

DESIGNING LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES SPACES

Q&A with Kevin Huse, Architect and President of Woollen, Molzan and Partners



The theme for this issue of Southwestern Archivist is “archives buildings and spaces,” and we thought it would be appropriate to feature this Q&A with architect Kevin Huse as the cover story. Kevin provides tips that will be helpful for anyone planning a building project, and comments that will resonate with anyone who has already experienced a renovation or construction project.

Q: Your firm has designed a number of libraries. What do you like best about designing these spaces? Least?

A: While I have worked on a variety of building types in my 25-year career, the two that have been predominant and most rewarding are worship spaces and libraries. I have been involved in dozens of each and consider it my main focus in architecture. Interestingly, as a firm, we have designed libraries into churches and incorporated chapels into libraries. What makes the design of these spaces so commonly gratifying is that they mean so much to the people that use them. The users of these spaces draw inspiration and identity from the architecture more than any other building type—wanting the space to be a stimulating and comfortable place to relax, reflect, and grow. These buildings are also two of the most social places in our culture; they are gathering spaces that offer the designer a chance for great “place making”. The clients, as well, are uniquely inspired and share the value that good design can bring; most librarians understand and enjoy the journey of being part of a design process as great collaborators—very knowledgeable and engaged. Librarians never lack for an opinion.



Central Library, Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, Indianapolis, IN.

Q: What do you see as crucial steps or decisions for library/archives staff members to make before calling in an architect?

A: The first element in the design of a library is to understand what you have now versus where you want to be in ten or, even, twenty years. It takes an enormous amount of vision, particularly on the librarian’s part. The changes in technology and the world wide efforts in digitization are reshaping the role of the profession as well as the environments in which they work. Visiting other libraries and archival spaces recently constructed or those in the planning stage are a great

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SSA
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THE SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS

The Society of Southwest Archivists is a professional organization established to stimulate and make available research in archival administration and records management; promote sound principles and standards for preserving and administering records; foster opportunities for the education and training of archivists, records managers, and custodians of private papers; strengthen relations with others in allied disciplines; and cooperate with organizations and institutions having mutual interests in the preservation and use of our recorded knowledge.

We invite you to join or extend your membership. All memberships run January through December. A membership form is included inside the back page. The form is also available online at: <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Membership.htm>.

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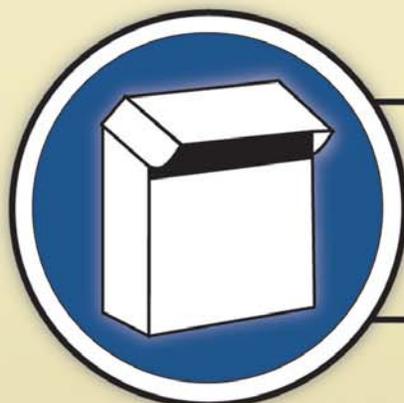
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The SSA Web page is maintained by Gina Costello at Louisiana State University.

SSA LEADERSHIP BLOG: <http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>

The SSA Leadership Blog is a source for official news from the executive board and committee members.



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Deadlines for submissions are:

April 10th
July 10th
October 10th
January 10th

We accept advertising; contact the editors to request current rates.

Employment postings from individual and institutional members are published gratis.

Jobs may be self-posted on the Unofficial SSA wiki: <http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/>

The wiki is open to SSA members and the general public; no permission is required to post.

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FROM THE EDITORS:

Ask any archivist what their most pressing needs are for providing stewardship of their collections, and there is a very good chance that “space” will be at the top of the list. In fact, in a 2005 Heritage Health Index study by IMLS, nearly one-third of the collecting institutions surveyed reported the urgent need for additional storage facilities, renovated storage facilities, or new and/or improved storage furniture.

This issue of *Southwestern Archivist* includes several articles and features on the topic of archival buildings and space. The cover article, a Q&A with architect Kevin Huse, provides advice on building and renovation projects from the perspective of an architect with over twenty-five years experience in the field. Additional information about some available resources for archival facilities can be found on page 18. Evidence of construction and renovation projects in our region is represented in the articles about the Arkansas Studies Institute’s new building (page 23) and the expansion of the Wittliff Collections on the campus of Texas State University-San Marcos (page 22). And the “How To” in this issue (pages 40-41) deals with measuring collections – one of many recurring challenges for archivists trying to efficiently manage storage space.

We encourage your comments, suggestions, and contributions. News items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members, wherever they reside, are especially welcome. Submissions by SSA members from repositories outside the SSA region will be published if space is available.

Please send all submissions via e-mail to the appropriate state liaison as listed below. Highly preferred are signed articles accompanied by 1-2 photographs (300-dpi with captions/credits). Additional publication guidelines are included in the Call for Submissions e-mail sent to members prior to each issue’s submission deadline. Please note that submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and space limitations.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT: IT'S CONFERENCE SEASON AGAIN

By Ann Hodges, CA • SSA President 2008-2009



It soon will be time for us to gather for our annual conference, this time in Shreveport. I'd like to offer my thanks to **Laura McLemore**, Local Arrangements Chair, and her committee, who have done (and will continue to do for a bit longer) the demanding work of making our annual meeting happen. Not to be omitted from the acknowledgements, of course, is **Brenda McClurkin**, Program Chair. Brenda and her program committee are to thank for arranging the program content. That leads me to all of the people who proposed sessions and agreed to be presenters, without whom we would not have a conference. I shouldn't have started thanking people, I suppose, because I inevitably will leave someone out. The Professional Development Committee, for one, also contributes to our meeting by arranging the preconference workshops, and the Scholarships Committee brings us Slotto, to everyone's enjoyment and the benefit of our scholarship recipients. Our hard-working Treasurer, **Gerri Schaad**, answers a lot of tough questions, keeps everyone on the straight and narrow (financially speaking!) and makes sure the money gets where it needs to be. As we all know, the SSA annual meeting is a wonderful event that wouldn't be possible without the hard work of a lot of people. It should not be missed if it can be helped. We realize that this is a difficult year and that many of our members, even those who usually attend the conference, will not be able to be present this year because of the lack of travel support. While that is extremely unfortunate, both for our members and for SSA as an organization, we can only hope that things will be better next year. We will be all the more appreciative of those who make the effort to join us in Shreveport.

I am proud to be able to write that we had a tremendously successful showing at the March Texas State Historical Association annual conference. The SSA joint session was literally number one, having been scheduled first on the list at 9:00 a.m. on the opening day of the conference. We had an estimated 80 audience members and a full room, and received innumerable compliments on the session. I would like to thank Brenda McClurkin for organizing and submitting the proposal to TSHA about a year ago. I presided over the session, which was entitled "Voices from the Frontier: Letters from Texas Manuscript Collections," and had the

pleasure of introducing our speakers. They were **Shelly Henley Kelly**, Brenda McClurkin, and **Mike Miller**, and the respective titles of their presentations were "My Dear Mother: The Letters of Lucy Shaw, 1838-1850," "Unpleasant Bed Mates and Hopping Intruders: The John Jay Good Letters, 1854-1861," and "Eyewitness to an Emerging Texas: The Elisha Marshall Pease Papers, 1835-1861." The audience clearly enjoyed the presentations, which complemented each other very well. I even received a request that SSA do another TSHA session on letters.

The deadline for proposal submissions to TSHA often seems to sneak up on us, but Brenda McClurkin had another inspiration and pulled together a proposal for 2010 that will be focused on audiovisual archival projects. The proposed session is comprised of the following speakers: Sarah Cunningham, Audiovisual Archivist from the LBJ Library, who will talk about the Lady Bird Johnson Audio Diary; Caroline Frick from the Texas Archive of the Moving Image in Austin; and Robert Darden, who will discuss Baylor's Black Gospel Music Restoration Project. Brenda, who will then be SSA President, will preside over the 2010 session,

which will be in Dallas. It appears that SSA soon will be electing another Texan as Vice-President, so the candidates should consider themselves forewarned to be thinking, if elected, about the session proposal for TSHA 2011, which will be due in early 2010. No doubt, they will be willing to entertain suggestions from the membership, so offer your ideas and please be willing to speak if you are asked to be part of a session. For our members in states other than Texas, please remember to make the effort to promote SSA at your own state historical association meetings by proposing program sessions sponsored by SSA. If you wonder how to go about that, several of us who have worked with TSHA over the past years would be glad to tell you about the type of sessions and papers/presentations we have organized on behalf of SSA.

I would like to conclude my final column as SSA President by thanking the SSA officers, Executive Board members, and committee chairs for their service to SSA over the past year. It definitely is a team effort to take care of SSA's business, and their support and participation was essential.



Shelly Kelly, Brenda McClurkin, and **Warren Stricker** at the 2009 TSHA Meeting.

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... continued from page 1

resource for understanding the forces that are reshaping the library. The various library associations also have building and equipment sections that investigate current issues, often having presentations at their scheduled conferences.

As you know, archival environments can vary from modest protection to the most extreme. The costs will vary correspondingly. I think it is important that the librarian understands the limits to what funds are available and to be realistic about what is achievable for their campus or community. Library planning consultants can help the library professionals quantify and qualify these requirements. Some, like me, are also Library Designers. While others come from the library side of the desk, it is helpful to bring the architect in early in the programming stage.

As my wife is a paper conservator, she would remind me that I would be remiss if I did not mention the need to have a disaster plan in place, as it will inform some of the requirements for protection. And, don't forget the need for high quality exhibit space as well.

Q: Are there any resources (e.g. books, articles, Web sites) that you would recommend someone consult before beginning a construction project?

A: Absolutely: The American Library Association LLA-MA BES (Building and Equipment Section), on which I am

a member, has an informative Web site with case studies, resources, and bibliographies. It is particularly strong on Archives and Special Collections.

Q: When you begin a new project, what are the first steps of your design process? What information do you need from clients?

A: Our first step is concentrated on-campus workshops and interviews. We frequently use open workshops where a group of people can express their opinions together, as well as individual departmental investigations and interviews. We concentrate them into a three-day or week-long time-frame because it allows us to "live" with you during that time and get a feel for the environment that makes your campus or community unique. Often we will include student and faculty or citizens, if it is a public library, into these discussions as well. These are very helpful in understanding how the building is being used and how usage has evolved over the years.

From you, we need the quantitative information of what you need and how many. This is for all aspects of the building from books to computer to people and staff. We don't expect square footages from you, just the functional and material requirements. We will do the conversion to areas for you. Just as important, we also need a sense of the



Left: Park Library and Information Services Center, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI. *Above:* The Special Collections shot is of the exhibit space for the Clarke Historical Library – a large archival facility containing one of the finest children's collections in the U.S. It is a secure temperature-, humidity-, dust-, mold-, and gas-controlled 20,000 square foot rare document facility.

qualities that you would like to see brought to the design: the types of spaces, the ambiance, the personality of the space, etc. Often we tour other select libraries, perhaps at peer institutions or nearby communities, to give a common vocabulary to these discussions.

Q: What are some of the most common mistakes made in planning renovation/construction projects?

A: I'll give you two: 1) forgetting who the user is; and 2) creating a space that has no flexibility for the future. Let's take the last one first: planning for the future. How long have you been asking the administration to add your project to the list? You finally made it. You are now charged with creating an environment that, in comparison to other academic or community facilities, is in constant change and evolution. What we once knew as a storehouse of printed material is now becoming a technological and cultural hub. No other building is changing as rapidly; and because it is rare for any construction project to take less than two years from planning to occupancy, any design has to plan for these changes.

The other common mistake is forgetting who the user is. It's great if a design wins awards and gets published in magazines. But, if the user doesn't come to the building, the design isn't a success. Libraries are about disseminating knowledge and undergirding research. Creating an environment that encourages, rather than inhibits, learning and collaboration is the primary goal.



Above: Exterior of the David L. Rice Library, University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, IN. Right: ACES Library, Information and Alumni Center Atrium at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL.

Q: What tips can you provide managers and staff for avoiding delays during the process?

A: The two most common problems that cause delays in the process are: 1) getting everyone together at the same time or finding time on an individual's calendar to meet about their space; and 2) the inability to make decisions in a timely manner. The design team knows that you have a job to do above and beyond planning a library project. We can set a schedule based on what we need to accomplish the deadline. However, we need you involved to make the project a success. Only you can judge whether the schedule is a match for your assigned team of faculty and staff. For every meeting scheduled that doesn't include all of the appropriate managers and staff, there is a delay in bringing them up to speed at the next meeting. And, decisions made at the last meeting, can change quickly with input from a missing member.

It is also very important that the staff "buy in" to the mission and vision of the library services that are the foundation of the building environment being planned. It is very likely not to be the same service model you have now—other departments, for example, may become academic partners and housed within the same facility. Certainly integration with IT is standard in more and more facilities.

Story continues on page 8



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SPOTLIGHT ON: ARCHIVES BUILDINGS & SPACES

Q: What project have you enjoyed working on the most and why? (Doesn't necessarily have to be a library.)

A: It isn't necessarily the biggest projects, though they are very rewarding opportunities. Many of my most satisfying projects have been some of the smallest, with the tightest of budgets. Remember that I design churches too! The common element is the quality of the client. If they engage, participate, and share the values that good architecture can enhance our lives, the project is invariably a success. As I mature in the profession, I have found not just rewards in the building, but in the relationships I've built.

Kevin Huse is the President of Woollen, Molzan and Partners based in Indianapolis, Indiana. Kevin's specialization is in the design of library facilities. He has led the library design process for more than 20 years—seeing the library evolve into an incredibly advanced technology and cultural hub for campuses and communities alike. While most architects focus predominantly in one area of public or academic libraries, Kevin has a unique blend of experience in both—finding that this blend of knowledge allows him to borrow the best of both cultures to create an environment that meets the needs of every user.

For more examples of Woollen, Molzan and Partners library designs, see the firm's Web site at: www.woollenmolzan.com/.

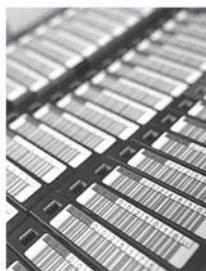


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NEW SSA LOGOS INTRODUCED

Kris Toma, CA • Publications Committee Co-Chair

This issue of *Southwestern Archivist* introduces the newly-redesigned Society of Southwest Archivists logo.

The original logo, which seems to have been in use since the founding of SSA in 1972, has served the Society well over the years. However, as the leadership and membership changed over the years, the logo's source files were lost. The best logos available were ones scanned from older printed materials and the resulting images lacked sharpness.

