# NEA NEWSLETTER

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COVER— A procession at the Parish church on Mont-Saint-Michel. Pilgrims are seen along the right of the picture, climbing the narrow streets to the Abbey. *Courtesy* of the Society of Saint Edmund Archives. (See Around and About, p. 22).

I N S I D E — "A Path Well Chosen" (*Archival Insight*, page 4); "Transforming the Archives" (*Around and About*, page 22).

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#### NEA NEWSLETTER

#### New England Archivists Massachusetts Archives 220 Morrissey Boulevard Boston, MA 02125 <www.newenglandarchivists.org>

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Membership in New England Archivists, Inc. is open to all.

**Dues** of \$30/year (\$40 for institutions) should be sent to: Debbie Richards, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.

**Notices** of archival events should be sent to: NEA c/o Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125, or electronically to <ellen.doon@yale.edu>.

The *NEA Newsletter* is published in January, April, July and October. The contents of the *Newsletter* may be reproduced in whole or in part provided that credit is given.

Articles and News of interest to archivists, historical society members, historians, and other NEA members should be sent to: *NEA Newsletter* Editors, Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125, or <ellen.doon@yale.edu>.

Contributions to the NEA Web site should be sent to: <kathleen.burns@yale.edu>.

**Deadlines** for submitting materials are: November 15 for January issue February 10 for April issue May 15 for July issue August 15 for October issue

#### **Advertising Policy:**

There will be no fee to list position openings. Advertisements for archival products will be accepted as space permits.

Advertising should be submitted to Jane Ward, (978) 459-2129 or <jane.ward@comcast.net>.

**Rates:** Full page: \$125; half page: \$75; quarter page: \$40. Payment is requested at the time the ad is submitted. All checks should be made payable to *New England Archivists*.



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# From the Editors

- Ellen Doon

As the April *Newsletter* arrives in mailboxes, the NEA Spring Meeting is already behind us, and New England's archivists are looking forward to the SAA annual meeting in August, right here in Boston.

In this issue of the Newsletter, the focus is on Vermont. Although-or perhaps because-it is a small state, its archivists and its documentary heritage sustain important connections outside its borders, as both of our feature articles demonstrate. In a paper originally delivered at NEA's thirtieth anniversary meeting in Boston last year, Connell Gallagher reflects on his more than thirty-year career in archives and special collections at the University of Vermont. He shows how a willingness to take advantage of opportunities for professional growth in Ohio, Illinois, Washington, DC, and through involvement in regional and national initiatives with NEA and SAA, gave direction to a fulfilling career at UVM. In Around and About, Liz Scott, archivist at St. Michael's College, near Burlington, writes about the archives of the Society of St. Edmund, the founders of the college whose roots are in nineteenth-century France and whose mission in the twentieth century extended to England, Montana, Alabama, and Venezuela. The archival record of this geographically diverse mission draws researchers from throughout the world, and yet remains distinctly Vermont history.

In the coming months the *Newsletter* will require two new editors, as the terms of current editors expire. We encourage literary-minded NEA members to volunteer. It is an excellent opportunity to get more involved in NEA, and the editorial team's collective dedication and commitment to producing a high-quality publication each quarter makes the work truly rewarding.

The quality of the *Newsletter* depends not just on the editors, however, but also on contributions from NEA members. This is your *Newsletter*: let your colleagues know about your repository's exhibits, special events, acquisitions, projects, awards, and new initiatives; or contribute news about individual NEA members for the People section. If you are interested in writing about a particular project or topic in more depth, consider contributing a full-length article for the *Archival Insight* or *Around and About* columns. Contact any of the editors to discuss your idea, or see the information for contributors on the NEA Web site. @

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### \* Editors Wanted \*

Do you have keen literary skills and an eye for detail? If so, join us on the NEA Editorial team. Four editors serve for three-year terms to produce the quarterly *NEA Newsletter*.

Layout is done by a professional—we want your eyes, ideas, and energy. We are currently looking for two editors: one to serve from July 2004-July 2007, and one to serve from October 2004-October 2007. E-mail Ellen Doon at <ellen.doon@yale.edu> for details, and see the NEA Web site for the job description: <www.newenglandarchivists.org>. @

# **Archival Insight**

#### A Path Well Chosen

Connell Gallagher, Director for Research Collections at University of Vermont

This paper was presented at the 2003 NEA Spring Conference at Simmons College in Boston as part of the session: "Balancing Act: Short Term Realities and Long Term Goals."

The path I followed to reach a sense **I** of satisfaction in my career and current job as Director for Research Collections at University of Vermont has led me to recognize the importance of taking advantage of opportunities. Like many archivists, I came into the field accidentally. Few children tell their parents that they want to become archivists. I wanted to be a forensic chemist-not really that far from archives if you think about it—but discovered in my first year of college that I was no chemist; I didn't even look good in a lab coat. I drifted into English literature and decided to become a college professor. After finishing the M.A. in English at the University of Wisconsin, I was sidetracked by an opportunity to work part time processing manuscript collections at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Marriage followed with the need to find a permanent job in teaching, publishing, advertising, or even archives. I was hired at the University of Vermont (UVM) in 1970 to process manuscript collections and prepare inventories, the things I had learned at the Historical Society, and I did this at UVM for about seven years before moving up the ranks.

Take advantage of the opportunities that come your way. I knew when I came to UVM that I wasn't a "real" archivist because I didn't know anything about the profession, so I jumped at the opportunity to attend a two-week Institute on Archival Administration offered by the Ohio Historical Society during that first year in Vermont. There I was exposed to the breadth of issues about which archivists needed to know, the ones now covered in the SAA manual series, and I met a lot of archivists. A year later, 1972, when I joined SAA, though I didn't realize it at the time, I had made the decision to make archives my career.

Though I had completed most of the work for a Ph.D. in English with a minor in European history before I left Madison, I realized that I needed some specialized subject knowledge in American history to better understand the collections at UVM. I read and learned Vermont history on a daily basis, and I took some classes in American history with the thought of pursuing a second M.A. This was fun and useful, but I realized that the more important degree for me was the M.L.S. You needed to have this to move up in the university library setting. Librarians at UVM were eligible for sabbaticals, and I discovered that further education was listed as an acceptable option if there was a plan to use it for the benefit of the university. I was awarded a sabbatical and enrolled at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1977 for an M.S. in Library Science, and expanded my experience by working twenty hours per week in the University Archives under the legendary Maynard Brichford. This education changed my life in many ways. I learned about

the importance of public service, and how to really use a library, and I gained experience in university archives first hand. The most useful courses for me were bibliography, reference, and a course on typesetting and binding books that was to come in handy later. But more important, with the M.L.S., I was "accepted" by the UVM librarians, especially the director. This led to more committee assignments, and even though it took time away from processing, I had the opportunity to mingle more with librarians and teaching faculty. I gained important visibility on campus as Chair of a Committee on Faculty Status for Librarians for instance. I was appointed to this position because of my strong academic background. Faculty status required librarians to do some teaching, research and publication in addition to traditional library work. I worked with history faculty to create an Internship in Archives Administration for M.A. students who did not want to teach. This gave the department processing power while it provided students with enough experience for them to decide whether or not they wanted to pursue archives as a career. This opportunity gave me some teaching and supervisory experience. We developed a cadre of graduate students who helped with various department chores and went on to library school or to entry-level archival positions. Jeffrey Marshall, Julie Bressor and Greg Sanford were in this group.

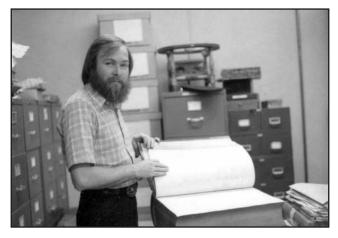
The ideas for the internship came from SAA, for the profession was struggling with ways to put bettertrained archivists into archival positions across the country. There were debates then as now on the best ways to educate archivists, and I think we have reached a consensus that training and education take many paths depending on the opportunities available to the student. Some will attend the major graduate programs in archival administration, some will get the library degree, some will go the certification route, and others will come in through the side door and depend solely on regional and national workshops. The bottom line is for all to

realize that an archival career means a commitment to lifelong learning.

When I returned from Illinois in 1978, my position was changed from Manuscript Librarian to University Archivist and Curator of Manuscripts, with no pay increase, naturally. After the sabbatical I became more involved in professional organizations, serving as President of Vermont Library Association, Secretary and

then President of New England Archivists, and chair of a number of SAA Sections and Roundtables throughout the 1980s and 1990s. The experience I gained in NEA from its beginning in 1973 really paved the way for this advancement.

The UVM collection, strong in political papers from the beginning, received three voluminous senatorial collections between 1975 and 1990, and these accessions put politics on the front burner just as my second sabbatical approached. In 1984 a group of congressional archivists met in West Virginia to discuss the major issues connected with accessioning large political collections, and one of the outcomes was the founding of the SAA Congressional Papers Roundtable. I was elected first chair in 1985 and served for two terms. There was talk of trying to place archivists in congressional offices while members of Congress were still active, and Patricia Aronson wrote about this in the volume *Archival Choices*. Both the House and the Senate had established historical offices after the Bicentennial, so there was support for these activities. My sabbatical was approved, and I



The author at UVM in 1976. *Courtesy of Special Collections,* University of Vermont.

went to Washington as archivist for U.S. Senator Robert T. Stafford for a semester in 1988, and then stayed on to work for Patrick Leahy in the spring of 1989. This experience provided a tremendous boost to my career and I was able to bring a great deal of knowledge about the workings of Congress to my job as an archivist with responsibility for congressional papers. I continue to be the one on our staff who deals with these collections.

