

# EASY ACCESS



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Air raid wardens participating in a drill, Seattle, Washington, 1942  
*Seattle Post-Intelligencer Collection, Museum of History & Industry, Seattle; All Rights Reserved*

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## **Consortium of Heritage Groups Unveils New Online Resource**

Vintage photos tell the story of Seattle and King County history—Details on page three.

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## *President's Message*

People often claim that you become an archivist because you like to save things.

I love to shock those same people by telling them how much I like to throw things away. I'm proud of my personal commitment to good appraisal: whenever I come home from cleaning out someone's house, carefully boxing up the often-small collection of things that is worth putting in the Archives' collections, I generally get rid of something in my house; it's like scratching an itch. So, I lead a model life of pared-down simplicity, right?

That's what I thought. I proudly thought I had escaped three generations of pack-rattery, of people who save forty years of *Sunset* magazine, blank stationery, and mail-order catalogs.

Then I moved to a new house.

Our old house is a very small bungalow built in 1915. It seemed uncluttered even so, and the move of our few pieces of furniture to the new, more capacious, house two blocks away went relatively quickly with a small crew.

Then came the attic and the garage, the chosen repository for our seasonal possessions (skis, shorts) and for our collective memory of old journals, school notes, holiday ornaments, and my husband's nine boxes of materials related to his dissertation. (Naturally, I don't store photographs in the attic!) It all took twice as long to move as the rest of our house.

This horrified me. How can I claim a commitment to personal appraisal, to William Morris' advice to "Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful"?

So I began to re-appraise all that I had moved. And here I confronted my own collective memory. I'm a forgetful person, and part of my respect for records is based on

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### **EASY ACCESS**

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#### *Editor*

John Bolcer  
University of Washington  
<jdbolcer@u.washington.edu>

#### *Assistant Editor*

Sharon Howe  
Oregon Historical Society  
<sharonh@ohs.org>

### **NWA OFFICERS**

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### **MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:**

Diana Shenk,  
diana.shenk@www.edu

Webpage: [www.lib.washington.edu/nwa](http://www.lib.washington.edu/nwa)



## KING COUNTY SNAPSHOTS PROJECT FOCUSES ON COLLABORATION

—Julie Kerssen, *Museum of History & Industry*

In October 2003, the King County Snapshots website ([www.kcsnapshots.org](http://www.kcsnapshots.org)) made its debut. The site represents two years of work on the part of hundreds of staff and volunteers from a dozen organizations, and is a leap forward both in terms of access to images of King County, Washington, and collaboration among local heritage groups. Since many archives are undertaking digitization projects and some are considering collaboration as a means to reach that goal, an outline of the King County Snapshots project and a description of our learning experiences may be of interest.

The project was funded by a National Leadership Grant for Library-Museum Collaboration from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and was co-led by the University of Washington (UW) and the Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI). Smaller historical organizations participating in the project were Black Heritage Society of Washington State, Inc.; Eastside Heritage Center; Maple Valley Historical Society; Northwest Railway Museum; Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society; Rainier Valley Historical Society; Renton Historical Museum; Shoreline Historical Museum; White River Valley Museum; and Wing Luke Asian Museum. These groups are all members of the Association of King County Heritage Organizations (AKCHO). A half-time project manager and two full-time metadata specialists were hired with grant funding.

The goals of the project were twofold. First was the product: a website containing 12,000 historic images of King County contributed by all twelve partners. Each image displays with its associated metadata, derived from the organizations' records and supplemented by outside research. Each group has its own database, and the site gives users the option to search either across all organizations or within only one group's materials. Preselected queries were also prepared to assist users in browsing and to give them an idea of the types of

subject matter represented in the collection. Other features of the website include basic information about the county, maps, and an illustrated timeline. Additionally, the Project Background section of the site contains extensive information about the project itself, including agendas and handouts from training workshops.

Scanning was done by an outside vendor, who did the work according to specifications developed by project staff and lead partners. The digital images were then compressed and uploaded to UW servers using CONTENTdm software, after which metadata was added. Each organization selected metadata fields to describe their images, tailoring a template developed by project staff and lead partners to their specific needs. These fields were then mapped to Dublin Core metadata elements, which allowed groups to use different field names while still allowing users to search across multiple organizations. For example, groups chose different terms to name the field identifying the location represented in the image (Places, Location, Location Depicted), but all were mapped to the Dublin Core "coverage" element. Subject headings came from the Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (TGM) and proper names from Library of Congress Authori-



Passengers preparing to board a train, Cedar Falls, Washington, ca. 1915. *Northwest Railway Museum*

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ties.

The second project goal, and the one on which the grant evaluations were based, was concerned with the process of collaboration among the twelve groups participating in the project. Desired outcomes included increases in the groups' comfort with technology, skills with cataloging, and knowledge of their collections. To this end, three workshops were held throughout the course of the grant period, covering topics such as controlled vocabularies, image sales, copyright issues, and use of CONTENTdm software. Evaluation methods were developed to measure change in attitudes and skills among participants. Final data is still being gath-



Students at University of Washington football rally, Seattle, Washington, 1912.

*MSCUA, University of Washington Libraries, UW21987z*

ered; however, it appears that most, if not all, of the project goals were met.

Overall, the project has been a success – the website has received an excellent response and the project partners have expressed satisfaction at their experience as participants. However, as in most large projects, there were unanticipated challenges, and we occasionally had to adjust our methods and expectations. These learning experiences may be the most useful information we can share with other members of the archival community who are considering undertaking a similar project.