Throughout the past year, board members and committee chairs discussed the idea of updating the SSA logo. Fortunately, the ITS Graphic Design team at Texas State University-San Marcos was willing to take on this project. Graphic designer Teri Andrews reviewed examples of how the logo is used in print and on the Web, and asked questions about the nature of archives and the mission of SSA.

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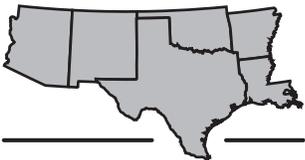
Primary SSA logo

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Vertical logo

SSA 

Society of Southwest Archivists

Horizontal logo

Timea Mester, a student intern in ITS Graphic Design, took on the challenge of redesigning the logo, selecting traditional fonts and subtle colors to create a timeless look. She retained elements of the original design, so the resulting logo has a feeling of familiarity.

In addition to the primary logo, Timea created vertical and horizontal versions to allow for greater flexibility when selecting a logo for a specific space. She also provided a wide variety of electronic file formats and a graphic standard that identifies specific colors and fonts used in the logo design.

The new logos will appear gradually as Web and print resources are updated. We hope you'll enjoy the new logos.

WHO DO YOU KNOW?

If you have an idea of someone in the archival profession (or related field) who you think would make an interesting interview, let us know!

Contact editor Katie Salzman at
salzman@txstate.edu.

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SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Emily E. Hyatt, CA
Scholarship Committee Chair

The Scholarship Committee is please to announce the 2009 SSA Scholarship Recipients. There were no applicants for the Hebert Scholarship this year.

Annual Meeting Scholarship:

Kristy Sorensen
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship:

Michelle Bogart
iSchool, The University of Texas at Austin

All of the applicants showed need and a desire to be part of SSA - any of them would have been worthy recipients. I am very thankful for the committee's diligence in making these tough choices.

Please remember to bring your unique and unusual items to be raffled off at the annual meeting in Shreveport. All proceeds from Slotto benefit SSA scholarships.

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SSA WEB SITE SURVEY

Pati Threatt
Executive Board Member

The Society of Southwest Archivists wants your opinion of its Web site. Do you visit regularly? Do you hate it? Do you love it but wish it had more bells and whistles? We've launched a short survey to ask how you would improve the Web site. Please help us by taking a moment to answer a few questions. You can access the survey from either the SSA website or directly from the URLs below.

The survey is open through the end of May. If you haven't already taken the survey, we encourage you to do so and let us know your opinions!

- The survey link is posted on the SSA Web site:
<http://www.southwestarchivists.org/HTML/web09.htm>
- The survey is also available directly from SurveyMonkey:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=MosOuZh_2bLETIuHothdOzjQ_3d_3d

If you have questions about the survey or would like additional information, please contact:

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SLOTTO 2009

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For more information, contact SSA Scholarships Committee Chair:
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Want to stay current with official SSA news? Subscribe to the SSA Leadership Blog!

<http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>

THE PDC QUARTERLY REPORT

Mat Darby, CA
Professional Development Chair

The annual meeting is right around the corner, but there is still time to register for one of three workshops: Doing More with Less: Cost-Effective and Time-Saving Approaches to Caring for Collections, taught by conservators Shannon Phillips and Tish Brewer; Becoming a Film-Friendly Archivist, presented by Snowden Becker of the Center for Home Movies; and SAA's Implementing DACS in Integrated Content Management Systems: Using Archon™.

For those of you already registered, the instructors welcome any questions in advance to gauge your particular needs and interests and make the most of your workshop experience. Afterwards, please plan to complete an evaluation. Your feedback will be invaluable to the instructors and will help the committee develop future offerings. And keep an eye on the SSA Web site and leadership blog where we plan to provide access to some of the workshop materials and additional resources.

As you might recall, we had hoped to schedule a Library of Congress wet documents recovery workshop in Shreveport. Although circumstances have kept us from offering it at the annual meeting, it may be possible to present it later this year.

Interested in hosting a mid-year workshop? Now is the time to think about bringing a workshop to your repository. We continue to consult with SAA's director of education and other organizations to bring additional workshops to the region. Have suggestions for topics or instructors? Let's hear from you.

See you in Shreveport,
Mat Darby
msdarby@mail.utexas.edu

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Katie Salzmann and Kris Toma, CA
Publications Co-Chairs

The editors of *Southwestern Archivist* are seeking feature articles and columns for upcoming issues of the newsletter. While we will continue to send quarterly calls for repository news, we encourage you to write a feature article that reflects one of the upcoming themes:

August 2009: Annual Conference Review

- Needed: Conference papers in a narrative format, 500-1000 words, with accompanying photographs. Please contact editor Katie to reserve space for your paper.
- Also needed: A "how-to" and an interview.
- Deadline for submission: July 10

November 2009: Archives and Technology

- Needed: Feature articles, a "how-to," and an interview.
- Suggestions: articles about digitization and other projects; emerging technologies; keeping staff current with technology; reformatting/migrating archival resources, etc.
- Deadline for submission: October 10

The next Call for Submissions will be sent by the dedicated members of the Publications Committee (listed on p.4) in late June. Tell your colleagues about your acquisitions, projects, exhibits or grants! The submission deadline for the next issue is Friday, July 10th.

If you have an interest in writing but need ideas or suggestions, Katie Salzmann (salzmann@txstate.edu) will be happy to work with you to define a topic. Remember, the quality of the *Southwestern Archivist* depends on your submissions!

Katie Salzmann
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Kris Toma
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Are you attending the Annual Meeting in Shreveport? Want to be a roving photographer for *Southwestern Archivist*?

The editors would like photographs of sessions and events for the August issue. If you would like your images considered for publication in the newsletter, please contact kris.toma@txstate.edu. Photos may be shared via links to a 3rd party photo service such as Picassa or Flickr. High-resolution images with identified subjects are greatly preferred; images will be selected according to publication needs.

Looking for a way to connect with SSA members? Subscribe and contribute to the SSA wiki!

<http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/>

RECOGNIZING SSA CONTRIBUTORS

By Gerriane Schaad, CA
Treasurer

Special Contributions

The Society gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following individuals who made gifts of \$100 or more.

David L. Chapman, CA – College Station, TX
Susan Murrin Pritchett – Fort Worth, TX
Robert S. and Martha Sloan – Dallas, TX

Scholarship Fund Contributions

Scholarship gifts are deposited in the Society's Endowment Trust. Interest generated by this fund supports the Sister M. Claude Lane OP Memorial Award, the A. Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Scholarship, the John Michael Caldwell Student Scholarship, and the Annual Meeting Scholarship. Donations sent with 2009 dues totaled \$1,060.00.

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Raegan Stearns – Baton Rouge, LA
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This year, 128 members chose to support the Society by paying the \$25 annual sustaining members dues. These contributions make possible the many valuable SSA programs and activities.

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SLOTTO donations support the Scholarship Fund.

SSA 2009 TOUR TO EXPLORE NATCHITOCHES AND CANE RIVER CREOLE HERITAGE:

By Mary Linn Wernet, CA • Northwestern State University of Louisiana,
and Laura McLemore, CA • Louisiana State University in Shreveport

With Natchitoches, Louisiana being the oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase, you won't want to miss the Cane River Creole Heritage Tour on Saturday, May 23, following the SSA Annual Meeting. Founded by the French in 1714, Natchitoches has been long recognized nationally for a number of its historic structures.



Natchitoches from the CGHRC Postcard Collection showing the Historic District.

The Natchitoches historic district encompasses a large area of the town along the West bank of the Cane River, and a narrow strip of land on the East bank. Several different architectural styles are present in the district, Queen Anne, Italianate, Spanish Revival, Federal, Art Deco and Victorian and French Creole. Within the historic district, a thirty-three block area is a National Historic Landmark with over fifty centuries-old buildings identified as historically significant.

Many of the oldest structures are residential. The Ducournau Building on Front Street stands on a portion of an 1818 land grant made to Joseph Tauzin, who came from France in 1776. It is thought that the building was constructed between 1820 and 1847, by Francois LaFonte, who operated a business there and lived upstairs. The Laureate House at 225 Poete, built about 1840, is a typical town house of the period with accommodating entrances for each room. The furnishings, color schemes, and faithfulness to the style of the traditional pattern reflect the culture of Natchitoches with its French, Spanish, and Colonial overtones. The Levy-East House at 358 Jefferson, a two-story structure with gabled roof and twin brick chimneys boasts ironwork in the same design as that of the old New Orleans Mint. The original

one-story red brick house was built in the 1830s as both residence and office for a French-Canadian émigré, Dr. Nicholas Michel Friedelezy. The second story was added before the Civil War. The home was purchased by Leopold and Justine Dreyfus Levy in 1891. The Metoyer Town House at 366 Jefferson is a typical two-story Late Greek Revival house, with French influence. The house was built in the 1850s and extensively remodeled in the early 1900's in a "Mission Bungalowoid" manner. However, its original mass, many openings, and stair hall were preserved. The original plan of the house, which encompasses approximately 7000 square feet, consisted of a center stair hall with three rooms on the left and, on the right, a double parlor which opened onto a back gallery. A unique aspect of the plan is that each first floor room had a glass-paneled door giving access to the street or yard. The Roque House on the Cane riverbank in downtown Natchitoches is one of the most accessible examples the Creole style of French architecture in the Cane River area. Post in the ground, hipped roof, encircling gallery and central chimney exemplify this distinctive style of architecture. Constructed in typical French colonial fashion with hand-hewn cypress and a bousillage fill (a mixture of mud, Spanish moss and animal hair, much like adobe), the structure was topped with an oversize roof of durable cypress shingles. The Roque house takes its name from its last resident, Madame Aubert Roque, but it was originally built about 1803 by a freedman of color on land he owned south of Natchitoches and moved to its present location in 1967.



The Old House, Lemee House, the first restoration project of the Natchitoches Women for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches, CGHRC Postcard Collection.

THE PRESERVATION OF ITS HISTORIC STRUCTURES, LANDSCAPES AND CULTURE



The Cook-Taylor House at 320 Jefferson was originally built in the 1840's by Italian architects, Trizini and Soldini, for Louis Duplex as a store. Perhaps its most notable features are the circular brick columns along the facade of the home, but it derives its notoriety from the filming of the 1980s film, *Steel Magnolias*.

No tour of historic Natchitoches would be complete without a visit to the Kaffie-Frederick Hardware Store at 758 Front Street. This company is the oldest continuously operated business in Natchitoches. Established in 1863, Kaffie-Frederick has been operated continuously as a general mercantile serving the hardware, houseware, and gift needs of Natchitoches and the surrounding area. Founded by Jewish Prussian immigrants Harris and Adolph Kaffie, the business quickly grew to become one of the largest general department stores in North Louisiana. Today it is still filled with fascinating and useful gadgets of all kinds, a great place to do a little early Christmas shopping.

Places of worship are an important reflection of Cane River heritage and culture. According to available records, the history of Immaculate Conception Church, at 613 Second Street, begins in 1717 (or perhaps 1716) when the Franciscan, Fr. Antonio Margil de Jesus, walked the twenty-one miles from the Spanish Mission at Los Adaes to say Mass at the French Fort St. Jean Baptiste in Natchitoches. The present, or sixth, church was built in 1857. However, it was not entirely completed until 1892 when Bishop Durier added the dome on the tower, constructed the present sanctuary and sacristies, and added the altar and tile floor. All interior fittings and furnishings (except the pews) were imported from France. Many details, including the bell and stained glass windows, make the church a fascinating place to visit. Down the street at 533 Second Street, is Trinity Episcopal Church, the first non-Roman Catholic church in Natchitoches and the third Episcopal church in Louisiana. The cornerstone was laid in 1857 by Louisiana's famous "Fighting Bishop," Leonidas Polk, and the first services were held on Ash Wednesday, 1858. The building itself is of Gothic-Norman architecture. The exterior walls of masonry vary in thickness from 22 to

28 inches. Like its Catholic neighbor, Trinity is filled with historic relics of its devoted parishioners.

The town of Natchitoches and its many historic structures are now part of the Cane River National Heritage Area, established by Congress in 1994 along with the Cane

River Creole National Historical Park, which became the only national park to commemorate the history of early European exploration and settlement of the early European exploration and settlement of the Red River Valley in northwestern Louisiana during the early 18th century; the resulting cultural interaction and interdependence among the French, Spanish, Africans, and Indians; and the subsequent development and evolution of Creole culture and plantation life

along the Cane River up to the mid-20th Century.

The Cane River Creole National Historical Park consists of two park units, portions of Oakland and Magnolia Plantations south of Natchitoches along the lower Cane River Lake area. Recognized as National Bicentennial farms, both plantations have remained in the same family and have been farmed continuously for two hundred years. Our tour will take us to Oakland. The property includes the big house, constructed on raised brick piers and made of bousillage on lathe between posts, which was completed by 1821; two pigeoniers (dovecotes); an overseers' house; roofed log corn crib, carriage house; mule barn, which was originally a smokehouse; carpenter's shop, and cabins. The National Park Service is in the process of restoring Oakland Plantation to its appearance circa 1960. Its goal is to portray Oakland as a working plantation and offer insight into the everyday lives of all of the people whose lives centered around this fertile ground for 200 years, an interesting and unusual approach to interpreting plantation culture.

The Cane River Creole Heritage tour, scheduled for Saturday afternoon, May 23, offers an open window into the history and culture of northwest Louisiana. Those who attend will want to explore even more another day.



