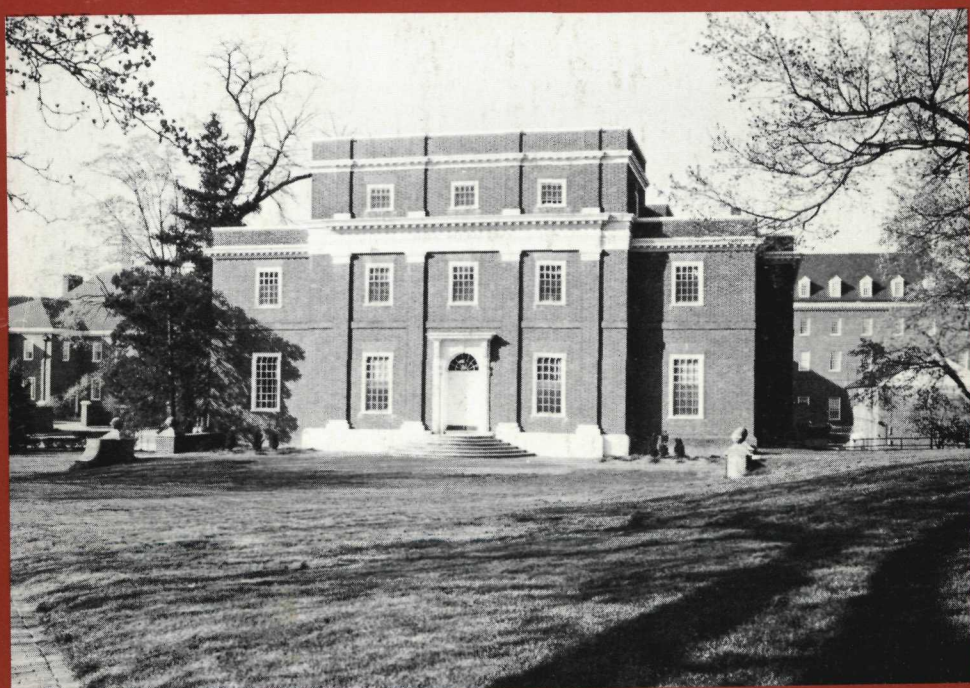


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The American Archivist

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The American Archivist

Volume 44, Number 4 / Fall 1981

Education for American Archivists: A View from the Trenches / 295

Ruth W. Helmuth

Ernst Posner: The Bridge Between the Old World and the New / 304

Rodney A. Ross

Theodore R. Schellenberg: Americanizer and Popularizer / 313

Jane F. Smith

Morris Leon Radoff: The Man and the Monument / 327

Marcia D. Talley

"The World Turned Upside Down":

Reference Priorities and the State Archives / 341

Phebe R. Jacobsen

Faculty Papers and Special-Subject Repositories / 346

Jane Wolff

Shorter Features / 353

Oral History in American Business Archives, by Gary D. Saretzky

Collection Processing as a Team Effort, by Richard M. Kesner, Susan

Tannewitz Karnes, Anne Sims, and Michael Shandor

The Forum / 293

Reviews / 359**Professional Reading / 372**

Technical Notes / 375

The International Scene / 381

News Notes / 387

The Society of American Archivists / 393

Recent deaths—

DAVID C. MEARNES

YVES PÉROTIN

The continued unavailability of the annual index for Volume 44 (1981) has caused a two-month delay in printing and mailing this issue. We now expect to print the 1981 index in the final issue of 1982, along with, but not combined with, the index to Volume 45 (1982)—THE EDITOR

REVIEWS

Bashkina, Bolkhovitinov, Brown, Hartgrove, Kudriavtsev, Kunznetsova, Landa, Ponomarev, Sampson, Shpotov, and Ushakova, eds., *The United States and Russia: The Beginning of Relations, 1765-1815* / 359

reviewed by E. A. P. Crownhart-Vaughan

Hindus, Hammett, and Hobson, *The Files of the Massachusetts Superior Court, 1859-1959: An Analysis and a Plan for Action* / 360

reviewed by F. Gerald Ham

British Film Institute, *National Film Archive Catalogue, Volume 1: Non-Fiction Films* / 361

reviewed by William T. Murphy

Leary and Stirewalt, eds., *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History* / 362

reviewed by Patricia M. Vanorny

Clark, ed., *Afro-American History: Sources for Research*, and Ball and Martin, *Rare Afro-Americana: A Reconstruction of the Adger Library* / 363

reviewed by Linda J. Henry

N. Rowley, comp., *Law and Order in Essex, In Documents, Maps, Pictures and Photographs* / 364

reviewed by Viki Sand

Del Tredici, *The People of Three Mile Island* / 365

reviewed by J. Samuel Walker

Horton and Horton, *Black Bostonians* / 366

reviewed by Hilda L. Armour

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The Forum

TO THE EDITOR:

I DIDN'T HEAR Leonard Rapport's "No Grandfather Clause: Reappraising Accessioned Records," at the 1980 SAA convention, as I was attending a different session, so I'm glad that it was published in the Spring 1981 AA. I thoroughly agree with him. My archival career of eight years is much shorter than his, but in that time I have seen more than one example of records that should never have been accessioned in the first place, or at the very least were no longer worth keeping. If I have a specific suggestion to make, it is that records deemed no longer worth keeping be publicly advertised as such for a specific period of time before they are disposed of, not only to allow for protests and last-minute research, but also to allow any other archival depositories, institutions, or individuals who want them to offer to take them. Perhaps this method of disposal, which could also be used for unneeded multiple copies of retained records, would require a change of law; if so, let us advocate that change.

THOMAS H. GRAF
National Archives and Records Service

I WANT TO EXPRESS my gratitude immediately for . . . the "Professional Reading" column in the *American Archivist*. This will be the answer to an archivist's prayer for a means of being aware of really *current* professional literature in a variety of journals and other sources. It is a very thoughtful move on your part to institute

this current service and retain the more complete bibliography that will be valuable over time as well. Many, many thanks.

KATHERINE EMERSON
University Archivist
University of Massachusetts Library
Amherst

. . . THE DECISION OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD to reduce the "International Scene," by eliminating publication of article summaries from foreign archival periodicals, leaves us sadly bereft of what had been, until now, an excellent means of describing developing work in archival science in Brazil. . . .

MARIA AMÉLIA GOMES LEITE
Associação dos Arquivistas Brasileiros
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
(Translated by Robert W. Storm,
National archives and Records Service)

THE EDITORIAL in June's *American History Illustrated* supporting renewed funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission should be of interest to those of us indebted to the work of this federal agency. It shows that the "popular" historical press can be an important ally to the professional/academic press in causes of mutual concern. Further cooperation between popular and professional/academic publications can only result in greater successes in the area of historic preservation. We should not overlook this opportunity in the future.

PATRICK J. MCGINNIS
Austin, Texas