

# Annotation

N H P R C  
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS  
COMMISSION

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## COMMISSION ADOPTS NEW DIRECTIONS, AWARDS \$5.9 MILLION IN GRANTS

At its meeting on May 11-12, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission set a new course for funding the national archival system. It adopted a new Strategic Plan that calls for leadership in public policy, distribution of the nation's most important traditional documents in American history, and national network for state and local documentary preservation and utilization (see "New Directions," page 4).

The Commission also recommended to the Archivist of the United States grants of up to \$5,873,786 for 71 projects in 27 states and the District of Columbia. These recommendations included \$3.3 million for documentary editing projects that focus on the papers and records of significant Americans such as Frederick Douglass, Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King, and Eleanor Roosevelt, and of significant events in U.S. history, such as the Presidential Recordings Project dealing with the White House tapes of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon. Grants for publication subventions will also make possible individual volumes of the James Madison Papers, the Ratification of the Constitution, the George Washington Papers, the U.S. Grant Papers, and the first volume of *Moravian Spring Mission Among the Cherokee*. A three-year grant to the Supreme Court Historical Society will enable editors to complete work on the *Documentary History of the Supreme Court of the United States, 1789-1800*.

Funds up to \$2.2 million also went to records access projects to preserve and make accessible important documents and archives in collections around the country. Included among these grants are the archival collections of Japanese Americans during World War II at the Japanese American National Library; the architectural records in the Bertrand Goldberg Archive at the Art Institute of Chicago; photographs from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904 at the Field Museum of Natural History; the Records of the YWCA of the USA at Smith College; film footage from the *Eyes on the Prize* documentary film at Washington University in St. Louis; and New York City's General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen records dating from 1785 to 1955. The Commission provided support for two State Historical Records Advisory Boards and funded two Electronic Records Projects to create records management systems for Maine state agencies and archival collections at Tufts University and Yale University.

The Archivist of the United States, John W. Carlin, is the Chairman of the Commission, and Max J. Evans is its Executive Director. Other Commission members present at the May meeting included Nicholas C. Burckel, Presidential appointee; Charles T. Cullen, representing the Association for Documentary Editing; Barbara Fields, representing the Organization of American Historians; Alfred Goldberg, representing the Department of Defense; Margaret P. Grafeld, representing the Department of State; Deanna Marcum, representing the Library of Congress; Associate Justice David H. Souter, representing the United States Supreme Court; Lee Stout, representing the Society of American Archivists; and Roy C. Turnbaugh, representing the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators.

The NHPRC is the only funding agency whose only focus is the documentary heritage of the United States. Established in 1934, it has awarded grants for preserving, publishing, and access to vital historical documents. Twice each year, the Commission recommends grants to the Chairman, some of which are conditional on the basis of final project budgets and other information.

### FUNDED DOCUMENTARY EDITING PROJECTS

<b>Duke University</b>	
The Jane Addams Papers	\$80,320
<b>The College of William &amp; Mary</b>	
Charles Carroll of Carrollton Family Papers	\$15,000
<b>William Marsh Rice University</b>	
The Papers of Jefferson Davis	\$86,795
<b>Indiana University</b>	
The Papers of Frederick Douglass	\$22,296
<b>Rutgers, The State University</b>	
The Papers of Thomas A. Edison	\$103,670
<b>University of Maryland</b>	
Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation	\$99,092
<b>Regents of the University of California</b>	
Marcus Garvey and the UNIA Papers	\$65,569
<b>Regents of the University of California</b>	
The Emma Goldman Papers	\$150,063
<b>University of Maryland</b>	
The Samuel Gompers Papers	\$100,000
<b>Ulysses S. Grant Association</b>	
The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant	\$100,516
<b>University of Arizona</b>	
Hopi/Southwest Relations Project	\$52,689
<b>University of Tennessee</b>	
The Papers of Andrew Jackson	\$81,150
<b>Pace University</b>	
The Harriet Jacobs Papers	\$103,002
<b>Columbia University</b>	
The Selected Papers of John Jay	\$150,000
<b>The Research Foundation of SUNY- Binghamton</b>	
Selected Letters of Florence Kelley	\$166,579
<b>Stanford University</b>	
Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr.	\$90,971

(continued on page 16)

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Material accepted for publication will be edited to conform to style and space limitations of *Annotation*, but authors will be consulted should substantive questions arise. The editor is final arbiter in matters regarding length and grammar. Published material does not necessarily represent the views of the Commission or of the National Archives and Records Administration; indeed, some material may challenge policies and practices of those institutions.

**NHPRC MEMBERS** — *John W. Carlin*, Archivist of the United States, Chairperson; *Nicholas C. Burckel* and *David W. Brady*, representing the President of the United States; *Tom Cole*, representing the U.S. House of Representatives; *Charles T. Cullen*, representing the Association for Documentary Editing; *Christopher Dodd*, representing the U.S. Senate; *Mary Maples Dunn*, representing the American Historical Association; *Barbara J. Fields*, representing the Organization of American Historians; *Alfred Goldberg*, representing the Department of Defense; *Margaret P. Grafeld*, representing the Department of State; *J. Kevin Graffagnino*, representing the American Association for State and Local History; *Deanna B. Marcum*, representing the Librarian of Congress; *David H. Souter*, representing the U.S. Supreme Court; *Lee Stout*, representing the Society of American Archivists; and *Roy C. Turnbaugh*, representing the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators.

**NHPRC STAFF** — *Max J. Evans*, Executive Director; *Kathleen M. Williams*, Deputy Executive Director; *Richard A. Cameron*, Director for State Programs; *Timothy D. W. Connelly*, Director for Publications; *Nancy Taylor Copp*, Management and Program Analyst; *Noreen Curtis*, Staff Assistant; *Keith Donobue*, Director for Communications; *J. Dane Hartgrove*, Historian and Director for Research; *Michael T. Meier*, Program Officer; *Laurette O'Connor*, Grant Program Assistant; *Daniel A. Stokes*, Program Officer.

For this issue of *Annotation*, we asked government archivists from the states to look back over the history of the partnership with NHPRC over the past 30 years and look forward to where we might best take that partnership in the years ahead. As part of the new Strategic Plan adopted by the Commission, we seek to strengthen the partnership with the states to form a truly national archival system—just as has been done for the arts, humanities, libraries, and historic preservation efforts. In future issues of *Annotation*, other voices from the states will add to the national conversation.

Another recurring feature for this newsletter will be brief dialogues with leading archivists, records managers, historians, writers, and editors who have used original documentary source materials in new and exciting ways. We kick off this series with an interview with Roy Rosenzweig.

Finally, welcome aboard to Kathleen Williams, new Deputy Executive Director. And a word of thanks to Dane Hartgrove, who stepped down as editor of *Annotation* after several years of creative leadership.

### NHPRC Application Deadlines

THE COMMISSION'S MEETINGS FOLLOW THE FISCAL YEAR OF OCTOBER 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30. CONSEQUENTLY, THE FIRST MEETING OF THE FISCAL YEAR IS IN NOVEMBER AND THE SECOND IS IN MAY.

#### June 1 (for the November meeting)

Proposals addressing the following top priorities:

- The NHPRC will provide the American public with widespread access to the papers of the founders of our democratic republic and its institutions by ensuring the timely completion of eight projects now in progress to publish the papers of George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and papers that document the Ratification of the Constitution, the First Federal Congress, and the early Supreme Court.

#### OCTOBER 1 (for the May meeting)

Proposals not addressing the above priorities, but focusing on an activity authorized in the NHPRC statute as follows:

- collecting, describing, preserving, compiling, and publishing (including microfilming and other forms of reproduction) of documentary sources significant to the history of the United States
- conducting institutes, training and educational courses, and fellowships related to the activities of the Commission
- disseminating information about documentary sources through guides, directories, and other technical publications
- or, more specifically, documentary editing and publishing; archival preservation and processing of records for access; developing or updating descriptive systems; creation and development of archival and records management programs; development of standards, tools, and techniques to advance the work of archivists, records managers, and documentary editors; and promotion of the use of records by teachers, students, and the public.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND FORMS MAY BE REQUESTED FROM NHPRC, NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION, 700 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW, ROOM 111, WASHINGTON, DC 20408-0001, 202-501-5610 (VOICE), 202-501-5601 (FAX), [nhprc@nara.gov](mailto:nhprc@nara.gov) (E-MAIL), OR BY ACCESSING OUR WEB SITE AT [www.archives.gov/grants](http://www.archives.gov/grants)

It is gratifying to look back at the 40-year history of NHPRC grantmaking and see all that has been accomplished with a relatively small amount of Federal money. We've granted \$153 million for some 4,000 projects. Many of the articles in this issue of *Annotation* recount in some detail success stories through our partnership with state historical records advisory boards. Add regrant projects to that total, and the Federal-state investment in archives and records increases significantly. Since I'm new here, I can't rightly take credit for any of this, but I can lead a chorus of *Hurrabs* as we applaud the work of the Commission, its staff, and the dedicated and hardworking grantees responsible.

Having inherited what appears to be a successful organization, it's tempting to continue doing what has always seemed to work. But change is inevitable.

Historians and archivists know this. The historian's job is to document and explain change. Archivists increasingly are forced to face change in the form of rapidly evolving record keeping systems in a climate of shrinking resources, rising expectations, and social, cultural, and political evolution. Archives are not pickles kept forever in hermetically sealed Mason jars. One might argue that a pickle is only a pickle when it's taken out of the jar and eaten. Archives' true value lies in how they are used. One thing that was changed over the course of the past 40 years is people's expectations of how and why to use archives, records, and documentary editions.

Given all that has changed, the NHPRC must keep up or find itself in a pickle. The Commission, at its May meeting approved a new strategic plan. On the surface, it may seem conservative, reflecting the Commission's interest in maintaining all that is good. However, it contains the seeds of important new directions. Let me highlight a few of them.

**We changed the planning process.** Instead of being cast in concrete, the new plan is a living document. Specifically, we distinguish between its lodestone elements — mission, vision, and goals — which we expect will remain relatively constant, and the malleable elements — objectives and priorities — to be revisited and refined as necessary. Objectives and priorities are not to be ends in themselves, but only means to the ends stated in the goals and mission. We shouldn't stick with the wrong objective just because it is in a long-range plan.

**We adopted a policy role for the Commission.** Our charter statutes require the Commission to "make plans, estimates, and recommendations for such historical works and collections of sources as seems appropriate for publication and/or otherwise recording at the public expense." Since 1964, we have done this primarily through grants. The Commission determined that it needs to provide national policy leadership, and it adopted a number of objectives under Goal 1 (see "New Directions"). The



Max J. Evans

Commission has begun a dialogue with Federal and other granting agencies in allied and related disciplines to consider three major public policy issues: publishing America's documentary heritage; government funding for documentary heritage programs; and electronic records.

