

The
**Southwestern
Archivist**

February 2021
Volume 44, Issue 1

FEATURE

New Orleans City Archives
Provides Research for the City's
Street Renaming Commission

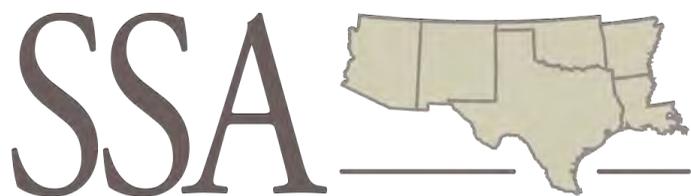
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Society of Southwest Archivists

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.

Annual Membership dues are \$25.00 for individuals, with a reduced rate of \$15.00 for students and retirees. Institutional newsletter subscriptions are \$25.00.

More information about membership can be found at our website southwestarchivists.org

SUBMISSIONS TO THE SOUTHWESTERN ARCHIVIST

Please send all final submissions to one of the state liaisons listed below. The preferred submission format is a Word document attached via e-mail. The document should include a title; the author’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information; and captions and citations for images. Please send images as separate JPG attachments.

Submissions may be edited to conform to style conventions and available space. Due to space limitations the editors reserve the right to omit submissions or hold them over for a future issue.

The editor gives priority to submissions of news items about repositories in the SSA region and about the professional accomplishments of SSA members. Out-of-region submissions will be published as space permits. Short feature articles on topics and issues relating to current trends in archival enterprise are also welcome, as are longer Spotlight columns. Please e-mail the editor, Nicholas Wojcik, or your area liaison if you have any questions about a proposed article.

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January 10 | April 10
July 10 | October 10

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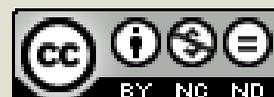
Leadership Log submissions

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Brittanny Silva



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map showing
Robert E. Lee Blvd, formerly Adams
Av., 1956

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STATEMENT FROM SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST ARCHIVISTS CONDEMNING THE EXECUTIVE ORDER ON RACE AND SEX STEREOTYPING



On September 22, 2020, President Donald Trump issued [Executive Order \(13950\) on Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping](#). The Executive Order (EO) seeks to “combat offensive and anti-American race and sex stereotyping and scapegoating” and to end so-called “divisive concepts” such as “critical race theory,” “white privilege,” “intersectionality,” “systemic racism,” and “unconscious bias” covered in workplace trainings used by institutions receiving federal funding. The EO further establishes requirements aimed at “promoting unity in the Federal workforce,” by prohibiting messages in workplace trainings that imply “an individual, by virtue of their race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.”

The Society of Southwest Archivists (SSA) views this EO as a brazen effort to silence diversity, inclusion, and equity initiatives in the workplaces of our membership. Libraries and archives should not deny the lived experience of Black/Brown, Indigenous, and other people of color, nor cast aside scholarship and research into the history of race relations in the United States in order to receive critical federal funding. The archival records held by repositories across the American Southwest are frequently accessed to provide evidence of the formation and spread of institutionalized racism. This EO requires SSA archivists to ignore this reality and silence the past, thereby calling into question the relevance of maintaining historical records.

SSA is committed to the long-term work of dismantling structural racism through the continued processes of education, listening, and action. We cannot remain neutral regarding EO13950 and its toxic and ahistorical approach to our country’s past and the complexities of its culture. We are dedicated to an inclusive archival profession that respects our BIPOC colleagues and supports the care of diverse archival holdings. We oppose EO 13950 and its efforts to divide archival workplaces.

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New Orleans City Archives Provides Research for the City's Street Renaming Commission



Brittany Silva, MLIS, CRM
City Archives and Special Collections
New Orleans Public Library

City Archives & Special Collections reference materials
consulted for the Street Renaming Commission

The calls for the removal of markers of white supremacy again gained momentum this past year as protests erupted across the country and demands for action flooded local and national media. In the wake of these conversations, many institutions began asking questions about how to participate in social justice movements within the ethical confines of the archival profession. In my own department, we began to ask ourselves how we could use our position, platform, and resources to aid community activist efforts without showing bias; our answer was by providing fact-based research to all of our patrons regardless of position or affiliation, promoting transparency in our processes, collaborating with the City Council, and encouraging community input.

The City Archives & Special Collections at the New Orleans Public Library is the official repository for the municipal records of the City of New Orleans. We provide research assistance to city agencies and members of the public alike. In June of 2020, my colleague Andrew Mullins, III and I were approached by the City Council with a list of twenty-eight streets suspected to be named after Confederate supporters. The City Council was forming a Street Renaming Commission and were gathering background information about the history of these streets. We were thrilled that they reached out to us for our professional assistance, for the opportunity to collaborate with the City Council, and to use the archival profession to

contribute to the vital conversations happening around us. Our charge was to locate the official city ordinance which renamed each street, determine who the street was named after, and if that person had ties to the Confederacy.

Because of the complex nature of street naming and name changes in New Orleans, locating definitive evidence of Confederate affiliation was not always possible. We searched through city ordinances outlining the renaming of these streets and were able to locate many; the problem was that the ordinances, when they existed, rarely gave more information than “street A will now be known as street B.” Except in the cases of a few streets named after prominent individuals with strong ties to New Orleans (such as General Ogden and Mayor Capdeville), the ordinances gave us little to go on other than a date of the name change. On top of this, the few books written about the history of New Orleans streets relied heavily on anecdotal evidence and did not provide references to primary sources to support their claims.

This prompted our research to move beyond biographical sketches of the streets’ namesakes. We expanded our efforts to include as much historical context as we could to highlight the attitudes and associations of those responsible for naming city streets, including city engineers, surveyors, local land companies, and historians. We turned to newspaper articles to capture media and public opinion

Continued on page 12

FROM THE EDITOR

NICHOLAS WOJCIK, PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

This issue marks the end of my term as Editor of the *Southwestern Archivist* and Chair of the Publications Committee. I'd like to thank our Co-Editor/Vice Chair, Krishna Shenoy, who will be taking over, and all our wonderful colleagues and advertisers whose submissions, ideas, and contributions have continued to make this publication great. I've truly enjoyed this experience.

In this issue, we feature the New Orleans Public Library's City Archives & Special Collections and their work in aiding and educating city officials and the community during recent efforts to rename streets and markers potentially linked to white supremacy (p. 5). Also in New Orleans, a new database with GIS mapping technology for searching the city's historic cemeteries (p.22). We look at collections now open for research, including the papers of artist Dorothy Hood, which provide a snapshot of the burgeoning art scene in Houston in the latter half of the 20th century (p. 24), and, in conjunction with Black History month, materials documenting the first Black administrator at Texas A&M University-Commerce (p. 25). Plus, photo restoration initiatives in south Texas (p. 27), advancing A/V preservation efforts in Oklahoma (p. 28), and a new online exhibit honoring the Women's Suffrage Movement, 100 years later.

Also in this issue, we look back on events that helped close out 2020, including archives bazaars (p.18) and blitzes (p. 19), and ahead to the upcoming virtual Annual Meeting (p. 9). Looking for free money to attend the meeting or assist in professional development? Check out SSA's scholarship opportunities on p. 13! All this and more — we hope you enjoy reading your newsletter!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

AMY RUSHING, SSA PRESIDENT, 2020-2021



2020 was a painful, sad, and difficult year. We were forced to face a deadly pandemic, political unrest, natural disasters, and acts of racial violence. We knew that things would not magically become better on January 1st, and so far, 2021 has proven to be relentless. As I write this, violent insurrectionists stormed the US Capital just a few days into the new year and the United States COVID-19 death toll nears 470,000.

Some days, because of these precarious times, I find myself struggling to focus on daily work. I think about friends, family, and colleagues who are unemployed or who have lost loved ones to the pandemic. I think about

BIPOC archivists who feel alienated by the whiteness of the archives profession, and I think about what it means to be an archivist during a time when our country is going through political upheaval.

I think about my privilege and what my responsibilities are as an archives administrator. How can I use my position to bring about meaningful change at my institution and in my profession, even when it seems like pushing boulders up a hill? It requires persistence, especially during trying times. It means questioning the status quo, and a resolve to keep pushing.

Meaningful change doesn't happen overnight. It doesn't happen with one person. It happens through a collective of individuals, all working towards the same goal,

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES

January 10

April 10

July 10

October 10

ADVERTISE WITH SSA

Please see our rate sheet at southwestarchivists.org or contact Nicholas Wojcik at nwo@ou.edu.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Annual Meeting 2021
(Virtual)



FROM THE PRESIDENT



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

putting in the work, and acknowledging individual responsibility.

In October the SSA Board and Committee Chairs met via Zoom. We heard reports from officers and committee chairs, and discussed how we can utilize what we learned from our members during the *Past, Present, Future* session to guide our work as a professional organization. As reported in my last President's column, we have much to address, and we must keep pushing that boulder up the hill.