While I was in Washington, my boss, the Head of Special Collections, decided to retire. This created a dilemma for me whether to continue as a curator or apply for department head. Here was another growth opportunity and I decided to go for it. I knew that I would not be able to continue my activities as University Archivist and Curator of Manuscripts and serve as department head, so I decided to move to Rare Books, a much more focused responsibility. The library advertised for an archivist to do my old job, but now the position required an M.L.S. degree. By this time in my career, I had begun to see all of the materials in Special Collections—archives, manuscripts and rare books—as part of a

> whole. I knew the archives, manuscripts, and local history side of the collection pretty well after eighteen years, so now I tackled the Rare Book Collection, and I did this the same way I did with manuscripts eighteen years earlier. I joined ALA and the Rare Book and Manuscript Section of ACRL and started attending conferences, and I took a twoweek institute at Indiana University on Descriptive Cataloging and Reference

Sources for Rare Books to give me the necessary grounding.

There was a steep learning curve in this plan, but I had a pretty good background in European history and literature from my Ph.D. studies. Working with rare books brought me into contact with faculty from many new disciplines such as Classics, European Languages and Botany who wanted show-and-tell and bibliographic instruction (BI) sessions for their classes, and I encouraged this because I wanted to see the collection used. I took classes in Mythology, Classics, Dante and the Bible to build NEA NEWSLETTER

subject knowledge and context for rare books and to give more substance and interest to my lectures and exhibits. Once I learned the ground, I began to develop new collections that interested me and built constituencies around them. There was little money to buy books, so I had to learn fund-raising skills, and with the help of the staff we have expanded the activities of our Friends of Special Collections.

Staffing has been a challenge because though we have three full-time faculty including myself, and 3<sup>3</sup>/4 FTE staff, we cover two reference desks in two different buildings, and we provide eighty hours of reference service over seven days per week. The Research Collections Division has responsibility for five major collections: University Archives, Rare Books, Historical Manuscripts, Vermontiana, and Vermont state documents. Some years ago we gave up our Vermont historian and bibliographer to hire a librarian with skills in Encoded Archival Description and digital collections because of local and national pressures to move into these new directions.

I have often had discussions with colleagues about the best preparation for special collections work. Many feel that strong technical skills are required because there is such a variety of materials and because the formats are challenging. I agree, but this is not the only road. Most archivists come into the profession because they are interested in the technical aspects, that is, processing and cataloging, but after some years I found myself focusing more on ways to get the collections used through lectures, exhibits, teaching, and public relations. It is important for every archive to have both personalities. I remember hiring someone to do reference service, and she turned out to be one of the best technical services archivists we ever had. I came in as a cataloger. Special collections work requires a mixture of talents.

After the Washington sabbatical, I had the opportunity to co-teach upper level history seminars on Vermont congressional figures, and this brought a flood of graduate and undergraduate students into Special Collections to do research. The political collections were being heavily used for term papers and M.A. theses. One of my passions since I finished library school has been to figure out ways to get all of our collections used. After this history partner retired, I linked up with a classicist to teach a "History of the Book" seminar to first year students and did this for three years. Again, many class sessions were held in Special Collections, and students had to complete bibliographical projects on books in the collection. At the same time we moved from doing just a few BI sessions a year to over forty for area colleges and high schools as well as UVM classes.

As Head of Special Collections, I am a Library Director with broad administrative responsibilities. For ten years I was responsible for U.S. Government Documents and Maps as well as an off-site storage building in addition to Special Collections, and I learned a lot more about primary sources and about people. I have been a member of the Dean's Council for fifteen years and help to make overall library policy. This is an important part of my job because it gives Special Collections a seat at the table where the decisions are made. I can fight for space, staff and resources on an equal footing with the other members of the

Council, but this work also takes time away from the pressing details of special collections librarianship.

So my life is filled with a variety of activities from negotiating deeds of gift with U.S. Senators, to creating library exhibits, asking for money, giving lectures to various groups on and off campus, teaching classes some semesters, serving on library and university committees, doing research and publication, hiring and evaluating faculty and staff, serving on SAA and ALA committees, running our Friends group, purchasing books for the Rare Book collection, soliciting gift collections, writing grant proposals, offering advice and serving as a consultant to local repositories, and expanding my knowledge of special collections work in many new directions.

Throughout my career, I have capitalized on opportunities as they appeared, and I sought new opportunities to expand my knowledge and interest in different areas of special collections. I am still the archivist I was thirty years ago, and I find myself itchy to process collections, though I come no closer than supervision these days. My lesson today is for young and midcareer archivists to keep your eyes open for opportunities, for with each one comes new learning, new associations and new opportunities whether you decide to spend your career as a processing archivist or as an administrator. Get involved in NEA and SAA, get to know people, take classes and workshops and expand yourselves in subject knowledge as well as technical skills. I find uses in my work for just about everything I learn. The more you know the more flexibility you will have to grow, expand and change, and the happier you will be in your work. @

# **Inside NEA**

#### From the President

#### - Rutherford W. Witthus

In November of last year, Anne Sauer of Tufts University traveled to Chicago as the NEA representative to the planning meeting of the IMLS-funded *Archival Census and Educational Needs Survey in the United States* (A\*CENSUS). The goal of A\*CENSUS is to ascertain the state of the archival profession in the United States, casting the net as widely as possible to discover the universe of individuals who work with archival materials in this country.

According to Anne, "the census will gather basic demographic information, employment and salary information, information on education achieved as well as continuing education participation and educational needs and preferences, and affiliation and participation in professional organizations." This last section will be customized to reflect information NEA would like to have about its own members. We hope that the members who serve NEA on various committees will be able to use this information while planning meetings, suggesting workshops, and informally discussing the future of NEA. The Fall 2004 meeting is shaping up to include some creative sessions on the future of our organization. So, when you receive this survey in the mail, please take some time to fill it out. An all-volunteer organization is only as good as the energy that its members generate. The more we know about each other's expertise and needs, the better we can focus our meetings and other activities on areas of members' interest.

By the time you read this, you will have received the program for *Managing Change*, our next general meeting in Worcester, Massachusetts, on March 26 and 27. A series of four Friday morning workshops on various aspects of our daily work precedes the afternoon sessions on newspapers, EAD, promotional writing, and sensitive information in collections. Our keynote speaker, Rockie Blunt, will help us navigate our way through unsettling times. Saturday morning includes a variety of concurrent sessions on digital issues, religious archives, and volunteers. As always, we will have a number of vendors on board to show their wares and services, and a spectacular luncheon topped off by our annual business meeting. NEA will be significantly involved in the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists meeting in Boston August 2-8, 2004. We expect to have a welcoming table for the thousands of archivists from around the country who will be full of questions about navigating the streets and repositories of Boston. For many of us who are unable to attend national meetings because of time, money, or family, this will be an opportunity to engage in conversation with and attend sessions sponsored by our colleagues from around the country. So, once again, I am happy to report that New England Archivists is alive and well and moving dauntlessly into the future.

#### **Executive Board Meeting Report**

#### - Tara Hurt and Beth Carroll-Horrocks

The business handled at the January 12, 2004 meeting of the Executive Board is summarized below. All **VOTING** is in bold and italics. Complete minutes are available on the NEA Web site, <www.newenglandarchivists.org>, or from the secretary.

President Witthus called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

#### **Officers' Reports**

#### **Immediate Past President**

Joan Krizack reported that the slate was set for elections, as described in her e-mailed report. The board discussed proposed changes to the job description and the calendar for the position of IPP; the motions were passed. *All board members voted in favor of the job description changes.* 

#### Vice President

Mary Ide reported on plans for the fall 2004 meeting, scheduled for the weekend after Columbus Day, at the University of New England at Biddeford. The meeting will be a compromise between traditional sessions and a full-day meeting on the future of the NEA (planned by Mary Ide, with outside assistance from Future Search Network). Joan moved that Chris Beam be the Local Arrangements Fall 2004 Committee Chair. Bridget seconded the motion. *All members voted in favor of Chris Beam as Chair*. Cally Gurley will also help out and is close to Kennebunkport, Maine. Jane will also get Mary more names of local people. Joan raised the issue that it is very helpful to have people close to the conference location on the local arrangements committee.

#### Treasurer

Liz Andrew's report had been sent electronically; her only new comment was that there is currently \$68,987 in the NEA account[s].

#### Meetings

#### 2003 Fall Program and Local Arrangements Report (UConn)

During the lunch break the discussion covered the report and suggestions on the 2003 Fall Program and Local Arrangements Report (University of Connecticut) sent in by Gregory Sanford. The board discussed Greg's comments about lack of understanding about honoraria and registration fees for outside speakers,\* and the need to have continuity from one meeting to another. Joan suggested that a chart created by Lois Hamill be posted to the NEA Web site for help in planning. As usual, all acknowledged the need to pass on final reports (esp. reports that give details on how planning actually worked out) and statistics. Rutherford will get a small team together to make sure that meeting planning works better: Jane Ward, Lois Hamill, Kristin Eshelman.

