books, and manuscripts and artifacts reflecting various phases in the history of The W. A major special research collection is the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Collection, which documents the history and development of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway project and its social, economic and historical impact on Northeast Mississippi.

WILLIAM H. HOLTZCLAW LIBRARY

Originally founded in 1903, Utica Junior College, now the Utica Campus of Hinds Community College, has historically focused on serving the educational needs of the black community in west central Mississippi.

Address: William H. Holtzclaw Library
Utica Campus, Hinds Community College
Utica, MS 39175

Phone: (601) 885-6062

Hours: 8:00-9:30 Monday-Thursday
8:00-4:00 Friday

Contact Person: Alma M. Fisher

Services Provided: Copying, interlibrary loan, typewriters, and meeting/viewing rooms for use by small groups.

Holdings: The William H. Holtzclaw Library holdings include books and audiovisuals. Its Black Heritage Collections of books by and about Afro-Americans is available to any patron who holds a library card.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ARCHIVES, DIOCESE OF MISSISSIPPI

The Episcopal Church Archives is housed in a small room in the diocesan offices of St. Andrews Cathedral, Jackson, Mississippi. Many of the church's records were lost in a fire in the Bishop's residence (Battle Hill) in 1919.

Address: Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi
Box 1636 305 East Capital Street
Jackson, MS 39205-1636

Phone: Archives: (601) 948-5924
Rev. Saul: (601) 892-4179

Hours: 8:30-4:30 Monday-Friday

Contact Person: Reverend Robert Saul, Archivist
205 Gibson Street
Crystal Springs, MS 39059

Services Provided: Non-circulating collection available for research during diocesan office hours; contact Rev. Saul for assistance.

Holdings: Holdings of the Episcopal Church Archives, approximately 36 linear feet, are primarily 20th century materials, although some early issues of the Annual Journal of the Diocese of Mississippi date from 1826. Also included are copies of The Church News (1924 to date), the Episcopal church Annual (1932, 1941 and 1946 to date), the Journal of the General Convention (1853, 1919, 1943 and 1945 to date), the WPA Inventory of Church Archives, scattered church registers, five original diaries of Bishops Bratton and Green, miscellaneous ephemeral material, photos, letters and a list of clergy from ca. 1820-1970. Materials are accessible through indexes for accession number and for subject, title and author.

REPORTS OF SAC SESSIONS

Editor's note: The Southern Archivists' Conference held its first meeting at the University of Mississippi on May 17-18, 1988. Nancy Sahli's speech at the opening session is reported on page 1, and reports of other workshops and sessions appear below. For a synopsis of the major points of the business meeting, see Linda Overman's column on page 3.

Workshop Report: Fundamentals of Management for Archivists

Later this year members of the Society of American Archivists will have the opportunity to enroll in a newly developed continuing education workshop focusing on management. My understanding is that it will be two days in length, specifically tailored to the management needs of archivists. However, the members of the Southern Archivists Conference were given the opportunity to attend a one day version of that workshop at their meeting in May. The cost was reasonable at \$30 per person, but I initially had reservations about the instructor, who is a bureaucrat with the Federal Government. Those fears were unfounded because Dr. William Nolte did a commendable job in conducting the workshop.

Each attendee was to have received a booklet of pre-workshop readings. Regrettably, most people received those booklets only two days before the workshop and a few people did not receive them at all. Undaunted, Dr. Nolte adjusted to the setback of ill-prepared students and proceeded with an instructional program that seemed to address the needs of those in attendance. He refrained from using management jargon and presented us with basic principles which could help us cope with a diversity of situations. He focused upon institutional management considerations and examined in some detail such things as organizational structures, approaches to directing and motivating personnel, resource management, planning, finance, and various other related topics.

A particularly valuable component of the workshop was the case study. Students were provided with information about a fictitious institution which was experiencing a variety of problems. Groups of four or five students analyzed the situation and proposed a set of recommendations. Each group presented its recommended course of action and these served as topics of discussion and reanalysis. The exercise was a productive one which helped to train the students to think in terms of the numerous management considerations a specific situation might possess. The discussion and numerous points of view helped to identify and enforce the basic management principles presented earlier in the workshop.

Dr. Nolte seems to be an excellent instructor for a workshop on the management skills necessary in an archival setting. He has a pleasant, outgoing personality and appears to have a wealth of archival and management experience. He relates well to archivists in need of help and has the ability to keep the workshop on track and interesting. I recommend his workshop to other archivists interested in receiving more exposure to management skills and principles.

Terry S. Latour

Workshop Report: Going for a Grant

A one-day preconference workshop conducted by Nancy Sahli, Director of the Records Grants Program of NHPRC, was held in conjunction with the Southern Archivists' Conference in Oxford, Mississippi. Sahli's presentation centered around basic questions of analysis and planning for grant applicants: the worthwhile nature of the project, qualifications of the applicant to undertake the project, probability of completion of the project, development of a realistic budget, and finally decisions about the funding agency which should receive the grant application. Although her area of expertise is NHPRC grants, Sahli provided insight into the grant process of several major public funding agencies as well as those in the private sector.

During the morning session, Sahli provided participants with concrete suggestions about grant funding cycles and project administration. Such significant facets of administration as publicity, record-keeping procedures, and evaluation were named and discussed. During the afternoon session, a workshop exercise allowed participants to work in small groups to develop a hypothetical grant application. Each group gave an oral presentation of its application, grant structure and budget which elicited general discussion and comment from Sahli and other participants. This workshop presented very useful, practical information for potential grant applicants, particularly those with limited prior experience.

Sandra E. Boyd

Session reports

The Moving Image and its Place in the Archives

This session, moderated by Daniel Den Bleyker, Audio-Visual Records Curator, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, was devoted to the significance of preserving moving images in archives, research uses and preservation needs.

The opening presentation, "Television Newsfilm as Historical Evidence" was made by Dr. David Culbert, Professor of History, Louisiana State University. By using video reproductions of news film from the 1960s Culbert illustrated the significance of newsfilm in documenting historical events, the culture of the time, speech patterns, physical appearances, stereotypes, etc. Newsfilm preserved in archives has been used to produce such award winning documentaries as Eyes on the Prize.

Dr. Gregory Lukow, Acting Director, National Center for Film and Video Preservation, American Film Institute, Los Angeles, reported on the Madison Conference on Local Newsfilm. From the mid 1970's when newsfilm switched from 16mm to videotape, donations of film from local TV stations to state archives began. The overwhelming tasks involved in assuming responsibility of a film archives - processing, preservation, granting access etc. - soon became apparent. To meet these needs the National Center for Film and Video Preservation was founded in 1983. There have been increased requests for grant funds for film projects, and a growing interest in appraising collections for historically significant materials.

Dr. John Kuiper, Chairman Radio, Television, and Film Department, University of North Texas, addressed the future of moving image archives, acknowledging that film/video collections are here to stay regardless of archival commitment. Dr. Kuiper suggested that the question of preservation and access be seriously studied, that standards for storage conditions be devised, that supporting materials for film be collected to amplify the historic significance of film, and that efforts be made to raise public awareness of film through education and publicity.

