10-2017

News from the Midwest

Midwest Archives Conference

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Chicago Area Archivists

In May, 31 volunteers completed an inventory and condition report for 183 boxes from the Tenneco Collection at the Pullman State Historic Site (PSHS). Chicago Area Archivists and Friends of the Pullman State Historic Site organized the day of service to survey these materials before they were moved to accommodate construction at the Pullman National Monument. The event brought together archivists with diverse skills and experiences and gave the local community an opportunity to contribute to the preservation of materials of local and national significance. Kathleen Schneider from Pullman National Monument shared plans for the National Park Service visitor center and collaboration with PSHS and the Pullman neighborhood. Keeping with a "partners" theme, OCLC generously provided refreshments and hot coffee.

The Tenneco Company acquired the Pullman Company and its records in 1996. The materials in the Tenneco Company Collection were transferred to PSHS about four years ago.

Museum of Contemporary Art

The Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) presents To the Racy Brink, an archival exhibition celebrating the museum’s 50th anniversary. Since 1967, the MCA has championed artistic experimentation and risk taking. The exhibition honors the boundary-pushing shows and artists that placed the museum on the vanguard of contemporary art through a selection of rare films, videos, photographs, posters, and ephemera. Highlights include interviews with artists, films of the MCA’s earliest shows, and the debut of footage of Chris Burden’s legendary performance Doomed. The films and videos on display were restored and digitized as part of the Library and Archives’ recent preservation initiative. To the Racy Brink will be on view from July 1 through December 10, 2017. It is organized by Lynne Warren, curator, and Mary Richardson, library director.

National Archives, Chicago

The National Archives at Chicago announced in April that the entirety of the tax evasion case file in which organized crime boss Alphonse Capone was convicted is now digitized and available online. The case United States v. Alphonse Capone is available through the National Archives Online Catalog. Likely the most requested court case in Chicago’s holdings, the case file includes some 226 documents from the trial. To view these documents, visit catalog.archives.gov/id/1105475.

INDIANA

Indiana University, Bloomington

Housed in the Glenn A. Black Laboratory (GBL) of Archaeology’s archives, the Great Lakes–Ohio Valley Ethnohistory collection is a unique assemblage of primary and secondary resources pertaining to the Native American occupancy of the Midwest. These items were assembled to support the US Department of Justice–funded research responsible for preparing Indian Claims Commission reports in the 1950s and 1960s. In partnership with the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the GBL will receive funding through an IMLS grant to...
digitize Shawnee documents from the collection. Visit purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/findingaids/ewv/VAD1751 for the finding aid.

**Riley Hospital Historic Preservation Committee**

The Riley Hospital Historic Preservation Committee (RHPC) is developing a book on Jessie Spalding Landon whose contributions to the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children built in 1924 (now Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health) were memorialized in a tribute to her etched on the stone wall of the entrance to the hospital’s original lobby. This book is the first of a series of books about Women for Riley that will be produced over time by the RHPC to commemorate the contributions of women to Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health as part of the hospital’s 2024 centennial.

**Vanderburgh County Clerk’s Archives**

On Sunday, September 10 from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., the Evansville Museum will be having its first-ever History Extravaganza. This family-friendly activity will have something for everyone, including hands-on history activities, presentations on local history, local history organizations, historical re-enactors, and more. The Vanderburgh County Clerk’s Archives will be sharing the stories of remarkable historical county residents, including a Civil War surgeon, a man born a slave who grew to become US ambassador to Liberia, a famous lecturer and musician from New Zealand who challenged Evansville’s segregation laws in 1910, and a fallen World War I soldier and his widow who built a criminal empire running speakeasies during Prohibition.

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**IOWA**

**Iowa State University Special Collections and University Archives**

Iowa State University Special Collections and University Archives’ (SCUA) current exhibition, “This movement for a more beautiful Iowa: The Early Years of Iowa’s State Park System,” opened May 17. Its online counterpart will open later this fall. As a complement to the SCUA exhibition, Heidi H. Hohmann, associate professor of landscape architecture, gave a presentation at the Ames Public Library in early June. The exhibition highlights Iowa State’s role in the state park movement and includes individuals such as botanists Louis Pammel and Ada Hayden, forester G. B. MacDonald, and landscape architect John Fitzsimmons. This exhibition runs through end of 2017. SCUA’s next exhibition, on the role of Iowa during World War I, titled “Do[ing] their bit: Iowa’s Role in the Great War,” opens in mid-January 2018.

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**University of Iowa Libraries’ Iowa Women’s Archives**

This October, University of Iowa Libraries’ Louise Noun–Mary Louise Smith Iowa Women’s Archives celebrates 25 years of gathering and illuminating the history of Iowa women with a series of events and exhibitions during the 2017–2018 academic year. The Iowa Women’s Archives kicked off its anniversary in July by hosting a reunion of Iowa City feminists and presenting a summer-long exhibition entitled Power to the Printers: The Alternative Press in Iowa City, 1965–1985. This fall, the celebration continues with an exhibition entitled 25_Collections for 25 Years: Selections from the Iowa Women’s Archives, which will feature items from 25 of the archives more than 1,100 collections to provide a peek into the development and use of the archives since 1992. The anniversary concludes in summer 2018 with a traveling exhibit celebrating girls’ and women’s sports.