\*Jane Ward explained that outside speakers (non-NEA members) are asked to register so that the local arrangement people can plan for meals, but we do not charge them a registration fee.

#### 2004 Spring Program/Local Arrangements (Worcester) (Appendix S)

Spring 2004 program and local arrangements (meeting at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and College of the Holy

> To reach NEA officers, please see contact information on the NEA Web site at:

<www.newenglandarchivists.org>

Cross, Worcester, Mass.): Lois Hamill and Mark Savolis (Archives and Special Collections, College of the Holy Cross) reported that the Friday morning limited enrollment session at Sturbridge Village had been dropped from the program. They expect that the program will be posted on the NEA Web site by the end of the week. *All board members voted in favor of setting the 2004 Conference registration at \$50 member / \$80 non-member / \$25 student.* 

#### Committee Reports to the Board

# All members voted in favor of accepting the following reports (no action needed):

Development Coordinator Report, Haas Award Report, Membership Secretary Report, Newsletter Editors Report, President Report, Print Coordinator Report, Public Relations Coordinator Report, Secretary Report.

#### **Education Committee**

Karen Spicher submitted a report in advance. Paul Carnahan reported that an addendum to the report supported a request from the committee to increase honoraria for workshop instructors to \$300 for a full day workshop, and \$150 for a half-day workshop. (Current honoraria are \$250, \$125 respectively). *All members voted in favor of the honoraria increases.* 

#### **Outreach Committee**

Jessica Steytler asked that Anne Ostendarp (archivist, Franklin Pierce College) be approved as the next chair of the committee, since Jess's term was up this spring. The vote was delayed for later electronic approval, pending a discussion with Anne by Mary Ide about Anne's willingness to take on both this committee chair and program committee work for the fall 2004 meeting.

#### Hale Award

Bridget Carr described a recent question about the wording of the award, prompted by a potential application from an NEA member who does not live in New England. Bridget will contact NEA archivist Betsy Pittman to see the original terms of the gift, and the board decided that any other questions about eligibility for the award could be brought to the board for discussion.

#### Membership Committee

Beth Carroll-Horrocks distributed paper copies of the com-

mittee report. The board approved her request for funds (\$350) for a mailing to all current members to collect information for the forthcoming electronic version of the membership directory, and to make sure that the e-mail addresses used in the current NEA listservs (NEAannounce and NEAdiscuss) are correct and up to date. *All members voted in favor of the \$350 mailing costs.* 

#### **Old Business**

#### SAA in Boston

The board had agreed earlier to allocate \$1,500 to help pay for the SAA all-member reception scheduled for the SAA's annual meeting in August. This donation entitles the NEA to a quarter-page ad in the SAA newsletter.

#### **New Business**

#### A\*CENSUS

Anne Sauer described the census currently under develop-

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ment by SAA to "define the universe of archivists currently in the workforce, determine the knowledge and skills they need to do their jobs now and in the future, and provide graduate and continuing education programs with data to support recruitment and training of new archivists" (from press release sent out by SAA's Debra Mills Nolan). Anne represents NEA on the project working group.

#### NEA Web Site

Rutherford reported that three of the four NEA members who currently work on the Web site would like to withdraw from their positions. There followed a long discussion about the amount of work it takes to maintain the site. Liz suggested that the board investigate how much we spend on professional support for publishing the *Newsletter*, with the possibility of using a commercial service to maintain, and possibly host, our site. The board agreed that we need to have a procedure in place to keep the site current.

#### Honoraria

Honoraria for non-NEA speakers [see also discussion under Fall 2003 meeting report, above]: The board agreed that the fee of \$200 for a session speaker, and \$250 for a keynote speaker, would be retained. NEA members who speak at a meeting must register and pay the registration fee, even if they come only to give their talk and not attend any other sessions or meals. The board feels that all NEA members should help contribute to the profession by keeping the organization going; speaking at meetings can also benefit individual members.

#### Awards

We will continue to use the NEAannounce listserv to distribute information about NEA awards; board members will try to be more active in nominating candidates for awards and encouraging members to apply.

#### **NEA Stationery**

Diana Yount will order more stock; she will add Web address.

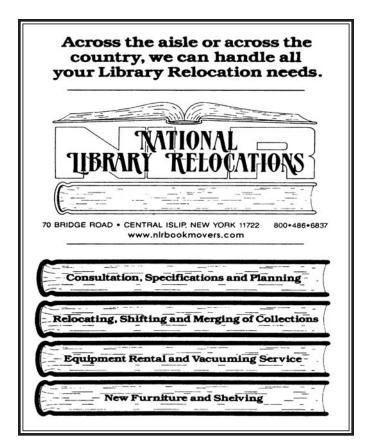
The next board meeting will be at the Spring general meeting in Worcester. @



Please visit us online at <www.newenglandarchivists.org> for more information about becoming a member of NEA

New Members - Deborah A. Richards

Mary J. Bernat	Lesley Pitts
Palmer Public Library	Mary Baker Eddy Library
Marilyn Costanzo	Aimee Primeaux
Boston University	Massachusetts Historical
	Society
Carola DeRooy	
National Park Service	Jaimie Quaglino
	Simmons College - GSLIS
<b>GLPWO Archives</b>	
	Simsbury Historical
Shirley B. Miceli	Society
Chester Historical Society	
	Yale-New Haven Hospital



#### SAA in Boston: Looking Back ...

SAA last met in Boston from October 19-22, 1982, at the Park Plaza Hotel. A joint meeting of NEA and SAA, it was SAA's largest meeting to date. NEA co-sponsored five sessions about the New England region and the documentation of textiles, tourism, maritime archives, and the use of historic records in historic preservation. SAA offered a single workshop at this meeting: its Microforms Workshop.

During its business meeting that year, SAA passed a resolution to call upon the President and Congress to adopt an agreement between the United States 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 stock supplies of such weapons," arguing that nuclear weapons would cause indiscriminate destruction of people and the records of people, and that one of the primary purposes of SAA was to preserve the nation's documentary heritage.

As SAA comes to the Park Plaza in Boston again August 2-8, 2004, many things have changed in our profession and the world we are charged with documenting and recording. Issues in Iraq and the support of statewide archival programs have been the topics of recent public statements and resolutions made by SAA.

#### Why come to SAA in 2004

- Take advantage of this opportunity to broaden your knowledge of archives and archival issues by attending a national conference right here in New England.
- Choose from at least a half-dozen pre-conference workshops.
- Choose from more than 75 sessions where you will hear colleagues from all over North America speak on traditional and cutting-edge archival topics.
- Connect with other archivists who share similar interests at one of 36 section and roundtable meetings.
- Find out more about SAA's 68th Annual Meeting in Boston, August 2-8, 2004 at the SAA Web site: <a href="http://archivists.org/conference/">http://archivists.org/conference/</a>.

# News and Notes CONNECTICUT

#### Yale's Digital Images on the Web

On December 4, 2003, MADID, the Manuscripts and Archives Digital Image Database, became available for the first time on the World Wide Web. Previously only researchers visiting the Manuscripts and Archives Cowles Reference Center in the Yale's Sterling Memorial Library could access this collection of digital surrogates. Within hours, users in France, Canada, and Denmark were beginning to use this new research tool. Based on requests originating from departmental patrons, the database had been under development for several years and required the collaboration of collection specialists, reference archivists, and systems staff.

MADID contains digital reproductions of photographs, posters, drawings, text documents, and other images taken from the manuscript collections, Yale archival record units, and publications that form the research collections of Manuscripts and Archives. The department's holdings are large and diverse, and the database reflects this. Database users can find images of an architectural design by Henry Austin, an eighteenth-century map of Pacaya Volcano, a Japanese petition to Commodore Matthew Perry, the 1903 Carlisle Indian School football team, Congress Ave. in New Haven after the blizzard of 1888, and George W. Bush as a Yale College freshman, for example.

As interesting and varied as the materials in the database are, the 4,500 images currently available comprise only a small percentage of the department's holdings. The database continues to grow as patrons request the digitization of additional materials, and the department plans to improve



functionality so that those needing publication-quality images will be able to order them online. You can search MADID at <http://mssa.library.yale.edu/madid>. There are also links to the database from the Manuscripts and Archives home page, <www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>, and from a Digital Collections list on the library's Web site, <www.library.yale.edu/libraries/digcoll.html>.

#### Association for the Study of Connecticut History Awards

The Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH) invites nominations for the Homer D. Babbidge, Jr. Award and the Betty M. Linsley Award for 2004.

The Babbidge Award is given for the best work on a significant aspect of Connecticut history published in the calendar year 2003. Eligible works include monographs, articles, edited works, exhibitions, films, television programs, etc. The Linsley Award is given for the best work on a significant aspect of Connecticut history created by, for, or on behalf of a Connecticut historical society or organization in 2003. Eligible works include monographs, articles, exhibitions, television programs, cassette tapes, finding aids or guides to manuscript collections, subject bibliographies, etc. This award honors Betty M. Linsley, ASCH Treasurer, history teacher, librarian, archivist, and genealogist, for her work promoting the study and preservation of Connecticut history.

For both awards, the ASCH will also consider persons and organizations whose achievements as a whole, rather than one specific work, merit recognition. A work will be considered only if nominated by someone other than the author, and a copy of the work must accompany the nomination. Send nominations to David O. White, 35 Laurel Ridge Road, Tolland, CT 06084. The deadline for nominations is August 31, 2004.