Not unexpectedly, the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) announced that the 2021 Annual Meeting will be online. Virtual conferences raise challenges for organizers, attendees, and speakers. I believe there is one silver lining, though. By shifting the meeting online, we are able to lower registration fees, hopefully lessening the barrier to access. Additionally, the Scholarships Committee is able to offer more Annual Meeting registration scholarships to archivists whose employment has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Program Committee, led by Vice President/President-elect Daniel Alonzo, has worked to ensure the Annual Meeting sessions not only include topics on equity, diversity, and inclusion, but include diverse presenters as well. At the fall Board meeting, Ayshea Khan, on behalf of the Diversity & Outreach Committee, proposed that the Program Committee weave elements of equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the meeting

planning rather than having a separate, concurrent EDI program track. The D&O Committee are drafting guidelines that will be an official part of the Annual Meeting Handbook.

The Diversity & Outreach Committee also proposed administering a diversity survey for SSA membership. The survey will capture information on demographics, salaries, and types of institutions, as well as provide a space for member feedback regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion. The goal is to gain a better understanding of our membership so that we can build a more inclusive organization, improve outreach efforts, and learn what diversity issues are important to our members.

In January, the Professional Development Committee (PDC) and the Diversity & Outreach Committee (D&O) announced the SSA workshop, "Foundations of Culturally Sensitive Metadata" by Dominique Luster and Sam Winn. The workshop reached capacity in less than 24 hours. It is clear we need to continue to offer professional development opportunities that provide the resources necessary for archivists -particularly white archivists- to bring about meaningful change within themselves and in the profession.

We have much to do. Let's continue to push that boulder up the hill.

Amy Rushing

amy.rushing@utsa.edu

SSA SOCIAL MEDIA REQUEST FORM

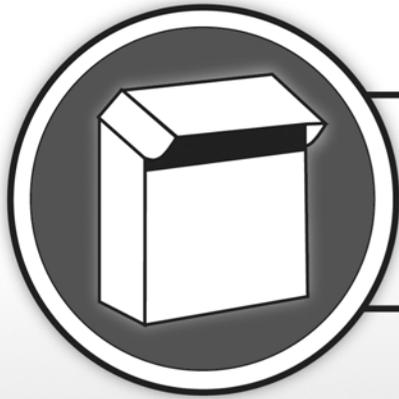
KRISTY SORENSON, CHAIR OF INTERNET OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Reminder if you wish to contribute to SSA [on Facebook and Twitter](#) use the [the SSA Social Media Request Form](#) to submit suggestions for articles about archivists, archives, or cultural heritage issues in the region; announcements; calls for proposals; professional development opportunities; job postings; and more! Note that job post requests must include salary information, posts may be edited for length, and submitted posts will be posted at the discretion of the Internet Outreach Committee. The form is also on [the Internet Outreach Committee page](#).

SSA PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

KRISHNA SHENOY, SSA ASSISTANT EDITOR

SSA is seeking new state liaisons for New Mexico, South Texas, Out-of-Region, and the Leadership Log. The main responsibility of a state liaison is soliciting and collecting articles for the newsletter from your area and then submitting them, along with images, to the newsletter editors. Liaisons do some light editing as needed, check to make sure that submissions include the contributors name and contact information, with captions and citations as needed for images, and that the image files are print-ready. The newsletter is published quarterly and the time commitment is easily manageable. It is a great way to get more involved with SSA, serve your archival community, and learn more about your colleagues activities. Liaisons can also suggest content for SSA social media pages. The Liaisons provide valuable assistance in putting the newsletter together and making sure all the SSA states are well-represented. We want to thank Shelly Croteau for serving as Out-of State liaison and wish her the best. If you are interested in the position or want to learn more, please contact Nicholas Wojcik, Editor [nwo@ou.edu] or Krishna Shenoy, Assistant Editor [kedarkima@hotmail.com].



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2021 SSA ANNUAL MEETING: GOING WITH THE FLOW

BARRY COWAN, LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS PUBLICITY COORDINATOR

DANIEL ALONZO, VICE -PRESIDENT



If readers of this newsletter were wondering if the annual meeting would be affected by the global pandemic, the answer is yes. Not only will the annual meeting be virtual this year but nearly half of the educational sessions will be about how staff, donors, collecting, workflows, and life in general have been affected by Covid-19.

The theme of this year's annual meeting is *Go with the Flow*, marrying the muddy Mississippi River (which few of us will see) with the flexibility required to survive and thrive in a global pandemic. But it isn't all about the pandemic. The country's continued, pervasive racial inequality and inequity was brought to the forefront over the summer with uprisings and demonstrations in every city, large and small. There will be sessions about what archives and the profession can do, has done, and should do better to alleviate inequity from within and without.

As with last year, this year's annual meeting will be held virtually the week of May 17-21 with both live and prerecorded sessions.



Louisiana's State Capitol. Images of New Orleans: The Donn Young Photograph Collection, Louisiana Digital Library, Baton Rouge, LA.

2021 SSA ANNUAL MEETING: GOING WITH THE FLOW



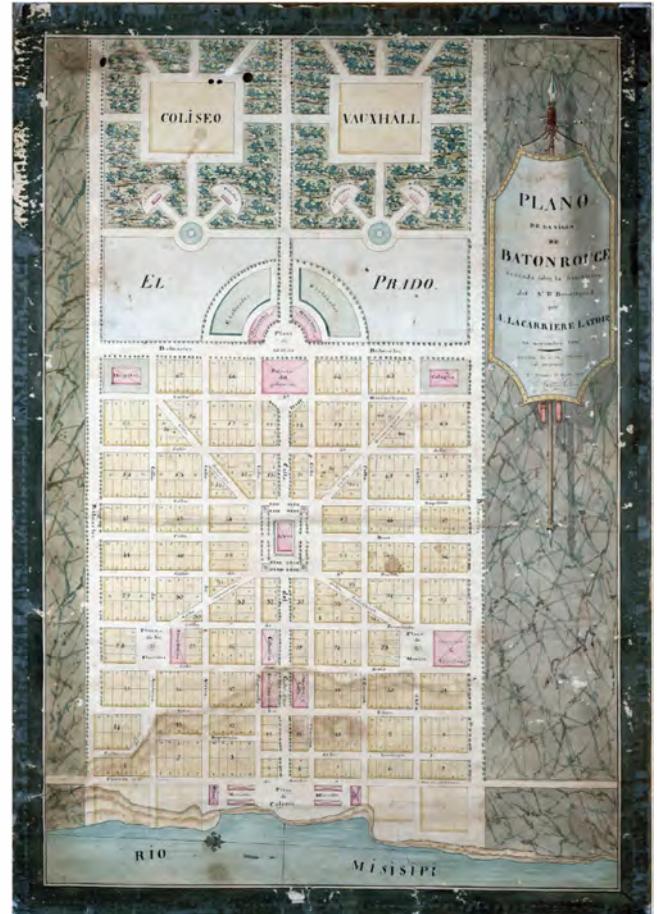
BARRY COWAN, LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS PUBLICITY COORDINATOR

DANIEL ALONZO, SSA VICE-PRESIDENT

There will be hands-on technical sessions and workshops designed to foster creativity or model best practices through example. The format for many of these educational sessions will be different not just because you'll be able to attend in your pajamas with a sleeping chihuahua on your lap. Many of the sessions will be available in the weeks before the annual meeting begins. Pre-recorded sessions will feature speakers presenting on their topic. Attendees will view these recorded presentations so that the educational session at the annual meeting will be more of a discussion with a larger Q&A component. Some sessions will be combined thematically with other presentations. Attendees will be able to submit questions in advance or through the chat feature.

While it is sad that we will not be able to gather in person this year, the Program Committee is doing all we can to offer a great educational program and opportunities to engage with your fellow SSA members.

In addition to the main conference sessions and preconference workshops, virtual tours of Baton Rouge repositories will be offered. As of this writing, the tours include the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge, the East Baton Rouge Public Library, and the State Library of Louisiana. More tours are in the works. A schedule for sessions, workshops, and tours will be forthcoming.



Plano de la Villa Baton Rouge. Trazada sobre la habtacion del Sr. E. Beaugard por A. Lacarriere Latour, en Noviembre 1806. <https://louisianadigitallibrary.org/islandora/object/lapur-lapur:15696>.



Third Street 1925. Charles East Papers, Mss. 3471, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, LA.

**SSA Annual Meeting
Virtual in Louisiana
May 17-21, 2021
Stay tuned for more
details**

SSA NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT



ROBERT WEAVER, NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The SSA Nominating Committee is pleased to present the slate of candidates for the 2020 election. Descriptions of the responsibilities of the positions to be voted upon are given in the [Officers & Committees Procedures Manual](#).

Information about voting will be forthcoming soon. If you require a paper ballot, please send an email requesting one to robert.weaver@ttu.edu. Our by-laws state that paper ballots must be received by the Nominating Committee Chair **by the date scheduled for the electronic ballot** in order to be counted.

We extend our sincere thanks to those who expressed interest in serving SSA by nominating themselves or by accepting nomination. We also are grateful to those who made nominations and encouraged people to serve.

Vice-President/President-Elect

Melissa Gonzales

Treasurer

Sylvia Podwika

Executive Board

Carla Alvarez

Amy Belotti

Jeremy Brett

Rebecca Elder

Ada Negraru

Patrice-Andre "Max" Prud'homme

Blake Relle

Rebecca Romanchuk

Zachary Stein

Nominating Committee

Danielle Butler

Penny Castillo

JA Pryse

Claudia Willett

Scholarships Committee

Meagan May

Abbie Weiser

SSA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

AMY MONDT, CA, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Membership Committee is happy to report that we had 93 new members join last year. It is heartwarming to see that so many people are continuing to support SSA and its mission through their membership fees, even during this time of economic hardship and uncertainty. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's virtual conference in May. It will be wonderful to be able to spend some time sharing knowledge and seeing old friends again. Welcome to our new members and thank you to everyone who renewed this past year.