Alexandra S. Gressitt

Copyright Update

Recent copyright decisions and archivists' response to them became the focus of this program session moderated by Carol West. Following an historical overview of copyright law, Carol introduced panelists J. Wesley Cochran and Suzanne Steel. Cochran, Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law at the University of Mississippi, presented an overview of the present law and reviewed two cases in which decisions have been rendered recently: Harper and Row v. Nation Enterprises and the Salinger case. Both cases involve fair use of unpublished material and in both the courts upheld the right of the author to control the first publication of his work. Suzanne Steel, Blues Archivist at University of Mississippi and member of the SAA Task Force on Copyright, commented on the meaning of the two cases and of the two reports of the Register of Copyrights pertaining to Section 108 of the law, the section governing photocopying for interlibrary loan. The legality of photocopying unpublished material is in doubt following these developments.

Steel suggested the following possible solutions: (1) a court case applying to archival photocopying which would interpret the law (2) a set

of clear guidelines like those for classroom use of photocopies or photocopying of musical works, (3) operating under paragraph (b) of Section 108, which allows photocopying for deposit in another repository only, or (4) requiring that researchers obtain the permission of the author before photocopies are made, or obtaining the right to copy by deed of gift. SAA and the Copyright Office differ radically over their interpretation of photocopying, the recent court cases tend to support the Copyright Office position that "fair use" does not apply to photocopying of unpublished material, and archivists are left with only a "good faith" defense if they get sued.

Sandra E. Boyd

Recent Grants Activity

Three program participants, Michael Breedlove, Julia M. Young, and Dr. Michael Thomason, described recent grants with which they had worked. At the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Mike Breedlove had worked with a three-year NEH grant focusing on the department's private record collections. During the grant, the collections were prioritized, work plans were written, and descriptions and finding aids were prepared using the RLIN system. Breedlove recommended that grant projects be flexible enough to withstand change, that an adequate processing manual be used, and that a single staff member whose responsibility was to maintain quality and standards within the project and/or institution be identified.

Julia Young discussed the NHPRC funded project which she and Frank Boles are conducting. Appraisal is the focus of their project involving thirteen institutions. Young and Boles have asked archivists at these institutions to use a series of questions to rate thirty-six items in the appraisal process explained in their article "Exploring the Black Box: The Appraisal of University Administrative Records" (American Archivist, v.48, no. 2, Spring 1985). This questionnaire, which was used for a period of eight weeks, has provided Young and Boles with statistical data about how archivists appraise collections. The project represents a beginning research effort in appraisal and indicates that there is much more to be learned about the appraisal process.

Michael Thomason from the University of South Alabama described an NHPRC grant which his institution received to preserve nitrate film photographs taken of South Alabama between 1935-1945. The original one-year grant eventually stretched into a three-year project. Thomason commented that a grant is actually a description of a "vision," since most institutions cannot spend time selecting work to be done before the grant. The end result of the grant may also vary from the initial plan, and funding during the grant period may sometimes have to be provided by local support.

Sandra E. Boyd

College & University Records Management: The Roles of the States and the Institutions.

The purpose of this session, moderated by Terry Latour, Director of Special Collections, University of Southern Mississippi, was to examine problems confronting university records management programs and the inter-relationships between state universities and state records management programs.

William J. Maher, Assistant University Archivist, University of Illinois, initiated the session with a broad overview of records management as it applies to universities and its significance in operating a successful archives. Mr. Maher argued for the establishment of records management programs in universities and for state cooperation. He identified records scheduling as the key element in a successful program and specified four areas in which records management can exert influence to the benefit of archives: records creation, records disposition, records protection, and access and retrieval systems. Records management, or more specifically records scheduling, does not exist in a vacuum. It is a cooperative venture among university and state offices requiring careful planning. Implementation is affected by legislation, historical precedent in offices, and the cultural attitude of the archives. At the University of Illinois, records management began in 1964, received formal authorization from The Board of Trustees in 1970, and was modified in 1984 by change in the Illinois State Records Act.

David J. Rosenblatt, Assistant Archivist for Records Management, Auburn University, in his presentation suggested that states should: cooperate with universities, serving as a clearing-house for ideas, offer support and help, and establish an advisory committee to review state laws to set a tone for records management throughout the state. Mr. Rosenblatt spoke of the significance of records management to an institutional archives and related Auburn's experiences in establishing an effective program that includes a records center, archives, and micrographics office. It is interesting to note that even though Alabama state law designates state universities as state agencies, Auburn initiated and operates its records management program without state assistance.

Bill Hanna, Director of Records Management, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, spoke briefly on the 1981 Mississippi Archives and Records Management Law. The state program offers records storage, micrographics, and direction to agencies including staff training. Until 1987 the state had little contact with universities, operating reactively rather than proactively. Since 1987, the state has been working with the University of Southern Mississippi to schedule records, thereby establishing records scheduling standards that could be implemented throughout the state university system.

Alexandra S. Gressitt

Alabama's RLIN Implementation

Alabama Department of Archives and History (ADAH) was a participant in the NHPRC-funded Seven States Project of the Research Libraries Group (RLG), a special project aimed at improving access to government records and sharing information (appraisal decisions, functional vocabularies, etc.) among participating institutions.

At the time of Alabama's decision to participate in the Seven States Project, there had been in the department major change in leadership, a shift in programming, and a restructuring of the entire organization. The project involved using RLG's automated information system, RLIN, to enter record descriptions. Original plans included using RLIN for information access in the reference room at the department and for standardizing descriptions.

Alabama is using RLIN for both public and private records, and entries are done at varying levels determined in the work plan for each collection. All staff members write descriptions following the department's procedure manuals which include local field guides for the MARC format.

The major differences between RLIN and OCLC stem from the date of development for each system. OCLC was developed in the 1960s while RLIN is a 1970s product; therefore RLIN is more flexible and permits a wider variety of searches. Entering data into RLIN is done screen by screen instead of line by line and is therefore faster. RLIN also allows many different kinds of records to be entered in different files; Alabama is presently using the photo file and plans to use others later.

One aspect of the Seven States project that has been least successful, simply because of the size of the database, has been the sharing of appraisal information. Work is continuing on the development of lists of function terms to improve access to public records.

Sandra E. Boyd

Genealogical Reference: Purveyors and Providers

In a brief session on genealogical reference moderated by Elizabeth Wells, Special Collections Librarian at Samford University, two presentations focused on providing service to genealogists. Mary Bess Paluzzi, Coordinator for Special Collections at the Birmingham Public Library, Birmingham, Alabama, described the holdings at Birmingham Public Library as focusing on Southern life in general and stated that use of the genealogy section allows the library to provide better historical material. The collection consists primarily of printed material in a public service area, accessed by CD-Rom Readers; a retrospective conversion project is now in progress. The following activities or services for genealogists were described by Paluzzi: use of volunteers on Monday and Tuesday to give instruction; sale of genealogical charts to help patrons get organized; publication of a monthly booklet and a guide to the collection, now in its third version, which continual users find most helpful; renting of microfilm through American Genealogical Lending Library at \$4 per roll; matching a patron's contribution of \$5 to purchase requested roll of microfilm; and purchase of a special photocopying machine which reproduces entire pages of the census at \$1 per page.

Clinton Bagley, Research Assistant at William Alexander Percy Memorial Library in Greenville, Mississippi stated that more researchers than genealogists come to his collection, so he has to remain familiar with activities and subjects of the entire area, such as the 1927 flood, oral histories of prominent individuals, historic homes, etc. Bagley mentioned several projects by which he hoped to increase appreciation for local history and historic architecture. For genealogists Bagley suggested the following procedures which he has used: cooperation with a nearby library so that resources are not duplicated, and request of public donations to buy genealogical materials. He also mentioned the need for development of a local genealogical workshop on how to get started in research.