One complication was organizational

change within the groups taking part in the project. Two of the organizations were in the midst of a merger during the grant period. One museum lost its county-owned building during the course of the project, so that group's primary focus was on moving their collections to storage, leaving them less time to devote to the project than they had anticipated. In addition, the economic downturn meant that the lead organizations were struggling with less funding and fewer staff, leaving them to squeeze project-related work into their increasingly full workloads. Some participants found themselves with less time to review and edit their metadata than they had originally hoped. One group backed out of the project entirely when they felt they didn't have enough time to participate. Luckily we were able to recruit two new groups to join in on short notice to take that organization's place.

On a more individual scale, some of the people assigned to the project were not able to continue the work, either because of illness, a change in employment, or a move out of the area. Groups with a high proportion of elderly volunteers were particularly prone to this problem. Although we asked each organization to send a project lead and a backup to all training workshops, in retrospect it may have been wise to train more people than seemed necessary, to allow for attrition of some participants. This may be a consideration for any project that takes place over an extended period of time.

The project's scanning contractor spun off into a new company between the time the grant was written and when the work was begun. Their move into new offices and growing pains in establishing their new business led to some communication difficulties. This type of situation is of course impossible to foresee; however, having a detailed contract in place can help ensure that you get the services you require, no matter what organizational changes the vendor may be undergoing.

As many might expect, copyright and permissions issues loomed large in the project. Many

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of the smaller organizations, particularly the all-volunteer groups, had no formal background in this area and initially felt overwhelmed by the prospect of investigating whether they owned the rights to their images. However, the larger organizations were not exempt from these issues – the University of Washington discovered during the project that they did not have a deed of gift for one of the collections they scanned. Luckily they were able to find the donor photographers, now in their nineties, and they signed the necessary paperwork. The first workshop addressed the subject of rights and permissions, but questions in this area continued to come up throughout the project.

Since all the organizations were from the same geographic area, we were not surprised to find some duplication across their collections. Sometimes more than one group had original copies of a vintage print; other times one group would have a copy print of an original held by another group. Sorting out which organization had the rights to an image took time and occasionally resulted in hurt feelings.

Some of the groups also found that they had fewer images to contribute than they had expected, either because they did not have clear rights to many of their photographs or because much of their collection did not relate directly to King County, as the project parameters required. In the end, other partner groups contributed extra photos to make up the difference. While the original aim was to have equal numbers of images from all the AKCHO groups, flexibility on this point allowed the project still to meet its overall goal of 12,000 images when some organizations came up short.

Finally, the collaborative process occasionally presented some challenges, simply because of the diversity of organizations represented. One group's board wanted to approve every image submitted for their database, while some others were very informal, adding images even as the scanner was working. Additionally, comfort with technology varied widely among the groups, necessitating

different levels of training and assistance. We quickly learned that one-size-fits-all solutions were not sufficient in dealing with the different organizations.

Like any project, this one had some unexpected issues and complications, although we were lucky in that ours were relatively minor. Overall, the experience has been rewarding for all involved, and we believe the final product of 12,000 images and associated metadata will be useful to students, teachers, and scholars in King County and beyond. Additionally, we hope the material in the Project Background section of the website will be helpful to others in the field who are planning their own digitization projects.

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### **Northwest Digital Archives (NWDA) Update**

The Northwest Digital Archives has made significant progress in several areas during the fall of 2003.

Project directors and other key NWDA personnel met in Pullman, Washington, on November 3-4 for in-person discussion of a variety of issues pertaining to best practices and stylesheets; review, discussion, and adoption of a detailed timeline of project goals for the remaining 14 months of the grant project; and preliminary planning for "phase II" proposals for the NWDA. Adrian Turner, Clearinghouse Project Coordinator for the Online Archive of California, consulted with the group on best practice guidelines, stylesheets, and other EAD implementation issues.

Prior to the Pullman meeting, the Project Directors accepted the recommendation of the Consortium Director and Manager to form an Executive Committee to assist with decision-making and communication, trouble-shoot problems that need immediate resolution, provide a sounding-board for the Consortium Director and Manager, and serve as a

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liaison with active working groups. Jodi Allison-Bunnell (University of Montana) is chair; members are: Trevor Bond (Washington State University); Janet Hauck (Whitworth College); Molly Kruckenberg (Montana Historical Society); Marsha Maguire (University of Washington); Larry Landis (Consortium Director); and Elizabeth Nielsen (Consortium Manager).

The NWDA Best Practice Guidelines are being revised and expanded to reflect decisions made by the project directors at the Pullman meeting. It is expected that the Version 2 of the Best Practice Guidelines will be in place by mid-December. Development of draft stylesheets was lead by staff at the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies at Western Washington University. Future enhancements and modifications of the stylesheets will be overseen by the Executive Committee.

The Web Interfaces Working Group has been formed and will be lead by Trevor Bond (Washington State University) and Mary Caughey (Digital Resources Coordinator for the Oregon State University Libraries). This group will be enhancing the NWDA website to incorporate searching and browsing access to the NWDA finding aids database as well as updating the site with information and tools that will be helpful to all participants.

ArchProteus of Vancouver, British Columbia, is on track to complete all encoding from the 7 NWDA institutions using this service by the end of December 2003, a month ahead of the contract deadline.

