Provenance, Journal of the Society of Georgia Archivists

Volume 35 | Number 1

1-1-2018

Front Matter

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Recommended Citation

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Editor’s Note
Heather Oswald.................................................................4

Articles
The Austin Archives Bazaar: A Collaborative Outreach Event
Daniel Alonzo, Amy Rushing, and Kristy Sorensen .............6

“No Rhyme or Reason:” Surveying Legislative Records
Retention Practices in the U.S. House of Representatives
Holly R. Croft.................................................................30

The Library of Virginia, Local Records, and the Civil War
Eddie Woodward..........................................................61

Recovering from Hurricane Sandy: A Municipal Government
Archives’ Role in Disaster Recovery
Bryan J. Dickerson..........................................................91

Journeywoman: A Lone Arranger on the Final Frontier
Laura Frizzell..............................................................106

Reviews
Delsalle, A History of Archival Practice
reviewed by Tommy Brown........................................118

Hamill, Archival Arrangement and Description: Analog to Digital
reviewed by Amanda Hawk........................................120
Copeland and Roued-Cunliffe, *Participatory Heritage*
reviewed by Joshua Kitchens .............................................122

Slate and Minchew, *Managing Local Government Archives*
reviewed by Muriel M. Jackson ............................................124

reviewed by Shaneé Yvette Murrain ....................................126

Information for Contributors .............................................129
Editor’s Note
Heather Oswald

This summer I left Atlanta to pursue a new opportunity in Boston. The prospect of moving a thousand miles north was daunting, and I have to admit the ability to stay connected to the colleagues and work with which I had become familiar through Provenance was reassuring. As I settle into my new surroundings, I have come to realize that our professional community is increasingly unbounded by geographic distinctions or regional affiliation.

This issue illustrates how disparate experiences unique to a specific locale can provide insights and lessons for all archivists. From disaster recovery on the Jersey Shore to the experiences of a lone arranger in remote Alaska, our authors have addressed issues archivists may face in any repository. Seemingly universal archival themes such as grappling with loss, working with limited resources, and seeking partnerships for successful outreach are found throughout each of the five articles published here.

It is notable that five of our seven authors live in other states, and the two Georgia-based contributors wrote on topics unrelated to the holdings and repositories found in the state. Provenance provides a forum for scholarship unrelated to geography. The editorial board and I are continuing to think through how the journal can adapt to a digital environment that allows professionals to learn from and share with each other regardless of location. Throughout 2018 we will explore the options offered in a recent survey of readers, including digital issues, an online writers’ group, and a web page for members to suggest issues and ideas they would like to see addressed in the pages of Provenance.

I look forward to continuing to serve the Society of Georgia Archivists from Massachusetts, and thank each of you for the sense of community the organization has fostered, even for those across the country.