#### "Ebb and Flow: The Migration of Collections to American Libraries," RBMS Preconference at Yale

The 45th Annual Preconference of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) of the American Library Association (ALA) will be held Monday, June 21 to Thursday, June 24, 2004 at Yale University in New Haven. Entitled "Ebb and Flow: The Migration of Collections to American Libraries," the preconference will focus on the history and current issues surrounding the movement of collections into American repositories.

A full schedule of plenary speakers, short paper presentations, seminars and tours is in store for attendees. Plenary speakers include: Alice Prochaska, Yale University Librarian; James Raven, Director of the Cambridge Project for the Book Trust; Michael Winship, University of Texas at Austin; Dr. Thomas Staley, Director of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center; and Robert McChesney, director of the Afghanistan Digital Library project at New York University. Seminars will cover a variety of topics ranging from implementation of the Text Encoding Initiative to special collections funding opportunities to curating exhibitions. All of these sessions will examine different aspects of the increasingly complex duties of librarians and archivists who are responsible for acquiring, preserving and providing access to cultural artifacts.

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to visit and tour the Yale campus and the historic center of New Haven, as well as Yale's renowned libraries and special collections, including the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Sterling Memorial Library, the Yale Center for British Art, the Elizabethan Club, and the Yale Law Library and Rare Book Room. There will also be preconference tours on Monday, June 21, to the Lewis Walpole Library in Farmington, the Mark Twain House in Hartford, and the Wesleyan University Special Collections in Middletown, Connecticut. Evening receptions will include an opening reception in the gothic splendor of the Sterling Memorial Library, a reception and dinner hosted by the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, and a reception hosted by the Yale Center for British Art. Other events include fullday workshops at the Beinecke Library and the British Art Center on the cataloging of manuscript music and the use of technical studies in conservation respectively.

Please visit the conference Web site at <http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/rbms2004/>, or contact Mike Kelly <tmk1@nyu.edu> or Margaret Nichols <mnr1@cornell.edu> for more information.

### MAINE

#### Portland Anti-Slavery Society Minutes Available on Maine Memory Network

In observance of Black History Month, the Maine Historical Society has made available a Minutes Book from the Portland Anti-Slavery Society from the 1840s and 1850s. All forty-five pages, fully transcribed, are accessible on the Maine Memory Network Web site, <www.mainememory.net> . The document is part of the collections of the Maine Historical Society.

"The Portland Anti-Slavery Society formed in 1844 (an earlier anti-slavery society had existed as well) and included African Americans from the Munjoy Hill area as well as a variety of white residents of Portland," noted Candace Kanes, MMN Project Historian. "Men and women belonged to the group. In many locations, women were not allowed to belong to male anti-slavery societies."

This book contains the secretary's records of the Portland Anti-Slavery Society, including the Preamble, Constitution, and organizational information. The records book includes discussions of the issues as well as indications of conflict with city officials about holding anti-slavery lectures.

The Maine Memory Network is a statewide museum and archive that was developed by the Maine Historical Society. There are currently more than 4,000 historical items on the Maine Memory Network contributed by over seventy collecting institutions. For more information, contact Maine Historical Society at (207) 774-1822.

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### JFK Library and Museum Receives Grant to Preserve Hemingway Collection

The Kennedy Library Foundation announced that it has been awarded a \$150,000 Save America's Treasures grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior to preserve the Kennedy Library and Museum's Ernest Hemingway Collection. The grant is administered by the National Park Service in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute for Museum and Library Services, and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

The grant will play a significant role in helping the Library address the critical work of conserving the papers and artifacts of Ernest Hemingway. In a statement issued on behalf of the Library, Patrick Hemingway, son of the late writer, said: "We are grateful to the Department of the Interior for awarding this grant, which will sustain and strengthen this collection—truly, a national treasure."

Support from Save America's Treasures will help address the conservation, cleaning, repair, and mitigation needs of the collection. Items in urgent need of conservation work include Hemingway's first draft of The Sun Also Rises (with a working-title Fiesta); family scrapbooks, particularly one compiled by the writer's grandfather that chronicles Hemingway's life from his birth in 1899 through his teens; Hemingway's leather briefcase with stamps revealing where and how he traveled; a ring made out of shrapnel from the writer's World War I injuries; Hemingway's five military medals; books with the writer's handwritten notes in the margins from his private library; rare volumes, including Goya's Los Proverbios, and signed, first editions of Ezra Pound's The Cantos and James Joyce's Ulysses; manuscripts and correspondence; and more than 7,000 vintage photographic prints. The funding will also provide support for intensive treatment for a number of damaged items, re-housing of the entire collection, the creation of new research copies of Hemingway's manuscripts and photographs, and microfilming of the collection.

#### **Museum and Library Archives Institute**

The sixth annual Museum and Library Archives Institute, sponsored by Monson Free Library and Reading Room Association, Museum of Fine Arts Boston Archives, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the New England Archivists, and the New England Museum Association, will be held at the Wilbraham & Monson Academy, Wilbraham, Massachusetts, on June 25-26, 2004.

This Institute consists of two parallel programs: the Introductory and the Special Topic. The Introductory Program is designed for those who have responsibility for museum and library records and special collections, but limited experience in archival methods and procedures. This year's curriculum includes topics such as collecting, accessioning, appraising, arrangement and description, reference and access, oral history, copyright, and photography. The Special Topic Program provides an opportunity to go beyond the introductory level and focus on a particular archival topic or issue in a comprehensive, in-depth manner. The 2004 topic will address the issue of preservation.

The Institute will be hosted by the Wilbraham & Monson Academy, a co-educational boarding and day school for students from the sixth grade through post-graduate year. The 199-year-old school is located in Wilbraham, Massachusetts, a scenic town in the heart of the Pioneer Valley within ten miles of Springfield, Massachusetts. For more information contact Hope Bodwell, Interim Director, Monson Free Library, 2 High Street, Monson, MA 01057. Telephone (413) 267-3866. Fax (413) 267-5496. E-mail: <hbodwell@cwmars.org>.

#### Irish Literary Collections at Boston College

The John J. Burns Library of Rare Books and Special Collections at Boston College and Emory University's Special Collections and Archives Division have completed a project funded by the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation to create access to major Irish literary material. The project resulted in encoding sixty-four finding aids, and the development of the Irish Literary Collections Portal, at <irishliterature.library.emory.edu>, which greatly increases access to these distinctive collections.

The collections included in this project concentrate on the major Irish literary renaissance figures and contemporary poets. The Burns Library has the largest collection of the manuscripts, notebooks, and letters of William Butler Yeats outside Ireland. The fine collections of Yeats family materials include manuscripts, correspondence, and drawings by John B. Yeats, Jack B. Yeats, and from Elizabeth Corbett Yeats. Boston College also has significant Lady Gregory, George Moore, George Russell, Oliver St. John Gogarty, Sean O'Casey, and Abbey Theatre collections. The Library's collections of Samuel Beckett letters and manuscripts have material in four sub collections: Robert Pinget, Samuel Israel, Alan Schneider, and Barney Rosset. In addition Boston College has important collections of Flann O'Brien, as well as personal papers of Ethel Mannin, Sean O'Faolain, and F. L. Green. Recent acquisitions

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include books and manuscripts of George Bernard Shaw, and the papers of contemporary Irish poets Gerald Dawe, John F. Deane, and Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill. Much of Dhomhnaill's material is in Irish. Emory and Boston College maintain complementary Samuel Beckett, W. B. Yeats, Abbey Theatre, Seamus Heaney, and Derek Mahon collections. Because of the closely-knit communities of Irish literary writers, the Emory and Boston College archives are highly cross-referential. Extensive book holdings bolster all the manuscript collections. All finding aids are now standardized, available in electronic format, and compatible with the encoding procedures that have been developed by the archival community.

Both institutions plan to make additions to the Irish Literary Collections Portal as new collections are acquired and processed. In addition, Emory and Boston College hope to secure future support for the expansion of this portal to include the holdings of other research libraries with important Irish literary collections.

#### A Proud Past: Boston-Bouvé College, 1913-1977

The multi-media Web exhibit "A Proud Past" (available at <www.lib.neu.edu/archives/bouve>) displays selected historical materials from Boston-Bouvé College, now housed in the Northeastern University Libraries, Archives and Special Collections Department. The Boston School of Physical Education was founded in 1913 to instruct women in physical education. Now known as the Bouvé College of Health Sciences, the College merged with Northeastern University in 1964.

"A Proud Past" makes available online a wide array of historical documentation about the growth of the College, its founders, the development of the curricula, and its vibrant student life. These primary sources illustrate both the history of women's education as well as the development of the fields of physical therapy and physical education. At the site, visitors may see photographs of Bouvé's leaders and students in the classroom, at camp, and at leisure. Visitors may also read letters, brochures, meeting minutes, reminiscences, and flyers that reveal many perspectives of Bouvé's rich history. The site also contains animated models of required physical education costumes, video footage of Bouvé campers, and audio interviews with Bouvé leaders and alumnae.

This exhibit is part of the Archives' mission to preserve and provide access to the history of Northeastern University. The Bouvé historical collections are also open to research in the Archives Reading Room. Contact <archives@neu.edu> or (617) 373-2351 for more information.

