

Luke Lea: Early Tennessee Political Boss

When the student begins the study of twentieth century Tennessee politics, he soon becomes acquainted with such names as Edward H. Crump, and Estes Kefauver, among others. One of the most prominent figures in Tennessee political history in the first three decades of this century was Luke Lea. With the epic scope of a tragic hero, Lea rose to the top of the political world before being plunged into the depths of prison and disgrace. The Luke Lea Papers, preserved in the Tennessee State Library and Archives, trace the public and private career of this Tennessee leader.

Luke Lea was born in 1878, in Nashville, Tennessee, the son of Overton and Ella (Cocke) Lea. After his graduation from the University of the South and Columbus University, Lea began to practice law in Nashville, Tennessee in 1903. He was a successful lawyer, but soon turned his attention to other enterprises. On May 10, 1907, Lea organized the Nashville Tennessean, which was to become one of the most influential newspapers in Tennessee.

Politically, Lea became prominent in 1908 over a split in the state Democratic Party. At the 1908 State Democratic Convention, the Lea faction was able to gain control and secure the nomination for Malcolm R. Patterson, a close ally of Lea. From 1908 until the election of Henry H. Horton in 1931, only one governor was elected without the support of the very powerful Luke Lea. Because of his great influence, Lea became known as the "maker of governors."



Luke Lea (1878-1945)

Lea was to reach the peak of his career in 1911, when the Tennessee General Assembly became deadlocked in the selection of a United States Senator. Lea differed with Governor Patterson over the issue of prohibition, Patterson championing the "wets" and Lea the prohibition cause. In this fight he played a major role in the split of the Democratic party and the election of Ben W. Hooper, a fusion-dry candidate to the governorship.

Lea was overwhelmingly elected to the United States Senate, entering that body as the youngest man ever to hold a seat. However, during his first years in the Senate, the federal constitution was amended to elect United States Senators directly by the people, and his former ally, Malcolm Patterson, entered the Senate race in 1916. Then Congressman Kenneth D. McKellar announced that he would be the third candidate for the seat. All attention centered on the bitter fight between the two candidates, Lea and Patterson, while McKellar held the middle course. On election day, McKellar defeated the candidates and held the senatorship for many decades afterwards. The "Boss" Crump machine was just beginning to feel its power and influence, and played a part in the McKellar nomination. Thereafter, Lea was to wage almost continual warfare with the Memphis-based Crump machine.

Shortly after his defeat for the Senate, the United States entered the First World War. Lea organized a volunteer regiment, later to become the 114th Field Artillery and was commissioned a lieutenant-colonel and later a colonel in command of the regiment. The Tennessee volunteer outfit served ten months in France, and fought in the Meuse-Argonne and the St. Mihiel drives that helped break the Hindenburg line. For his role in the war, Lea was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. At the close of the war, Lea gathered a special party from the 114th and set out to capture Kaiser Wilhelm. The attempt to "kidnap" the Kaiser failed and Lea and his men were court-martialed for their escapade.

Lea plunged into publishing and political fields after the war, bringing into both activities a number of men who had served with him in France. He championed the cause of Austin Peay and helped him win three terms as governor against the opposition of the Crump machine. In the 1920s, he became allied with Rogers Caldwell in the expanding business of Caldwell and Company and then in the purchase of Memphis and Knoxville newspapers and in other large financial operations.

With the financial crash of 1929, Lea was to lose political control and the business empire he had built. Within two years, Lea and his son, Luke Lea Jr. were indicted along with several others in North Carolina in the resulting

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Members of the Society of
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others are encouraged to
submit articles and
information on recent
acquisitions, publications,
exhibits, special programs,
grant projects, personnel
changes and employment
opportunities of interest to
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failure of the Central Bank and Trust Company of Asheville, North Carolina. After a prolonged court fight, the Leas were found guilty of violation of the banking laws of North Carolina. Lea and his son entered the North Carolina State Prison on May 10, 1934 to serve their terms. Lea was to serve six to ten years and his son two to six years, or pay a \$25,000 fine. By the time of his imprisonment, Lea had completely lost his entire fortune.

Lea was pardoned and paroled on April 1, 1936, after serving less than two years. Returning home, he was met at Lebanon, Tennessee, by a large motorcade of friends and his former soldiers. Nashville Mayor, Hillary Howse, whom he had opposed politically, led the cavalcade and Lea returned to Nashville escorted by the mayor and a squad of motorcycle officers. After his return, Lea lived in semi-retirement. He would never again achieve the success that he had known before the 1930s. Several attempts to repurchase the Tennessean failed and other publishing ventures never realized their potential. Suffering from poor health in his later years, Lea died in a Nashville hospital on November 17, 1945.

The Luke Lea Papers were donated to the Tennessee Historical Society by Mary Louise Tidwell, the daughter of Luke Lea. The collection, containing approximately 32 cubic feet, span the period 1826 through 1993. It is composed of applications, clippings, correspondence, diaries, financial records, interviews, legal records, photographs, subject files and several miscellaneous items.

The Luke Lea Papers record the life of one of Tennessee's most colorful leaders. Luke Lea, as a politician and molder of public opinion, helped shape, for good or bad, the direction of Tennessee politics for the first three decades of the twentieth century. His rapid rise to power and influence is made more poignant by his downfall in the 1930s. The Luke Lea Papers represent an important, but little known period of Tennessee history.

*Story by Gregory G. Poole,
Tennessee State Library & Archives*



"THE GANG THAT ATTEMPTED TO KIDNAP THE KAISER"

MY APOLOGIES!

A glitch developed between my computer program (MS Publisher 95) and Omni Art Supply Corporation, Nashville (my printer), resulting in severe formatting changes in my document. Therefore, the end result is a less-than-perfect newsletter.

The standards of this newsletter editor will not tolerate such a poor document. The Spring Issue of *Tennessee Archivist*, I promise, will be of much better quality.

Thank you for your consideration.

David Sowell
Tennessee State Library & Archives
403 Seventh Ave. North
Nashville, TN 37243-0312

CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC ACQUIRES McCUEN COLLECTION

The Center for Popular Music at Middle Tennessee State University has acquired the personal collection of sound recordings, books, photos, serials, business records, and personal papers of music business veteran Brad McCuen. In late July, 1997, Center staff spent three days packing and moving more than 400 cartons of material from McCuen's home in Nashville to MTSU in Murfreesboro.

