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Archives Notes

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ARCHIVE NOTES

The Society's Second Annual Workshop on Archives and Records will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 22-23, on the campus of Georgia State University in Atlanta. Among the topics planned for discussion in sessions of sixty to ninety minutes each are exhibits, oral history, low-budget preservation techniques, grant funds, audio-visual arrangement and preservation, legal problems in archives, collecting principles and policies, research uses of archives and manuscripts, and filing systems and finding aids. The registration fee, including two meals, as well as basic registration, will total $20.00.

For further information, contact Mr. Peter Schinkel, SGA Workshop Committee Chairman, Georgia Department of Archives and History, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

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Frank Cook, Chairman of the Society of American Archivists' Committee on Regional Archival Activity writes that his Committee would like to meet every member of a regional organization it can at the annual meeting in Toronto. After its regular meeting, open to everyone, from 1:30 to 4:30 PM on Tuesday, October 1, the Committee will hold a general meeting to discuss, among other topics: (1) liaison and cooperation between regional organizations and the SAA to deal with issues of mutual concern, (2) problems faced by newsletter editors, particularly, the meeting of readers' needs, and (3) the possibility of regional organizations and the SAA jointly sponsoring symposia or workshops. This informal gathering is designed to give individual members of the regional groups a chance to offer recommendations for the SAA to explore. More details on this meeting will be supplied in the program and in the registration packet. By all means, attend if you can.
The Fort Valley State College plans the introduction of a four-year, undergraduate degree program in Historical Administration which will be unique as, in so far as known, no similar program exists anywhere in the United States. The inception of the program is scheduled for the 1974-1975 academic year.

This program, an internal part of the History Department, will train graduates to work in archives, in historical site establishment and preservation, and in federal, state, and local historical societies and museums. The main curriculum problem relates to developing the proper balance between broad, general background courses and specific technical courses. Fifteen credit hours will be required in an intern experience in the senior year.

The Fort Valley State College would appreciate opportunities to share ideas and experiences with others interested in this type of curriculum development. Contact Dr. D. D. Bellamy, Chairman, Department of History, Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030.

Mrs. Calvin J. Kiah takes a back seat to no one in her pursuit of useful knowledge. She is the founder and director of the fifteen-year-old Kiah Museum of Savannah—a Museum for the Masses—that displays exhibits ranging from rare objects of furniture and silver from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, to aeons-old fossils, to sculpture and paintings. Mrs. Kiah describes the Museum as a "mini, mini Smithsonian Institute," for she collects in every field she can. Among the holdings of particular interest to SGA members are printed items of Afro-Americana from the Harmon Foundation and an extensive correspondence concerning the care of museum materials and the filing and preserving of paintings. In the Marie Dressler Collection, the Kiah Museum holds a number of photographs of the actress and her colleagues, and other personal affects.

Mrs. Kiah has been particularly concerned about
the preservation of paper and canvass, since her museum holds both paper records and paintings. Some of the information she has obtained, she graciously shared with the last issue of GEORGIA ARCHIVE. Mrs. Kiah invites correspondence and visits to the Museum (admission free), 505 West 36th Street, Savannah 31401.

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The Georgia Commission for the National Bicentennial Celebration has published Georgia Heritage: Documents of Georgia History, 1730-1790. The boxed portfolio, prepared by the Georgia Department of Archives and History, consists of eighty-eight "plates" containing reproductions of original source materials from Georgia history. Some documents are accompanied by brief explanatory notes. The portfolio may be ordered for $5.00 from Georgia Heritage Portfolio, Georgia Commission for the NBC, Suite 520--South Wing, 1776 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30309.

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-- HR 15818, introduced into the United States House of Representatives on July 10, calls for combining the functions of the National Historic Publications Commission (NHPC) and the proposed National Historic Records Commission (NHRC) [GEORGIA ARCHIVE, Spring, 1973, p. 31] into the National Historic Publications and Records Commission. The proposed Commission would not only continue the publications program of the NHPC, but also provide more than $2 million to implement the program of the NHRC to assist in systematic preservation of historic records and in making them available through appropriate finding aids. Representatives of the Society of American Archivists and of the American Association for State and Local History spoke in favor of the legislation during hearings held on July 16.

-- Indiana Senator Birch Bayh has introduced a bill--S. 2951--to establish the public ownership of all papers generated by the President, the Vice President, and members of the House and Senate in the conduct of their public business. In its present form, the proposal would require
the named officials within 180 days of leaving office to give the National Archives all documents and papers generated in the pursuit of their public duties. One purpose of the measure is to close the loophole in the 1969 act that permits officials to sell their papers.