(Continued on page 14)
University of Iowa Special Collections and University Archives

The Department of Special Collections and University Archives has launched a podcast called Historically Yours, in which a staff member reads and discusses a selected letter from the department’s holdings. Colleen Theisen, Special Collections outreach librarian hosts and produces the podcast. A recent installment features University Archivist David McCartney reading a letter from James Thurber to Des Moines Tribune columnist Elizabeth Clarkson Zwart, written in 1935. Visit blog.lib.uiowa.edu/speccoll/2017/06/28/historically-yours-podcast-episode-5-james-thurber-letter.

KANSAS

Dole Archives, Dole Institute of Politics

Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC, 2003–2009) has chosen the Dole Archives, Dole Institute of Politics, as her personal papers repository. The Dole Institute has also created the Elizabeth Dole Women in Leadership Lecture in her honor, which will become an annual program. The papers span Dole’s long career in public service, including her years as commissioner on the Federal Trade Commission, US secretary of transportation, US secretary of labor, president of the American Red Cross, and a US senator representing the state of North Carolina. A preliminary collection survey is underway.

Pittsburg State University

The Special Collections at Pittsburg State University (PSU) has received the materials to enhance two existing collections. Approximately 30 linear feet of books and papers of recently retired PSU art professor Marjorie Schick were received. Professor Schick has become one of the world’s foremost artists in the field of jewelry art. Her work can be found in museums and private collections worldwide. Schick was interviewed for the Smithsonian Institution’s Archives of American Art Oral History Program and, upon its request, has deposited some of her papers and art at the Smithsonian.

To add to a collection he has been donating to PSU for several decades, Dr. Stanley Rosen, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, recently donated approximately a hundred books and personal papers relating to labor, employment, and union matters. Rosen worked for the Textile Workers Union of America and taught for three decades at the University of Illinois.

Kentucky

Bellarmine University

The Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University has a new website for digital collections. More than 350 items are currently available at merton.bellarmine.edu. In addition to Merton materials, the digitized collections include items related to Mother Teresa and to Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker Movement.

Thomas Merton (1915–1968) was a writer, social critic, and Trappist monk at Our Lady of Gethsemani Abbey near Bardstown, Kentucky. He wrote more than 70 books of poetry, personal journals, and collections of letters and social criticism, including such classics as The Seven Storey Mountain and Zen and the Birds of Appetite.

Filson Historical Society

From August 28 through December 15, the Filson Historical Society will host Understanding the Indescribable: Paintings by G. Caliman Coxe. For nearly five decades, abstract painter Gloucester Caliman “G.C.” Coxe (1907–1999) was a fixture of the Louisville art scene. The first African American to receive a fine arts degree from the University of Louisville, Coxe worked and exhibited in a cohort of artists including Sam Gilliam, Ed Hamilton, and Fred Bond. In 2015, the Filson acquired three wonderful Coxe canvasses, which will be shown alongside works generously loaned for the exhibition by Ed Hamilton. Visit filsonhistorical.org/exhibits for more information.

Michigan

Michigan Archival Association

The Michigan Archival Association (MAA) held its annual meeting June 15–16, 2017, in Traverse City. Speakers from institutions all over the state spoke on a variety of subjects, from digitizing on a budget to unique curiosities. Board member elections were held with the offices of secretary, treasurer, and members-at-large #1 and #2 being filled. An organizational mission statement was also voted on. To see what you might have missed, visit storify.com/a2beachboy/2017-michigan-archival-association-annual-meeting for a collection of #2017maa tweets chronicling the event.

In the fall, MAA will once again co-sponsor the workshop and fall meeting of the Mid-Michigan Digital Practitioners (MMDP), October 19–20 at the Library of Michigan in Lansing. The deadline to submit proposals was...
The Washington University Libraries’ Film and Media Archive has completed the preservation and digitization of the rare civil rights documentary *The Streets of Greenwood* (1963). The project was made possible by a 2016 Basic Preservation Grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation (NFPF). The grant also provided funding for the preservation of outtakes from the documentary. The outtakes include never-before-available silent footage of civil rights leader Bob Moses and musicians Pete Seeger, Theodore Bikel, and Bob Dylan.

Thanks to NFPF, the Film and Media Archive will be able continue its work preserving important civil rights films. It will begin work on *Code Blue*, a 1972 recruitment film aimed at bringing minorities into the medical profession and one of the earliest existing films created by Henry Hampton’s Boston-based documentary company, Blackside Inc., which produced the Emmy Award–winning civil rights series *Eyes on the Prize*.

