

NEA NEWSLETTER

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C O V E R — Easton's Beach, Newport, ca. 1900, photographer unknown. *Courtesy of Special Collections, Redwood Library and Athenæum.*

I N S I D E — "The Education of an Archives User," keynote address from the joint NEA/MARAC meeting in October, 2002 (*Archival Insight*, page 4); Special Collections of the Redwood Library and Athenæum (*Around and About*, page 24).

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From the Editors

- Ellen Doon

The editors are delighted to bring you, as this issue's Archival Insight article, Edward Tenner's keynote address from the joint NEA/MARAC fall meeting in Poughkeepsie, New York. Tenner, a well-known writer on the history of science and technology, focuses here on his own history as a user of archives. He gives us a valuable perspective as he recounts what he has learned from and about archives throughout his career as a researcher.

We are also pleased to present an Around and About article featuring the Special Collections of the Redwood Library in Newport, Rhode Island, by the first archivist to hold the position of Special Collections Librarian in that institution, Lisa Long. While the Redwood is known for its book holdings, Long showcases its lesser-known manuscript and ephemera collections, which document Newport and early

American history, the growth of the tourist industry, and the development of the library as a cultural institution.

The *Newsletter* welcomes a new editor with this issue: Jason Larson, Hospital Archivist at Children's Hospital in Boston. Jason takes over editorial responsibility for session reports from Joanie Gearin, whose term ended with the January 2003 issue. Joanie's keen editorial insights, good humor, and solid leadership as senior editor will be greatly missed. We must note another departure this quarter as well: this is Dan Daily's last *Newsletter* issue, as he is leaving New England to take a new position as Director of the Library at Northwestern College in Iowa. Dan has done an excellent job as book reviews editor for nearly three years, and currently as senior editor. We are sorry to lose him before his term is up, but wish him all the best in his new life in the Midwest. Replacing Dan as book reviews editor will be Meg Moughan, University Archivist at Western Connecticut State University, beginning with the July issue. ☺

☺ NEW ENGLAND ARCHIVISTS ☺

Internet Tidbits

- Megan Friedel

Earlier this winter, the Massachusetts Historical Society unveiled a new digital project, the "Adams Family Papers—An Electronic Archive," on its Web site <www.masshist.org/digitaladams/aea>. This wonderfully comprehensive site holds over 3,500 digitized manuscript pages from one of the Society's most treasured holdings, the Adams Family Papers—here specifically featuring the papers of John and Abigail Adams. All of the correspondence between the former President and his wife is represented here, beginning from the time of their courtship in 1762 to 1801, the final year of Adams's presidency. Additionally, the site features fifty-one digitized manuscript volumes of John Adams's diary entries from 1753 to 1804, as well as a 440-page retrospective autobiography that he wrote between 1802 and 1807. Each digital image is presented alongside transcriptions of the text at hand, allowing

the viewer either the uniqueness of examining the original document first hand or the ease of studying its content without having to decipher handwriting. The size of each image can also be enlarged for up-close viewing of the original manuscript pages. The rich material presented in this electronic archive is complemented by its search interface. Visitors to the site can easily search all of the digitized documents by keyword or limit their searches to particular documents, dates, personal names, or place names. For those with less directed interests, all of the documents are also browseable by subject or date. A resource list of Web links also nicely contextualizes this electronic archive within other Adams resources available on the Internet.

The "Adams Family Papers—An Electronic Archive" introduces the writings of John and Abigail Adams to a wider audience, allowing more access to these original manuscripts than ever before. This site will be an invaluable resource for scholars, teachers, students, and history buffs alike. ☺

Archival Insight

The Education of an Archives User

Edward Tenner, Writer (Plenary speech, NEA/MARAC Fall Meeting, Poughkeepsie, NY, October 25, 2002)

Sooner or later my writing draws me irresistibly to archives. Research in them launched my brief career as an academic specialist in nineteenth-century German history. Archives have been part of my study of the everyday objects surrounding the body. And most recently, I have turned to them to understand the origins of academic honor codes in the nineteenth century. Perhaps because I am so overwhelmed by my own notes and records, I feel calm and strength amid the professionalism of archivists who have found ways to bring order to much more compendious and heterogeneous things. Using archives has been part of my continuing education, taking me in directions and toward conclusions that I never expected. As a student of unintended consequences, I should not be surprised that they often did not give me what I was looking for, but other ideas, perhaps even more valuable.

When I was a graduate student I thought I knew the meaning of archives. In the absence of surviving actors and witnesses, archives were the closest approach in history to a scientific experiment, the surviving raw material for a fresh view of a subject. Even the sources I had been reading had been edited by scholars necessarily influenced by their own interpretations; and besides, few published documents dealt with the social conditions of ordinary people in the early nineteenth century and the popular disorders that were my subject.

In fact my topic was even more specific than that: it was four years in the early 1830s, when the German states experienced hundreds of popular political and economic disturbances large and small, from petty incidents to provincial emulation of France's July Revolution. There was already a vast literature in German and English on the 1848 revolutions, when (in a remark attributed to A.J.P. Taylor), Germany reached its turning point and failed to turn. The earlier disturbances took similar forms but appealed to me not only because they were less familiar but because they appeared more spontaneous, less inspired by political rhetoric.

It was the late 1960s, the heyday of history as retrospective social science. And I had an idea about taxation and public disorder that I hoped would add to the then-flourishing study of social violence, a research boom inspired by overseas and domestic turmoil. I would be the latest kind of historian, a hypothesis-tester.

With a scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) I settled in Heidelberg, sampled some lectures, and set about my real business, traveling to archives all over the Federal Republic. I visited more than a dozen, from Hamburg to Munich and from Karlsruhe to Nuremberg. I even applied for permission to use the German Central Archive in the East German industrial city of Merseburg, the major documentary collection of the long-dis-

solved state of Prussia. One of the Heidelberg history faculty warned half-seriously that I would land in the dreaded Bautzen penitentiary; when I was denied permission, another wondered what I expected, since as an American non-Marxist I was by East German definition a counter-revolutionary studying revolution.

Almost relieved that I did not have to take responsibility for the eastern materials, I ventured from Heidelberg with a series of Eurail passes for the longer trips and German railroad passes for the shorter ones. The archives were run with the same orderliness as the Bundesbahn, even if frugal officials in some institutions balked at turning on the reading lights. The finding books were splendidly detailed, the staff was knowledgeable, and the official paper from the 1830s was still of admirable quality. The shock was the handwriting. Nearly all the documents were executed in a vertical style long abandoned by the German schools and never even discussed in my high school and college German courses. Lines looked like a series of broken, modulated squiggles. It took too much time to decipher individual letters, yet I learned a trick that shortened the process: the outlines of words, with their ascenders and descenders, had distinctive shapes.

No matter what part of Germany, officials seemed to use the same bureaucratise as well as the same script to justify their work, phrases like "Aufrechterhaltung der öffentlichen

Ruhe und Ordnung” (literally “maintenance of public peace and order”). In all the German states, officials’ expressions were surprisingly similar, and their reports seemed to follow common strategies for acknowledging unrest, explaining incidents, and avoiding any taint of responsibility. Even the threatening letters preserved in the files, written in the same period in different German territories, seemed to follow their own formulas. The major exception to this banality on both sides was a detailed report I found in the Hamburg archives: it not only listed the accused but described their kinships, friendships, and business connections. Perhaps because Hamburg was an independent urban state not reporting to a territorial prince, I saw what was missing in the other reports. I also discovered that some archives, for example the Austrian central records in Vienna, had apparently purged their records of reports of disorders, possibly because of embarrassment but probably because they were deemed to be of little value to future historians.

Even where the records were excellent, I realized that it would take me years to match family and personal relationships with the names of the accused. My project would have to turn to a detailed study of one or two communities that would take years, and that I did not want to pursue. My dissertation was not bad, but I had learned the risk of scientifically-inspired, quantitative history: a hypothesis can be wrong. No wonder that by late mid-1970s historical fashion was turning to retrospective, qualitative cultural anthropology. The change came too late for me.

Yet I also found a new point of view. What struck me in the end was

not the events the records described but the forms the reports took. None of my readings had told me how daily administration worked in nineteenth-century Germany, but in trying to make sense of the reports I came across Otto Meisner’s *Akten- und Urkundenlehre der Neuzeit*, a classic archivist’s manual that, among other things, described the layers of administrators and the genres of their reports and instructions. I had been working not with the primary data I had sought but with literary forms. I may someday return to this theme of bureaucracy as literary production.

The next stage of my archival education began in the 1980s, when I returned to writing. My specialty became the history of technology and design, especially of commonplace things like headgear and shoes, chairs and stairways, eyeglasses and keyboards. This field has its own formulaic record: the millions of patents granted by the U.S. government. Even doing research for my first book, a humorous interpretation of jargon called *Tech Speak*, I noticed that a patent rarely provides a clear explanation of how a design works. It follows a set of conventions presumably understandable to the attorneys and judges in infringement lawsuits. Sometimes it presents a principle clearly, but often it hides the essentials under pages of technical boilerplate and diagrams bristling with labels. And often what makes the patented invention work at all remains an undisclosed trade secret. And many important innovations were not patentable or were simply not patented.

The real story is not in the public patent record but in private archives. The crucial thing about many of these

objects is not how they were made but how they were sold. It is the ephemera of marketing—brochures, sales letters, advertisements, publicity photographs—that tell us who was buying things and why, or at least what makers and retailers believed to be so. American industry produces marvelous promotional material that companies themselves rarely keep for very long, and that seldom make their way into public collections.

In the late 1970s, a staff member of the Smithsonian Archives Center in the National Museum of American History tried to help future researchers by creating a file of the published catalogues of U.S. residential chair manufacturers. I was able to use this collection, and it is beautifully ordered in state-of-the-art acid-free boxes and folders. But only a small minority of manufacturers replied to the Smithsonian’s invitation to have their products thus immortalized. The project was soon abandoned. I asked veterans of the industry about it, and while they were not familiar with the effort, they could understand why it had failed. Even though the Center was collecting advertising, manufacturers dread copying. “A lot of people in this business design with a camera,” one industry magazine publisher told me.

While a few companies like Herman Miller and La-Z-Boy have remained independent since their founding and are known for excellent private archives, many other firms have been bought and sold since the 1960s, and new owners do not always realize the historic value of the brands they are acquiring. When I studied the history of reclining chairs, I found the greatest source for the development of reclining chairs (apart from La-Z-Boy)

in the archives of the Vitra Design Museum in Weil am Rhein, a German suburb of Basel, which holds most of the extensive papers of the Hungarian-born inventor who licensed the design. I learned of this collection only after locating an engineer who had been his collaborator. He had purchased the materials with patents and other assets from the inventor's estate.

