Archive Notes

Ann Pederson

Georgia Department of Archives and History

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/georgia_archive

Part of the Archival Science Commons

Recommended Citation

Available at: https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/georgia_archive/vol6/iss2/9

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia Archive by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu.
Declassification of about 600 million pages of federal government documents is expected in the next decade as a result of Executive Order 12065, signed by President Carter June 29. The new order requires classification review after 20 years, instead of the 30 years called for under the previous order, issued by President Nixon in 1972. The National Archives will seek additional funding for fiscal year 1979 for the accelerated declassification effort.

* * *

The House Committee on Government Operations reported legislation to the full House in July which would make presidential records public property, while allowing the outgoing chief executive to control access for up to ten years. So far, the White House has not supported the bill, preferring a fifteen-year period of presidential control.

* * *

The International Council on Archives is sponsoring International Archives Week in the fall of 1979. The national week in the United States is tentatively scheduled for November 4-10. Suggested activities include special meetings, exhibits, publications, dedications, and open houses. Activities will be coordinated by the Society of American Archivists.

* * *

The National Museum Act Advisory Council will accept grant applications from: museums; academic institutions offering courses in museum theory, practice, and skills; nonprofit professional museum-related organizations, institutions and associations engaged in activities designed to advance museum training, studies, and practices; and individuals employed or sponsored by the organizations described above. The National Museum Act of 1966 is administered by the Smithsonian Institution. Its objectives are to make possible continuing study of museum problems and opportunities in the United States and abroad, to encourage research on museum techniques, and to provide support for training career employees in museum practices. Additional information can be obtained from National Museum Act, Arts and Industries Building, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560. The telephone number is (202) 381-5512.
The Historic House Association of America was founded in March 1978 to assist private owners of historic houses, commercial buildings, churches, and other properties to solve the problems they face. A two-year study by the National Trust for Historic Preservation discovered that many of these owners were unaware of the availability of federal and state grant assistance geared to the problems of maintaining historic buildings. For further information write: Historic House Association of America, 740 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

* * *

The National Conservation Advisory Council has endorsed recommendations urging that high priority be given to the needs of document preservation during the energy crisis. The NCAC emphasized the need to maintain stable levels of temperature and humidity. The American Association of Museums has prepared a review of energy management manuals and the NCAC advises archival repositories to consult these for further information.

* * *

The Rochester Institute of Technology is presenting a seminar March 5 - 7, 1979, entitled "Preservation and Restoration of Photographic Images." The purpose of the seminar is to provide instruction in the preparation, processing, storage, and restoration of photographs of archival interest. Cost of the program is $195, which includes tuition, supplies, and special reference material. Those interested in the seminar may obtain registration information from William D. Siegfried, Training Director, College of Graphic Arts & Photography, Rochester Institute of Technology, One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623.

* * *

Twelve editors of National Historical Publications and Records Commission-sponsored projects met at the Franklin Roosevelt Library in April. Following discussion of a number of topics relating to editorial practices, the participants adopted a resolution appointing an ad hoc steering committee to investigate the possibility of creating an association of documentary editors. The steering committee invites suggestions concerning the nature and purpose of such an association. Suggestions should be sent to John Y. Simon, Editor, Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Morris Library, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901, or to Linda Grant DePauw, Editor, Documentary History of the First Federal Congress, George
Washington University, Washington, DC 20052. Frank G. Burke, Executive Director of NHPRC, has noted that with over 100 historical editing projects currently underway in the United States, there are editors numerous enough to support and justify such an association.

* * *

The National Archives: America's Ministry of Documents, 1934-1968, by Donald R. McCoy, has been published by the University of North Carolina Press (437 pp., illus., $19.00). This is the first detailed history and analysis of the National Archives to be published since H.G. Jones' The Records of a Nation.

* * *

The Society of American Archivists has moved to new headquarters in Chicago's Loop. For the first time in the Society's 42-year history it will be renting its own suite of offices, rather than occupying donated space. In a letter to members, SAA President Walter Rundell, Jr. noted that the Society's need for space exceeds "what we can expect to receive as a donation from any single institution." The new address is Society of American Archivists, 330 S. Wells Street, Suite 810, Chicago, Illinois 60606. The new telephone number is (312) 922-0140.

* * *

The SAA has received a grant of $31,038 from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission for the preparation and publication of six new basic archival manuals. The subjects are administration, automation, exhibits, public programs, cartographic records and architectural drawings, and reprography. C. F. W. Coker, former editor of The American Archivist, will serve as editor for this series, as he did for the original five-manual series. Georgia Archive's editor Ann Pederson is preparing the manual on public programs and welcomes information from readers regarding "outreach" activities under way in their institutions.