Some archivists favor the measure as a step in the right direction. Others oppose it as being improper to require that the papers of Congressmen be placed in the National Archives and as creating an impediment to making the Presidential Papers public at the earliest possible time. A discussion of the issue and the text of the bill are printed in the American Archivist (April, 1974), 357-360.

Whatever your opinion, express it. The issue concerns us all.

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The SAA Council has endorsed a resolution in support of the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, published by the Library of Congress. The resolution points out that only about three-fifths of the nation's archival repositories have contributed information about any of their holdings to NUCMC and that at least 10,000 collections remain unreported. We join with the Council in urging support of the NUCMC program, for whatever its faults, it remains an unsurpassed source of information on the existence and holdings of the repositories in this country. For more information, write Arline Custer, Editor, NUCMC, Descriptive Cataloging Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. 20540.

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The National Association of State Archives and Records Management Administrators was formed at a meeting in St. Louis in July. Under president Bob Williams of Florida, vice president Charles Lee of South Carolina and executive director A. K. Johnson of Atlanta (SGA member) the organization will give state agencies a channel for the exchange of information and the development of programs to meet their common challenges, and provide the members a
common voice on problems of mutual interest. The Association will meet annually with each state sending five delegates.

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The Smithsonian Institution has available for two-week loan at no charge series of slide presentations on conservation. Aimed at historical societies and small museums, the series includes a presentation on conservation of paper. Write Elena Borosky, Conservation Information Program, Office of Museum Programs, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

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The need to preserve photographic materials is urgent, and particularly so in this Bicentennial period when we as a nation are focusing on views of our past. Archivists and collectors heretofore have relied on the services of commercial studios and photo-finishers, though their work is expensive and often not of archival permanence, to save and restore fading or damaged photographs. This need be so no longer. Two firms now specialize in photographic services for archivists: The East Street Gallery, Grinnell, Iowa, 50112, and Archival Photographic Services, 1112 Virginia Avenue, Atlanta 30306.

Archival Photographic Services is the newer of the two, having been established this year by Alan T. Clark, a New Englander of wide-ranging experience and impeccable credentials in photographic preservation, who came South for the climate.

We asked Alan what was the most common problem archivists faced in the preservation of photographs and what could be done about it.

"Nitrocellulose photographic materials pose a real and eminent threat to the preservation of photographic history. As is true for paper documents, it is not enough to collect photographic materials and store them in an archives. They must be treated to insure their permanence. This is particularly true of materials made before 1951, as most
were made from various forms of nitrocellulose compounds which are chemically unstable.

"Nitrocellulose materials were introduced in photography as early as 1840, and continued to be used until 1951. Nitrate compounds were used to make light-sensitive emulsions which were applied to glass plates and to papers before films were commercially available. Later, nitrate was used in the flexible backing which the emulsion was applied to, making cameras like the box, or "Kodak," camera possible. Cellulose acetate or safety film was introduced in the 1930s for use in amateur cameras, but nitrate materials were still used in the professional sheet film and in 35mm films. It was not until 1951 that cellulose acetate entirely replaced nitrate materials throughout the photographic and motion picture industry.

"The problems in preservation of nitrocellulose materials are twofold. First, the materials are flammable and may ignite spontaneously in temperatures exceeding 100 F. Second, the aging of the material invokes gross physical changes: the negative materials become sticky and eventually disintegrate. The signs of decomposition in nitrocellulose materials accelerate their own decomposition and hasten the odor (nitrogen dioxide). The gasses given off by nitrate materials accelerate its own decomposition and hasten the decomposition of materials stored in the same container or in the vicinity. Eastman Kodak has estimated the life expectancy of nitrate materials to be approximately forty years, depending upon storage conditions. This means that most photographic materials manufactured before 1951 are guaranteed to have a limited future existence."

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Every issue of GEORGIA ARCHIVE since the first one has carried an excerpt from the "Dear Archivist: I Need Help" column of the Newsletter of the Midwest Archives Conference. This issue is no exception. And we would like to acknowledge the invaluable contribution of Jacqueline Haring of Knox College who prepares this column. Her straight-forward, informative contribution has made a potentially complex subject understandable to every layman, and we are deeply grateful. (GEORGIA ARCHIVE has not run all of the items printed in the column, and we suggest interested persons

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obtain their own subscription to the *Newsletter* by writing the editor: Rev. Thomas F. Elliott, Archivist, Indiana Province of Holy Cross Fathers, 1304 East Jefferson Boulevard, South Bend, Indiana 46617.)

