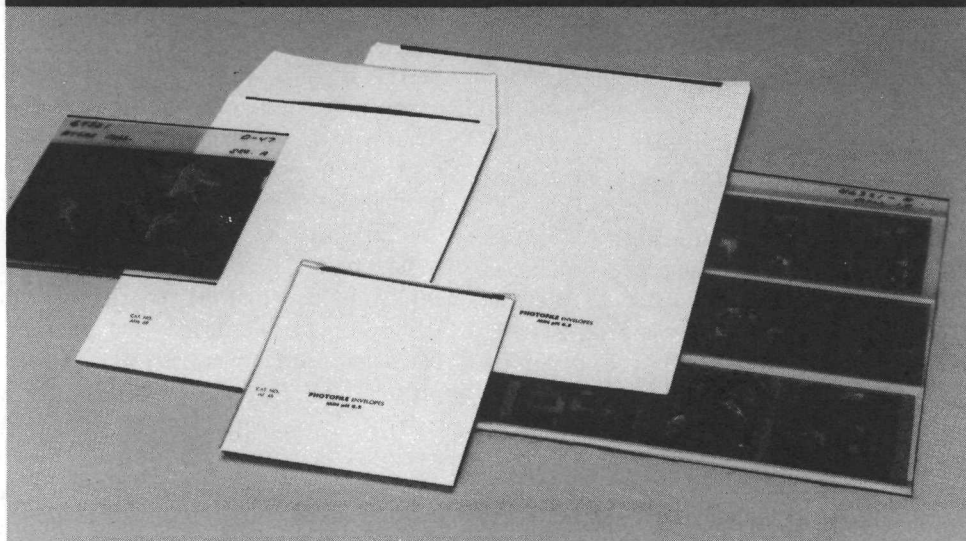


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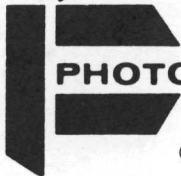
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What have we learned about paper in conservation?

Quite a bit.

Does "100% rag" mounting board mean dependable pH neutrality? Not necessarily.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 1 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

Museum boards, like other paper products, are made from pulp composed of cellulose fibers. Normally, these fibers originate from either cotton or wood. The fact that the fibers are cotton—sometimes

added in the early stage of the papermaking process—is often misleading in the use of alum, used to hold it up to the fibers. And alum will result in an acid condition, even if the

Are papers made for permanence necessarily durable as well? Not always

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 5 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

Unfinished papers, even if it is acid-free, will not be high-grade cooking paper. It requires removal of impurities, removal of color, and so on. Cotton paper made for food use is made of cellulose fibers. The basic constituents of paper are made of long, polymerized chain molecules. The longer the chain, the stronger the fibers and paper.

Over the centuries, paper has been made from a vast range of materials: grasses, inner bark vessels of trees, silk, paper, and so on. And cellulose. Of these, cotton is long with and they resist processing, cooking, being, tearing, wetting, and so on. It remains longer and stronger

Are alkaline-buffered papers safe for photographic conservation? The jury is still out.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 7 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

The art and science of preserving photographic prints may be said to be in its infancy. By one estimate, there are only 15 to 20 active specialists working in the field in the United States today, and this number is rising rapidly. It is not surprising, therefore, that the discussion here is tentative.

Nevertheless, there is intensive discussion in progress as to the question of whether certain

boards may not be desirable. The same, it might be noted, is true in other areas of conservation, particularly when protein-based materials are being dealt with. A number of conservators have come to the conclusion that 100% cotton boards made in a water system would shake up the field. They are the best products for certain types of photographs.

Must acid-free archival storage be costly and cumbersome? No longer.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 2 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

Museums and galleries have something in common with caterers—there is a lot more asked of sight than of food. The eye is valuable, perishable and fragile. Sight, varying in size and shape from a tiny creature to a Russian Imperial

Another type of correlative and the economic to ship. The most important commercial product is white, which is based on the fact that it is theoretically the best for conservation.

"Pure" water, alum and pH neutrality in the manufacture of museum board. Some facts. And some fictions.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 4 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

The overriding requirement in any material used for museum board is not freedom from acid. Not only must the board be free from acid, but the center of the board as well. To meet any possibility of

over the requirement in any material used for museum board is not freedom from acid. Not only must the board be free from acid, but the center of the board as well. To meet any possibility of

Are there ways of protecting objects before restoration? More ways than ever.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 8 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

For the little used book, as an example, consider the conservation of the book. The book is made of paper, which is made of cellulose fibers. The book is made of paper, which is made of cellulose fibers. The book is made of paper, which is made of cellulose fibers.

Can colored mat board be made to meet museum standards? Yes, but not easily.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 3 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

ever are direct daylight and pigments, both of which eliminate the use of acid-free materials. Pigments bond to the fibers physically rather than chemically, requiring the use of specimen acids and surface scoring.

We offer 100% pure cotton fiber. Archival® Museum Board in a range of pH neutrality.

Is there an acid-free corrugated that's safe for backing artworks? There is now.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 6 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

Corrugated board would appear to be an excellent backing to use in museum cases. It is made of paper, which is made of cellulose fibers. The board is made of paper, which is made of cellulose fibers.

Archival® Mat Board is also the Archival® Library Board, in 100% pure cotton fiber. It is safe for use when a heavy-duty backing is required. It is safe for use when a heavy-duty backing is required. It is safe for use when a heavy-duty backing is required.

PAPER AND PRESERVATION

No. 9 in a series of discussions on paper products for conservation

Archival® Mat Board is also the Archival® Library Board, in 100% pure cotton fiber. It is safe for use when a heavy-duty backing is required. It is safe for use when a heavy-duty backing is required. It is safe for use when a heavy-duty backing is required.

These discussions have been appearing intermittently for some time, now. They explore some of the possibilities now available in the preservation of works of art on paper and historic documents, as well as the use of specialized paper products in other areas of conservation. We have assembled

them, in readable size, in a booklet which we would be pleased to send you, on request. We welcome, too, your comments on the series, and your inquiries with respect to products listed in our catalogue, or products which we may be able to help develop to meet specialized requirements.

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Technical Notes

BEN DeWHITT, *Editor*

Library of Congress Announces Completion of Mass Deacidification Test. The Library of Congress and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announced today the completion of the Library's first large-scale mass deacidification experiment. The experiment was intended to test whether as many as 5,000 books could be successfully treated at one time. The chemical treatment is aimed at extending the life of book paper from a few decades to several hundred years.

Using a large NASA vacuum chamber, originally designed to test satellites destined for outer space, a patented process developed by the Library's preservation scientists was employed. The week-long process involved use of a chemical vapor, diethyl zinc (DEZ), to permeate the books and neutralize harmful acids destructive to paper, while leaving an alkaline reserve to combat the return to an acid condition in the future.

Paper degradation has been a growing concern of scholars, librarians, and archivists for the last 100 years. The Library's Preservation Office estimates that books printed on the alum-resin sized paper put into general use some 150 years ago may sometimes last no

longer than 25 years before severe deterioration of the paper begins. Intensive research, in consideration of preserving its own growing collections of 20 million books and millions of papers in other special collections, resulted in the development of vapor-phased deacidification, patented by the Library in 1976. The expectation was that the DEZ process would be applied to newly acquired books and papers after the process had been thoroughly tested.

From the first tests conducted in-house using an ordinary pressure cooker, and involving only a few books, to a series of tests of 400 volumes at a time, the process proved successful. The test of 5,000 books, just completed, is the largest to date. NASA's experience with vacuum technology and the availability of its facilities at Goddard Space Flight Center in nearby Greenbelt, Md., provided the Library with an ideal test site to demonstrate the feasibility of large-scale applications.