**A national partnership.** As the "Partners in Preservation" articles in this edition illustrate, the NHPRC has been in partnership with SHRABs and state archival entities for the past 30 years. Under Goal 3, "Promote a national network for state and local documentary preservation and utilization efforts," we look to expand this partnership, including support for state regrant programs to the extent our resources allow. But regrants, as you will read in this *Annotation*, while important to the

states receiving them, bring burdens, particularly the lack of continuing funding. And, most importantly, it is a system of funding that is fundamentally unfair. Only a few of the states receive regrants, and they tend to be large and relatively well-off. So the Commission adopted an objective to "Invigorate and extend a fully developed partnership among the states and NHPRC to fund the development of the national archival system." Working with colleagues in the professional associations, we expect this to lead to a partnership among the states and the NHPRC, modeled, perhaps, after the IMLS library services, NEH, NEA, or HPP (see related article). In each of those cases, the partnership involves formula grants to the states.

**Continue publishing historical records and manuscripts.** Goal 2, "Expand the distribution of the most important traditional documents in American history," and its related objectives and priorities focuses on accelerating the pace of publication of documentary edition volumes and promoting electronic publication. In addition, it broadens the concept of "publishing" (from the narrow one of "producing publications") to "encouraging archival institutions to develop methods and processes for cost-effectively publishing archival collections as digital images of originals." Where we once supported archival institutions' microfilm editions projects, we are now eager to support well-designed and affordable efforts to produce something similar for the Internet. This also gives archivists and documentary editors opportunities to explore new areas for collaboration and joint projects.

I welcome your thoughts, comments, and suggestions. Since this is a living document, we will continue to consider your ideas. And, of course, we continue to welcome your proposals for innovative and collaborative projects that improve processes, with the ultimate end: to improve access to our historical documentary heritage and to increase understanding of American history, culture, and democracy.

# — NEW DIRECTIONS —

At its May meeting, the Commission adopted a new mission statement, vision, and goals for the agency's work:

## **Mission**

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) promotes the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding our democracy, history, and culture.

## **Vision**

America's documentary heritage preserves the rights of American citizens; checks the actions of government officials; and chronicles the national experience.

Democracy demands an informed and engaged citizenry. By preserving our documentary heritage and promoting its distribution and use, the people seek to guarantee the protection of the rights of all, hold accountable government and other public institutions, and increase understanding of our history and culture for generations to come.

The NHPRC is a public trust for documenting democracy.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission adopted the following goals and objectives for FY 2005. Goals are long-term and designed to guide the organization's strategic directions, and objectives are tied to annual budget cycles.

## **Goal 1: Exercise leadership for public policy in the preservation of and access to America's documentary heritage**

Objective 1.1: Make a national documentary heritage plan to submit biennially to the President and Congress

Objective 1.2: Support the work of Federal and nonprofit grant-making agencies, advisory bodies, and professional associations by endorsing their plans and providing advice upon request

Objective 1.3: Review, comment on, and endorse, as appropriate, standards upon request of professional associations, other bodies, or upon its own initiative.

Objective 1.4: Review, consider, and comment, as appropriate, on policy issues, legislation, or pending actions that may affect the preservation and use of our documentary heritage, when raised by professional associations, other bodies, or upon its own initiative

Objective 1.5: Serve as a bridge between the archival and professional communities we serve and the National Archives by sponsoring symposia, acting as a clearinghouse, and in other ways creating opportunities for professionals

## **Goal 2: Expand the distribution of the most important traditional documents in American history**

Objective 2.1: Accelerate the pace of publication of documentary edition volumes

Objective 2.2: Promote the electronic publication of all new publication volumes; and encourage projects to retrospectively convert completed volumes to electronic form

Objective 2.3: Encourage archival institutions to develop methods and processes for cost-effectively publishing archival collections as digital images of originals

## **Goal 3: Promote a national network for state and local documentary preservation and utilization efforts**

Objective 3.1: Support state historical records advisory boards

Objective 3.2: Continue to support state regrant programs

Objective 3.3: Invigorate and extend a fully developed partnership among the states and NHPRC to fund the development of the national archival system.

## **Goal 4: Support institutions that promote preservation, dissemination, and use of historical records**

Objective 4.1: Support records acquisition, preservation, access, and utilization projects, including projects that help bring documents into the classroom

## **Goal 5: Support institutions in meeting the challenges of preserving and managing electronic documentation**

Objective 5.1: Help institutions establish processes for assuring that electronic editions are easily accessible and maintained persistently and reliably

Objective 5.2: Support institutions that acquire, preserve, and promote ready use of electronic records, especially those that promise to be sustainable and that are built upon collaboration and open systems and support research projects in electronic records

## **Goal 6: Support education and training of professionals engaged in preservation and dissemination**

Objective 6.1: Support the annual editing institute and editing fellowships

Objective 6.2: Support an archival institute ♦

# CULTURE, FEDERALISM, AND THE NATIONAL ARCHIVAL SYSTEM

BY KEITH DONOHUE

In 1965, Congress passed the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act establishing the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities and also mandated a Federal-State partnership program with funding available to all 50 states and special jurisdictions. At the time, a handful of state arts agencies and state humanities councils existed, but with the availability of Federal funds, their numbers soon increased. The Institute of Museum Services was added to the act in 1976, and the "Museum and Library Services Act" brought both kinds of public collecting organizations together 20 years later.<sup>1</sup> The IMLS also directly funds state library administrative agencies through a formula grant program. As part of the National Park Service, the Historic Preservation Fund, created through the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, uses mineral receipts from Outer Continental Shelf excavation to fund a program of grants to state historic preservation offices.

In Fiscal Year 2004, these Federal-state partnerships made significant investments in the national cultural infrastructure. The Arts Endowment budgeted \$24.6 million (about 40 percent of its total grants budget); the Humanities Endowment, \$31.4 million; the Historic Preservation Fund, \$37 million; and the IMLS, a whopping \$157.6 million. State legislatures, despite some exceptions during lean economic times, have matched or exceeded the investment, in some cases leveraging 10 times the funding through formula and project grants from the Federal Government. Regional consortia and national professional associations have helped stabilize the field, allowing for sharing of information on everything from best practices to alternative funding strategies, and in many cases, state administrative agencies have provided seed money and project support for local government agencies, statewide consortia, and individual project support.

State support, by itself or in combina-

tion with Federal dollars, has a multiplier effect, bringing additional new resources to bear on the health of cultural endeavors at the local level. A casual look at trend lines will show significant growth of the entire system at all levels since 1965. State legislature funding for the arts, for example, is now about 10 times the level of funding through the National Endowment for the Arts.

Over the past 40 years, the national cultural funding network has evolved into a loose confederation of organizations, not directed by Washington, DC, but using the principles of federalism to provide leadership. Beginning with some of the ideas outlined in *The Federalist Papers*,<sup>2</sup> British writer Charles Handy argues that for contemporary organizations,

*Federalism is not another word for centralization, nor does it mean decentralization; it is both, but both in the right place. Federalism is not a system of imposed uniformity; nor is it just an alliance of common interests; it offers, rather, as much variety as possible and as much uniformity as is helpful in order to give the different interests some common force.*

Federalism is based on the principle of "subsidiarity," a moral axiom that originated centuries ago with the Roman Catholic Church that argues that "It is an injustice, a grave evil and a disturbance of the right order for a larger and higher organisation to arrogate to itself functions which can be performed efficiently by smaller and lower bodies." Federalism also contends that leadership roles are spread among the partners, and that all



Missouri State Representative Alex Petrovic examines the need for a state archives in 1965. Conditions certainly have improved these past 40 years, but what might a national archival system achieve? Photo courtesy Missouri State Archives.

of the partners are made stronger by having both functions—as an individual state authority and as part of a national system. Handy continues:

*It is becoming clear that we have to rethink the way we run things, in our institutions and our businesses as well as in the governance of the country. The age of the machine is passing, and with it organizations shaped and designed like machines. We need a model more suited to the human beings who are now the main if not the only assets of those organizations, a model more suited to democracy—more flexible, more susceptible to influence from its members—a model which can learn from itself as well as instruct and control.<sup>3</sup>*

Where does the National Archives and Records Administration and its funding arm, the NHPRC, fit into this equation?

The idea of Federal funding for preserving and publishing at least part of the archives is consanguine with the whole notion of the National Archives and the NHPRC. Back in the late 19th century

*(continued on page 14)*

# PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION: *South Carolina*

BY ROY H. TRYON

## Background

Since 1974 South Carolina has maintained a vital connection with the NHPRC's historical records grant program. In the early 1970s, then South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) director Charles E. Lee was a leading proponent of establishing the historical records program. He joined the Commission in 1975 and served through 1979 as the Society of American Archivists' representative, providing leadership in the Commission's development of the newly authorized program, which included establishment of the network of state historical records advisory boards throughout the country.<sup>1</sup> Lee also served as the first coordinator of the South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board (SC SHRAB) from 1975 until his retirement in 1987.

For three decades, the partnership of the NHPRC and the state historical records advisory boards has dramatically increased the preservation of and access to historical records. This is especially so in South Carolina. The comments that follow on that partnership are not only from my perspective as a state coordinator, but also as a state archivist (in Delaware as well as in South Carolina). I will first provide some background examples and analysis of the South Carolina partnership in action, and then make some personal observations and recommendations for the future based on that experience.

## Grants

South Carolina has been very fortunate for the grant support provided by the NHPRC, because without the Commission's funding the State's documentary heritage would be in extremely dire straits. While challenges still loom before us, NHPRC funding has provided much-needed help in preserving and providing access to historical records and ensuring that well-trained individuals care for them. The first grant to South Carolina was made in



*Caroline "Caro" Agnes Moïse Lopez, by Theodore Sidney Moïse, February 1876, Private Collection. Part of the exhibition, "...A Portion of the People: Three Hundred Years of Southern Jewish Life," drawn from the Jewish Heritage Collection at the College of Charleston, recipient of a regrant from the South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board. Courtesy McKissick Museum, University of South Carolina.*

1977, and since then the State has received 26 more NHPRC grants, totaling more than \$1.3 million in NHPRC funding. When one considers that each grant required at least a 50 percent in-kind match, and in some cases included more or even cash-matching funds, the total amount of funds devoted to historical records as a direct result of the NHPRC historical records program in South Carolina approaches \$3 million.