Through the course of a career that spanned more than forty years, McCuen operated at the heart of the music industry. He is perhaps best known for the many contributions he made during his twenty-two year career with RCA's Record Division, holding key positions with the company in sales, production, and music publishing. As a producer, McCuen worked with artists such as Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, the Sons of the Pioneers, the NBC Symphony, Tommy Dorsey, Lionel Hampton, Skitch Henderson, and Elvis Presley. He was nominated seven times for Grammy awards, and won four. He conceived and produced the highly successful Vintage Series of reissues of jazz, blues, country, folk, and personality material. Following his years with RCA, McCuen operated his own very successful independent record label, Mega Records, and later served as Director of Country Music for SESAC.



Over the course of this lifetime of love for and involvement with music, McCuen accumulated an astounding collection of commercial recordings, unissued live and studio recordings, books, photographs, serials, business records, and personal papers. Recognizing the research value of this material, he wanted the collection to remain intact, rather than be fragmented by collectors, and so offered it to CPM at a cost considerably less than its market value in order that it be maintained properly and made available for research.

The collection contains approximately 30,000 published and unpublished sound recordings, including LPs, 78s, 45s, electrical transcriptions, and tapes. Since McCuen sat on the business side of the desk, the collection also includes company ledgers, old trade publications, correspondence, meeting notes, and various other papers that form a remarkable body of research material.

The collection is strongest in jazz, McCuen's first love, but is remarkable also for the breadth of genres represented. "Brad's tastes were very catholic," said Center director Paul Wells, "and he knew good music whenever he heard it, regardless of style." There is a strong representation of rhythm & blues, Broadway shows, movie soundtracks, and an excellent selection of rock & roll.

According to both Wells and Bruce Nemerov, audio specialist with the Center, the McCuen collection will fill some gaps in the Center's holdings. "There's a lot of jazz reissue on LP, which is hard to come by," Nemerov said. "I think we're going to really supplement our holdings in that area. There's a lot of 50s bop that he picked up, original issues, items that are very scarce these days."

"McCuen's wife got interested in rock & roll because she realized there was a developing collector's market for it," Wells said. "She started working with one of the price guides and going to record shops. We're going to find a lot of things in this collection that will really fill a lot of holes in our holdings of small label rock & roll."

McCuen's love of music started at an early age. He learned to play guitar in high school and performed with a small dance band, on some nights earning \$3. He also worked for a jukebox operator and was paid in records rather than money.

"Brad has always been known as someone with a lot of integrity," Wells explained. He's from the days when people first started out as music fans then got into the business. His reputation was that he was very knowledgeable, sympathetic to researchers, someone who really cared for the music and wasn't in it just for the money," Wells continued. "He is delighted that his materials can come to an educational institution like MTSU. That's what he really wanted, for all of it to stay together, and his preference was that it go to a university."

It will take years to sort through and file all the material in the collection, Wells pointed out, adding that he plans to pursue some grant funding in order to get some help with the process.

*David Jellema,
Center for Popular Music
Middle Tennessee State University*

The Rutherford County Commission has underwritten ten Graduate Assistantships and one Graduate Internship for fiscal year 1997-98. The Graduate Intern, Marianne Dudley, a public history student

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY ARCHIVES

from Chattanooga, Tenn., surveyed county records temporarily stored at the Gore Research Center, and wrote a formal report outlining procedures for re-opening the Archives following completion of the renovations to the Rutherford County Courthouse in January, 1998. The Graduate Research Assistants, Rebecca Watrans from Knoxville and Shelly McCullough from Murfreesboro, have been preparing local records for the move to the Courthouse and are beginning an index to the Chancery Court minute books. They will be responsible for the opening and subsequent operation of the Archives.

In addition to processing records, providing research and reference services the Graduate Assistants will recruit volunteers, write grant proposals, and deliver a formal report to the Rutherford County Commission for June, 1998. They will report to Dr. Jim Neal, Director of the Albert Gore Research Center, MTSU, and to County Executive Nancy Allen.

*Dr. James Neal,
Director, Albert Gore Research Center
Middle Tennessee State University*

NEWS FROM THE KNOX COUNTY ARCHIVES

Michael McCusker, Archives Assistant, left the Knox County Archives to attend University of Memphis Law School. His wife received her law degree in 1997 and is now practicing law in Memphis.

Holly Henthorne, a long time employee with the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Restoration and Reproduction Section, joined the Knox County Archives staff, September 8, 1997. Holly replaced Michael McCusker as Archives Assistant.

Bonita (Bonnie) Smith is the Librarian and Archivist at the New Harmony Workmen's Institute Library and Museum, located in New Harmony, Indiana. In May, 1997, Bonnie received her MLS from the University of Indiana. Bonnie is a member of the Midwest Archivists Conference and the Society of American Archivists. She was formerly employed at the Knox County Archives, serving as Senior Archival Assistant for eight years. While at the Knox County Archives, Bonnie was active in Tennessee Archivists and the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA).

*Doris Rivers-Martinson
Knox County Archives*

SOUTHERN ARCHIVISTS CONFERENCE

The Southern Archivists Conference will meet April 6-8, 1998 in Selma, Alabama.

Anyone with program suggestions or interested in presenting a paper please email Robert Sherer, Program Coordinator, SAC, at: **robert.sherer@tulane.edu** or **robsher@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu**, or contact Mancil Johnson at Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tenn. (email: **mjohnson@tntech.edu**).

The Southern Archivists Conference is composed of members from state archivist groups from the states of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. SAC meets biennially, rotating among the conference member groups. The 1998 meeting in Selma, Alabama will be hosted by the Society of Alabama Archivists.

BLADES ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT PLANS

Horace Blades, Manager of Micrographic Services in the Restoration and Reproduction Section of the Tennessee State Library and Archives, will officially end a career of 42 years with the State of Tennessee on Tuesday, December 30, 1997. Over the course of years which includes service under eight different State Librarians and Archivists, he has played a major role in the development of several important programs including early work in the Legislative Recording Program when Tennessee became the first state to record the legislative sessions of the General Assembly. His most important contributions however, have come in connection with efforts to preserve the permanent value records of local government in Tennessee.

Beginning with the development of the County Records Microfilming Program in the 1960's, Blades was involved in all phases of the security microfilming program including the recruitment and training of field microfilm operators and the movement of camera equipment to and from various courthouses across the state. In addition, Blades set up and developed the schedule for inventory trips to the various counties in preparation for the on site filming of local records. During the 1970's the County Records Microfilming Program targeted the permanent value bound records in all counties through the year 1900.

In more recent times, Blades worked with the expansion of the program to include municipal permanent value bound records which came through the Homecoming '86 programs. He worked with the expansion of filming of local records through the 1950 phase and moved on under the current program authorized in 1994 to bring the filming of records in several counties into the 1990's. At the same time, Blades was active with a number of loose records projects across the state which have been transported from the counties to the State Library and Archives for filming. In addition he has been active with the filming of various holdings of the State Library and Archives including newspapers, manuscript collections, governor's papers and the various record groups of state agency records.