Q. When old Scotch tape has become sticky, is there any way to remove it and the sticky residue without risking tearing the paper it is attached to?

A. Energine will dissolve this sticky adhesive and also help remove the tape. Other cleaning fluids may work too, but Energine is so successful, I have always stayed with that. (The odor will dissipate soon.) Energine can be bought in most super-markets, drug or hardware stores.

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Once the mending of documents that were torn and frayed and filled with holes was a laborious, tedious, hand process. It need not be so any longer. A conservator at Hebrew University in Israel has designed a machine called a "reurator," which does the work in a minute or two. After the operator has cleaned and deacidified the paper, and determined the fiber content and quantity needed, the machine produces it and fills the damaged area with precision. The director of the New England Document Conservation Center, George Cunha, labels the reurator "one of the most revolutionary developments in paper restoration." Only two machines, costing $9,500 each, have so far been ordered for use in the United States, one at the Library of Congress, the other at the New England Center in North Andover, Massachusetts.

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-- Ultraviolet rays emitted by standard flourescent lamps can cause irreparable damage to paper whether manuscripts, books, or newspapers. A filter sleeve that slips over any standard-size flourescent lamp to absorb UV rays is now available. The Arm-A-Lite transparent filter ray sleeve shields without altering light efficiency. Said to be good for 25 years, it comes complete with black-light-proof end clamps.
Order from Thermoplastic Processes, Inc., Valley Road, Stirling, New Jersey 07980

-- A desk-top copier that proofs a full 17" x 24" newspaper page is being marketed by Mita Copystar America, Inc., 158 River Road, Clifton, New Jersey 07014.

-- The xerox corporation has developed a fluorescent-dye spray for documents to make them uncopyable on many photocopy machines. The coating throws back a confusing flash in the bright copying light. The possibilities are ominous, but surely someone will invent a solution to undo what the first solution does, thus starting an "arms race" for the photocopy set. Marketing plans have not been announced yet.

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-- Karen D. Monroe Gilbert, Picture Indexing for Local History Materials (Library Research Associates, Dunderberg Road, Monroe, New York, 1973), 36 pages, $2.70, describes the system used at the Newark, New Jersey Public Library.

-- William K. Jones, "The Exhibit of Documents: Preparation, Matting and Display Techniques," is Technical Leaflet 75 from the American Association for State and Local History. Copies are bound into the June, 1974, issue of History News, or may be obtained singly from the Association, 1315 8th Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee 37203.


-- National Archives Reference Information Papers #69 describes The Southeast During the Civil War: Selected War Department Records in the National Archives of the United

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States. It includes sections on textual, photographic and cartographic records. Copies are available from the National Archives, Washington, D. C. 20408. The Paper describes, by example, the types of records available for studying the historical geography of the southeastern states during the Civil War.

-- John Martin, "Love Letters for Libraries," Wilson Library Bulletin, 48 (February, 1974), 468-475, is one of the most delightful articles about a manuscripts collection, and also one of the most interesting, published in some time. The piece describes the collection of love letters, assembled from the United States, Canada, and Britain, in the West Vancouver, B.C., Memorial Library. The project grew from a low-key effort to assemble some local history items. Martin writes, "One donation came from the widow of a turn-of-the-century high court judge. The lady, based on her journals of 1901 to the 1930s, led a singularly boring existence—tea parties, bridge, and occasional horseback rides. One of the few lively events she recorded was a party at which the judge became hopelessly drunk! In retaliation she destroyed all his love letters. I mentioned this incident on a local talk show with the comment that it was a pity she kept the diary and burned the letters, which might have made better reading. The result was the donation to the library of a series of love letters (which, incidentally, shed light on the early development of the Canadian railroad system). A short time later, the library issued a press release to the local papers announcing that the library was collecting love letters. The story was quickly syndicated by wire services throughout the States and Great Britain. . . . The response has been overwhelming."

-- Paul N. Banks, "Environmental Standards for Storage of Books and Manuscripts," Library Journal, 99 (February 1, 1974), 339-343, will be a standard reference on this subject for some time to come.

-- The January, 1974, issue of the Northwest Georgia Historical and Genealogical Society has two items of special interest. On pages 2-4, Jewell Alverson, "New Echota Georgia 1839" describes a debit ledger in her possession of a mercantile business in the town, listing
names and other information. On pages 25-29, the magazine continues its publication of the minutes of the Shiloh Baptist Church of Walker County, 1839-. The original minutes are housed in the Cherokee Regional Library in LaFayette.