The grants, as in most states, funded institutional projects that included establishment of archives programs at Benedict College, Clemson University, and the University of South Carolina; records management consultant assistance to the Catawba Indian Nation; preservation and access projects at the SC Historical Society, the University of South Carolina, and Clemson University;<sup>2</sup>

and archival fellow and electronic records projects at the SCDAH.<sup>3</sup> Of the 27 grants to South Carolina, however, only 17 have been for individual institutional projects. The other 10 have been to the SC SHRAB, for planning, meeting support, state plan implementation activities, and, most importantly, regrants.

South Carolina has been very fortunate in having received NHPRC funding for three previous regrant projects, 1990-1993, 1995-1997, and 1997-1999.<sup>4</sup> We are now engaged in a fourth project, which will extend through mid-2006. In all, the NHPRC has provided \$445,400 for the four regrants (matched by \$150,000 in state funds), or more than one-third of all NHPRC grant funding to South Carolina since 1977. What has been the result of this regrant funding?

Perhaps the most significant, from a partnership perspective, is that the reach of NHPRC funding has been greatly extended, far beyond what is possible through its direct grant program to historical records repositories.

The SC SHRAB funded 120 projects in its first three regrant projects, reaching institutions with significant historical records that have not participated, and likely would not, in the NHPRC's national level program. Included were local governments, historical societies, museums, public libraries, archival organizations, and colleges and universities. Much was accomplished with modest grants, usually in the \$2,000-5,000 range.

While the SC SHRAB has been less successful in encouraging a great number of institutional grant proposals for direct NHPRC funding, its success in regrants and the ability to directly impact South Carolina historical records repositories has truly energized the Board. It has given them a sense of purpose and accomplishment, ensuring full participation in deliberations.

## The State Board

As most state boards, the SC SHRAB has devoted considerable attention to a key element of the NHPRC connection: statewide planning. Originally in the form of assessment and reporting, the Commission has steered the state boards toward full-scale strategic planning over the past decade or more. South Carolina completed its original assessment report in 1988, and has since completed two strategic plans with NHPRC funding support, the most recent of which is for the period 2000–2005.<sup>5</sup> This planning likely would not have been done, or at least not so thoroughly, without the NHPRC's requirement and financial support. The plans have provided the SC SHRAB with solid and detailed information about conditions and needs to not only formulate the plans and prioritize the Board's activities, but also to provide justification for Board and institutional grant proposals to the Commission.

The SC SHRAB has gone considerably beyond the basic advisory role in planning and grants activities of state boards in other activities as well. The Board has sponsored or co-sponsored archival training and education programs and publications, held annual statewide historical records conferences, produced public service announcements on historical records topics for television broadcast, instituted an archival awards program, and promoted and provided support for the creation of the South Carolina Archival Association. The SC SHRAB is now engaged in the development of a public awareness plan under its current administrative support grant, a high-priority concern identified in the state plan.

What one has to bear in mind when referring to what the SC SHRAB, or any other state historical records advisory board, has done is that much of the work is actually performed by staff from the state archival agency. As noted by a consultant reviewing the SC SHRAB's internal operations in late 1999, there is a tension between the Board's advisory role and its desire to pursue more ambitious activities, an "advisory/action dichotomy that seems to plague all boards." She further noted that "the tension between the Board's perceived role and their own time commitment needs to be resolved....What is clear is that the Board cannot expand its role if it remains commissioned as an advisory board and that the Board cannot count on a greater level of support from the SCDAH to carry out a broader and more activist SHRAB agenda"<sup>6</sup>

This is not to say that the Board members are not active and engaged in historical records matters, or that they do not take valuable time from already busy schedules. Board members do attend meetings, provide important input in grant proposal review, and actively participate in planning activities. The burden of dealing with grant applicants (and all of the administrative apparatus required by regrant) and the drafting of regrant and other Board grant proposals, the organizing of meetings, hiring and managing consultants, development of surveys, and the writing of reports involved in strategic planning, and all of the other work necessary to carry on any other ambitious activities, however, falls on state archives staff. Though it has always been a stretch, until relatively recently it has not been too difficult to accommodate. But with deep cuts in

South Carolina's state budget in recent years and the resulting loss of one third of state archives staff, continuing to support the SC SHRAB at previous levels is not possible.

Complicating the matter further is the SC SHRAB's focus on non-governmental historical records. This is where the Board has determined that it has the most to offer, and rightly so. Whereas the SCDAH has mandated responsibilities for the records of state and local government, there is no other body in South Carolina exercising overall responsibility for non-governmental historical records. As the Board aspires to do more for South Carolina's non-governmental historical records, it must rely on a much-reduced state archives staff hard-pressed to do its duty for government records. This is a situation that is being played out in many states across the country. It is a matter of considerable and increasing frustration to hold SC SHRAB meetings in which members are brimming with ideas and suggestions for action by state archives staff, but which we all suspect cannot be carried forward.

## Some Recommendations for the Future

The nature of the NHPRC-state partnership with the state historical records advisory boards is overdue for change. Though I am grounding my comments on direct experience in two states, I know through my contacts with other coordinators that many have similar concerns and frustrations. If the state historical records advisory boards are to operate and be productive, they must be provided with adequate support, much

*(continued on page 15)*



*The state of the Aiken County Archives before SHRAB support (left) and after SHRAB support. Photos courtesy South Carolina Historical Records Advisory Board.*

# PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION: Nevada

BY GUY LOUIS ROCHA

The NHPRC celebrates two anniversaries in 2004. In 1934, Congress created the National Historical Publications Commission, and the records program was added in 1974 making it the NHPRC. While Nevada arguably has not been a major player in the Federal-state partnering with the NHPRC, the development and accomplishments of Nevada's State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) may prove instructive in charting the direction of the records program as the Commission evaluates its goals and objectives.

The Federal-state partnership between the NHPRC and Nevada began in 1975 when James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States, notified Governor Mike O'Callaghan of the new records program and asked the governor to appoint a SHRAB. The secretary of state, the constitutional officer overseeing the State Archives, was appointed coordinator of the nine-member board. Approved by the Commission on February 12, 1976, the Nevada SHRAB held its first organizational meeting on April 20. For the next three years, the board, without a budget for travel and meeting expenses, essentially operated by correspondence and telephone calls. Only one grant to survey records relating to Nevada's territorial period was made to the Nevada Historical Society in 1977 (the NHS Director served on the SHRAB).

By 1979, the SHRAB was moribund. In that year, the State Archives was transferred from the secretary of state's office to the State Library. At the request of the state librarian and with the approval of the Commission, Governor Robert List appointed a seven-member board as a component of the Nevada State Advisory Council on Libraries (NSACL).

As Curator of Manuscripts at the Nevada Historical Society, I was appointed to the NSACL and the SHRAB in 1979. Now the board at least had the means to meet periodically, although the State Advisory Council on Libraries meetings dominated the agenda. The composition of the SHRAB had a distinctive tilt towards the library profession, and the state librarian served as the coordinator. That same year, the NHPRC supported a grant to the Western Council of State Libraries for a project to determine conservation needs and propose an action plan coordinating conservation activities in 18 western states. Two years later, the University of Nevada, Reno, Special Collections program received a grant to arrange and describe its manuscript collections relating to Lake Tahoe.

After my appointment as state archivist in 1981, I successfully pursued a grant to the NHPRC to schedule the records of local governments. The statutory responsibility had been given to the State Archives in 1977 as an unfunded mandate, despite an interim legislative study that recommended funding and staff. Following the publication and distribution of the local government records retention schedules, I was able to convince the state legislature in 1985 to fund a local government records manager position. In this case, the Federal-state partnership gave me the means to argue for the funds needed to manage a legislatively mandated program.

Despite some increased activity in reviewing grant proposals, the shortcomings of the SHRAB as part of the NSACL were soon obvious. According to the NHPRC-funded State Records Assessment and Reporting Project, entitled *Preserving Nevada's Documentary Heritage*, "the SHRAB must become proactive rather than reactive in providing direction for

historical records programs." The 1985 report recommended "that the NHPRC and the State of Nevada assume responsibility for funding the SHRAB and expand its size to at least nine members...to promote comprehensive historical records programming in Nevada."

Later in 1985, Governor Richard Bryan appointed an independent SHRAB composed of nine members and included more persons responsible for record keeping. Eligible board members were paid salaries from general fund monies for the meetings they attended. As state archivist, I was appointed coordinator.

During this period, I also served on the State Historical Records Steering Committee (1984-87). A dialogue was initiated between the Steering Committee and the NHPRC that resulted in a meeting with a senior member of the Commission, Alfred Goldberg, in Washington, DC. In 1986, the NHPRC, hearing the merit in the long-standing argument made by the Steering Committee for monetary support of the boards, awarded the reconstituted Nevada SHRAB \$7,500 for travel and meeting expenses to pursue ongoing planning.

For the first time in the 10-year history of the SHRAB, the board had the means to be proactive. Grants were made to the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony to develop a model records management and archival program; to the State Supreme Court to produce records retention schedules for the local courts in Nevada; and to the SHRAB for an informational brochure promoting the work of the NHPRC.

The enhanced Federal-state partnership led to the Nevada SHRAB becoming the first statutorily created board in the United States in 1989. At the same time, the state legislature provided a \$50,000 match to a \$150,000 grant from the

*(continued on page 14)*



# PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION: *New Mexico*

BY SANDRA JARAMILLO

Archival repositories in New Mexico have benefited greatly from funding provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), and its predecessor, the National Historical Publications Commission (NHPC). Since 1967 NHPRC funds have supported records and publication projects that ensured the preservation of and access to New Mexico's historical patrimony.

The State Records Center and Archives (SRCA) in Santa Fe currently houses more than 100,000 documents from the Spanish Colonial and Mexican periods (1621-1846) and more than 20,000 linear feet of records from the Territorial (1846-1911) and Statehood (1912-present) periods. The number of Spanish Colonial and Mexican period documents may seem insignificant compared to the number of such records held in other world renown archival repositories, but in retrospect, it may be considered somewhat miraculous that even this much of New Mexico's documentary heritage has survived the nearly four centuries since Don Juan de Oñate established New Mexico's first Spanish settlement in 1598.

The first major setback to New Mexico's documentary heritage occurred in 1680 when Native American Pueblos along the Rio Grande banded together and drove the Spanish from the province. During the 12 years it took the Spanish to organize and carry out the re-conquest of New Mexico, most vestiges of Spanish material culture were obliterated, including virtually every record and document left behind during their hasty retreat. Only four documents in New Mexico's archives pre-date the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. Consequently, the vast majority of extant Span-

## CALENDAR to the MICROFILM EDITION of the LAND RECORDS of NEW MEXICO ...



*The Calendar to the Microfilm Edition of the Land Records of New Mexico. Courtesy New Mexico State Records Center and Archives*

ish documents in New Mexico's archives cover the period 1680-1821.