SSA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

LILLY CARREL, PDC COMMITTEE CHAIR

There are currently openings to serve on the Professional Development Committee (PDC)! If you would like to be involved in developing workshops and educational programming for your peers, please contact PDC Chair Lilly Carrel at pdc@southwestarchivists.org to get involved.

PDC partnered with SSA leadership and the Diversity and Outreach Committee to offer *Foundations of Culturally Sensitive Metadata* on January 26, 2021. Led by Dominique Luster and Sam Winn, this workshop was designed to support archives workers in the creation, auditing, or remediation of culturally sensitive metadata.

Annual Meeting workshops for May 2021 will be offered virtually. Workshops will be donation based and announced in the coming weeks. For more information please visit SSA Workshops

<https://www.southwestarchivists.org/home/workshops/>

[#Workshops](#) webpage.

NOLA STREET RENAMING



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

regarding street renaming and Confederate sympathies. We studied Sanborn Maps and compared early city surveys to review when certain neighborhoods were being planned and what names were being proposed. We poured over books analyzing the municipal and public attitudes of the day regarding white supremacist leanings. In line with the general wave of Confederate memorialization occurring across Southern cities in the post-Reconstruction era coupled with the support for the “lost cause” in local government, our research concluded that nearly all of the identified streets had strong ties to the Confederacy.

Our efforts resulted in a 30-page report submitted to the City Council, the Street Renaming Commission, and made available to the public for review. Throughout this process, we were especially mindful to present unbiased arguments based on the materials we were consulting and offer a report that captured as full a narrative as possible of the renaming process and the intent behind it. As archivists, we are charged with providing information to our patrons regardless of their objectives, and to let the information speak for itself. The fact that former New Orleans government officials who were active members of the White League continue to be memorialized through city streets bearing their names is not an opinion; it is a fact that must be acknowledged, addressed, and corrected. We continue to receive reference inquiries regarding our research claims, some in support of renaming streets and some opposed. The information and the access that we provide does not change. This process is ongoing, and we have been contacted by the Commission to perform follow-up research on certain neighborhoods and additional streets; we look forward to seeing how our work will continue to contribute to these important community conversations.

A copy of our report submitted to the New Orleans Street Renaming Commission, is available to view at archives.nolalibrary.org. Questions about this report and research process can be sent to bsilva@nolalibrary.org.



Archivists Andrew Mullins, III and Brittanny Silva with research materials consulted for the Street Renaming Commission.



2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

Don't miss these opportunities to obtain assistance in professional development and annual meeting attendance!

Otis Hebert Jr. Continuing Education Scholarship

In honor of SSA's founding president and intended to further the professional training of working archivists in the Southwest.

John Michael Caldwell Scholarship

Enables an SSA member, or group of members, enrolled in a graduate archival program to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting Scholarship

Created to provide financial aid to an SSA member archivist, or group of archivists, with limited funding to attend the SSA Annual Meeting.

David B. Gracy, II Student Scholarship

Intended to provide book fee and tuition assistance to an SSA student member enrolled in a graduate archival education program at an institution within the SSA region.

Applications open November 15, 2020 through February 15, 2021.

More information and applications are at southwestarchivists.org/scholarships.

Have questions? Need assistance or accessibility intervention? Don't hesitate to email the SSA Scholarships Committee Chair, Jennifer Hecker, at scholarships@southwestarchivists.org.

2021 SSA SCHOLARSHIP SEW-A-THON

JENNIFER HECKER, SSA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR



**2021 SSA Scholarships
SEW-A-THON**

Sign up to sew at
southwestarchivists.org/scholarships

Bid on archivist-made items in the online silent auction at the annual meeting in May.

Howdy folx!

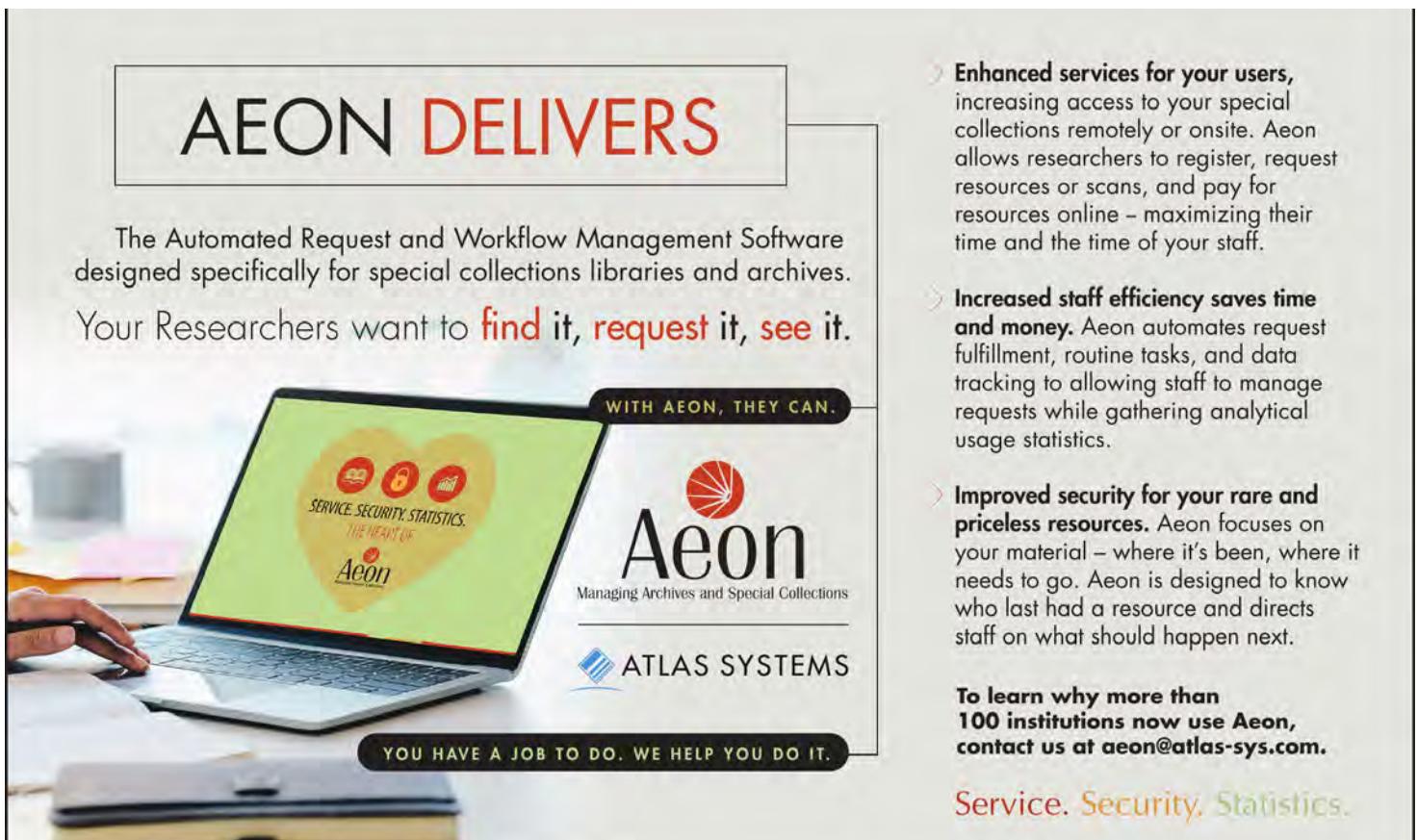
This year's sewing fun(draising) is going to be less prescribed than in past years. Let's get back to the roots of quilting and play in the sustainable creation space! Make whatever you want! Just dig through your fabric stash and sew up something you think your fellow archivists might want to bid on *and make sure you are willing and able to get your item(s) to the winning bidder(s).*

To keep costs low, consider sewing up some baby bibs, or a runner, or some placemats, or coasters, or one of those cool fabric baskets, or a pin cushion, or some reusable lunch bags, or...

The final requirement is that *you need to be able to take a picture or two of your items* so we can post them on our silent auction site. All proceeds go to support SSA Scholarships.

Fill out this form by February 10th to confirm your participation and receive additional info, including links for the totally-not-required, show-up-if-you-want-to virtual meetups on Feb 13, Mar 13, Apr 10, and May 8, 2021.

Questions? Email jenniferraehecker@gmail.com.



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TREASURER'S REPORT

MIKE MILLER, SSA TREASURER & FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR



AmazonSmile is another easy way all of us can help support the Society of Southwest Archivists. It's minimal effort and doesn't cost you a penny.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Every item available for purchase on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) for the same price.

To register, go to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com), log in to your Amazon account, choose Society of Southwest Archivists as the charity you want to support. The product detail page will show "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" if it is a qualifying purchase.

Encourage your friends and family to register to support SSA on [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com).

SSA is an independent 501(c)3, and every donation counts. Please find information about making a donation on the website at <http://southwestarchivists.org/Donations>.