Sandra E. Boyd

Collecting and Researching Women's Archives

At a session hosted by the University's Sarah Isom Center for Women's Studies and chaired by Dr. Jean Major, Director of Libraries, representatives of three institutions shared information on their collections and efforts to document women's history in Mississippi.

Dr. Joanne V. Hawks, Director of the Sarah Isom Center and Assistant Professor of History described her efforts to foster collaboration among the Sarah Isom Center, the Center for the Study of Southern culture, and the University Library to identify and collect papers pertaining to women's organizations and Southern women. She described a project funded by the national chapter of the American Association of University Women to collect and process the records of Mississippi state and local chapters. The collection is housed in the J.D. Williams Library at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Hawks also described her own research on women legislators in the South, in the course of which she encourages them to place their papers in repositories within their states.

Michael Hennen of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History described the scope and contents of the Judith Sargent Murray collection, which was recently discovered and donated to the department. The collection includes copies of Murray's letters between 1765-1818 as well as poetry and essays. Murray was a writer and early feminist acquainted with many prominent people of her day. Her papers provide information on her brother, Winthrop Sargent, territorial governor of Mississippi, and on Boston and New England history and society, the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and politics and society in the early Republic. Murray's second husband, John Murray, was one of the founders of Universalism, and the papers reflect her impact on the history of the denomination.

Rebecca Stockwell, Professor of History at the Mississippi University for Women listed and described important collections at MUW. These include photographs, campus publications, student diaries, and the papers of families connected to MUW, among them the Payton family papers, which include the papers of Annie Coleman Payton, who was active in women's education. The papers of various presidents and professors also document the history of the state's only institution of higher education for women.

Suzanne Steel

Working group reports

NEH Newspaper Preservation Projects Working Group

Members of several NEH-sponsored state newspaper projects attended the NEH Newspaper Projects Working Group Session, to discuss mutual problems and concerns. SAC secured an excellent panel for the seminar: Jeff Field from the Office of Preservation of the NEH, Robert Harriman, the Technical Coordinator of the US Newspaper Program from the Library of Congress, and Dale Foster, Project Coordinator of the Mississippi Newspaper Project, who served as moderator. The idea was to bring together a number of state projects which would allow for the sharing of information on the set-up of the individual state efforts, and for those individuals to communicate directly with the U. S. Newspaper Project Coordinators.

Bringing the Washington based experts to the conference accomplished a two-fold goal. First, it helped remove the veil of aloofness that surrounds anyone who "works for the government"; second, it allowed people at the state level to ask questions and make comments in a non-bureaucratic setting. Face-to-face exchanges help to keep Washington abreast of what is happening in the field and also give everyone a chance to become acquainted on a personal level. Best of all, the format worked. The bureaucrats from D.C. acted like anything but, they answered questions freely and offered some welcome advice for nagging problems. By bringing together not only people from NEH and the Library of Congress, but also coordinators of individual state projects including Paul Martin of Alabama and Judy Sackett of Kentucky, problems and gripes were aired and advice shared.

Interest in the program was not limited to project coordinators. There were a number of students from Alabama and people from other states who had worked in one capacity or another with their state projects or were generally interested in the U.S. Newspaper Program. Among these was Dean DeBolt of the University of West Florida, who came seeking information in anticipation of a Florida project.

Joseph E. Brent

Preservation Planning Working Group

The purpose of this informal session was to examine current and possible plans for developing inter- and intrastate cooperative preservation programs. Jeffrey Field, Assistant Director of the Office of Preservation at NEH spoke about the kinds of projects that NEH has funded and suggested that future grant applications should be for collections that are of more than local significance. Proposals with regional or national significance would have a better chance of being funded. It was this statement that caused Ed Bridges to make a motion at the SAC closing session that a committee be appointed to draw up a proposal and submit a grant application to NEH. That committee will be appointed in the very near future.

Sandra Nyberg, Field Services Officer of the SOLINET Preservation Program talked about the services they have been offering in the region, workshops, disaster assistance, etc., and in particular about the PALMCOF project in South Carolina.

Since this was intended as an informal discussion, there was no structure to it; various persons attending asked questions and made comments relevant to the subject.

I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to those who were inconvenienced by the decision to move the session off campus to a local restaurant for breakfast. I have been made aware of the fact that some persons had to find a ride at the last minute and that at least one missed the session entirely. I very much regret that this happened.

Linda Overman

CERTIFICATION DEBATE INTENSIFIES

In spite of SAA Council endorsement, certification remains a controversial issue with the archival profession. Last fall the Kansas City Area Archivists unanimously voted to petition SAA Council objecting to certification of individual archivists. They sent a copy of this petition to other local and regional archival organizations for review and possible endorsement.

With the permission of the Kansas City Archivists and of Paul Eiseloefel, who drafted the statement on certification of which this is a summary, THE PRIMARY SOURCE is reprinting the summary of the KCAA position as found in their March 1988 newsletter, The Dusty Shelf:

Synopsis of KCAA Position on Certification

The Kansas City Area Archivists supports the pursuit of professional standards in the archives profession. It does not, however, believe that SAA's individual certification plan is a viable instrument for such standards. Specifically, KCAA believes the following:

1. The diversity of valid archival experience defies standardized examination.
2. Archival practice is essentially a skill, which also defies standardized examination.
3. The archival profession has no foundation of standardized educational preparation on which to base certification.
4. Certification may result in the stratification of the profession and stifle opportunity for those who through no fault of their own cannot attain certification.

As an alternative to certification as a way to promote professional standards, KCAA suggests that the profession look more closely at the accreditation of archival training programs and archival repositories.

NORTH CAROLINA REACTS TO KCAA PROPOSAL

The Executive Board of the Society of North Carolina Archivists (SNCA) reviewed the petition and, while generally sympathetic, felt that the SNCA membership should have an opportunity to consider the issues raised by the Kansas City Area Archivists.

With permission of the author, Michelle A. Francis, Archivist, Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina, we are reprinting a summary report of SNCA's response to the petition published in the Spring 1988 Newsletter of the Society of North Carolina Archivists. THE PRIMARY SOURCE thanks Alexandra Gressitt, who belongs to SNCA for passing along this information.

"Archival Certification: SNCA's Response"

Fifty-four people (43%) responded to the 125 archival certification questionnaires mailed to SNCA members in February. The survey was prompted by a letter the SNCA Executive Board received from the Kansas City Area Archivists requesting endorsement of their petition to the SAA Council. The

petition pointed out the need to standardize and certify archival education before implementing certification of individuals based on "a non-existent corpus of testable technical knowledge." The petition concluded with a request to the Council to immediately reconsider its accreditation policy.

Thirty-three of the fifty-four people (61%) responding to the SNCA survey favored endorsing the Kansas City petition. Eleven opposed the petition and nine were undecided. Many of the respondents added personal comments. Some see the certification plan as elitist and cost prohibitive for most archivists. Others feel implementation of the plan is inevitable, despite its shortcomings, and that at least it is a start "toward developing meaningful standards that can define and control entry into the profession."

Twenty-one people (39%) indicated they would seek certification, fifteen said they would not, and eighteen were undecided. These statistics are quite interesting when compared to those obtained at the Society's 21 March 1986 meeting. The forty-seven SNCA members present were asked if they would seek certification. Thirty-two (68%) said they would; no one said they would not. Fifteen people did not vote one way or the other.