Collaborative efforts to preserve New Mexico's documentary heritage began in 1967 when the State Records Center and Archives received a grant from the National Historical Publications Commission (NHPC) to microfilm the Spanish Archives of New Mexico. The Historical Society of New Mexico maintained the documents until 1960, when they were transferred to the newly created State Commission of Public Records.<sup>1</sup> The Spanish Archives of New Mexico included 116 cubic feet of Spanish and Mexican archives, and more than 300 cubic feet of territorial period documents, including the surviving papers of several Territorial Governors.

The first of these record groups known

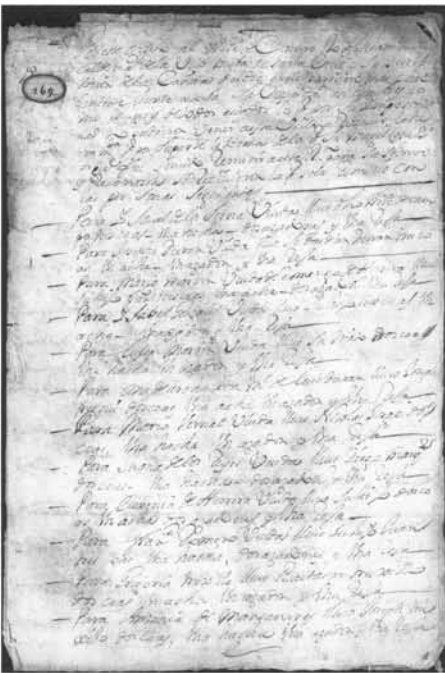
as the *Spanish Archives of New Mexico, 1621-1821* (SANM II), was microfilmed in 1967 through an NHPC grant and the efforts of Mr. Fred Shelly, deputy executive director. A calendar to the microfilm edition was published in 1967 and reprinted in 1987. The microfilm edition contains 22 reels of 35 mm microfilm and consists of administrative, civil, military, and ecclesiastical records of the Spanish colonial government in New Mexico, 1621-1821. Due in part to the success of the first microfilming project, the SRCA applied for and received funds to microfilm a second record group, the Mexican Archives of New Mexico. The project was completed in 1969 and resulted in 43 reels of 35 mm microfilm. The *Calendar of the Microfilm Edition of the Mexican Archives of New Mexico, 1821-1846*, was published in 1970. The records are filmed and described in chronological order and then further organized by topic (e.g., Governor's Papers). The collection consists of administrative, civil, and military records of the Mexican Republic government in New Mexico, 1821-1846. Some historical notations are included to help the researcher understand the historical context of these records.

The NHPC later funded the Territorial Archives of New Mexico records group, and the project, completed in 1974, produced 189 reels of 35 mm microfilm along with the *Calendar of the Microfilm Edition of the Territorial Archives of New Mexico*. The calendar is available online through the Commission of Public Records web site at [www.nmcprr.state.nm.us](http://www.nmcprr.state.nm.us). The collection consists of the records created and maintained by the territorial government of New Mexico. Included are reports, minutes, correspondence, appointments,

legislative records, and penal papers.

The fourth funded microfilm project was of the *Spanish Archives of New Mexico, Series I*, or SANM I, also known as the *Land Records of New Mexico*. When General Stephen Watts Kearny occupied New Mexico in 1846, one of the first things he did was to assure the residents of this newly acquired territory that their rights to property would be respected by the United States Government. It quickly became apparent that the U.S. precepts of what constituted legal title to land were quite different from those of the Spanish and Mexican governments it had replaced. Determination of who had legal title to land in New Mexico depended on an understanding of the process by which these previous governments had issued land to individuals and groups, and the key to this lay in the documents housed in the office of the Territorial Secretary. Portions of the Spanish and Mexican archives were removed from the custody of territorial officials and placed in the custody of the Federal officials, where they remained for over a hundred years.

The land grant records that had been removed from New Mexico's archives in 1855 by the surveyor general, remained in the custody of the Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM)



From the Spanish Archives of New Mexico, 1621–1821, January 10, 1712, Roll 4, Frame 344. Courtesy New Mexico State Records Center and Archives

office in Santa Fe until 1972, when they were transferred to the State Archives on permanent loan. Joseph Halpin, Director of the State Records Center and Archives approached the National Archives about acquiring the land grant records still held by BLM in Santa Fe. Citing a Federal statute that allowed the National Archives to deposit accessioned records with public or educational institutions when it was in “the public interest” to do so, United States Archivist James B. Rhoads agreed to place the land grant records in the State Records Center and Archives on permanent loan.

In 1986, financed by a National Historical Publications and Records Commission grant, and with the permission of the National Archives, the SRCA began microfilming the land grant records. The project resulted in the publication of the *Calendar to the Microfilm Edition of the Land Records of New Mexico*, a detailed guide to the records, and 66 reels of 35 mm microfilm. Renewed interest in land grant history and research has resulted in repeated requests for digital copies of these records groups. The State Records Center and Archives is currently investigating funding sources for converting microfilm to digital images.

When combined with the other Spanish, Mexican, Territorial, and private collections at the State Records Center and Archives, these land grant records open a rich field for research, and provide a detailed and fascinating insight into the social, personal, economic, and religious lives of a people we are now only beginning to understand. Microfilm editions of these collections have enhanced access for a multitude of researchers. Copies have been purchased by many university libraries as well as research centers across the United States as well as in Spain and Mexico. The microfilm also has resulted in the enhanced preservation and security of these irreplaceable documents.

In 1976 the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board was created as an adjunct board to the Commission of Public Records to serve as the local advisory body for all grant proposals submitted to the NHPRC. It consists of seven members appointed by the Governor, including the director of the State Records Center and Archives, who serves as the State Histori-

cal Records coordinator and chair of the Board. The Board, with funding from the NHPRC, has played a significant role in the identification and preservation of local government records.

The Public Records Act that created the Commission of Public Records established the statutory responsibility that the SRCA has towards state and local government records. The act gives the SRCA an advisory role in the management of county government records. The management and preservation of records held in county and municipal government repositories fall outside the purview of the SRCA.

In an effort to address records management and preservation problems at county government repositories, the SRCA in partnership with SHRAB submitted an application to the NHPRC in 1987 seeking funding for an assessment project to identify the locations of New Mexico's historical records in county and municipal repositories. The project resulted in a report to the NHPRC, *New Mexico's Historical Records—An Assessment*. Recommendations in the 1990 report included the need for education and training in archival and records management practices.

The 1987 project led to the development of a strategic plan for the SHRAB that sought to identify issues and strategies for preserving historical records in both public and private repositories. With the adoption of its strategic plan in 1998 the SHRAB expanded its mission to serve as an advocate for the preservation and use of New Mexico's recorded history. The SRCA and the SHRAB have shared a collaborative and synergistic relationship with the NHPRC that has exponentially improved the condition of and access to historical records in New Mexico. The NHPRC funded a Strategic Planning Grant to assist the SHRAB execute its strategic plan titled *Capturing 400 years of Record History*. One component of this plan was the provision of NHPRC-supported free training for county and local government officials. The response to these sessions was so popular that they were expanded and subsequently funded by nominal registration fees.

Another component of the plan was the creation of a regrant program. This program was enthusiastically received by nonprofit organizations, local govern-

(continued on page 13)

# PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION: *Missouri*

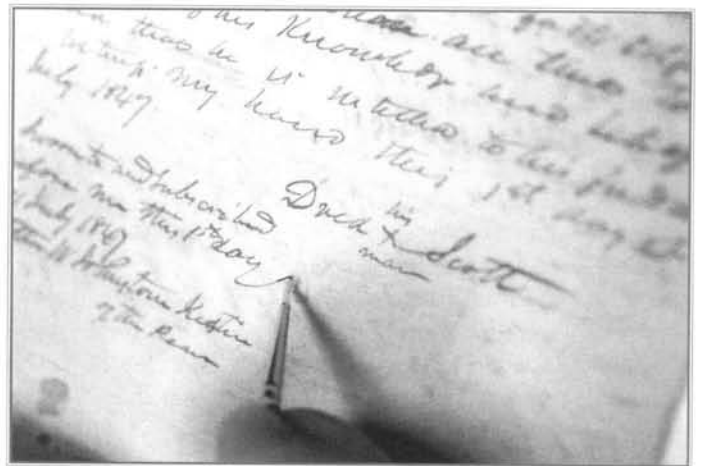
BY KENNETH H. WINN

Money is the gasoline that makes the engine go. And for 25 years, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission has provided the gasoline that makes Missouri archival projects go. For a long time, Missouri's archival car was stalled in the mud on the side of the road, or to switch to the even more dismal metaphor Ernst Posner used in his 1964 classic work on state government records, Missouri was "an archival no man's land."

Whichever metaphor one chooses, the year after Posner's harsh characterization, the Missouri legislature created a state archives. Not that it mattered much. The archives subsequently languished with limited support for nearly two decades. Not since the time of the great library in Alexandria has any archival enterprise claimed to have sufficient funding—certainly the Missouri State Archives has less than would be useful today. But things are much better. The NHPRC, and its local affiliate, the Missouri Historical Records Advisory Board (MHRAB), have played an important role in the rise of the Missouri State Archives. At a number of critical junctures, these two associations provided significant assistance in creating enduring archival institutions within the state and helping preserve nationally valuable collections located within Missouri.

Not all states have taken equal advantage of the opportunity provided by NHPRC funding. Missouri has, nonetheless, been relatively privileged in its receipt of NHPRC support. Through May 2004, the state has received 32 grants totaling about \$1.5 million in support of various records projects. The first grant, awarded in 1979, was very small, a little more than \$1,100 to support the preservation of records related to John G. Neihardt's classic work, *Black Elk Speaks*. The most recent is \$108,000 to assist Washington University in St. Louis in the preservation of rare civil rights film donated to the university by the estate of filmmaker Henry Hampton (*Eyes on the Prize*).

Much of the NHPRC's work in Missouri has been foundational: that is to several large and often sophisticated organizations in Missouri, which, until recently had no organized records management and archival programs. NHPRC funds helped create enduring records programs at a number of Missouri universities and colleges, as well as large cultural institutions like the world-renowned Missouri Botanical Garden, and both the St. Louis Art Museum and Kansas City's Nelson-Atkins Art Museum. When a simple photograph credited to Missouri Botanical Garden appeared in Janet Browne's definitive biography of Charles Darwin, it signaled a change in the archival land-



Conservators working on the Dred Scott case documents test the ink for water solubility. Photo courtesy Missouri State Archives.

scape. While the photograph itself is minor, the growing commonplaceness of these uses across a variety of institutional collections gives buoyancy to the hope that this work matters and has made a difference.