Analysis of the books used in the test will now begin, according to Peter G. Sparks, Director of the Library's Preservation Office. Complete results of the experiment will not be known until early 1983.

Survey Reveals Many Publishers Use Acid-Free Paper. A survey of U.S. book publishers conducted for the Committee on Production Guidelines for Book Longevity, Council on Library Resources, determined that nearly two-thirds of a relatively small number of respondents use acid-free paper for some or all of their books. A few publishers reported that they became aware of the importance and availability of acid-free paper through the Committee's report and survey, and about one-third suggest that the report has influenced their thinking about book longevity.

Questionnaires were sent to over 400 publishers in order to find out whether they use acid-free paper, and also whether they are willing to identify the acid-free books they produce. Although only 25 percent of the publishers returned questionnaires, the replies included 59 percent of the 78 university presses holding membership in the American Association of University Presses, and five out of twelve publishing companies listed as leading hardcover trade publishers by the *U.S. Book Publishing Yearbook and Directory, 1981-82*. Many of the respondents (72 out of 111) already use acid-free sheets for at least some of their books.

Publishers' replies make it evident that whether or not they use permanent paper depends on the kind of books they publish and the type of market for which they intend their publications. Among the twenty-six companies that do not use acid-free paper are textbook publishers, paperback publishers, and those who expect their books to be quickly outdated and replaced. A minority of those who do not currently use the acid-free stock were unaware of the problem or of the availability of acid-free paper.

The larger university presses—those that produce thirty or more new titles

every year—report that they publish 86 percent of their new titles on acid-free paper. Two-thirds of all university presses responding produce all titles on permanent paper. However, among large commercial publishers (those producing 100 or more titles every year) only 54 percent of the titles were on acid-free paper. Although acid-free paper is reputed to be more expensive, publishers divided fairly evenly on the expense question. More than half (57 percent) do not consider acid-free paper more expensive, noting that printers frequently carry it as normal stock or that added expense is marginal when paper is purchased in carload lots. Most respondents were willing to identify books produced on permanent paper by placing a statement on the copyright page (63 percent), but some publishers think that the copyright page is already too full. Others would wait until the notation becomes standard industry practice, and a few indicated that their companies would have to review the idea before agreeing.

Of major interest to the Committee is whether its report on paper has influenced publishers' practices. Slightly less than one-third of all respondents indicated that the report has influenced their thinking about the problem. Among the 68 percent reporting "no influence," however, were many companies that added that they have been aware of the problem for a long time. A number noted that they are encouraged by the publicity and evident concern about the topic, and a few commented that they will pay additional attention to paper specifications for their books. Large publishers found the report less influential than the small publishing houses, primarily because they are more apt to be aware of the availability of competitively priced acid-free paper. (From "Recent Developments," Council on Library Resources, September 1982.)

Book Longevity Committee Issues Report on Bindings. The Council on Library Resources' Committee on Production Guidelines for Book Longevity has issued its preliminary report on longevity in book bindings. Formed in 1979, the Committee has been investigating papers and binding materials used in book production. The report on bindings complements the group's 1981 statement on book paper.

The Committee notes that problems associated with nondurable bindings are not new, but they have increased during recent years. Changes in binding technology, the paucity of research on binding longevity, and a wide variety of available binding materials make the subject a complex one. Consequently, one of the Committee's recommendations is that an independent research laboratory be asked to compile information on materials currently in use.

Much of the Committee's work focused on desirable characteristics of bindings, including useability, durability, longevity and repairability. The report includes specific technical recommendations that relate to both the inside of the book, (the "textblock"), and to book covers. Sewn binding are considered best for both longevity and ease of use. However, because adhesive bindings will be heavily used for economic reasons, the Committee recommends that the quality, method of application, and compatibility of adhesives be carefully evaluated. An estimated 80 percent of all hardback editions now are adhesive bound, and the percentage is increasing.

Echoing its earlier recommendations on book paper, the Committee urges publishers to pay more attention to materials used in bookmaking, and to judge carefully the need for longevity for individual titles. The report states that "If publishers would make sure that the textblock is properly sewn or glued and if they would provide strong hinges,

much of the problem of binding longevity would be solved." A summary of additional recommendations is given below.

For the inside of the book (the "textblock"):

1. Leave at least $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch inside margin
2. Through-the-fold sewing (Smyth sewing) is preferred
3. For adhesive bindings, use a cold emulsion polyvinyl acetate (PVA) or a cold plus hot (two-shot) method. Do not use a hotmelt adhesive alone.
4. Much depends on the quality and method of application of adhesives and on the compatibility of materials used. Work with your binder, and test the results.

For book covers:

The hinge is critical for durability and longevity.

1. Use strong acid-free endpapers (80 or 100 lbs)
2. Use strong acid-free crash.
3. Cloth covers are preferred. Use a grade of cloth appropriate for the size and weight of the book.
4. Non-woven covers of Type II (polymer or resin reinforced paper) and better are satisfactory. A 3-piece cover with a cloth spine is a good compromise.
5. The grain of the cover material, boards and endpapers should run parallel to the hinge, to minimize warping.
6. Binding is an art. Use a good binder who can match the adhesives to the material and who will provide high quality workmanship.

The report on book bindings, titled "On Longevity in Book Bindings" was published in the July 2, 1982, issue of *Publishers' Weekly*. [From "Recent Developments," Council on Library Resources, September 1982.]

Ektacolor RC Print Fading. An August 1982 broadcast of Walter Cronkite's "Universe" contained a program segment dealing with Kodak Ektacolor RC print fading and cracking and the problems of deteriorating Hollywood color motion pictures, most of which have been made on Kodak color film stocks.

Featured on the program was Max Brown, a professional portrait and wedding photographer from Boone, Iowa, who went out of business as a result of severely faded and often cracked color prints being returned to him by upset customers. The prints were made in the late 1960s and early 1970s on the then newly introduced Kodak Ektacolor RC paper. In 1976 Brown sued Kodak for \$1 million, claiming that his business was ruined as a consequence of the defective color paper supplied by Kodak. The case is still pending.

Also appearing on the program were Henry Wilhelm, an independent researcher in Grinnell, Iowa, who has

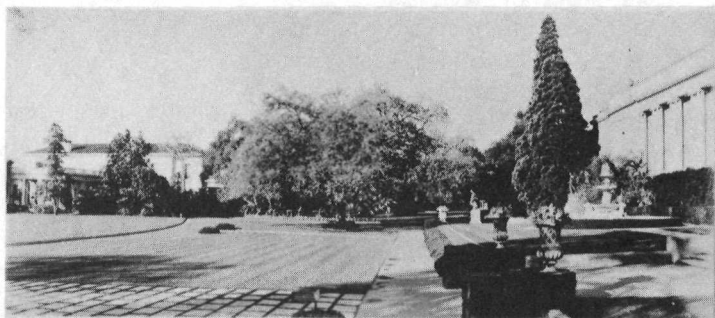
studied color stability and who served as an expert witness in the Brown suit; Charleton Bard, a color fading expert with the Eastman Kodak Company; and Walter Eggers of the MGM film laboratories in Hollywood. [From the *Iowa Historical Materials Preservation Society Newsletter*, October 1982.]

Reprints Available from NARS. The Preservation Services Division of the National Archives and Records Service has a surplus of copies of the following publications, which originally appeared in *Restaurator*: "The Effect of Magnesium Bicarbonate Solutions on Various Papers," by William K. Wilson, Ruth A. Golding, R. H. MacClaren, and James L. Gear; "Comparison of Accelerated Aging of Book Papers in 1937 with 36 Years Natural Aging," by William K. Wilson and E. J. Parks. Those who wish to obtain free copies should contact Charles W. Mayn, NARS (NNPA), Washington, DC 20408.