SSA recognizes the following members for their generous contributions to the Society's scholarship funds. Thank you for your contributions and for supporting our peers and emerging archivists!

Paul Scott

Claudia Anderson (David Gracy Fund)

Kay and Robert Bost (David Gracy Fund)

NOMINATIONS NEEDED FOR SSA DSA AWARD

JOSHUA C. YOUNGBLOOD, DSA COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Distinguished Service Award (DSA) Committee invites nominations of an outstanding member of the Society to honor in 2021. The SSA DSA is given to an individual who has made significant contributions both to the Society and to the archival profession. Since 1996, Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc. has sponsored this award, presented to the honoree at the SSA annual meeting during the Saturday morning business meeting. To submit a nomination, please provide the following:

- Brief description of the nominee and their contribution and impact on SSA and the profession (250-word limit);
- Letter(s) of nomination or support for the nominee;
- Up to three (3) supporting documents (E.g. publications or websites).

Please submit the nomination package electronically by emailing it in a PDF format to jcyoungb@uark.edu.

TEXAS CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL LIBRARIES: CALL FOR CONTENT 2021



Join fellow archivists, librarians, and technology staff at the first ever fully virtual Texas Conference on Digital Libraries!

Call for proposals

TCDL brings together those working on digital projects — including outreach and liaison librarians, repository managers, archivists, catalogers, faculty members, technical staff, students, and others — in order to build a practical, usable, and sustainable model for digital libraries. This year by sharing what we have worked on with each other through presentations, posters, games, and lively discussions, we can continue the legacy of being together although we are far apart. We encourage submissions from students, scholars, and professionals in all career or study levels, representing themselves, public and private organizations, and institutions from Texas and beyond.

Submit your proposal at

<https://www.tdl.org/tdl-events/tcdl/tcdl-2021/cfp-tcdl-2021/>.

Registration opens soon! Sign up for TCDL updates at <http://eepurl.com/c8n1nz>.



There's an Award for That



Each year, the TDL Awards honor individuals and groups that have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of digital archives, digital libraries, and their community impact. Award categories cover a range of inspiring possibilities, from Individual Impact to Student Excellence. [Take a few minutes to nominate](#) yourself, a colleague, or a community project that inspires you!

Leadership Skills for Librarians & Archivists

TCDL's Leadership Academy started in 2019 with the goals of building the skills necessary for leading at all levels of the library and to cultivate a cohort of learners who seek a professional community for growth. The positive feedback from the first year's day-long intensive compelled the TCDL Planning Committee to keep this opportunity viable during this unusual time.

This year we are striving for these goals once more through a free webinar series that will run from February through June 2021. By bringing multiple voices to speak on leadership topics such as supporting inclusivity in the library, leading people and projects and interrogating structures that contribute to a lack of diversity in libraries, curating a reading list, and providing a forum for asynchronous discussion among all participants, we hope to cultivate this professional community.

Join us for our first Leadership Academy webinar: Inclusivity in the Library February 25, 2021, from 1pm – 2pm Central.

Registration is free but a Zoom account is required. Learn more and register at <https://www.tdl.org/tdl-events/tcdl/2021-tcdl/tdl-leadership-academy-2021/>



TALK OF THE REGION

Online Video Exhibit Honoring Women's Suffrage Movement

Jennifer Olguin, MLS, Rio Grande Historical Collections Archivist, New Mexico State University Library

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the New Mexico State University Library Archives and Special Collections (ASC) is pleased to announce the debut of the online video exhibit titled "Extraordinary Women: Advocacy, Activism, and Sisterhood." Initially, the plan was to have a physical exhibit installed within Branson Library, but as we all are aware the pandemic shifted plans for many events. ASC explored alternative ideas for the exhibit and decided to create a video to share online. To spread awareness, the video was shared via the NMSU Library Facebook page and with members of the Southern New Mexico Suffrage Alliance (SNMSA). The online effort was well received by campus and community members. We received positive feedback despite not taking the traditional route. The video was also featured in the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Las Cruces chapter newsletter. The AAUW is a non-profit organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. The SNMSA is a nonpartisan organization based in Las Cruces, NM. The alliance's overall mission includes working together with other organizations/institutions to celebrate the Women's Suffrage Movement. The SNMSA visited the ASC to conduct preliminary research for the event and staff within the department were invited to partake in planning and outreach activities. As one of the archivists within the department, I assisted with the planning of a community-wide celebratory event which took place on February 22, 2020. The event occurred just before the knowledge of the spread of COVID-19 and social distancing restrictions. The SNMSA organized an event at the Plaza de Las Cruces in the city's historic downtown, where panelists gathered to discuss the theme "If Every Woman Voted." After the panel session, a peaceful walk around the central arts and business district demonstrated the importance of the women's suffrage movement.

The online exhibit spotlights various women's clubs and notable women that were/are influential to our region. The exhibit features information on the following clubs: The Woman's Improvement Association (W.I.A.), Pan American Round Table, League of Women Voters, Progress Club, American Association of University Women, and the



Image of the Women's Improvement Association Parade, 1944. Branigan Memorial Library Photographs, Ms0001. Image number 00010072. New Mexico State University Library, Archives and Special Collections.

Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.). The clubs featured in the exhibit served as outlets in which women could convene and express their thoughts and ideas to improve the welfare of local citizens. The women's club movement proved to be more than a social movement. The women honored in the exhibition stood together for the greater good of society and ultimately changed the social landscape.

The exhibit can be accessed via YouTube: <https://youtu.be/XKTeFz3qSDo>. For further information email archives@nmsu.edu.

TALK OF THE REGION



Oklahoma Archivists Association Hosts First Virtual Conference

Rachel Henson, Archivist, Carl Albert Congressional Research & Studies Center

The Oklahoma Archivists Association recently hosted their first virtual conference on October 2, 2020. OAA is very thankful to have sponsorship from the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board to have offered free registration for the first 20 non-members which included a year's membership to the Association. Many new members were able to join us because of this generous offer!

OAA 2020: Speak Up! featured a panel discussion, an instructional session, and a member case studies session. The panel, moderated by JA Pryse and featuring Dr. Meta Carstarphen from the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Traci Brynne Voyles also from the University of Oklahoma, and Veronica Pipestem from the Gilcrease Museum, focused on silences in the archives and amplifying marginalized voices in archival collections.

In the afternoon instructional session, Sean Ferguson of the Northeast Document Conservation Center shared best practices for how to collect in the moment and document time-sensitive issues including protests, pandemics, and even parades and festivals. Lastly, several members of the Oklahoma Archivists Association presented on recently completed and ongoing projects from their institutions during the member case studies session.

The poster for the Oklahoma Archivists Association Virtual Annual Meeting 2020 features a yellow background with a blue megaphone icon on the left containing the text "SPEAK UP". In the top right corner is the OAA 2017 logo. The main title "OAKLAHOMA ARCHIVISTS ASSOCIATION VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING 2020" is centered. Below the title, it states "FRIDAY OCTOBER 2, 2020 9:30AM - 3:30PM". A graphic of a clock face indicates that the "FIRST 20 NON-MEMBERS REGISTERED ARE FREE". Registration information is provided: "Register today! - okarchivists.org/2020-2", "Members - FREE Non-Members - \$25", and "Fee includes 1 year membership to OAA". At the bottom, it notes "SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD".

The logo for the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) consists of four small square images: a pair of glasses, a hand holding a document, a document being scanned, and a document being repaired. To the right of these images is the text "NORTHEAST DOCUMENT CONSERVATION CENTER". Below the logo, the text reads "SERVING CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS NATIONWIDE". The services offered are listed as "Conservation Treatment • Digital Imaging Audio Preservation • Training • Resources". At the bottom, the website and phone number are provided: "www.nedcc.org • (978) 470-1010".

TALK OF THE REGION



Archives Blitzin' Y'all: How an Archives Blitz Can Benefit Your Archives

Lilly Carrel, Archivist, The Menil Collection, Menil Archives & Theresa Mayfield, Local History Librarian, Moore Memorial Public

In October 2020, the Archivists of the Houston Area (AHA!) and Moore Memorial Public Library (MMPL) partnered to host Houston's first Archives Blitz to enhance descriptions for eleven oral history interviews. A scalable community archiving event, an archives blitz can be adapted and replicated to suit a wide variety of organizational and collection contexts. Since 1998, AHA has served to increase contact and communication between archivists and people working with records, to provide opportunities for professional development, and to promote archival repositories and activities in the greater Houston, Texas area. As the fourth largest city in the United States, Houston's archival landscape is as diverse and multifaceted as the City itself. From prominent universities to local community archives, institutions vary in size, collection scope, and user base.

After the successful second biennial Houston Archives Bazaar in 2019, AHA! began exploring more ways to engage with the greater Houston area archives community.