In looking back to evaluate the major accomplishments of the State Library and Archives, it will be found that among those who achieved the most was Horace Blades whose tenure was devoted to the preservation of the documentary heritage of Tennessee.

*John H. Thweatt,
Tennessee State Library & Archives*

NEW ASSISTANT STATE LIBRARIAN AND ARCHIVIST FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPOINTED AT TSLA

Beverly Jane Pinkston of Toledo, Ohio joined the Tennessee State Library and Archives as the Assistant State Librarian and Archivist for Planning and Development on November 17, 1997. She replaces Sandra Nelson, Assistant State Librarian and Archivist for P&D since 1988, who left TSLA at the end of 1997 to open her own personal consulting firm specializing in library management services, planning and training.

Pinkston, a Tennessee native, has spent the past five of her ten years at the Toledo-Lucas County (Ohio) Public Library serving as the Sylvania Branch Library Manager. Prior to that, she served as an Information Librarian at the Champaign Public Library and Information Center in Champaign, Illinois. Pinkston received her Master of Library degree from the University of Illinois. She received both her Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Memphis.

*TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NEWSLETTER,
OCTOBER, 1997*

SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS
 (formerly *Tennessee Archivists*)
FALL MEETING, FALL CREEK FALLS STATE PARK
NOVEMBER 13-14, 1997

SECRETARY'S REPORT

November 13, 1997, Ned Irwin, *Tennessee Archivists* President, opened and welcomed everyone to the twentieth year of the annual fall meeting. Micky Ann Hinojosa presented SOLINET's *Monticello Project*. The project will standardize, coordinate, and give electronic access to public information resources and special collections. It will be a virtual collection of metadata indices. Libraries will be empowered as community electronic communication centers. SGML is the standard markup language for the *Monticello Project*. Norma Myers, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, commented on some difficulties she had when she used a markup language program for entering a manuscript collection on the Internet.

Norma Myers; Mancil Johnson, Tennessee Technological University Archives; James B. Lloyd, University of Tennessee Special Collections; and Dr. James Neal, Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University gave a second presentation, "Congressional Papers Roundtable." Each panel participant described the congressional papers in their university archives. The Congressman Joe L. Evins Papers are located at TTU; the Congressmen Jim Cooper, Bill Boner and Senator Albert Gore, Sr. Papers are at MTSU; the Senators Howard Baker and Bill Brock papers are at UT; and the Congressman Jimmy Quillen Papers are at ETSU.

In the evening, the Society members enjoyed a buffet dinner prepared by the Fall Creek Falls State Park restaurant. A program of folk music and a slide show presentation of the history of Fall Creek Falls State Park and the Cumberland Plateau region were the evening's entertainment.

Friday, November 14 began the second day of the fall conference. Doris R. Martinson, Knox County Archives, and Norma Myers, East Tennessee State University discussed "Archival Certification: Pro and Con." Mancil Johnson was the moderator for this lively presentation. Doris Martinson announced that anyone interested in the Academy of Certified Archivists certification can connect to the ACA's website. The *Candidate Handbook* is available on this website. John Thweatt, Tennessee State Library and Archives, showed photographs and early Tennessee Archivists newsletters with his topic, "Where Have We Been, Where Will We Be?: Tennessee Archivists After Twenty Years." Dr. Edwin S. Gleaves, State Librarian and Archivist, announced that a 1998 archival summit meeting will occur, along with a proposed development of an archives infrastructure in Tennessee. He also encouraged Tennessee archivists to begin legislative advocacy for statewide financial support.

The business meeting began at 11:30 A.M. (CST). For this fall meetings preparations President Ned Irwin thanked Mancil Johnson on his one-man organizing and planning efforts. He also thanked David McWhirter, Treasurer, and panel participants. John Thweatt and Bill Summers motioned and seconded the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting. As of November 12, 1997, David McWhirter reported a treasury balance of \$4,176.85. Newsletter Editor, David Sowell requested newsletter articles before December 1, 1997. Ned Irwin announced that the Southern Archivists Conference meeting will be held in Selma, Alabama, Spring of 1998. David McWhirter and Kenneth Fieth will the program representatives for the Tennessee Archivists. Doris Martinson and John Dougan motioned and seconded that three letters of appreciation for archival service be sent to Horace Blades, retiring after forty-two years with the Tennessee State Library and Archives; James H. Neal, retiring from Middle Tennessee State University; and Maice Wolfe, Vanderbilt University, for not missing a Tennessee Archivists meeting in twenty years. Ned Irwin discussed the proposed revisions to the by-laws of the Tennessee Archivists organization. A motion was made and seconded by Mancil Johnson and Clara Swann to accept the revisions to the by-laws, which included the change of the name of the organization. The motion was voted on and passed by the membership. The *Society of Tennessee Archivists* was unanimously approved as the new name for the Tennessee Archivist organization. John Dougan, Nominating Committee Chairperson, presented the slate of candidates for election. New officers of 1998-99 are Doris Rivers-Martinson, Knox County Archives - Vice President and President-Elect; Mary Barnes, Metropolitan Archives of Nashville and Davidson County - Secretary; and David McWhirter, Disciples of Christ Historical Society - Treasurer were elected by a membership ballot vote. Under other business, Ned Irwin stated that the location of the next Society of Tennessee Archivists meeting was undecided.

Ned Irwin passed the gavel to the new president, Mancil Johnson. Mancil complimented and thanked Ned for his year as president. A motion for adjournment was made by John Thweatt and seconded by James Neal. At noon, the twentieth year meeting of the Society of Tennessee Archivists was adjourned.



pectfully submitted,
 ris Rivers-Martinson,
 retary, STA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Be careful what you wish for," by mother always told me, "you might just get it!" After years of dedicated griping about the direction Tennessee Archivists was taking, I now find myself as president. This is known as poetic justice.

Another of my mothers' favorite sayings was something about it being to fish or cut bait. Indeed it is.

Our twentieth anniversary is a good time to look back and bask in the warm glow of our accomplishments, but as anyone of a certain age can tell you, the past is a nice place to visit, but you can't live there.

There are some daunting tasks yet ahead of us.

There is a need for a program of basic archival training workshops to go out into the smaller counties and teach what is and is not acceptable archival practices. As the only statewide organization for archivists the task falls to us.

More and more counties and historical societies are starting archives and appointing archivists. Though willing and dedicated, many of those people are untrained. The situation has already led to some horror stories like the county archivist who cut up the county deed and probate books, tax rolls and court records and filed them by family name because, "that's what I'd look for."

There is a need to set up guidelines about what an archivist is and what an archivist is not along with some minimal qualifications. Once we have done that then we must educate county executives and historical societies so that fewer people whose only qualification is that they "just love old stuff," end up in charge of archives.