#### Bay State Historical League Invites Grant Applications

The Bay State Historical League and the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities are pleased to announce that applications for the Research Inventory Grants will be accepted at the May 1, 2004 deadline.

Recognizing the difficulty of planning research projects or public programs that rely on uncataloged collections, and seeking to enhance the interpretation and preservation of history in Massachusetts, grants of \$1,000 are offered to small historical organizations to assess the research potential of collections. For deadlines, guidelines, and application forms, download a packet from the League's Web site, <www.masshistory.org>, or call (781) 899-3920.

#### SAA Visual Materials Section Mid-Winter Meeting Held in Cambridge

In January, members of the Society of American Archivists Visual Materials Section met in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Eighteen members from small and large, public and private institutions from around the country attended this second annual mid-winter meeting. The midwinter meeting is a chance for committees and working groups to discuss projects and plan the goals of the Section. The next meeting of the SAA Visual Materials Section will be during the annual business meeting at the SAA conference in Boston on Friday, August 6. Sally Pierce of the Boston Athenaeum will be speaking at the Section business meeting and there will be many other visual materials-related sessions at the SAA conference. Visit the Visual Materials Section Web site at <www.lib.lsu.edu/SAA/VMhome.html> for information on committees, educational opportunities, visual materials books, and the newsletter, as well as opportunities to contribute.

### OUTSIDE NEW ENGLAND

#### Be Counted! Census of the Archival Profession

Thanks to a \$247,932 grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a comprehensive survey of the archival profession will be mailed to U.S. archivists in the spring of 2004. Be on the lookout so that you are counted in this unprecedented effort to gather baseline data about the archival profession.

The goal of A\*CENSUS (Archival Census and Education Needs Survey in the U.S.) is to define the universe of archivists currently in the workforce, determine the knowledge and skills they need to do their jobs now and in the future, and provide graduate and continuing education programs with data to support recruitment and training of new archivists. The project will seek active participation from all archival associations in the U.S., as well as many organizations serving in closely allied fields whose members bear significant responsibility for historical records, including librarians, local historians, records managers, and museum curators.

The working group charged with developing and conducting the census began its deliberations about the scope and nature of this collaborative effort during its first meeting in Chicago, November 14-16, 2003. A broad range of archival interests are represented within the working group, including graduate archival education programs, continuing education programs, and the following national and regional organizations: Academy of Certified Archivists, Association of Moving Image Archivists, Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists, Council of State Historical Records Coordinators, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, Midwest Archives Conference, National Archives and Records Administration/Modern Archives Institute, National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, New England Archivists, Northwest Archivists, Inc., Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Society of American Archivists (SAA), Society of American Archivists Diversity Committee, Society of California Archivists, and Society of Southwest Archivists.

The census mailing list consists primarily of membership lists gathered from U.S. archival associations. If you work with archival material but are not a member of a local, state, or regional archival organization, contact the census project manager at <acensus@archivists.org> with your name, institutional affiliation, mailing address, email address, and indicate how you heard about the census. Or, if you do not receive the census survey by April 1, 2004, please contact the census project manager at <acensus@archivists.org>. Archival and allied organizations are encouraged to publicize A\*CENSUS in their newsletters, on Web sites, and at conferences because a key goal of the project is to reach anyone who self-identifies as an archivist.

Preliminary reports of the census findings should be available by the time of the Society of American Archivists annual meeting in Boston in August. A more comprehensive final report will be developed later in the year, and the data gathered will be shared broadly with participating organizations and interested individuals in the spring of 2005. For more information, contact <acensus@archivists.org> or refer to <www.archivists.org>.



# Former Slaves Tell Their Stories in New Library of Congress Audio Presentation

The Library of Congress' American Folklife Center recently made available audio recordings of nearly two dozen former slaves who were interviewed between 1932 and 1975. "Voices from the Days of Slavery: Former Slaves Tell Their Stories" became available on the American Memory collections Web site on January 16, 2004, at <www.loc.gov/memory>.

This is the Library's first online collection featuring audio recordings made of people who experienced slavery firsthand, providing the unique opportunity to listen to them describe their lives in their own voices. These interviews capture the recollections of twenty-three identifiable ex-slaves born between 1823 and the early 1860s. Several of those interviewed were centenarians.

The nearly seven hours of recordings were made in nine Southern states and provide an important look at what life was like for slaves and newly freed people. The former slaves discuss how they felt about slavery and slaveholders; how they were coerced; their families; and, of course, freedom. As part of their testimony, several of the ex-slaves sing songs, many of which were learned during their enslavement.

This presentation complements other American Memory collections, most notably "Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938," which contains transcripts of more than 2,300 interviews with ex-slaves. However, unlike the transcripts, which sometimes represent the collectors' interpretations rather than verbatim reproductions, these recordings present the actual interview and offer the unique experience of hearing the exslaves' voices with their various inflections and regional dialects.

In addition to the recordings and transcripts, "Voices from the Days of Slavery" also includes biographies of many of the interviewers, including such notables as playwright Zora Neale Hurston and folklorists John and Ruby Lomax and their son Alan. A special presentation called "Faces and Voices from the Collection" and a related resources section are also available.

The American Folklife Center was created by Congress in 1976 and placed at the Library of Congress to "preserve and present American folklife" through programs of research, documentation, archival presentation, reference service, live performance, exhibition, public programs and training. The center includes the Archive of Folk Culture, which was established in 1928 and is now one of the largest collections of ethnographic material from the United States and around the world.

American Memory is a project of the National Digital Library Program of the Library of Congress. Its more than 120 collections, which range from papers of the U.S. presidents, Civil War photographs and early films of Thomas Edison to papers documenting the women's suffrage and civil rights movements, Jazz Age photographs and the first baseball cards, include more than 8.5 million items from the Library of Congress and other major repositories. The latest Web site from the Library is the monthly "Wise Guide" magazine, at <www.loc.gov/wiseguide>, which demonstrates that "It's Fun to Know History." @



# **Internet Tidbits**

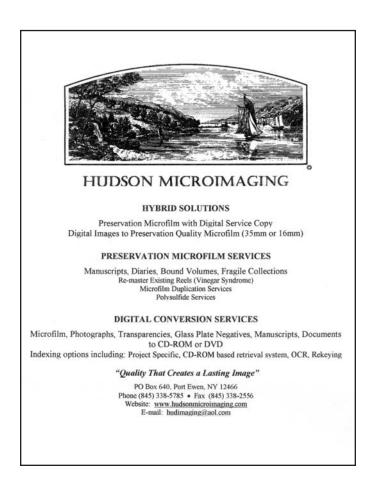
- Megan Friedel

# Digital Collections Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of First Flight

At 10:35 a.m. on December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright's "Flyer" successfully completed the first sustained, powered flight in a heavier-than-air flying machine. With Orville at the controls of the plane and Wilbur running alongside to steady the machine, the plane went 120 feet in twelve seconds upon Wilbur's release. Over the course of that day, the Wrights completed three more successful flights, each one longer than the previous flight. This past December marked the 100th anniversary of that historic occasion. In celebration, it is fitting to look at two institutions that offer online digital collections relating to Wrights' successful first flight in 1903.

Last fall, the Library of Congress launched a new American Memory site in celebration of the anniversary of first flight. "The Wilbur and Orville Wright Papers," at <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/wrighthtml/>, is an online presentation of 49,084 digital images (representing 10,121 library items) that document the brothers' lives and their pioneering work in aviation technology. Included in the collection are the Wrights' diaries and notebooks recording many of their flights and experiments at Kitty Hawk, as well as their scientific experiments and data; family correspondence and correspondence to pioneer aviators such as Amelia Earhart and Chares Lindbergh; and drawings, scrapbooks, and other material concerning the Wrights' research, work, and business pursuits. Highlights on the site particularly include Orville Wright's diary entry on the day of first flight, pages from the brother's 1906 patent for the O. & W. Wright Flying Machine, and, especially, digital images of the 303 glass-plate photographic negatives taken and developed by the Wright brothers between 1898 and 1911. The Wrights used these negatives to document almost every step of their work with their flying machines at Kitty Hawk, as well as to capture the landscape at Outer Banks, their home life there, and their life in Dayton, Ohio. Exhibited among these photographs is the famous image of first flight, snapped by an assistant at the exact moment of lift-off on December 17.

The Special Collections & Archives at Wright State University in Ohio also maintains an excellent online database, "The Wright Brothers in Photographs," at <www.libraries.wright.edu/special/wright\_brothers/dmc.html>. This collection of digital images from Wright State's Wright Brothers Collection and taken by the Wright brothers themselves captures their early glider experiments and flight testing in North Carolina and Ohio. Particularly interesting are the images taken during 1901 and 1902 by the Wrights' friend and mentor, engineer and aviation pioneer Octave Chanute. These photographs depict the Wrights' August 1901 and October 1902 glider experiments in the Kill Devil Hills at Outer Banks, North Carolina. Besides the Wrights' own photographs, Chanute's photos are the only other known photographs of the Wrights' earliest experiments at Outer Banks. This database, hosted by the OhioLINK Digital Media Center, does include three other, different collections, and thus it is somewhat difficult to browse only the images in the Wright Brothers Collection. Even so, the results are worth the wait. @



## **NEA By-Laws**

#### I. NAME

The name of this organization is NEW ENGLAND ARCHIVISTS. It is incorporated as a nonprofit organization under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

#### **II. PURPOSES**

New England Archivists is an organization established to foster the preservation and use of records of enduring value in New England, public and private, corporate and individual, and to improve the management and the public awareness and understanding of such records, by providing pre-professional and continuing education in archival theory and practice; a forum for the exchange of information among individuals and institutions having responsibility for records of enduring value in the region; and appropriate means of communication and cooperation with other archival organizations at the local, regional, and national levels, and with individuals and groups representing allied professions.