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News Notes

F.L. EATON and THOMAS E. WEIR, JR., *Editors*

At the meeting of SAA's editorial board held in conjunction with the 1982 SAA annual meeting, the board confirmed the 1979 decision not to include accessions in News Notes. News Notes is intended to be a permanent record of major events affecting the development of the profession including, but not limited to, the opening of new repositories, the construction of new buildings, major legislative actions or court cases affecting records or archivists, and the formation of organizations such as regional archival associations.

Linda Edgerly and Arthur Abel, who served for several years as reporters for Business Archives and Scientific and Technical Archives respectively, have resigned their positions because of other commitments. Ann Millbrooke of United Technologies has consented to serve as reporter for Business Archives news.

Send notes for publication to News Notes Editor, the *American Archivist*, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408, or to one of the following reporters: **State and Local Archives** to Richard J. Cox, Records Management Division, Department of Legislative Reference, City of Baltimore, MD 21202; **Religious Archives** to John R. Woodard, P.O. Box 7414, Reynolda Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27109; **Business Archives** to Anne Millbrooke, United Technologies, 400 Main Street, MS 124-22, East Hartford, CT 06108; **State and Regional Archival Associations** to Alice Vestal, Special Collections Department, Main Library, Room 610, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221; and **Manuscript Repositories** to Peter J. Parker, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Manuscripts Department, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

The American Association for State and Local History announced the availability of research grants for individuals and organizations working in state and local history. A new grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities enables the association to administer a competitive program of small grants-in-aid for

research focusing on, or making use of, materials about a locality, community, state, or region. Fifty such grants of up to \$3,000 each will be available in 1983 and 1984. Criteria for selection will include the need for the project, the capacities of the applicant, and the potential value of the results. The first

application deadline is 15 July 1983. Awards will be announced following the AASLH Annual Meeting, 3-7 October 1983. For information about the research grant program, write or call James D. Gardner, Staff Historian, AASLH, 708 Berry Road, Nashville, TN 37204—(615) 383-5991.

With a grant from NEH, the **Arizona Architectural Archives** has begun processing its collection of architectural records. The purpose of the archives is to provide documentation of the architecturally significant structures in Arizona and of the architects and builders who have played significant roles in the architectural development of the state. Established in 1976, the archives now holds more than 13,000 drawings in addition to office records ranging from the output of the earliest practices in southern Arizona to drawings of two telescopes designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill at the National Astronomical Observatory at Kitt Peak, Pima County, Arizona.

Because there exists no other similar facility in Arizona, the NEH grant will also be used to increase awareness of the archives throughout the state and to establish contact with potential users and donors. The Arizona Architectural Archives will be open to the public by spring, 1983. For more information, contact Arizona Architectural Archives, College of Architecture, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

The **Center for Western Studies** at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota has become the depository for the archives of the Episcopal Church in that state. The center has accessioned non-current records and has received a major grant from NHPRC to arrange and describe the archives. Copies of the finding aid may be ordered from Alan

Schwartz, Archivist, The Center for Western Studies, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197.

The 16th Conference on Archives and History was held 11-13 November 1982 at the **Concordia Historical Institute**, St. Louis, Mo. Eighty people attended the conference from all parts of the United States and Canada. They heard special presentations on computer use in record-keeping and the possibilities of using videotape for recording and presenting history.

The **Danvers Archival Center**, a department of the Peabody Institute Library of Danvers, Mass., and a branch of the Danvers town clerk's office, recently moved into new, expanded quarters. Begun in 1972 as a repository for material on paper relating to the history and development of the Salem Village of Danvers, the archival center was housed for nine years in the basement of the historical society's Memorial Hall building. The center was set up through a unique venture in which the local library history collection was combined, as a permanent loan, with the manuscripts of the historical society and the records of more than a dozen town organizations, including major churches. Non-current parish and town records dating from 1672 were deposited at the archives, and the library-funded town archivist was also appointed an assistant town clerk.

Among the more than 7,000 imprints within the collection is the Brehart witchcraft collection, the most extensive collection of printed items relating to the infamous Salem witchcraft hysteria of 1692. Also at the archives are more than 200,000 manuscripts, maps, photographs, audio and video tapes, newspapers, broadsides, microfilm, and architectural drawings.

The Danvers Archival Center continues to expand its holdings through gifts, permanent loans, and purchases while devoting a portion of its yearly budget to collecting, conservation, and restoration. The new archival center has been given approximately 2,500 square feet of space divided between reading room and storage as a result of the \$2.2 million library construction and renovation project. The area is waterproof, fireproof, secure, and has its own climate control system. Its vault meets Massachusetts state specifications and includes a halon system.

The Edison Institute of Dearborn, Mich., popularly known as the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, has combined two departments, the Ford Archives and the Tannahill Research Library, to form the Archives and Research Library, **Henry Ford Museum**. The new designation is intended to reflect the institute's variety of archival, graphic, and printed materials documenting American culture from 1650 to 1950 with emphasis on the transition from traditional to modern culture.

The **Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD)** has begun a microfilm loan program between the six IRAD centers. Microfilm can be requested through the IRAD headquarters at the state archives in Springfield, and the film will be sent to the depository selected by the researcher.

The **City of Irving, Texas**, has opened the city archives for research. The archives was established in 1981 under the Records Management Division of the city secretary's office. The archives is custodian for city ordinances and resolutions, minutes of the city boards and commissions, and the papers of four former mayors. The staff is appraising

other municipal records and is working with groups in the city to acquire historical photographs of the Irving area. The city secretary's office has published *A Synopsis of the Irving Records Program*, which, in its current form, covers only the records management program. The booklet will be revised in 1983 to include information on the archives. For more information write to City Archivist, City Secretary's Office, 825 West Irving Boulevard, Irving, TX 75060.

LaGuardia Community College has established the LaGuardia Archives and Museum. The papers of former mayor Fiorello LaGuardia will form the nucleus of this collection, which will include additional materials connected with the LaGuardia era of New York City's history. At present the archives is housed in space provided by the college; however, a permanent home is being sought. The materials are being cataloged, restored, and made available to the public.

The **Louisiana** state legislature has appropriated funds for the planning and constructing of a state archives building. The law, providing \$500,000 for planning and \$10.46 million for construction, was signed by the governor on 27 July 1982. The tentative schedule calls for ground breaking in 1983.

After two years of discussion including the Judicial Conference of the United States, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and the **National Archives and Records Service**, the Judicial Conference has agreed to the proposed revisions of the records disposition schedules for the U.S. Courts. The schedules are based on a study by NARS and AOUSC of recordkeeping practices of the courts. Additional advice was provided by the scholarly organizations

such as the American Historical Association and the American Society for Legal History.

The New Jersey Catholic Historical Records Project recently received a grant of \$63,385 from the Research Resources Program of NEH to survey Roman Catholic parish and institutional records in New Jersey's seven northern counties. The survey will be under the direction of Seton Hall University Archivist Peter Wosh.

The New York University Archives Management and Historical Editing Program has added a course on archival automation to help archival administrators decide whether to automate and if so how. The course avoids the technicalities of programming but includes sessions on basic computer operations, problems in developing archival programs, trends in computer technology as they apply to archivists, and some guidelines for dealing with computer programmers. In addition, the course covers machine readable records as archival accessions and the broader implications of computers for humanities research.

The City of San Diego has recently initiated a program for the identification and prevention of microfilm damaged by "redox" or oxidation reduction. A full report of this program has been published recently in the *IIMC News Digest*. Further information can be obtained from Charles G. Abdelnour, City Clerk, City Administration Building, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101.