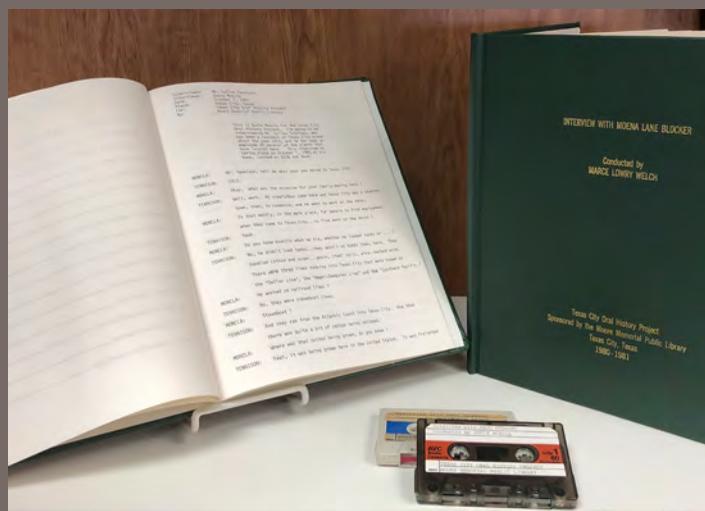
Located in Texas City, Texas, situated along the shores of Galveston Bay 42 miles southeast of Houston, Moore Memorial Public Library was established in 1928. MMPL is the sole public library with a service population of 56,000 people. The Library houses an archive that collects and preserves historically significant material related to the rich history of Texas City. The archives are staffed by a single local history librarian, charged with formalizing an archival program in addition to contributing to routine public library activities.

A partnership between AHA! and MMPL to host an archives blitz was an ideal opportunity to provide meaningful collaboration with a small public library on an archival project.

What is a Blitz?

At its core, an archives blitz is a community processing event that brings together archivists and students to assist local organizations with archival projects. A win-win endeavor that not only provides hands-on archival experience and skill sharing, but also offers a collaborative environment to foster and build relationships. Typically, an in-person, half or full-day event, an archives blitz can address any aspect of archival enterprise and is particularly well

suited for projects such as team processing of small to medium collections, inventorying large audiovisual collections, or rehousing physical material. A successful blitz has meaningful, tangible outcomes for



Texas City Oral History Project, Moore Memorial Public Library

both the host institution and volunteers.

Project Overview and Discussion.

In January 2020, initial discussions between project leads Lilly Carrel (AHA!) and Theresa Mayfield (MMPL) were aimed at creating an in-person Blitz to establish physical and intellectual control over MMPL's Mainland Collection. Before we could move forward with organizing and promoting the Blitz, the COVID-19 pandemic struck. By mid-March, much of Texas was under a lockdown order. In advance of Archives Month, we resumed discussions of offering a Blitz. While an in-person event was still not possible, we adapted the Blitz framework to suit a virtual setting and chose the Texas City Oral History Project as the new initiative.

Started in 1979, the Texas City Oral History Project documents the stories of some of Texas City's earliest residents, politicians, activists, and business leaders during the early-to mid-20th century. The over 50 interviews, conducted through the early 1990's, capture the unique and vital

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TALK OF THE REGION



Archives Blitzin' Y'all (continued from page 19)

stories of daily life and City history including the events and aftermath of the 1947 Texas City Disaster.

While some oral histories are transcribed and cataloged, many are only accessible on fragile audio cassettes. Making the oral history collection accessible is a high priority for MMPL and staff selected the Oral History Metadata Synchronizer (OHMS) platform to create an online digital exhibit. OHMS, developed by the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries, is an open source, web-based application that enhances searchability, indexing, and user experience.

MMPL's goals for the Archives Blitz were for participants to create the metadata displayed in the OHMS Viewer interface including timecodes, segment title and synopsis, keywords, and Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) for at least ten oral history interviews. Additionally, the Blitz would be used to develop practice-based models for future projects and provide a community archiving opportunity for Houston area students and archivists.

To begin, we prepared a test interview in order to work through the process and create a template and resources for Blitz participants. Eleven volunteers signed up to participate. We utilized Google Drive to create and provide access to project folders. Each participant received a digitized transcript and audio file, metadata template, time-keeping log, and a document to write a short biographical history note. Participants were required to attend a training and overview of the project including a tutorial on how to identify and search Library of Congress authorities and discuss MMPL's copyright and potentially offensive or harmful language statements. The Blitz was held across seven days allowing volunteers to work asynchronously to complete their oral history descriptions. Two virtual drop-in "office hours" were offered for answering questions and the Archives Blitz wrapped up with a virtual happy hour.

What We learned.

During the happy hour and in a post event survey, volunteers provided positive and constructive feedback on their experience. Participants overwhelmingly enjoyed the Blitz indicating they would participate in another event. Survey respondents praised the project organization and



Moore Memorial Public Library Oral History

indicated they found the oral histories interesting but noted that the project required more time than first anticipated. Survey results will be used to develop best practices and strategies for future archives blitz events and the blitz-generated data will eventually be migrated to MMPL's OHMS website for public access.

The creative and flexible archives blitz format is a useful model for archival collaboration to accomplish reciprocal goals and foster community engagement.

TALK OF THE REGION



Border Regional Archives Group's Virtual Border Archives Bazaar

Abbie Weiser, CA, The University of Texas at El Paso

On October 29, 2020, the Border Regional Archives Group's (BRAG) annual Border Archives Bazaar went virtual. This four-hour event was broadcast live via Zoom and Facebook Live. The bazaar featured archivists, museum curators, and librarians from southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas discussing topics such as women's rights collections, panoramic photography, historic railroad sites, and library outreach initiatives during the pandemic. The virtual format allowed presenters to take viewers behind-the-scenes of our institutions and to share fragile and rare materials from our collections that we probably would not take to the in-person event. The format also allowed people from outside of our area to attend the Border Archives Bazaar, and helped BRAG publicize the bazaar and our institutions to a wider audience. Throughout the event, BRAG members interacted with attendees and answered their questions about local history and our collections and institutions in the Zoom chat. While we hope to hold the Border Archives Bazaar as a non-virtual event in fall 2021, BRAG was pleased with the turnout and positive response to the online bazaar.

The bazaar included the following presentations:

Panoramic Photography

Elizabeth Villa, New Mexico State University Library Archives & Special Collections

Overview of Archival Collections at WSMR

Jenn Jett, White Sands Missile Range Museum

Virtual Tour of Historic Railroad Sites and Architecture In and Around Downtown El Paso

Prince McKenzie, Railroad and Transportation Museum of El Paso

Mexican Broadsides from Ciudad Juárez

Dennis Daily, New Mexico State University Library Archives & Special Collections

Menu and Cookbook Collections at UTEP Special Collections

Claudia Rivers, CA, University of Texas at El Paso Library Special Collections

Behind the Scenes at NMSU Special Collections

Dylan McDonald, CA, New Mexico State University Library Archives & Special Collections

Archival Resources of the Doña Ana County Clerk's Office

Angelica Valenzuela, Doña Ana County Clerk and Recorder's Office

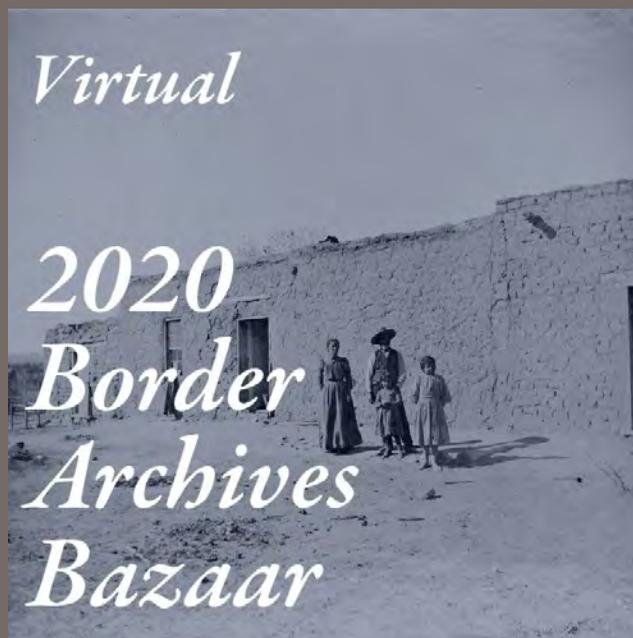
The Journal of Astronaut Gordo Cooper

Sue Taylor, New Mexico Museum of Space History

Tiny Books

Regina Bouley Sweeten, Eastern New Mexico University Golden Library

Claudia Rivers, University of Texas at El Paso Library Special Collections



Photography Talk

David Flores, University of Texas at El Paso Library Special Collections

Bringing Local History to Life through Mandy the Mule

Claudia Ramirez, El Paso Public Library Border Heritage Center

Sharing Favorite Items from Our Collections with Discussion and Q&A

Border Regional Archives Group Members

The 2020 Border Archives Bazaar is available to view [here](#). For more information about the Border Regional Archives Group and our activities, please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BRarchives>.

REPOSITORY NEWS



The New Orleans Cemetery Database

Howard Margot, Curator, The Historic New Orleans Collection

The New Orleans Cemetery Database (<https://www.hnoc.org/database/cemetery/index.php>), the most recent online archival offering from The Historic New Orleans Collection (THNOC), was created in collaboration with Tulane University and Save Our Cemeteries Inc. (SOC) using cemetery-related records housed at THNOC. Currently data are available from surveys of St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 (est. 1789) and St. Louis Cemetery No. 2 (1823) created by THNOC, SOC, and the University of New Orleans (UNO) 1981-1983, with additional condition reports from a 2010-2012 survey of St. Louis No. 2 by the University of Pennsylvania's historic preservation graduate program. St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 and No. 2 were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, and were added to the African American Heritage Trail by the State of Louisiana in 2008. Square 3 of St. Louis Cemetery No. 2 is considered the largest assemblage of African American memorial monuments in the United States.