#### **III. MEMBERSHIP**

- Membership is open, upon payment of dues, to any individual or institution concerned with or interested in accession, administration, organization, preservation, or use of archival and manuscript material.
- There are two categories of membership: Regular and Institutional.

#### **IV. OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT**

- The officers shall be a president, president-elect who shall serve as vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. The terms of office of the president and presidentelect shall be one year, and of the secretary and treasurer, two years. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Each officer shall have duties usually associated with the office.
- 2) Four representatives-at-large shall be elected, each for a term of three years. No representative-at-large shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
- 3) The president, with consent of a majority of the voting members of the executive board, shall appoint a Massachusetts resident as corporation clerk to serve

at the pleasure of the board. The president may also, with consent of a majority of the voting members of the board, appoint persons to undertake such other responsibilities as the board may from time to time deem appropriate; the president may, with such consent, designate such persons as members of the executive board without vote.

- 4) The executive board shall consist of the president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, the representatives-at-large, and the immediate past president, as voting members; and as ex officio, non-voting members, the corporation clerk and such other persons as shall have been appointed to undertake responsibilities pursuant to section 3 of this article, and shall have been so designated. The executive board is empowered to conduct business between annual meetings within general policies approved by a majority of its voting members. All decisions shall be by majority vote of those board members present. All executive board meetings shall be open to members.
- 5) The president, with consent of a majority of the executive board, shall appoint a program committee, and other appropriate committees.
- 6) Officers and representatives-at-large shall be elected by mail ballot of a majority of those members voting, from a slate presented by the nominating committee. Nominees must be members of New England Archivists. At least two candidates shall be slated for each office. The slate shall include the name of any member nominated by a petition signed by not less than ten per cent of the membership and received by the chair of the nominating committee not later than sixty days in advance of the annual meeting. The ballot shall contain space for write-in candidates for each office. Ballots shall be mailed to members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. To be counted, ballots must be returned to the chair of the nominating committee postmarked not later than ten days in advance of the annual meeting, and received by said chair not later than the second day before the annual meeting.
- 7) In the event of a tie vote for any office, the successful candidate shall be determined by re-balloting the membership using the same mailing list as for the original ballot.

8) Any vacancy in the executive board shall be filled by the board until the next election when candidates shall be nominated to fill any unexpired term.

#### V. MEETINGS

- New England Archivists shall hold at least one meeting a year to transact any business brought before the meeting and to provide a program of general interest. This annual meeting shall be held in the spring.
- 2) Special meetings may be called by the president, with consent of a majority of the executive board, or at written request of ten percent of the members addressed to the executive board through the president or the president-elect.
- 3) The membership shall be notified at least ninety days in advance of an annual meeting and thirty days in advance of a special meeting. Those members present and voting shall constitute a quorum.
- 4) The executive board shall meet as necessary. Five voting members, one of whom must be the president or vice-president, shall constitute a quorum.

#### VI. FINANCES

- The treasurer shall record the financial transactions of New England Archivists so as to ensure that the membership may have a sound basis for evaluating the management of its funds; that the board may have adequate information on which to plan the activities of the organization; and that its financial practices conform to applicable accounting standards. The treasurer shall maintain such records, for accounting purposes, on a cash basis.
- 2) The president shall, with the approval of the executive board, from time to time, but no less frequently than every third year, appoint a professional accountant to examine the financial records of the organization and to report his/her findings to the board consistently with generally recognized accounting practices.
- 3) Annual dues for regular membership may be changed at an annual meeting by a majority vote of the members attending.

- January 1, 1995. Individuals who have paid for a Life Membership prior to September 1, 1994 will remain Life Members and will receive full membership benefits.
- 5) The fiscal and membership years shall run from January 1 to December 31.
- 6) Institutional membership dues shall be \$10.00 more than the current membership rate. An institutional member shall receive one (1) copy of each NEA publication which is distributed to the general membership free of charge. It shall be entitled to all other publications at the membership rate and employees of the institution may attend workshops and meetings at the member rate. The Institution is not entitled to vote in the annual election nor shall it hold elected or appointed office.

#### VII. DISPOSITION OF ASSETS AND RECORDS

- As the records of the organization become non-current, those of enduring value shall be donated to an archival repository selected by the board to be preserved under a formal agreement which shall address the needs of both the officers and members of New England Archivists and the general public for access to the records in accordance with the normal policies and practices of the repository.
- 2) If it becomes necessary to dissolve the organization, its assets shall be turned over to an historical or archival organization selected by the board.

#### VIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The latest edition of Sturgis's Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure shall govern the proceedings of the organization, except as otherwise provided by these bylaws.

#### **IX. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these bylaws must be proposed in writing and filed with the secretary at least sixty days prior to an annual meeting. Copies shall be mailed to all members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. An affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority of voting members present shall constitute passage. @

4) Life membership category shall be abolished as of

## Reviews

*The Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Resources: To Preserve and Protect,* edited by Andrea T. Merrill. New York, Haworth Press, 2003. 237 pp. Hardcover, \$59.95. Paperback, \$39.95. ISBN: 0789020912.

- Meg Moughan, Western Connecticut State University Archives and Special Collections.

The Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Resources is an essential publication for librarians, archivists, curators, security professionals and anyone who is involved in the care of cultural resources. Edited by Andrea T. Merrill of the Office of Security at the Library of Congress, the work is comprised of twenty-two papers originally presented at an October 2000 Library of Congress symposium entitled "To Preserve and Protect: The Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Resources." The volume was originally published in October of 2002 with limited distribution. In 2003 it was published simultaneously by Haworth Press and the Journal of Library Administration (Volume 38, Numbers 1/2 and 3/4, 2003). Thoughtfully organized into thematic sections, each section's chapters contain brief descriptive summaries and informative keyword lists.

The publication focuses on four interrelated concepts: physical security of collections, inventory control, bibliographic control, and preservation (both traditional and digital). Twenty-two leading library and archival professionals address critical issues regarding the preservation and security of collections in libraries, archives, and museums. The book explores the significant connection between physical security and the preservation of cultural heritage. The volume's contributors generally contend that "safeguarding our heritage" (security) and "protecting our assets" (preservation) are not separate activities but are part of an integrated, systematic process that should accommodate both traditional preservation and conservation practices (as applied to objects, books, and artifacts) as well as a "newer" form of preservation (as applied to digital publications and collections). The book attempts to place both traditional and newer preservation techniques into context and argues that one cannot be overthrown in favor of the other.

The contributors identify the risks involved in preserving cultural resources and present effective strategies for continuing to safeguard them in rapidly changing library and museum environments. The book guides library professionals through the process of evaluating preservation and security programs, budgeting costs, determining appropriate levels of security measures, meeting the challenge of preserving digital information, and addressing the threats and effects of theft, vandalism, and environmental disasters on collections. The authors address the notion that library and museum professionals have a shared responsibility to draw attention to the greater cultural risks associated with theft, vandalism, and decay of our traditional collections as well as being aware of the fact that digital collections are amorphous in shape and how we preserve them is key to their long-term existence. Those responsible for preservation and security should work closely together to build "a shared culture of mutual responsibility for security and safety" (p. 49).

Augmented with examples from their own experiences, the contributors discuss how library and museum professionals preserve and protect materials from the traditional to the digital. How do we, as librarians and archivists in a digital age, even begin to address this issue and to shift our paradigms to include both traditional and digital preserva-

# If you can See it... We can Scan it!

Film (any size), Maps, Broadsides, Prints, Glass Plate Negatives and Lantern Slides, Rare Books and Manuscripts, 3D Objects, and Anything else!

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355 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116 (617) 267-4086 info@bostonphoto.com tion and security measures? Several chapters address this and encourage professionals to assume more active roles in developing and improving security programs, outlining preservation priorities, and reviewing current preservation policies and procedures to examine the way libraries handle theft, vandalism, or natural disasters. The book also addresses how institutions establish preservation and security programs and how institutions sustain administrative and financial support for said programs. The contributors analyze the successes and failures of their programs and agree that analysis and measurement are important to sustaining strong programs. They also agree that a negative experience is an invaluable learning opportunity—one that may represent the impetus for change and growth.

The book encourages professionals to scrutinize their own institutional security programs and to determine whether appropriate measures are in place. Every institution that manages collections is at risk from theft. How, then, should we protect ourselves? Contributors ask us to review our current security practices and also to define security in an electronic age. This is not as simple and straightforward as it may seem. There is much to consider: how do we now measure the time and costs associated with traditional security against implementing an entirely different security system that may include safeguarding network systems and Web pages and that may be directed towards promoting access to our digital collections? How do we address breaches in our security systems (be they traditional or electronic)? The book addresses the importance of dealing with these infractions directly and openly and in the process learning from our negative experiences.