ANNUAL MEETING PLANNER › MAY 19-23, 2009 › SHREVEPORT, LA

Tuesday-Wednesday, May 19-20**SAA Pre-conference Workshop, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

- Implementing DACS in Integrated Content Management Systems: Using Archon™
Christopher Prom & Scott Schwartz, LSU-Shreveport

Wednesday, May 20**Pre-conference Workshops**

- Becoming a Film-Friendly Archivist, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Snowden Becker & Katie Trainor, LSU-Shreveport
- Doing More with Less: Cost-Effective and Time-Saving Approaches to Caring for Collections, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Tish Brewer & Shannon Phillips, Spring Street Museum

SSA Board Meeting, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.**Welcome Reception, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Sam's Town Hotel Riverside Veranda

Thursday, May 21**Newcomer Meet & Greet, 7:00 a.m.**

Hotel Coffee Shop

Student Poster Sessions, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**Opening Plenary Session, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**

From Richard M. Nixon to George W. Bush: White House Materials and Executive Branch Secrets
Presented by Bruce P. Montgomery, CA, University of Colorado at Boulder

Morning Sessions, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

- Session 1: Archon: Practical Considerations for Today's and Tomorrow's Archives and Special Collections
- Session 2: Adventures in Archival Management
- Session 3: Moving Futures: Audiovisual Collections from Archive to Online

Lunch on your own, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**Local Tours, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.**

- James Smith Noel Collection & Pioneer Heritage Center, LSU-Shreveport, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- R. W. Norton Art Gallery and Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

All-Attendee Reception, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Shreveport Municipal Auditorium

Friday, May 22**Morning Session I, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.**

- Session 4: Archives-Aid: State Historical Records Advisory Boards in the SSA States
- Session 5: Serving Genealogists: Issues of Outreach, Education, Digitization, Privacy, and Confidentiality
- Session 6: Managing State-Wide Digital Libraries

Vendor Break, 9:30 – 10:00 a.m.**Morning Sessions II, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

- Session 7: Getting to Know You
- Session 8: There is No Such Thing as Being Over-Prepared: Resources for Disaster Preparedness and Recovery
- Session 9: Do You Realize? Collecting and Exhibiting Rock & Roll History

Lunch on your own, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**Afternoon Sessions I, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.**

- Session 10: SSA: Past, Present and Future
- Session 11: WARchives: Documenting America's Wars and the Military
- Session 12: Ingredients for Oral History Gumbo: Surveying, Creating Access, and Showcasing Collections

Vendor Break, 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.**Afternoon Sessions II, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.**

- Session 13: Diverse Directions for Archivists
- Session 14: As Built: Preservation and Access for Architectural Records
- Session 15: Contexts for Digital Archiving: Understanding the Intentions of the Creator

Saturday, May 23**Breakfast, SSA Annual Business Meeting and SLOTTO, 7:30 – 10:00 a.m.****Morning Session, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

- Session 16: You Can't Do it Unless You Organize: Donor Relations, Access and Management Issues Inherent within Labor Collections held in Southern Repositories
- Session 17: Re-Defining Archives: Appraisal and Acquisition Reconsidered
- Session 18: Minimal Processing for Paper and Pixels

Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**Cane River Heritage Tour, 1:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

See www.southwestarchivists.org for all the details! Also see the Annual Meeting wiki for more information about Shreveport: <http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Shreveport>

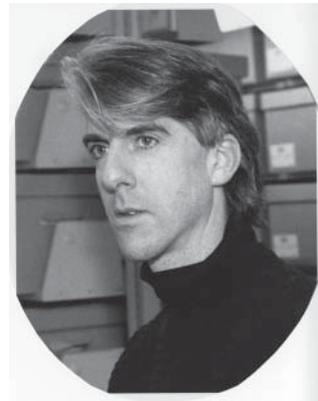
SHREVEPORT KEYNOTE ADDRESS: SECRECY OF PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS

By Brenda McClurkin • Annual Meeting Program Chair

Bruce P. Montgomery, CA, Faculty Director of Archives at the University of Colorado at Boulder, will jumpstart the 2009 SSA Annual Meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20, with his Opening Plenary Session paper, "From Richard M. Nixon to George W. Bush: White House Materials and Executive Branch Secrets." His presentation will chronicle secrecy in presidential and executive branch records from the Nixon to Bush administrations and what the Obama administration may hold. The Nixon era witnessed a sweeping historical indictment against the abuse of power of the presidency. Above all, the insistence on executive secrecy precipitated Nixon's fall from grace and ignited a furious congressional backlash resulting in passage of numerous new laws to make government more open and accountable. While subsequent presidents fought to erode these new laws, the administration of George W. Bush escalated these battles to unprecedented heights to strengthen executive power and roll back the nation's key open government measures. With the new administration of President Barak Obama, the question is whether he will keep faith with open government or eventually submit to the executive's branch's historic and natural impulse toward secrecy.

Montgomery is founding director of the UCB Human Rights Centers and Archives. He has served as an analyst of classified documents for the U.S. government, and is

currently a consultant for the Institute for Defense Analysis, a Pentagon-funded think tank, to help set up a major digital resource center to make available electronic copies of captured al Qaeda, Taliban, and Saddam Hussein-era records. He is the author of three books, including *The Bush-Cheney Administration's Assault on Open Government* (Prager, 2008), *Subverting*



Open Government: White House Materials and Executive Branch Politics (Scarecrow Press, 2006), and his most recent, *Richard B. Cheney and the Rise of the Imperial Vice Presidency* (Praeger, 2009). Articles by Montgomery on the topic of secrecy also have appeared in many leading journals, including *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, *Political Science Quarterly*, and *American Archivist*.

Be sure to attend the Opening Plenary Session of the 2009 SSA Annual Meeting in Shreveport. Montgomery will provide an in-depth, thought-provoking presentation of keen interest to archivists.



CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS FOR THE AUGUST *SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST*

Last year's August issue of *Southwestern Archivist* featured abbreviated versions of papers presented at the May conference, and the issue was a rousing success! The editors would like to publish a second annual conference issue this year. Authors of papers delivered at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Shreveport are encouraged to submit a narrative version of their presentation. Due to space constrictions, the length of the articles should be between 500 and 1000 words. Please also include one or two 300dpi images.

Interested participants are encouraged to contact editor Katie Salzmann at salzmann@txstate.edu to reserve space in the newsletter.

Deadline for submission is July 10; early submissions are gratefully accepted.

Shreveport, Louisiana

May 20-23, 2009

SAA RESOURCES FOR PLANNING ARCHIVAL FACILITIES

By Katie Salzmann



As reported in the March/April issue of *Archival Outlook*, the Council of the Society of American Archivists has approved *Archival and Special Collections Facilities Guidelines for Archivists, Librarians, Architects, and Engineers* as an official SAA standard. The Guideline introduction states,

completed facilities, and a listing of equipment and moving companies.”

Mr. Wilsted’s book serves as the basis for SAA’s two-day continuing education workshop of the same name, and SAA also offers a web seminar “Green IS Great: Plan & Develop an Environmentally Friendly Building.” Check out the SAA Education calendar for dates for these and other upcoming education opportunities: <http://www.archivists.org/menu.asp?m=education>.



Cover of *Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities*, SAA, by Thomas Wilsted.

“Standards and guidelines for archival facilities are a critical element in creating or renovating buildings that meet the needs of staff and researchers and ensure the preservation of the collections. The archival facility is the common denominator in the preservation of archival and special collections.” The document which is currently under review by SAA’s Publications Committee, will be published later this summer. A link to the draft version can be found on SAA’s task force website at <http://www.archivists.org/governance/taskforces/>.

Another SAA resource for facilities planning is the 2007 publication, *Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities* by Thomas P. Wilsted. Following is the description of the book from the SAA Publications website: “Designed specifically to assist those planning archival facilities and is especially directed to those who have never taken on this responsibility. It can also be used as a text to educate architects and others working with archival building planners about specific functional and collection needs. The book covers the building process, renovating existing buildings, technical issues such as fire protection, security and the building environment, equipment including shelving and move planning. Include a glossary of terms, recently

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE SSA WEB SITE SURVEY?

Stop by and let us know what you think.

<http://www.southwestarchivists.org/HTML/web09.htm>

ACA CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY Press Release

Believe it or not the Academy is celebrating its 20th anniversary! The celebration will be held the evening of August 13, 2009 in Salon K of the Governor’s Ballroom on the 6th Floor of the Austin Hilton hotel (see the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting program for specific times). The event is for all Academy members, potential members and friends of the Academy.



The Academy of Certified Archivists is an independent, non-profit organization for certifying professional archivists. Since its creation in 1989, more than 1000 archivists have qualified for certification by demonstrating a mastery of a defined body of knowledge and skills for successful archival practice. Academy members are certified for a five-year period. Renewal depends on continuing professional involvement and growth.

For more information about the anniversary celebration, or to find out more about the ACA, please visit the Web site at www.certifiedarchivists.org.



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PAPERS OF ARCHITECT FAY JONES OPENED FOR RESEARCH

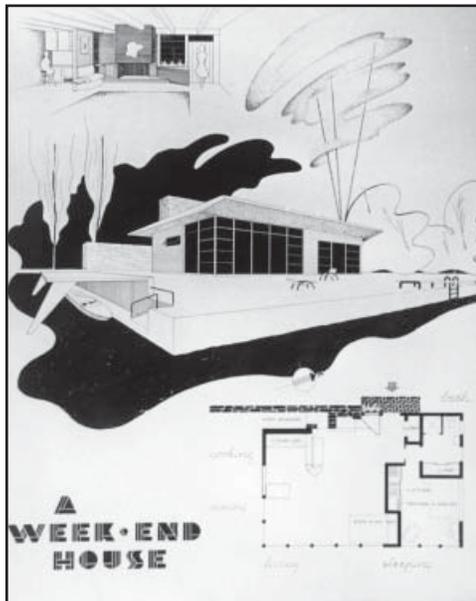
Submitted by Diane Worrell • University of Arkansas

The papers of famed Arkansas Architect Fay Jones are now open for research at the University of Arkansas Libraries' special collections department. The formal opening of the collection was announced by Libraries Dean Carolyn Allen during the April 4 dedication and renaming of the Fay Jones School of Architecture. The collection contains biographical information, correspondence and drawings for projects, business and academic records, slide and photographic images, books and working models. The records were donated to the University of Arkansas Libraries by Fay Jones and his wife Mary Elizabeth "Gus" Jones between 1997 and 2009. The task of processing and organizing the papers was a six-year project, resulting in 606 linear feet of materials.

Jones was an internationally known architect and educator who won the American Institute of Architecture's highest honor, the AIA Gold Medal, in 1990. Working from his small studio in Fayetteville, he practiced architecture from 1954 to 1998, designing more than 200 projects, including residential buildings, chapels, pavilions and intricate metal structures. His most acclaimed structure is Thorncrown Chapel in Eureka Springs. Of the projects for which records exist, 129 were built, 84 of which were in Arkansas.

Jones met his mentor, Frank Lloyd Wright, in 1949. Both Jones and his wife "Gus" became members of Wright's Taliesin Fellowship in the mid-1950s. Wright's most lasting influence on Jones was in the application of the principles of organic architecture: simplicity of construction, use of native materials, attention to crafted details, and seamless integration of buildings to sites.

Jones inspired and educated generations of Arkansas architects and lectured widely through-



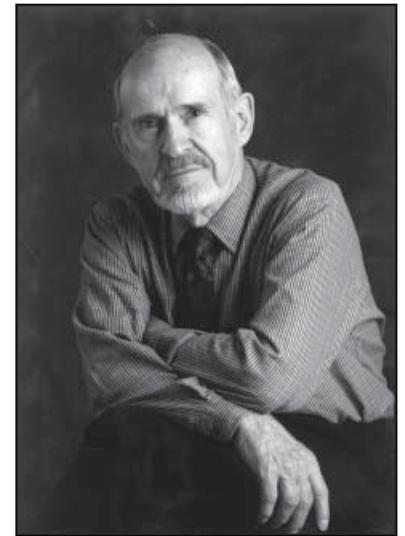
Weekend house, design project by Fay Jones as a student at the University of Arkansas (circa 1948).

out the United States. After a teaching stint at the University of Oklahoma, Jones returned to the University of Arkansas in 1953 where he began his twin careers of teaching and architectural practice. In 1966 he became the first chair of the University's architecture department, and in 1974 he was named the first dean of the new School of Architecture. Jones died in Fayetteville in 2004.

The Fay Jones collection is a complete record of Jones's teaching, his practice, his philosophy of architecture, and his skill as an artist. Personal materials include biographical information from Jones's childhood through his World War II service. The collection includes numerous carefully kept appointment books, registration certificates, sketch books and phone messages that provide details not found elsewhere. Printed resources include posters from seminars and meetings, clippings, magazines featuring Jones's work and portions of his own library.

Materials documenting more than 200 building projects from 1950 to 1998 include correspondence, construction schedules, notes, sketches, reports and product literature. Over 22,000 separate sheets of drawings illustrate the development of projects from conceptual drawings to presentation and construction drawings. More than 20,000 slides and photographs record Jones's architectural creations and travels. Recorded interviews and audiovisual items featuring Jones and his works are in VHS and DVD formats. His academic records include lecture notes, class rosters and University of Arkansas School of Architecture administrative records.

Special Collections Department Head **Tom W. Dillard** observed, "Fay Jones was an Arkansas treasure, and I believe his archive will be a treasure to future generations. I anticipate the collection will be used extensively as architects and architectural historians seek to determine the brilliance of this Arkansas architect and teacher."



Fay Jones (1993), portrait by Don House.

A selection of Jones's sketches, models and plans are on permanent exhibit in the Libraries' architectural archives in Mullins Library 126. The recent renaming of the School of Architecture in honor of Fay Jones was made possible by a generous gift from Don and Ellen Edmondson of Forrest City, Arkansas, who also supported the processing of his papers in Special Collections. Another gift from the Edmondsons produced four display cases for models, as well as a large brass emblem for the architectural archives door in Mullins Library.



Thorncrown Chapel (1980), Eureka Springs, photo by the Studio of Fay Jones.

For further information on the Fay Jones Collection, visit <http://libinfo.uark.edu/specialcollections/findingaids/mc1373/>.



Shaheen/Goodfellow weekend house, "Stoneflower" (1963), exhibiting many elements of Jones's later work.



INFORMATION our focus
INTERNATIONAL our scope
INTERDISCIPLINARY our mindset



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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SOIS/academics/cas.htm>

WITTLIFF COLLECTIONS UNDERGOING GALLERY EXPANSION

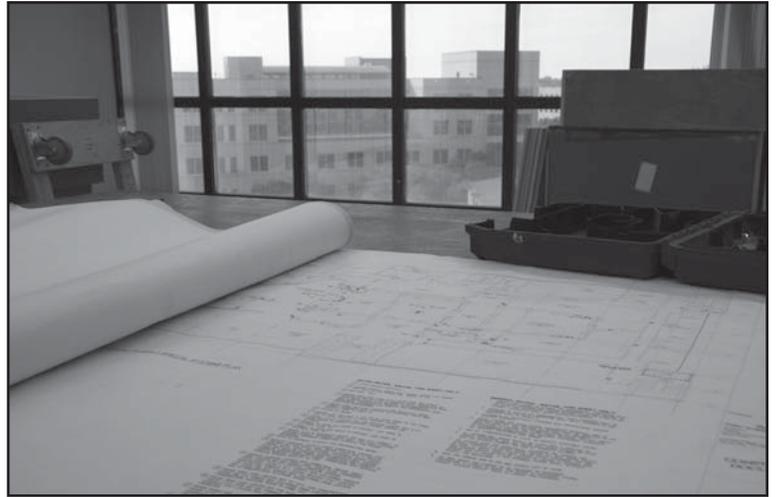
Press Release • Photographs by Katie Salzmann



The Wittliff Collections at the Alkek Library, Texas State University-San Marcos, are undergoing a major expansion to increase exhibition space for photographs and materials from both the Southwestern & Mexican Photography Collection and the Southwestern Writers Collection.