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The first archival collection of TV commercials is being established at the University of Arizona. Says Leslie Daniels, a former advertising copywriter who now lectures at the university and who conceived the idea of the archives, "Future generations will be able to see firsthand our life style, hear our voices, determine our attitudes."

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RECENT ACCESSIONS AND OPENINGS

Atlanta

ATLANTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Robert F. Maddox Collection, 1892-1965: mayor of Atlanta, 1909-10, correspondence, speeches, campaign notes, photographs, scrapbooks, (2 ft.); Frank Carroll Collection, 1890-1911: property transactions of Joel Hurt, the street railway companies, and East Atlanta Land Co. (includes information on the Atkinson-Gill controversy of 1899) (5 in.); Aldine Chambers Collection: Atlanta councilman and alderman, 1909-14, includes papers of Police Commission, Board of Firemasters, Board of Education, Streets and Sidewalks Committee, files of Local Draft Board Div. 3 (1917-21), State Democratic Committee, and elections of 1910 (4 ft.); Thomas Maguire Family Papers: plantation owner, includes general store records, farm journal of "Promised Land" plantation (1859-65), and lumber and cotton factory accounts (1 ft.); E. Katherine Anderson Collection: folio of 99 fashion plates depicting female costume from 1810 to
1889, 5 vols. of fashion magazines (1842-57); Chattahoochee Brick Company Records, 1901-1938; minute books, ledgers and journals, records of fuel consumption and production, financial statements, records of real estate transactions, and inventories (2 ft.); Winship-Flournoy Papers: includes copy book begun at Wesleyan Female College, Macon (1846-51) with last entry dated 1879, also contains lecture notes, list of instructors, list of Macon County residents, and rosters of 6 C.S.A. units (5 in.); Robert Kennedy Collection: copy of William Toney's plantation Memo Book (1831-50) containing entries relating to plantings, crops, weather, and finances; Old War Horse Lawyers Club Scrapbooks, 1952-1965: includes incorporation, minutes, lists of officers, correspondence, memorials, citations, obituaries, clippings, photographs (6 in.).

Descriptive inventories for the following have been completed and are available for use at the Society: Atlanta Pioneer Women's Club Collection, Benjamin Mart Bailey Collection, Jennie Meta Barker Collection, Joseph Mackey Brown Collection, Julius L. Brown Collection, William Allen Fuller Collection, Sarah Huff Collection, Helen Dortch Longstreet Papers, William McNaught Collection.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT, ROBERT W. WOODRUFF LIBRARY, EMORY UNIVERSITY

Atlanta Department of Public Works Records, 1913-1945: reports, maps, engineer's and architect's plans relating to proposed development of a plaza in downtown Atlanta; Malcolm Honore Bryan Papers, 1932-1967: economist and banker with Trust Company of Georgia and Federal Reserve Bank, President of Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta (1951-65) (2 cu.ft.); Cotton Family Papers, 1810-1839: correspondence and business and legal papers of Cotton and Blackshear families (300 its.); James Eppinger Letterbook, 1850-1855: merchant and dealer in real estate, Pike County, photocopy (294 pps.); Shelton Palmer Sanford Diaries, 1860-65, 1874, 1876, 1890, 1896: textbook author and professor of mathematics at Mercer University, Penfield and Macon (1839-91) (6 vols.).

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
State Records Section

Department of Agriculture: Animal Industry Division Administrative Records, 1971 (1 cu.ft.), Commissioner's General