Archivists in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area have organized the **Twin Cities Archives Roundtable** to provide an informal association to encourage discussion of archival problems. A different local institution is responsible for

organizing each meeting, which generally features a speaker. After two successful meetings "the TCART was rolling."

The General Commission on Archives and History of the **United Methodist Church** has moved from Lake Junaluska, N.C., to its new building at Drew University, Madison, N.J. Officially opened on 2 October 1982, the archives center has 24,000 square feet of space with reading and work rooms for scholars and the public as well as a museum. The four-story facility, which includes a two-story-deep underground vault, is protected by a halon system. The center houses the latest equipment for fumigation and deacidification of materials.

HISTORICAL EDITING

Listed below are historical editing projects making comprehensive searches for documents. Archivists and manuscript curators whose repositories contain items of interest to the projects are requested to contact the project editors. Information about new accessions and small collections is of special importance because such information may not be generally available. Project editors can assist the News Notes editors by notifying them when the projects have completed their searches for documents.

The Papers of John, John Quincy, and

Others of the Adams Family

Robert Taylor, Editor
Massachusetts Historical Society
1154 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02215

The Papers of Jane Addams

Mary Lynn McCree, Editor
Curator of Jane Addams' Hull-House
Box 4348
University of Illinois at Chicago Circle
Chicago, IL 60680

Black Abolitionist Papers

C. Peter Ripley, Editor
Department of History
Florida State University, Box 6080
Tallahassee, FL 32306

The Papers of Henry Bouquet

Louis M. Waddell, Editor
William Penn Memorial Museum and
Archives Building
Box 1026
Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Papers of Benjamin F. Butler

Ronald L. Brown, Editor
New York University
School of Law Library
40 Washington Square South
New York, NY 10012

The Papers of John C. Calhoun

Clyde Wilson, Editor
South Caroliniana Library
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

The Papers of Charles Carroll

Ronald Hoffman, Editor
Department of History
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

The Papers of Henry Clay

Robert Seager, Editor
Department of History
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40506

The Papers of Charles Darwin

Frederick Burkhardt, Editor
PO Box 1067
Bennington, VT 05201

The Papers of Jefferson Davis

Lynda Crist, Editor
Rice University
Houston, TX 77001

The Papers of Eugene V. Debs

J. Robert Constantine, Editor
Department of History
Indiana State University
Terre Haute, IN 47809

The Papers of Frederick Douglass

John W. Blassingame, Editor
Yale University
2103 Yale Station
New Haven, CT 06520

The Papers of Thomas A. Edison

Reese V. Jenkins, Editor
1 Richardson Street
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

**The Documentary History of the
First Federal Congress**

Linda G. DePauw, Editor
George Washington University
Washington, DC 20052

**The Documentary History of the
First Federal Elections**

Gordon R. Den Boer, Editor
Department of History
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI 53706

The Papers of Benjamin Franklin

William B. Willcox, Editor
Yale University Library
New Haven, CT 06520

The Papers of Daniel Chester French

Michael Richman, Editor
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

The Papers of Albert Gallatin

Barbara Oberg, Editor
Center for the Study of Business and
Government
Baruch College
New York, NY 10010

The Papers of Marcus Garvey

Robert Hill, Editor
Department of History
University of California at Los Angeles
405 Hilgard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Papers of Emma Goldman

Candace Serena Falk, Editor
1335 Bonita Street
Berkeley, CA 94709

The Papers of Samuel Gompers

Stuart B. Kaufman, Editor
Department of History
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant

John Y. Simon, Editor
Morris Library
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL 62903

The Papers of Nathanael Green

Richard Showman, Editor
The Rhode Island Historical Society
110 Benevolent Street
Providence, RI 02906

Documentary History of George Rapp's**Harmony Society**

Karl J. R. Arndt, Editor
Clark University
Worcester, MA 01610

The Papers of Harriet Ward Foote**Hawley**

Edward J. Foote, Editor
The Stowe-Day Library
77 Forest Street
Hartford, CT 06105

The Papers of Joseph Henry

Nathan Reingold, Editor
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560

The Papers of James Iredell, Sr.

Don Higginbotham, Editor
Department of History
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

**The Correspondence of Washington
Irving**

H. L. Kleinfield, Editor
C. W. Post College
Merriweather Campus
Long Island University
Greenvale, NY 11548

The Papers of Andrew Jackson

Harold Moser, Editor
The Hermitage
Route 4
Hermitage, TN 37076

The Papers of John Jay

Richard B. Morris, Editor
605 Fayerweather Hall
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

The Papers of Thomas Jefferson

Charles Cullen, Editor
Princeton University Library
Princeton, NJ 08540

The Papers of Andrew Johnson

Leroy P. Graf, Editor
Department of History
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37916

The Papers of John Paul Jones

James C. Bradford, Editor
Department of History
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843

**Correspondence of Mary Harris
"Mother" Jones**

Edward M. Steel, Jr., Editor
Department of History
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV 26506

The Papers of Benjamin H. Latrobe

Edward C. Carter II, Editor
American Philosophical Society
105 S. Fifth Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

The Papers of Henry Laurens

David Chesnutt, Editor
Department of History
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

The Lewis and Clark Journals

Gary Moulton, Editor
College of Arts and Sciences
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NE 68588

The Papers of James Madison

Robert A. Rutland, Editor
Alderman Library
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904

**The Selected Papers and
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The Fellows' Posner Prize

For the past several years, the Society has had but one award for writing, the Waldo Gifford Leland Prize, given for the outstanding separate publication of the preceding year. Article-length contributions to archival scholarship, however outstanding, received no special recognition or incentive. Consequently, the Fellows of the Society have offered, and the Council has accepted, the establishment of a new award: The Fellows' Posner Prize. Honoring one of the most outstanding archival scholars and teachers of the 20th century — Ernst Posner — it will reward the best article published in the preceding year's volume of the *American Archivist*. The winning article will be selected by a subcommittee of SAA's Awards Committee. The cash prize will be awarded at the annual meeting. The first award, for an article published in volume 45, will be presented at the annual meeting in Minnesota in October.

The Society of American Archivists

ANN MORGAN CAMPBELL, *Editor*

Minutes: Council Meeting 17 October 1982

The meeting of the Council of the Society of American Archivists was called to order by President Edward Weldon at 10:15 A.M., Sunday, 17 October 1982, at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass.

Present were President Weldon, Vice President J. Frank Cook, Treasurer Paul H. McCarthy, Jr., and Council members Lynn A. Bonfield, Shonnie Finnegan, Meyer H. Fishbein, Robert S. Gordon, Sue E. Holbert, William L. Joyce, Richard H. Lytle, and Virginia C. Purdy. Also present were Vice President-elect David B. Gracy, II, Council members-elect Edie Hedlin and Larry J. Hackman, and Executive Director Ann Morgan Campbell. SAA staff members Joyce E. Gianatasio, Deborah Risteen, and Antonia Pedroza attended portions of the meeting.

The proposed agenda for the meeting was approved. The minutes of the meeting held 22-24 May 1982 were approved by a mail ballot and published in volume 45, number 4, of the *American Archivist*.

Report of the President

Weldon reported that he met with representatives of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History to develop goals and a new operating structure for the coalition. Weldon also reported that he attended the dedication of the Kentucky Archives and Library Building.

Report of the Vice President

Cook reported that Eva Moseley, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, and Samuel A. Sizer, Oklahoma Division of Archives and Records, have been appointed to the Editorial Board. A full list of Cook's appointments will appear in the November 1982 *SAA Newsletter*.

Report of the Treasurer

McCarthy reported that the Society collected more dues revenue in fiscal year 82 than was anticipated. The higher revenue resulted from an unanticipated increase in new members and dues payments that were distributed more evenly among the salary categories.