Michael Guarino, of the San Antonio firm Ford, Powell & Carson, Inc., is lead architect for the redesign. In addition to the expanded gallery, renovation plans include a new formal entrance to welcome visitors, the relocation of the front office service desk, and a larger reading room for the Southwestern Writers Collection.

The enlarged gallery area will allow more of the Southwestern & Mexican Photography Collection



Architectural plans in the makeshift construction office.



The larger-than-life size sculpture of Texas author John Graves is under wraps during construction.

to be on view, drawing from the growing archive of almost 15,000 prints. As part of the redesigned entrance, a hallway leading to the new exhibition space will be built to display large art pieces and other objects from both collections. The expanded reading room will accommodate more patrons in a quiet, inviting setting. Relocating the front office will provide a new central contact point for visitors. The signature longleaf pine and southwestern design accents used in the current spaces will be carried throughout the new areas.

Construction is slated for completion this summer. Dedication celebrations are being planned, and will include an exhibition and book signing with Keith Carter for his latest monograph in the Wittliff's Southwestern & Mexican Photography series, *A Certain Alchemy*.



A student passes by the plastic draped construction zone.



The framework for new walls in the expanded gallery.

ARKANSAS STUDIES INSTITUTE: THREE CENTURIES, TWO ARCHIVES, ONE VISION

Submitted by Sara Thompson and Brian K. Robertson • Butler Center for Arkansas Studies



The grand opening of the Arkansas Studies Institute (ASI), a \$21 million project located in the River Market District of downtown Little Rock, was held on Saturday, March 21, 2009. As the repository now houses several gubernatorial collections, some speakers for the evening included Governor Mike Beebe, Senator Dale Bumpers, Governor Jim Guy Tucker, President Bill Clinton, and Senator David Pryor. The 72,000-square-foot building opened to the public for research on Monday, March 23, 2009.

The ASI is the state's largest freestanding facility dedicated to the study of Arkansas history. Two distinct research and archival units share the space and work together to make their individual collections available to the public. These are the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies of the Central Arkansas Library System and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Archives and Special Collections department.

The ASI building is an architectural timeline. It consists of two historic buildings and one new structure: the Porbeck & Bowman Building (1882), the Geyer & Adams Building (1914), and a glass Manuscript and Rare Book Repository (2009). Capital improvement bonds approved by Little Rock voters in 2004 and 2007 made possible the adaptive reuse of the two historic buildings by the Central Arkansas Library System



Above: The Arkansas Studies Institute, Little Rock, Arkansas. Left: View of the atrium from the third floor. The Manuscript and Rare Book Repository (2009) is on the left and the Geyer & Adams Building (1914) is on the right.



(CALs). The ASI was designed by architects from Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon & Porter, who consider the facility to be one of their most complicated projects. Construction began in 2006.

The second floor of the Geyer & Adams building is home to the expanded research room where patrons can access a wide variety of books, manuscripts, microfilm, and other research materials. The combined Butler Center and UALR collection contains more than 40,000 books and over

10,000 linear feet of manuscripts. Most notably, the collaboration brought under one roof seven Arkansas gubernatorial papers including Thomas McRae, Carl Bailey, Winthrop Rockefeller, Dale Bumpers, Bill Clinton, Frank White, and Jim Guy Tucker.

More than 100 image panels depicting the people, places, and major events of the Natural State are on interior railings and the outside of the building. The ASI also houses four art galleries, including a retail gallery, featuring the work of Arkansas artists. The Concordia Hall Museum will feature exhibits that explore the various peoples who have occupied the state as well as the history of the region. In addition, the ASI has a variety of meeting and classroom spaces that are available to the public.

A unique partnership, the ASI unites two of Arkansas's history collections and combines the public library's commitment to community service with the intellectual power of a major research university.



ASI Grand Opening speakers. From left to right: President Bill Clinton; Governor Jim Guy Tucker; Governor Mike Beebe; CALS board of trustees member, Jimmie Lou Fisher; and CALS board of trustees president, Stanley Hill.

PAPERS SHED LIGHT ON STRUGGLE FOR EQUAL EDUCATION

Submitted by Terrance G. Shults • University of Texas of the Permian Basin



Just in time for a Black History Month display, the sons of Dr. Viola Coleman decided to donate their late mother's papers to Special Collections at J. Conrad Dunagan Library, University of Texas of the Permian Basin. This collection featured letters relating to a 1946 lawsuit she had never mentioned to them in her lifetime that has aroused interest for archivists and historians of the Civil Rights Movement. Such was the life and such were the achievements of Dr. Viola Mary Johnson Coleman (1919-2005) that an archivist interested in "the story" gets frustrated two ways. Her obituary is too packed with information that demands explanation and expansion. To zero in on any more particular aspect of her life and works (young civil rights pioneer of Louisiana; young medical pioneer of Tennessee; Midland, Texas, matriarch of medical care, civil rights, and civic affairs) seems at the same time too narrow and yet still lacking in more factual detail.

Her lawsuit against Louisiana State University for admission to the medical school 1946-1947 is sketched out in 25 pieces of correspondence. "Sketched out" because although Thurgood Marshall was in charge of the case for the NAACP as their Special Counsel, he appears in these letters as a "cc." and having viral pneumonia, but working on the brief in his sick bed and mentioned near the end as interested in having Viola Johnson's thoughts on reactions to the lawsuit.

Early in 1946, E. W. Sorrell, principal of the F. P. Ricard School, a public school in New Orleans, and Chairman of the Committee on Graduate Study for the Louisiana Colored Teachers Association seems to be following up on previous communication to enlist Viola Johnson to apply to LSU medical school with the certainty of being rejected and then press a lawsuit. By the end of May, Viola Johnson is corresponding with Daniel

Byrd, Executive Secretary of the NAACP and he is sending copies of his responses to Thurgood Marshall, Special Counsel of the NAACP, and New Orleans Attorney A. P. Tureaud. Early in June she is formally rejected by LSU, no reason given. Late in June, the Chair of the LSU Board of Supervisors informs her that the issue is her color. Late in August, Daniel Byrd apologizes for neglecting her, citing problems with voting rights in Mississippi and "the Minden lynching." Early October 1946, a particularly pungent and poignant letter to her from A.P. Tureaud. Early December 1947, the LCTA reimburses her \$700 expenses, or means to. There is confusion about this, later. February 1948, an even more poignant call to carry on by Daniel Byrd, now Assistant Field Secretary for the NAACP. A last word in February 1949 from Byrd looks to the future of Supreme Court rulings on similar cases.

There are clippings from the New Orleans Times Picayune giving the "official" view of the beginning and end of the case, newspaper articles on the later life and works of Dr. Coleman, and portrait photographs of Dr. Coleman through the years.

The Library of Congress has related NAACP material on the case. (State of Louisiana ex rel. Viola M. Johnson vs. Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College, et al). The case was litigated by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. The attorneys representing Ms. Johnson were A.P. Tureaud, Louis Berry, Thurgood Marshall, and Robert L.

Carter. This same "team" went on to victories, including Brown vs. Board of Education.

There has been enthusiasm about this collection from archivists at Louisiana State University and at the Amistad Research Center at Tulane (which has the Tureaud and Carter papers).



Left to right: Dr. Anne Acreman, UTPB alumna, supporter, and Odessa family physician who helped facilitate the gift of Dr. Viola Coleman's papers from her sons; Dr. Derek Catsam, UTPB associate professor of history who teaches a course in civil rights; UTPB President David Watts; Dr. Coleman's son, Conrad; and **Dr. Terrance G. Shults**, archivist and head of technical services at UTPB's J. Conrad Dunagan Library. Courtesy of Rafael Aguilera, Media Specialist Publications and Special ProjectsM UTPB.

LSU ACQUIRES CLAIBORNE ARCHIVE

Submitted by Tara Z. Laver, CA • Louisiana State University



The LSU Libraries Special Collections recently acquired a small but important William C. C. Claiborne archive that contains very useful sources on the territorial post at Natchitoches, relations with the Creole French and Spanish and Native Americans in the Natchitoches area, and efforts to establish American rule and governmental structure in territorial Louisiana. The bulk of the eighteen item collection dates from 1805, but documents from 1805 to 1812 are included. It is comprised primarily of letters to Claiborne from and affidavits taken by Dr. John Sibley, Justice of the Peace at Natchitoches and U.S. Indian Agent.

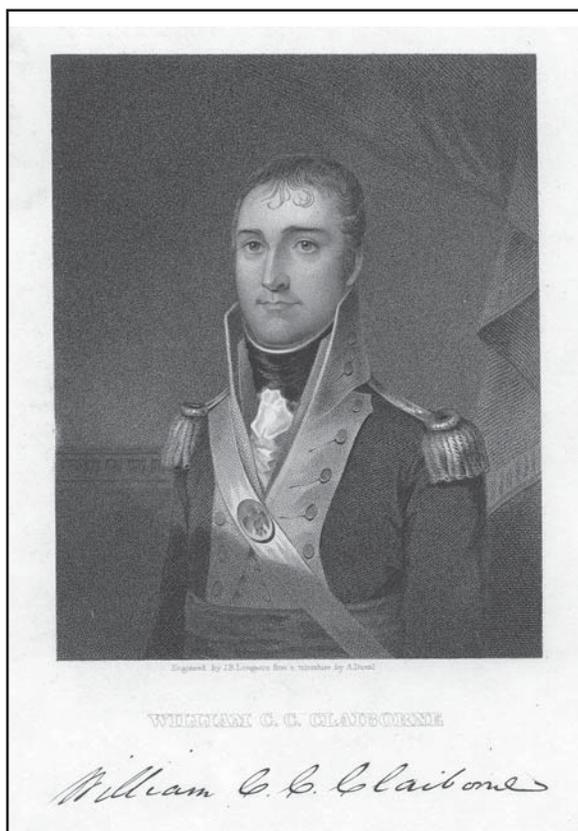
Sibley's letters are newsy and descriptive, and they provide both a sense of the danger and uncertainty on the ambiguous border between Spanish Texas and Louisiana and local attitudes toward the new American government, so recently established in New Orleans. For example, two affidavits forwarded by Sibley describe instances of "Spanish depredations" against citizens in which they took horses and goods. Additional affidavits record Natchitoches residents' experiences living at and knowledge of the location of "ancient" French posts and Caddo settlements, apparently in an attempt to identify lands useful for further settlement. In a letter of 3 March 1805, Sibley relates efforts to equip the local Native Americans for farming and to win their allegiance over the Spanish, as well as the organization of the Caddo nation and fighting and alliances among its members-- "the nearly thirty tribes in what I sepose to be Louisiana south of the Arkansas River." Further, Sibley addresses topics from the need to regulate weights and measures to disputes about how to handle runaway slaves, how national politics are playing out locally, and the sense of those in the "Interior of the Territory" that they are being

neglected in favor of New Orleans. He writes, "I hope they [the Legislature] will not give us reason to draw unfavorable inferences relative to their industry or capacity or reason. I think that they sepose the object of their creation was only to regulate New Orleans. We wish them to understand that we consider ourselves much neglected."

In addition to the Sibley letters, the collection includes miscellaneous documents related to Claiborne's family, a letter from Claiborne to his father recommending Gen. James Wilkinson (whom he describes as having served his country with fidelity), and two letters from Captain Edward Turner, Civil Commandant of the District of Natchitoches. Turner's letters further illustrate the uneasy relations between the Creoles and the Americans. He reports the Creoles' "wait and see" attitude about embracing the Americans, with them apparently hoping for the territory to be taken by the Spanish, and the role religion played in the mingling (or not) of the two populations. He writes, "They [Creoles] proposed to discountenance all persons settling within the district but true Romans, and they were to bind themselves to each other, to throw stumbling blocks in the way of any settler of different religious tenets- and to permit no person but a Roman Catholic to enter Church."

This brief description gives only a hint of the rich sources in this collection. Though the documents are few in number, their writers were articulate, politically savvy, and, luckily for us, eager and able to convey a sense of the challenges of their duties and of the place in which they found themselves.

For additional information on this acquisition, contact Curator of Manuscripts Tara Laver, tzachar@lsu.edu.



From William C. C. Claiborne Letter and Engraving, Mss. 3031, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries.

Remember to bring your SLOTTO items to the Annual Meeting in Shreveport!

PUBLIC HISTORY STUDENTS EXPLORE THE WORLD OF ARCHIVES

Submitted by Lexi Castro and Megan Blair • Texas State University-San Marcos



This spring, two Texas State University-San Marcos graduate students, **Lexi Castro** and **Megan Blair**, had the opportunity to take part in an independent study course with **Katie Salzmann** in the archives at the Southwestern Writers Collection. Their independent study course is part of the master's degree that they are pursuing at the Public History Graduate Program at Texas State. As part of the course they worked on gaining a practical knowledge of key areas within archival work.

world, and there were many opportunities for learning and development. Lexi and Megan helped establish a method for working with CONTENTdm and Dublin Core Metadata elements. Once standards had been created, the students were able to start the long process of scanning a sampling of images into the computer to be imported into the database software. The digitization of the Panther Hall photograph collection will make the images accessible online, bringing the resources to more individuals.

During the course, Lexi and Megan were able to learn and practice many different skills required for the archives profession. They were also able to learn more about the specific areas that interested them within archives, and which areas they would like to pursue in the future. The independent study course provided wonderful experiences and opportunities and has provided excellent preparation for a future career in Public History. More information about Texas State's Public History Program is online at <http://www.txstate.edu/history/degrees-programs/ma-public-history.html>.



One of the projects they worked on was the digitization of the Panther Hall Photograph Collection. Panther Hall was a popular concert venue located in Fort Worth, Texas from 1963-1978. Familiar faces of the country music industry have graced the Panther Hall stage including Willie Nelson, Jerry Lee Lewis, Waylon Jennings, Merle Haggard, Lefty Frizzell, Tanya Tucker, and Loretta Lynn.

The family of Wayne Beckham, a photographer and publisher within the country music industry, donated the photographs to the Southwestern Writers Collection in the 1990s. The bulk of the collection includes photographs and negatives of artists on- and off-stage at Panther Hall and a variety of other venues. In addition, the collection includes promotional materials, papers, and published materials that relate to Wayne Beckham and the country music scene of the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The digitization of the Panther Hall photographs is an early step for the Collections into the growing digital



Top: Willie Nelson (far right) with Billy Gray and Beverly Church.

Center: Jerry Lee Lewis at piano with sister Linda Gail Lewis at the microphone.