The days when anyone who wants to call himself an archivist, can without being challenged, are rapidly drawing to a close. Sooner or later, someone is going to impose standards on this profession. I'd rather it be us.

Archival education was the subject of much discussion at Fall Creek Falls State Park. At present there are only a handful of places in North America where a would-be archivist can earn a degree. There is reason to be hopeful about getting an archival degree program off the ground in Tennessee. Both the University of Tennessee and Middle Tennessee State University have programs in place that could easily house an archival education program.

Over the course of the next year I will be in touch with many of you about these matters. I will be appointing committees to look into getting a degree program in archival education established in Tennessee, setting up professional standards and establishing a training program. This is an ambitious agenda. I am not foolish enough to think that it can all be accomplished in one year, or without resistance. Change is never easy. I feel that we must begin to make changes before changes are forced upon us. We must become proactive if we are to remain viable in the twenty-first century.

Now, let me get off my soapbox for a minute and thank all of you who supported by nomination for this office. I will not try to disappoint you. I would also like to thank those who helped make the meeting at Fall Creek Falls State Park a success. I am presently negotiating with Barbara Stagg at Historic Rugby to hold our next meeting there. The drawback to this site is the lack of a central hotel. There are a number of bed and breakfasts in the area and hotels in Jamestown and Elgin so the problem of lodging may take a little creativity, but so far it seems doable. I'll keep you posted.

I can't guarantee much, except that it will be an interesting year.

Mancil Johnson
sident,
iety of Tennessee Archivists

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THE CONTINUING SAGA OF FRANK M. GRANDSTAFF

In the last issue of *Tennessee Archivist* I asked if anyone knew anything about Frank M. Grandstaff. Thanks to Clara Swann at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library, I now know much more than I did.

My interest in Grandstaff was piqued by a researcher who is writing a biography of Charles Faulkner Bryan. She had encountered a number of references to the name Frank Grandstaff and a musical work credited to him. Thinking that Grandstaff might be a pseudonym that Bryan had used, she had the handwriting analyzed. The conclusion was that whoever Frank Grandstaff was, he wasn't Charles Faulkner Bryan.

Thanks to Clara we now know that Frank Grandstaff was a native of Indiana. At age 15 he ran away from home and lied about his age to enlist in World War I. After being discharged he wandered the country trying his hand at any number of things including boxing and selling pianos. It turns out that his true vocation was stealing. The problem was, he wasn't very good at it.

By the time his wanderings brought him to Tennessee, he had been arrested twenty times. After the theft of a \$25 radio in Memphis he was declared to be a habitual criminal and given a life sentence.

Old habits die hard, even in prison. Grandstaff stole luminal from the prison pharmacy and was put in solitary confinement. While there he read several books from the prison library, including a history of Big Springs, Texas. Frank Grandstaff had been through Big Springs a time or two during his days as a piano salesman.

With nothing else to occupy his time, Frank Grandstaff began composing. He wrote the music score on the wall and worked out the rhythms by pounding on the frame of his cot and the toilet. When he was released from solitary, he put his music on paper. This became *The Big Springs Cantata*.

One Sunday a musician, who may well have been Charles Faulkner Bryan, gave a choral program at the prison. Grandstaff showed his work to the musician, who was impressed enough to take it to others. The verdict was that *The Big Springs Cantata* was "better than good."

Grandstaff mailed a copy of his work to the author of the history of Big Springs, Texas. After much arm-twisting by Texas authorities, the Tennessee Bureau of Prisons gave Frank Grandstaff a furlough to hear his cantata played at the centennial celebration of the founding of Big Springs, Texas in October of 1949.

After his six-day furlough, Frank M. Grandstaff returned to the Tennessee State Penitentiary in Nashville.

And there the story ends. Governor Gordon Browning received a huge amount of mail urging a pardon for Grandstaff. There is no evidence that he relented.

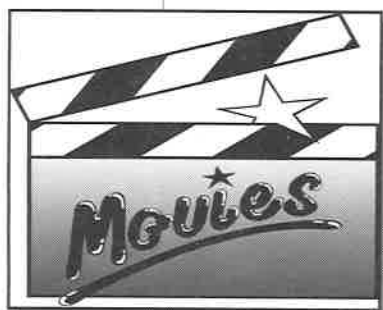
If anyone knows what eventually happened to Frank Grandstaff, please let me know.



Mancil Johnson
Tennessee Technological University Archives

ARCHIVISTS PRESERVED AMISTAD STORY

But for meticulous records saved for 158 years, much of the story of the *Amistad* may have disappeared from history.



This year, the story of the Africans and their fight against slavery is sweeping the nation, in a Steven Spielberg movie, a book, television documentaries, an opera. But until now, mainstream history paid little attention.

Many of the documents from the landmark court battle and the rebellion that preceded it were waiting, saved by abolitionists who helped with the legal case, which in turn galvanized the antislavery movement. Now those records are kept in an archive housed at Tulane University.

"We would not be able to raise the questions this film has raised if someone had not realized the importance of record-keeping," said Donald DeVore, executive director of the Amistad Research Center.

In a few quiet rooms, archivists have preserved much of the story of the 53 members of the Mende tribe of Sierra Leone in West Africa who were kidnapped and taken aboard

the ship *La Amistad* – the brittle and tattered documents kept safe in transparent sleeves.

Screenwriters working on Spielberg's script turned to the center for yellowed letters, drawings and newspaper clippings. A founding director of the center, Clifton Johnson, worked with the movie's production company. But despite attention at the time, the rebellion never became a standard part of American textbooks – unlike abolitionist John Brown's ill-fated 1859 attempt to start a slave uprising in Virginia or the 1831 slave revolt in Virginia led by slave Nat Turner. "Its omission testifies to the racial bias often seen in our textbooks and within our classrooms," Johnson wrote.

But the documents saved by a group of Christian abolitionists out of New York City, who formed a defense committee that brought the case to the nation's highest court, told the story. The abolitionists, who later became the American Missionary Association and went to work in West Africa, Jamaica and elsewhere, kept the papers, storing them for a time at a missionary-founded school, Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn. Later, the documents went to New Orleans and ultimately to the independent Amistad Research Center.

There can be found the words of the Africans, in a May 5, 1841, letter to former President John Quincy Adams, who defended them before the Supreme Court: "Me thank you very much because you make us free because you love all Mendi people." Also in the archives is the list of donors who paid for the defense, in contributions of \$10 and \$15. There are diaries, models of the ship itself, posters, more letters.