The cemeteries of New Orleans are among its most significant historical and cultural artifacts. For nearly as long as there have been visitors to New Orleans, they have been drawn to its "Cities of the Dead." In the mid-19th century descriptions of them appeared in serial publications like Harper's Weekly and books by authors such as Mark Twain and Frederika Bremer. By



St. Louis Cemetery No. 1, Tomb 347: Glapion Family "Tomb of Marie Laveau" (THNOC: mss360.8.438)

St-Louis-II free-standing tomb 258

<< RETURN TO TOMB RESULTS

Cemetery: St-Louis-II
Square: 3
Tomb Number: 258
Tomb Type: free-standing tomb
Archdiocesan Tomb Number: ANO1L_R21

Pediment: Sisters Of The Holy Family
Description: Pediment To Society Tomb. Two Upper Rows Blank, Bottom Row Inscribed. Bottom Left Closure Tablet. Bottom Middle Closure Tablet. Bottom Right Closure Tablet.
Language of Inscription: English

Material or Condition: marble;

MAP IT >>

Memorialized

- Birmingham, Mary Eusebia
- Elizabeth, Mary
- Goodman, Mary Philip
- Hypolite, Eugene
- Hypolite, Eugene (Wid.)
- Hypolite, Eulalie

Photos

Online record for St. Louis Cemetery No. 2, Square 3, Tomb 258: One of two tombs this square for the Sisters of the Holy Family, founded by free woman of color Henriette de Lille in 1837.

the late 1800s it was common for guidebooks to tout the picturesque qualities of the city's oldest cemeteries; early New Orleans postcards featured 'Gothic' images of the decaying tombs.

In 1974 a demolition of expansive wall vaults in St. Louis No. 2 planned by the Archdiocese of New Orleans led to the creation of SOC, one of the oldest such organizations in the U.S., which worked and lobbied successfully to halt the demolition (and ultimately restore the vaults). Soon thereafter, THNOC committed to supporting the Survey of Historic New Orleans Cemeteries, envisioned by D. Clive Hardy of UNO, to document nine cemeteries – variously maintained by the Archdiocese, city government, and benevolent organizations – whose continued existence was then very much in doubt: St. Louis No. 1 and No. 2, Lafayette No. 1 and No. 2, St. Joseph No. 1 and No. 2, Odd Fellows, Greenwood, and Cypress Grove. The survey is comprised of black-and-white photos of each

Continued on page 23

REPOSITORY NEWS

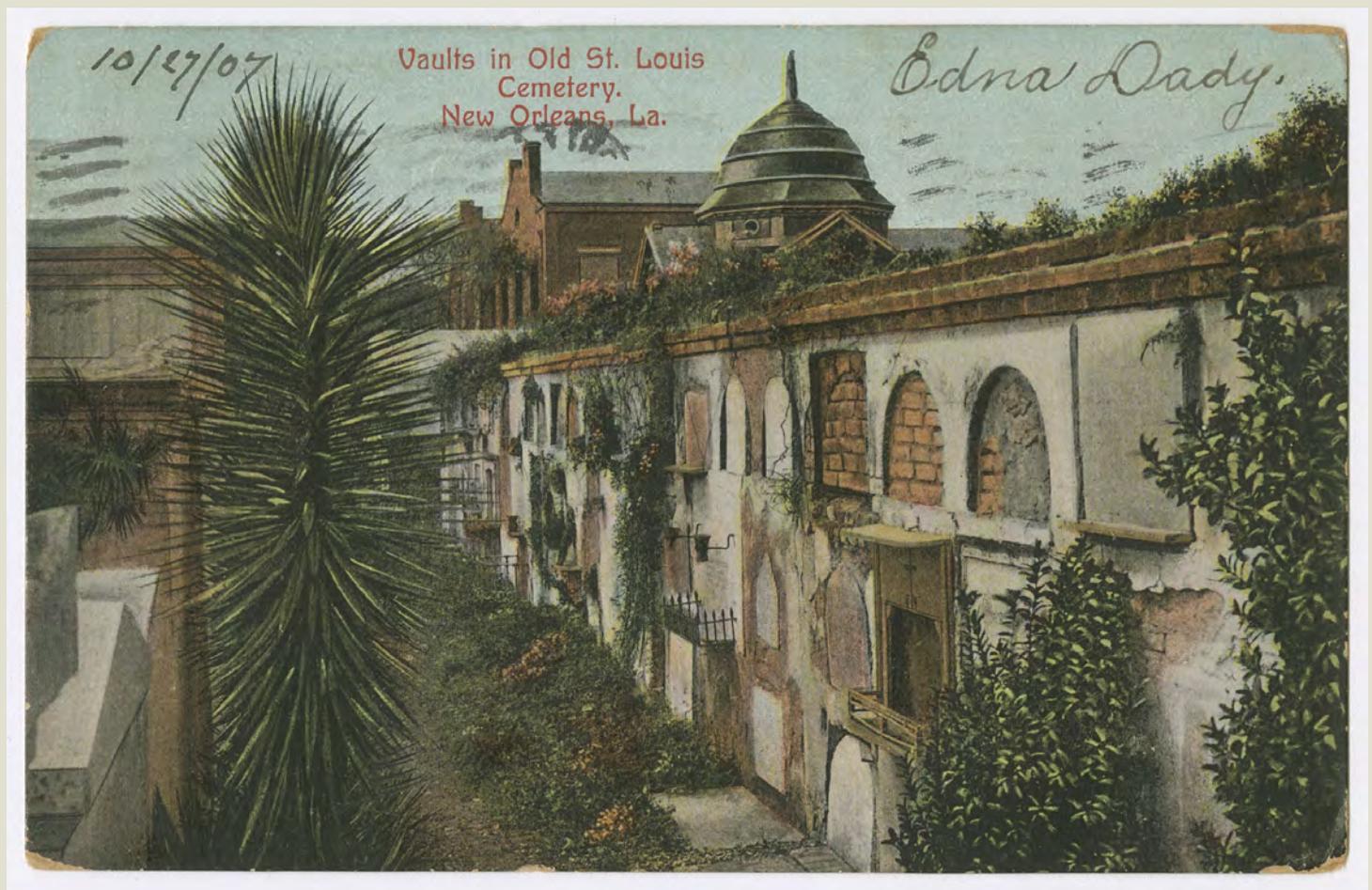


The New Orleans Cemetery Database (continued from page 22)

tomb, transcriptions of data engraved on pediments and closure tablets, and material/condition reports. Thanks in part to this project and the concern raised in the community, none of the nine were demolished.

THNOC began digitizing the 1980s survey in 2012. In 2013-2014, graduate interns from the École nationale des chartes in Paris developed a beta version of the database. Over the next few years data from index cards, beginning with St. Louis No. 1 and No. 2., were entered by students from Tulane's Center for Public Service and by SOC staff and volunteers.

In 2017, a further collaboration was established among THNOC, Tulane School of Architecture, and SOC – with funding from the Christovich Excellence Fund for Historic Preservation and in partnership with Tulane Law School – to flesh out the beta and build the current database. Researchers may now explore the data and photos via a variety of searchable data elements, including names of the memorialized (almost 10,000), dates of birth and death, places of origin, military service, and physical/architectural characteristics of tombs. The database includes a bibliographic resource guide, and employs GIS mapping technology that allows users to access individual tomb data via geocoded aerial photos. The interactive mapping of St. Louis No. 1 and No. 2 was provided by Gambrel & Peak historic preservation consulting company. Manuscript maps of the cemeteries were provided by New Orleans Catholic Cemeteries and the Archdiocese.



Chapel tomb and "oven vaults" demolished when Basin Street was extended through St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 in the 1920s (THNOC: 1989.77.45)

REPOSITORY NEWS



Dorothy Hood Papers Available for Research: University of Houston Special Collections

Katy Allred, University of Houston Special Collections

The Dorothy Hood Papers are fully processed and available for research use at the University of Houston Special Collections. It took nearly two decades for the Dorothy Hood Papers to make their way to the University of Houston. The Art Museum of South Texas acquired several of Hood's works and her papers in 2001 from Hood's partner at the time of her death, Dr. Krishna Dronamraju. Fifteen years later, the Art Museum of South Texas exhibited Hood's works in a retrospective titled "The Color of Being: El Color del Sur", curated by Susie Kalil, who wrote an accompanying book of the same name. The University of Houston acquired the papers of Dorothy Hood from the Art Museum of South Texas in 2019.

Dorothy Hood was born in Bryan, Texas on August 22, 1918. She received a 4-year scholarship to attend Rhode Island School of Design, where she studied from 1937 to 1940. Hood moved to Mexico in 1941, where she met José María Velasco Maidana, a Bolivian composer, conductor, and director who she married in 1946. Her early works while living in Mexico included small oil and gouache paintings as well as ink drawings that showcased intricate linework. Hood and Velasco Maidana moved back to Texas in the 1961. Once settled in Houston, Hood's personal style began to evolve. Her canvases got larger and her color palette became more saturated and vibrant. These large-scale abstract oil paintings are some of her most recognizable and put her on the map in the Houston art scene.