Bottom: Megan Blair and Lexi Castro enter meta-data for the Panther Hall collection. Photo by Katie Salzmann.



BLOG HIGHLIGHTS MANUSCRIPTS

Press Release



The Manuscripts Department at Tulane University's Special Collections Library is pleased to announce its new blog, "Manuscripts at Tulane University". The blog highlights new acquisitions, staff news, interviews with researchers, collections of particular interest, and other information. Recent posts include an interview with a researcher writing a new biography of John Kennedy Toole, and information on Huey P. Long materials and resources within our Library.

The blog was started by the department's manuscripts processor, **Eira Tansey**, in December, 2008. Other staff members who post to the blog include manuscripts catalog librarian **Susanna Powers**, and **Leon Miller**, head of the Manuscripts department.

We invite you to view, follow, and comment on our blog at <http://manuscriptstulane.blogspot.com/>.

For more information on Tulane's Manuscripts Department, please see:

<http://specialcollections.tulane.edu/>

<http://manuscriptstulane.blogspot.com/>

ASU ANNOUNCES SMEDLEY EXHIBIT

Submitted by Karrie Porter Brace
Arizona State University



Curator Karrie Porter Brace at the Arizona State University Libraries' Archives and Special Collections announces the new exhibit *Shelter and the Storm: Agnes Smedley at Yaddo* located in the Luhrs Gallery on the 4th floor of Hayden Library, on ASU's Main Campus in Tempe, Arizona.

The exhibit, drawn from University Archives material, reviews the life and the controversy of ASU Alumna Agnes Smedley, advocate for the oppressed, radical, war correspondent, and spy. Journalist and author Agnes Smedley had the longest residency at the Yaddo artists' colony in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Shelter and the Storm will be on display through May 15, 2009 and runs concurrent with exhibits about Yaddo and its other notable artists-in-residence found at the New York Public Library, Harvard University's Houghton Library, University of Maryland Library, and Stanford University Library.

The Library Channel offers a downloadable podcast about the exhibit at <http://lib.asu.edu/librarychannel/>.



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WEDDINGS AND KETUBOT EXHIBIT OPENS IN FORT WORTH

Submitted by Hollace Weiner • Fort Worth Jewish Archives



A Jewish marriage certificate, called a ketubah, is both a legal document and a work of art. The Fort Worth Jewish Archives has mounted a small exhibit displaying marriage certificates from the 1890s to the present. Some certificates are ornate, with colorful birds and flowers filling the margins. Some are bilingual, written in Hebrew and English. Others are entirely in Hebrew calligraphy.

The backdrop for the exhibit is a bulletin board covered in white satin and lace. It evokes the marriage canopy, called a chuppa, which couples stand under during a Jewish wedding ceremony. In an adjacent showcase are photos of couples with ties to the Fort Worth Jewish community. These include the 1916 wedding of Gertrude Fox and Archie Salsburg, who were married in the old Ahavath Shalom synagogue at 819 Taylor Street which was demolished in 1951. Alongside the picture of the



Detail from the 1913 marriage certificate of Etta Fram and Asher Freeman who were married in Dallas by her father, a cantor.

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wedding party, taken during the ceremony, is a newspaper article describing the "popular" couple.

Documents from the 1913 marriage of Etta Fram and Asher Freeman are of particular note. Their marriage certificate, entirely in Hebrew, features an etching of a bride and groom under the wedding canopy. Beneath the document are a photo portrait of the couple and two Western Union telegrams. One telegram is in Yiddish. The other is a rhyme comparing the marriage to Edison's electric lights. It reads:

*With utmost felicity
We extend our congratulations by electricity
That your future life may be as bright
As Edison's electric lights!*

The Exhibit, titled *Weddings and Ketubot*, (the plural of *ketubah*) was designed by archives volunteers Adelene Myers and Ann Bogart, with text by archivist Hollace Weiner. The certificates and photos were primarily drawn from the collections of the Fort Worth Jewish Archives, the Beth-El Congregation Archives, and a call for artifacts from the local Jewish community.

The Fort Worth Jewish Archives is funded by the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. It is housed in the library at Ahavath Shalom Congregation, 4050 S. Hulen Street. The exhibit will remain on display there, in the hall outside the library, thru the spring of 2010.

NEW ORLEANS SCULPTOR DONATES PAPERS TO TULANE UNIVERSITY

Submitted by Lee Miller, CA • Tulane University



Energy Centre Installation, Poydras Street, New Orleans, c.1984.

Manuscripts Department of the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library. “The Silverman Papers complement the Manuscripts Department’s extensive archival holdings documenting the artistic life of the New Orleans region. They will be an invaluable resource for studying a wide range of areas, from art history to business to city planning and corporate giving.”

Born in New York City in 1923, Silverman attended Tulane University for his undergraduate (1944) and his medical degrees (1947). He practiced urology for 30 years before shifting paths to become a sculptor. Silverman, now 86 years old, still comes into his studio, appropriately named “Art’s Art Studio,” and draws seven days a week.

Silverman is most noted for his monumental metal sculptures. His powerful and often sizeable work is based on a simple idea — the use of one geometric element in repetition: the tetrahedron, a three-dimensional solid defined by four equilateral triangles. Silverman has executed over 400 metal sculptures that range from just inches to over 60 feet in height. In the New Orleans area alone, over 30 public buildings feature his artwork, including Tulane University’s Law School and A.B. Freeman School of Business, the Entergy Centre on Poydras, East Jefferson Hospital in Metairie, and Temple Sinai on St. Charles.

Across the United States, Silverman is represented in five national museums. His work can also be found in distinguished corporate collections such as Landmark Systems Corporation, Washington D.C.; Smart Corporation in Atlanta; Bay Colony Development Corporation in Waltham, Mass.;

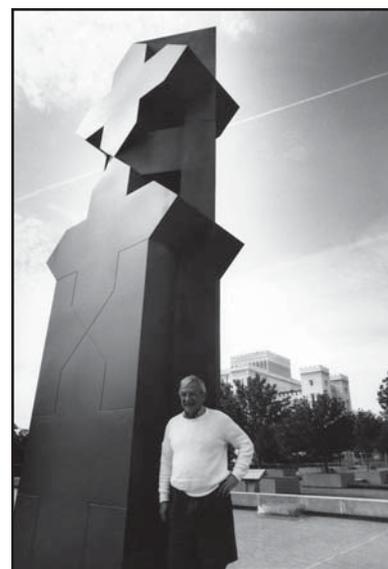
Arthur Silverman, internationally-renowned New Orleans sculptor, artist and physician, has donated his papers to Tulane University. Comprising his correspondence, designs, photographs, business records and other documents, the Silverman papers record the full range of the artist’s almost 50-year career.

“We are delighted and honored to be chosen by Dr. Silverman to house his archives,” said **Leon Miller**, head of the

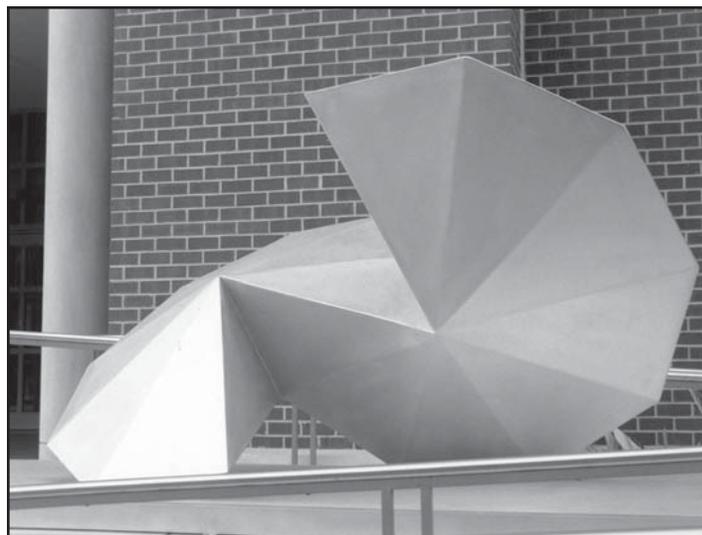
and Malone & Hyde, Memphis, Tenn.; as well as important private collections such as the Frederick R. Weisman Foundation, Los Angeles and the Fisher Family Collection, San Francisco. National and international publications have featured Silverman’s work for its technical and aesthetic achievement.

Silverman’s work is now on exhibit at Soren Christensen Gallery. The show, entitled *45 Years of Art*, features the most recent 25 pieces of original artwork by Silverman, including 9 works never before made available to the public. This will be his final public exhibition.

In addition, the New Orleans Museum of Art honored Silverman on April 8, 6:00 p.m., with a panel discussion reflecting on his 45-year career. Panelists included architect Ivan Mandich, NOMA curator Patricia Chandler (Walda and Sydney Besthoff Collection) and artists John Clemmer and James Lamantia.



Art Silverman posing with the Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, c. 1996 or 1997, photograph by Rachel Stix Neill.



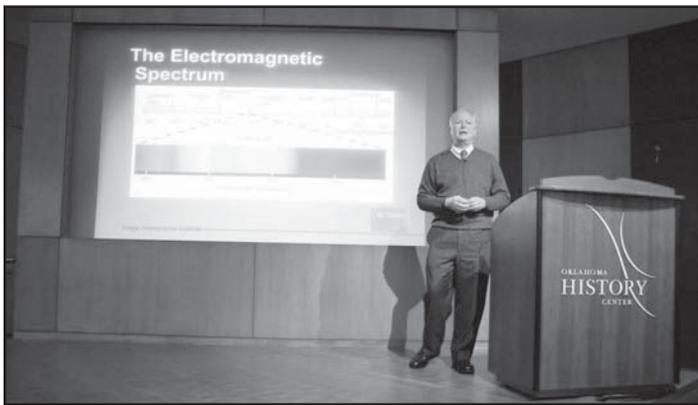
Geo Law Revue, 1995, Tulane University Law School, New Orleans, c. 1995.

PHOTOGRAPH WORKSHOP HELD IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Submitted by Jeanne Gaunce-Prince, CA • Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society



A workshop featuring James Reilly, Chester Cowen, and William D. Welge of the Oklahoma Historical Society was held at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City on November 13 and 14th, 2008. The workshop was sponsored by the Oklahoma Conservation Congress, the Oklahoma Historical Society Friends of the Archives, Inc., the Oklahoma Museums Association, and the Society of Southwest Archivists. Thirty-five archivists, photographers, historians, genealogists, and students from Oklahoma and Texas attended the workshop.



James Reilly, Director, Image Permanence Institute, presenting "The Electromagnetic Spectrum" during the Identification, Digitization and Preservation of Photographs Workshop in Oklahoma City.

James Reilly is the Director of the Image Permanence Institute in Rochester, New York, and the author of the *Care and Preservation of Nineteenth Century Photographs*. He presented information about History and Identification of the Black-and-White Photo Processes; Environmental Conditions, Handling, and the Exhibition of Photographs; the History and

Preservation of Color Photography; and an Overview of Digitizing Photographic Collections. Cowen discussed the types of images and the dates found in Oklahoma's Collections. Bill Welge, the Director of the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society, spoke to the audience about the Administration of Collections. Welge's information included achieving goals, working with administration, funding, and finding collection space.

Chester Cowen and Bill Welge conducted a session about the materials held in Twentieth Century Collections. Their information included the systems of organization used for collections, ethical dilemmas, and cultural property rights. The workshop concluded with a hands-on session with Chester Cowen and James Reilly. Participants compared and identified different types of photographs from the Oklahoma Historical Society Photograph Collections and images Reilly provided. Speakers answered questions from participants about the problems encountered in their collections.



Left to right: Speakers Bill Welge, James Reilly, and Chester Cowen at the Identification, Digitization and Preservation of Photographs Workshop in Oklahoma City.

IMLS SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES PROGRAM

Press Release



Washington, DC—The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is seeking applicants for the Save America's Treasures (SAT) 2009 grant program. These grants support the preservation and conservation of nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts such as collections, documents, sculpture, and art, and historic structures and sites.

In 2009, grant amounts range from \$25,000 to \$700,000 for collections and from \$125,000 to \$700,000 for historic property and sites projects. All the awards must be

matched 1:1. Eligible applicants include nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c), U.S. organizations, units of state or local government, and federally recognized Indian Tribes.

The Save America's Treasures program accepts online applications through www.grants.gov, the federal online grantmaking portal. Paper applications will not be accepted. The deadline for applications is May 22, 2009.

For more information about this IMLS grant program and contact information for individuals who can answer questions, see <http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/031909a.shtml>.

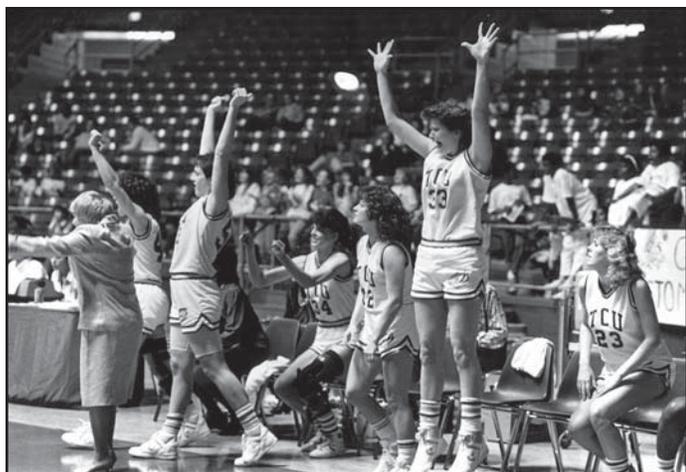
KAYE PHOTOS ENRICH ARCHIVES
Submitted by Mike Strom • Texas Christian University



With scores of polyethylene sleeves and 11 x 14 boxes on hand, the TCU Special Collections staff embarked last fall on the work of arranging, describing, and preserving the Linda Kaye photograph collection.

Linda Kaye, a 1963 graduate of Texas Christian University, photographed many of the school's events from 1959 until her death in the fall of 2007. Linda was a well known independent professional photographer. In addition to TCU, her clients included the Texas Rangers, Dallas Cowboys, and the University of Texas. Unassuming and downright disdainful of attention, Linda was a fixture on campus and played an important role in TCU's development throughout her career. In recognition of her accomplishments and contributions, the Schieffer School of Journalism inducted her into its Hall of Fame in October of 2007.

