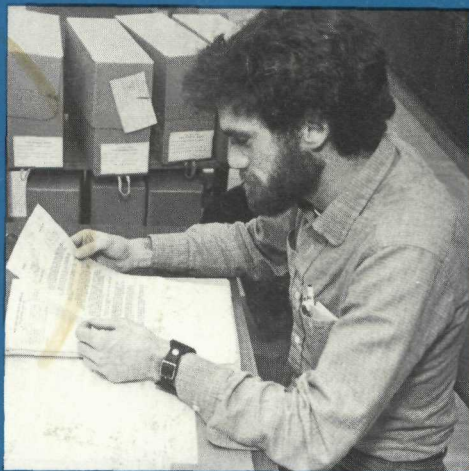
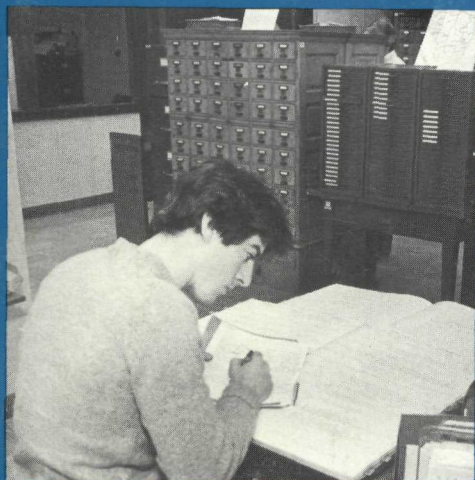


The American Archivist

Volume 47
Number 2
Spring 1984



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Published Quarterly by
The Society of American Archivists

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Cover photos (clockwise from upper left): archives staff member creating a Civil War service certificate using Civil War muster rolls, in response to a patron's request; researcher using the classified subject files of the iconographic collections in the visual and sound archives study room; researcher using a collection in the archives reading room; researchers checking the catalog. All photographs are courtesy of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The photographer was David Mandel.

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The *American Archivist* is published by the Society of American Archivists, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, Illinois 60605, four times yearly. Postmaster: send all correspondence and 3579 forms to the address above. Subscription: \$30 a year to North American addresses, \$35 a year to other addresses; single copies \$8 to SAA members, \$9 to nonmembers.

Articles and related communications should be sent to Deborah Risteen, Managing Editor, Society of American Archivists, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Telephone: (312) 922-0140. Advertising correspondence, membership and subscription correspondence, and orders for back issues should be sent to Society of American Archivists, 600 S. Federal, Suite 504, Chicago, Illinois 60605. Claims for issues not received should be sent to SAA headquarters within four months of issue publication date for domestic subscribers and within six months for international subscribers.

The *American Archivist* is indexed in *Library Literature* and is abstracted in *Historical Abstracts*; book reviews are indexed in *Book Review Index*.

The *American Archivist* and the Society of American Archivists assume no responsibility for statements made by contributors.

Typesetting for the *American Archivist* is done by Daamen, Inc., Center Rutland, Vermont, and the journal is printed by Kirby Lithographic Co., Inc., of Arlington, Virginia.

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The Forum

FROM THE EDITOR:

Although the concept of reaching out to new users or reaching out in a different way to the existing groups of users may be anathema to some archivists, many others see it as a vital action on our part. It has long been evident to many of us in academic archives that undergraduate students from a wide variety of disciplines (with only a handful, at best, from history courses) are our most frequent users and that academic administrators are our most important users. The student users enable us to justify our existence, in part, by their numbers; but we must impress administrators with our efficiency and effectiveness in producing needed information or documents from "the archives" (which many of them do not really comprehend) as well as with our ability to make molehills out of paperwork mountains that administrators have created with photocopy machines and other marvels of this age of technology. What we all would not give for the return of rag paper, quill pens, iron gall ink, and single copies!! Even a paper shortage would help!

In the last two surveys of *American Archivist* readers, the concept of reference and access has ranked number two and three in interest. Finding aids

and arrangement and description have consistently been the other two of the top three areas of interest to readers. The five articles included in this issue all relate to some degree to the concept of reference, access, and outreach. The first two articles, by Elsie T. Freeman and William L. Joyce, were originally presented as core session papers at the annual meeting in Boston in 1982. Writing from the perspective of a large, publicly supported archival institution, Freeman urges us to make greater efforts to learn who our users really are and to try to discover their needs. Then we should seriously consider altering our procedures and processes to meet the needs of our real users rather than the anticipated needs of a mythological group of nonusers. Joyce addresses many of the same issues, but he writes more from the perspective of a privately supported manuscript repository.

Two of the numerous ways we can reach out and provide reference and access are addressed in the third and fourth articles. The finding aids we prepare should help users of all types find what is tucked away in the far reaches of our stacks. Whether or not this actually happens depends upon how well we do our jobs in arranging and

describing our holdings. Richard C. Berner and Uli Haller have described the method of inventory construction used at the University of Washington.