Those at the March 1986 meeting also were asked if they favored certification of archivists. Thirty-five responded affirmatively, no one negatively. Twelve did not vote. However, twenty-nine felt that SAA's accreditation policy, as then written, was undesirable. Three people approved of the plan; fifteen did not respond to the question. It seems the more we learn about certification of individuals the less enthusiastic, albeit resigned, we become. Some of the comments included in the February questionnaire indicate that many who plan to seek certification do so reluctantly and with the fear of committing professional suicide as their motivating force.

Less than two thirds of the SNCA membership returned their certification questionnaires. Therefore, the Executive Board did not feel they could officially act on the Kansas City petition. However, the complete results of the Questionnaire, including the anonymous personal comments, are being sent to the Kansas City Area Archivists and to the SAA Council.

In other news concerning certification, Alan Perry of KCAA reports that SNCA is also sending a questionnaire to the regionals asking what action they have taken, with a view to a caucus of regional representatives at SAA in Atlanta. Alan also reports that MAC recently polled its membership on the concept of certification and the SAA plan, with a 41% response rate. 36.6 % favored the concept of certification, with 41.1% opposed and 22.3% undecided. However, only 16.1% favored the current SAA plan, with 48% opposed and 35% undecided. An overwhelming 91.1% supported accreditation of academic training courses for archivists. In a similar move, the members of MARAC voted at their semi-annual business meeting by a vote of 90 to 55 to ask SAA to rescind the decision on individual certification and to consider accrediting educational programs instead.

At the SMA spring meeting two years ago, the membership supported the concept of certification but split over supporting the SAA plan. In the interest of fair reporting, the editor of THE PRIMARY SOURCE urges supporters of certification to express their views here in the newsletter or in some other appropriate forum. Certification is an issue of extreme importance to the archival community, and the SMA membership needs to hear both sides of the controversy, and to be aware of continuing developments.

NATIONAL NEWS

ARCHIVIST GIVES "STATE OF THE ARCHIVES" ADDRESS

Dr. Don W. Wilson presented his first "State of the Archives" address to overflow audiences at the National Archives Building and the Washington National Records Center in Suitland, MD, on Thursday, March 31.

Dr. Wilson said his most pleasant surprise as Archivist "was to discover the extent of quality and dedication throughout the NARA staff at every level." He also said that he was "shocked by the working conditions and space problems of this agency, both here in Washington and in many of the regions around the country. . . . For this reason, I plan to concentrate on the successful completion of a new building, which is informally known as 'Archives II.'

"Archives II" will be the top priority in a ten point plan which he outlined in his address. The other points are: continuing to work on computerization and developing policies for machine-readable records; continuing to emphasize access to records; ensuring that the Archives remains the repository for all Federal records of enduring value; emphasizing and improving preservation efforts; expanding outreach efforts; encouraging greater creativity in utilization of our field units; offering training and other opportunities for career development among staff members; seeking a balance between research use and protection of records; and assuming a leadership role in formulating a national collection policy. (News from the Archives, Summer 1988)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES FUNDS STUDY OF ELECTRONIC RECORDS

The Archivist of the United States, Dr. Don W. Wilson, announced on May 31 that a study of the effects of electronic recordkeeping on the historical record of the Federal government is underway. The survey and analysis will be conducted by the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) under a \$195,000 year-long contract.

Dr. Wilson called the study "an essential step in our efforts to anticipate and prevent the potential loss of significant information." He said that there was a growing concern that the use of electronic media could jeopardize the documentation of important government business. This concern is one of his top priorities as the new Archivist.

The NAPA staff will collect data on the electronic recordkeeping practices of Federal agencies through questionnaires and interviews. A questionnaire will be mailed to approximately 1,000 key officials in Federal departments and agencies and a series of interviews with records and information managers in 19 agencies will be conducted. The agencies include the Justice, Defense, and State Departments as well as the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

The data will then be analyzed and presented to a panel of fifteen experts who will make recommendations to the Archivist. Among the experts serving on the panel are John McDonald, Director of Automated Systems at the National Archives of Canada; the former Archivist Robert M. Warner, now at the University of Michigan; and Dr. Joan Hoff Wilson, Executive Director of the Organization of American Historians.

The final report is scheduled to be completed by December 20. (National Archives and Records Administration)

ALIC ACTIVATED

The Archives Library Information Center is a new expanded service of the Library of the National Archives intended to serve the information needs of the archival community by providing a central source of information on archival and records management subjects. Among the free services provided are database searches and referrals, interlibrary loans, lists of current archival projects sponsored by the major national agencies, and updated bibliographies of additions to the library's holdings of books and periodicals. ALIC will also provide photocopying of noncopyrighted materials in the Library's holdings. A flyer detailing these services is available from ALIC (NNIL), National Archives and Records Administration, Washington DC 20408, telephone (202) 523-8652.

SAA SOLICITS FINDING AIDS FOR DISPLAY

The SAA Description Section is again sponsoring a Finding Aids Fair at the annual meeting in Atlanta, September 28-October 2. The fair, a display of finding aids from all types of repositories, is an informal way to exchange information about descriptive practices. Many archivists appreciate the opportunity to examine finding aids from other institutions. The fair can only be successful if a large number of guides, registers, inventories and other items are displayed.

Finding aids for the fair can be brought to the SAA meeting and delivered to the FAF exhibit location, or they may be sent well ahead of the annual meeting dates to Steve Engerrand, "For SAA Finding Aids Fair," Georgia Department of Archives and History, 330 Capitol Ave. S.E., Atlanta, GA 30334.

Contributors who wish to retrieve their finding aids should mark them "To be returned" and pick them up from the exhibit table prior to the conclusion of the meeting. Questions about the Fair should be directed to Penelope Krosch, University of Minnesota Archives, 10 Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455, (612) 624-0562.

HOST INSTITUTIONS SOUGHT FOR NHPRC FELLOWS

NHPRC is again seeking institutions interested in hosting a fellow in archival administration for the 1989-1990 fellowship year. Applications should be submitted by 15 September 1988. Institutions are judged primarily on their ability to involve a fellow in a wide range of archival administrative experience. For guidelines and application forms contact NHPRC at (202) 523-5386.

BOOK REVIEW

Dunaway, David K. and Baum, Willa K., eds. Oral History: An Interdisciplinary Anthology. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 2nd printing, 1987. 436 pp. \$29.50, \$17.95 paper. Order from: AASLH Publishers, 172 Second Ave. N., Suite 102, Nashville, TN 37201.

This anthology is a collection of leading articles in the oral history field. The editors' purpose was "to display oral history in its varieties" (p. xv), and to provide a basic historiographical study. An impressive point about this work is that it provides a montage of perspectives on oral

history. Archivists' and researchers' viewpoints are represented. Included are articles that are informative, challenging and demonstrative of the wide scope of the field. All the essays were published previously in journals or books, or they were adapted from speeches and papers presented at conferences.

The book is divided into five parts. Part I details the history of oral history. The editors selected articles by Allan Nevins and Louis Starr, the "Founders of the Oral History Movement" as the foundation of this anthology. Nevins and Starr set the tone for the entire work. Additional articles by Paul Thompson and Samuel Hand discuss historiography, practical considerations and controversies in oral history.

In Part II, "Interpreting and Designing Oral History," Dunaway and Baum selected articles to demonstrate "the strengths and limitations of oral history from a practical perspective: the problems of interpreting and designing oral history projects" (p. 67). Some of the authors included in this section are William Moss, Alice Hoffman, Barbara Tuchman, William Cutler III, and David Lance.