Report of the Executive Director

Campbell announced that the Boston meeting will be the largest meeting in the

Society's history with attendance near 1,100. Limited enrollment sessions filled rapidly. The 1983 Program Committee will consider new ways of handling limited enrollment sessions.

The schedule for future SAA annual meetings is:

1983—October 5-8, Minneapolis, Minn.

1984—August 30-September 2, Washington, D.C.

1985—dates undetermined—tentatively planned for Austin, Texas

1986—dates undetermined—tentatively planned for Chicago, Ill.

The continuing education program of the Society was also discussed. Management seminars are scheduled in Raleigh, N.C., and Los Angeles, Calif.

Campbell noted that several new publications are now available from the SAA office. These include: *Archival Forms Manual*, *Audio Visuals for Archivists*, *Basic Archival Workshops*, *Basic Archival Workshop Exercises*, *Archives & Manuscripts: Reprography*, and *Evaluation of Archival Institutions*.

The newly formed Publications Management Board will meet for the first time in Boston. A proposal for a "Perspectives" column in the *SAA Newsletter* will be discussed with the Editorial Board. The column will contain letters of professional interest to SAA members.

National Information Systems Task Force

David Bearman, project director of the National Information Systems Task Force (NISTF), joined Council to discuss the proposal to establish a six-member Standing Committee on National Information Systems. Lytle moved the following resolution:

Council resolves that the Society of American Archivists will maintain and update standards for data elements used in archives and manu-

script collections information systems and a format for communication of machine-readable data about archives.

These standards will be maintained by the Standing Committee on Archival Information Exchange, which is hereby established. The Standing Committee will perform the following functions:

1) Maintain, as an SAA standard, *Data Elements Used in Archives, Manuscripts and Records Repository Information Systems* (based on NISTF Report, October 1982).

2) In cooperation with the Library of Congress, maintain the *Format for Archives and Manuscripts Materials* (based on NISTF Report, October 1982) part of the *Marc Format for Bibliographic Data*. This standard is a joint effort of the Society and the Library of Congress, in which all changes are to be mutually agreed upon.

3) Promote wider awareness of these standards among archivists.

4) Actively encourage the use of the standards in present and projected archival information exchanges.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Lytle presented the following resolution:

The Officers and Council of the Society of American Archivists express their appreciation to David Bearman for his service as Project Director for the Society's National Information Systems Task Force. From project conceptualization to the establishment of the archival profession's first standards process for facilitating exchange of archival information, Bearman has played a leading role. The Society and the archival profession will realize significant benefits from Bearman's contributions.

Lytle moved to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Joint Committee on the Archives of Science and Technology

Bearman reported on activities of the Joint Committee on the Archives and Science and Technology (JCAST). JCAST is compiling a report that examines characteristics of science and technology records and the implications for archival appraisal. JCAST will publish the report and will ask SAA to distribute it.

Advisory Committees

Finnegan moved that advisory committees to grant-funded projects dissolve upon submission of the project's final report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Fellows' Posner Prize

Consideration of a request to establish the Fellows' Posner Prize was deferred until Council's meeting on Friday, 22 October 1982.

Consultants

Joyce reported that a questionnaire was sent to more than 50 archival consultants in an effort to determine the level of interest in establishing a register of consultants. Thirty of the 40 respondents indicated substantial interest in the register. Joyce will present the results of the survey at the meeting of the Business Archives Professional Affinity Group and discuss the response of PAG members at Council's meeting on Friday, 22 October 1982.

Constitutional Amendments

Cook moved to approve the proposed changes in the SAA constitution as they appear in the September 1982 *SAA Newsletter*. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Goals and Priorities Task Force

The following mission statement for the Goals and Priorities Task Force was submitted by Larry Hackman to Council for approval.

To identify, analyze, and report to the Society of American Archivists and the archival profession on major archival needs and the relationships and relative priority of these needs, and to suggest how these needs might be addressed in a coordinated fashion.

Cook moved to accept the statement and to establish the Task Force. The motion was seconded and passed.

Archival Institute

The co-chairs of the Committee on Education and Professional Development, Trudy H. Peterson, National Archives and Records Service, and Francis X. Blouin, University of Michigan, joined Council for a discussion of a proposal to be considered by the Committee for an American Archival Institute.

Oral History Restrictions

A request was submitted by the Society for History in the Federal Government asking SAA to support draft legislation to ensure that restrictions placed on oral history tapes and transcripts be respected. Cook moved to refer the matter to the Oral History Professional Affinity Group and the Government Records PAG. The motion was seconded and passed.

American Library Association

The Government Documents Round Table of the American Library Association has invited SAA to appoint a liaison to its Steering Committee. Stating that the existing ALA/SAA Joint Committee is an appropriate forum for discussion of government document matters, Cook moved not to appoint a representative. The motion was seconded and passed.

National Conservation Advisory Committee

Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler, SAA's Representative on the Library and Archives Subcommittee of the National Conservation Advisory Council, joined the

meeting to report on the activities of the subcommittee.

Ritzenthaler reported that the National Historical Publications and Records Commission awarded NCAC funds, for a one-year project, to establish standards for environmental conditions for the storage of paper-based records. At present there are no standards. The standards will be drafted by early spring, at which time SAA and other interested organizations and institutions will be asked to formally react to them as part of the consensus-reaching process.

The meeting of the Council of the Society of American Archivists was adjourned at 4:30 P.M., Sunday, 17 October.

ANN MORGAN CAMPBELL
Executive Director

Minutes: Council Meeting 22 October 1982

The meeting of the Council of the Society of American Archivists was called to order by President J. Frank Cook on Friday, 22 October 1982, at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass.

Present were President Cook, Vice President David B. Gracy, II, Treasurer Paul H. McCarthy, Jr., and Council members Lynn A. Bonfield, Meyer H. Fishbein, Robert S. Gordon, Larry J. Hackman, Edie Hedlin, Sue E. Holbert, William L. Joyce, and Virginia C. Purdy. Executive Director Ann Morgan Campbell and SAA staff member Antonia Pedroza attended without vote.

Fellows' Posner Prize

Vice President Gracy and Trudy H. Peterson, National Archives and Records Service, both fellows of the Society, presented a proposal to create a new SAA award to be called the Fellow's Posner Prize.

The new award would be for an essay dealing with some facet of archival administration, history, theory, and/or methodology that has been published in the *American Archivist*. Entries would be judged by committee composed of fellows. This committee would be appointed by the president and work as a subcommittee of the SAA Awards Committee. The prize would be funded by voluntary contributions from fellows of the SAA.

McCarthy moved to establish the Fellows' Posner Prize and to publish appropriate guidelines. The motion was seconded by Holbert and passed unanimously.

Executive Committee

Council members met in a closed session to elect a member to the Executive Committee. The Committee consists of the president, vice president, treasurer, and a member of Council. Robert Gordon was elected as Council's representative on the Executive Committee.

Representation

Campbell asked Council for authorization to forward contributions to the National Humanities Alliance (NHA) and the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History (NCC). NHA is a Washington-based advocate for support for the National Endowment for the Humanities. NCC works largely on behalf of the National Archives and Records Service and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. A fund for advocacy has been previously approved by Council and allocations were provided for in the budget.

Holbert moved that SAA forward up to \$500 to the NHA and \$500 to the NCC and that Council determine at its winter meeting whether additional payments should be made. The motion was seconded and passed.

Business Archives Professional Affinity Group

The Business Archives PAG forwarded a resolution requesting that SAA establish certain guidelines to aid a business in selecting a qualified consultant when establishing an archives. After extended review of the request, McCarthy moved that Council seek legal advice on the implications of adopting the consultant guidelines suggested by the group. The motion was seconded by Purdy and passed.