The Dissemination Working Group has submitted or is in the process of submitting program proposals about the NWDA to a number of organizations. These include the Society of American Archivists (2004 annual meeting), the joint NWA/PNWHist/NOHA conference, Online Northwest, and the Oregon Library Association annual meeting. The National Council on Public History and the American

Society for Environmental History have accepted a poster session proposal on the NWDA for the organizations' joint meeting in the spring of 2004. A general presentation on the NWDA was made to the Oregon ARMA chapter in October. Several institutional representatives expressed interest in participating in a subsequent phase of the NWDA.

The Northwest Digital Archives (NWDA) is an NEH grant-funded project to provide enhanced access to archival and manuscript materials in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington through a union database of Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aids. The project began on July 1, 2002 and has been extended from the original ending of June 30, 2004 to December 31, 2004.

Participating institutions are Washington State University, University of Washington, Washington State Archives, Seattle Municipal Archives, Center for Pacific Northwest Studies (Western Washington University), Pacific Lutheran University, Whitworth College, University Montana, Montana Historical Society, University of Idaho, Oregon Historical Society, University of Oregon, and Oregon State University.

Please direct any questions regarding the Northwest Digital Archives to:

Elizabeth Nielsen  
NWDA Consortium Manager  
<http://nwda.wsulibs.wsu.edu>  
541-737-0543  
[Elizabeth.Nielsen@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.Nielsen@oregonstate.edu)

### **Digitization for Cultural and Heritage Professionals 2004**

The School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in conjunction with the Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute, University of

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Glasgow, Rice University's Fondren Library, and Duke University Libraries, is pleased to announce the fifth Digitization for Cultural and Heritage Professionals course, May 16 - May 21, 2004. The course ran at Rice University, Houston in 2000 and 2001 and in UNC-Chapel Hill in 2002 and 2003. Full information, course details, and an online registration form can be found on the SILS web pages at: <http://www.ils.unc.edu/DCHP/>.

With a new curriculum for 2004, this one-week intensive course will consist of lectures; seminars; lab-based practicals (offering both guided tuition, as well as an opportunity for individual practice) and visits to the UNC and Duke University libraries. The teaching team includes Drs. Seamus Ross and Ian Anderson from Glasgow, Dr. Helen Tibbo from UNC-CH, Dr. Paul Conway from Duke University, and Dr. Lisa Spiro from Rice.

Enrollment is limited, so please register early to confirm a place.

#### **COSTS, REGISTRATION, AND DEADLINES.**

Course Fees (including study materials, mid-morning coffee, lunch, afternoon coffee breaks, and two dinners. Accommodations are not included):

- Advanced booking price: \$700 (if a place is booked and the course fees are paid by February 15th, 2004).
- Normal price: \$800 (if a place is booked and the course fees are paid after February 15, 2004)

Please use the web page to register online at: <http://www.ils.unc.edu/DCHP/>

or for registration questions, contact:

Ms. Lara Bailey  
 School of Information and Library Science  
 Manning Hall CB#3360  
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3360  
 Phone: 919.963.8366  
 Fax: 919.962.8071  
[ljbailey@email.unc.edu](mailto:ljbailey@email.unc.edu)

For course content questions, contact:  
 Dr. Helen R. Tibbo  
 School of Information and Library Science  
 Manning Hall CB#3360  
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3360  
 Phone: 919.962.8063  
 Fax: 919.962.8071  
[Tibbo@ils.unc.edu](mailto:Tibbo@ils.unc.edu)

### **Eighteenth Annual Western Archives Institute To Be Held**

The 18th annual Western Archives Institute will be held at the University of California, Davis in Davis, California, June 20-July 2, 2004. The intensive, two-week program provides 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 archival materials, those who are practicing archivists but have not received formal instruction, and those who demonstrate a commitment to an archival career.

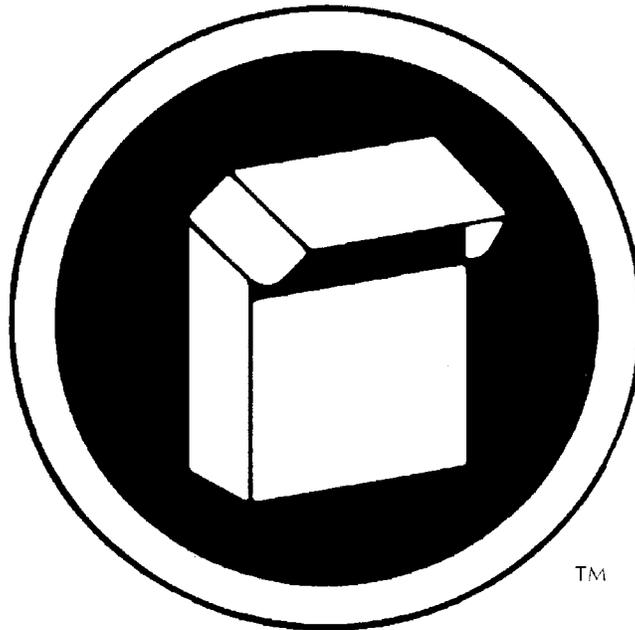
Tuition for the program is \$650 and includes a selection of archival publications. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost. Admission is by application only and enrollment is limited. The application deadline for the 18<sup>th</sup> Western Archives Institute is March 15, 2004. For additional information and an application form, contact:

**Administrator, Western Archives Institute**  
**1020 O Street**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**  
**T: 916/653-7715 FAX: 916/653-7134**  
**E-mail: [ArchivesWeb@ss.ca.gov](mailto:ArchivesWeb@ss.ca.gov)**

The application package will be available online at the Society of California Archivists' website, [www.calarchivists.org](http://www.calarchivists.org) in January 2004.