Her career thrived beginning in the 1970s, but she struggled to reach the level of recognition she felt she deserved outside of Texas. Her works have been exhibited at dozens of museums and galleries, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, Texas, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York, the Everson Museum, Syracuse, New York, and the Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi. She began working in collage in her later years and remained a fixture of the Houston art set for the rest of her life. Dorothy Hood died after battling breast cancer on October 28, 2000.

The Dorothy Hood Papers paint a picture of the burgeoning art scene in Houston in the last half of the 20th century and demonstrate the triumphs and

difficulties of a lifelong career as one of only a few prominent female artists in Texas at that time. The collection is arranged into 11 series: Correspondence, Exhibition Materials, Writings, Photographs, Scrapbooks, Early Life, Family Materials, Publicity and Press, Realia, Financial Materials, and Publications. Eight boxes of correspondence document both her professional and personal life. Contacts of note include Houston gallerist Meredith Long, who represented her from the 1960s to the 1990s, Dorothy Canning Miller, the first female curator of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, New York, and art critic Clement Greenberg. There is a wealth of correspondence between Hood and dozens of galleries, museums, collectors, and other art institutions and figures in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and abroad. Her writings include poetry by Hood as well as drafts of her unpublished manuscript, "Multiple Mirrors". The exhibition materials and publicity and press document Hood's art career and her impact on the Texas art world.

This collection has value for researchers interested in Texas art history, Texas female artists, 20th century American art history, and Houston cultural history. The University of Houston Special Collections is currently open by appointment; for more information, please contact Christian Kelleher at cdkelleher@uh.edu.



REPOSITORY NEWS



Ivory and Lennie Moore Collection Now Available for Research

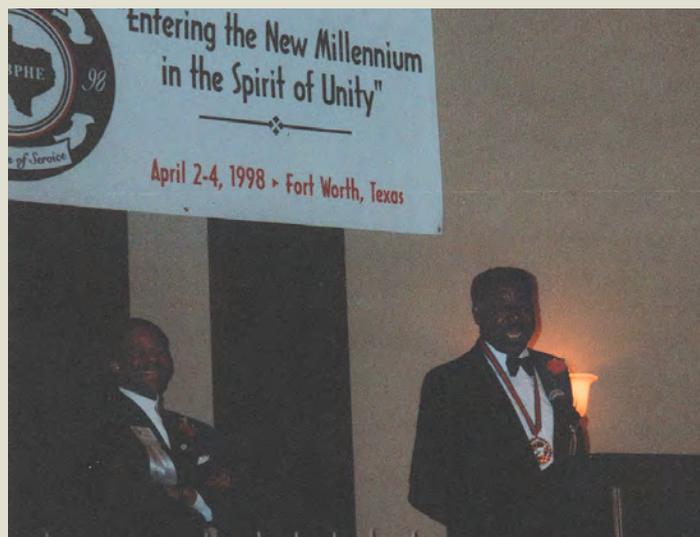
Sawyer Magnus, Texas A&M University-Commerce

The Special Collections and University Archives at Texas A&M University-Commerce contains materials that document the experiences of the students, faculty, and staff of the university as well as collections that focus on local history and the wider community. Certain individuals have had a profound impact on the history of the university and the community. Two such people are Ivory Moore, the first Black Administrator for the university, and his wife Lennie. We are pleased to announce in conjunction with Black History Month, the completion of arrangement and availability of the Ivory and Lennie Moore Collection.



Image of Ivory and Lennie Moore ca. 1950 (Ivory and Lennie Moore Collection, collection 2012.01, Velma K. Waters Library Special Collections, Texas A & M University-Commerce.)

Ivory Moore developed passions for education and athletics early in life in Oklahoma. He attended Langston University on a basketball scholarship and even spent two years with the western team of the Harlem Globetrotters. He taught and coached football and basketball for multiple high schools and later became Vice Principal at Washington High School in Wichita Falls, Texas, and Hirschi High School in the same city after desegregation.



Moore became the first Black administrator at East Texas State University, now Texas A&M University-Commerce, when he accepted the position of Assistant to the President and Coordinator of Minority Affairs (later the Dean of Minority Affairs) in 1972, and he left a lasting legacy. He created the proposal for and received the grant that established the MACH III/Student Support Services program at the university. He helped organize the Upward Bound program to help prepare high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds for higher education. He also supported many student organizations and helped guide minority students striving for equitable treatment. Perhaps most significantly, in 1973 Moore founded and organized the Texas Association for Black Professionals in Higher Education (TABPHE). He served the organization as president and executive secretary for over 20 years.

Ivory Moore was equally involved with the community and civic organizations. He was the first African American elected as a commissioner for the City of Commerce, Texas and served the city as Mayor for two years. He actively participated in the NAACP and established the ACTSO student program for the Texas chapter of the organization. Moore received statewide appointments to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and the Sulphur River Basin Authority. Locally, he was involved with the Kiwanis Club, Boys and Girls Club, Chamber of Commerce, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, and other groups. He organized the annual Juneteenth celebration in Commerce and wrote a weekly column for the local newspaper title *Town and Gownt* that discuss topics of interest for the university and community.

Continued on page 26

REPOSITORY NEWS



Ivory and Lennie Moore Collection Now Available for Research (continued from page 25)



Ivory and Lennie organized the annual Juneteenth celebration in Commerce, which was often very well attended. (Ivory and Lennie Moore Collection, collection 2012.01, Velma K. Waters Library Special Collections, Texas A & M University-Commerce.)

Lennie Moore was very influential in her own right. She arrived at Langston University, where she and Ivory met, by way of Shreveport, Louisiana. She was a high school teacher before joining the MACH III program at East Texas State as a counselor and instructor. She also served as the special services curriculum coordinator. Lennie Moore served Mt. Moriah Baptist Church as a deaconess, helped coordinate the local chapter of the Boys and Girls Club, and participated in local political and social organizations. Ivory and Lennie spent a significant amount of time working to develop the Norris Community in Commerce and Neylandville, two historically Black communities.

The collection contains personal and professional documents, correspondence, artifacts, photographs, and ephemera that document the lives of Ivory and Lennie Moore and their family. Among some of the more interesting items are draft copies of the *Town and Gown* articles, personal scrapbooks, political organization documents, and photos with such well-known individuals as Alex Haley, James Earl Jones, and Martin Luther King III.

To learn more about the Ivory and Lennie Moore Collection please visit our website or email us at atarchives@tamuc.edu.

REPOSITORY NEWS



Before and After: Newly Restored Badge Photos from the Los Alamos National Laboratory's Original Workforce

Mott Linn, National Security Research Center Chief Librarian



If a picture is worth a thousand words, a recent large-scale restoration project yielded about 1.4 million — not to mention a lot of refreshed faces.

The badge photos of over 1,400 Manhattan Project workers — including our most-famous scientists J. Robert Oppenheimer, Emilio Segrè and others — had 75-plus years of built-up grime on them. Adhesive tape residue, bits of mounting materials, and environmental filth, like dust, had caused many of these historic images to discolor.

So, the Lab's National Security Research Center executed its first large-scale restoration project to repair and further preserve these valuable pieces of Los Alamos history. Had the restoration work not been performed, the badge photos would have continued to deteriorate.



The photos are part of the collections in the National Security Research Center (NSRC), which is the Lab's classified library. The NSRC also houses many unclassified pieces of the Lab's history, which are also curated by its team of specialists.

"These photos are an important part of the Lab's past," said NSRC Senior Historian Alan Carr. "The Manhattan Project was the start of the Lab we know today. Plus, that workforce was the first to dedicate themselves to our national security mission."

Photos before and after treatment of Emilio Segrè, the Nobel Laureate physicist. Note the part of the emulsion at the top of his head that had been torn off.

Photos before and after treatment of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the Los Alamos National Laboratory's first director

NSRC Director Riz Ali added that the project "is just one example of our preservation work. The NSRC has millions of materials in almost every medium imaginable, so whether it's pictures of staff, films of test shots or blueprints of engineering drawings, we're working to ensure the Lab's legacy materials are accessible now and always."

Restoring, preserving

The badge photos were taken in batches to a conservator, Roger Joyce, in Santa Fe. Joyce cleaned each photo, removed stains and placed them in protective archival sleeves. It takes anywhere from about 10-30 minutes to clean each badge photo.

The badge photo that was most transformed was of Emilio Segrè, the Nobel Laureate physicist and Manhattan Project group leader. Part of Segrè's forehead was torn off and stuck to a piece of tape. Joyce was able to repair it to its near-original state. The badge photos will now be protected indefinitely from future damage.

High standards, proven protocol

This photo restoration project will serve as a model going forward for other valuable materials that may need to be restored, preserved and used by the Lab, Ali said.

The NSRC's houses the world's most comprehensive collection of nuclear weapons and national security materials dating back to the Manhattan Project. The tens of millions of materials are in a variety of media, including microfiche, microfilm, video, cassettes and notebooks; staff makes them accessible to Lab staff in support of their mission work. "We want to ensure our history doesn't literally disappear, be it badges photos or weapons data," Ali said. Meanwhile, the next time you see Segrè, Oppenheimer or others from the original staff, they will look better than they have in decades.