From the nineteenth century, even less remains. I wrote an essay last year about seating called the Douglass (or Caboose) Chair. It looks like a captain's chair but has a continuous bentwood rail that curves from the front of the seat around the back and is fastened to it with spindles. It has a wood piece for support in the small of the back, with a cutout as a handle. Norman Rockwell painted one in use in a New England clerk's office as recently as the 1950s, and similar models are still sold on the Internet. While the chair itself could survive a train wreck or a bar-room brawl, no museum I queried could tell me who Douglass (sometimes also spelled with one s) was. Was he (she?) an inventor, a manufacturer, or a retailer? Or was it named in honor of the abolitionist or of Lincoln's debating opponent? Hundreds of thousands of this chair must have been produced, and catalogues in the Smithsonian Archives Center confirm the name, but all links to its origins seem lost. This was another sobering part of my archival education: seeing just how much had evaporated, and being grateful for what had been preserved.

I took my latest course in the Princeton University Library while preparing a lecture in a series marking the hundredth anniversary of the Princeton presidency of Woodrow

Wilson. My topic was Wilson and the Honor Code, and the Princeton University Archives have several boxes of invaluable documents and clippings on the subject. I thought I knew all about it. But just to be sure, I also began to search a new resource, the ProQuest Historical Newspapers' *New York Times* on-line, which has searchable full-text images of most articles from the paper's history.

Once more I was surprised. The *Times* reported, as I had expected, on the adoption of the Code at the initiative of Princeton undergraduates in 1893, and on the initial enthusiasm of students and faculty elsewhere. But it put the Princeton move in a different context. Cheating was endemic in the 1890s. The majority of Yale undergraduates in a class poll openly declared they saw nothing wrong with it. And in 1902, most of the candidates from Philips Academy Andover, well aware of Princeton's successful campaign against "cribbing," as the mutual assistance of the time was known, were disqualified for giving the same wrong answers on the Princeton admissions test. The incident was reported at length in the *Times*, but I had seen no reference to it in years of work in the Princeton archives, or on any publication on Princeton history. There was also a long piece by Woodrow Wilson in a higher education supplement to the *Times* in 1905, linking school cheating to dishonesty in business and public life. It probably was Wilson's longest and most eloquent defense of the Honor Code, but it apparently was no longer in Wilson's own files and thus was omitted from the published Papers of Woodrow Wilson. It was not the magisterial edition but the ephemeral newspaper section, technologically preserved and

accessed, that held a crucial piece of my puzzle. The digitization of more archival collections will make many more surprises possible.

My education has been sobering, but also invigorating. It has not reduced my passion for archival knowledge. To the contrary, it has shown me how essential it is for scholars and archivists to improve their communication. Archivists have a wonderful opportunity to shape the research opportunities of posterity, to collect boldly and prospectively, to seek tomorrow's treasures in material that may otherwise be lost forever. The University of California Library has an excellent collection of the handbills of the student movements of the 1960s, saved by a farsighted member of the staff. Organizations and individuals have a chance to think about the future value of the stories of everyday people and things, to plan for transitions so that the essentials do not get lost. Archivists can also work more extensively with private collectors. Much of today's scholarship relies on books and documents saved not by yesterday's academic authorities, but by passionate outsiders. The excitement of archives is, to me at least, less in their magisterial and official role, than in their fixing of gloriously chaotic change.

Another version of this lecture appeared in the *Chronicle Review* of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, TK March 2003. Copyright belongs to Mr. Tenner.

Edward Tenner is the author of *Why Things Bite Back: Technology and the Revenge of Unintended Consequences* (New York: Knopf, 1996). His new book, *Our Own Devices: The Past and Future of Body Technology*, will be published in June by Alfred A. Knopf. ©

Inside NEA

From the President

- Joan Krizack

Communicating in the Twenty-First Century

Last spring, the Board appointed the Communications Survey Task Force to poll NEA membership about its electronic communications behavior, patterns, and desires. The Task Force submitted its findings to the Board at its January meeting. Many thanks are due to the members (chair Greg Colati, Dominic Grandinetti, Lisa Long, Peter Nelson, and Debbie Richards) for undertaking a difficult assignment and executing it brilliantly. Because the Task Force's work will result in changes to our organization, it is important to elucidate its findings here.

Based on the survey of NEA members, the Task Force identified five trends within the membership:

1. Virtually all members have access to e-mail and the Web;
2. Members strongly support retaining the *Newsletter* in paper format;
3. Members strongly support establishing an NEA e-mail list;
4. Members strongly support receiving *some* information electronically via the NEA Web site, e-mail, or an e-mail list; and
5. Members strongly support Web access to membership directory information, with some concerns for privacy.

The Task Force made four recommendations to the Board:

1. NEA should establish two e-mail lists—one for communicating NEA information, including workshop and meeting announcements, and membership renewal; the other for general discussions on archival topics;
2. Certain sections of the *Newsletter*, such as job announcements, financial statements, and calendar, should appear only on the NEA Web site or in postings to the communications list;

3. Other communications should be streamlined to make greater use of the Internet; for example, meeting announcements should be sent as postcards and list postings, with reference to the Web page where more information including printable registration forms are available; and
4. NEA should investigate providing Web access to the membership directory, taking into consideration privacy concerns.

After an hour's discussion, the Board unanimously accepted the Task Force's report. The next step is to gather further information from all committees and groups affected by the recommendations, and come up with an implementation plan. Task Force member Peter Nelson has agreed to develop this plan with the help of other NEA members (who had not yet been appointed as this *Newsletter* issue went to press).

This is an exciting time for NEA as we redesign our method of communication in light of the opportunities available through technology. Not only will this redesign enable us to communicate more rapidly and more openly at less cost, but it will also ensure that NEA remains a strong and viable organization.

Executive Board Meeting Report

- Bridget Carr

The business handled at the January 10, 2003 meeting of the Executive Board is summarized below. All *motions* and *votes* are in bold and italics. Complete minutes are available on the NEA Web site <www.newenglandarchivists.org> or from the Secretary.

Officers' Reports

Vice President: Vice President Rutherford Witthus reported on the planning for the Spring 2004 Worcester meeting being organized by staff members of the Holy Cross Archives and WPI. The people working on this meeting have proposed that instead of a program committee and a local arrangements committee, there be one single committee of nine people working on the program and local

arrangements collectively. The Board supported this. Witthus asked for a vote to approve new joint committee members for the Spring 2004 NEA meeting. *The Board voted to approve committee members (Michael Rush, Maggi Gonsalves, Peter Nelson, Julie Bartlett, and Thomas Knowles).*

Treasurer: Treasurer Liz Andrews summarized the budget documents distributed at the meeting. The conversion to QuickBooks has been completed. NEA's budget, financial reports, and ledgers are now being generated from QuickBooks. It will probably take some time for Board members to become familiar with the new format. Andrews prepared and went over a key to the NEA budget that she prepared to help familiarize the Board with the new format.

The Treasurer's report provided the following financial summaries for fiscal year 2002. NEA's equity as of January 1, 2002 was \$61,178.88 and as of December 31, 2002 was \$55,035.41 for a net loss of \$6143.47. The "end of year" balances in NEA's four bank accounts were as follows:

1. NOW/checking (Cambridgeport Bank): \$23,584.10 (\$4,020 of this is unearned dues for FY 2002, which will become "earned" dues at start of fiscal year, January 1, 2003).
2. Hale savings (Cambridgeport Bank): \$21,797.85
3. Cash reserves (Fidelity): \$13,330.96
4. Bulk mail (U.S. Postal Service, Boston): \$342.

Immediate Past President: Immediate Past President Bill Ross reported that the Task Force on Future Meetings has not yet met. He would like to get a report out by the next Board meeting. He has received one nomination for the Archival Advocacy Award but has not yet received the proper letter of nomination, and he hopes to have this by the next Board meeting as well. The Nominating Committee sent out letters to all candidates requesting information for publication in the January issue. Ross would like to propose that people be given the option of voting on-line on NEA's Web site. The use of a randomly selected unique identification number assigned to each NEA member would prevent members for voting for their favorite candidate twice. Maura and Debbie didn't think there would be a problem setting up an on-line voting feature on NEA's Web site. There was a sense of the Board that Ross should implement this.

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

www.newenglandarchivists.org

Meetings

2003 Spring Program Committee: Following the last Board meeting, Krizack followed up with chair Katherine Hammond Baker concerning some timing/scheduling issues. The Board meeting was omitted from the program. Krizack proposes that the Board meeting be held on Friday from 12:30 to 5:00 at Simmons so that Board members will be able to get to the 5:30 reception at the Massachusetts Historical Society. On Saturday, the morning sessions will take place as scheduled. Fifteen minutes have been added to the Saturday lunch period so there will be ample time for the business meeting and also for the presentation of awards. The afternoon sessions will therefore begin at 2:00. The reception will be from 4:15 to 5:00. Krizack thanked Hammond Baker and her committee for the great job they did in putting together such an interesting program. She feels that the program will appeal to a wide variety of folks.

2003 Spring Local Arrangements Committee: The Board welcomed Jeanette Bastian to the meeting for a discussion of the local arrangements budget. Bastian referred to the second/revised budget that she sent out via e-mail as being the correct one. Printing and postage costs were discussed. An e-mail received from Krizack suggested an allocation of \$900 for printing and \$900 for postage. Later on she heard that we should try to keep the mailing to a weight of one ounce per item at a cost of \$.37 as opposed to two ounces costing \$.60 per piece. A two-ounce mailing of the program to 400 people would cost \$600. A long discussion ensued during which the Local Arrangements Committee voiced their opinion that they felt a two-ounce mailing was what they would need to distribute important program information and to attract attendees. Krizack raised the point that at a previous meeting, the Board expressed a desire that the NEA Web site be used as a way of conveying local arrangements information. Bastian stated that this

had been considered; they plan to refer registrants to NEA's URL for detailed local arrangements such as travel directions, hotels, and local attractions. There was a consensus that the substantive information about the content of the program—session descriptions, names of speakers, and detailed information about workshops was important to convey in the mailing. Bastian stated that the program information alone is quite lengthy—currently twelve to fourteen pages in length. It was suggested that if the program was designed using a two-column format, more program and workshop information could be conveyed in less space. Bastian will try the two-column format and perhaps all the content will be able to fit into a one-ounce mailing at a cost of \$.37 per piece. If not, Bastian will proceed with a two-ounce mailing at a cost of \$.60 per piece. There is

ample money in the budget for a two-ounce mailing that would cost approximately \$480.