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# NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Alaska*

## Alaska State Archives (Juneau)

**Electronic records group established.** The Alaska State Archivist has established an Electronic Records Working Group, to plan the state's electronic and records management development. Members are Ken Nail, Jr., state archivist; Steve McCarthy and Larry Hibpshman of the State Archives staff; Daniel Cornwall of the Alaska State Library; Jim Simard of the Alaska Virtual Library and Digital Archives Project; Susan Davis of the Alaska Legislature; Kathy Long of the Department of Education and Early Development; and Kay Rawlings of the Department of Law.

**ASHRAB assists Juneau.** The Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board (ASHRAB) coordinator and secretary met Nov. 17 with representatives of the City and Borough of Juneau to discuss the NHPRC grants process and develop a plan for the borough's historically valuable and electronic records.

**Manuscript boxes redistributed.** The State Archives recently offered about 300 good condition, but used manuscript cases to small Alaska historical organizations. The archives accumulated the boxes when a large collection was re-housed in cubic foot boxes. With limited space to store the boxes, staff decided to share them, free-of-charge, with smaller institutions. Access was first-come-first-served. Sealaska Heritage Foundation Archives, Huna Totem Heritage Foundation, and the Juneau United Methodist Church historical collection were happy to receive extra supplies.

## Alaska State Library Historical Collections (Juneau)

### Recent accessions:

- Addition to Jacques N. and Marion Jacobsen

Collection, ca. 1833-1975. Books, periodicals, government documents, tourism memorabilia, business reports, maps, advertising memorabilia, ships' menus and steel engravings. Items are being added to the Alaskana collection and the Jacobsen Collection, PCA 423.

- Peratrovich Family Collection, ca. 1900 to present, Kake-Klawock. Photographs, scrapbooks, school reports, census data, slides, albums of individual family lines, "Celebration" memorabilia and Wrangell Institute memorabilia and yearbooks gathered by Evelyn and the late Stanley Peratrovich of Bainbridge Island, Washington, during their genealogical research on the Peratrovich family.

## University of Alaska Anchorage Archives and Manuscripts Dept.

The Archives and Manuscripts Department recently moved into a permanent facility in the new library addition. Photographs of the building are available on the website at: [www.lib.uaa.alaska.edu](http://www.lib.uaa.alaska.edu): click on Library Construction, Photo Gallery, and Photo Gallery: Fall 2003. The Archives facility on the third floor includes temperature and humidity controlled stacks, a conservation lab, processing work areas, and refrigerated film vaults.

## University of Alaska Fairbanks Alaska and Polar Regions Dept.

**New exhibit.** In honor of American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month, the Alaska and Polar Regions Department has opened an exhibit featuring Alaska Native documentary treasures found in the manuscript and photograph collections. Curated by Caroline Atuk-Derrick, the exhibit includes a poster and memorabilia from World War II and the

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evacuation of Aleutian Islands, an early Haida-French dictionary, and images of the first Tanana Chiefs Conference in 1915. The exhibit is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library and is open during regular library hours through January 2004.

**Collection openings:**

- Alaska Anthropological Association Records. 1974-2003 (ongoing). 8 cu. ft. Records include the association's constitution and bylaws, minutes of its business and board meetings, correspondence, financial papers, and membership lists. A large part of the collection consists of material produced for the annual conference and copies of the association's publications. Also included are photographs of Association activities and records of the Belzoni Society, an informal group that pokes fun at anthropologists and their practices.
- Alaska Extension Homemakers Council Records. ca. 1932-1989. 25.5 cu. ft. Records include district and individual club rosters, minutes, project descriptions, and photographs. These various papers document the organization's mission both on a national and local level as well as record the variety of social and domestic activities performed by the members. This collection also includes 60 district and individual club scrapbooks put together to record the yearly activities. These books were the preferred method of recording a club's history and some of the homemakers took a considerable amount of pride in their scrapbooks. Some of the scrapbooks contain materials from a club's inception to its folding and thereby reflect some social history of the region where the club functioned as well as the organization's activities.
- Robert Claus Papers. 1899-1974. 7 cu. ft. Consists primarily of correspondence and financial records for the Sargent & Pinsky/Martin A. Pinsky menswear store of Dawson City, Yukon Territory (1899-1918), and Fairbanks, Alaska (1904-1974). Though written for business purposes, the correspondence includes much local news, especially concerning Fairbanks, for the period 1905-1922. The collection also contains small quantities of records concerning: the Bedrock Mining and Milling Company (Alaska) mineral claims in Alaska and Yukon, other Alaskan mineral claims, the Arctic Brotherhood, papers of Mrs. Mary Anderson, papers of Halsey D. Fountain, and 136 photographs of people (some identified), the Dawson and Fairbanks Pinsky stores, and various places in Alaska.
- Dr. Ernest A. Cook Photograph Collection. 1922-1923. 0.5 cu. ft. A photograph album containing 247 photos of Fort Yukon, its residents, and places within the Yukon River drainage. A number of the photos bear dates of 1922 or 1923 and appear to have been taken by Dr. Ernest A. Cook while associated with the Hudson Stuck Memorial Hospital in Fort Yukon, Alaska. Many of the people in the photographs are identified by name. The album also contains a small number of scenic photos of Prince William Sound and views taken from the Alaska railroad, ca. 40 picture postcards of Alaskan scenes, and ca. 80 pictures on postcard stock depicting scenes along the route of the Canadian National Railways.
- J. Moore Elmer Papers. 1880-1948. 6.15 cu. ft. The J. Moore Elmer Papers consist primarily of correspondence and photographs relating to James Moore Elmer's mining ventures in Alaska and Yukon Territory and efforts to find financial backers for those ventures. Also in the collection are family photographs; a diary kept by Mrs. Elmer (Cora Lewis Elmer) at Slate Creek, Alaska, the summer of 1917; a photocopy and digital prints of a scrapbook/album assembled by Mrs. Elmer; and a few records