The center, which has 10,000 documents on other race-related and minority issues and histories, is not the only repository of *Amistad* lore. There are documents at Yale University in New Haven, Conn., where students taught the Africans to read, at the New Haven Historical Society and elsewhere.

But now, with the release Friday of the Spielberg movie *Amistad*, the dozen or so staff at the center, used to attracting scholars and history buffs, are handling an onslaught of requests about *Amistad*. Producers of three television documentaries, scheduled for release on cable channels next month, came here for research. Use of the center's Internet site has tripled. "We expect to be overwhelmed," said Rebecca Hankins, the center's archivist.

Center officials held a sneak preview of the film in New Orleans. It accurately dramatizes the conflicts that existed in America over the slavery issue, they said.

"It put a human face on slavery, allowing individuals to get a sense of what life was like for West Africans before enslavement," DeVore said. The Amistad Research Center's Internet address is <http://www.arc.tulane.edu>.

By Roxana Hegeman
Associated Press Writer (12/11/97)

INTERNATIONAL CATALOG OF SOURCES FOR HISTORY OF PHYSICS AND ALLIED SCIENCES IS NOW ONLINE

The AIP Center for History of Physics is pleased to announce the online version of the International Catalog of Sources for History of Physics and Allied Sciences (ICOS) at:

<http://149.28.112.25/pdi/icos.htm>

or for an easier address link from our homepage at <http://www.aip.org/history/>. The ICOS includes information about primary source material – papers of scientists, records of major institutions, oral history interviews, etc. – preserved in the Center's Niels Bohr Library and over five hundred other repositories worldwide. The collections described (currently over 5,000 records) document physics and related fields, such as astronomy, acoustics, optics, and geophysics, chiefly from the late 19th century to the present. Please contact nbl@aip.org if you have any questions or comments about the ICOS online, or if you can provide us with new or updated information to add to the catalog.

Caroline Moseley
Archivist/Librarian
American Institute of Physics

Court Rules Against the National Archives In Case On Regulations for Destroying Electronic Records

On October 22 U.S. District Judge Paul L. Freidman ruled that the Archivist of the United States was wrong to allow federal agencies routinely to destroy the electronic versions of word processing and electronic mail records even if paper copies were made. The ruling came in the case of *Public Citizen v. John Carlin* (Civil Action No. 96-2840) in which the Organization of American Historians, the American Historical Association, and the American Library Association were co-plaintiffs. The case involved a challenge to General Records Schedule 20, a regulation issued by the Archivist in 1995 which gave all federal agencies blanket approval to destroy all types of electronic mail and word processing records if paper copies exist, without any review of the value of the electronic records.

Judge Freidman's opinion states that "the Archivist has abdicated to the various departments and agencies of the federal government his statutory responsibility under the Records Disposal Act to insure that records with administrative, legal, research or other value are preserved by federal agencies." The opinion stressed that the general records schedule was designed to handle records that document housekeeping functions dealing with personnel, maintenance, and procurement but not unique programmatic records. Freidman discusses different types of electronic records such as a State Department email on an impending crisis and a Government Services Administration's word processing file on the procurement of desks. He then concludes: "Congress did not intend that records of such disparate value be lumped together under one disposition schedule. Such a method for disposing of records is not consistent with the responsibility placed on the Archivist to insure the protection and preservation of valuable government records."

Judge Freidman went on to note that Congress was aware that "agencies, left to themselves, have a built-in incentive to dispose of records relating to their mistakes" and thus Congress directed the Archivist to oversee the activities of federal agencies to ensure that the Nation's documentary history is preserved for the public. The law, Freidman states, "carefully limits agency discretion in destroying records by requiring the Archivist to approve any determination that a records should be scheduled for destruction..."

The opinion also considers the unique value of electronic records. "Electronic communications are rarely identical to their paper counterparts," Judge Freidman writes but are instead "unique and distinct from printed versions of the same record." Yet Judge Freidman emphasizes that the plaintiffs recognize that it will be necessary and practical to destroy some electronic records and that the issue here is that electronic records need to be evaluated to distinguish valuable electronic records from useless ones.

The Court rejected the government's claim that the plaintiffs had no standing to bring the case because they had not been injured and because the case is "ideological and abstract." Instead the court sided with the plaintiffs and ordered that General Records Schedule 20 is null and void. Michael Tankersley, an attorney with Public Citizen Litigation Group and the lead counsel for the plaintiffs, said that this decision "will help insure that the historically valuable electronic records are preserved." The government has 60 days from the date of this ruling to decide whether to appeal.

Although the Society of American Archivists decided not to become a co-plaintiff in this case, they did issue a statement in May, 1997 that discussed the problems with General Records Schedule 20 and urged the Archivist to rescind it. This SAA statement may be found on their WEB page (<http://www.archivists.org>).

NCC Washington Update, vol. 3, #44, 11/6/1997

NATIONAL ARCHIVES DIGITIZED IMAGES AVAILABLE ON INTERNET

Archivist of the United States John W. Carlin announced today that the first group of digitized images of some of the National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA's) most significant documents are now available to the public through the Internet. As part of NARA's Electronic Access Project, these 5,300 documents are the first of approximately 120,000 items that will be digitized and available electronically over the next year. In making the announcement, the Archivist said, "The Electronic Access Project will enable anyone, anywhere, with a computer connected to the Internet to search descriptions of NARA's nationwide holdings and view digital copies of many important documents. I want to acknowledge the help we have had from the President, the Congress and particularly Senator Bob Kerrey." The project is funded by the U.S. Congress with the support of Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska who said, "This is an exciting technological advancement that will bring the valuable resources of the National Archives into homes and schools across the nation."

The digitized materials including photographs, drawings, maps, charts and textual documents, can be accessed on the World Wide Web through the NARA ARCHIVAL INFORMATION LOCATOR (NAIL) at <http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html>. Additional documents will be added to NAIL monthly through April 1999.

Highlights of the newly digitized materials include:

- Watercolor sketches by John J. Young from a 1859 exploration of the Utah territory.

- Civil War maps, plans, engineering drawings, diagrams, blueprints and sketches of forts.
- Civil War photographs by Mathew Brady, Alexander Gardner and George N. Barnard.
- Photographs of civil works projects in northwestern states, 1900-1952.
- Groundbreaking photographs by Lewis Hine documenting child labor abuses for the National Child Labor Committee, 1908-1912.
- Photographs and documents from a 1921 survey of Blackfoot Indians.
- Original sketches drawn by artist Charles Alston to highlight the participation of African Americans during World War II.
- Photographs of the Kennedy White House.
- Environmental Protection Agency photographs of environmental issues of the 1970's.
- United States Information Agency reports on U.S. involvement in the war in Vietnam and on the impact of race relations in the U.S. on American foreign policy.