Part III, "Oral History Applied: Local, Ethnic, Family, and Women's History," authors of selected articles discuss the importance of "oral traditional history" and "oral documentation" in relation to a variety of historical fields. This section provides thought-provoking insights on the value of historical accounts that pass through generations without written documentation. Authors contributing include Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, Sherna Gluck, Larry Danielson and Alex Hailey.

Part IV deals with folklore, anthropology and gerontology and oral history's value to each discipline. It demonstrates the close relationship oral historians should have with other fields that use oral history sources for research. The writers stress the need for a realization that many disciplines use nontraditional sources for their work. The late Richard Dorson, a prominent folklorist, wrote an article included in this section.

Part V discusses the use of oral history in schools. A number of enlightening ideas on how to incorporate oral history into the classroom to enrich learning experiences are provided in this last section. A variety of articles present guidelines and information for teachers, and one essay is directed to students. This essay for students outlines potential problems the beginner may find in oral history projects.

In addition to the body of the work, the appendix is a wealth of information for oral historians. The Oral History Association's goals, guidelines and evaluation criteria comprise this section, which perhaps is the most valuable of the book. Other strong points of this volume are the variety of the selections, and the bibliographies and suggested reading assignments.

The weaknesses of this anthology are that not all fields or leading authors are represented, and that some articles in the same subject area are repetitious on the basics of oral history. However, the editors note this lack of representation and imply that a future work might include those topics and specialists omitted from this volume. The problem of repetitiveness occurs frequently in such anthologies, when articles are taken from a wide variety of sources, and their authors had no initial intention to participate in a collective effort.

Dunaway and Baum's compilation is not one-dimensional and will appeal to a wide range of readers. The book is recommended for the student of oral history, for the professional oral historian, and for archivists.

Sandra Kaye Behel
Memphis State University

PUBLICATIONS NOTED

Directory of American Libraries with Genealogy or Local History Collections, edited by P. William Filby. Contains names and locations of libraries, days and hours of operation, size of genealogy collections, cites availability of indexes or published guides to holdings, and other pertinent information. Scholarly Resources, Inc., \$75.

Directory of Archives and Manuscript Repositories in the United States, 2nd edition. Updates 1978 edition and contains names of institutions, addresses, phone numbers, days and hours of operation, access restrictions, general description of holdings, and other pertinent information. Oryx Press, \$55. (Toll-free order number: 1-800-457-ORYX)

Directory of Oral History Collections, edited by Allen Smith. Identifies 500 oral history collections, with directory information, purpose, holdings. Oryx Press, \$49.50.

The Copyright Primer for Librarians and Educators, by Mary Hutchings Reed, ALA Legal Counsel. American Library Association, \$7.95. Order from ALA Publishing Services, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Genealogical Research and Resources: A Guide for Library Use, by Lois C. Gilmer, is aimed at helping librarians provide better genealogical reference service. American Library Association, \$9.95.

Friends of College Libraries, by Ronelle K. H. Thompson. The ninth volume of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) CLIP series, this volume provides examples of constitutions, by-laws, membership brochures, program activities, newsletters, and publications of college library friends groups. American Library Association, \$17.

Library and Information Sources on Women, published by the Feminist Press is a guide to women's collections in the greater New York City Area. \$12.95 from The Feminist Press, City University of New York, 311 East 94th Street, New York, NY 10128.

National Archives and Records Administration Annual Report for the Year Ended September 30, 1987. Presents an overview of the work and program activities of NARA during the previous fiscal year. Included is information about activities commemorating the bicentennial of the constitution, preservation and automation efforts, annual report of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, as well as the presidential library system, and all other areas of the archives. Copies may be obtained from: NSE-1, National Archives, Washington, D. C. 20408.

Our Memory at Risk: Preserving New York's Unique Research Resources is a no-nonsense report, with recommendations, by the New York Document Conservation Advisory Council. A review will appear in an upcoming issue of THE PRIMARY SOURCE. The New York State Archives has also published a brochure, Ensuring a Usable Past for Your Community aimed at the lay person, that includes checklists to be applied to the situation in local communities. Both can be ordered from The New York State Archives, Room 10A75, Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230.

CONSERVATION NEWSNOTES

"GET DOWN" WITH SID: A VISIT TO THE SALT MINES OF KANSAS

"GET DOWN" says the license plate on the shiny Cadillac driven by Mike Gingerich, president of Underground Storage and Vault, Inc., in Hutchinson, Kansas. And you must get down for SID. SID is the acronym for "Security in Depth," the theme of this company, and security is strictly maintained: the storage facility itself is secure, the privacy of the client is secure, and more important to the archivist, the records and documents stored are secure.

When Anne Lipscomb, Head Librarian for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and I, as Library Technician in charge of the serials, prepared to spend the week of May 9-13 in Hutchinson to check in the Department's microfilm newspaper collection which had been recently transferred to Underground Vault and Storage and to tour the underground storage facility, we anticipated a lot of hard work (no disappointment in that respect), but we had little idea of what else to expect.

The first people we met after our arrival in Hutchinson were Bill Badders, Customer Service Manager, and his assistant, Lori Wagoner. Bill has been with the company for twenty-four years. Lori, as Customer Service Representative, will handle our microfilm and any orders or problems we may have.

Early Monday morning Bill and Lori met us at the motel and led us to the site where we would spend the better part of the rest of the week. Immediately after we arrived at Underground Vault and Storage, we met Mike Gingerich. Mike is the second company president in its twenty-seven year history. Conservatively dressed and quietly self-confident with a "get-down-to-business" attitude, he projects an image of security -- that quality which is the foundation of the company.

Then they gave us the grand tour of the administration building, a modern three-level structure which house the administrative offices, the micro-photo and processing labs, the computer terminal, a display area (they also sell micro-photo equipment), the mail room, and the maintenance department which services both the technical equipment and the fleet of company-owned vehicles used in sales and customer relations.

On Wednesday, Bill introduced us to SID. Security in Depth is really that -- the depth being 650 feet underground. The Storage area is located in a part of the large Carey Salt mine from which the Salt has been removed. Security is tight. There are no tourists or school tours; not even all the employees who work in the administration complex have been underground. Customers and prospective customers are the few who are guided through the Storage facility by someone authorized by the company. These tours are arranged at certain times - what Bill calls the "Dr. Pepper Schedule" -- early in the morning, mid-morning, and in the afternoon. This is done so that the freight elevator, which is used to haul the salt above-ground as well as to take people up and down, will not be tied up more than necessary. Every time the elevator comes up, it carries 4000 pounds of salt. It takes one and one-half minutes to go down or come up (in absolute, thick, black darkness) in the elevator. Except for the emergency exit, this is the only entrance to the mine and to Underground Vault and Storage, Inc.

After each person signs in and is briefed on the safety procedures, the trip below ground is begun. Two remote-controlled cameras monitor the elevators, so that a second record is made of each person entering or

exiting the elevator. Bill tells us that the elevator consists of two cars which are counter-balanced, so that when one is going up, the other is going down. The cables are inspected visually every morning and are x-rayed every month. If any sign of wear or frayed wires show in either inspection, that cable is changed immediately. The cables are changed alternately once a year.

Since the administrative staff was underground until the above-ground building was bought, there are offices and meeting rooms set up that would elegantly serve any large corporation. The suite of rooms now serve as offices, lounge, kitchen and dining area for the fifty-two people who work underground. These people come to work at their scheduled times and do not go above-ground again until their workday ends.