The printing of the program will be worked out between the Print Coordinator and the Local Arrangements people. About \$500 should be allocated for photocopying and \$480 should be allocated for postage which will cover a two-ounce mailing.

There was discussion about setting the registration fee for the meeting. Krizack felt that we should plan on 175 registrants although we could likely expect 200 attendees. There was a sense that basing the registration fee on a conservative estimate of attendees would preclude financial disasters; however, it was pointed out that a higher registration fee might keep some people from attending. Treasurer Andrews strongly advocated a conservative approach to setting the fee. Bastian estimated that thirty to forty Simmons students who pay half price would attend the meeting.

Ward estimated that without factoring in funds raised by the Development Committee, conservatively estimated at \$3,000, the true cost per person for attending this meeting would be approximately \$78.37. Factoring in these donations: \$56.94 per person for 175 people. As this is NEA's 30th anniversary meeting, and is in Boston, and there is a fancy reception on Friday night, there was a sense of the Board that the registration fee should be set at \$60.00 or \$65.00.

The Board voted to accept [all in favor] a \$65.00 fee for the Spring 2003 (Boston) meeting.

Other local arrangements issues were discussed. Parking spaces in the Simmons College lot will be set aside on Friday (60 spaces) and Saturday (100 spaces). Other parking options will be listed as well as public transportation information. Krizack is going to see if she can arrange for free parking at Northeastern on Saturday. A block of forty rooms have been set aside at the Midtown Hotel on Huntington Ave. in Boston for a rate of \$129.00 per night.

Fall 2003 Meeting: Krizack commented that the Fall 2003 Program Committee has come up with nine sessions. There was some discussion as to whether the committee should be asked to add more. In the past there have been as many as twelve or fifteen sessions offered, but there have been many times when nine sessions have been offered. The Board felt



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that nine sessions was sufficient but that the Program Committee should be asked to add one session in which Archives students can present their research projects.

Witthus discussed some local arrangements issues. There was some uncertainty about how many rooms NEA should have held for the Friday night at the Storrs campus hotel. It was the sense of the Board that fifty should be sufficient.

Committee Reports to the Board

NOTE: All NEA Board Members voted in favor of accepting the following reports that had been submitted electronically prior to the meeting: Development Coordinator's Report, Haas Award Report, Membership Committee Report, Membership Secretary's Report, Newsletter Editors' Report, Outreach Committee Report, President's Report, Print Coordinator's Report, Public Relations Coordinator's Report, Secretary's Report.

Web Committee Report: Maura Kenny reported that NEA's Web site was successfully moved to the Tufts server. There was discussion about who should take the initiative to post changes and new content to the NEA Web site. Should the Web Committee take the initiative or should they wait to hear from the Board or Committee members? Krizack mentioned that this is a little unclear at the moment and that there are several NEA job descriptions that need to be revised to clarify who is responsible for what. Krizack asked Tim Hughes to draft a procedure for getting information on the Web site. Hughes is planning to contact committees to make sure their parts of the NEA Web page are accurate and up-to-date.

The Board Voted to Accept [all in favor] Peter Rawson as Co-Webmaster.

Education Committee Report: Paul Carnahan summarized the Education report. There will be five workshops at the Spring meeting and the Committee is in the process of planning workshops for the Fall 2003 meeting. The Committee requested the Board's approval to supply the Museum and Library Archives Institute with mailing labels in exchange for sponsorship recognition. ***The Board Voted to Accept [all in favor] the motion to approve sponsoring 2003 Museum and Library Archives Institute by supplying free mailing labels.***

Krizack complimented the Committee for the impressive

slate of workshops they put together for the Spring 2003 meeting. It is great that they are thinking of both basic and advanced level workshops that will attract novice as well as more experienced archivists. The five workshops scheduled for this Spring's meeting are the most workshops to be offered at an NEA meeting.

Hale Award: Gurley will e-mail Krizack the details concerning the new Hale Award application deadline, February 15, adopted at the last Board meeting. Krizack will incorporate this into her President's column. The January issue of the *Newsletter* has gone out with the July 1st deadline listed. Dan McCormack will be asked to send out a message about the new deadline date of February 15th to the Archives Listserv. This information will also be highlighted on the NEA Web site. There was a sense that if a few applications come in a week or two after the February 15th deadline, then they might be considered for this award cycle, but that this would depend on the Hale Award Committee's schedule. Otherwise, applicants will be notified about the change of date and their applications will be eligible for the February 2004 deadline.

Old Business

Dues Increase: Krizack brought up the subject of the proposed dues increase. At the Fall meeting, the Board agreed to place a \$10 increase in membership fees before NEA members. There was some discussion about how this dues increase would be applied to institutional members. The major difference between an institutional membership and an individual membership is that the institutional membership enables two employees to attend NEA meetings at the membership rate. There was some discussion about modifying the By-laws in regards to institutional membership.

Job Descriptions: Krizack proposed that amendments be made to six NEA job descriptions that are outdated. These include job descriptions for the Secretary, Webmasters, Treasurer, Clerk, Archivist, and Membership Secretary. After some discussion the Board ***Voted to Accept with new amendments [all in favor] for job descriptions.***

New Business

Communications Survey Task Force Report:

Task Force chair Greg Colati was present for a lengthy discussion of the report and recommendations submitted by

the Communications Survey Task Force. Colati highlighted a few of the Task Force's findings:

1. There is near universal access to e-mail and the Web among NEA membership;
2. There is strong support for the continuation of a printed newsletter; and
3. There is support for the initiation of a New England Archivist listserv.

Over the past couple of months the Task Force held some lively meetings and extended e-mail discussions during which a lot of opinions were expressed. The Task Force feels that NEA should move members towards using electronic means of communication. The four key recommendations made by the Task Force include:

1. NEA should establish two e-mail lists – an electronic bulletin board to convey information to the membership and a New England Archivists listserv;
2. A redesigned *Newsletter* should continue to be published in paper for the foreseeable future. Certain sections currently appearing could be removed and appear only on the NEA Web site or in postings to the communications list. Suggested for removal are: job announcements, financial statements, and by-laws;
3. Communications could be streamlined to make greater use of the Internet. For example, Election Ballots and Meeting announcements could be distributed as postcards, with a reference to a URL on the NEA Web site; and
4. The electronic distribution of the membership directory.

There was a lot of enthusiasm for the report and lively debate about which recommendations should be implemented; how they should be implemented; how their implementation would affect our traditional ways of communicating as an organization; how implementing different recommendations might impact current NEA job descriptions; and whether new NEA positions would need to be created.

It was the sense of the board that people were favorably disposed to all four of the Task Force recommendations but that it made the most sense to begin with the first and fourth recommendations. *The Board voted to accept the*

Communications Survey Task Force report and recommendations. All Board members voted in favor. In a motion made by Carnahan and seconded by Ross, all Board members voted to officially thank the Communications Survey Task Force members for their excellent work. The following NEA members served on the committee: Greg Colati, chair; Dominic Grandinetti; Lisa Long; Peter Nelson; and Debbie Richards.

ACTION: Recommendations 1 and 4 will be considered first. Krizack will appoint an implementation team to come up with an action plan for implementing these recommendations. In doing this work, they will solicit input from existing NEA committees including but not limited to the Web committee, the *Newsletter* editors, and the membership committee. Beth Carroll-Horrocks requested to be on this team.

The next Board meeting will take place on April 11, from 12:30 to 5:00 at Simmons College.

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Archives Week 2003

The NEA Outreach Committee would like to announce that this year's Archives Week will be November 2-8. This begins a new tradition: in years to come, the week following the first Sunday of November will be Archives Week in New England. This consistency will allow NEA and individual archivists to plan ahead.

For the past two years, Outreach has distributed free promotional bookmarks. Last year six different bookmarks were printed, with each state represented on one of the designs. This year, we request that NEA members submit digital images to be used on the bookmarks. We hope that this activity will offer wider options (for image and representing institution) and help archivists start thinking about what they would like to do this year for Archives Week.

If you would like to submit an image, please make sure that it fits within these specifications:

1. Size: 3.5 inches high x 2.5 inches wide
2. Image orientation: vertical
3. Resolution: 300 dpi
4. Format: TIFF
5. Black and white
6. "Uncluttered" or simple subject material (too much detail will not resolve in smaller dimensions)
7. Caption
8. Organization credit information
9. Contact information of entrant
10. Permission for use
11. Permission to crop for use

The deadline for entries is the third week of May. The bookmarks should be distributed sometime between August and September. All entries should be sent to Sue Kriegsmann at <suzanne_kriegsmann@harvard.edu>. She may be reached by phone at (617) 495-3724.

News and Notes

CONNECTICUT

SNET Records donated to Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut Libraries

The Dodd Research Center and SBC SNET celebrated the 125th anniversary of the founding of the world's first commercial telephone exchange with the announcement of a gift of over six hundred linear feet of the records of the Southern New England Telephone Company. On January 28, Dodd Research Center director Thomas Wilsted was joined by UConn President Philip Austin and SBC SNET president and CEO Bill Blase in a press event to announce the donation of the collection. The SNET Company records, dating from the company's founding in 1878 to its merger with SBC Communications, Inc., in 1998, consist of over 1.8 million documents, including administrative and financial records, historical files, annual reports, telephone directories, and memorabilia. The collection includes over fifty thousand photographs, including images of telephone operators and linemen, the effects of various disasters that struck the state, such as the Hurricane of 1938 and the Floods of 1955, and scenes of Connecticut's towns and cities. The Dodd Research Center received the collection in 1998 and project archivists Cynthia McElroy and Stephen Showers have since organized it and created the finding aid for researchers. For more information about the Southern New England Telephone Company records, go to <www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/SNET/snetmain.htm>.

Association for the Study of Connecticut History Awards

The Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH) invites nominations for the Homer D. Babbidge, Jr. Award and the Betty M. Linsley Award for 2003. The Babbidge Award is given for the best work on a significant aspect of Connecticut history published in 2002. Eligible works include monographs, articles, edited works, exhibitions, films, television programs, etc. The Linsley Award is given for the best work on a significant aspect of Connecticut history created by, for, or on behalf of a Connecticut historical society or organization in 2002.

Eligible works include monographs, articles, exhibitions, television programs, cassette tapes, finding aids or guides to manuscript collections, subject bibliographies, etc. This award honors Betty M. Linsley, ASCH Treasurer, history teacher, librarian, archivist, and genealogist, for her work promoting the study and preservation of Connecticut history.