Manuscripts Section

businessman, personal and business correspondence (1 folder); Thomas Dekalb Harris Papers, 1827-1863: Secretary to Executive Department under Governor McDonald, 1843, and to Office of U.S. House of Representatives, 1850s, correspondence and business papers containing comment on politics, slavery, Lincoln's election, land speculation (correspondents include persons from several states and Washington, D.C.); Howard Factory (Columbus) business correspondence, 1848-1861: cotton and textile mill, correspondence, letterbook, 1841, and incoming orders, 1855-61 (2 folders); Oscar F. Johnson Papers, 1846-1896: graduate of U.S. Naval Academy, served with C.S.A. Navy in Savannah-Charleston area, later a commission merchant in Savannah, personal, business, and naval correspondence, orders, commissions, drawings of a ship's hold space (perhaps the CSS Firefly), and minutes, 1868, of meeting of Savannah Improved Gas Light Company; Theodore K. Jones Papers, 1917-1919 (?): World War I soldier, diary (with typescript), roster, and published materials on World War I, warfare, and military affairs (1 cu.ft.); Charles Augustus Lafayette Lamar (1824-1865) Papers, 1858-1867: commission merchant and part-owner of slave ship Wanderer, C.S.A. officer and envoy to England, reportedly the last Confederate officer to die in battle (April 16, 1865; Columbus, Ga.), personal and family correspondence including information on shooting incident at a Savannah dinner party, the Federal take-over of Savannah and the family home, and his mission to England; William J. Morcock Papers, 1839-1885: minister and farmer from South Carolina and later Forsyth, Ga., chaplain in C.S.A. army, correspondence (including mention of anti-slavery movement), bills and receipts; James Madison Spullock (1816-1883) Papers, 1838-1876: Inferior Court Justice in Floyd County, auditor and superintendent of Western and Atlantic Railroad, correspondence and account book (1 cu.ft.); Ten Club (Atlanta) Records, 1910- : founded 1898, copies of papers presented at monthly meetings, club history, 1935, membership rosters (2 cu.ft.); James B. Warren Diary, 1887: engineer of Atlanta's artesian well located at present site of Five Points flagpole, contains lists of duties, weather reports, accounts of local news and events, and monthly and annual reports (1 vol.); G. B. Zimmerman Diary, 1895: Tennessee artist, contains account of trip to Thomasville, Ga., February-May, 1895 (1 vol.).
United Textile Workers of America: In process: files of the international office and the regional office for the Upper South and papers of Executive Board member Frank Sgambato of Rhode Island. Open for research: Roy Groenert Collection, 1941-73, concerning activity in Wisconsin and a court fight over violations of no-raid agreements, Records, 1943-70, of the regional office for the Lower South, primarily correspondence between UTWA President George Baldanzi and Southern Co-Director Roy Whitmire about organizing in the Carolinas; Jacksonville AFL-CIO Council Records, 1956-1973: correspondence illuminating the Council's interest in consolidated government, collective bargaining rights for public employees, voter registration, and support for political candidates; Jacksonville Typographical Union No. 162 Records, 1920-1973: concerned with contract negotiations, efforts to achieve the 8-hour day and the 5-day week, apprentice training, and technological threats to job security; Locomotive Engineers, Simpson Division 210 (Macon) Records, 1884-1918 (1949): deal with strikes, contract negotiations, the movement for the 8-hour day, state and national legislation, working conditions, and grievance procedures and decisions; Operating Engineers, Local 926 (Atlanta) Records, 1927-1971: files kept by Tommy Archer as financial secretary since 1949, as treasurer of the International's General Pension Fund, 1957-66, and as president of the South Atlantic Conference of Operating Engineers, 1958-59; Service Employees International Union, Southern Region Records, (1958) 1964-1970: illuminate the organizing efforts of the SEIU in various Southern cities from Charleston to Tulsa and in the Midwest; Southern States Apprenticeship Conference Records, 1951-1972: primarily 15 scrapbooks containing correspondence, minutes, proceedings, photographs, speeches, and a variety of printed material describing the annual conference; Wayne Walden Papers, 1916-1952: primarily his essays and articles on education, government, and labor, and correspondence about IWW organization and America's Far Eastern policy during the Korean War.

The Southern Labor Archives has issued its first cumulative list of holdings. Copies are available on request from David B. Gracy II, Archivist, Southern Labor Archives, Georgia State University, Atlanta 30303.
St. Simons Island

ARCHIVES DIVISION, METHODIST MUSEUM
EPWORTH-BY-THE-SEA

Bishop Arthur James Moore: manuscripts, papers, and correspondence (12 ft.); Mrs. Sidney Lanier Letters, 1880s: ALS, to Mrs. Thomas H. Northen (3 in.); Sidney Lanier: collection of newspaper articles, editorials, and rotogravure sections on the poet (4 in.); John Wesley Letter, 1776: ALS, to Miss Margaret (Peggy) Dale (an excellent pastoral letter); South Georgia Conference Journals, 1875-1928 (1 ft.); Joshua Glenn Diary, 1823: pioneer minister sent as missionary to St. Augustine, Fla.; Boy Scouts of America Annual Reports, 1926-1946 (2 ft.).

Savannah

GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Pleasant A. Stovall (1857-1935) Papers, 1888-1973: editor, diplomat, politician, and author, of Savannah, letters (correspondents include several U. S. Presidents) dealing with international, national, and state politics; J. Fred Waring Papers: family letters, diaries, journals, and other materials including data collected for a history of the Jeff Davis Legion (22 MS boxes).