The "salt-crete" (made with cement mixed with salt instead of sand) floors are painted a light gray and the walls are formed from the unmined salt, which, in its solid form resembles quartz or some type of crystal. Layers of shale create dark gray horizontal stripes through the salt. The underground facilities are ideal for long-term storage. The temperature is maintained naturally at a constant 68 degrees, the humidity is a low 50%, and the air is virtually dust-free in the storage area.

After the salt has been methodically mined, large caverns are left. These caverns form the bays used for underground storage. The bays are approximately fifty feet wide and three hundred feet long. Each bay contains up to forty or fifty rows, nine feet high, each row providing 4,100 cubic feet of storage. There is plenty of future storage available, as only one per cent of the twenty acres leased from Carey Salt on a 99-year contract (renewable for another 99 years upon the expiration of the original lease) is presently in use.

One of the bays contains movies produced by companies such as Columbia, MGM, and Walt Disney. Here we saw boxes holding films made in the 30s and 40s, such as "Lost Horizons" and cartoon strips starring Mr. Magoo, as well as recent titles. The posters and marquees of these movies are stored in long flat boxes stacked high in nearby rows. But there are no free movies shown here. One of the provisions of the first contract signed with a movie studio was that no 16mm or 35mm projector would ever be brought into the storage area. No one is even allowed a peek at the posters and marquees!

Major oil companies store their records here; quick-food places, such as Pizza Hut, to name one, stash their records and recipes here; and a famous perfume company has its treasured formula buried in these depths. One of these bays houses the wealth of knowledge collected through the years by the Encyclopedia Britannica. One of the more recent customers is the Kansas Historical Society, which has deposited its extensive microfilm collection underground.

One row is stacked high with plastic boxes with little pull-out drawers that are divided into small compartments (these boxes are similar to plastic storage boxes that are bought to hold assortments of small items such as nails, tacks, washers, screws, etc.). In these compartments are stored the most unusual and unexpected items. Bill opened one of the boxes and took out a tiny bit of wax with an even thinner bit of pale material that looks like tissue paper or gauze. It is skin tissue used in the study of disease by the three teaching hospitals located within an hour's drive of Hutchinson. The underground storage provides a constant cool temperature, ideal for long-term protection of the skin-tissue-in-wax collection.

Our visit to Hutchinson, Kansas, served two purposes: to check in the microfilm collection and to check out the storage facility. Bill Badders, Lori Wagoner, and Mike Gingerich extended hospitality, information, staff

help, any necessary equipment and any part of their facility necessary for us to accomplish our main task and to assure us that Underground Vault and Storage, with SID, would provide excellent long-term protection for materials deposited by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Sara S. Clark, Library Technician
Mississippi Department of Archives and History

HURRICANE HOTLINE REACTIVATED

The government's Hurricane Hotline will be reactivated when tropical storms threaten the nation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced Monday.

The number is 1-900-410-NOAA. Calls cost 50 cents for the first minute and 35 cents for each additional minute. The average call costs 85 cents. (Clarion Ledger, June 7, 1988)

PRESERVATION COLLECTION ESTABLISHED AT CANADIAN LIBRARY

The National Library of Canada has announced the creation of a formal preservation collection. Marianne Scott, the national librarian, said recently in Ottawa, "The creation of this collection emphasizes the National Library's concern that the printed heritage of this country be preserved for all Canadians, now and in the future." The library will try to acquire a second copy of all materials assigned to the collection, so that one will be available for research and loan to other libraries, while the other will be kept as a preservation copy after being deacidified.

The collection will be developed in three stages: current books and periodicals will be acquired, deacidified, and placed in the collection. The library will use the Wei T'o process of deacidification. The second stage will identify retrospective materials for the collection, and the third will include acquisition of microforms, kits, sound recordings, and other media. (Library Journal, April 1988)

PRESERVATION PUBLICATIONS NOTED

MICROFILM RECOMMENDED FOR MACHINE-READABLE RECORDS

In an article in the March 1988 issue of Information Technology and Libraries entitled "On the Preservation of Human- and Machine-Readable Records," John C. Mallinson, a member of Subcommittee C of the Committee on Preservation for the National Archives, defends the subcommittee's controversial recommendation that machine-readable records be preserved on human-readable microfilm. He points out that NARA's top priority is to reserve valuable records and to make them available. Instant access to the records in their original form is not a top priority and may be impossible to provide given the continued obsolescence of the original hardware, necessitating continuous file conversion, and the lack of independent software and documentation. Microfilm is an archival medium independent of changing technology but compatible with evolving technology for the handling of information.

XEROGRPHY STUDY AVAILABLE

During fiscal year 1987, the Government Printing Office conducted tests of photocopy machines for the National Archives to determine methods of monitoring the quality of images produced by xerography. Ms. Sylvia Subt, Chief, Paper and Physical testing, Quality Control and Technical Dept., GPO, first reported her findings at the second annual preservation conference, December 9, 1986. The proceedings of that conference were published in Restaurator, vol. 8, no. 1, 1987. The final report of the study was presented to NARA in August of 1987.

The conference papers and the GPO report represent the first efforts to recognize xerography as a preservation medium. The papers and reports recommend guidelines for selecting photocopying as a means of making preservation copies of endangered documents and specify criteria for determining if a photocopying machine is in proper operating condition to produce permanent copies. The report and papers are available from Alan Calmes, National Archives Preservation Officer, NARA, Washington D C 20408.

NEW PRESERVATION PUBLICATIONS

A new series of Technical Information Papers (TIPs) has been instituted by the National Archives. The first three titles are:

Digital Raster Scanning, Optical Character Recognition, Speech Pattern Recognition (TIP-01)

MARC/Life Cycle Tracking of Archival Records (TIP-02)

Specifications of Cold Storage for Color Film Materials (TIP-03)

They may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161, (703) 377-0365.

Alkaline Paper Advocate is a new publication devoted to the quest for paper permanence. It is published "as often as necessary to get the news out" by Ellen McCrady, who also publishes the respected conservation journal The Abbey Newsletter. Subscriptions are \$25 (\$40 for institutions) for one calendar year. The Abbey Newsletter: Bookbinding and Conservation, which has become essential reading for anyone interested in preservation, is \$35 per year for eight issues. Contact: Ellen McCrady, Abbey Publications, 320 E. Center, Provo, UT 84601 (801) 373-1598.

An interesting catalog of videos and books on bookbinding and conservation is available from the distributors, Istor Publications, 7549 Fenwick, Portland, OR 97217. Included are a number of technical titles, some produced and distributed for the Guild of Bookworkers. Other titles of more general interest include "Museum Mounting: A Primer," "Paper Cleaning: Wet and Dry Methods," and "Book Repair for Circulating Collections."

The Care of Prints and Drawings, by Margaret Holben Ellis provides practical advice on how to handle and care for prints and works of art on paper. Available from the American Association for State and Local History, \$14.95.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

RIT OFFERS PHOTOGRAPH WORKSHOPS

Two seminars on the preservation of black and white photographs are being offered by the Rochester Institute of Technology. "Identifying Image-Forming Processes, Handling and Storing Photographs" will be offered August 21-25, and "Copying and Duplicating" will be held August 26-29. Both will concentrate on handling of 19th and 20th century photographs using laymen's terms. Contact: Rochester Institute of Technology, College of Graphic Arts and Photography, Technical and Education Center, Seminars, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

July 8-13. American Library Association annual conference in New Orleans. Will include hundreds of sessions and workshops, some of which may be of interest to archivists, as well as exhibits by hundreds of vendors. For more information contact ALA at 1-800-545-2433.

July 20-23. National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators annual meeting in Annapolis, Maryland. Call 301-974-3914 for more information.