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## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Idaho*

### University of Idaho Special Collections and Archives (Moscow)

*New "Digital Memories."* Special Collections and Archives at the University of Idaho Library announces a new installment in the Webpage "Digital Memories." Digital Memories focuses on historic artifacts, documents, photographs, and books from the holdings of Special Collections and Archives. This is a changing showcase of highlights from our collections. "Digital Memories" can be accessed on the Web at <http://www.lib.uidaho.edu/special-collections/>.

Special Collections and Archives in the University of Idaho Library have grown from a "treasure case," to an elevator shaft, to an archives room, to a library department. Librarian Belle Sweet's 1933 memo designating a special space for special materials marks one beginning for Special Collections.

The Special Collections Department of the University of Idaho Library includes those materials that, because of subject coverage, rarity, source, condition, or form, are best handled separately from the General Collection. The several "collections" housed in this department include the Day-Northwest Collection of Western Americana, Rare Books, Idaho Documents, Sir Walter Scott Collection, Ezra Pound Collection, Caxton Collection, University of Idaho Theses, Historical Maps, Historical Photograph Collection, and Personal Papers and University Archives.

### Idaho State Historical Society Library and Archives (Boise)

#### *Recent accessions:*

- Patrick Collins Papers, 0.5 cu. ft. (MS730). The collection contains military documents, let-

ters, family documents, and photographs related to the military career of Major Patrick Collins. Included are original documents, photocopies of documents from the National Archives, and a biography of Major and Mrs. Collins prepared by their daughter Carrie Collins McNeil. Patrick Collins was born March 17, 1833, in Ireland and immigrated to the United States as a young man. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1855. He served in the 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry during the Civil War and was honored for his service at the Second Battle of Bull Run and the Battle of Antietam. After the war he was sent West, first to Fort Vancouver and then to Fort Boise, Idaho Territory, in 1865. He left Fort Boise in 1866 for assignments in Oregon, Arizona, and California, returning in 1876. He died on November 11, 1879, from injuries received in an accident in the garrison ambulance.

- Photographs, Gilmore-Pittsburg Railroad Survey of the Salmon River, 30 photoprints and negatives. These photographs were taken by William Willaug (1887-1957) for the Gilmore-Pittsburg Railroad Survey of the Salmon River in 1910. They show the survey team at work and at rest in camp, the terrain the survey covered, and the survey team at work on the Salmon River.
- Idaho travel slides, 431 color slides and 41 leaves. This collection of slides was used for adult education history classes in San Jose, California. They were taken during trips to Idaho during the 1940s and possibly 1950s; several slides are identified by photographer but for most, the photographer is not known. A narrative accompanies the slides and provides geographical and historical information.



## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Oregon*

### Oregon Historical Society (Portland)

**Newly re-opened:** The George and Martin Hazeltine Photographs, 1866-ca. 1920; bulk 1866-1900 (Org. Lot 467). The Hazeltine Photographs are once again fully available to researchers after the collection was reprocessed as part of the Northwest Archival Processing Initiative, funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The brothers trained in photography in New York City in the 1850s and then went West to California. Martin made his reputation and living primarily as a photographer throughout his life, establishing studios in California's Yosemite Valley; Reno, Nevada; Boise, Idaho; and finally Baker City, Oregon. He traveled extensively throughout his career to Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Yellowstone Park. His work was produced extensively in stereograph format, often marketed with railroad imprints. George combined photography with mining and other business enterprises and local government posts after he settled in Canyon City, Oregon.

Martin's work represents the largest part of the Hazeltine collection, with heavy emphasis on scenic views of Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Yellowstone Park. The original photography includes 374 albumen print stereographs; 733 glass negatives in sizes ranging from half-stereograph to 8 by 10 inches; and nearly 90 mounted albumen prints, including a few mammoth prints. The collection also includes more than 700 prints made over the course of several decades at the Oregon Historical Society from Martin Hazeltine's original negatives. George Hazeltine's work represents a much smaller part of the collection, including original albumen portraits and other mounted prints, made primarily in the Canyon City area.

#### **Recent accessions:**

- Bell Family collection, ca. 1860-1990. 3 cu. ft.

Photographs, genealogical information, documents, and artifacts relating to the Bell family of Oregon and Washington. Includes materials relating to Miles Bell, steamboat captain and early resident of Oregon City, and his wife Jane Gilbert Bell.

- Shirley Brown collection, ca. 1890-1990. 2 cu. ft. Photographs, documents, ephemera, books, maps, and other publications relating to the McClung family of Portland. Will be added to earlier accessions from same source.
- Harry K. Hallgren papers, ca. 1800-1976 (bulk 1930-1976). 3 cu. ft. Includes 58 volumes of diaries and scrapbooks of railroad worker Harry K. Hallgren of Portland, who was active in local Christian organizations.