The first five manuals: Surveys, by John Fleckner, Appraisal and Accessioning, by Maynard Brichford; Arrangement and Description, by David B. Gracy, II; Reference and Access, by Sue Holbert; and Archival Security, by Timothy Walch, are available from the SAA. The set of five is $12.00 for SAA members, $16.00 for others. Individual manuals are $3.00 for members, $4.00 for others. Order from the Society of American Archivists at the above address.

-80-
SAA's Sixth Annual Archives Study Tour, Archives in the South Pacific, is scheduled for February 1979. Visits to public and private archives in Australia, New Zealand, and the Fiji Islands will be featured. All SAA members will receive a special mailing with tour details; others interested in the tour may write to the Society for information.

The Atlanta-based African-American Family History Association celebrated its first anniversary July 29, 1978, in Savannah. Organized to promote interest in black genealogy and family history, the Association has begun to expand its activities and is currently developing an exhibit, in conjunction with the Phoenix Arts and Theatre Company, of records, photographs, household items, textiles, implements, and any other items which relate to African-American life. The exhibit will be presented early in 1979. Persons with items to contribute are urged to contact Joann Martin, (404) 346-1287. The address of the Association is 2077 Bent Creek Way, S.W., Atlanta, GA 30311.

The Society of Georgia Archivists' slide/sound production, "A Very Fragile Resource: Our Documentary Heritage" has been reprogrammed and now has new narration and music. The narrator is Lynda Moore, News Director of WZGC-FM, Atlanta. Original guitar music, composed and played by Liz Getz, accompanies the narration. A grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission supported the development of the show, which takes viewers inside 20 of Georgia's leading archival institutions and explains the essential part records play in our lives, the types of work and responsibilities archives and libraries undertake in caring for historical materials, what community leaders and citizens can do to help preserve historical documents and support archival programs, and explores state and federal sources of technical and financial assistance for records preservation.

The presentation is available either for purchase or loan. A single projector version (viewing equipment not included), rents for $8.00 for one week and can be purchased for $78.00. This version, accompanied by a tape player and Carousel projector, can be rented for $28.00 as a convenience for those who do not have their own viewing equipment.
The slide/sound presentation is an excellent means to familiarize community groups with the problems, responsibilities, and accomplishments of archival institutions. Additional information on "A Very Fragile Resource" can be obtained by writing SGA Slide/Sound Presentation, Society of Georgia Archivists, Box 261, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

* * *

A new regional archival association was formed early this year in Alabama. Meeting in Birmingham in February, the Society of Alabama Archivists (SALA) elected permanent officers: President, Marving Whiting, Birmingham Public Library; Vice President, Leon Spencer, Talladega College; Secretary, Miriam Jones, Alabama State Archives; and Treasurer, Elizabeth Wells, Samford University. Three directors were also elected, to serve on the Executive Board along with the above-named officers. They are Alice Berta, Alabama State Archives; Joyce Lamont, University of Alabama; and Bill Sumners, Auburn University.

Membership in SALA is open to any person or institution interested in archives, manuscripts, or related fields. Dues are: $10.00 institution, $5.00 individual, $2.50 student. The Society reported 40 members and will publish an occasional newsletter, Access.

* * *

The Library of the University of Georgia reports that it has been victimized by an enterprising thief who takes advantage of interlibrary loans. Known variously as the Technologico Corteza, Instituto Technologico Americano, or the Universidad Anglo-Americano, using a post office box number in Mexico City, this "institution" is collecting a library specializing in automobiles and aviation. The interlibrary loan request slips are filled in by someone obviously familiar with interlibrary loan procedures. Most of the books lost by the University of Georgia, Reed College, Purdue University, USAF Academy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, and other academic libraries are out-of-print items.

* * *

The Richard B. Russell Memorial Library of the University of Georgia has completed processing and indexing 140 reels of film, 18 video tapes, 76 record discs, and 97 audio tapes documenting the political career of Richard B. Russell. The collection is now available for research and includes
material used in the preparation in 1970 of a three-hour television documentary production.

* * *

A limited number of copies of The Papers of William and Helen Sunday – 1882 [1888-1957] 1974, n.d., A Guide to the Microfilm Edition, are available from the Archives of the Billy Graham Center, C.P.O. Box 607, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois 60187. The cost of the Guide is $4.00 plus forty cents postage. The microfilm edition of the Sunday Papers consists of 29 reels containing over 33,000 positives, including copies of correspondence, sermon transcripts, notes, and newspaper scrapbooks. The papers were filmed through a joint effort between the Billy Graham Center and Grace Schools, which houses the original documents.