Contributors offer ways in which we may directly respond to and change the way we manage our security and preservation policies and procedures. Library and museum professionals need to recognize the importance of looking at current situations and identifying and addressing challenges, strengths, and weaknesses. This is necessary as a means of assuring the future of these programs, of assuring that they receive the necessary funding and administrative and institution-wide support. Neither good preservation nor good security practices come cheaply. Library professionals need to promote their programs more effectively than ever because traditional funding for preservation is in jeopardy. Librarians, archivists, and curators must balance the need to preserve the traditional with careful consideration as to what it means to preserve a digital document (and how to begin doing so). Several chapters address the many issues surrounding the preservation of both traditional and digital content.

The contributors stress that a connection exists between traditional and digital collections. As professionals charged with preserving the materials that document our past, librarians and archivists realize that the new digital documents are part of a common cultural heritage and may become the raw materials for future researchers. How do we preserve these new cultural artifacts given the fact that what we view digitally on the Web today may look entirely different tomorrow or that we do not acquire many of these materials traditionally? Rather, we purchase licensing rites to these cultural artifacts; libraries, in particular, do not "own" digitized materials in the same way that they own book s or manuscript collections. The book addresses this very question of how libraries preserve a collection that does not look the same from one day to the next or that one cannot hold in his or her hand. This is both a challenge and a potential threat to the field of information management and librarianship. The book's contributors offer concrete examples of how to begin addressing these issues based on extensive research, writing, and experience.

The papers presented in The Strategic Stewardship of Cultural Resources directly address concerns shared by public librarians, archivists and special collections librarians, and museum professionals. Key terms and concepts throughout all of the papers include stewardship, partnership, strategic planning, risk management and assessment, staff motivation and training, collaboration, evaluation, effective leadership, communication, responsibility, and funding and budgeting. Examples from the Library of Congress, University of Maryland, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Columbia University, among other institutions, serve to effectively demonstrate the need for library and museum professionals to clearly define their roles as stewards of cultural resources and to continually redefine exactly what it means to preserve and protect these resources. @

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# **Around and About**

#### **Transforming the Archives**

Elizabeth Scott, Archivist, St. Michael's College, Colchester, Vermont

The Society of Saint Edmund is a Roman Catholic religious congregation headquartered at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vermont. The Society, which founded Saint Michael's in 1904, worked in France, England, Canada, and Venezuela and in many sites across the U.S. The archives were transferred to Saint Michael's in 1995, and are governed as a separate entity alongside the Saint Michael's College archives. In 2000, the College agreed to hire an archivist who would spend two years working on the SSE archives before taking over as College archivist. I have just ended my two years on that project, and have uncovered a surprisingly diverse collection for a religious order whose membership peaked at 142 in 1968. The administrative records of the society are interspersed with artifacts and personal papers from places as far-flung as 1960s Selma, Alabama and Pontigny, France, where the society was founded in 1843.

The Society of Saint Edmund was founded in the ruins of a major Cistercian abbey in Pontigny. A group of priests began re-evangelizing Catholics around Pontigny, and eventually gained pontifical status as a Religious Congregation. In the 1860s, they oversaw Mont-Saint-Michel, a famous medieval abbey and pilgrimage site that had been used as a prison since the French Revolution. While transforming Mont-Saint-Michel back into a religious site, they continued their mission of evangelization, working as Parish priests and running schools where they offered young men

a Catholic education. In 1891, in anticipation of changes to French law that were beginning to infiltrate French church life, they sent priests to North America to look for new sites. After arriving in Quebec, they were welcomed by the Diocese of Burlington, Vermont. Ten years later, the French government forced religious orders to relinquish their property and many of their rights.

The records from this earliest time make up a portion of the SSE archives known as the Historical Collection. This collection, which is mostly in French, is processed and indexed, and about eighty percent of it has been translated by a volunteer, Tom Geno. The records consist of correspondence and official administrative papers, along with a variety of interesting artifacts and many photographs. Materials from Pontigny and Mont-Saint-Michel are of great interest to European scholars, as most of these records were unknown until recently. In the last few years, some of the maps were used by French officials to help preserve the Abbey at Pontigny, and an Edmundite was discovered to have taken some of the earliest photographs of Mont-Saint-Michel. The administrative records include official documents, letters between leaders and Bishops, and correspondence with Vatican officials that illuminate some of the trials faced as the Society transformed from a simple band of priests into a recognized congregation. The personal correspondence goes into great detail about daily activities, while providing insight into the French

anticlericalism that eventually forced the Society out of France.

After being forced out of France in 1901, the Edmundites moved their administrative base to Hitchin, England, and most novices moved to Burlington, Vermont. From Hitchin, where they remained for the next twenty-three years, the Edmundites developed missions similar to those they had left in France. They headed up a Catholic grammar school in Hitchin, and in 1904 founded Saint Michael's College in Vermont. They were given responsibility for St. Anne's Shrine in Isle LaMotte, Vermont, one of the oldest catholic shrines in North America. Some of their number also moved across the country and ran a Catholic mission on a Northern Chevenne Indian reservation in Forsythe, Montana. Such geographically diverse missions took a financial toll, however, and monetary difficulties eventually overcame the group. In 1924 they voted to merge with another order. The members living in Vermont petitioned the Vatican to remain an autonomous religious order, however, and the Vatican allowed them to do this under the control of a Vatican "visitor" who oversaw their affairs.

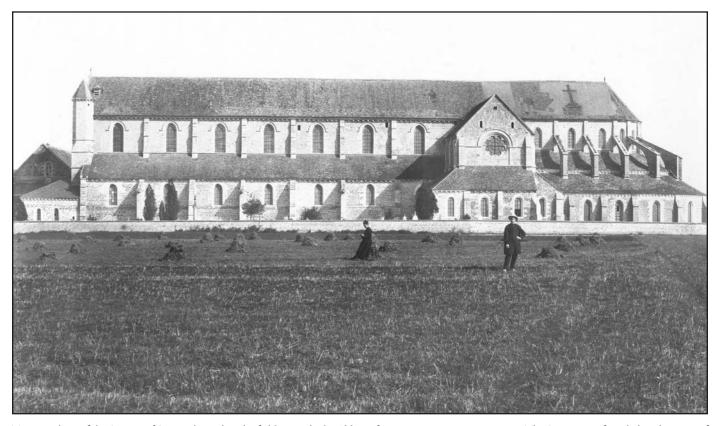
We are just beginning to translate the records from this period, although most of those associated with Saint Michael's College and Saint Anne's Shrine have been processed. They include many official files that deal with starting and running the schools, staffing the mission in Montana, and maintaining both personnel and the Society's identity through their amalgamation in 1925-26. The personal correspondence and financial records make clear the dire straits in which the Society found itself, and partially explain the need to join forces with another group.

Materials from the period 1925-1936 are particularly interesting. The official papers document the administrative changes and changes in personnel, as well as the struggle of keeping intact their works in Vermont. Personal correspondence gives insight into the membership, which was swiftly becoming mostly American. The papers of those who fought for survival are quite extensive, and their ideas and ideals marked the beginning of a new era for the society. Many of the records are in French, although the growing use of English reflects the changing identity of the group. Some records, such as minutes from Saint Michael's College Council, are in French one month and in English the next, gradually moving to all English by the end of this decade.

Most of my own work has focused on the records since 1936, when their administrative offices moved to Vermont. Here, they gradually built an identity as an American, rather than French, order. They retained the same basic mission of evangelization, and began to expand their works beyond the Vermont countryside.

Within Vermont, they continued to work as parish priests, and to run Saint Michael's College, a high school in Swanton, and a novitiate, as well as St. Anne's Shrine. Some priests returned to England. A few continued their work in French parishes. The Society also moved priests to Quebec when the Diocese requested Englishspeaking priests. Still, the Superior General felt that the Society was not doing enough mission work in areas of dire need. His correspondence reveals that he appealed to Bishops throughout the South and West, looking for places to expand. Finally, in 1937, they were invited to start a mission in Selma, Alabama.

In Selma, which quickly became their largest mission, they established a parochial school and a boys club to serve the African-American youth. They founded the Holy Infant Inn Nursing Home and they also purchased the Good Samaritan Hospital, the only hospital in Selma that would admit African-American patients.



Two members of the Society of Saint Edmund in the fields outside the Abbey of Pontigny, in Pontigny, France. The Society was founded in the ruins of the Abbey in 1843. *Courtesy of the Society of Saint Edmund Archives*.

They also expanded to other parts of Alabama and into North Carolina, where they ran another school and worked as parish priests serving the African-American community.

The Edmundites continued to grow over the next thirty years. They were still active in England, and in France had managed to purchase the Abbey of Pontigny again, where they ran a grammar school and a novitiate. They continued working in Vermont and Quebec, and ran a high school in New York State. In the 1950s, they were given an island in Mystic, Connecticut, and they quickly put it to use as a novitiate and retreat center. In the early 1960s, heeding a papal appeal, they headed to Caracas, Venezuela, where they worked in barrios and a middle class neighborhood establishing parishes and a number of outreach programs. By 1968, they reached their high point of 142 members.