For both awards, the ASCH will also consider persons and organizations whose achievements as a whole, rather than one specific work, merit recognition. A work will be considered only if nominated by someone other than the author, and a copy of the work must accompany the nomination. Send nominations to Patricia Thevenet, 88 B North Shore Road, Voluntown, CT 06384. The deadline for nominations is August 31, 2003.

MAINE

Maine Historical Society Awarded Two Prestigious Grants by IMLS

Two recent federal grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) have singled out Maine Historical Society as one of the nation's leading institutions. The first grant comes through the highly competitive General Operating Support program. According to the Dr. Robert S. Martin, Director of IMLS, these grants are "only given to museums that have the highest approval rating of their peers. [... The] recipients are among the best museums in the nation." MHS received the maximum award of \$112,000 over the next two years. Of the 839 museums that applied, only 179 were funded. Funding will be used to relieve stress in the current budget and to support planning for future growth.

The second grant comes from IMLS's National Leadership Museums Online program. This is the first federal program designed specifically to make technology resources available to all types of museums. MHS was given the award, \$441,000 over the next three years, to continue the development of its Maine Memory Network (www.mainememory.net), one of the first statewide on-line museum/archives in the country. Funds will support outreach to the schools and the development of Web-based learning resources. Of the thirty organizations that applied, only five received funding.

"Yellow House Papers" Come to Maine Historical Society

The "Yellow House Papers," an extraordinary collection of correspondence, manuscripts, photographs, printed material, sketches, and memorabilia, is now housed at the Maine Historical Society Research Library in Portland, where it offers an "untapped goldmine for researchers," according to Nicholas Noyes, Head of Library Services at MHS. The collected papers of Laura E. Richards and her family, who moved to Gardiner in 1876 into the same "yellow house" that remains in the family today, covers genteel life in New England and New York from the close of the American Revolution until the end of the Second World War.

The collection spans three generations of a highly accomplished family with connections to Boston and Gardiner, Maine. It includes papers of Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910), great abolitionist; her husband Dr. Samuel



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- > **New England Collections OnLine (NECOL)**
NECOL is a collaborative effort of New England libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies to coordinate and manage the creation, storage, use and maintenance of Web-based digital collections of historical, social, cultural, economic, and scientific resources about New England.
- > **New England Regional Depository**
A state-of-the-art storage facility offering a climate-controlled environment for paper-based materials.

For more information, contact: Amy Benson, NELINET Director of Digital Services at: 508.597.1937 or abenson@nelinet.net

Gridley Howe (1801-1876), founder of the Perkins Institute for the Blind; their daughter Laura Elizabeth (Howe) Richards (1850-1943), winner of the first Pulitzer Prize for biography; her husband Henry Richards (1848-1949); and their seven children.

Research topics include: camping movement, New England boarding schools, the Episcopal Church, the paper industry, nineteenth-century liberal and educational causes, and literary history throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The collection can be accessed at the Maine Historical Society Research Library. Free to members; non-members \$2.00 per hour.

Shaker Library Publishes Research Guide

The Sabbathday Lake Shaker Library recently published *Shaker Articles and References in the Magazine Antiques with a Shaker Index*. The seventy-two page book lists all Shaker articles and references that appeared in the magazine from 1928 through the 1990s. No other magazine in the country has published more Shaker articles, so this reference tool is invaluable to researchers. To order the guide, contact the United Society of Shakers at (203) 926-4597 or <usshakers@aol.com>.

Lewiston Regional History Center

The New Century Community Program has awarded a \$20,000 grant to fund a partnership between the Lewiston Public Library and Maine Historical Society to establish the Lewiston Regional History Center (LRHC). The Center, which will be located at the Library, will support historical societies, museums, and libraries in Androscoggin County as they digitize material in their collections to include in the Maine Memory Network (www.mainememory.net).

The Lewiston Regional History Center will offer organizations in Androscoggin County training, supervision, and guidance as they scan, catalog, and upload historical material into the Maine Memory Network. It will also provide these organizations with regular access to computers, scanners, and the Internet. Project staff will help organizations recruit and train volunteers in their communities to assist in scanning and transcribing documents.

This award was made through a New Century grant program administered by the Maine State Library and Maine Library Commission. The Program is funded by the Maine State Legislature and is administered through the Maine Cultural Affairs Council, a consortium of seven major state and private cultural agencies including the Maine Arts Commission, Maine Historical Society, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Maine Humanities Council, Maine State Archives, Maine State Library, and Maine State Museum.

The partnership between Lewiston Public Library and the Maine Historical Society supports major initiatives of both organizations. The Lewiston Public Library is designing a Cultural Learning Center that will include environmentally-controlled archival storage for the Library's historical collections, special reading areas, and a variety of resources designed to support genealogy and the study of local history. The Library has acquired the Pilsbury Building, a 13,000 square foot building abutting its current site, and plans to begin renovations in Fall 2003.

MASSACHUSETTS

Family Papers Featured in New Sophia Smith Collection Web Exhibit

The Sophia Smith Collection (at Smith College) announces "Across the Generations: Exploring U.S. History through Family Papers." This new exhibit includes photographs, letters, commonplace books, family publications, artwork, account books, and memorabilia selected from the collections of four families: the Bodmans, Dunhams, Garrisons, and Hales. Typed transcriptions and explanatory text accompany the digitized images to provide context. Family papers can offer a window onto evolving social conditions, on-going economic change, new political trends, and cultural shifts over time. This exhibit focuses on four broad themes in U.S. social history: Family Life; Social Awareness and Reform; Arts and Leisure; and Work. The sixty-three documents and images presented in this exhibit are but a tiny sampling of the visual treasures in four of the SSC's most historically valuable collections of family papers. We hope they will serve to enrich the viewer's understanding by offering glimpses of a handful of moments in

American history through the eyes of individuals who experienced them. Funded in part by the Bodman Family Foundation, this Web exhibit was created by Sophia Smith Collection staff in collaboration with Windvoice Web Works. You can view it by visiting the SSC Web site at <www.smith.edu/libraries/libs/ssc> and clicking on "Exhibits."

Ida Pruitt and a Changing China at the Schlesinger Library

The Ida Pruitt Papers, a remarkable collection documenting the life and work of a daughter of missionaries who devoted her life to China, is now processed and open to researchers at the Schlesinger Library. The seventy-four boxes of papers of Pruitt and her mother, Anna Seward Pruitt, and more than 5,500 photographs, are especially valuable because so many images of Chinese life were destroyed during the Cultural Revolution. The collection, which was processed by Glynn Edwards, covers nearly a century of change from the 1880s through the 1980s.

The first of six children, Ida Pruitt was born in the Shantung Province in China in 1888. The Pruitt children attended missionary schools in China and then colleges in the United States. After graduating from Columbia University Teachers College in 1910, Pruitt returned to China, taught at a girls' school in Chefoo until 1918, then came back to study social work in Philadelphia and Boston. In 1921, she was hired by the Rockefeller Foundation to head the newly formed Department of Social Work at the Peking Union Medical College in Beijing. In 1938, Pruitt returned to the U.S., where she helped launch Indusco, the American fundraising arm of the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives.

Pruitt wrote two biographies: *Daughter of Han: The Autobiography of a Chinese Working Woman* and *Old Madame Yin: A Memoir of Peking Life, 1926-1938*; and a three-part autobiography: *A China Childhood, The Years Between*, and *Days in Old Peking: May 1921-October 1938*, the latter two parts of which are unpublished. In summer 2003, the finding aid to the Pruitt collection will be available electronically at <oasis.harvard.edu>.

Come On Up and See Them Sometime

The Schlesinger Library recently acquired a collection of the papers of glamorous film star, stage actress, comedian, and playwright Mae West (1892-1980).

West's salacious dialogue often drew the attention of police and censors. West was prosecuted for violating obscenity laws in her Broadway plays *Sex* (1926), in which she played a prostitute in a Montreal brothel who falls in love, and *Pleasure Man* (1928), which delved into the subject of promiscuity. She was jailed for eight days and fined five hundred dollars for *Sex*. In 1932, she began her film career. "Come on up and see me sometime," which she delivered in *She Done Him Wrong* (1933), is one of her many famous lines. West and W.C. Fields co-wrote and co-starred in the movie *My Little Chickadee* (1940)—their only film together. In 1959, she published her autobiography, *Goodness Had Nothing to Do With It*. The book's title is her character's reply in the film *Night After Night* (1932), when someone says to her, "Goodness, what beautiful diamonds!"

Symposium Celebrates Anniversary of Du Bois's *Souls of Black Folk*

The W.E.B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst will host a symposium celebrating the 100th anniversary of the publication of the *Souls of Black Folk* by W. E. B. Du Bois. On April 31, there will be a guided tour of the Du Bois birth site in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. On May 1, "A Revisitation of the *Souls of Black Folk: A Centenary Celebration*" will be held. It will include a keynote address by John Edgar Wideman, a series of *Souls*-related presentations by area faculty, readings from the book, a musical presentation of the Sorrow Songs, and a belated birthday celebration. For more information contact William Thompson, Head, Special Collections and Archives at (413) 545-6894, or e-mail at <william.thompson@library.umass.edu>.

The Sixth Annual Community Forum on Historical Records

The Sixth Annual Community Forum on Historical Records, "Celebrating History: Anniversaries to

Educate, Promote and Preserve History,” will be held on May 9, 2003 at Merrimack College in North Andover, MA. Organized by Secretary of the Commonwealth William Francis Galvin, the Massachusetts Historical Records Advisory Board and the Essex National Heritage Commission, the forum will bring together archivists, historians, librarians, educators, scholars, genealogists, and other interested parties from public, private, and nonprofit organizations.

Keynote speaker, Bill Jackson, senior archivist of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company, will share his experience and the role of archives in the planning and development of this year's centennial anniversary celebration of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company. The forum will offer a full day of speakers and sessions to examine the practical ways historical records and archival materials can be utilized in the celebration of histories, anniversaries and commemorative activities.

“Celebrating History: Anniversaries to Educate, Promote and Preserve History” will build upon the success of the previous forums: *Advocating Massachusetts History* (1998), *Building Alliances* (1999), *Documenting Our Heritage* (2000), *Telling Our Stories* (2001), and *Documenting Underdocumented Populations & Communities* (2002).

Additional information will be available on the MHRAB homepage at <www.state.ma.us/sec/arc/arcaac/aacintro.htm>.

Museum and Library Archives Institute

The fifth annual Museum and Library Archives Institute, sponsored by Monson Free Library and Reading Room Association, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the New England Archivists, the New England Museum Association, and the Worcester Historical Museum, will be held at the Wilbraham & Monson Academy, Wilbraham, Massachusetts, on June 20-21, 2003.