**NEBRASKA**

**University of Nebraska, Omaha**

The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) Libraries is one of the 2017 recipients of the LYRASIS Catalyst Fund. The $5,550 grant will support the project Mobile Digitization for Rural Community Archives. The pilot includes a mobile digitization lab and maker space concept. A new program hosted by LYRASIS, the Catalyst Fund is intended to provide funding for member institutions to help “incubate new ideas and test creative approaches to advance [institu-
tion] objectives.” With the creation of a mobile maker space and digitization lab, the UNO Libraries will have the ability to interact with rural communities and digitize their materials, making them widely available yet keeping the archives local. More information about the project and the Catalyst Fund is at www.unomaha.edu/criss-library/news/2017/07/libraries-secure-lyrasis-catalyst-fund.php.

Nebraska’s longest running LGBTQ+ publication, The GayZette, published its final issue in December 2016, but over 400 past issues are now available online as part of UNO Libraries’ Queer Omaha Archives. The GayZette was first published by the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center in 1999 as a single sheet listing local events before growing to include advertisements for local businesses, articles, and commentaries. The GayZette exceeded the lifespan of the previously longest-running Nebraska LGBTQ+ publication, The New Voice of Nebraska, which was published from 1984 to 1998. The Queer Omaha Archives is part of UNO Libraries’ Archives and Special Collections and was officially launched in 2016. The Queer Omaha Archives collects and preserves materials relevant to the LGBTQ+ community in the region. Archives and Special Collections’ materials are available to the university community and the general public at both the Dr. C. C. and Mabel L. Criss Library and online.

OHIO

Bowling Green State University

The University Libraries at Bowling Green State University has greatly expanded its collection of Great Lakes research materials thanks to a significant donation from the National Museum of the Great Lakes, which is owned and operated by the Great Lakes Historical Society. More than 160 cubic feet of photos, pamphlets, slides, bound materials, postcards, and archival materials were donated to the libraries’ Historical Collections of the Great Lakes (HCGL), housed within the Center for Archival Collections. These additional materials bolster the already robust offering of Great Lakes–related research materials managed by the HCGL.

Cleveland Museum of Art and Western Reserve Historical Society

The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) and the Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) are collaborating to digitize the personal ledger books of Cleveland industrialist Leonard C. Hanna Jr. Owned by the Western Reserve Historical Society, these ledgers not only provide a glimpse into the personal life of the city’s leading citizens, but also serve as the best record of Hanna’s relationships with Cleveland institutions, including the Cleveland Museum of Art. Of particular significance for CMA, the ledgers document art acquisitions and provide critical provenance information for works now included in the museum’s collection. The Hanna ledgers will be available to researchers through both the WRHS digital portal and the CMA collection page on the Internet Archive.

Lloyd Library and Museum

The Greater Cincinnati Foundation has provided grant assistance to the Lloyd Library and Museum for the first phase of its upcoming strategic planning process, the establishment and clarification of mission, vision, and values. The library has employed the services of Nagelkirk Strategy to facilitate this process. It is the library’s goal to use this work as the first component of a full-fledged strategic plan. Lloyd Library executive director, Patricia Van Skaik, reports, “This grant will assist us in setting a direction that marries century-old collections, latest research tools, technology, art and inspiration for a 21st-century audience.”

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board

The Advisory Board has also awarded two high school students with an Ohio History Day award for the best use of Ohio primary sources in a paper or website. Ian Riddle was awarded for his work “How Can You Run When You Know?: Neil Young’s ‘Ohio,’ the Kent State Incident, and Musical Protest during the Vietnam War,” and Connor Stanton for “Sheppard v. Maxwell: The Right to a Fair Trial Takes the Stand.”

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Historical Society

A photograph of a tornado and two funnel clouds taken on Thursday, August 28, 1884, by photographer F. N. Robinson of Howard is currently on display in the research room of the South Dakota State Archives. Surviving records, accounts, and sketches of the tornado would today put it in the F3 to F4 range on the Fujita scale.

Issues of a former publication of the South Dakota State Historical Society titled The Wi-Iyohi (Wee-ee-yo-hee) were recently added online to the South Dakota Digital Archives. The Wi-Iyohi was a monthly bulletin published by the State Historical Society from April 1947 to November 1970. Within each bulletin are maps,
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Alexandra Bisio and Alison Stankrauff, Assistant Editors

photos, and general histories of South Dakota. In total, 281 issues of the bulletin are available online. The scanning project comprised just over 2,600 individual scans and roughly 2,400 megabytes of data.

WISCONSIN
University of Wisconsin–Madison
The faculty and staff of the UW–Madison voted to change the name of the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) to the UW–Madison Information School (a.k.a. The iSchool). The name change went into effect in the summer of 2017. The new name will better represent the school’s current and future work and align it with emerging directions in the field. The iSchool is proud to continue offering its MA in library and information studies (with the option of a concentration in archives) and its PhD program, and is excited to announce professional capstone certificates in user experience design and analytics for decision making. More information is available at ischool.wisc.edu.
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