The NHPRC's foundational support has proven important for the Missouri State Archives as well. The Commission funded a number of MHRAB self-studies that brought notable practical results to fruition. The 1988 NHPRC-funded study *A Future for the Past* called for the creation of a local records program in Missouri, among other recommendations. A year later, the legislature authorized the creation of a local records program, funded through the collection of a fee on filings in county recorders' offices. The Missouri State Archives Local Records Preservation Program became operational in 1991, and has a current annual budget of approximately \$1.3 million, which it uses to support field archivists, conservation services, and a grant program. Thanks to its work, millions of records dating from the 18th century have become accessible to the public. These range from French colonial maps, to City Beautiful photographs, poor farm relief records, and the more ordinary documents that have attracted hundreds of thousands of family history inquiries. Among many other things, the conservation lab worked to restore the original Dred Scott case files, Missouri state constitutions, and antebellum road maps, including one drawn on the back of wallpaper. The MHRAB, assigned by law to evaluate local records grants, as well as NHPRC grants, recommended \$4.7 million for 834 local records projects between FY 1992 and FY 2004. This

gave the preservation of local government records an invaluable boost—and this figure, of course, does not include the match money leveraged from local governments themselves for local archival projects.

Similarly, most of the recommendations from a second NHRPC-supported study, *Old Documents to a New Past* (1999), have either been implemented, or are underway. One of these was a highly successful, and extremely popular, regrant program. In 2000, the NHRPC granted the Missouri State Historical Records Advisory Board \$300,000 to establish a community history regrant program. The Missouri State Legislature matched these funds with cash. A combination of Federal and private funding subsequently added an additional \$75,000 to the program. Drawing on knowledge from the NHRPC-funded *Where History Begins* (1998), the *National Forum on Archival Continuing Education* (NFACE, 1998–2002), and the expertise acquired through the local records program, the Missouri Historical Records Grant Program (as it was formally titled), dispersed funds to 119 small to medium historical repositories across the state. In addition to the cash awards, the MHRAB mandated that grant recipients attend archival education workshops and conservation training, and required the creation of mission statements, collections policies, and other basic tools for those institutions operating without them. What turned up in these small repositories has often been surprising—trial records concerning John Brown's pre-Civil War raids into Missouri from Kansas, for example. But even more gratifying is that these grants led to both secondary projects and greater financial investment by supporters of recipient institutions. The court records related to John Brown, for example, are now part of an educational program for children. At the same time the MHRAB's grants to organizations, such as county historical societies, paid off with increased standing for the institution in the eyes of its own community, and a new willingness by those in the community to step forward with additional financial resources themselves. In a more self-interested way, the ability to award money significantly raised the profile of the Mis-

souri Historical Records Advisory Board across the state, increased awareness of the NHRPC (which received formal credit for each grant), and generated goodwill for the Missouri State Archives, which administered the grant program in the board's name. Regrettably, the Missouri economy, like for so many states, went through a downturn during the past few years, and layoffs and program cutting became the order of the day. While the Missouri State Archives largely escaped, a "widows and orphans only" budget left no room for state support of this archival enterprise, no matter how successful.

Another prominent initiative that came out of planning, and was subsequently supported by a grant from the NHRPC, is the *Missouri Electronic Records Education and Training Initiative*. In some ways, this builds on the NHRPC-funded institutes for government archivists conducted at the University of Pittsburgh in the early 1990s. The Pittsburgh institutes sparked the beginnings of Missouri's serious involvement with electronic records issues. The Archives' first full-time electronic archivist began work in 1993. Two years later, an entire electronic records unit was created, and the Archives endeavored to foster a general electronic records literacy across its professional staff. In July 2003, the State Archives com-

menced a new two-year NHRPC grant for electronic records education and training designed to create a sustainable electronic records preservation strategy for the Missouri. The project funds two targeted high-profile presentations and seven workshops designed to build strong support among state and local government officials. The first targeted presentation was completed in partnership with the state's Information Technology Advisory Board (ITAB). The ITAB presentation focused on issues central to developing strategies to educate and enlist Missouri's information technologists in effective management, preservation, and access to the state's electronic records. The second targeted presentation is in partnership with the Missouri Bar Association, and will be given on June 10 of this year. This second program is designed to raise awareness among state and local government legal counsels about key legal, technological, and archival challenges posed by electronic records. The subsequent workshops, consisting of both basic and advanced sessions designed to provide attendees with information on various electronic records issues, will commence after the start of the next fiscal year. These workshops will be daylong sessions, led by nationally recognized experts, and will be geared to state and local government recordkeepers, information technology managers, and legal professionals. Additional information about the initiative, including summaries of presentations, PowerPoint slides developed by the speakers, and training tools, (such as a comprehensive glossary of archival, records management, and information technology terms) is available at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/records/mereti/>.

The 1999 strategic plan also encouraged the Missouri State Archives to actively engage in the preservation of court records. The plan, in particular, urged seeking partners as a part of the strategy. Court records have proven the Archives' greatest area of activity during the past few years, with projects in every Missouri county. In addition, hundreds of volunteers work for the Archives in their own community. The creation of an "e-volunteer" program in which volunteers from across the state index court records from



Local Records Field Archivist Becky Carlson inventories items in Grundy County, December 2003. Photo courtesy Missouri State Archives.

microfilm has been a noteworthy addition. Most prominently, in August 1999, the Missouri State Archives initiated a project with the St. Louis Circuit Clerk to make historically valuable records available to the public. When the project is concluded, it will result in a significant rewriting of parts of early St. Louis history, Missouri history, and even American history. The earliest of the records are in French and Spanish and date from the late 18th century. Materials related to Lewis and Clark, the early fur trade, steamboats, western travel, slavery, divorce, immigration, and the Civil War are among the four million pre-1875 documents currently being explored. This project quickly proved too large for any single institution. We have a board of academic advisors representing seven universities, with some of the participating schools, most notably Washington University in St. Louis, providing staff, interns, and computers and imaging equipment. UMB Bank provided an initial lead gift, and the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis officially adopted sponsorship of the project. In June 2000, the initiative received a "Save America's Treasures" grant and designation, administered by the National Endowment for the Humanities, to conserve endangered portions of the collection. Currently, the St. Louis Genealogical Society is partnering with the Missouri State Archives to make approximately 100,000 19th-century immigration records accessible on the Internet.

While the Missouri Historical Records Advisory Board (MHRAB) has several purposes spelled out by state law, some of its effects were not consciously planned. Missouri does not have a statewide archival association, although creating one is frequently discussed. In a modest way, the state SHRAB performs that role. Thanks to NHPRC funding, the Board brings together some of the best records professionals in the state, representing Missouri's largest organizations. Together they engage in central planning for historical records projects. Each, in turn, is also a leader in the local archival community. The result is a collaborative network that breeds goodwill and an array of formal and informal partnerships that aids statewide archival progress.

If the Missouri Board a problem, it is the lack of an administrative infrastructure. In some cases, this might be built into a grant, but, as in most states, the largest part of the board's administrative work falls to State Archives staff. This limits its effectiveness, given the persistent demands on the same staff to handle non-NHPRC activities. For similar reasons, recruitment of NHPRC applicants is often casual and serendipitous, punctuated with spurts of concerted effort. A newer trouble concerns the funding of digital imaging projects. Like all other states, Missouri will never run out of traditional preservation and access projects. The demand today, both insistent and growing, is for support for access projects that lead the placement of documents and databases on the Internet. This is true even for small institutions. While some repositories would put the cart before the horse—that is, they want to image records before they processed them—many have sensible plans. Failure to deal with this problem is turn away from new realities. It is like saying you cannot have art until all the poor are fed, but, alas, the poor ye shall always have with you.

In the big picture, these problems are minor. The best thing about partnerships is that they allow you to get done what would be impossible to accomplish alone. The NHPRC has dedicated itself to helping save the American historical record one state at a time, and what a remarkably good, consistently supportive, partner it has proven over the years. Occasionally, people may disagree about the strategies adopted to accomplish our common task. Yet, for over a quarter of a century, the NHPRC has helped support training and research, and provided the money needed to pull the Missouri archival enterprise out of the mud, put it on the road, and give it the gasoline it needs to make the engine go. ♦

KENNETH H. WINN IS STATE ARCHIVIST OF THE MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES.

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## NEW MEXICO

*(continued from page 10)*

ment entities, and tribal governments. The program provided critically needed financial resources, and refocused attention on the preservation and access to New Mexico's recorded history. To ensure the viability of these new and expanded activities, the NHPRC provided funds for a part-time staff person to coordinate and oversee these services. This position has been expanded into a full-time position and is funded with both Federal and state funds.

One of the NHPRC's goals is to "promote broad public participation in historical documentation by collaborating with State Historical Records Advisory Boards to plan and carry out jointly funded programs to strengthen the nation's archival infrastructure and expand the range of records that are protected and accessible." The NHPRC-New Mexico partnership is successfully accomplishing this goal. While many Federal funding programs offer initial seed funding to encourage various programs and services, the monies are not provided in an ongoing manner, and such programs thereafter cease to exist.

The National Historic Publications and Records Commission has wisely seen fit to continue working with and jointly funding a variety programs and services of the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board, from assessment to training to regranting programs. As a result of this sound approach, New Mexicans are the real beneficiaries, having access to records previously unavailable and that will now be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

<sup>1</sup> In 1959 the newly adopted Public Records Act charged the Commission of Public Records with establishing a Records Center and appointing a state records administrator to manage the facility. The State Records Center and Archives was established as the administrative agency to fulfill the statutory mandate, and opened its doors for business in April 1960. ♦

SANDRA JARAMILLO IS STATE RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NEW MEXICO STATE RECORDS CENTER AND ARCHIVES.

## FEDERAL

(continued from page 5)

when the American Historical Association, under the leadership of J. Franklin Jameson, began advocating a national standardized system of archival organization, it also called for a commission with "power to edit and publish not only materials in possession of the Government, but also those which are in private existence." The authorizing act that established both the Archives and the then National Historical Publication Commission clearly reflects that this effort is national in scope, not exclusively the province of the Federal Government, when it enables the Commission to "make plans, estimates, and recommendations for such historical works and collections of sources as seems appropriate for publication and/or otherwise recording at the public expense."

This flexibility allowed the Commission, when it finally received appropriations in 1964,<sup>1</sup> to fund publishing of historical works and collections outside of the documents and records housed in the National Archives. In 1974, the act was again amended, expanding the scope of the Commission to include records as part of the mission, meaning records and manuscript collections held by the various states, local governments, and non-profit organizations.