### Oregon State University Archives (Corvallis)

#### **Recent accessions:**

- Sea Grant Communications Films/Videotapes (P 185), 1980-1999, 29 cubic feet. This accession consists of 16mm film reels of footage shot by Sea Grant Communications Director Jim Larison that was used in several films produced by the OSU Sea Grant Program. Also included is footage for films that were left unfinished or completed in co-production agreements with other parties. The five films produced with this stock footage are: *Farmers of the Sea*, *Oregon's Ocean*, *Gray Whale: A Radio Tagging Experiment*, *Sagebrush Country*, and *Identifying Canada Geese*. Footage was used for a production by the National Geographic Society Educational Films Division. A production, "Lawless Sea," was never completed.

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## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Oregon*

*(Continued from page 12)*

- Doris Hageman Whalen Scrapbooks, 1917-2001. 0.50 cubic feet. Three scrapbooks documenting the lives of Doris Hageman Whalen and her husband, Robert, make up this accession, which includes photographs, birth certificates, correspondence, graduation diplomas and programs, newspaper clippings, and teaching certificates. These scrapbooks reflect various aspects and stages of the Whalens' lives, including childhood, military service in World War II (Doris served in the Red Cross as a nurse in France), and Doris's years at OSU. Others portrayed in the images include the Whalens' parents, siblings, classmates, friends, and professional colleagues. Receiving two degrees from Oregon State (1937 and 1950, respectively), Doris taught for 30 years at the College of Marin, Kentfield (California) and penned three books on business education. She established a scholarship for women in business at OSU. Doris married Robert Whalen in 1958.
  
- Entomology Department Records (RG 27), 1910-2003. 10 cubic feet. This transfer to the Archives consists of materials generated by the Entomology Department, including alumni lists, biennial reports, correspondence, course descriptions and syllabi, curriculum vitae, historical essays, meeting minutes, newspaper clippings, publications, a scrapbook, seminar announcement flyers, and two bound collections of class notes. In addition to informational materials about individual faculty members, these records also pertain to department accreditation, Cordley Hall renovations, the Entomology Farm, student fellowships and awards, long range department planning, Integrated Pest Management research, Extension Service entomology programs, department conferences, and regional and national professional entomological associations. These records were transferred to the Archives at the time of the closure of the department this fall.
  
- Neal VanDevender Photographs (P 242), 1962-1965. 0.03 cubic foot. This accession consists of photographic images taken by alumnus Neal VanDevender of social life in the Heckart Lodge cooperative house and elsewhere on the Oregon State University campus. In addition to the depiction of students engaged in various hazing rituals and pranks, these photographs also document a Heckart Lodge Christmas party, a farewell party for the lodge house-mother, a banquet for a recently engaged student, living quarters inside the lodge, students playing football, and a student "street dance." Various exterior shots of Heckart Lodge, as well as other campus buildings, also are included among these images. Most of these photographs are dated and identified.
  
- Bill R. Rogers Papers, 1975-2003. 3.8 cu. ft. Materials generated and collected by Lincoln County Extension Agent Bill Rogers constitute this accession and include brochures, certificates, correspondence, meeting minutes, monthly narrative reports, newsletters, newspaper clippings, photographs, publications, radio announcement scripts, reports, research notes and data, studies, survey materials, and two videotapes. Pertaining to his work for the OSU Extension Service, these records document Rogers' organization of workshops and tours, research activities, publication of a weekly newspaper column on gardening, and his professional involvement with the extension agent community. The footage on the two videotapes was shot as a part of a film on the cultivation of shiitake mushrooms. Scripted and introduced by Rogers (and filmed in his backyard), the film is narrated by Botany and Plant Pathology Professor Bill Denison.



## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Washington*

### Washington State Archives

**Digital Archives.** The Washington State Archives is nearing completion of the Washington State Digital Archives located at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. The Digital Archives will be the primary repository of long-term and archival electronic records of the State of Washington. This will include public records generated by both state and local agencies. The Digital Archives will occupy the second floor of the new regional archives building and has been designed from the ground up to be a state-of-the-art facility. In addition to staff offices and a data center, the facility will include a legacy library, a multi-media distance learning classroom, a Firelock media vault, and a public research area. Initially, the Digital Archives will have a 5TB SAN array and 10TB of tape storage capac-

ity. This amount is expected to double annually. A Content Management system will perform the storage and retrieval functions. RFPs for both the SAN and the Content Management System are being released next month. The expected opening of this facility is June 2004.

**Historic Records Project.** Secretary of State Sam Reed is putting historic records on-line, enabling people to research Washington citizens and ancestors from anywhere in the world for free. The Historic Records Project, launched in November 2002 with records from the Washington State Archives and Washington State Library, is preserving Washington's territorial censuses in an on-line searchable surname database. Original census images, oaths of office, naturalization, legal, and physician

*(Continued on page 15)*

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## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Washington*

(Continued from page 14)

records are being added gradually.

To date, more than 100 volunteers have collectively contributed some 1,000 hours to transcribe historical records on nearly 80,000 Washington ancestors and residents. Working from home, volunteers transfer copies made from microfilm into a census template, which is either e-mailed or sent on a floppy disk to their homes. People from as far away as Arizona, Quebec, and Australia are helping to preserve Washington's territorial history.

Learn more about Washington's Historic Records Project at [www.secstate.wa.gov/history](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/history)

**Archives Week.** The Washington State Archives celebrated Archives Week October 4-11 with genealogy workshops, exhibits, open houses, tours and educational sessions. The week-long activities included a re-dedication ceremony of the Washington State Archives Building by Governor Albert D. Rosellini. Governor Rosellini, 93, an attorney who served as governor from 1957 to 1965, read the dedication speech he delivered in 1963. To help commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building, Master Stone Carver Frank Maurer presented a hand-carved stone with the words "Preserving the Record—1963-2003" carved in native Washington sandstone. Archives week activities included tours of the National Archives and Records Administration – Pacific Alaska Region, Seattle Municipal Archives, and King County Archives.