This Institute consists of two parallel programs: the Introductory and the Special Topic. The Introductory Program is designed for those who have responsibility for museum and library records and special collections, but limited experience in archival methods and procedures.

This year's curriculum includes topics such as collecting, appraising, arrangement and description, reference and access, oral history, and copyright. Instead of the Introductory Program, participants may choose the Special Topic Program. This track provides an opportunity to go beyond the introductory level and focus on a particular archival topic or issue in a comprehensive, in-depth manner. The 2003 topic will address the issue of creating and renovating archives facilities to maximize storage and access potential.

The Institute will be hosted by the Wilbraham & Monson Academy, a co-educational boarding and day school for students from the 6th grade through post-graduate year. The 198-year-old school is located in Wilbraham, Massachusetts, a scenic town in the heart of the Pioneer Valley within ten miles of Springfield, Massachusetts. For more information contact Theresa Rini Percy, Director, Monson Free Library, 2 High Street, Monson, MA 01057. Tel. 413-267-3866. Fax 413-267-5496. E-mail: <tpercy@cwmares.org>.

Russian Conservators Study at NEDCC

On January 27, 2003, the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover, Massachusetts, welcomed two conservators from the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, for training. Under the supervision of NEDCC's Photographs Conservator, Monique Fischer, Andrey Chulin and Marina Gambalevskaya will study conservation techniques for preserving daguerreotypes.

The Hermitage recently discovered an astonishing collection of oversized daguerreotypes, made by a member of the Czar's family and documenting St. Petersburg street scenes in the 1850s. Mr. Chulin and Ms. Gambalevskaya will apply the skills and techniques they acquire at NEDCC to treating images from this collection. The daguerreotypes will be displayed in the Hermitage's exhibition entitled, “St. Petersburg and the History of Photography.” The exhibition is part of the jubilee celebration of the city's 300th anniversary. NEDCC has been organizing international exchange programs for Russian paper conservators since 1994.

This exciting program is sponsored by the Getty Grant Program, the Trust for Mutual Understanding, and the

Samuel H. Kress Foundation. NEDCC also receives support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

WGBH *Ten O'Clock News* Preservation Project: Boston's African-American History Made Accessible

The WGBH Media Archives and Preservation Center has preserved and created access to more than five hundred episodes from the popular 1976-1991 WGBH program, *The Ten O'Clock News*. The clips and episodes selected from more than nine thousand tapes in *The Ten O'Clock News* archive focus on the events, personalities, and issues in Boston's African-American community. It is one of the largest television news collections in Boston.

The project's companion Web site, <main.wgbh.org/ton/>, is the first archival site to provide access to people who are deaf or hard of hearing and people who are blind or visually impaired. Twenty-five clips featuring fifty minutes of streaming video have been enhanced with WGBH universal access tools, Closed Captioning and Descriptive Video. All together, the site features more than two hundred media clips, offering 476 minutes of excerpts from interviews, reporters' stories and live coverage of events.

During its broadcast over two decades, *The Ten O'Clock News* provided extensive and in-depth coverage of local, national and international news. Anchor Christopher Lydon, a seasoned news staff, and compelling local and national guests helped the program secure several New England Emmy Awards. Among the important stories preserved in the local coverage are school desegregation and the anti-busing protests of the 1970s, race relations in Boston, Jesse Jackson's campaign for the 1988 Democratic Presidential nomination, and Mel King's 1983 mayoral campaign. Reporters from *The Ten O'Clock News* covered visits to the city by Nelson Mandela and other national and international figures, and the economic and political issues important to city residents. The preserved videotapes also feature interviews with and stories about notable African-American newsmakers including Andrew Young, Julian Bond, Alex Haley, Elma Lewis, Muriel Snowden, Douglas Wilder, Bruce Bolling, and Derrick Bell.

"The history of black America is under-documented," said Mary Ide, Director of Archives at WGBH. "Likewise, access to archival material is limited for people who are deaf or hard of hearing and people who are blind or visually impaired. [...] This project is intended to be a model of accessibility to moving image content that may be replicated by other archives, museums, and libraries."

The WGBH Media Archives and Preservation Center spearheaded this major project through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). *The Ten O'Clock News* project archivist was Andrea McCarty, a graduate of the L. Jeffrey Selznick School of Film Preservation at the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film. McCarty's prior work was at Northeast Historic Film. Students and scholars interested in researching the archives in detail may make an appointment with the WGBH Media Archives and Preservation Center at (617) 300-2368.

RHODE ISLAND

Saving Our History: St. George's School Dedicates its Archives

St. George's School, a small coed boarding school in Middletown, Rhode Island, has made a big commitment in terms of saving its more than one hundred-year history with the recent dedication of the Gilbert Y. Taverner Archives. It has been named in honor of Dr. Gilbert Y. Taverner, former Associate Chaplain, faculty member, School Historian, and first archivist.

Almost two thousand square feet of dedicated space has been carefully converted to a four-room archives complex. All necessary heating, cooling, and humidity control has been accomplished so that the archives is maintained in a constant state of sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit and forty-five percent relative humidity. The complex consists of a main storage room, a graphics room, a research room, and a workroom/office. The office and the research room are abutting and connected by sliding glass windows for easy contact and observation. The Research Room is capable of supporting up to six researchers at any one time.

The storage areas are combinations of both fixed and rolling cabinets which provide a maximum of storage space

given the total square feet of floor space available. The entire complex was designed by David Aguiar, the School's Construction Planner, and has a planned expansion area of more than one thousand additional square feet. It is currently used by the students, faculty, Board of Trustees, and outside researchers.

In addition to the documents, publications, and images one would expect to find in such a facility, the Gilbert Y. Taverner Archives is also the curatorial storage site of many of the School's historical artifacts, including the fur coat of John B. Diman, the founder and first headmaster.

It is open to the public Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and by special appointment. For further information, contact John G. Doll, School Archivist at (401) 842-6692 or <Archives@stgeorges.edu>.

OUTSIDE NEW ENGLAND

Archives Institute for Native American and Tribal Archivists

The Western Archives Institute will hold an Institute for Native American and Tribal Archivists at the University of Redlands in Redlands, California, July 21-August 1, 2003. The intensive, two-week program will address specific concerns relating to the preservation of Native American and Tribal records. The program will provide integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of goals, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but have little or no previous archives education; those who have expanding responsibility for Native American archival materials, or anticipate working with tribal records within one year; or those who are working Native American and tribal archivists, but have not received formal instruction. The program will include site visits to local historical records repositories including facilities with Native American and tribal collections.

The Faculty Coordinator will be Tim Ericson, Assistant Library Director for Archives and Special Collections at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. He is University Archivist and directs operation of the Milwaukee-region Area Research Center, a state-wide network of regional

archives, and has worked as a consultant for tribal archives projects. He also teaches archives administration courses in the university's graduate archival education program.

Admission is by application only and enrollment is limited. The application deadline for the Institute for Native American and Tribal Archivists is April 15, 2003. For additional information and an application form, contact: Administrator, Western Archives Institute, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; Tel. (916) 653-7715; Fax (916) 653-7134; e-mail: <ArchivesWeb@ss.ca.gov>. The application package is also available on-line at <www.calarchivists.org> and <www.ss.ca.gov/archives/archives.htm>.

Mapping Women's Archives

The Women and Leadership Archives at Loyola University Chicago invites you to publicize your collections relating to women in the Mapping Women's Archives Directory that is now available to potential donors and researchers on its Web site. To fill out an on-line submission form and to view and search the Directory, please visit the following Web site: <www.luc.edu/orgs/gannon/archives/donordirectory.html>.

Library of Congress to Preserve America's Digital Heritage

The Library of Congress has received approval from the U.S. Congress for its "Plan for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program" (NDIIPP), which will enable the Library to launch the initial phase of building a national infrastructure for the collection and long-term preservation of digital content. The NDIIPP legislation asks the Library to raise up to \$75 million in private funds and in-kind contributions, which Congress will match dollar-for-dollar.

In December 2000, Congress authorized the Library of Congress to develop and execute a congressionally approved plan for a National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. A \$99.8 million congressional appropriation was made to establish the program. The legislation mandates that the Library work with federal entities such as the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of the

White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the National Archives and Records Administration, the National Library of Medicine, the National Agricultural Library, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and “other federal, research and private libraries and institutions with expertise in telecommunications technology and electronic commerce policy.” The goal is to build a network of committed partners working through a preservation architecture of defined roles and responsibilities.

The Library of Congress digital strategy is being formulated in concert with a study by the National Research Council Computer Science and Telecommunications Board. “LC 21: A Digital Strategy for the Library of Congress” was issued July 26, 2000, and made several recommendations, including that the Library, working with other institutions, take the lead in the preservation and archiving of digital materials. The complete text of the “Plan for the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program” is available at <www.digitalpreservation.gov>.

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world. Through its National Digital Library (NDL) Program, it is also one of the leading providers of noncommercial intellectual content on the Internet (www.loc.gov). The NDL Program’s flagship American Memory project, in collaboration with thirty-six institutions nationwide, makes freely available millions of American historical items. ©

People

Karen Adler Abramson is the new University Archivist at the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department at Brandeis University. Abramson was previously an archivist at the Mary Baker Eddy Library for the Betterment of Humanity in Boston, MA.

The Association for the Study of Connecticut History has presented the 2002 Homer D. Babbidge, Jr. Award to **Cecilia Bucki** for *Bridgeport’s Socialist New Deal: 1915-36*, published by the University of Illinois Press. The Betty M. Linsley Award was presented to the **New London County Historical Society** for *A View from the Sixties: The Black Experience in Southern Connecticut*, by **Linwood Bland, Jr.**

Sarah R. Demb, most recently Assistant Archivist for Reference and Technical Services at the National Museum of the American Indian, has accepted the post of Project Manager at the International Records Management Trust. Her work will include a significant amount of travel to Commonwealth countries in Africa and Asia. She looks forward to seeing her North American colleagues at SAA in LA (or in London whenever they are on holiday!).

The Beinecke Library at Yale University recently welcomed **Monika Talar**, an archival intern from Poland. Monika will process the Witold Gombrowicz Papers during the year-long internship.

Susan von Salis was recently appointed associate curator of archives at the Harvard University Art Museums. The archives contain a broad range of materials that date from the founding of the Fogg Art Museum in 1895 and document the Harvard University Art Museums’ buildings, institutions, collections, and staff along with the teaching of art history, museum curatorship, and art conservation in the United States. Von Salis will be responsible for developing acquisitions and access policies for the archives, overseeing the arrangement and description of the Art Museums’ collections, and managing preservation initiatives. She will also participate in planning upcoming institution-wide efforts such as the renovation of the museums’ facilities and upgrading of the Art Museums’ Web site. She will remain actively involved in Harvard’s digital library-related initiatives, including its Online Archival Search Information System (OASIS) and its Visual Image Access database (VIA). With sixteen years of experience as an archivist at Radcliffe’s Schlesinger Library, von Salis has served NEA since 1989 in the positions of membership secretary and representative-at-large. Von Salis has a master’s degree in history with a concentration in archives and public history.