In the mid-1970s, the Commission mandated the creation of appropriate state administrative agencies in order for the NHPRC to award grants for statewide projects. Just as the authorizing legislation of the Arts Endowment, the Humanities Endowment, the IMLS, and the Historic Preservation Fund had done a decade earlier, the new legislation enabled the formation of a confederation of agencies—the state historical records advisory boards (SHRABs)—at the state level. The key difference between the SHRABs and other new cultural and heritage state organizations is the amount of available capital for investing in infrastructure.

By the end of FY 1976, 35 states and territories were ready to participate in the new records program with the NHPRC, and over the next three decades, a series of incremental steps were taken to build a partnership. In consultation with what became the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators, with the SHRABs, and with what

became the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, the Commission proceeded with caution—funding assessment and planning, implementation of those plans, actual archival strategies and operations, and finally regrants to local archives and records centers within the states.

Money, however, continues to impede any serious and true partnership. The Commission has never been able to simultaneously fund all of the states in a given fiscal year for any purpose, and progress remains slow. In the current fiscal year, for example, NHPRC was only able to fund 12 State Boards for administrative costs; 8 for planning, implementation, and regrants programs; and a handful of projects in other grant categories. Over the history of the NHPRC, support to individual states has varied, due in no small part to the availability of funds and the capabilities of state organizations. (For a list of all grants by state, go to the NHPRC web page at [http://www.archives.gov/grants/funded\\_endorsed\\_projects/states\\_and\\_territories/](http://www.archives.gov/grants/funded_endorsed_projects/states_and_territories/))

While NHPRC dollars pale in comparison to funds from other cultural heritage agencies within the Federal Government, grants to state boards and archives have helped lay the foundation that give "as much variety as possible and as much uniformity as is helpful" for a truly national archival system. ♦

<sup>1</sup> The Museum and Library Services Act (PL 94-462) established the IMLS through an amendment to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965.

<sup>2</sup> "The federal and State governments are in fact *but different agents and trustees of the people*," writes Madison in the Federalist Paper No. 46. All of the 85 Federalist Papers, written between October 1787 and May 1788 by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, forward the theory of federalism implicit in the new Constitution to garner public support for ratification. Handy, on the other hand, uses federalism in a slightly more metaphorical state to argue for effective organizational structures for large entities.

<sup>3</sup> "Charles Handy on federalism," The Federal Union website—<http://www.federalunion.org.uk/federalism/charlesbandy>. Handy writes in more detail about federalism in *The Elephant and the Flea* (Harvard Business School Press, 2003).

<sup>4</sup> PL 88-383, passed July 28, 1964, authorized the Commission to receive appropriated funds.

KEITH DONOHUE IS COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF THE NHPRC.

## NEVADA

(continued from page 8)

NHPRC for a two-year regrant program to local governments to develop records management and archival programs. Most importantly, the grant provided for project staff to oversee the regrants.

The level of the SHRAB(s) profile reached new heights in the early 1990s when the Governor recognized its value and utility. Late in 1988 a rocket fuel explosion at the PEPCON plant in Henderson, adjacent to Las Vegas, had raised questions about record keeping practices of the state's safety inspection agencies. Governor Bob Miller called for a series of lengthy investigations. On May 16, 1990, Governor Miller issued an executive order for the SHRAB to study how state agency records were kept in electronic formats and to review the capabilities of the Division of Archives and Records to perform its functions of preservation and access to the state's historical records. This was the first time a Governor recognized the board's new statutory authorities to study records issues and to advise the Governor and legislature in these matters.

Using grant funds, Margaret Hedstrom of the New York State Archives and Records Administration produced a report for the SHRAB titled *Management and Preservation of Nevada's Electronic Records* in December 1990. Another study was produced by State Archives Manager Jeff Kintop on the Division of Archives and Records' capabilities to fulfill its legislative mandate and mission. The SHRAB, in conjunction with the Division of Archives and Records, organized a Governor's Public Policy Seminar for department and division heads on the record keeping needs and issues related to state agencies. The SHRAB reported its findings to the Governor and legislature in January 1991 and used the reports as planning documents in the 1990s.

Over the last 15 years, the SHRAB, with the assistance of travel and meeting grants, has sustained itself, meeting throughout the state generally three or four times a year. Board members have attended meetings and presented sessions at the Nevada League of Cities, Nevada Association of Counties, County Fiscal Offi-

cers Association, and Nevada Inter-Tribal Council, just to name a few organizations with record-keeping interests. The University of Nevada, Reno, received a 1995 NHPRC grant to document historic and contemporary women's groups in Nevada, and the following year, the SHRAB received a two-year strategic planning grant that included hiring a consultant to assist the board. *Preserving Nevada's Documentary Heritage 1997-2005* was produced as a result of that grant.

In 1998, the NHPRC granted the SHRAB \$50,000 to pursue a regrant project to address the archival needs of local repositories other than local governments. The small size of the grant and the lack of project staff underwritten by NHPRC funds produced mixed results. The most visible outcome of the regrant project was the video production *Preserving Our Cultural Heritage for the New Millennium*, a documentary of five of the archives' regrant projects ("Video-taping Archives for Public Access Television," *Annotation*, March 2001).

State Archives' staff, given their ongoing duties and role as staff to the SHRAB, were hard pressed to find time to oversee the small projects funded with regrant dollars. The Commission's recent action to support

SHRAB regrant projects up to \$100,000 without a cash match is a step in the right direction. At the same time, consideration should be given to supporting dedicated SHRAB project staff for regrant projects. The mission and work of the SHRAB in the Federal-state partnership should not unduly burden the State Archives.

The SHRAB recently received a two-year administrative grant of \$20,000 that will include, among other activity, continued support for Nevada Archives Week in the last week of October and the board producing a five-year strategic plan (2006-2010) for preserving the Silver State's documentary heritage. Last year, the Nevada SHRAB met with the Washington State SHRAB in the Seattle area, and it plans to meet with other western SHRABs at regional professional meetings.

The Council of State Historical Records Coordinators "Survey and Program Development Project" will find that when it surveys the Nevada SHRAB that it is more active than at any time in its 28-year existence. The survey will also find that without paid administrative staff, exclusive of State Archives professional staff support, that the SHRAB has reached a threshold of activity. Essentially, all the activity created

by an increasingly proactive board, including managing and updating the SHRAB web site, planning and preparation for meetings, taking board minutes, preparing grants and reports, travel arrangements, press releases and news articles, and myriad other related activities, requires the funding of at least a part-time SHRAB office manager.

Despite Nevada being the fastest growing state in the union, the State Archives' permanent staff—four full-time positions including three archivists—has not been enhanced in almost 10 years, despite repeated requests for additional positions. In turn, the State Archives' mission addresses only one part of the preservation of Nevada's documentary heritage as a component of the larger national documentary heritage. While our relationship with the NHPRC has indeed been a fruitful one, for the Nevada SHRAB to take its activity level to another threshold after 28 years of incremental development, the Commission must fund the costs of administrative staff to active SHRABs as part of its role in the Federal-state partnership. ♦

GUY LOUIS ROCHA, CA, IS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR ARCHIVES AND RECORDS AT THE NEVADA STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

(continued from page 7)

more than is currently available through administrative support grants. South Carolina, like many other state archives, no longer has the resources to even limp along the road sketched out in board plans.

What is needed is beyond NHPRC's resources as well: financial support for ongoing state board staffing and regular regranting funds to fuel board activities. Without these resources, boards and the state archives personnel who staff them are bound together on a longer road of continued frustration, with the boards coming to life only from time to time to update state plans and review the grants to satisfy NHPRC requirements. It would be a real shame to see that happen.

From my vantage point, admittedly a low one after three successive years of deep budget cuts in South Carolina, it is time for NHPRC to simply lower the expectations of

state boards or even eliminate their requirement in the states. This comes from the coordinator of a board that not long ago was characterized as "successful" and that "stands out as one of the most active SHRABs in the United States." My hope, however, is that we can all work to increase NHPRC's appropriation dramatically so that the Commission can operate a full-fledged historical records program reaching into every state and locality of this great country through state boards that continue to serve the Commission to the best of their abilities. In the meantime, I am very grateful for the NHPRC, and for the intelligent and determined efforts of its staff past and present, in extending support to the states so faithfully and so well for these many years. ♦

<sup>1</sup> "Lee Wins NHPRC Award," *Annotation*, Vol. 22:2 (August, 1994), 1.

<sup>2</sup> See the report of the Clemson University project in "Access to Records Documenting the Sale of Southeastern Mill Villages Caps Project of Pre-

serve History of the South Carolina Textile Industry," *Annotation*, Vol. 24:3 (December, 1996), 1, 9.

<sup>3</sup> See, for example, descriptions of NHPRC projects at the SCDAH in Roy H. Tryon, "Electronic Records Training and Awareness in South Carolina," *Annotation*, Volume 30:3 (September, 2002), 10-11, and "The South Carolina Archives: A Decade of Change and Program Development," *American Archivist*, Vol. 60 (Spring 1997), 173-75, 178-80.

<sup>4</sup> For a report on the three regrant projects, see Roy H. Tryon, "South Carolina's Regrants," *Annotation*, Vol. 29:1 (March 2001), 11, 18-19.

<sup>5</sup> *Into the 21st Century: A Plan for South Carolina's Historical Records, 2000-2005* (Columbia, SC: SC Department of Archives and History, 2000), available at <http://www.state.sc.us/scdab/sbrab/sbrabstrategic0005.htm>

<sup>6</sup> Elizabeth Yakel, "South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board: Report on Internal Operations," November 29, 1999, 6-7; <http://www.state.sc.us/scdab/sbrab/yakelrpt.htm>

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, 1.

ROY H. TRYON IS STATE ARCHIVIST AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY.