Beginning in the late 1970s, in response to an aging membership and fewer new recruits, the SSE began to condense their works. The missions in North Carolina ended first, followed by the missions in Quebec and England. Today, only one priest continues to work in Caracas. The Society continues to run a number of programs out of its Selma offices, including a nativity school in New Orleans, but the Good Samaritan Hospital closed in 1984. Few candidates for priesthood mean that the island in Connecticut is run mainly as



The Benedictine Abbey of Mont-St-Michel sits in the bay of Saint Malo, off the coast of Normandy, France. The Society of Saint Edmund was responsible for the abbey in the latter half of the 19th century and helped transform it from a prison back into a religious pilgrimage site. *Courtesy of St. Michael's College Archives.* 

a retreat center. In Vermont, they have a number of parishes and St. Anne's Shrine, and continue to serve in a number of roles at Saint Michael's College, although they are no longer responsible for its governance. Today, there are fewer than fifty Edmundites, and all but three of them are over fifty years of age. Most are near or over retirement age. Their future as a group is the subject of many discussions, which is one of the reasons maintaining their records is so important to them.

As the society closed houses and missions, most records were transferred back to the general administrative offices and eventually made their way into the archives, which was established in 1974. Some of these records were processed, although most were classified according to an incredibly complex and cumbersome system that had little regard for archival principles. Part of my charge from the Society was to change this system if necessary, and to deal with the confidential records. I was forced to reprocess some record groups, and I was able to process many new series. Most are fully processed and the finding aids will soon be available. These completed records provide interesting documentation of the work life of a very small religious order, and cover almost the entirety of their works.

The records that receive the most use are those related to Saint Michael's College. The college is currently celebrating its Centennial, and the official college records are mingled with official SSE records up until the 1960s, when the Society ceased governing the College. Financial records are also often requested, as the Society attempts to deal with a changing econ-



Members of the Society of Saint Edmund in Winooski Park, Vermont, ca.1904. The farmhouse in the background was soon converted into the first building of Saint Michael's College. *Courtesy of Saint Michael's College Archives*.

omy and an aging membership. We also receive requests for information about current or former priests, and I work fairly closely with the Society's General Administrative offices in handling those, as many of these records are closed. The current administration is beginning to delve into the records of the past more often, as they struggle with the loss of membership. They are interested in what the records demonstrate about their changes over time, and especially in how they rejuvenated and dealt with the major changes in the past. They are also quite concerned about their active records, and have begun to follow records management guidelines I helped put in place.

My two-year project on the Society's papers has now ended, and I was unable to process all of the SSE records. The photograph collection is not processed at all, and twenty file cabinets of photos are still in Selma. The largest record group, the records from Selma, arrived at Saint Michael's so recently that they were just accessioned. The Society is actively seeking ways to process these records quickly, especially as I have already received a number of reference queries regarding them. Even though most of my time is now spent working with the College Archives, the Society of Saint Edmund records remain an integral part of my department's mission, and I will continue to handle reference requests and transfer records for the Society on a daily basis. @

New Member	/Change of Address/Directory Information	
Name	Date:	
Address:		
 Telephone:	Home Business	
Fax number:		
Please mail to New England Archivists:	Debbie Richards, Membership Secretary	
	Schlesinger Library Radcliffe Institute	
	10 Garden Street Cambridge, MA 02138 <richards@radcliffe.edu></richards@radcliffe.edu>	

#### NEA NEWSLETTER

## Calendar

Press releases and other announcements of upcoming activities to be published in the *Newsletter* should be sent to NEA, c/o Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125, or sent via e-mail to <ellen.doon@yale.edu>. Please provide the date, time, place and a brief description of the event and the name, address and telephone number of the person to be contacted for information.

**April 12, 2004**. Preservation Education Symposium. Simmons College, Boston, MA. Free; registration required. <www.simmons.edu/gslis/about/news/symposium>

**April 23, 2004**. ACRL/NEC Spring Conference. Bryant College, Smithfield, RI. <www.acrlnec.org>

**April 28-30, 2004**. "Connections," Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) Annual Conference. Sea Crest Resort, Falmouth MA. <www.masslib.org>

**April 30, 2004**. New England Technical Services Librarians (NETSL) Spring Conference. College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. <www.nelib.org>

**May 6-10, 2004.** American Association of Museums, Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo. New Orleans, LA. <www.aam-us.org>

May 15, 2004. Application deadline for Academy of Certified Archivists exam. (518) 463-8644. <aca@caphill.com>

**May 16-21, 2004.** "Digitization for Cultural Heritage Professionals" workshop, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. See <www.ils.unc.edu/DCHP/>, or call (919) 963-8366 for more information.

**May 27-29, 2004.** "Accountability and Ethics in the Archival Sphere," Association of Canadian Archivists Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec. <www.archivists.ca>

**Through May 30, 2004.** Exhibit, "The Camera's Coast: Historic Photographs of Maritime New England." Maine Historical Society, 489 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. (207) 774-1822. June 2-4, 2004. "School for Scanning: Building Good Digital Collections." Presented by the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Chicago, IL. <www.nedcc.org>

June 5-10, 2004. Special Libraries Association Annual Conference, Nashville, TN. <www.sla.org>

June 7-18, 2004. Modern Archives Institute, NARA, Washington, DC. <www.archives.gov>

June 10-12, 2004. American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting. Colorado Springs, CO. <www.aaslh.org>

June 11, 2004. "Creative Collaborations: It Takes a Campus to Educate a Student," New England Library Instruction Group (NELIG/ACRL) annual meeting. Tufts University, Medford, MA. <www.wesleyan.edu/libr/nelig/>

June 20-24, 2004. "Ebb and Flow": Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (ALA/ACRL) Preconference. New Haven, CT. <a href="http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/rbms2004/">http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/rbms2004/</a>>

June 20-25, 2004. Summer Seminar in the History of the Book: "Enriching American Studies Scholarship through the History of the Book." American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA. <www.americanantiquarian.org/ summersem.htm>

June 20-July 2, 2004. Eighteenth Annual Western Archives Institute, University of California, Davis. <www.ss.ca.gov/archives/level3\_wai.html>

June 24-30, 2004. American Library Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL. <www.ala.org>

June 25-26, 2004. Museum and Library Archives Institute. Wilbraham, MA. <hbodwell@cwmars.org>

August 2-8, 2004. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting and Conference. Boston, MA. <www.archivists.org>

August 23-29, 2004. "Archives, Memory and Knowledge," XVth International Congress on Archives. Vienna, Austria. <www.ica.org>

September 29-October 3, 2004. "Telling Stories:

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Narratives of Our Own Times." Oral History Association Annual Meeting. Portland, OR. <http://omega.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha/>

October 3-6, 2004. ARMA International Annual Conference: "Creative Solutions for Changing Times." Long Beach, CA. <a href="http://expo.arma.org">http://expo.arma.org</a>

**October 20-22, 2004**. New England Library Association Meeting, Manchester, NH. <www.nelib.org>

**October 15-16, 2004**. NEA Fall Meeting. University of New England, Biddeford, Maine.

November 8-13, 2004. Archives Week in the NEA region.

November 10-13, 2004. "Great Technology for Collections, Confluence and Community," Museum Computer Network Conference. Minneapolis, MN. <www.mcn.edu>

January 6–9, 2005. "Archives and Artifacts," Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association. Seattle, Washington. <www.theaha.org> **January 11-14, 2005.** Association for Library and Information Science Education Annual Conference, Boston, MA. <www.alise.org>

**February 15, 2005**. Application deadline for NEA Richard W. Hale, Jr. Professional Development Award.

**March 1, 2005**. Application deadline for NEA Richard L. Haas Memorial Award.

**March 31-April 3, 2005.** New England Regional Genealogical Conference, Portland, ME. <<</td><www.rootsweb.com/~ma>

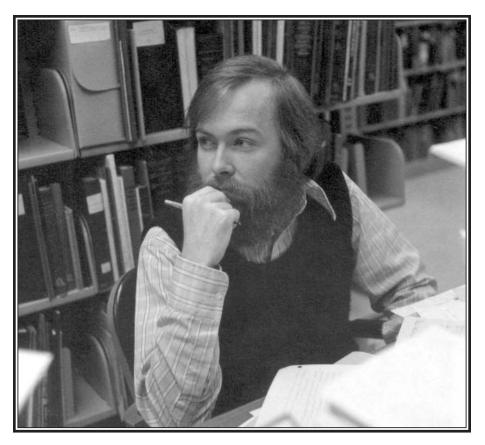
August 13-21, 2005. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting and Conference, New Orleans, LA.

July 31-August 6, 2006. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting and Conference, Washington, DC.

**August 27-September 2, 2007.** Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting and Conference, Chicago, IL. (\*)

### NEA is always looking for ideas for sessions at the fall and spring meetings. Your suggestions are invited! Please complete and send this form to: Rutherford Witthus, NEA President University of Connecticut Libraries Thomas J. Dodd Research Center 405 Babbidge Road, U-205 Storrs, CT 06269-1205 e-mail: <rutherford.witthus@uconn.edu> Proposed by: \_\_\_\_ Institution: Mailing address Phone: \_\_\_\_ Fax: E-mail: Please provide a brief description of the session you'd like to see offered at an NEA meeting. If possible, include the overall purpose and a general description of the session, and its intended audience (including skill level and topic category). If you have ideas for potential speakers for this session, please include their names and institutional affiliations.

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Connell Gallagher at UVM in 1976. See Archival Insight, page 4. Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Vermont.