International Study Tours

Campbell informed Council of invitations and discussion with several countries regarding SAA study tours. Campbell also informed Council of a proposal by Claudia Hommel, Consultant, for a tour to the Caribbean, with an emphasis on Cuba. Campbell will provide more details on plans for study tours at subsequent meetings of Council.

Goals and Priorities Task Force

Hackman moved that Council allocate funds for a meeting of the Goals and Priorities Task Force. Members of the Task Force are Larry J. Hackman, New York State Archives; F. Gerald Ham, State Historical Society of Wisconsin; Anne Kenney, University of Missouri; Helen Slotkin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Edward Weldon, Georgia Department of Archives and History, chair. The meeting was to be held in Chicago in December 1982. The motion was seconded by Holbert and passed unanimously.

Robert S. Gordon left the meeting at 3:20 P.M.

Palestine Liberation Organization

The following statement was submitted by Wilfred Smith on behalf of the Committee on International Archival Affairs:

In response to the resolution concerning Palestine Liberation Organization archives that was presented at the 1982 Business Meeting of the SAA and that was referred to the Committee on International Affairs, members of that committee wish to express concern regarding the reported seizure of the archives of the research center of the P.L.O. and to request the Council of the SAA to take action appropriate for a national professional association of archivists in the circumstances. It is obviously a sensitive matter and the propriety of a national professional association intervening in a diplomatic sphere is open to question. There are fewer limitations on an international archives association.

Therefore, we recommend specifically that the SAA bring the matter to the attention of the Executive Committee of the International Council on Archives, which has frequently become involved in somewhat similar matters, particularly in the question of repatriation of displaced or "migrated" archives. We believe that archivists everywhere have a legitimate concern in the conservation of the archival heritage of mankind and that if the facts are indeed as reported in the *New York Times*, October 1, 1982, then the action is a violation of accepted archival principles and practice. While "protest" may be an inappropriate term, an expression of concern in an objective way does seem legitimate for professional archivists, but it seems to us that the ICA as representative of the entire international community is in a better position to ascertain the facts and to communicate to the appropriate authorities the concern of archivists than is the SAA. It is quite possible that other archives associations may express similar views to the ICA, but we believe that it would be appropriate for the ICA to take action along the lines that we have suggested.

Gracy moved to adopt the procedure suggested by the Committee and to thank Smith for his assistance. The motion was seconded by Fishbein and passed.

Guidelines for Council

Fishbein stated that Council previously had discussed the need for written guidelines for Council, clarifying roles and relationships among Council members, Executive Committee, officers, and staff. Holbert and Bonfield volunteered to begin drafting such a document, the draft to be presented at the next Council meeting.

Committee on Education & Professional Development

Council considered the following resolution, which was proposed by Trudy H. Peterson, National Archives and Records Service, and Francis X. Blouin, University of Michigan, co-chairs of the Education and Professional Development Committee:

WHEREAS the proposed Office of Personnel Management standards for the occupational series of archivists in the Federal Government are seriously deficient in defining and describing the full scope and complexity of archival work; and

WHEREAS these same standards do not identify the appropriate educational level necessary to perform professional archival responsibilities;

WE the Council of the Society of American Archivists hereby urge the OPM to amend the proposed standards to emphasize the importance of academic training as a basic requirement for archivists within the National Archives and Records Service.

Purdy moved to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded by Joyce and passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 P.M.

ANN MORGAN CAMPBELL
Executive Director

Minutes: Annual Business Meeting 20 October 1982

President Weldon called the annual business meeting of the Society of American Archivists to order at 3:45 P.M., on Wednesday, 20 October 1982, in the Imperial Ballroom of the Boston Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, Mass. Frank Wiseman served as parliamentarian.

President Weldon announced that the minutes of the 1981 business meeting had been approved by a committee consisting of Roland M. Baumann, Pennsylvania State Archives; Mary C. LaFogg, Yale University; and Max J. Evans, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, chair. The minutes were published in volume 45, number 2 of the *American Archivist*. President Weldon appointed the following members to serve on the committee to approve the 1982 minutes: Jane M. Pairo, Virginia State Library; Ronald G. Watt, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; and Bruce W. Dearstyne, New York State Archives, chair.

President Weldon thanked the 1982 Resolutions Committee, whose members helped to prepare resolutions for presentation at the business meeting. Committee members were Meyer Fishbein, American University; Wilma Slaight, Wellesley College; and David E. Horn, DePauw University, chair.

After a resolution regarding the records of the Palestine Liberation Organization was added to the agenda, Virginia C. Purdy, National Archives and Records Service, moved that the agenda be adopted as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

Linda Henry, American Psychiatric Association, chair of the 1982 Nominating Committee, presented the report of the Society's 1982 election. The candidates elected were: Vice President David B. Gracy, II, Texas State Archives; Treasurer Paul H. McCarthy,

Jr., University of Alaska; and Council members Edie Hedlin, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and Larry J. Hackman, New York State Archives. Elected to the 1983 Nominating Committee were Victoria Irons Walch, National Archives and Records Service; H. Thomas Hickerson, Cornell University; and William K. Wallach, University of Michigan. The 1982 Nominating Committee completed its business without an SAA-funded meeting.

Executive Director Ann Morgan Campbell and Treasurer Paul H. McCarthy, Jr., presented the reports of their respective offices. Valerie G. Browne, a member of the Auditing Committee, presented a motion to accept the report prepared by Richard Finnegan, Certified Public Accountant, with a correction on page six, under "Grants," to read: "revenue over expenses" rather than "expenses over revenue." The motion was seconded and passed.

Paul I. Chestnut, Virginia State Library, chair of the Constitutional Revisions Task Force, made a motion to approve the amendments to the Constitution as they appeared on page three of the September 1982 *SAA Newsletter*. Each amendment was considered separately.

The proposed changes in Article III, Number 5, would correct grammatical errors in the first sentence of the article.

Honorary membership may be extended to any person who is chosen by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the council in recognition of eminent distinction in any of the fields of the Society's objectives. Honorary membership shall be for life, and honorary members shall not be required to pay dues or other assessments; they shall have all the privileges of full members and shall receive the publications of the Society. The

number of honorary members shall not exceed five (5) at any one time.

The proposed revision in Article III, Number 5 was approved.

The proposed changes in Article VI (see underscored section) would provide for a stated date on which the treasurer's term of office would begin.

The officers of the Society shall be a president, a vice president, and a treasurer. The president and vice president shall serve terms of one (1) year each and shall take office at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the election. The vice president shall automatically become president at the conclusion of the following year's annual meeting. The treasurer shall be elected for a term of three (3) years beginning at the conclusion of the annual meeting following the election and shall be ineligible for immediate reelection upon completion of this term.

Gary Saretzky, Educational Testing Service, moved to strike the words "upon completion of this term" from the proposed revision. The motion was seconded and passed. Article VI was passed as amended.

The proposed changes in Article VII (see underscored section) would enlarge council from eight to nine members serving terms of three rather than four years.

The government of the Society, the management of its affairs, and the regulation of its procedures, except as otherwise provided in this constitution, shall be vested in a council composed of the officer and nine (9) members elected by the Society. Three (3) council members shall be elected in each annual election for terms of three (3) years. The nine (9) elected members of the council shall be ineligible for immediate reelection. If a vacancy shall occur in the council or in any of the offices except the presiden-

cy, it may be filled by the council. The person designated shall hold the position until the next annual election, at which time the position will be filled by election for the remainder of the term, if any.

The revisions in Article VII were approved.

The proposed changes in Article XIII (see underscored section) would empower Council to propose constitutional amendments.