## GRANTS

(continued from page 1)

<b>University of South Carolina</b>	
The Papers of Henry Laurens	\$66,550
<b>New York University</b>	
The Papers of Jacob Leisler	\$83,105
<b>Illinois Historic Preservation Agency</b>	
The Lincoln Legal Papers	\$93,432
<b>George C. Marshall Foundation</b>	
The Papers of George Catlett Marshall	\$52,000
<b>Institute of Early American History</b>	
The Papers of John Marshall	\$55,500
<b>Linda A. Fisher</b>	
The Diary of Joseph J. Mersman	\$63,125
<b>South Carolina Historical Society</b>	
Harriott Middleton and Susan Matilda Middleton	\$60,000
<b>SUNY/College at Old Westbury</b>	
Clarence Mitchell, Jr., Papers	\$55,000
<b>University of Tennessee</b>	
The Correspondence of James K. Polk	\$50,227
<b>University of Virginia</b>	
Presidential Recordings Project	\$95,000
<b>University of North Carolina, Greensboro</b>	
Race, Slavery, and Free Blacks	\$34,720
<b>George Washington University</b>	
Eleanor Roosevelt and Human Rights	\$241,731
<b>Bernard Rosenthal (SUNY-Binghamton)</b>	
Records of the Salem Witch-Hunt	Endorsed*
<b>New York University</b>	
The Selected Papers of Margaret Sanger	\$97,476
<b>Brigham Young University</b>	
The Joseph Smith Papers	Endorsed*
<b>Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey</b>	
The Stanton/Anthony Papers	\$60,000
<b>Supreme Court Historical Society</b>	
The Documentary History of the Supreme Court	\$520,480
<b>John Timothy Fierst</b>	
The John Tanner Project	\$63,532
<b>East Stroudsburg University</b>	
The Papers of the War Dept., 1784-1800	\$132,736

\* Projects in the initial stages of development may request Commission endorsement.

## DOCUMENTARY EDITING PUBLISHING SUBVENTIONS

<b>University of Virginia Press</b>	
<i>Madison Papers, Presidential Series, Volume 5</i>	\$10,000
<b>State Historical Society of Wisconsin</b>	
<i>Ratification of the Constitution, Volume XXI</i>	\$10,000

<b>University of Virginia Press</b>	
<i>Washington Papers, Presidential Series, Volume 12</i>	\$10,000
<b>Southern Illinois University Press</b>	
<i>Ulysses S. Grant Papers, Volume 27</i>	\$10,000
<b>Southern Illinois University Press</b>	
<i>Ulysses S. Grant Papers, Volume 28</i>	\$10,000
<b>University of Nebraska Press</b>	
<i>Moravian Spring Mission Among the Cherokee, Vol. 1</i>	\$10,000

## STATE BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PROJECTS

<b>Alaska Department of Education and Early Development</b>	
Administrative Support Grant	\$16,977
<b>Nebraska State Historical Records Advisory Board</b>	
Administrative Support Grant	\$10,000

## RECORDS ACCESS PROJECTS

<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks</b>	
Conservation Land Act Hearings Preservation Project	\$60,615
To preserve and provide access to the recordings of the 1973 public hearing process that led to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980. The 233 recordings, which will be reformatted to Beta SP videotape, provide a complete audiovisual record of more than 40 hearings held at a wide range of Alaska locations.	
<b>Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society</b>	
AIDS Epidemic Historical Records Project	\$169,516
To appraise, process, and make accessible 45 collections (205 linear feet) of records documenting personal, organizational, and governmental responses to the AIDS epidemic starting in the early 1980s. Additional collections will be identified, accessioned and processed in the second year. This is a conditional grant and the final amount may change.	

<b>Japanese American National Library</b>	
Archival Collections Project	\$73,667
To appraise, process, publicize, and make accessible 250 boxes of records pertaining to the history and experience of Japanese Americans during World War II and subsequent efforts to gain redress and reparations from the government for their treatment.	

<b>Vedanta Society of Southern California</b>	
George Fritts Audio Preservation Project	\$36,454
To preserve and process 2,400 acetate disks dating from 1942 to 1956, and 780 wire recordings dating from 1947 to 1956. The acetate disks will be cleaned, when necessary, and re-housed, and the most significant disks and wire recordings will be reformatted.	

<b>Mystic Seaport Museum, Inc.</b>	
Daniel S. Gregory Ships Plans Electronic Access Project	\$33,206

To convert descriptive information from a card catalog and worksheets into various electronic formats. The project staff will create 20 collection-level records, 3,412 design-level records, and at least 3,412 vessel authority records.

<b>Howard University</b>	
Phineas Indritz Papers Project	\$49,339
To preserve and process the <i>Phineas Indritz Papers</i> (1932-1997). Indritz (1917-1997) was an attorney in the employ of both the Department of the Interior and the House of Representatives, and additionally had a large <i>pro bono</i> practice in civil rights law.	

<b>Hagley Museum and Library</b>	
Industrial Design Collection Processing Project	\$62,485
To process three collections documenting the national impact of three leading industrial design firms. The Wear-Ever/Kensington Ware Collection (1922-1965), the Thomas Lamb Papers (1920-1980), and the Marc Harrison Papers (1922-1996) total 62 cubic feet of personal papers and 1,989 oversized design drawings.	

<b>Georgia State University Research Foundation</b>	
Southern Nursing Associations Records Project	\$82,000
To process, preserve, and make available 250 cubic feet of records of southern nurses associations. The collections are the most extensive papers available on the nursing profession in the South related to both white and African American nurses.	

<b>The Art Institute of Chicago</b>	
The Bertrand Goldberg Archive	\$80,490
To re-house, arrange, and describe an estimated 30,000-40,000 architectural drawings, sketches, presentation and detail designs, and line prints executed in various media. The collection's finding aid will be available in various formats: printed booklet, CD-ROM, and a PDF file supplemented by a custom-searchable database.	

<b>Field Museum of Natural History</b>	
Duplication & Preservation of Historic Glass Negatives	\$43,939
To duplicate 2,817 glass plate negatives from three of the museum's important early collecting trips and from the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904. The interpositive method of duplication will be used to preserve these collections, which are known as the <i>Legends Collections</i> .	

<b>Society of American Archivists</b>	
EAD Working Group Support	\$38,890
To revise the Encoded Archival Description <i>Application Guidelines</i> , development of a formal Schema, the further internationalization of EAD, identification and development of toolkits and style sheets for smaller repositories, and proposing a structure for long-term maintenance and support of this standard.	



### **Berea College**

Council of the Southern Mountains Records Project \$89,280  
To arrange, preserve, and describe 218 cubic feet of manuscript, printed material, and photographs that comprise the records of the Council of the Southern Mountains for the years 1970-1989. This material will be added to existing records dating from 1912 to 1970.

### **Louisiana State University**

Police Jury Minute Transcriptions Microfilming Project \$173,628  
To preserve and improve access to approximately 206 linear feet of Police Jury minute transcriptions of records dating from 1811 to 1940 by microfilming them and producing an improved finding aid. These transcriptions were made during the period 1939-42 from records that, in many cases, no longer exist. This is a conditional grant and the final amount may change.

### **Smith College**

Archiving the Records of the YWCA of the USA \$182,091  
To process and make available 813 linear feet of the YWCA dating from 1860 to 2003. A records management program will also be initiated in order to help ensure that historically valuable records created at the YWCA national office in Washington, DC, continue to be preserved.

### **Oblate Sisters of Providence, Inc.**

Historic Photograph Project \$25,830  
To process and make available the historical photograph and scrapbook collection of the applicant. The Oblate Sisters of Providence is the oldest order of women religious of African descent in the world. A recent inventory identified approximately 16,000 photographs dating from the 1850s to 2003.

### **Northern Michigan University**

Political Archives Processing Project \$47,849  
To complete the processing of three major manuscript collections that document the lives and careers of three politicians significant to the central Upper Peninsula of Michigan. After processing the collections, lesson plans for high school teachers will be prepared and distributed.

### **Washington University**

*Eyes on the Prize* Film Preservation Project \$108,000  
To preserve and make accessible 24 hours of unique and historically valuable film from the *Eyes on the Prize* documentary film series. The film is currently exhibiting evidence of vinegar syndrome and will be transferred to new film stock.

### **Catawba College**

Library and Archives Archival Preservation Project \$9,677  
To conduct emergency preservation initia-

tives for materials in the collections that have reached serious levels of deterioration in order to begin to arrest further deterioration, and engage the services of a consultant to prepare a recommendation for long-term preservation strategies.

### **Three Affiliated Tribes Museum, Inc.**

Oral History Project \$45,000  
To conduct and transcribe 50 oral history interviews with tribal elders, transcribe the interviews, and begin to catalogue the collection. The Mandan, Hidasta, and Arikara people comprise the Three Affiliated Tribes, now located in northwest North Dakota.

### **The Newark Museum Association**

Education at the Newark Museum \$41,400  
To process 200 linear feet of paper records and 3,000 photographic prints that document the institution's educational activities from 1909 to the present. The project team will create at least 10 print- and EAD-finding aids, MARC-AMC records, and numerous database entries in the museum's collections management system.

### **The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen**

Records Preservation and Access Project \$25,815  
To preserve, process, and provide access to some of the applicant's 200 linear feet of archival records. The records to be processed date from 1785 to 1955 and document the work of the General Society and its educational and philanthropic committees.

### **Thirteen/WNET Public Television**

Preserving and Providing Access to Local Programming \$74,236  
To address the long-term preservation of the 74 videotapes of the *51st State* television series, produced and broadcast locally by WNET between 1972 and 1976. The tapes will be re-mastered, arranged and described, and made available for use by teachers, students, and the public.

### **New York University**

Preserving the Archives of Five Labor Photographers \$181,764  
To preserve and process the archives of five nationally significant labor photographers. These men did freelance work for many of the nation's unions as well as for the labor press. These collections include 153,000 images and provide a documentary history of American labor from the 1920s through the 1990s.

### **Pennsylvania Hospital**

Institutional Records Processing Project \$63,750  
To arrange and describe approximately 250 linear feet of records regarding the Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital. This collection reflects the history and social impact of men-

tal health care at Pennsylvania Hospital, the nation's first hospital. The records document the period c. 1841 to 1997.

### **University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center**

Documenting Cancer Medicine and Science \$184,106  
To increase access to collections held by the Anderson Cancer Center. These collections include the Records of the Office of the President, 1942-1996, as well as personal papers of faculty, staff, and others who have contributed to the development of the cancer center.

### **Virginia Commonwealth University**

Archives of the New Dominion \$160,700  
To work with the African American, women's activist, gay and lesbian, and Hispanic communities to determine the historic value of their work and to encourage them to make their documentary history available to repositories.

### **The Museum of Flight**

Douglas Aircraft Company Collection Project \$16,380  
To preserve the Douglas Aircraft Company Drawings Collection. After the 717 drawings in the collection have been processed, they will be microfilmed, and a CD-ROM compilation of the drawings will be created. A database and index will also be created.

### **Marquette University**

Western States Catholic Indian Records Survey \$82,844  
The purpose of the project is to identify, describe, and, where appropriate, preserve Catholic Church-related records about native people in the United States that are held by institutions and repositories in 14 Western states. These records comprise over 400 years of documentation.

## **ELECTRONIC RECORDS PROJECTS**

### **Tufts University**

Fedora and the Preservation of University Records \$196,908  
To test the capabilities of the Fedora (Flexible Extensible Digital Object and Repository Architecture) software to serve as an electronic records preservation system at the Digital Collections and Archives of Tufts University and the Manuscripts and Archives section of the Yale University Library.