The Linda Kaye collection consists of fifty feet of prints, negatives, contact sheets, slides, and digital images. The collection features TCU events from the late-1970s to 2007. We are thrilled to have the photographs, as they substantially enhance our ability to document campus life over the past thirty years. The majority of the photographs concern athletics in some way (team pictures, shots of individual athletes and coaches, game action, etc.) with campus scenes and other, less often photographed happenings such as fine arts performances and faculty and staff events rounding out the collection. In addition to processing the material, we have begun scanning selected images to add to our digital images database. The database is currently under construction and will include images from several collections held in Special Collections, the lion's share no doubt coming from Linda Kaye.



TCU's women's basketball team celebrates.
Linda Kaye Collection, Texas Christian University.

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ORAL HISTORIES HIGHLIGHT WOMEN OF THE OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE

Submitted by Tanya Finchum • Oklahoma State University



The Oklahoma State University (OSU) Library invites you to visit the newly created Women of the Oklahoma Legislature oral history project Web site: www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol.

The oral history project was developed in 2006 and carried out over the course of two years. Goals of the project were to fill a gap in the historical record, complement and supplement the OSU Library's Women's Archives Collection, support the Women's Studies program, and to create a resource for all of the citizens of Oklahoma. Between the years of 1907 and 2008 only 77 women have served in the Oklahoma Legislature. Little has been written about these women other than the occasionally brief mention in a local newspaper during the time they served. As of February 2009, 46 of these remarkable women have shared their stories as part of the project. Taken individually, these interviews reflect the careers and interests of the narrator; taken collectively they constitute a narrative of the role of women in the Oklahoma legislature over time. As such, they form an invaluable part of the historical record of the Oklahoma government.

The Web site includes transcripts, audio excerpts, photographs and memorabilia collected as a result of interview efforts. Over the course of the project, photographs of all 77 women were located and are now included on the Web site. It is believed this is the first time a complete collection of photographs of all Oklahoma women legislators has existed in a single location.

Interviews covered such topics as campaign strategies, issues championed, what a typical day was like, Election Day and swearing in day, and first experiences of presenting a bill on the floor. Visitors to the Web site can view entire transcripts and learn such things as what many of the wom-



en thought as they viewed the Capitol building each morning and as they took their respective places on chamber floors, who managed their campaigns, and how they became interested in the political arena.

Interviews averaged an hour and a half in length, were transcribed, and narrators had the opportunity to edit their transcripts. Each transcript, viewable online, represents an average of 30 hours of labor. Gathering oral histories provides opportunity to pursue answers to questions left silent in what little archival materials exist for these women. This oral history project provides a small glimpse into legislatively serving the people of Oklahoma. In addition to the Web site, interview recordings, transcripts, and photographs will be deposited in the OSU Special Collections and University Archives.

The Women of the Oklahoma Legislature oral history project is only one of the projects underway at the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program (OOHRP). The OOHRP was formally established in 2007 by the Oklahoma State University Library and will continue to gather the cultural and intellectual heritage of the state through oral histories.

The Women of the Oklahoma Legislature Oral History Project Web site was officially launched during an event at the Oklahoma Capitol February 26, 2009. In attendance for this historical moment were 15 former women legislators, all 17 current legislators, and special guests. The program included an overview of the project given by the project leader, Dr. Tanya Finchum, Associate Professor and Oral History Librarian at Oklahoma State University, and a demonstration by the Web site creator, Juliana Nykolaiszyn, Visiting Assistant Professor and Oral History Librarian also with Oklahoma State University.

Have you read the SSA Leadership Blog lately?

<http://ssaleaders.blogspot.com/>

Educational opportunities • SAA workshop discounts • Calls for papers • Calls for nominations • Annual meeting updates

BONNIE AND CLYDE: FAMOUS TEXAS OUTLAWS OPENS IN DALLAS

Submitted by Brian Collins, CA • Dallas Public Library



An aspiring poet and actress, this photo of a young Bonnie Parker was most likely taken in a photo booth at the State Fair of Texas before meeting Clyde.

On the morning of March 23, 1934 – seventy-five years ago – famous outlaws Bonnie and Clyde met a gruesome death outside of Gibsland, Louisiana. The ambush that ended their two-year, three-month run from the law cemented their iconic image in the minds of the American public while obscuring the reality of their tragic lives.

The true story reveals two people desperate to be relevant and important despite humble origins and a bleak outlook for the future. Both moved with their families to West Dallas at a young age; both felt upward mobility and a chance for a better life out of reach. During their career, the loyalty of criminal partners, of which there were many, was never counted on. Their love for family and each other, and efforts to elude law enforcement were always constant.

Explore the exhibition, *Bonnie and Clyde: Famous Texas Outlaws*, in the reading room of the Texas/Dallas History Division of the Dallas Public Library now through the end of June.



The Barrow and Parker families often arranged to meet in secluded, predetermined locations to avoid detection from police. Pictured here are Clyde Barrow and his mother, Cumie. Circa 1933.



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JIM HIGHTOWER DONATES ARCHIVES TO WITTLIFF COLLECTIONS

Press Release

National radio commentator, syndicated political columnist, public speaker, and *New York Times* best-selling author Jim Hightower has donated his archives to the Wittliff Collections at Texas State University-San Marcos.

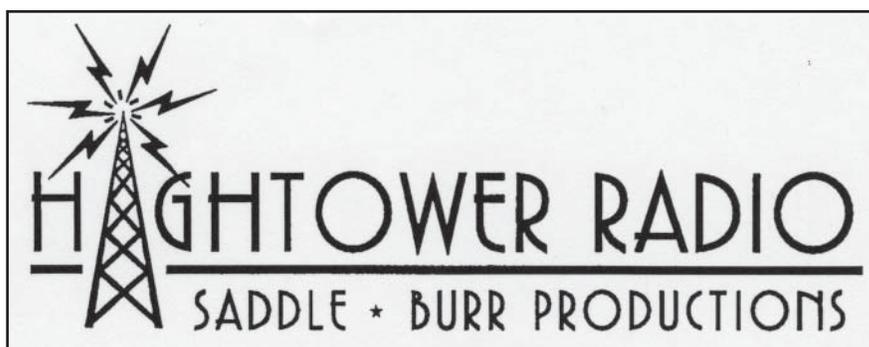
Branded “America’s #1 Populist,” Hightower believes the true political spectrum is not right-to-left but bottom-to-top, and he is dedicated to battling the powers-that-be on behalf of—in his words—the “powers-that-ought-to-be”: consumers, working families, farmers, environmentalists, small business owners, and just plain folks.”

Hightower’s daily radio commentaries—in their seventeenth year of broadcasting—are now carried by more than 150 commercial and public stations, on the Web, and on Radio for Peace International. His weekly column is distributed nationally by Creators Syndicate, his columns appear in over 120 newspapers, and his blogs are accessible on Alternet, Huffington Post, and many popular Web sites.

Launched in 1999, his monthly populist newsletter, *The Hightower Lowdown*, is the fastest-growing political publication in America, with more than 135,000 subscribers across the country. The hard-hitting *Lowdown*, which celebrated its tenth anniversary in print this February, has received both the Alternative Press Award and the Independent Press Association Award for best national newsletter. A sought-after public speaker, the sharp-witted Hightower delivers about 100 speeches a year, and he is a frequent guest on television and radio programs.

Hightower has written seven books including, *Thieves in High Places: They’ve Stolen Our Country and It’s Time to Take It Back*; *If the Gods Had Meant Us to Vote They Would Have Given Us Candidates*; *There’s Nothing in the Middle of the Road but Yellow Stripes and Dead Armadillos*; and his most recent, *Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go with the Flow*, co-authored with his longtime “co-conspirator,” Susan DeMarco.

Hightower was raised in Denison, Texas, in a family of independent business people, tenant farmers, and working stiffs. After graduating from the University of North Texas, he served in Washington, D.C., as legislative aide to Senator Ralph Yarborough of Texas. He then co-founded the Agribusiness Accountability Project, a public-interest project focused on corporate power in the food economy, and he was national coordinator of the 1976 “Fred Harris for President” campaign. Harris, a former Democratic Senator from Oklahoma, largely



targeted the party’s activist base with his liberal/populist positions on campaign issues.

In 1976, Hightower returned to his home state, where he became editor of the biweekly *Texas Observer* succeeding Molly Ivins, whose personal library also resides at the Wittliff Collections. Hightower served as director of the Texas Consumer Association before running for statewide office and being elected to two terms as Texas Agriculture Commissioner (1983-1991) where he became involved in the Farm Aid effort, working with Willie Nelson and screenwriter-photographer Bill Wittliff, founder of the Collections. In the 1990s Hightower hosted two radio talk shows and began developing his radio commentaries, writing books, and giving speeches, which he has been doing ever since alongside publishing the *Lowdown*.

“The Wittliff Collections fit me like a comfortable old boot,” Hightower says, “for the archives are populist in nature. Not only do they depict our region’s broad sweep of grassroots voices, but the Wittliff team also knows how to present its treasure trove of materials in ways that appeal to ordinary folks as well as scholars. It’s an honor to join the team.”

THE HIGHTOWER ARCHIVES

Wittliff Collections curator Connie Todd, together with assistant curator Steve Davis and lead archivist **Katie Salzmann**, recently picked up over 100 boxes from Hightower at his office in Austin, Texas. The Hightower Papers document every aspect of his long and prolific career, including the many inimitable “Hightowerisms” (such as “The water won’t clear up ’til we get the hogs out of the creek”) for which he’s become famous. Materials are expected to reach approximately 200 linear feet once everything is re-housed in archival boxes and the inventory process is complete.

Items have been well organized by Hightower and his assistant, Melody Byrd, and separated into categories such as Commentary Files, Show Files, Show Tapes, Book



Jim Hightower in an undated photograph.

document from 1964: a Certificate of Exemption From Poll Tax issued to a 21-year-old Hightower, then a junior at the University of North Texas, because he was a first-time voter. Finally abolished in Texas in 1966 as unconstitutional, the poll tax was designed to deter poor people, especially blacks and Latino-Americans, from voting, an issue in the Civil Rights Movement that inspired the young Hightower to set out on a political path.

“We here at the Wittliff Collections are thrilled to have such a comprehensive archive covering Jim Hightower’s distinguished and eventful career,” says Wittliff curator Connie Todd. “J. Frank Dobie said on many occasions that good writing transcends its region but never ignores its native soil. Jim’s work fully embodies this idea, and in these times of dynamic political activity, we look forward to showcasing his materials and his conversation as a voice distinctively southwestern and globally significant.”

Files, *Lowdowns*, Promotional Items, Speeches, Videos, and Travel. Various posters and memorabilia from his populist ventures are also included.

Each of the radio commentaries, for example, is filed by year and date, and each file includes Hightower’s handwritten first draft and edits, backup research plus fact checks for each commentary, the final script, and a cue sheet for the broadcast. His syndicated column features the text from these “Common Sense Commentaries.” The audiotapes themselves are preserved on reels, cassettes, and CDs.

Hightower’s roots in populism are documented in boxes of materials from Yarborough’s, Harris’s, and Hightower’s political campaigns.

Also of note are approximately 600 photographs his staff is currently digitizing. Among these are shots of Hightower speaking, politicking, and attending various events, as well as pictures with such luminaries as Cesar Chavez, Willie Nelson, Robert Redford, Ann Richards, Molly Ivins, Granny D, Ted Kennedy, and others. Photographs of Hightower with Dan Rather, for example, capture them in discussion during the filming of his *60 Minutes* interview in the 1980s. The originals, plus the digitized files, will be housed with his archives at the Wittliff Collections.

One of the earliest pieces among the papers is a small



Jim Hightower and Wittliff Collections curator Connie Todd.

Hightower has designated the Wittliff Collections as the official repository for his legacy and will continue to gift materials as his career progresses. His weekly columns, radio commentaries, excerpts from the *Lowdown*, and other Hightower information can be accessed on his Web site, www.jimhightower.com.



Willie Nelson and Jim Hightower at Austin radio station KVET studios July 3, 1994. Photo credit: Karen Dickey.

THE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF CARE

Submitted by Brian Collins, CA • Dallas Public Library



The year 2009 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Visiting Nurse Association. A small group of volunteer nurses from the Dallas County Public Health Nurses Association went into the poorest sections of the city to provide desperately needed nursing care for the sick, the infirm, and new mothers and their babies during the Great Depression.



Nurses Victoria Hunter, Rose Bernice, and Florence Patterson at the Visiting Nurse Association's first office – a basement on 1901 N. Harwood Street in Dallas. 1934.



No calls for service in Dallas were refused by the Visiting Nurse Association. Patients were cared for irrespective of race, color, sex, or creed. Nurses went into the segregated sections of Dallas, tent cities, cardboard houses, tourist camps, and trailers to provide life-giving care during the Great Depression. Nurse Mary Rhea is pictured. 1939.

Realizing that the critical need for this care was more than what these few volunteer nurses could provide, 12 prominent Dallas clubwomen and 13 public health nurses met on April 6, 1934, to organize the "Dallas Visiting Nurse Association." An official announcement was made on May 12, the birth date of Florence Nightingale, of the creation of the nonprofit home care organization.

The first office of the Dallas Visiting Nurse Association was in a building basement on 1901 N. Harwood Street, where the Dallas Museum of Art is now located. A volunteer secretary sat on a wooden box used as a chair. The typewriter was borrowed and had to be returned to its owner periodically. The first month's rent of \$10 was paid by an employee of St. Paul Hospital in Dallas. Subsequent rent was donated by the National Council of Jewish Women: Greater Dallas Section and the Junior League of Dallas.

The Visiting Nurse Association's Diamond Jubilee celebration in 2009 honors those nurses who in 1934 provided life-giving care in a time of great economic hardship. The anniversary also recognizes the individuals and organizations that supported those efforts and gave life to an organization that 75 years later continues to provide needed care to thousands of patients in North Texas.

A special collection of photos (owned by the VNA) celebrating the 75-year history of the Visiting Nurse Association will be exhibited through the end of May in the hallway of the Texas/Dallas History & Archives Division on the seventh floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library in Dallas.

Information about the Visiting Nurse Association's Diamond Jubilee can be obtained by contacting Robert Smith at smithr@vnatexas.org or 214-689-2609.



Catherine Hoey was one of seven nurses employed part time by the Visiting Nurse Association in 1936. An agreement was made with Parkland and Baylor Hospitals for the Visiting Nurse Association to care for mothers and their infants at home. By 1938, one third of all babies born in Dallas were under the care of the Visiting Nurse Association. 1936.