Amendments to this constitution may be recommended by a majority vote of the council or proposed in writing by at least twenty-five (25) members of the Society. All amendments must be filed with the executive director at least four (4) months prior to the annual meeting. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be mailed by the executive director to all members at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered. If approved by the council, amendments may be adopted by a majority of the members present and voting at the annual business meeting(s) of the Society. If not approved by the council, amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the members present and voting at the annual business meeting(s) of the Society.

The revisions in Article XIII were approved.

Eva Moseley, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, presented the following resolution submitted by Katharine Kraft, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College; Hugh Taylor, retired; and Eva Moseley:

WHEREAS the use of nuclear weapons could cause immense indiscriminate destruction of people and the records of people; and
WHEREAS one of the primary purposes of the SAA is to preserve the nation's documentary heritage;

THEREFORE, we call upon the President and Congress of the United States to take immediate steps towards the adoption of an agreement between the U.S. and the Soviet Union for the mutual, verifiable cessation of the testing and production of all nuclear armaments and for the reduction and eventual abolition of present stockpiles of such weapons. We call upon the Executive Director to transmit this message within one month from this date.

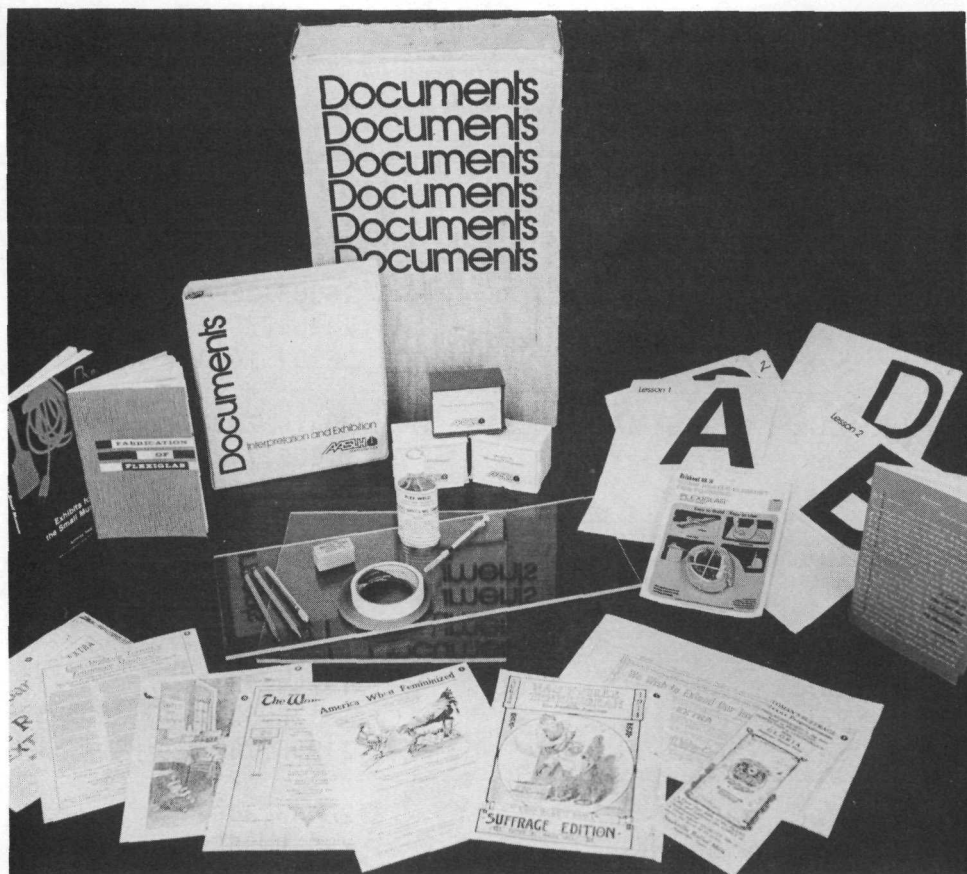
Moseley move the adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed.

Claudia Hommel, Consultant, presented the following resolution submitted by Sybil Milton, Leo Baeck Institute, and Claudia Hommel:

The SAA, at its 1982 Business Meeting, calls on the Israeli Government to preserve intact the records of the Palestine Liberation Organization's research center, Beirut, which were removed by Israeli troops in late September. We urge the government of Israel to make the records accessible on an impartial basis and to repatriate the collection to the original creators or their legally designated successor organization as soon as possible.

Hommel moved the adoption of the resolution, which was seconded by Brian McGuire, Library of Congress. Christopher Beam, National Archives and Records Service, moved to delete the phrase "make the records accessible on an impartial basis." The authors accepted the revised wording.

David Horn, DePauw University, moved that the resolution be referred to the International Archival Affairs Committee for further investigation and consideration with the request that the Committee report their recommendation to Council. The motion was seconded. After a voice vote, there was a call for a division of the house. The motion to



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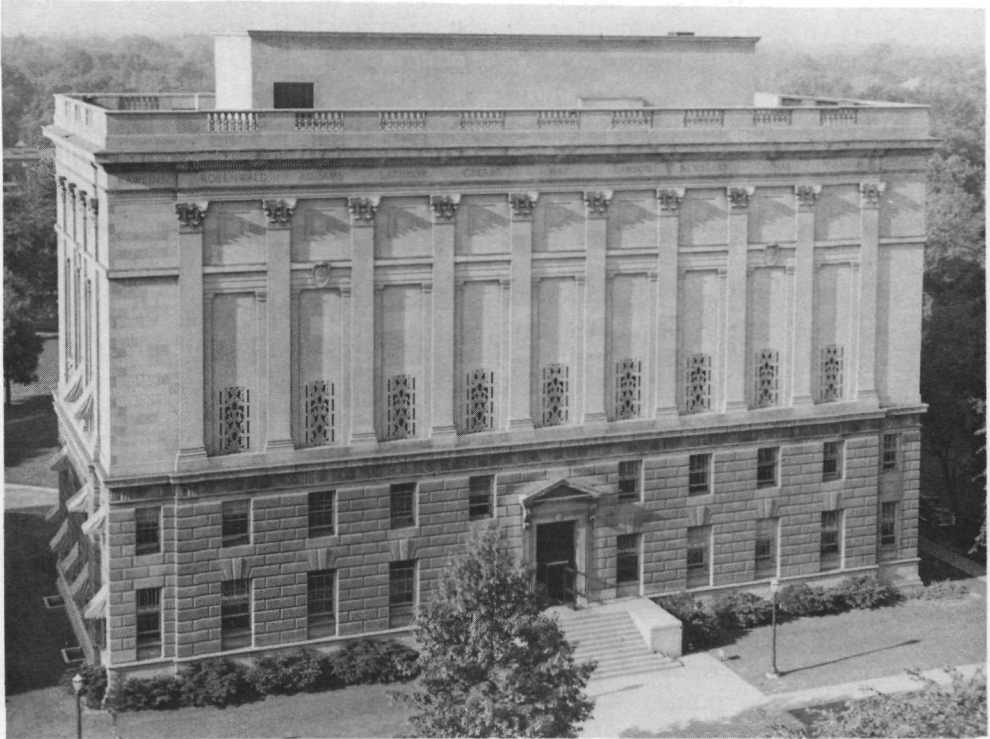
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Illinois State Archives building, 1956

The Illinois State Archives

At SAA's 1982 annual meeting in Boston, the Illinois State Archives received the Society's Distinguished Service Award. This honor is given to an archival institution or organization that has given outstanding service to the public and has made an exemplary contribution to the archival profession. State Archives staff member Charles L. Cali has prepared the following profile of this award-winning archival repository.

The Illinois State Archives celebrated its 60th anniversary year in 1982—more than a half-century of growth that saw the Archives increase from a two-person division of the Illinois State Library to an independent department with 44 employees. Originally housed in an inadequate state office building storage

area capable of containing only 3,000 cubic feet of the state's records, the present Archives Building accommodates holdings of over 60,000 cubic feet.