### Gonzaga University Foley Library (Spokane)

**Verne Ray Library and Papers Added.** Gonzaga's Foley Library has received the personal library and papers of noted Northwest anthropologist Verne Ray, who died recently at age 98 in Port Townsend,

Washington. Ray held a position as Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington from 1928 until his retirement in 1966. He also taught at UCLA on a Visiting Professor basis in the 1940s. Having taken his doctorate at Yale, he returned to New Haven for a three-year interim in the early 1950s as Research Director for Human Relations Area Files, Inc.

During his academic career, Ray focused his field research primarily on the Salishan tribes of the Inland Northwest, the Quinault and Lower Chinook of Western Washington, and the Modoc of Northern California. His 1932 study, *The Sanpoil and Nespelem: Salishan Peoples of Northeastern Washington*, remains highly regarded and has been twice reprinted. Ray has also been cited as helping to pioneer the field of "ethnohistory," which merges the discipline and procedures of anthropology with history and historical documentation.

Ray is particularly remembered for his work as a consultant in the years following his retirement, and the manuscripts portion of the donation reflects that period of his career. Acting on the rights established by the Indian Claims Commission Act of 1946, many tribes began in the late 1960s to pursue compensation for unlawful loss of property to the U.S. government. Through his research and expert testimony on historical tribal boundaries, Ray became an effective and highly sought advocate for the plaintiffs. He is credited with representing no less than 44 tribes in 53 land claim cases, and being instrumental in awards that totaled into the millions of dollars.

Access to the Verne Ray Papers will be on an "appointment only" basis until they are fully processed.

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# NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Washington*

(Continued from page 15)

## Center for Pacific Northwest Studies (Bellingham)

The Center for Pacific Northwest Studies is sponsoring several projects in conjunction with the Bellingham Centennial Celebration. Elizabeth Joffrion, archivist at the Center for Pacific NW Studies, is a member of the Centennial Coordinating Committee.

**"Creek Story"** A documentary film produced by the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies and directed by Dan Hammill. The film's focus is the history and development of Whatcom Creek and includes interviews with local historians, Lummi tribal leaders, educators, environmentalists, and politicians. The film was the winner of the Whatcom Film Association Projection's Film Festival Short Documentary Award for 2003.

**A special issue of the Whatcom County Historical Society Journal devoted to Bellingham history.** A collaborative publishing project sponsored by Whatcom County Historical Society and the Center for Pacific NW Studies. The two organizations are working together to coordinate and edit a special edition of the Whatcom County Historical Society Journal devoted to regional and local community history. The work will be edited by Dr. Chris Friday, (Chair, WWU History Dept.) The issue will be available for sale through various venues, including local bookstores, museums, and other sites by March of 2004.

**Centennial Oral History Project.** A series of interviews conducted with long-time Bellingham residents from a diverse cross-section of our community. The project will focus on local history through personal memories of significant events. The Center will also collaborate with the City of Bellingham and BlackDog Productions to produce

a documentary film featuring several interviews. The oral history interviews will be archived at the Center and available for research use.

**Bellingham's Centennial: Exploring the Foundations of our Community.** The Center has developed a curriculum package for use by teachers in local public schools. The curriculum focuses on Bellingham history and uses an array of primary sources to highlight the history of Bellingham. The project will target elementary, middle and senior level students and will provide contextual history, lesson frameworks, activities, and a bibliography. The curriculum package is available to teachers through several internet sites, including Bellingham Public Schools, the Bellingham Centennial site, and the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies: <http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/cpnws/centennial/>

## King County Archives (Seattle)

**Staff news:** Eric Fair has recently joined the King County Archives staff as an assistant archivist. He brings over six years of archives and records management experience. Most recently he served as the Processing Archivist/Records Analyst for the Archdiocese of Chicago, the largest diocesan archives in the United States. There he participated in several projects, including the Joseph Cardinal Bernardin Addresses Electronic Conversion Project and the processing of the John Cardinal Cody Papers. Additionally, he held Graduate Assistant positions at the American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives at The Catholic University of America and the Special Collections Department of the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Eric received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in History from Illinois State University, as well as a Master of Science in Library Science from The Catholic University of America. We are very pleased to welcome Eric to the King County Archives.





## A\* CENSUS Working Group Breaks New Ground

The working group charged with developing and conducting a comprehensive nationwide census of the archival profession, A\* CENSUS, began deliberations about the scope and nature of this unprecedented collaborative effort during its first meeting in Chicago, November 14–16. Funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), A\* CENSUS (Archival Census and Education Needs Survey in the U.S.) seeks to define the universe of archivists currently in the workforce, determine the knowledge and skills they need to do their jobs now and in the future, and provide graduate and continuing education programs with baseline data to support recruitment and training of new archivists.

A broad range of archival interests are represented within the working group, including graduate archival education programs, continuing education programs, and the following national and regional organizations: Academy of Certified Archivists, Association of Moving Image Archivists, Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists, Council of State Historical Records Coordinators, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, National Archives & Records Administration/Modern Archives Institute, National Association of Government Archives & Records Administrators, New England Archivists, Northwest Archivists, Inc., Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Society of American Archivists, Society of American Archivists Diversity Committee, Society of California Archivists, and Society of Southwest Archivists.