NARA PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR REGION

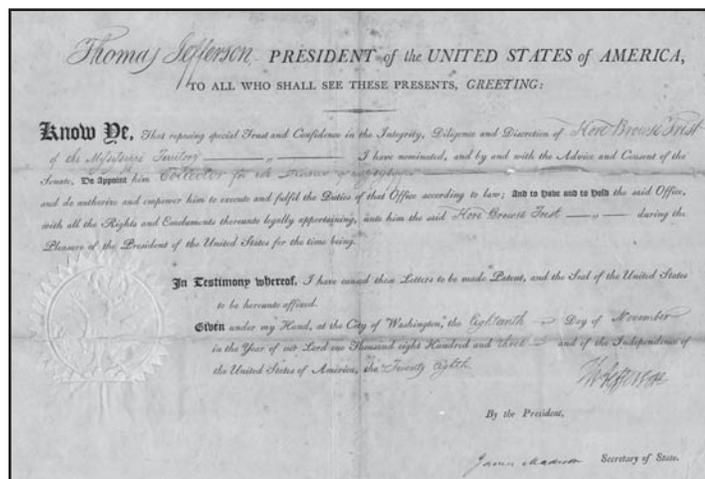
Submitted by Jenny McMillen Sweeney • National Archives-Southwest Region



The Southwest Region provided educational programs for thousands of students over the past year by using the technology of distance learning. This technology allows us to visit classrooms throughout Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, the United States, and even the world! Distance learning allows students who would not normally be able to visit the Southwest Region the opportunity to view primary sources in our holdings through the use of a document camera. In addition, the technology enables students participating at various sites to have discussions and interact with staff members at the Southwest Region.

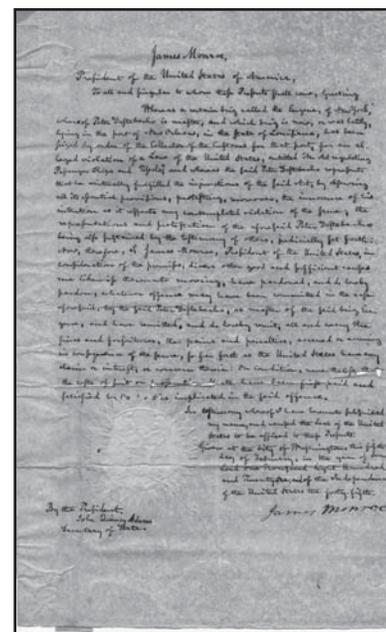
Did you know that documents created by many presidents can be found at the Southwest Region? Presidential Powers, a distance learning program, was developed to highlight these historical records. The program focuses on the powers of the president defined in Article II of the Constitution. The documents illustrate the president's powers to appoint officials, pardon those that have committed an offense against the United States, and negotiate treaties. One of the documents used in the program is signed by President Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of State James Madison out of our U.S. Customs House Records in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In 1803, the United States purchased Louisiana from France and the United States literally doubled its size over night. With the purchase of this new land, the port of New Orleans became a major player in the import of goods and people to the country. In order to make sure the United States was capturing the revenue from the active port, President Thomas Jefferson appointed a gentleman named Hore Browse Trist as Collector of Customs.



Presidential appointment signed by President Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of State James Madison, 1803. Record Group: 036 Records of the U.S. Customs Service, NARA-SW Regional Archives.

Another document highlighted is a presidential pardon of Peter Destebecho by James Monroe. The *Brig Eugene* was seized while lying in the port of New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, by the Collector of Customs for allegedly violating a law entitled "An Act regulating Passenger Ships and Vessels." As master of the *Brig Eugene*, Peter Destebecho was accused of this crime, but he pleaded his innocence. Because of his testimony and the testimonies of others, Destebecho was pardoned by Monroe. This pardon is out of the Records of the United States District/Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.



Presidential pardon of Peter Destebecho signed by President James Monroe and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, 1821. Record Group 036 Records of the U.S. Customs Service, NARA-SW Regional Archives.

In addition to the regularly scheduled distance learning programs, the Southwest Region participated in Megaconference X, *Breaking Down the Barriers: Global Connections* on November 6, 2008. The Megaconference is the world's largest video conference which highlights the use of videoconferencing in education. It connects students and educators across the globe for a day filled with learning on a variety of topics. Over 2,000 students participated at 188 different sites including sites in the countries of Australia, Canada, Croatia, Finland, India, Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Taiwan, Wales, and of course the United States. An introduction to the Southwest Region's holdings, *Great Minds Using Great Records*, was presented.

The upcoming year looks bright for Distance Learning at the Southwest Region! Many programs are in development including the following topics: NASA, The Election of 1860, Oklahoma Records, Louisiana Records, and Texas Records.

For more information on these and other programs please contact Jenny McMillen Sweeney, Education Specialist at jenny.mcmillen@nara.gov or 817-831-5917.

SUSTAIN YOURSELF IN AUSTIN!

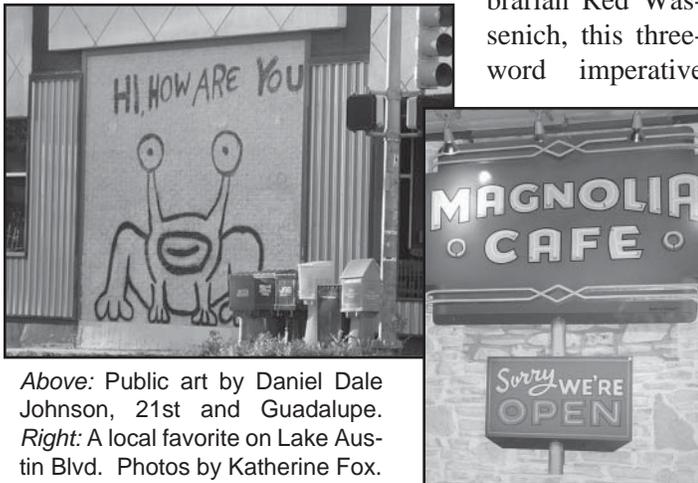
By Mat Darby • The Dolph Briscoe Center for American History

Although your primary reason for traveling to Austin during August 11-16, 2009, will be the Joint Annual Meeting of SAA and the Council of State Archivists (with sessions, workshops and networking opportunities) one cannot survive on archives alone (sad, but true). In a city that has garnered a slew of monikers – from the City of the Violet Crown to the Live Music Capital of the World™ to the Greenest City in America – you may well find it impossible to resist, leading you beyond the boundaries of the Hilton to commune with the city outside. As the 2009 Host Committee prepares to welcome you to our fair city, we offer you an introduction, albeit abridged, to the place some of your colleagues call “home.”

Keep Austin What?

Upon arriving by plane, train or automobile, you will be in town about two minutes before “Keep Austin Weird” starts seeping into your consciousness. Coined by Austin librarian Red Was-

senich, this three-word imperative



Above: Public art by Daniel Dale Johnson, 21st and Guadalupe.
Right: A local favorite on Lake Austin Blvd. Photos by Katherine Fox.

has become an unofficial rallying cry for those seeking to maintain our city’s eclectic and creative sensibilities in the face of growth and change. Inevitably, the phrase has taken on a life of its own, even being adopted to promote small local businesses. But whether you view it as principled position or mere marketing, “Keep Austin Weird” has served to denote Austin as a place where difference is often celebrated and appreciated.

Things’ll Be Great When You’re . . . Downtown

When you make your way around downtown, you may notice a number of construction projects sending new high-rises up to join the Austin skyline. Whatever one thinks of these changes, the continuing growth is emblematic of

a city that has weathered several building booms since its founding in 1839 as the small village of Waterloo. Espousing some of the principles of New Urbanism (walkability, density, mixed-use), our city leaders have worked to reinvigorate downtown, attracting more residents and businesses and creating new retail districts, such as the 2nd Street District near City Hall.

Sitting at the intersection of 11th Street and Congress Avenue, the Texas State Capitol is the epicenter of state politics, more so when the legislature (“The Lege”) is in session every other year. Despite a rapidly changing skyline, Austinites have sought to protect their view of the Capitol from various vantage points around the city. Constructed between 1882 and 1888 to replace the original limestone capitol, the building is a fine example of Renaissance Revival architecture, in pink granite no less, and not to be missed. Portraits of past presidents of the Republic and our governors decorate the rotunda, which doubles as a whispering gallery – so mind what you say.

Summertime and the Living Is Easy

Boasting more than 16,000 acres of greenspace set aside for parks, trails and greenbelts, Austin prides itself on its reverence for the environment and many locals take every opportunity to engage with nature. The Hike and Bike Trail looping around downtown Lady Bird Lake supplies the perfect surroundings for squeezing in a morning run, taking a brisk walk, or cycling. If you’re finding that August in Austin is a bit warm, we recommend spending a little time at Barton Springs Pool, located within Zilker Park, the largest park in



View of downtown and the Ann W. Richards Congress Avenue Bridge, taken from the Austin American-Statesman Bat Observation Center. Photo by Kris Toma.



downtown. Dip into the crisp, clean water that hovers around 68 degrees to relax and recharge. The Isamu Taniguchi Japanese Garden, also in Zilker and part of the larger Botanical Garden, provides another calm respite from a busy day. If you're more interested in fauna than flora, and you have no aversion to flying mammals, gather near the Ann W. Richards Congress Avenue Bridge at dusk to watch as roughly a million and a half Mexican free-tailed bats, easily the largest urban population in North America, emerge for their evening meals.

I Love the Nightlife . . .

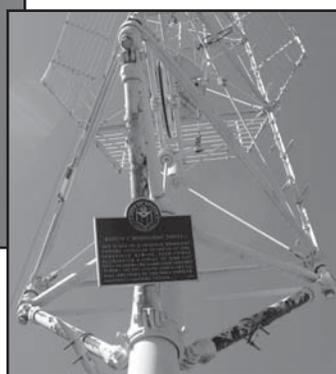
As darkness descends upon the city, the bats disperse into the night, and you've finished your dinner (Tex-Mex, bar-b-q, Greek, maybe Indian), you might be tempted to call it a day. Instead, grab a few fellow archivists and hit the town. The nightlife in Austin is, some would say, the city's bread and butter and what put us on the map.

First, recall that you are in the (self-proclaimed) Live Music Capital of the World™. But if your knowledge of our local music scene has been gleaned solely from old episodes of Austin City Limits, the venerable public television program taped at UT, this is your chance to expand your aural horizons. On a given evening you could take in a medieval chamber ensemble at St. Edward's University, two-step to some Western Swing at the Broken Spoke, and then head over to a club on Red River Street for a healthy dose of noise rock. With purportedly over 1500 venues (clubs, restaurants, bars, living rooms, etc.) presenting live music throughout the city, you're bound to stumble upon a genre you'll enjoy. In Austin, there are seemingly no limits.

But maybe you're feeling more cinematic than musical. In that case, make a beeline to the Alamo Downtown at the Ritz in the 6th Street district. Housed in Austin's first movie theatre for "talkies," built in 1929, the Alamo offers a chance to watch some innovative programming while enjoying a frosty beverage and a bite to eat. Or visit the beautiful Paramount Theatre on Congress Avenue and catch the tail-end of their annual Summer Film Series. It's hard to say what they might be screening this year, but past schedules have seen a 70mm print of *2001: A Space Odyssey* and *Gone with the Wind* round out the month of August.



Views of Austin's Moonlight Towers. Photos by Kris Toma.



What a Little Moonlight Can Do

Before heading back to your hotel to rest up for the morning sessions, make a point to seek out something unique to Austin, the Moonlight Towers. Originally installed as public safety measures following a rash of murders in the late 1880s, these 165-foot Towers have come to be seen as unique Austin treasures. Our city was not the first to erect them but is the last city in America to use them. Though only 17 of the original 31 remain, they are designated as historic landmarks and fervently protected and maintained by the city. A few towers illuminate the downtown area, but for the full effect of their moonshine, travel to those in the East, West, or North Central Austin neighborhoods.

Blog On, Austin

If you asked a dozen Austinites what they love most about this city and why they live here, you would get a dozen different responses. With that in mind, your Austin colleagues, and a few expatriates, are contributing to the "Austin is for Archivists" blog, <http://www.archives2009.org>, where you'll find compelling posts on things historical, gastronomical, recreational, electrical and more. The Host Committee will be bringing you more articles between now and August, but by all means, to paraphrase a UT Longhorns slogan, come early, stay late and make Austin your own. (Being loud and wearing burnt orange is optional).

HOW-TO: MEASURE A BOOK COLLECTION

By Katie Salzmann • Texas State University-San Marcos
Photographs by Mary Garcia • Texas State University-San Marcos

One of the biggest challenges in managing library and archives space is keeping an accurate measurement of ones collections. This “How To” is designed to provide a quick guide to measuring a book collection. It is based on similar instructions courtesy of Shirien Chappell at the University of Oregon Libraries. Ms. Chappell’s complete “Moving Library Collections” guide is available at http://libweb.uoregon.edu/acs_svc/shift/.



For these instructions, a row (left) is defined as a series of sections or ranges of shelving.

What you need:

- String or twine
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Empty space worksheet
- Pen or pencil
- A partner (preferably)



Step 1:

Before you begin measuring, create an “Empty Space Worksheet” that includes the following columns: Row, Beginning Call #, Ending Call #, Empty space.

Fill in the call number information for each of the rows of books in your stacks that you are measuring. You will fill in the “empty space” column with hatch marks from your measuring. Each hatch mark will represent the equivalent of one shelf of empty space.

Empty shelf space worksheet

Row	Beginning Call #	Ending Call #	Empty space

Step 2:

Cut a piece of string or twine approximately 40 inches long. Tie a knot a few inches from the end. Measure your shelves and tie a second knot on the string that distance from the first. (e.g. if your shelves are 35 inches long, the distance between the two knots would be 35 inches).



Step 3:

Beginning at the first shelf in your stacks with empty space, hold the first knot where the books end on the shelf. Stretch the string to the other end of the shelf and pinch that spot with your right hand. Remove the string and replace your right hand with your left, securely pinching the same spot on the string.

Step 4:

Position the string on the next shelf with your left hand where the books end. As before, stretch the string to the end of the empty shelf space, and pinch with your right. Continue this process until you reach the second knot.



Step 5:



When you reach the second knot, you know that you have measured empty space equal to one shelf. Do not remove the string from the shelf. Have your partner make a hatch mark in the “empty space” column of the worksheet for that row.

Empty shelf space worksheet

Row	Beginning Call #	Ending Call #	Empty space
1	AC 5 .F34 2000	E 99 .K23 H53 1999	
2	E 99 .K26 G18 1891	F386 .B17 1991	
3	F386 .B25 1928	F394 .A9 A58 1956	
4			

Step 6:



Replace your right hand where it is at the second knot with your left and slide the string through your left hand fingers until you are pinching the first knot. Repeat steps 1 through 5 until you reach the last shelf in your stacks.

When you are finished, you will know how much empty shelf space you have available to work with, and in what call number sections. If you subtract that number from the total shelf space available in your stacks, you will have an accurate measure of the current size of your collection.