The documents are from NARA units across the country: the Cartographic and Architectural Branch, Textual Reference Branch, and Still Picture Branch in College Park, MD; the Rocky Mountain Region in Denver, CO; the Pacific Alaska Region in Seattle, WA; and the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library in Boston, MA. Documents from other units will be included as other groups of materials are digitized.

DoxSys, Inc., of Bethesda, Maryland, is the contractor for digitizing the documents. The work is being done by Micrographic Specialties, Inc., of Beltsville, Maryland, a subcontractor to DoxSys.

For additional PRESS information, please contact the National Archives Public Affairs staff at (301) 713-6000.

COMPUTERIZED ARCHIVES ARE SWELLING EACH YEAR

Between 1971 and 1988, the National Archives received 5,720 files of computerized records. Each file can contain as few as 30,000 individual characters or letters, or as many as 2 billion, perhaps 250 million words.

Now the archives holds 100,000 computer files – and is bracing for an avalanche when the Clinton Administration leaves office and its computerized records arrives for preservation.

Archivist Kenneth Thibodeau says the archives anticipates receiving 8 million files. Additionally, it is negotiating with the State Department for transfer of diplomatic records in electronic form dating from 1973 through 1975 – 1.5 million diplomatic messages in all. And the State Department generates only a fraction as many computerized records as do other agencies, such as the Census Bureau.

Because obsolescence strikes both the computers on which messages are written and those on which the messages can be read, the archives must transfer everything to a common medium. And since electronic media deteriorates, material must be transferred to new tapes every 10 years.

“In the future, it will be harder to look at old records – that is, the records we’re creating today,” says Maine state archivist Jim Henderson, an adviser to the National Archives.

Associated Press

CHOTCHKAS OF THE GREAT AND NEAR-GREAT

Anywhere else, the assortment of Oscars, Tonys and Emmys would be thought of as celebrity clutter. But at Boston University's Special Collection, the awards are part of the archives. Dr. Howard Gotlieb, 71, the collections' creator and curator, began courting the glitteratti some 34 years ago in an attempt to gather the curios of contemporary actors, authors, politicians and artists. "The other institutions were chasing Washington, Lincoln and Dickens. We could not compete. We didn't have the money. So I began wooing the likes of Fred Astaire, Ella Fitzgerald and Isaac Asimov," the Maine native said.

Today, the Boston University archive comprises more than 1,600 separate collections. Sixty percent are American, the rest are mostly British and French. It includes an eclectic assortment of well-known names in the Western world such as Bette Davis, Martin Luther King Jr., George Bernard Shaw, Francine du Plessix Gray, Samuel Beckett, Glenda Jackson, Cab Calloway, Sue Grafton and Frank Slaught-

ter. It is here on the fifth floor of a nondescript white building off Boston's Commonwealth Avenue that one can find a pair of Astaire's dancing shoes, four of CBS-TV news anchor Dan Rather's Emmy awards and Bette Davis's recipe books.

"A GARBAGE CAN MARKED GOTLIEB"

"I tell everyone to have a garbage can marked 'Gotlieb' and not to throw anything away but to throw it at me. I'll decide what's trash and what's not," the curator said.

And when it came to collecting, Bette Davis was a real squirrel. "She was marvelous. She kept absolutely everything," Gotlieb beamed from in front of a portrait of the actress from the film *Jezebel* that hangs behind his office desk. "There are more than 100,000 items in her collection." Davis was a coup for Gotlieb. He wooed her over a 10-year period, sending her notes and flowers and calling on the phone. "She had her suspicions. She sent people to check up on me," he recalled. "Finally, one day she invited me to her home in Connecticut and said, 'You win. Here take it.' And that is how our collection began."

Gotlieb, clearly in love with every aspect of his role as archivist, explained that he approached the famous by, "basically, groveling a lot." For some, it is a very big step.

"When I went to Harold Gray's house in Connecticut to pick up all his wonderful *L'il Orphan Annie* cartoons he and his wife just stood there crying. 'You're driving away with my life,' Harold said. It was a very odd feeling," Gotlieb recalled.

Mixed in with actor Douglas Fairbanks Jr.'s extensive correspondence are letters from the late Princess Diana as well as other members of Britain's royal family. And the British are not the only royals in the collection. Last month, Crown Prince Albert of Monaco was named a fellow of the library. His papers will be added to the archives that occupy two floors.

FROM DIARIES TO LAUNDRY SLIPS AND PHONE BILLS

On any given day, three to five scholars, journalists, students or just plain fans are to be found sifting through someone's papers, diaries and even laundry slips and telephone bills in a reading room near Gotlieb's office.

The most frequently used collection is that of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who got a doctorate in theology from Boston University in 1955. Gotlieb said he was able to get the papers because he started writing to King early in 1964, the year after the late civil rights activist was jailed in Birmingham, Alabama and led the march on Washington. "I just knew that someday he would be important. I didn't know how important," Gotlieb said.

Then there are the celebrities that got away. "I pursued Gloria Swanson avidly," he said, a rueful smile breaking out beneath his big dark bushy eyebrows. He repeatedly visited the opulent New York apartment where the great actress, a devotee of macrobiotic diets who totally forbade smoking and drink, would listen to his pleas for the collection as she tantalized him with racks and racks of wardrobes from various films. "She was very conscious of her role in life. I really thought I had her but then I woke up one morning to hear on the radio that the University of Texas at Austin had gotten her collection. I couldn't believe it, so I called her and she told me 'They loved me more than you did,'" he said. "I just didn't understand. I mean I sent flowers, notes, accolades. I visited with her many times. 'What do you mean they loved you more?'" he asked Swanson. "They paid me \$1 million," she replied, "something I could not do," Gotlieb said.

Article Courtesy: Peter A. Kurilecz CRM,

Leslie Gevirtz

CA

Reuters News Service



PASTERNAK'S MODEL FOR LARA BETRAYED HIM TO K.G.B.

"There is no more enduring Russian love story than that of writer Boris Pasternak and the woman who was the model for Lara, the radiant heroine of *Doctor Zhivago*. Except that now it seems that the real-life Lara, Pasternak's longtime mistress, muse and literary assistant, Olga Ivinskaya, informed on him to the KGB.

In 1961, while a prisoner of the Soviet gulag, where she was sent because of her association with Pasternak, Olga Ivinskaya wrote to Nikita Khrushchev begging for her freedom and reminding him of how she cooperated with the government's efforts to silence the writer.

Ivinskaya told the Soviet leader how she tried to cancel the writer's meetings with foreigners, worked closely with the Central Committee to try to delay publication in the West of *Dr. Zhivago*, the epic novel of an idealistic Russian poet and his lover caught up in the turbulence of the Russian Revolution, and dissuaded Pasternak from leaving the Soviet Union after he was forced to turn down the Nobel Prize he won in 1958. The letter, recently released from archives that once belonged to the Communist Party's Central Committee, was published in extracts by the Moscow newspaper *Moskovsky Komsomolets* earlier this month.