The Bostonian Society, Boston’s historical society and steward of the historic Old State House, has named **Richard C. Wiggin**, a life-long lover of history and successful businessman who has dedicated thousands of volunteer hours to various historic organizations, as its new executive director. Wiggin previously served as a principal of Emerging Growth Management of Lincoln, as CEO of Owl Scientific Inc., and founder and CEO of Dynamedics Inc., and has held positions at other biotech firms in the Boston area. He has an MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

**NEA is always looking for ideas for sessions at the fall and spring meetings.
Your suggestions are invited!**

Please complete and send this form to: Joan Krizack, NEA President
Special Collections Department
92 Snell Library
Northeastern University
Boston, MA 02115
E-mail: <j.krizack@neu.edu>

Proposed by: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing address _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please provide a brief description of the session you'd like to see offered at an NEA meeting. If possible, include the overall purpose and a general description of the session, and its intended audience (including skill level and topic category). If you have ideas for potential speakers for this session, please include their names and institutional affiliations.

New Member/Change of Address/Directory Information

Name _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Home Business

Fax number: _____ E-mail: _____

Please mail to New England Archivists: **Debbie Richards, Membership Secretary**

Schlesinger Library
Radcliffe Institute
10 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
<richards@radcliffe.edu>

NEA By-Laws

I. NAME

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

II. PURPOSES

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

III. MEMBERSHIP

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

IV. OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENT

- 1) The officers shall be a president, president-elect who shall serve as vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. The terms of office of the president and president-elect shall be one year, and of the secretary and treasurer, two years. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Each officer shall have duties usually associated with the office.
- 2) Four representatives-at-large shall be elected, each for a term of three years. No representative-at-large shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

- 3) The president, with consent of a majority of the voting members of the executive board, shall appoint a Massachusetts resident as corporation clerk to serve at the pleasure of the board. The president may also, with consent of a majority of the voting members of the board, appoint persons to undertake such other responsibilities as the board may from time to time deem appropriate; the president may, with such consent, designate such persons as members of the executive board without vote.
- 4) The executive board shall consist of the president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, the representatives-at-large, and the immediate past president, as voting members; and as ex officio, non-voting members, the corporation clerk and such other persons as shall have been appointed to undertake responsibilities pursuant to section 3 of this article, and shall have been so designated. The executive board is empowered to conduct business between annual meetings within general policies approved by a majority of its voting members. All decisions shall be by majority vote of those board members present. All executive board meetings shall be open to members.
- 5) The president, with consent of a majority of the executive board, shall appoint a program committee, and other appropriate committees.
- 6) Officers and representatives-at-large shall be elected by mail ballot of a majority of those members voting, from a slate presented by the nominating committee. Nominees must be members of New England Archivists. At least two candidates shall be slated for each office. The slate shall include the name of any member nominated by a petition signed by not less than ten per cent of the membership and received by the chair of the nominating committee not later than sixty days in advance of the annual meeting. The ballot shall contain space for write-in candidates for each office. Ballots shall be mailed to members at least thirty days in advance of the annual meeting. To be counted, ballots must be returned to the chair of the nominating committee post-marked not later than ten days in advance of the annual meeting, and received by said chair not later than the second day before the annual meeting.
- 7) In the event of a tie vote for any office, the successful candidate shall be determined by re-balloting the

membership using the same mailing list as for the original ballot.

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

V. MEETINGS

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

VI. FINANCES

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

January 1, 1995. Individuals who have paid for a Life Membership prior to September 1, 1994 will remain Life Members and will receive full membership benefits.

- 5) The fiscal and membership years shall run from January 1 to December 31.
- 6) Institutional membership dues shall be \$10.00 more than the current membership rate. An institutional member shall receive one (1) copy of each NEA publication which is distributed to the general membership free of charge. It shall be entitled to all other publications at the membership rate and employees of the institution may attend workshops and meetings at the member rate. The Institution is not entitled to vote in the annual election nor shall it hold elected or appointed office.

VII. DISPOSITION OF ASSETS AND RECORDS

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

VIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

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

IX. AMENDMENTS

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

Around and About

The Redwood Library and Athenæum

Lisa Long, Ezra Stiles Special Collections Librarian, Redwood Library and Athenæum, Newport, Rhode Island

The Company of the Redwood Library was established in 1747 by wealthy plantation owner Abraham Redwood and a group of his Newport associates. This group of men, a derivative of the Philosophical Society founded by Bishop Berkley, desired to “form a society or company for the propagating of virtue, knowledge and useful learning.” Redwood donated five hundred pounds sterling to purchase a catalog of books in London. The Company selected 751 titles and sent the list to Mr. John Tomlinson, Esq. of London. Henry Collins, a Newport merchant and patron of the arts, donated the land, formerly a bowling green that looked down a treeless hillside to the Narragansett Bay. Peter Harrison, one of the few trained architects in the Colonies, designed the building. With rusticated stone walls, ionic columns, and Palladian-style portico, the library was a classic Roman temple of knowledge.

One of the country’s earliest “public” libraries—that is, open to the public, though not “free”—Redwood is the oldest surviving lending library in the country. Redwood remains a “membership library” supported by shareholders, subscribers, endowments, grants, and gifts. The original Redwood building is the oldest library building in the United States and is still in daily use. In 1833 the word “Athenæum” was added to the Library’s name to reflect its expanding role as an educational institution. Today it hosts lectures, exhibitions, performances, and tours, and its col-

lections have expanded beyond books to include other cultural resources, including artwork and manuscript material.

The original collection of 751 titles has grown to a collection numbering more than 160,000 volumes. The circulating library collection includes a range of books from the latest Martha Grimes to the *Wall Street Journal*. It offers topics ranging from the History of Spiritualism to Chimneypieces and Ingle Nooks. It also boasts one of the largest collections of Biographies in the area. The scope of the rare book collection runs from Sir Edmund Halley’s *Atlas Maritimus & Commercialis* (1728) to a delightful collection of pop-up books.

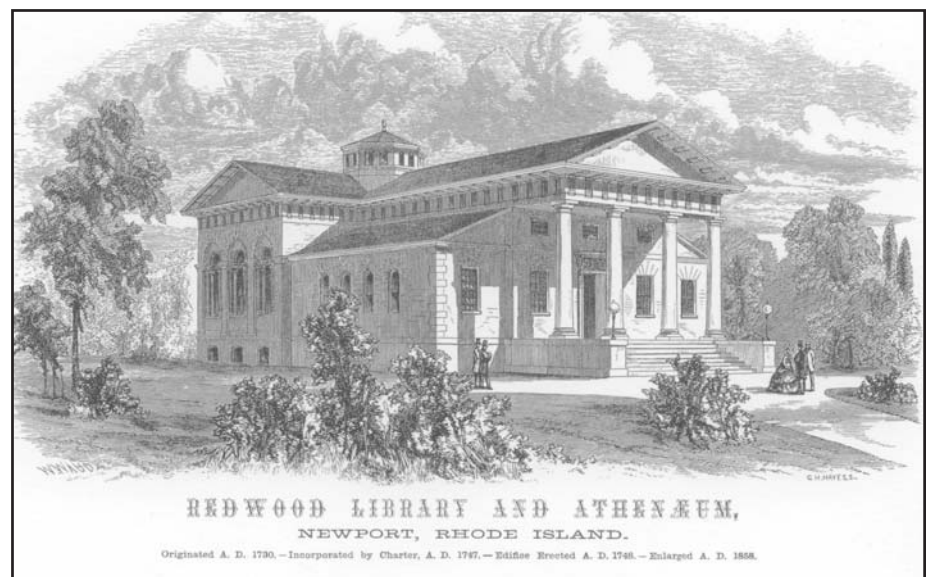
The library also houses a substantial collection of paintings and decora-

tive arts. The painting collection includes eighteenth- and nineteenth-century portraits, among which are works by Gilbert Stuart, Robert Feke, and Charles Bird King. The rare furniture collection contains eighteenth-century Newport pieces from the Goddard and Townsend families.

It is not widely known that manuscripts, photographs, and ephemera also form a small portion of the Library’s holdings. These collections are an unexploited primary resource for the study of Newport and colonial American history.

Special Collections

Fourteen years ago Special Collections was created as a separate department, which is now responsible for the care of the rare books and peri-



Redwood Library and Athenæum, before enlargement in 1875. Engraved by William Waud (d. 1878). From the Redwood Library Archives. *Courtesy of the Redwood Library and Athenæum.*

odicals, manuscripts, ephemera, photographs, artifacts, as well as the paintings and decorative arts collection. The Grande Dame of the collection is the Original Collection purchased in England in 1749. Nearly ninety percent of the original 751 titles survive either in their original volumes or in replacement volumes, a number having disappeared when the library was used as a British officers' club during the Revolutionary War. Since the 1950s, the Library has mounted an effort to identify replacement volumes. They are still housed in the original library building, now known as the Harrison Room.

The most widely used collection is the Newport Collection. Like most of the Special Collections, it has been developed through accretion over many years. The mission of the Newport Collection is to collect materials that document the history and culture of Newport whether it is sermons or cookbooks, maps or social registries, photographs or postcards. It is now one of the premier research collections of printed works relating to the history of Newport. Included in this collection are some of the earliest maps of Rhode Island and Narragansett Bay. One of the treasures of this group is a 1758 manuscript map of Newport, hand-drawn by the Reverend Ezra Stiles, Librarian of the Redwood from 1756 to 1776. This map, paced out by Stiles himself, marks landmarks, houses, wharves, ships, stills, windmills, and other buildings.

As befits the curio-style collecting habits of the nineteenth century, there are also numerous relics and artifacts in the Library. Under the category of relic are such items as the cane of Governor Edward Winslow of Massachusetts, brought over on the *Mayflower*, and a handsome bone-handled switchblade knife owned by



Stereoscopic view of the interior of the Harrison Room, ca. 1870. Photograph by J. A. Williams. From the Redwood Library Archives. Courtesy of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum.

Thomas Hazard, one of the first settlers in New England. And not to leave out the fairer sex, the relics collection includes a hand-crocheted bag made by Mrs. Coddington, the wife of William Coddington, one of the founders of Newport.