DO YOU KNOW HOW-TO?

Do you have a “How-To” idea that you’d like to share? Is there something you would like to learn how to do? Simple or complicated, hands-on or theory . . . tell us what you want to teach or want to know.

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LEADERSHIP LOG
Compiled by Carol Roark, CA



DORMAN WINFREY, 1924-2009
By Joshunda Sanders, Staff Writer, *Austin American-Statesman*
Reprinted with permission from Ms. Sanders

Marylaine Driese, College Archivist at McLennan Community College in Waco, was named editor of the Heart of Texas Records, the quarterly publication of the Central Texas Genealogical Society.

Long-time SSA member **T. Lindsay Baker** at Tarleton State University has been busy writing and speaking this spring. His presentations have included "Why This College Professor Loves Living History" at the Mountain-Plains Regional Conference of the Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums at Farmers Branch, Texas, on February 27, 2009; "Theft by Revolver, Nitroglycerine, and Fountain Pen: Robberies and Embezzlements at the Fort Worth Stockyards National Bank" at the Annual Meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in Austin on March 27, 2009; and "The Unsolved Murder of Frank Nand Singh" at the Annual Meeting of the West Texas Historical Association in Lubbock, Texas, on April 3, 2009. On June 7, 2009, he will speak on "Windmills and Western Ranching" for the National Park Service at Homestead National Monument in Beatrice, Nebraska.

Michelle M. Mears's book, *And Grace Will Lead Me Home; African American Freedmen Communities of Austin, Texas, 1865-1928*, is being published by Texas Tech University Press. The book should be available this summer. Mears is the University Archivist at the University of North Texas in Denton.

Philip Montgomery, archivist and special collections librarian at the Woodson Research Center at Rice University, received a Rising Star alumni award. This prestigious award recognizes state and national leaders in seven categories in the library and information professions who are recent graduates of the University of North Texas LIS program.

REPORT YOUR ARCHIVAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITY

The Leadership Log is designed to keep SSA members informed about colleagues' publications, presentations, promotions, or other noteworthy activities.

Submit your news to carol.roark@dallaslibrary.org.

Names of SSA members appear in **bold** type.

Dorman Winfrey, a longtime state librarian, historian and author, died Saturday [March 28, 2009] after a long illness. He was 84.

Winfrey was appointed director of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission in 1962 and served in that position until he retired in 1986.

He edited "The Indian Papers of Texas and the Southwest, 1825-1916," a five-volume collection of documents and letters related to Texas' Indian tribes, and authored a number of other books, including "A History of Rusk County, Texas," published in 1961, and the 1967 "Arturo Toscanini in Texas: The 1950 NBC Orchestra Tour."

"He was devoted to books and reading and the state of Texas," Winfrey's daughter, Laura Gould, said Wednesday. "Much of his career was focused on Texas history, and he simply loved his career."

Winfrey grew up in Henderson and graduated from high school there in 1942. Gould said her father credited his love of history to his teachers.

The World War II veteran was in the Army from 1943 to 1946; he served in the 69th Infantry Division. His widow, Ruth Carolyn Winfrey, said that after he left the Army, he moved to Austin to study at the University of Texas, where he earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in history between 1950 and 1962.

While he attended school, he worked as a research associate at the Texas State Historical Association. He worked as the state archivist at the Texas State Library and as an archivist at UT before he became director of the Library and Archives Commission.

David Gracy, UT's Governor Bill Daniel Professor in Archival Enterprise, said Wednesday that Winfrey had hired him three times for separate jobs. "He was as decent, gentle, kind and thoughtful an individual as I guess I've ever known," Gracy said. "He treated people as people, not as automatons. The people who worked for him were part of his family."

Jennifer Leisure, Winfrey's younger daughter, said her father loved to travel across Texas dedicating libraries and was passionate about classical music. Winfrey was a founding member of the International Festival-Institute at Round Top, Leisure said, and loved to attend Shakespeare at Winedale.

"He was a wonderful, attentive man who touched so many lives," Leisure said.

Robert Schaadt noted that Dr. Winfrey was a founding member of SSA and a member until he retired.

EMPLOYMENT POSTINGS

**Project Archivist
Amistad Research Center
Tulane University, New Orleans**

SUMMARY: Amistad Research Center seeks a full-time project archivist for processing duties in two grant funded projects that will run for three years. The project archivist will assist the Director of Processing to arrange, describe, and preserve nine collections (150 linear feet) of personal papers that document the history of key civil rights organizations. Concurrently, the project archivist will also assist the Director of Archives with description and basic processing of official records of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ (472 linear feet). Amistad is implementing the Archon collection management database system. All descriptive and finding aid work for these projects will be input into Archon for Web site publication.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Monthly salary range is \$2,917 - \$3,500 depending on professional experience and educational background.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work closely with directors to arrange and describe assigned archives and manuscripts collections
- Process collections according to national archival standards
- Perform tasks to provide proper preservation and housing for the materials
- Monitor workflow and submit detailed reports to make certain project goals are met
- Supervise student assistants

QUALIFICATIONS: A master's degree in Library Science from an ALA-accredited program or a graduate degree in history with formal training in archival theory and practice; minimum of one year of professional experience in the arrangement and description of manuscripts collections; working knowledge of archival descriptive standards Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS), with familiarity of EAD and MARC formats; knowledge of conservation and preservation for archival collections; detail oriented with strong writing and communication skills, supervisory skills, the ability to work independently and collaboratively within a team environment; ability to lift boxes weighing up to 40 pounds and work with collections that contain dust.

APPLICATIONS:

Send application letter and resume to:

Amistad Research Center
6823 St. Charles Avenue
Tilton Hall/Tulane University
New Orleans, LA 70118

Email: lhampto3@tulane.edu

FAX: (504) 862-8961

Amistad Research Center is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and encourages women and minority candidates.

EMPLOYMENT POSTINGS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE

Employment postings from individual and institutional members are published gratis.
The next issue of Southwestern Archivist will mail the first week of August.

- Need to advertise your job sooner? Post your employment notices on the wiki.
- Looking for a new position? See the wiki for the latest postings.

<http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Employment>

The wiki is open to everyone who wishes to contribute - just create a wiki login and add your information.



EXCERPTS FROM *IN THE LOOP*
SAA Headquarters [info@archivists.org]



**Assistant Curator for Acquisitions
Wittliff Collections, Albert B. Alkek Library
Texas State University – San Marcos**

The Wittliff Collections at Texas State University's Alkek Library seeks an Assistant Curator for Acquisitions to identify and acquire significant archives of Southwestern writing and significant works of Southwestern and Mexican photography; Maintain an acquisitions database and a database of all artists who should be considered for acquisitions; Acquire the significant archives in consultation with the curator, founding donor, and other assistant curators; Write text for correspondence, proposals, newsletters, press releases, exhibits, handouts, public programs, and other written needs; Help develop written policies and procedures for the Collection; With curator, manage all aspects of the acquisitions process; Engage in professional activities in accordance with Texas State University's standards for promotion for professional librarians and curators.

QUALIFICATIONS: Required: ALA-accredited MLS or related master's degree; Strong oral and interpersonal skills to establish rapport with a variety of people including founding donor, head curator, writers, photographers, collectors, galleries, dealers, appraisers, and other relevant parties; Knowledge of Southwestern literature and Southwestern and Mexican photography; Skill in Composing and editing complex, professional-level prose; Ability to read and interpret books, articles, technical manuals, and written inquiries; Problem solving and decision-making skills to identify and acquire appropriate archives for the collections; Proficiency in basic math and accounting procedures; Ability to effectively use computer hardware and software. Preferred: Knowledge of Spanish; Understanding of rare and fragile materials; Knowledge of Collection Development practices.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: \$39,960 - \$63,707 annually depending on assigned rank based on qualifications and experience.

APPLICATIONS: Apply online at <http://jobs.hr.txstate.edu>
Applications are accepted until position is filled.

The full job description is posted at <http://www.library.txstate.edu/about/employment.html>.

New ePublication Puts Thesaurus at Your Keyboard

This online thesaurus contains nearly 1,300 terms to describe college and university holdings and covers academic affairs, administration, classes of persons, corporate culture, events, fields of study, history, infrastructure, sports, and student life. Find it at <http://www.archivists.org/publications/epubs/thesaurus.asp>. The publication was compiled and edited by Kate Bowers, collections service archivist for the Harvard University Archives.

**SAA Signs on to Letter Urging Timely
Senate Consideration of PRA**

SAA has joined with the National Coalition for History, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, and others to urge Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Chair Joseph Lieberman to take swift action in marking up the Senate companion to H.R. 35, "The Presidential Records Act (PRA) Amendments of 2009." "Congress must codify vital improvements to the Presidential Records Act to ensure that its implementation is not undermined by future administrations that may not share President Obama's commitment to transparency and openness," the letter states.

Read SAA President's Comments on Enforcing Ethics

"In the last few months there has been a discussion, primarily on the Archives and Archivists Listserv, about enforcing SAA's Code of Ethics in light of a researcher's allegations about the National Archives and Records Administration. Commentators have criticized the Society for not investigating the alleged ethical shortcomings of some of our colleagues in Washington...." Read more of SAA President Frank Boles's comments at <http://www.archivists.org/news/ethics09.asp>.

Get to Know Austin

The SAA Host Committee's blog, Austin Is for Archivists, features information about the committee and the charm of Austin—whether it's food, recreation, history, or archives (of course). This week you can read a post on the Centennial of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and learn what's special about the Long Center, site of the upcoming All-Attendee Reception. Visit <http://www.archives2009.org/> to learn more about Austin.

ARCHIVISTS' DAYBOOK

Selections from the list compiled by Leon C. Miller, CA, Tulane University.

See the complete Daybook at <http://southwestarchivists.org/HTML/Daybook.htm>.

**Annual Meeting Sites**

Annual meetings are generally held in the latter part of May.

2003 - New Orleans
 2004 - San Antonio
 2005 - Baton Rouge
 2006 - El Paso
 2007 - Oklahoma City
 2008 - Houston
 2009 - Shreveport
 2010 - Santa Fe
 2011 - Little Rock
 2012 - Phoenix
 2013 - Austin

Board Meetings

Officers and Executive Board Members are required to make a quorum. Committee chairs are encouraged, but not required, to attend.

All members are welcome to attend SSA Board Meetings.

May 2009
 Shreveport, LA

Upcoming meeting dates are not yet determined.

Board Meetings at the Annual Meeting are held just prior to the conference (end of fiscal year) and on the Saturday following the last session (beginning of the new fiscal year).

The membership year runs January-December. Please remember to pay your dues by February!

MAY 3 On this date in 2006, OCLC and RLG announced their intention to merge. For research archivists, this brought the more in-depth archival services of RLG to the broader audience of OCLC member libraries around the world.

MAY 5 Happy 37th Birthday, SSA! On this date in 1972, thirty-five archivists from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas met at the University of Texas at Arlington and organized the Society of Southwest Archivists.

MAY 17 World Information Society Day.

MAY 31 On this date in 1790, the US Congress enacted the United States copyright law.

JUNE 1 Hurricane season begins in the Atlantic. Are your disaster plans current?

JUNE 15 On this date in 2005, in a stunning 238 to 187 victory for the US library and archival community, the United States House of Representatives approved an amendment to the Patriot Act that barred the Department of Justice from using any appropriated federal funds to search library and bookstore records under provisions of the Patriot Act.

JUNE 25 Today in 1794, the French law of 7 Messidor Year II proclaimed for the first time the right of citizens to have access to public archives.

JUNE 30 On this date in 2004, Edin Vejzovic, a 15-year-old Muslim boy from the southern Bosnian town of Mostar, donated his \$21 monthly allowance to help save books and documents in a Franciscan monastery damaged during the Bosnian war of 1992-1995. Among the documents Edin helped save was the 1463 order by Turkish Sultan Mehmed II allowing Catholics to freely worship in Bosnia.

JULY is National Ice Cream Month in the United States. The Knox College Archives, Galesburg, Illinois, preserves the Ferris family papers, which, among other things, document how William Mead Ferris (1807-1883) introduced ice cream to Illinois.

JULY 8 Feast day of St. Sunniva, a tenth-century Irish princess. After her death, the Benedictine monks who protected her shrine became noted for their record-keeping and their creation of a massive archives.

Calendar Items

May

15 Due: Applications for the ACA certification by exam.

15 SAA Workshop: Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS), San Antonio, Texas.

19-20 SSA Workshop: Implement DACS in Integrated CMS: Using Archon, Shreveport, Louisiana.

20-23 SSA Annual Meeting, Shreveport, Louisiana.

For more information about the meeting, check out the wiki at: <http://ssarchivists.wikispaces.com/Shreveport>.

June

1 Due: ACA petitions for certification maintenance.

26 SAA Workshop: Implementing "More Product, Less Process," Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin, Texas.

July

15-18 NAGARA Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington.

August

11-16 Joint SAA/CoSA Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas.

13 ACA celebrates its 20th anniversary with an event at SAA. The evening celebration will be held in Salon K of the Governors Ballroom on the 6th Floor of the Austin Hilton hotel.



You are cordially invited ...

SSA membership is open to everyone interested in archival work. Whether archivist, librarian, conservator, genealogist, or concerned citizen, we welcome your participation in promoting the preservation and use of archives.

Mr. Ms. Dr. Sr. Br. Fr. Other _____

Please return to:

Society of Southwest Archivists

**PO Box 225
Gaithersburg, MD 20884**

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SSA's membership directory is intended to promote and facilitate professional communication. We therefore ask members to submit their business contact information for their membership records whenever possible. *If the above information is for your home, please check this box.*

SSA occasionally shares membership information with carefully selected professional organizations or vendors in order to participate in joint membership efforts or obtain greater benefits for our members. *If you prefer not to participate in these joint programs, please check this box.*

N.B.: SSA's membership year is the calendar year.

SSA's committees offer many ways to become more involved in our society and in the life of the archival profession. Please let us know of any committees or project in which you might be interested and we will be happy to contact you with more information.

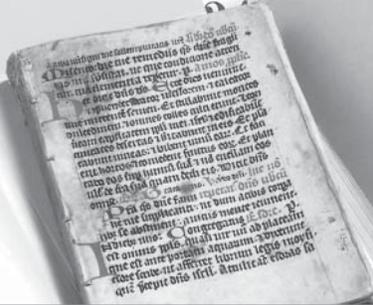
Annual Meeting Internet Outreach Membership Nominating

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Other interest: _____

Thank you! We look forward to welcoming you as the newest member of the Society of Southwest Archivists.

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