### **Maine State Archives**

Creating the GeoArchives \$99,624  
To form a collaboration among the state archives and other state agencies that are creating the Maine Library of Geographic Information (GeoLibrary) to develop the GeoArchives. The project plans to use the expertise and infrastructure of the GeoLibrary to create a repository for archival geospatial data created by state and local governments. ♦

# Recent Records Products & Documentary Editions

The following products have been received since November 2003:

## Association of Moving Image Archivists

Hollywood, CA

Grant #2001-086. *Local Television: A Guide to Saving Our Heritage*.

## Board of Regents, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Lincoln, NE

Grant #2002-062 - Brochure outlining the university's special collections and archives on American author Willa Cather.

## Diocese of Amarillo

Amarillo, TX

Grant #2002-082. Archives Operations Manual and Registry of Holdings, 1891-2003

## District of Columbia Public Library

Washington, DC

Grant #2003-017 - Washington Star *Newspaper Photograph Collection: A Guide to Images in Series I: Demonstrations, 1937-1981*

## Minnesota State Historical Records Advisory Board

St. Paul, MN

Grant #2002-026 - *Minnesota SHRAB Review and Planning Project: Final Report and Statement of Priorities*

## The Newark Museum Association

Newark, NJ

Grant #2003-003 - Finding Aids for the following records groups:

Junior Museum, 1973-1998

Exhibitions, Related Programs, and Events, 1906-2003

Public Programs, 1967-2002 (Bulk dates, 1980-1999)

Education Department, 1953-1995

Newark Black Film Festival, 1975-2001

Marketing Department, 1948-1998

Architectural Drawings of the Museum, 1923-2002

Director's Office, 1909-1994

Arts Workshops, c. 1940-2003

Special Events, 1960-1998 (bulk dates, 1990-1994)

Capital Projects: Michael Graves Renovation, 1996-2003

Exhibits Design Department, 1975-2000

## The Regents of the University of California

Los Angeles, CA

Grant #2001-036 - *Information Technology and Policy Curricula for Electronic Records Management and Preservation* (final report)

## SUNY-Albany

<http://is.gseis.ucla.edu/us-inter pares/>

Grants #99-073 and #2001-005

*Findings on the Preservation of Authentic Electronic Records (final report) and Inter-*

*PARES Interpreted: A Guide to Findings on the Preservation of Authentic Electronic Records*

The following volumes from NHPRC-supported documentary editing projects have been received since October 2003:

*The Papers of Isaac Backus, 1630-1806: A Guide to the Microfilm Edition*, ProQuest [UMI], 2003)

*The Family Letters of Louis D. Brandeis [1876-1941]*, (University of Oklahoma Press, 2002)

*The Frederick Douglass Papers, Series Two: Autobiographical Writings, Vol. 2: My Bondage and My Freedom*, (Yale University Press, 2003)

*The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, Vol. 37 [March 16-August 15, 1782]*, (Yale University Press, 2003)

*The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Vol. 25 [1874] and Vol. 26 [1875]*, (Southern Illinois University Press, 2003)

*The Papers of Joseph Henry, Vol. 9 [January 1854-December 1857]*, (Science History Publications, 2002)

*The Selected Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, Vol. 3: National Protection for National Citizens, 1873 to 1880*, (Rutgers University Press, 2003)

*The Papers of Robert A. Taft, Vol. 3, [1943-1948]*, (Kent State University Press, 2003)

## KATHLEEN WILLIAMS NAMED DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kathleen M. Williams joined the National Historical Publications and Records Commission as Deputy Executive Director on June 14, 2004. Mrs. Williams served for 10 years on the staff of the Smithsonian Institution Archives in various capacities, most recently as the director of its Archives Division. Mrs. Williams was responsible for directing the acquisition and appraisal of records and papers, reference services, records processing and the production of finding aids, and descriptive cataloging using the Institution's online public catalog. In her broader service to the Smithsonian, she is a former chair of the Smithsonian Institution Research and Information Systems Committee and the secretary of the Institution's Archives and Special Collections Council, which represents the interests of nine archival programs.

She has worked as assistant archivist at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and 10 years as archivist at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, where she began the archives program with a three-year grant from the NHPRC. While in Houston, Williams also served as an adjunct instructor in the History Department at the University of Houston.

Mrs. Williams is a long-time participant in the archival community. She is a member of the Society of American Archivists and has served that organization on numerous committees and task force groups. A former chair of its Museum Archives section, she also was founding editor of its newsletter, *Museum Archivist*. She recently served as a planning participant and reader/reviewer for the forthcoming SAA publication *Museum Archives: An Introduction* (2nd ed). Williams has spoken at meetings of the SAA, the American Association of Museums, and regional museum and archival organizations, and served as a workshop instructor for the SAA and the AAM. She also has actively served on the executive boards and committees of several regional archival organizations.

Mrs. Williams earned a bachelor's degree in history from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts. She studied history and library science, with a concentration in archives and manuscripts, at the University of Maryland. She became a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists in 1989. Williams is currently completing a master's degree in arts administration at Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland. Williams resides on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, with her husband, Keith, and six-year old daughter, Emma. ♦

# CYBERCHAT

WITH ROY ROSENZWEIG

As a new regular feature in *Annotation*, we ask leading archivists, historians, and others a few questions over the Internet to share their thoughts about the future of our national cultural heritage.

Roy Rosenzweig is the author of over a dozen books, CDs, and web sites, including *The Presence of the Past: How Americans Use and Understand the Past* (Columbia University Press, 1998), a survey of ordinary Americans' attitudes toward their own history. In 1994, he founded and continues to direct The Center for History and New Media ([chnm.gmu.edu](http://chnm.gmu.edu)) at George Mason University.

Since 1994, the Center for History and New Media (CHNM) has used digital media and computer technology to change the ways that scholars, students, and the general public learn about and use the past. Many CHNM projects are undertaken in collaboration with the American Social History Project (ASHP)/Center for Media and Learning (<http://www.ashp.cuny.edu/>) at The Graduate Center of The City University of New York.

*Annotation: What role might archives have in helping people connect with their own history? In the "democratization" of history you describe in your book?*

Roy Rosenzweig: I think that archives can play an important role in helping to connect people with their pasts. I suspect that for many Americans, however, archives are somewhat distant and mysterious. The obvious exception is genealogists (or at least serious genealogists) who make themselves at home there. I would guess that archives need to do more to demystify themselves for those who are neither professional historians nor experienced genealogists. But I'm not at all an expert on this and I would be very interested to learn what archivists have to say about their experiences with the "general public."

*At the Center for History and New Media, you've also explored how the Internet has changed the paradigm for individuals interested in their own history and for the history profession itself. How has the Web changed the national—perhaps international—archival system?*

That's a very big question and one that can't really be answered yet. We are certainly in the midst of some very large changes, but they haven't settled down yet. The Internet Archive is one very interesting model; it is our best repository of the past several years of the Web—more than 100 terabytes. It is a stunning achievement that has been carried out largely by a single individual, Brewster Kahle. Yet, as anyone who has tried it knows, it is also very imperfect. Private, gated sites are off-lim-

its to the Internet Archive's crawlers. And many ungated sites also discourage the crawlers. So it is incomplete. And, at the moment, it lacks a long-term preservation plan. So our best archive of the Web is an incomplete and fragile one. Meanwhile, rumor has it that Google has saved all its crawls and might have an even better archive. But who knows? They are a privately held (soon to be public) company and have no need to disclose what they hold. All of this raises the question of who has the responsibility for archiving the web, in particular, and the electronic present, in general. In recent centuries, nation states have taken key archiving responsibility, and my own belief is that we need substantial government involvement, responsibility, and funding. Fortunately, we are seeing important moves in that direction from both the National Archives and Records Administration and the Library of Congress.

But that doesn't address the global dimensions of the problem. Nor does it speak to another kind of web archiving—the creation of online "archives" by a wide range of individuals and institutions. Professional archivists do not regard these "digital archives" as "true" archives, but the public doesn't see the difference.

*In an age of information abundance, how does the Web as Archives intersect with those people pursuing their own history? What about scholars who see themselves as "custodians of authenticity"?*

Two more very large (and very interesting) questions. My observation (but one that would need to be confirmed by more research) is that the "Web as archive" has sparked a significant amount of participatory history. The most obvious case again is genealogy where the ability to access genealogical databases (e.g., the entire 1880 census or the Ellis Island ship registers) has led to much more investigation of family history. So too has the ability to connect with others around the world researching the same family lines. A related dimension of this story is the effort of some to use the Web to gather and present personal histories. At the Center for History and New Media, we have been encouraging the use of the Web to gather the history of science and technology through our ECHO project ([chnm.gmu.edu/echo](http://chnm.gmu.edu/echo)). And we have developed a tool—Survey Builder ([chnm.gmu.edu/tools/surveys/](http://chnm.gmu.edu/tools/surveys/))—to make it easier for people to do that.

For historians, this new world in which people can easily publish their own histories online poses some serious challenges. If you put "Abraham Lincoln" in Google, the first site listed is the Abraham Lincoln Research Site, which features the writing of Roger Norton who says of himself, "I am not an author or an historian; rather I am a former American history teacher who enjoys researching Abraham Lincoln's life and accomplishments." This presents an appealing democratization of history writing in which Roger Norton is, online, a more important Lincoln scholar than David Donald.

But, as we all know, there is also lots of inaccurate or distorted history presented online. My own view is that scholars should respond to this not by denouncing the Internet but by making themselves as visible as possible online. One problem is that most scholarly journals are now available on the Web but only to subscribers. We need to figure out ways to open access to our scholarship to the broadest possible public.

*What are the roles in this new environment for state and local archives? What about the NHPRC, which attempts to support a national archival system?*

As I indicated above, I believe that the involvement of the National Archives and the NHPRC is vital. The private sector can help, but state and Federal governments are the only ones with the resources to preserve the past in the digital era. As an outsider, I can say strongly that they both need much bigger budgets! ♦



Home page for the Center for History and New Media ([www.chnm.gmu.edu](http://www.chnm.gmu.edu)).

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS  
AND RECORDS COMMISSION (NHPRC)  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
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*The Chicago White Sox pose by a Denver and Rio Grande passenger car and the Arkansas River at Hanging Bridge, in the Royal Gorge, Colorado, 1910. Research and development for the Western History photography collection ([photoswest.org](http://photoswest.org)) was funded, in part, by the NHPRC. Photo courtesy, Denver Public Library; Western History Collection, George Beam, GB-8342.*