Placing items from our collections on exhibit is another way in which we can reach out to that vast group of nonusers and bring to their attention the treasures that might be unearthed in an archives. Priceless items, and even those seemingly insignificant and unimportant ones, however, should not simply be tossed into a case somewhere without consideration for their safety and preservation. Joan L. O'Connor has provided a description of the steps necessary to protect items placed on exhibit.

Finally, all we do would be for naught if it were not for the people who actually enter our doors and use the materials we have struggled so hard to acquire, arrange and describe, announce to the world, and preserve for future generations. Drawing upon her many years of experience as a researcher, Mary N. Speakman tells us what researchers need and what they expect of us. Not surprisingly, she is not one of those mythological scholarly historians who have long been touted as the principal users of archives. She is in fact a professional, certified genealogist whose needs are real and whose expectations deserve special consideration.

Certainly there are other aspects of reference, access, and outreach and other means of discovering who really uses archives. In this era of budget reductions in the midst of the age of abundance of records, archivists more than ever need to create a broad base of both moral and financial support. We cannot do this by gearing most of our efforts toward a mythological group of nonusers. Rather, we must seek support from those who really do use archives and from that vast number who might

well benefit from using archives if they understood what an archives is.

CHARLES R. SCHULTZ
Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

In Michael J. Crawford's article on copyright in the spring 1983 issue of the *American Archivist*, I note that he describes conditions by which single copies can be made for the use of a researcher (p.41). Our policy has been to make copies for researchers after obtaining the permission of the copyright holder, to loan the copies with the understanding that they not be copied by the researcher, and to insist on the return of the copies after the completion of the project.

I am interested in finding out Crawford's reason for stating that the copy must become the property of the researcher in these circumstances.

PERCILLA GROVES
Simon Fraser University

AUTHOR'S RESPONSE

Several records repositories in the United States and Canada require the return of copies of copyrighted materials by a researcher after completion of a project. One purpose of this practice may be the protection of the rights of the copyright owners, another may be the forestalling of the creation of secondary archives. I have been asked to explain why I state in my article on copyright in the spring 1983 issue of the *American Archivist* that single copies must at the request of a researcher must become the property of the researcher. My interpretation of the law is based on the wording of section 108, paragraph (d) and subparagraph (d) (1) of the 1976 copyright law, USC title 17:

(d) The rights of reproduction and distribution under this section apply to a copy, made from the collection of a library or archives where the user makes his or her request or from that of another library or archives, of no more than one article or other contribution to a copyrighted collection or periodical issue, or to a copy or phonorecord of a small part of any other copyrighted work, if—

(1) *the copy or phonorecord becomes the property of the user*, and the library or archives has had no notice that the copy or phonorecord would be used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research;

as well as on the wording of paragraph (e) and subparagraph (e) (1):

(e) The rights of reproduction and distribution under this section apply to the entire work, or to a substantial part of it, made from the collection of a library or archives where the user makes his or her request or from that of another library or archives, . . . if—

(1) *the copy or phonorecord becomes the property of the user*, and the library or archives has had no notice that the copy or phonorecord would be used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research.

The probable reason Congress included these provisions in the law was to prevent libraries and archives from using researchers' requests as excuses for increasing their own numbers of copies of copyrighted materials beyond those required for security or preservation.

The wording of the law is explicit. If it is determined, however, that paragraphs (d) and (e) of section 108 do not pertain to unpublished records, and one rests the legal justification of providing copies to researchers solely on the "fair

use" clauses (section 107), these provisions would not apply to manuscript materials. In the case that the copyright owner, himself, approves loan of a copy of his work with the provision that the copy be returned, section 108 would probably not apply either. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to clarify this part of my article.

MICHAEL J. CRAWFORD
Naval Historical Center

TO THE EDITOR:

Anne R. Kenney's portion of an article in the fall 1983 issue of the *American Archivist*, entitled "Archival Cooperation: A Critical Look at Statewide Archival Networks," contains some statements that I must comment upon. Kenney quotes a "director" (unspecified) of one of the Illinois State Archives' regional depository centers who claims that the State Archives' administration wishes to keep center supervisors "isolated so that we don't know that others share our problems and then they don't have to solve them." That statement is as foolish as it is untrue, and will be accepted only by those who accept the devil theory of history.

Kenney adds that supervisors of IRAD depositories "Recently . . . joined together to demand their first meeting in over two years." That is a very dramatic statement but, like most drama, it is also fiction.

Kenney adds further that "the coordinator in Springfield agrees that the IRAD system lacks 'network consciousness' and that he prefers it that way." Roy Turnbaugh knows that "network consciousness" is a trendy and empty term and he does not want a sound system infected with specious thinking. Kenney also states that "no network has a coordinator who can devote full time to network administration." There is no

need for Roy to do so, for two other professional staff (Elaine Evans, Senior Archivist I; and Karl Moore, Archivist II) devote their full-time efforts to the system.

I do not enjoy having to write this letter. However, when distortions such as these are published concerning the Illinois Regional System I am obliged to place a correction in the record.

JOHN DALY

Illinois State Archives

AUTHOR'S RESPONSE

The material on IRAD comes from people in the system. I stand by my sources.

ANNE R. KENNEY

University of Missouri-St. Louis