The Illinois State Archives was created in 1921 under a statute that reorganized the Illinois State Library, a department of the Secretary of State. When the Archives became a separate department in 1957, the Illinois legislature established the basic framework under which the agency operates today. The Archives was given the responsibility for the preservation of state agencies' official records that have legal, administrative, or historical research value and the charge of disposing of those that do not. The duty of determining the value of such records was delegated to the State Records Commission, on which the director of the Archives serves as chairman-designate for

the Secretary of State. Other members are the State Historian, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Comptroller, and the Director of Central Management Services. Although the Archives was given the statutory right to accept local records in 1939, it was not until 1961 that the General Assembly passed the comprehensive Local Records Act creating the Local Records Commission to determine the disposition of those records.

Margaret Cross Norton, a true pioneer in the American archives administration, was appointed the first Superintendent of Archives in 1922. During the 35 years she served in that position—a time of nascent growth for the profession—she led the development of one of the finest archival institutions in the nation. Norton, more than any other individual, was responsible for the construction of the present Archives Building in 1937. This twelve-level facility, one of three in existence at the time, made it possible for the Archives to acquire many large and important record groups. Her retirement in 1957 was a serious loss, not only to the Archives, but to the entire profession.

In 1974, the Archives staff began working on five major goals: establishment of intellectual control over its holdings through the publication of a guide; improvement of records management practices; implementation of more effective use of the Archives storage facilities; creation of a regional depository for local records; and development of an experimental computerization program for an important high-bulk record series, the public domain land sale records.

The *Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of the State of Illinois* was published in 1978, the culmination of a four-year staff project to define state archival holdings. The Archives staff has continued its efforts to keep the public in-

formed by the issuance of a semiannual newsletter, *For the Record*; the distribution of a curriculum packet for secondary school students, *Windows to the Past*; and the further development and refinement of finding aids. State and local records management practices were markedly improved during the past few years. The rate of record disposals grew from 9,264 cubic feet in 1975 to 107,890 cubic feet in 1981. During this time, the state records management staff was able to effect the removal of 7,000 cubic feet of inappropriately stored records from the Archives Building.

In 1976 the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the Archives a grant to establish a regional depository system for local records. Since its creation, the Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system has acquired more than 4,000 cubic feet of county and local records in its six university depositories. The Archives staff has developed a computer access system known as system NEBO, providing for more efficient administrative control and records access. A guide to aid in use of these records will be published in 1983.

The land records project, the final major goal, was completed in the spring of 1982. The records of more than 550,000 original land sales contained in more than 100 large bound volumes have been entered onto computer tape, making the information much more accessible—and in a variety of formats—to genealogists and researchers.

For the future, the Archives plans a series of computer programs to automate finding aids and records management procedures. The recent inventory of 29,000 cubic feet of the Chicago Board of Education's records by the local records staff is a first step toward the establishment of archival facilities for Cook County and the City of Chicago, the foremost priority of the

Archives at this time. The conservation staff, presently capable of processing more than 45,000 documents annually, now faces the challenge of establishing more efficient and economical records preservation practices.

No public archives can be considered viable unless its wealth of records is tapped by those for whom it was intended.

Within the last decade, the annual number of public references has doubled. In 1981 alone the Archives reference staff responded to nearly 51,000 public inquiries. In response to this increased public interest, the Archives plans more meaningful and accessible services to the citizens of Illinois.



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What does it cost? Individual membership dues are graduated based on salary (see below); institutional memberships are available for \$50 per year.

We hope you'll decide that SAA is the professional association for you. If you do, fill out the form below and return it with your check to SAA headquarters. Information on PAGs and the Placement Service will be sent on request to those applying for individual membership. Non-archivists interested in an associate membership should contact SAA headquarters for information. Come join us, and find out what you've been missing!

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The President's Page

Anniversaries and Archivists

J. FRANK COOK

Anniversaries occasion an increased interest in an institution's historical records. As archivists, most of us have experienced this phenomenon; and many of us have developed this otherwise transitory interest into an improved archival program and a heightened awareness of the historical significance of our institution's policies and activities. For the next few years, some of our attention must be directed toward preparing for two archival anniversaries.

The usual role of archivists as handmaidens of history will be set aside as we prepare to celebrate not the accomplishments of our parent institutions, but the contributions of the archival profession to society. I refer, of course, to the fiftieth anniversary of the National Archives in 1983 and the Society of American Archivists in 1986.

Both of these events should remind us to honor our past accomplishments and to ponder our future. Fortunately, we, as archivists, will arrange our own celebrations—and will be honored guests at the events. This time we will not be only retrievers and interpreters of data for the glory of others. Unfortunately, anniversaries do not always come at a pro-

pitious moment in an institution's history. In retrospect, few people would have chosen 1976 for the Republic's celebration of its 200th birthday; but unresolved economic and political difficulties are just as much a part of our history as are peace and prosperity.

Thus it is with the National Archives, continuing its struggle to preserve the nation's documentary heritage while trying to maintain its own independence from unwarranted administrative and political interference. When we pause next year to honor its accomplishments, we must rededicate ourselves to assist the National Archives and Records Service in its efforts to serve the American people. The past *is* prologue, and archivists have a duty to protect those agencies that preserve the records of the future-ever-becoming-the-past.

On contemplating the Society's fiftieth anniversary, I am led to address you not as SAA president, but as the archivist of your Society. It would be too embarrassing to even consider that we, of all professional groups, should not possess a thoroughly documented history of our Society. I want us to preserve our past by planning now for

1986. By then most of the founding members and those who joined during the early years will be gone. Too few of our current members, especially the newer, younger ones, have much knowledge of the SAA, its development, or its accomplishments. My remarks at this fall's annual meeting will be devoted to eliminating this ignorance. I urge you to send your records to the archives and to share your thoughts with me as I prepare this address.

My remarks will be, I hope, only the first of several commemorations of our fiftieth anniversary. Now is the time to begin thinking about how we want to celebrate this anniversary. For this event we will not be serving the historians, we will *be* the historians, and preparing an account of our stewardship of society's past will be our pleasant duty. What will you contribute, and how will you be remembered?

THE MIDWESTERN ARCHIVIST

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The *American Archivist* is the quarterly journal of the Society of American Archivists. In its articles it seeks to reflect the thinking of archivists about trends and major issues in archival philosophy and theory and about the evolution of the archival profession in North America. Its departments are intended to document developments and events relating to archival practice here and abroad.

Society members and those who share the professional interests of the Society are invited to submit manuscripts for consideration. For publication as full length articles, analytical and critical expositions based on original research about subjects of broad interest are preferred. Accounts of innovative methods or techniques are appropriate for the Shorter Features department. Suggestions for submissions to News Notes appear under the department heading. Illustrations are welcome and encouraged in all parts of the journal.

Letters to the editor are welcome when they include pertinent and constructive comments or criticisms of materials recently published in the *American Archivist* or observations on other topics of interest to the profession. They should not exceed 400 words. They will be printed in The Forum with minimal editing. Book reviews will also be printed as received, with minimal editing primarily to conform to our style manual.

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Manuscripts received by the editor are submitted (without the author's name) to qualified readers for objective appraisal. Upon receiving the readers' reports, the editor informs the author whether the article is accepted, rejected, or returned with suggestions for revision. If an article is accepted, the author will be requested to submit a vita to the editor, which will be used to prepare a brief biographical sketch to accompany the published article. An edited copy of an accepted manuscript will be sent to the author. Authors who object to any of the editing should notify the editor promptly. One set of galley proofs will also be sent to the author for correction of printer's errors only. No substantive changes in the text will be made on galleys.

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