* * *

The R.J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation has announced the publication of the second volume in its Colonial Records Series, Abstracts of Georgia Colonial Book J., 1755 - 1762. Compiled by George Fuller Walker, this volume contains bonds, bills of sale, deeds of gift, powers of attorney, contracts, shipping agreements, and many other types of documents relating to colonial life. The R.J. Taylor Foundation was founded in 1971 for the purpose of researching and publishing documentary materials relating to residents of pre-1851 Georgia. Other volumes available from the Foundation are: Abstracts of Georgia Colonial Conveyance Book C-1, 1750 - 1761, compiled by Frances Howell Beckemeyer (Colonial Records Series, Number 1); Indexes to Seven State Census Reports for Counties in Georgia, 1838 - 1845, compiled by Brigid S. Townsend (Census Series, Number 1); and An 1800 Census for Lincoln County, Georgia, compiled by Frank Parker Hudson (Census Series, Number 2). Publication this fall is anticipated for 1850 Federal Census: Gilmer County, Georgia (Census Series, Number 3). Additional information can be obtained by writing to the R.J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation, P. O. Box 38176, Capitol Hill Station, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

* * *

The Georgia Studies Symposium, a multi-disciplinary gathering interested in the people and culture of Georgia, will meet next at Georgia State University in Atlanta in February, 1980. The program committee invites proposals for sessions.

In order to present a broad and diversified program, each session
will be limited to seventy-five minutes and preferably include only two papers.

Please send all proposals to the chairman of the program committee:

Harvey H. Jackson
Department of Social Sciences
Clayton Junior College
Morrow, Georgia 30260

* * * 

Deadline for proposals is May 1, 1979.

* * * 

The 1978 Session of the Louisiana Legislature approved the appropriation of $7,000,000 to be used by the Secretary of State to construct a new Archives building in Baton Rouge. Representatives from the Office of the Secretary of State and from the Division of Administration met in the Office of Facility Planning to prepare for the purchase of a proper building site and to obtain an architect to draft necessary plans for the new Archives building. It is anticipated that construction will begin during fiscal year 1979-1980.

* * * 

The University of South Carolina Press announces the publication of The Papers of John C. Calhoun, Volume XI, 1829-1832, edited by Clyde N. Wilson. The Calhoun Papers project is a joint venture of the South Caroliniana Society and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, for whom the University Press serves as publisher.

* * * 

Eight new rolls of computer output microfilm indexes to records in the South Carolina Archives are now available for research in the Search Room. Five rolls contain 150,000 selected index references and about 39,000 separate names, locations, and topics, most of which deal with land. A second temporary (partial) index to legislative papers, on three rolls, contains 90,000 selected index references to 14,000 separate names, locations and topics from petitions and reports from 1782-1830.

* * * 

Fifty-nine people representing thirty states attended the National
Association of State Archivists and Records Administrators (NASARA) meeting in late July. The members elected their officers and new Board as follows: President — Samuel S. Silsby (Maine); Vice-President — F. Gerald Ham (Wis.); Secretary — Sandra Haug (N. Mex.); Treasurer — John Newman (Ind.); New Board member — Edward Weldon (N.Y.). Continuing Board members are: Louise H. Manarin (Va.), Cleo Hughes (Tenn.), James D. Porter (Ore.) and Charles E. Lee (S.C.), immediate past President.

* * *

Ron Chepesiuk, archivist of Winthrop College, announces the publication of A Guide to the Manuscript and Oral History Collections in the Winthrop College Archives and Special Collections. The publication features descriptions of a number of collections available for the study of women's history in South Carolina, particularly the history of home extension services and home economics. The guide sells for two dollars, payable to Winthrop College, and may be obtained by writing Guide, Archives and Special Collections, Dacus Library, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, South Carolina 28733.

* * *

The Manuscripts Section of the Georgia Department of Archives and History has published a guide to a selection of its holdings related to women in history and contemporary society.

Women's Records: A Preliminary Guide was prepared in cooperation with The Women's Records Project of Georgia, Inc., (WRPG), a local organization which seeks to promote the preservation of historical materials relating to women in Georgia and the southeast. Dr. Darlene Roth, Director for Historical Research of the WRPG, originated the idea of the Guide and contributed her time as chief compiler. The illustrated, 88-page publication describes materials held in the Manuscripts Section of the state archives utilizing the format developed by the Women's History Sources Survey, a national project conducted by the University of Minnesota with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Guide will encourage the use of little-known materials documenting the roles of women as accomplished public individuals, as centers of domestic situations, and as part of social history in general.

Virginia Shadron, also of WRPG, served as co-compiler and indexer.
of the *Guide*. Archives staff members Peter Schinkel, Jeanne Thomas, Richard Bell, and Carl Erlicher shared the editorial, design, and layout responsibilities required to convert the manuscript into print.