August 29-30. Understanding the MARC AMC Format workshop in Jackson, Mississippi. See article on page 1 or call 312-922-0140.

September 14-15. ARMA Knoxville-East Tennessee Chapter Seminar and Vendor show. Contact: P.O. Box 1331, Knoxville, TN 37901.

September 14-18. American Association for State and Local History annual meeting in Rochester, N. Y. For more information call 615-255-2971.

September 29-October 2. Society of American Archivists annual meeting in Atlanta. Programs will be available this summer: call 312-922-0140 for more information.

October 12-14. Mississippi Library Association annual meeting. For more information call 601-352-3917.

ATTENTION: RENEW MEMBERSHIPS NOW

SMA membership renewals are overdue. Membership categories are:

Student	\$3.00
Individual	\$7.50
Institutional	\$15.00
Patron	\$25.00 up

Send your renewal to: Membership Chair, Society of Mississippi Archivists, P.O. Box 1151, Jackson, MS 39205. While you're at it, volunteer to serve on a committee, or pass along suggestions for a program session!

REGIONAL NEWS

LOUISIANA STATE ARCHIVES MAY LOSE NEW BUILDING

As a costcutting move, the governor and legislature of Louisiana have recommended the conversion of part of a new building intended for the state archives into office space for the Secretary of State. At the SAC meeting in May a resolution was passed stating that "such a move would adversely affect the archival program of the state of Louisiana and erode the significant resources provided to the citizens of the state of Louisiana by the construction of this building." It was signed by the presidents of SMA, SALA and the Tennessee Archivists and sent to the Louisiana state officers and legislators involved. A similar resolution was also passed by the National Genealogical Society at their April meeting. At this time, the situation has not been resolved.

MAJOR GRANT AWARDED TO NEWSPAPER PROJECT

The Department of Archives and History has been awarded a \$204,046 grant from NEH for the Mississippi Newspaper Project. The grant will fund the third and final phase of the project--microfilming the newspapers. The first and second phases involved locating and cataloging newspapers across the state.

This phase, which begins in September, will take approximately two years. The Mississippi Newspaper Project is in the process of surveying, cataloging and preserving newspapers throughout the state. Through the cooperation of universities, libraries, courthouses, newspaper offices, and individuals, the project staff has identified over 2100 different newspaper titles. The microfilming phase will result in the production of archival quality microfilm, which will be available for public use.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICIALLY ADOPTED AT USM

In January, President Aubrey K. Lucas of the University of Southern Mississippi authorized the creation of a formal records management program for the University. During the past several years the McCain Library and Archives staff had been informally providing records management consultative services as part of their work to develop the University Archives. However, staffing and space limitations prevented a more aggressive program.

Since Dr. Lucas' decision an agreement has been reached between the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the University in which the University Archives will serve as the archival repository for permanently valuable University records. This action serves the interests of the University in that the records will remain on campus instead of being transferred to Jackson, but also brings the University into compliance with the Records Management Act of 1981. Terry S. Latour, Director of Special Collections and University Archivist, was also designated University Records Officer by Dr. Lucas. In that role he will serve as liason person with the Records Management Division of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and coordinate all records management activities on campus.

Thus far the Mississippi Department of Archives and History has assisted the University by having their records analysts survey all the records on hand as well as those currently being produced by business and financial operations offices on campus. Recommended records retention

schedules have been developed and are now being reviewed by campus offices. They should be approved by the State Records Board in the near future and will then comply with state statutes.

Plans for the program include the creation of a modest records center storage facility for records that only need to be retained a limited period of time. Instructional workshops will be held for office personnel with the intent of training them to assist with further records surveys. Records retention schedules will be developed for the academic offices on campus and it is hoped that most of the records produced on campus will be scheduled within the next two years. An additional position may be added to the McCain Library and Archives staff to assist with this work.

OTHER NEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI REPOSITORIES

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Madel Morgan, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History's Library Division since 1979, has announced her retirement, effective June 30, 1988. Mrs. Morgan first came to the Department under the administration of William D. McCain, and was the taker of the minutes at the reorganization of the Mississippi Historical Society in 1952. In addition to her archival career, she made contributions to Mississippi's library profession, serving as librarian for St. Andrew's Day School, Jackson, and working for the Mississippi Library Commission. Her contributions were recognized by her election as president of the Mississippi Library Association and as recipient of MLA's outstanding achievement award. She has been associated with SMA since its founding, and we wish her a pleasant and rewarding retirement.

Mississippi State University

Anne Wells, who has been Manuscript Librarian at MSU for thirteen years, is leaving in July to become Administrative Assistant to Dr. D. Clayton James, who will hold the Biggs Chair at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia. She will assist him with various research projects in military history. Anne is a founding member of SMA and served as its first treasurer. More recently she served as a member of Council. Though we are sad to see her leave the state, we wish her well in her new career.

Michael B. Ballard has received a \$1500 grant from the American Philosophical Society in support of his research on Confederate General John Clifford Pemberton. Ballard's article, "Jefferson Davis, 1808-1889," has been published in The Book of Days, 1988 published by Pierian Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

University of Mississippi

Walter Liniger, Research Associate at the Blues Archive, taught a course entitled "Blues as Oral History" at the Mississippi Governor's School in Columbus June 13 - July 3.

University of Southern Mississippi

"WORDSWORTH, ROMANTICISM, AND CULTURE"

The McCain Library and Archives of the University of Southern Mississippi is sponsoring a special exhibit and symposium, "Wordsworth, Romanticism, and Culture." The events, supported in part by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council, coincide with a nationwide humanities effort, the Wordsworth Project, associated with the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The exhibit, "Wordsworth and the Age of English Romanticism," opens September 18 at McCain Library and Archives and continues through October 14. The exhibit features reproductions of many paintings, watercolors, rare books, and manuscripts which illuminate the achievements of William Wordsworth and his Romantic contemporaries in the volatile period of 1780 to 1850. It will be expanded and enhanced with selections from the research collections of the McCain Library and Archives.

The symposium on the afternoon of September 22 features a program of talks, discussions, audiovisuals, and performances that draw attention to the exhibit and explore its many cultural implications. Scholars from diverse fields, such as art, music, biology, philosophy, history, and literature, will present papers or performances. Evening programs will feature "Romanticism and Music" and a dramatic reading of the works of Dorothy Wordsworth.

A number of films and gallery talks are scheduled in the McCain Library and Archives during September and October. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Terry Latour, Director of McCain Library and Archives, (601) 266-4345.

"A DAY AT THE DE GRUMMOND COLLECTION"

McCain Library and Archives is sponsoring "A Day at the de Grummond Collection" on July 7, 1988, in conjunction with the meeting of the American Library Association in New Orleans. While on campus, conference participants will tour the de Grummond Collection and visit the exhibit "Treasures of the de Grummond Collection." Nancy Hands, author of Illustrating Children's Books, will also speak on Ezra Jack Keats and book illustration in general.

A catalogue of the exhibit is available free of charge. Please send requests to: de Grummond Collection, McCain Library and Archives, Southern Station Box 5148, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5148.

ACCESSIONS

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Manuscript Collection

Alcorn, James L. Letter (photocopy) October 2, 1861. 1 item.

Civil War letter dated October 2, 1861, written by Brigadier General James L. Alcorn, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to his wife. Made available for photocopying by Bob Lurate, Jackson.