Manuscripts in Special Collections

The Redwood has operated primarily as a library for most of its history, and has not actively collected

manuscript material. However, over the years it has acquired several interesting collections through donations. These manuscripts are virtually untapped resources as they have not yet been described through finding guides or reported to the National Union Catalog or OCLC. The Redwood holds personal and family papers, maritime records, travel accounts, business records, organizational papers, and many curiosities.

Some of the highlights of the personal papers are letters (ca. 1885-1897) to the architect Richard Morris Hunt and his wife from various friends and colleagues such as Henry James and George Kennan; Nailor Tom's (Thomas Hazard) diary (1765-1845) describing public affairs in South Kingston, Rhode Island; the Redwood family papers (ca. 1726-1835) which document births, weddings, deaths, and financial transactions; and Thornton Wilder's letters (1948-1975) to his dear friends, Newport residents Roy and Margaret Anderson. Also of note are

the letters (1861-1866) of Frederick T. Peet, Jr. of New York who was mustered into the 1st Regiment U.S. Sharpshooters during the Civil War. Peet's letters describe his experiences and include a description of the doomed attack on Fort Wagner, Charleston in 1863.

A small collection of maritime papers documents Newport's rich seafaring history. These include the De Wolf papers (1796-1832) relating to

the Brig *Yankee*, a privateer owned by Rhode Islander James De Wolf, a slave trader and U.S. Senator; a small collection of papers given to the Library by collector and former Redwood Librarian Roderick Terry relating to the destruction of the British vessel *Liberty* (1769); and a memoir (1782-1784) by the Comte de Grasse detailing his naval exploits in the American Revolution.

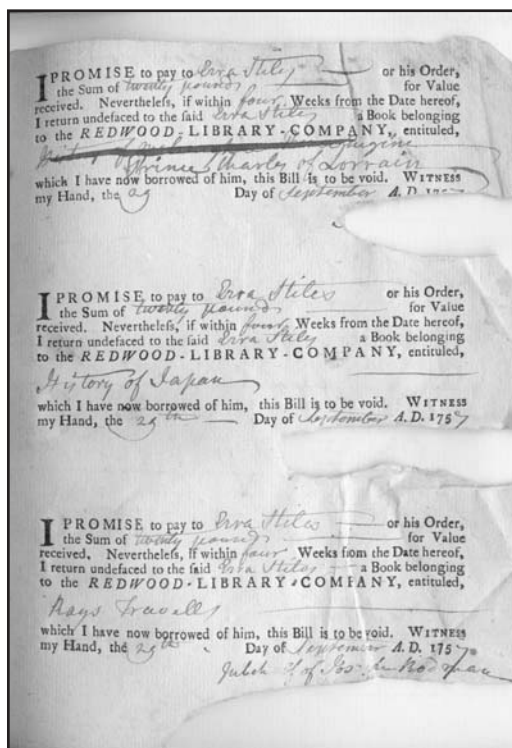
The Redwood has also benefited from the on-again off-again frenzy for autograph collecting. Among the numerous sets donated to the Library is a collection of statements made to assessors by property owners in the early 1800s verifying ownership of properties in Newport. These are signed by most of the prominent citizens in Newport, such as William Ellery, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Among the organizational records are the records of the Redwood Library and Athenæum. This collection contains the original list of books selected by the founders as well as the circulation receipts kept by Ezra Stiles during his tenure. If you can imagine, during that time the library was opened for two hours on Thursday afternoons. Members would select a book and Stiles would complete what was essentially an IOU with the title of the book, the value of the book, and the member's name or the name of the servant who was sent to retrieve the book. When the book was returned Stiles would tear the name off the receipt, otherwise the patron must pay the value of the book.

These collections are wonderful resources for research in Rhode Island history and American colonial history, as well as, in the case of the Redwood Library records, the history of library science. The Library hopes to attract new scholarship of these manuscripts once the standard arrangement and description is completed.

Primary Research

While the Redwood's manuscript collections are a relatively small por-



Page of circulation receipt book, 1757. Ezra Stiles established this system for circulating books in which the borrower's signature was torn out and destroyed when the book was returned. From the Redwood Library Archives. Courtesy of the Redwood Library and Athenæum.

tion of its holdings, the broad range of other Special Collections materials are also a rich source for conducting primary research. Due to the age of the printed collections, much material is now being used for primary research

purposes. One example is the Original Collection. The *London and Country Brewer*, published in its fifth edition in 1744, is being used in 2003 to help in the historic restoration and interpretation of a building known to have been a brewery in the eighteenth century. And the *Builder's Dictionary* (1734) is being used to construct an eighteenth-century privy as part of another historic preservation project.

Another example comes from the Newport Collection. In the fall of 2002 the Redwood presented *Newport Views: Nineteenth Century Souvenirs and Guidebooks*, an exhibition of publications and ephemera produced for the Newport tourist trade from 1848 to 1900. All of the items were selected from the Redwood Library's Newport Collection. As a group these works reflect not only the development of tourism but also the change in publishing technologies in the second half of the nineteenth century. They also serve as wonderful evidence of the social, business, and architectural history of Newport.

By 1848 vacationers were beginning to view Newport as an attractive summer "watering-place" to escape the summer fevers of the South or the suffocating crowds in the cities. The practice of scenic touring, made popular by the works of Byron, Hawthorne, and Emerson was at its peak by mid-century. As depicted in George C. Mason's 1848 book of scenic views and a set of oil-tinted miniature souvenir scenes, Newport provided many sites for tourists to commune with nature. Books of scenery such as Mason's became popular as both

inspired works of art as well as souvenir albums for those less artistically inclined tourists.

The first guidebooks to be published in the 1850s provided visitors with walking or carriage tours of the most serene spots of scenery in the Newport area. There was an emphasis on regional history, folklore, and literature. Gradually by 1900 there was a dramatic shift in the vacation culture. The desire for scenery developed into the desire to be seen. Guidebooks were dominated by lists of prominent summer residents, photographs of the mansions, and photographs of the residents at play.

Another change from the earliest guidebooks was an emphasis on advertising the local services and trades. One example is found in the advertisement for A. C. Landers' sporting goods, illustrated here. This appeared in the 1882 *Newport: The City by the Sea, Illustrated*, by J. H. Bowditch. A ladies lawn tennis costume would have been de rigueur after the opening of the Newport Casino tennis courts in 1880. Businesses began supporting the publication of the guidebooks heavily in the 1870s. By the 1890s hotels and railroads were creating their own guides to support the needs of vacationers and of course to market their services. In a fifty-year span scenic touring was transformed into tourism.

Patrons have used this sample of the Newport Collection to do primary

An Immense Stock of **NEW MATTINGS**, in white, check and fancy colorings, at **A. C. TITUS**'.

LAWN TENNIS AND ARCHERY

From the Celebrated Manufactories of Feltham & Co., and Highfield, London, England.
Sole Agent for Newport for E. I. Horsman's American **ARCHERY** and **LAWN TENNIS**, at Regular List Prices.

Archery,		Playing Cards,
Lawn Tennis,		Cribbage Boxes,
Lacrosse,		Juggling Tricks,
Base Balls,		Bat, Trap and Ball,
Foot Balls,		Bone Chips,
Tennis Shoes,		Indian Clubs,
Bats, Targets,		Dumb Bells,
Grace Hoops,		Dominoes,
Tennis Markers,		Hammocks,
Battledores,		Chess Men,
Shuttlecocks,		Backgammon Boards,
Ring Toss,		Jack Straws,
Croquet,		Tivoli Boards,
Target Stands,		Lotta, Go Bang,
Tool Boxes,		Garden Tools,
Velocipedes,		Parchesi,

AND ALL OUT-DOOR AND PARLOR GAMES, AT
→* **A. C. LANDERS***, ←
101 THAMES STREET, COVELL'S BLOCK.
Houses Furnished from Cellar to Attic, on Easy Terms and Low Prices, at **A. C. Titus**'.

Advertisement for A. C. Landers', from *Newport: The City by the Sea, Illustrated*, 1882, by J. H. Bowditch. From the Alan T. Schumacher Collection. Courtesy of the Redwood Library and Athenæum.

research on the activities of summer residents such as Edith Wharton, a frequent user of the Redwood. These ephemeral items have served as evidence of the Civil War bullet-making factory that appears in a miniature scene printed in 1865. And they have been studied as examples of those quirky photographic printing techniques that popped up in the late nineteenth century. The Redwood has a wealth of special collection materials that now serve new purposes as primary resources.

Access to the Library

To obtain access to the collections one must visit the Library. We still use the card catalog for the majority of the collection as well as the Cutter cataloging system implemented in the nineteenth century. For the last four years LC cataloging has been done and an OPAC terminal is available to patrons. There have also been several reclassification projects completed for selected Special Collections books. However, at this time the catalog is not available on our Web site. And as for the manuscript collections, over the years they were cataloged as library materials and therefore access to them is through the card catalog as well. All of this is undergoing change, so expect to see the catalog and finding aids on the Web in the near future.

The Redwood Library and Athenæum is located at 50 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, Rhode Island.

The Redwood Library is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. On Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays, it is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays hours are 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Library is open to members and to qualified scholars and researchers. We prefer that researchers make an appointment by calling (401) 847-0292. For more information about the collections please see the Redwood's Web site at: <www.redwoodlibrary.org>. ☺

Reviews

Schnare, Robert E. Jr., Susan G. Swartzburg and George M. Cunha. *Bibliography of Preservation Literature 1983-1996*. Lanham, Maryland: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2001. 826 pp. \$89.50 ISBN: 0-8108-3712-9

- *Mary Stelle Donin, Dartmouth College Special Collections Library*

The state of library preservation work today is vastly different from the work done by preservationists in the first half of the twentieth century. Robert Schnare's *Bibliography of Preservation Literature, 1983-96* is a comprehensive bibliographic survey of preservation literature published during the years 1983 to 1996 and also offers the reader a sweeping look at the changes faced by preservationists today. Schnare's message is clear: preservationists can no longer work alone; they must collaborate with colleagues not only within their own organization but nationally and internationally in order to continue to preserve and offer access to print and digital resources. The completion of this extensive work also accomplishes what the author recommends in his essay: sharing of resources on all aspects of preservation management.

The book is carefully divided into several distinct sections; the largest section is the bibliographic listings which make up the first seven hundred pages. There are approximately 5,100 entries describing the print materials published during the noted time period. Many of these listings are annotated. Following the print materials is a compilation of the almost two hundred entries on preservation media covering approximately the same time period. The bibliographic listing can be considered the core of the work; however, Schnare's essay on preservation management can be considered the heart of the work as it paints a picture for us of how the field of preservation has changed, what lies ahead, and how the role of preservation fits into the digital age. Schnare credits authorship of the essay to both George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg. As those in the preservation field know, Cunha and Swartzburg were for many years two leaders in the world of preservation and both passed away before the completion of the essay as well as the bibliography. Schnare has said the book is a memorial to them both.