"I did everything in my power to avoid a misfortune, but it was beyond my capacity to neutralize everything at once," she wrote on March 10, 1961. "I would like to make it clear that it was Pasternak himself who wrote the novel, it was he himself who received fees by a method he chose. One should not portray him as an innocent lamb."

Publication of the letter astounded the literary circles where Pasternak remains a godlike figure. But there was more shock than anger. Most Russians are all too aware of the compromises and betrayals millions of people were forced to commit to protect themselves and their families from the KGB. Few have a clear conscience. Many, including Pasternak's elder son, who described the article as "insulting and disgusting," were appalled that a newspaper had sensationalized a desperate woman's last-ditch effort to save herself.

But a few were delighted by its revelations. "It is the first concrete evidence that she cooperated with the KGB," said Natalya Volkova, 70, director of the state Archives of Literature and Art. The archive is now in a bitter dispute with Ivinskaya's heirs over custody of a batch of Pasternak papers. "But frankly speaking," she added with a sly smile, "we guessed long ago."

Mrs. Volkova is part of a small clique of scholars and intellectuals whose views can be summed up as "Lara-Shmara." They readily believe Olga cooperated with intelligence services – very few in her position did not. But mostly they feel she vastly overrated her own importance both as a muse and as a lover. "His second wife Zinaida was Pasternak's real guardian angel," Mrs. Volkova said. "But," she added sourly, "the mistress is always more interesting than the wife."

Pasternak had a complicated personal life, but there is little question that he at one time loved Ivinskaya, wrote some of his greatest poems about her, and remained loyal to her until his death.

Americans mostly know the love story through the melancholy strains of *Lara's Theme* from the soundtrack to a 1965 movie version of *Doctor Zhivago* that starred Julie Christie as Lara.

Pasternak met the woman who would serve as his model for Lara in 1946, when he was married, 56 and a famous poet, and she was a beautiful 34-year-old widow working at the literary magazine *Novy Mir*. He began writing *Doctor Zhivago* in 1948. It was banned by the Soviets, who considered it a slander of the Russian Revolution. In 1949, she was arrested and sentenced to four years of hard labor because of her association with Pasternak.

In her memoir, she said that while she was in prison, she miscarried Pasternak's baby. "The relationship ended a few months before she was arrested," said Yevgeny Pasternak, who wrote a biography of his father. "By then, they were not close, but she was in prison, and he helped her children." Pasternak added, "I am certain that, had she never been arrested, they would not have been close." He said that, as a former convict, she was an obvious target for the KGB, but that his father, who knew of her weekly meetings with intelligence officials, always believed she defended him. The younger Pasternak, however, seemed less certain. "Instead," he said, "she could have said God knows what about him."

But he said he did not wish to judge her by a letter written when she was in the Gulag. "When she was arrested a second time, what else could she do but write to Khrushchev?"

In 1953, when Ivinskaya was released from prison the first time, she moved into a small house near Pasternak's dacha in the writers' colony Peredelkino, and became his secretary and literary agent. He spent his days at her house, his nights with his wife and family. Shortly after he died, she was arrested and convicted of smuggling foreign currency – the royalties she collected for Pasternak from the West. She served four years and was officially rehabilitated in 1988, the year *Doctor Zhivago* was finally published in Russia. She died in 1995 at the age of 83.

In her memoirs, *A Captive of Our Time*, she wrote that the authorities forced her to serve as an intermediary between them and Pasternak, and described how she tried to protect him from persecution. She did not divulge the kind of informing or contacts with intelligence officers that she described in her letter to Khrushchev. "She was in a concentration camp – you can imagine what kind of situation she was in," her daughter, Irina Yemelyanova, said in a telephone conversation from Paris. Mrs. Yemelyanova, who was arrested as her mother's accomplice in 1960, served two years in prison before emigrating to the West. She said she was horrified by the article. "The letter is typical of millions of letters written by people who were in the camps," she said. "My mother spent eight years in the gulag – to suggest that she was a KGB agent is

umiliating."

There is considerable disagreement among scholars over how significant Pasternak and Ivinskaya's relationship really was. Ivinskaya's defenders insist she was the great love of his life. Her detractors, and there are many, insist she manipulated his feelings of guilt to keep insinuating herself into his life. The Khrushchev letter has inflamed the debate. That dispute, moreover, looms over a bitter lawsuit between Pasternak's heirs and those of Olga Ivinskaya over custody of Pasternak papers that were confiscated from Ivinskaya's apartment after her arrest. They include part of the original draft of *Doctor Zhivago* with a dedication to Ivinskaya. Confiscated as "seditious material," they were entrusted to Mrs. Volkova's archive, where they are now viewed as national treasures.

A year before her death, Ivinskaya sued the archive to recover her papers. The archive fought back, teaming up with Pasternak's heirs to retain possession. For now, the papers remain in the archive under injunction, and the legal battle drags on slowly through the courts. Mrs. Volkova says she fears Ivinskaya's heirs will sell the papers abroad, and pointed to a recent effort by the heirs to sell Pasternak's love letters to Ivinskaya at Christie's in London. The letters were put on auction a year ago at a starting bid of \$700,000 and found no takers.

To some, at least, the Khrushchev letter suggests that the heirs of Ivinskaya are not deserving of the disputed papers, because she was not deserving of Pasternak's love. Resentment of Ivinskaya, moreover, goes back decades. In 1956, the poet Anna Akhmatova was told by a mutual friend of an ill deed Ivinskaya committed against a Gulag inmate. "I have never heard anything like it in my life," Akhmatova replied in her letter. "I hope

QUEEN OPENS ACCOUNTS FOR INSPECTION

Queen Elizabeth II has agreed she will open the account books and records of the Royal Household to scrutiny by parliamentary auditors for the first time. It would reveal precisely how £20.4 million of taxpayers' money is spent in the occupied royal palaces such as Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle.

The new approach has emerged before this week's publication of a report from the Commons Public Accounts Committee, questioning the running of the royal premises and the use of grace-and-favour accommodation by members of the Royal Family, employees and pensioners. The report will call for a curb on public subsidies for such accommodation.

The opening of the books is in response to a previous call from the committee that the National Audit Office should have an automatic right to examine the Royal Household accounts and to check whether current spending reflects value for money. David Davis, Tory chairman of the committee, is to renew his demand for Parliament's auditors to be able to follow all public money. He also believes the £7.9 million Civil List should come under scrutiny.