Bell, Joseph. Papers. 1836-1837; 1842-1844; 1846-1853; 1866; 1869; n.d.
.40 cubic feet

Includes correspondence, commissions, and other records of Joseph Bell, secretary of state of Mississippi who continued serving beyond his official term of office and who literally "seized the day" by becoming de facto governor of Mississippi from November 4-25, 1851, thereby averting a constitutional crisis when the state was temporarily without the leadership of a chief executive or deputy, due to a series of unusual circumstances. Given by Elizabeth M. Vickers, Wilson, North Carolina.

Burns, W.A. Civil War letters. 1863-1865; undated. .33 c.f.

Civil War letters written by W. A. Burns, a soldier serving in an unidentified regiment, to his wife, Mary Ann Burns. The letters, written from various locations in Alabama, Tennessee, and Virginia, detail the hardships and privations of an enlisted man. Provenance unknown.

Fox, W. H. Preston. Letter. December 27, 1925 . 1 item.

Apocryphal letter written by W. H. Preston Fox, St. Louis, Missouri, to Paul Mann, Linden Plantation, Washington County, Mississippi, literally claiming ownership of Linden Plantation from the grave. In his letter, Fox, also claimed to have been married to Annie Hampton, daughter of C. F. Hampton and niece of General Wade Hampton of South Carolina. He stated that they resided at Linden after they were married. Furthermore, Fox claimed to have been murdered by Wade Hampton, Jr., shortly after his marriage to Miss Hampton in 1872. Given by Nelda Speakes, Jackson.

Hogg-Young Family Papers. 1837-1838; 1845. 9 items.

Includes letters of Ruth Rebecca Hogg Young, wife of Dr. James C. Young of Natchez that were written to various family members. The collection primarily documents the social history of Natchez during the late 1830s. Given by Alice F. Gage, Port Gibson.

Holliday, Thomas Leonidas. Papers. 1847-1850; undated. 34 items.

Includes courtship letters written by Thomas Leonidas Holliday of Madison County, Mississippi, to his cousin, Harriet E. Catchings of Georgetown, Mississippi. Given by Eugenia Smith, Canton.

Postlethwaite Family Papers. 1830s-1930s. .50 cu.ft.

Includes correspondence and financial records of various members of the prominent Postlethwaite family of Natchez, Mississippi, from the 1830s-1930s. Anonymous donor.

Sunflower County Progress, Inc. Records. 1960s-1970s. 1 cu.ft.

Includes by-laws, minutes, correspondence, memoranda, grant files, audit reports, and other records of the Sunflower County Progress, Inc., a community action group responsible for promoting economic opportunity among the disadvantaged of Sunflower County in compliance with policies and procedures adopted by the federal Office of Economic Opportunity under guidelines established by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Given by George P. Chatham, Meridian.

Cartographic Records

A chart of the sea coast of the state of Mississippi / John Wheeler. W. J. Stone. 1839. 1 item. Purchased from The Jenkins Company, Austin, Texas, in May 1988.

Johnson's Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana / Alvin J. Johnson & Son. 1874. 1 item. Purchased from The Jenkins Company, Austin, Texas, in May 1988.

A new map of Mississippi : with its roads & distances / S. Augustus Mitchell. 1849. 1 item. Purchased from Art Source International, Boulder, Colorado, in April 1988.

A new map of Mississippi : with its roads and distances / Thomas Cowperthwaite & Co.. 1851. 1 item. Purchased from Art Source International, Boulder, Colorado, in April 1988.

Panorama of the Mississippi Valley and its fortifications / C. Magnus. 1863. 1 item. Purchased from Historical Americana, Washington, D.C. in May 1988.

Plum Point Reach / Smith S. Leach. W. Stewart. Corps of Engineers. 1887. 1 item. Purchased from The Jenkins Company, Austin, Texas, in May 1988.

Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas, and northern part of Florida / John Bartholomew. T. Ellwood Zell. 1873. 1 item. Purchased from Art Source International, Boulder, Colorado, in April 1988.

Mississippi State University - University Archives

Butler, Eugene. Papers. Accretion. 1898-1980s. 9 cu. ft.
Research and correspondence files, speeches and articles of Butler; also some information on Tait Butler, Eugene Butler's father and a pioneer in veterinary medicine and agricultural publishing. Given by Eugene Butler.

Mid-South Education Research Association. Papers. 1986. 2 cu. ft.
Papers delivered at the annual meeting of the organization. Given by the Association.

Mississippi State University. Career Services Center. Papers. 1966-1988. 18 cu. ft.
Case files and employer information. Collection is closed.

Mississippi State University. College of Arts and Sciences. 1978-1986. 16 cu. ft.
General office and correspondence files. Given by the Dean's Office, College of Arts and Sciences. Collection is closed.

Mississippi State University. Honors Program. Papers. 1974-1986. 17 cu. ft.
General correspondence and subject files, information on scholarship programs. Given by the Honors Program Office.

Mississippi State University. Office of the President. Papers. ca. 1980-1986. 10 cu. ft.

General office files of former president James McComas, interim president Harvey Lewis. Collection is closed.

Mississippi State University. Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Papers. 1971-1986. 49 cu. ft.

General correspondence and subject files. Collection is closed.

University of Mississippi - Archives and Special Collections.

Barron, J.M. Scrapbook. ca. 1896-1904. 1 item.

Letters, broadsides, clippings, broadsheets, and ephemera of J. M. Barron, Sr., who served as District Attorney for the Fifth Judicial District in Mississippi until his death in 1904. Given by Gwendloyn Brett Barron.

Faulkner, William. Letters. 1920. 2 items.

Two important holograph letters from Faulkner to his New Orleans friend Margery Gumbel. Given by Margery Gumbel.

Faulkner, William. Letter. 12 Dec., 1948. 1 item.

Humorous and apologetic letter from Faulkner to Norman Unger, a well-known New York City bibliophile.

Williams, Tennessee. Script. 1962. 1 item.

Mimeographed playscript of The Night of the Iguana. Production version dated 1/15/62.

University of Southern Mississippi -- McCain Library and Archives

Brandon, Gerard C. Letter. 1829. 1 item.

Letter of January 9, 1829, to John Murphy, governor of Alabama, concerning unsettled accounts between the two states.

Hattiesburg Knights of Pythias Minute Book. 1900-1913. .20 cu. ft.

One volume of minutes of the Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Knights of Pythias Crescent Lodge #47, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The book contains weekly chronological entries from meetings and reflects the organizational and charitable activities of the society.

Howe, Orville F. Letter. 1882. 1 Item.

Letter from Orville F. Howe to Harper and Bros. regarding drawings of the War of 1812 which he had in his possession and a manuscript of his own for which he hoped to find a publisher.

Nydegger Family Records. ca. 1927-1987. 1 cu. ft.

Correspondence, photographs, certificates, memorabilia and other documents related to the military career and civilian life of Melvin G. Nydegger who founded the English Language Institute at the University of Southern Mississippi in 1947. Also included is information related to his family, specifically his wife's work at the Institute after his death.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Senior Manuscript Specialist, Western Historical Manuscript Collection, Kansas City, Missouri: Available 1 September, 1988. Responsibilities include appraisal, arrangement and description, reference service, outreach, supervising the office in the Associate Director's absence. Qualifications sought: MA in American history with three years experience in manuscript collections. Formal archival training and experience with automated systems preferred. Salary: \$17,220 plus University of Missouri benefits. Send letter of application, resume and names of three references to David Boutros, Associate Director, WHMC-KC, 302 Newcomb Hall, UMKC, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64110. Deadline: 1 August, 1988. Equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer.

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