Schnare's essay offers a look at how library and archives

preservation has changed in the past thirty years. Schnare and his co-authors point out that preservation work has taken on a much more scientific and technical orientation and has come to include both damage prevention as well as conservation. An important message that the authors deliver has to do with managing preservation in an atmosphere of diminishing resources and increasing demands. They conclude that "the emphasis in libraries, archives and even museums today is on the care of collections in their entirety rather than the treatment of single objects. A mass treatment approach to preservation is the only way that we can even begin to solve distressing preservation problems." They further point out an important element to survival in a dynamic and challenging world: "The emphasis on librarianship is on resource sharing. No library can strive to own and manage everything; the goal is to provide access for as much of the world's written and visual record as possible."

Following the essay, Schnare has provided a comprehensive glossary of acronyms used in the bibliographic citations as well as in the essay. Access to all of the entries is streamlined through Schnare's author index and his carefully compiled subject index. Perusal of the subject index gives the reader a quick overview of the breadth of the contents, which encompass such topics as Bosnia-Herzegovina, National Digital Library and shrink-wrapping. It also offers confirmation of the message in his essay: practitioners of preservation can no longer work in isolation. They must reach out beyond their own institutions and join their colleagues around the world in pooling their best resources and sharing their best practices. This book belongs in any library, archive, museum or other institution that aspires to that goal.

1870 County Atlases of Massachusetts. Originally published by F. W. Beers & Co. and now digitized by Piper Publications, Easton, Conn., 2002. CD containing maps for a county range from \$75.00 to \$150.00, depending on number of images.

- *William F. Carroll, CA, Worcester Historical Museum; Consultant, MHRAB*

The Beers Atlases, published over several years around 1870, are one of the most valuable research tools for local historians, genealogists, archivists, reference librarians, and others. Because of their age and frequent use, it is

increasingly difficult for researchers to locate good quality maps. Beers Atlases of most Massachusetts counties are now available on CD. Published by Piper Publications, each atlas has been scanned at high resolution, and includes the town and village maps, lists of businesses and sponsors, index, airline distances, engravings, and title page. The images are sharp and clear, in the original colors, and can be enlarged numerous times without loss of clarity. The availability of these highly detailed maps, in digital format, fills a serious need among researchers. Furthermore the availability of the digital version may decrease the use of the original atlases; thus contributing to their preservation.

Each CD is self-starting in a computer; no installation is required. The program is user-friendly and contents are indexed. On opening, the full page appears on the monitor. The image can be enlarged by increments of 20%, while images are movable on the monitor. Images remain in focus up to 160% of their original size, which exceeds the size of the original Beers maps.

Full-page maps can be printed on letter-size paper. Using a 5x magnifier or by enlarging the maps in a photocopier, the maps can be conveniently examined closely. There is no fuzziness or loss of clarity up to 200% enlargement.

The quality of the original maps is high. The publishers made efforts to locate and scan the best available maps. Thus, there is little discoloration, foxing, or other sign of damage on the digital surrogates.

System requirements are Microsoft Windows 95/98 and above, with a minimum 64 MB of RAM. Using a Toshiba laptop with Windows 98, 64 MB of RAM, loading time was 30 to 45 seconds per page, slightly slower than stated by the publishers. Color printing time using a Compaq A1500 was around five minutes per map. ©

Please visit us on-line at
www.newenglandarchivists.org

**Mark your calendars for
 the New England Archivists
 30th Anniversary
 Spring Meeting 2003**

“CONVERGENCE”

*April 11 and 12, 2003
 Simmons College, Boston, MA*

The theme of NEA's 30th Anniversary meeting is Convergence—the growing tendency of archives and records management tasks and functions to migrate to other areas of professional practice, and vice versa. Accelerated by technology, the economics of information, the trend towards broader access and public education, convergence is experienced by archivists in several ways: the integration of records management, archives, and other information and management functions; the integration of record keeping and business functions; the integration of a wide variety of resources in collections, including records, artifacts, textiles, digital objects, and specimens; the integration of 'fringe activities' such as oral history, museum exhibits, and education, in which archivists engage. Meeting sessions have been designed in tracks to address several of these areas of convergence: technology, professional education and practice, rights and obligations, artifacts and museum activities.

This theme is appropriate as we come together to celebrate the 30th anniversary of New England's largest archival organization concurrently with the 100th anniversary of the Bay State Historical League and the 30th anniversary of the North East Document Conservation Center.

Friday's keynote speaker is Michael E. Bell, folklorist, author of *Food for the Dead*. Tours include the Warren Anatomical Museum and the Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum Textile Conservation Lab.

Calendar



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

February 1-May 25, 2003. *From Dairy to Doorstep: Milk Delivery in New England, 1860–1960.* The exhibit, which chronicles the origins of home milk delivery and the heyday of the milkman, is rich with oral histories and nostalgic artifacts like old-time glass milk bottles, gadgets for separating cream, a recreated 1950s kitchen, colorful advertisements, toys, and historic photographs. Maine Historical Society's Center for Maine History Museum, 489 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101; (207) 774-1822.

April 3-6, 2003. Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, "Social Justice and American History," Memphis, TN. Contact (812) 855-7311 or see <www.oah.org>.

April 4, 2003. New England Technical Services Librarians (NETSL) annual Spring conference, at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. <www.nelib.org/netsl/>

April 7-11, 2003. Preservation Management Institute, Session II, at Rutgers, New Brunswick, NJ.

April 7-12, 2003. Visual Resources Association Annual Conference, Houston, TX. <www.vraweb.org>

April 10-13, 2003. Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) National Conference, Charlotte, NC. <www.acrlnec.org/springconf03.html>

April 11-12, 2003. NEA 30th Anniversary Meeting at Simmons College, Boston, MA.

April 12, 2003. "The Chinese Experience in Maine: History Forum". Maine Historical Society, 489 Congress Street, Portland, ME. Contact: (207) 774-1822.

April 23-25, 2003. School For Scanning, presented by NEDCC, The Getty Center, Los Angeles, CA.

April 31-May 1, 2003. Centenary celebration at the W. E. B. Du Bois birth site, Great Barrington, MA.

May 3, 2003. Application deadline for the Gilder Lehrman Fellowship program, supporting work in the Gilder Lehrman Collection at the Morgan Library, the Library of the New-York Historical Society, the Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library, and the New York Public Library. <www.gilderlehrman.org>

May 9, 2003. Sixth Annual Community Forum on Historical Records, "Celebrating History: Anniversaries to Educate, Promote and Preserve History." Merrimack College, North Andover, MA.

May 15, 2003. Application deadline for 2003 Archival Certification Exam. <www.certifiedarchivists.org>

May 18-22, 2003. American Association of Museums Annual Meeting, Portland, OR. <www.aam-us.org>

June 2-13, 2003. Modern Archives Institute, National Archives and Record Administration, Washington, D.C. <www.archives.gov/preservation/modern_archives_institute.html>

June 7-12, 2003. Special Libraries Association Annual Conference, New York, NY. <www.sla.org>

June 10-14, 2003. "What's history got to do with it?", Association of Canadian Archivists meeting, Toronto, Canada. See <www.archivists.ca/conferen/index.htm> for more.

June 13, 2003. NHPRC Archival Research Fellowship Symposium, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. WGBH Educational Foundation Conference Site, Brighton Landing, Boston, MA. Contact: (617) 536-1608.

June 15-20, 2003. American Antiquarian Society Summer Seminar in the History of the Book, "Reading and Everyday Life." Worcester, MA. For more information visit <www.americanantiquarian.org>.

June 15-27, 2003. The 17th annual Western Archives

Institute will be held at San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA.

June 17-20, 2003. Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (ALA) Pre-conference, Toronto, Canada.

June 19-25, 2003. American Library Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.

June 21-22, 2003. Vermont History Expo, Tunbridge, VT.

July 9-12, 2003. National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) Annual Meeting, "Navigating the Shoals of Accountability and Access," Providence, RI.

July 11-12, 2003. "Current Issues in Stewardship Seminar," American Association of Museums, Providence, RI. <www.aam-us.org>

July 17-19, 2003. "Interpretation Issues and Strategies," American Association for State and Local History, American Textile History Museum, Lowell, MA. <www.aaslh.org/InterpretationWorkshop.htm>

July 20-25, 2003. Shaker Seminar 2003, presented by Hancock Shaker Village at The Fruitland Museums, Harvard, MA. <www.hancockshakervillage.org>

July 21-August 1, 2003. Western Archives Institute, Institute for Native American and Tribal Archivists, Redlands, CA.

August 18-24, 2003. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting and Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

September 15-19, 2003. Preservation Management Institute, Session III, at Rutgers, New Brunswick, NJ.

September 17-20, 2003. American Association for State and Local History, Annual Meeting, Providence, RI. <www.aaslh.org>

October 8-12, 2003. Oral History Association Annual Meeting, Bethesda, MD. "Creating Communities: Cultures, Neighborhoods, Institutions." For additional information, contact Roger Horowitz, OHA Program Chair, (302) 658-2400, ext. 244, <rh@udel.edu>.

October 17-18, 2003. NEA Fall Meeting, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.

October 19-22, 2003. ARMA International 48th Annual Conference and Expo, Boston, MA.

October 26-28, 2003. The New England Library Association Annual Conference, Worcester, MA.

November 2-8, 2003. Archives Week in the NEA region.

November 6-9, 2003. New England Regional Genealogical Conference, "New England: America's Melting Pot." Sea Crest Resort and Conference Center, North Falmouth, MA. For more information, see: <www.rootsweb.com/~manergc/index.htm>

February 15, 2004. Application deadline for NEA Richard W. Hale, Jr. Professional Development Award.

March 1, 2004. Application deadline for NEA Richard L. Haas Memorial Award.

March 25-28, 2004. Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. <www.oah.org>

June 20-24, 2004. Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (ALA) Pre-conference at Yale University, New Haven, CT.

June 24-30, 2004. American Library Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.

August 2-8, 2004. Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting and Conference, Boston, MA.

October 20-22, 2004. New England Library Association Meeting, Manchester, NH.

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

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Massachusetts Historical Society viewed from Fenway Studios, 1905. *Courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society.* MHS hosts the keynote address and opening reception for NEA's 30th Anniversary Meeting in Boston, Friday, April 11, 2003.