The Queen is anxious to show greater transparency in the use of taxpayers' money. The Royal Family and members of the household are keen to nail untruths that they personally benefit from taxpayers' money and that they are somehow exempt from council tax bills, utility bills and day-to-day repairs.

Last year, revenues of £103 million were returned from the Queen to the State. On the advice of ministers, the Queen also makes an annual report to MPs on the costs of official travel by each member of the Royal Family.

The Public Accounts Committee has spent two years trying to ascertain precise figures for property services, salaries and accommodation. For example, MPs are still unclear why people with limited royal duties benefit from a home inside a palace. At Windsor Castle, 13 military knights are given homes because they are required to attend weekly services in ceremonial dress.

When evidence was given to the committee two years ago, eight apartments were occupied by Royal Family members, 226 by current employees, 27 by former staff and four through grace-and-favour arrangements. Since then, the Queen has authorised changes.

Following the advice of Michael Peat, the Royal Household's director of finance, many properties are being rented out on a more commercial basis. Last year rents and salary deductions for the use of apartments came to £750,000, while £239,000 was received in rent from properties let on the open market. More properties will be added to this portfolio when they fall vacant. Mr. Peat himself pays £700 a week for his apartment at Kensington Palace, and pays tax on it.



VALERIE ELLIOTT
WHITEHALL EDITOR
Times of London 12/15/97

Article Courtesy: Peter A. Kurilecz CRM, CA

SMITHSONIAN ARCHIVES HOLDINGS

The Smithsonian Institution Archives is the repository for the official records of the Institution. In addition, it maintains personal papers of noted Smithsonian staff, researchers, artists, and founders of Smithsonian museums; special collections in subjects central to the Smithsonian's activities; records of professional societies and organizations, especially in natural history and museology; and video and oral histories. As of October 1, 1997, the processed holdings of the Archives comprised approximately 14,000 cubic feet of materials, arranged in some 1,150 record units.

The official records of the Smithsonian document the history and the role of the Institution in the growth of the nation. Through its official programs and the pursuits of its secretaries and curators, the Smithsonian has been involved in American intellectual, cultural, and technological life since its founding in 1846. Important nineteenth-century material includes records concerning early surveys of the West and Alaskan expeditions; records of its meteorological program, which formed the basis for the Weather Bureau of the United States Signal Service; records concerning the Office of the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries; records of the founding of the National Zoological Park and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory; and records of American participation in international expositions, including Philadelphia's Centennial Exposition of 1876 and Chicago's World's Columbian Exposition of 1893.

Twentieth-century material includes records documenting the Smithsonian's ongoing activities in natural history and astrophysics, as well as strong growth in the fields of American and Asian art, modern art, design, and craft, American history and the history of science and technology, and tropical biology. The Archives' records document the founding, administration of, and major exhibitions at the National Museum of American Art, the National Portrait Gallery, National Museum of American History, the National Air and Space Museum, the Hirshhorn Museum, the Anacostia Museum, the Cooper-Hewitt National Museum of Design, the Renwick Gallery, the National Museum of African Art, and selected aspects of the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery. In addition records document continued Smithsonian explorations and expeditions to China, Southeast Asia, the South Pacific, the Middle East, Africa, Siberia, Alaska, the West Indies, and South and Central America.

The Archives has records from the public programs and educational aspects of the Institution, such as The Smithsonian Associates, the Center for Folklife Programs and Cultural Studies, and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). Other resources include an excellent collection of architectural drawings, numerous photographic collections--particularly strong in Smithsonian history, increasing amounts of sound recordings, and biographical and other informational files.

Special Collections

The special collections held by the Archives consist of the papers of Smithsonian secretaries, curators, and other staff members, as well as the records of a number of professional organizations and societies that have named the Archives as the official repository for their records. Of particular interest are papers of Smithsonian Secretaries: the Joseph Henry Collection, which documents electrical research; Spencer F. Baird's voluminous correspondence with American naturalists; Samuel P. Langley's manuscripts on early experiments in flight; Charles D. Walcott's paleontological correspondence; Charles G. Abbot's correspondence concerning his research on solar radiation; and papers that document the ornithological career of Alexander Wetmore. Other materials of interest include field reports of the Fish and Wildlife Service; some records of the United States Exploring Expedition; papers tracing the Smithsonian's support of Robert Goddard's early rocket experiments; and materials relating to the Theodore Roosevelt-Smithsonian expedition to Africa. Notable collections of personal papers include the papers of Washington artist and art patron Alice Pike Barney, art collector and museum founder Joseph H. Hirshhorn, naturalist Waldo LaSalle Schmitt, and astronomer Fred Whipple.

Holdings of professional societies include the records of the American Association of Museums, American Ornithologists' Union, the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Audubon Naturalist Society of the Central Atlantic States, Inc., the Biological Society of Washington, the History of Science Society, the Society of Systematic Zoology, and the Washington Conservation Guild. Additional special collections include small but notable collections of records of late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century museums, and of selected Washington scientific societies.

Video and Oral History

Supplementing the records and papers in the Archives are both video and oral histories conducted and maintained by the Institutional History Division. Beginning in 1974, taped interviews with key administrative and scholarly staff have been conducted, and from the outset this program has provided an invaluable added dimension to the holdings of the Archives. The Smithsonian Videohistory Program, funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation from 1986 to 1992, used video in historical research. The experimental program recorded projects that reflected the Institution's concern with the conduct of contemporary science and technology. Eighteen Smithsonian historians participated in the program to document visual aspects of their on-going historical research. Projects covered topics in the physical and biological sciences as well as in technological design and manufacture. Among the videohistory topics included in the series are black aviators, the conservation of endangered species, the Manhattan Project, robotics, and the Waltham Clock Company.

On-line access to these materials is available through the Smithsonian Institution Research Information System (SIRIS) at <http://www.siris.si.edu>. An annotated bibliography on the history of the Smithsonian can be searched under Research Bibliographies, and a chronology of the history of the Smithsonian can be searched under Smithsonian Chronology in SIRIS.



THE
SOCIETY OF TEN-
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In This Issue...

LUKE LEA: EARLY TENNESSEE POLITICAL BOSS

The Society of Tennessee Archivists is now on the Internet!

Thanks to the good work of John Woodard (Knox County Records Management) and Mancil Johnson (Tennessee Technological University Archives), and others unnamed, STA has a website which is located at:

<http://www.arkay.net/tnarchivist/>

Next Issue!

THE ANNUAL SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE ARCHIVISTS MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

If you have any changes to report to your listing, please contact the editor
ASAP.

Also, if you have any news to report on archives, collections, personnel
changes, grants, etc. please send it in.

Deadline for entries: **March 15, 1998**