REPOSITORY NEWS



The Sounds of History – Open Access Audiovisual Program: A Political Culture Laboratory for Students and the Community

JA Pryse, Senior Archivist III, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center

The [Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center](#) (Center) is a unique and nonpartisan institution that strengthens representative democracy through scholarship, learning, and service. Established in 1979 by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, the Center is a living tribute to the ideals, leadership, and accomplishments of the Honorable Carl Albert, native Oklahoman, University of Oklahoma alumnus, Rhodes Scholar, 46th Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Over the last three years, the Center's Archive has received numerous accolades, grants, and private support to advance technological abilities of the archive and to improve collection accessibility. University budget limitations have created potential impairment to aging analog materials within the Center's rare collections. As analog materials degrade, it is imperative to address the preservation life cycle of these items. With support from the [Oklahoma Humanities and the National Endowment of the Humanities](#), the Center's Archive has been awarded the opportunity to finalize the construction of the Audiovisual Laboratory (AV Lab) based at Monnet Hall on the University of Oklahoma's campus, in Norman, Oklahoma.

The evolution of technological delivery mechanisms creates an opportunity to not only upgrade existing programs but to expand this knowledge to the student body through supervised, specialized, accessibility to an *open (by reservation)* AV Lab. Anticipating and adapting to change, within the structural advancement of digital creation, a 'failsafe' plan is *critical* to the preparation of analog items for longevity, migration to new technology and accessibility. Likewise, consistency of policies and preservation of long-term digital planning will act as a governor for future programming both at the Center and within the OU School of Library and Information Science.

Within the Center's Congressional Collections, are over 6,000 obsolete analog audio items. One such analog audio collection, the [Joe Foote Collection](#), holds the [firsthand account of Speaker Carl Albert's reaction to Nixon's resignation in 1974](#). Joe Foote, was the Chief Media spokesman for the Speaker and recorded a free flow of thought and words from the Speaker and others. Political Science instructors, students, and members in office, have utilized the collections to develop speeches, formal media, publications, and much more. The endless opportunities of information exploration are unique to the CAC.

Throughout the audio collections are personal accounts, often 'off-record', which introduces a multimedia experience into the



With funding from the Oklahoma Humanities the Center has compiled equipment to digitize and preserve quality audio files with many obsolete playback machines.

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daily life of front-line political public service representatives. The collection includes notable Oklahomans as well as notable national figures such as:

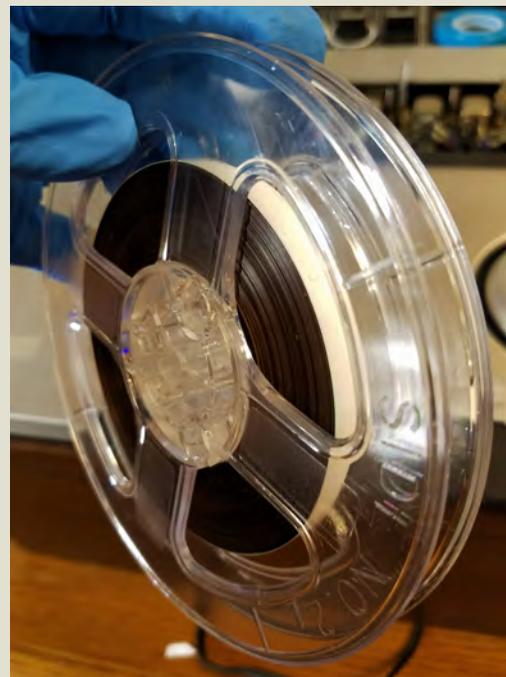
- **Presidents:** Gerald Ford, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton
- **Governors:** Dewey Bartlett, Henry Bellmon, Robert S. Kerr, J. Howard Edmondson, George Nigh, David Hall, David Boren, David Walters
- **Speakers of the House:** John W. McCormack, Carl Albert, Tip O'Neil
- **Senators:** Elmer Thomas, Josh Lee, Edward Moore, Fred Harris, Mike Monroney
- **Astronauts:** Gordon Cooper, Tom Stafford, William Pogue, John Herrington

The Center's preservation and digitization program successfully contributes to the public's access to these historically significant (rare) multimedia formats. The Center's collections are the embodiment of first-hand history in the words of the men and women themselves. Students from grade school age through post-doctoral status will have a chance to listen to the tones, inflections, and the actual words spoken from the comfort of the classroom, home, office or personal computer. The opportunity to work with multiple departments and organizations allows for an expansive source of otherwise irretrievable materials.

With direction from the Center's Senior Archivist, JA Pryse, curricula and workflow to engage and educate potential audiovisual archivists and librarians has been created and implemented (Summer 2020). Pryse, concomitantly, works as an adjunct professor for the University of Oklahoma's library program and has direct contact with both internal and external students, as well as various colleges on campus, such as: Journalism and Communications, History, and Museum Studies. The AV laboratory allows for deepening the level of knowledge and understanding, giving students an advantage of *practical experience* with AV materials, which allows for consideration for future career paths.



(L) The Center has some of the earliest tape-based dictation reels manufactured in the early 1960s by Grundig. The 1/4-inch tape is a single reel with 45 minutes of recording time. The rarity of the tapes requires specialized handling and care.



(R) This is the cleaned and re-housed, preservation, copy of the rare Grundig dictation reel.

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Pryse's prior AV projects include preservation and digitization of a wide range of rare AV formats found in most archival collections and are at great risk for deterioration. Notable projects include:

- The creation of a unique preservation system to restore and digitize transcription disc from the 1947, for St. Luke's Methodist Church in Oklahoma City:
<https://www.japryse.com/behind-the-scenes-transcription-disc>;
- Restoration of a 1920 Webster-Chicago Wire Recorder (named Big Bertha) and subsequent preservation and digitization of 1920-1950's wire recordings, housed at the Oklahoma Historical Society:
<https://www.japryse.com/behind-the-scenes-wire-recorders>;
- The Martha Royce Blaine Collection of mixed media (magnetic reel-to-reel and cassette tapes), housed at the Oklahoma Historical Society: <https://bit.ly/3kDWHNb>;
- Thousands of recorded sound from various formats (glass discs, transcription tape, wax cylinders, acetate, shellac, and vinyl discs).

The Center's AV laboratory will also act as a valuable resource for local museums, archives, and libraries to professionally preserve and digitize obsolete materials. Our process adheres to "Standards and Best Practices" guidelines as set forth by the International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA), (AES) and the United States Library of Congress. Currently, we are offering services on a case-by-case basis. Please visit our website for more information: <https://www.ou.edu/carlabertcenter/congressional-collection/using-the-collections>



(This is a 33-1/3 rpm black acetate on aluminum, single sided 16" radio transcription discs featuring 1 full program of "Senator Kerr for President" on the air recorded by Omaha Recording Company. This program dates to March 26, 1952.



This is the AT-LP120XUSB Stereo Turntable purchased with funding from the Oklahoma Humanities Grant. The apparatus contains multiple specialized needles for most obsolete sound materials.

LEADERSHIP LOG

KRISHNA SHENOY, ASSISTANT EDITOR, CO-CHAIR PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE



Rebecca Hankins successfully re-certified for the Academy of Certified Archivists-2020-2025.

She and Balthazar Beckett, Ph.D. published the article “Joseph Cinque: Reframing and Reclaiming the Muslim Presence in the Amistad Revolt,” [The Muslim World](#), Volume 110, Issue 3, pp 291-409, November 15, 2020. DOI:10.1111/muwo.12347. This special issue titled *Black Muslim Portraiture in the Modern Atlantic* is edited by Temple University Professor Zain Abdullah, Ph.D.

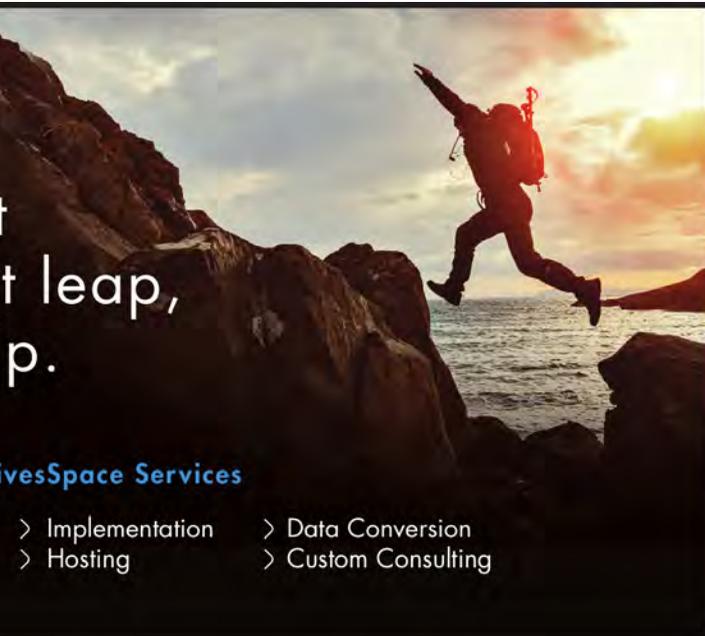
In addition, the book *Religion in Quarantine* edited by TAMU Prof. Heidi Campbell which includes Hankin’s essay “Practicing Islam in the time of COVID-19,” was named Outstanding Book in 2020 by the Spiritual Communication Division of the National Communication Association (NCA). NCA is the leading national professional association that focuses on scholarship in Communication and Media which takes a Religious Studies approach.

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