The publication may be obtained for $2.00 pre-paid to the Georgia Department of Archives and History, 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

* * *

The Georgia Association of Historians welcomes new members. Dues are $4.00 per year ($2.00 for graduate students). The Association is concerned with all areas of historical endeavor. Members include junior college, college, and university professors, high school teachers, archivists, librarians, journalists, graduate students, and others involved in historical study. Send name, affiliation, interests, and dues to:

Dr. S. Fred Roach, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer, GAH
History Department
Kennesaw College
Marietta, GA 30061

* * *

Since its inception in late 1975, through June 1978, the NHPRC has formally considered 316 records grant proposals, and recommended funding in whole or in part, for 155 of them. Applications totaling $8,194,427 have been considered by the Commission, with total funds recommended of $3,127,970. The amount of the average grant proposal was $26,000, while the average grant recommended was $20,200. Of the 316 proposals received, 267 were state projects, 21 regional projects, and 28 national projects. The Commission has funded slightly over 25 percent of the funding requested for national projects, about 33 percent for regional projects, and almost 40 percent of the state funding requests.

To facilitate applications for records grant projects, the Commission has recently prepared a new and expanded booklet, "Suggestions for Applicants." The pamphlet includes a discussion of records program application procedures, advice on the preparation of the proposal, a sample budget and cover sheet, a bibliography, and other information pertinent to the application process. To obtain a copy of this useful booklet, write Director, NHPRC, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, DC 20408.
Mississippi recently enacted legislation to protect libraries, museums, and archives from theft and vandalism. On July 1, 1978, it became a misdemeanor to "mutilate or unlawfully remove" any materials in the custody of public or private depositories. An employee of such an institution may detain and question a suspect if the staff member acts in good faith and in a reasonable manner. Testimony and advice on the legislation was provided by several staff members of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

A new study of electronic security systems for libraries was published in the July 1978 issue of College and University Libraries. "Evaluating the Effectiveness of an Electronic Security System" by James Michalko and Toby Heidtmen demonstrates the cost-effectiveness of such systems. The rate of loss of newly acquired items in the Van Pett Library of the University of Pennsylvania was reduced by 55 percent and overall collection loss was reduced by 39 percent. For every dollar the system cost, approximately $1.73 in benefits was returned. At that rate the system would be paid for in thirty-eight months.

Georgia Governor George Busbee has appointed four new members to the Heritage Trust Commission. Ms. Myrtle R. Davis and Dr. Marvin Goldstein of Atlanta, Mrs. Adelaide W. Ponder of Madison, and Ms. Anne G. Stroud of Albany began terms with the Commission on May 30, 1978.

The Local Assistance Grants Program of the Heritage Trust is seeking to expand its program for the years 1980-1984. The increased funding, if approved by the state legislature, would provide for the preservation of natural areas and the development of recreational opportunities, in addition to its present program of grants for the preservation of historic sites.

This spring the National Endowment for the Humanities decided to establish its own newspaper bibliographical and preservation program that will build upon the work accomplished over the past few years under the OAH's auspices. The U. S. Newspaper project is now in the process of preparing final reports to the NEH about the status of newspaper programs in each state.
The Endowment will soon be drafting the guidelines for its new newspaper program and these will become available for distribution sometime during the fall. To keep abreast of developments in the USNP under the NEH's aegis, contact Dr. George H. Farr, Jr., Assistant Director, Division of Research Grants, National Endowment for the Humanities, 806 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506; telephone (202) 724-1672. The Newspaper and Gazette Report, published by the Library of Congress under the editorship of Imre T. Jarmy, Newspaper Microfilming Coordinator, will continue to be an important source of information about developments in the national program as well as activities in the various states. In addition, the Organization of American Historians will retain a lively interest in the progress of the Endowment's program in establishing a national effort to bring newspapers under bibliographical control and promoting their preservation. Any comments you may wish to make about the new program as it evolves can most effectively be directed to Dr. Peterson, who is chairman of the OAH's Committee on Bibliographical and Research Needs, at his Cincinnati address: Eden Park 45202; telephone (513) 241-4622.

Georgia's State Historical Records Advisory Board of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) has recently been reconstituted by order of Governor George Busbee. With a base of three ex-officio members: Carroll Hart, Historical Records Coordinator and State Archivist; Edwin Bridges, Director of Administrative and Support Services Division, Georgia Department of Archives and History; and Anthony Dees, Director, Georgia Historical Society; the new Board now includes Gayle Peters, National Archives and Records Service; Minnie Clayton, Southern Regional Council; Phinizy Spalding, University of Georgia; Les Hough, Georgia State University; Steve Gurr, Georgia Southwestern University; and William Pressly, Atlanta Historical Society.

GEORGIA ARCHIVE invites contributions for its "News Notes" section, especially items reflecting new program developments, awards of grants for archives projects, conferences and meetings, and issues of professional concern. Send materials to: David Levine, News Notes Editor, Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change, 671 Beckwith Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30314.