The goal of A\* CENSUS is to reach everyone in the United States who works with archival materials. The project will seek active participation from all archival associations in the U.S., as well as many organizations serving closely allied fields whose members bear significant responsibility for historical records, including librarians, local historians, records managers, and museum curators.

Northwest Archivists is delighted to participate in and fully supports this groundbreaking effort, which will help to shape the individual and collective interests of the archival community.

Current plans call for the census to occur during the spring of 2004, with preliminary reports available by the time of the Society of American Archivists annual meeting in Boston in August. Stay tuned for more information about the A\* CENSUS project and when you can expect to receive your survey. For more information, contact Jodie Foley, (406) 444-6779 or refer to [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org).

Academy of Certified Archivists

Association of  
Moving Image Archivists

Conference of  
Inter-Mountain Archivists

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Records Coordinators

Historically Black  
Colleges & Universities

Mid-Atlantic Regional  
Archives Conference

National Archives &  
Records Administration/  
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National Association of  
Government Archives &  
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For more information:  
Society of American Archivists  
527 S. Wells St., 5th Floor  
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*News from the Northwest...Alaska:*  
(Continued from page 10)

(1924-1926) of the Gakona Trading Post, run by the wife of one of Elmer's employees.

- James. L. McPherson Papers. 1898-1931. 5 cu. ft. The James L. McPherson Papers consist of business and personal correspondence, legal papers, reports, field notes, maps, photographs, manuscripts, speeches, mortgages and deeds, financial papers, memorabilia and related materials. McPherson was an engineer and surveyor, working in both the territory of Alaska and the state of Washington. The bulk of the material in the collection reflects McPherson's professional activities and provides information about many of his surveying projects, both in Alaska and in Washington.

***Pioneers of Alaska collection guide.*** Archives graduate intern Jennifer Simpson has completed a guide to the records of the Pioneers of Alaska held in the Alaska and Polar Regions Collections. This guide helps researchers locate materials in administrative records, personal papers, microfilm, oral history, and books. The Pioneers of Alaska is a fraternal organization for those whose early arrival or long tenure in Alaska accords them "sourdough" status. The records contain a vast amount of genealogical data that was often not otherwise recorded during the tumultuous pioneer era.

### The NWA Website has moved!

As you (hopefully) may have noticed, after long service by the folks at Oregon State University, the NWA website has a new home. The University of Washington is the new host, and John Bolcer is the new webmaster responsible for keeping it from getting too far out of date. You'll find it at [www.lib.washington.edu/nwa](http://www.lib.washington.edu/nwa) (or if you insist on using the old address, OSU will kindly bounce you there). As an added bonus, *Easy Access* is now online! Want to see what that dark, poorly reproduced photo actually looks like? Want to search an issue by keyword? Want to share an article with a long lost cousin in Iceland without paying postage? Well now you can!

## Archivist's Calendar

- January 31, 2004** NWA officer nominations due
- March 1, 2004** NHPRC, Fellowships in Archival Administration application deadline
- March 6, 2004** Pacific Northwest Historian's Guild Conference, Seattle, WA
- March 12, 2004** Deadline for *Easy Access* submissions
- April 22-24, 2004** Society of California Archivists annual meeting, Costa Mesa, CA
- April 29-May 1, 2004** Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists annual meeting, Salt Lake City, UT
- May 6-8, 2004** Joint Meeting—Northwest Archivists, Northwest Oral History Association, and Pacific Northwest History Conference, Olympia, WA
- May 27-29, 2004** Society of Southwest Archivists annual meeting, San Antonio, TX
- June 3-4, 2004** Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists spring conference, Laramie, WY
- June 20-July 2, 2004** Western Archives Institute, University of California, Davis, CA
- August 2-8, 2004** SAA Annual Meeting  
Boston, MA

### ***Easy Access* Deadline**

**Beware the Ides of March! Because if you wait that long you'll be too late...**

**Contributions for the next issue of *Easy Access* are due by Friday March 12.**



*President's Message:*  
(Continued from page 2)

my own dependence on the record just to get through the day.

In light of this, how could I give up my 1991 college notes on medieval and sixteenth-century literature? I am not an English scholar, but my memory of the Arthurian romances is fuzzy, and I may need to know this sometime. This notebook holds my overflowed memory of that subject, the digested knowledge that went into my senior exams and earned the diploma. On the shelf it goes.

Because of my motivation of memory, I'm kind of a snob about published materials. Get rid of 'em; you can always get them on interlibrary loan or buy them again if you change your mind. But the unpublished materials, the unique things, are more worth keeping around, no matter your size of house.

Have I given in to my genetic predisposition toward packrattery? I hope not. I certainly have made this move a re-appraisal project, a time to once again consider the value of some of the things I've hauled about for fifteen years. It is good to reflect on my own memories.

Speaking of pauses, and of Association business, I invite you to pause, reflect, and participate in the Census and Educational Needs Assessment of Archivists in the United States. The Northwest Archivists, through our past President Jodie Foley, are working with the Society of American Archivists on the new, IMLS-funded project.

This survey, more comprehensive than any other attempted, will collect data on the demographics, employment, skills, and education resources and needs of practicing archivists in all situations. NWA is an enthusiastic supporter, as this information will help up serve all of our members across the region. For more details, see the announcement on pg. 17.

## Work Projects Administration Guide Now Available

Do your researchers ask for information about WPA projects? Are you stumped about where to send them? The first edition of *The Work Projects Administration in the Pacific Northwest: A Guide to Archival Records in Idaho, Oregon and Washington* is now available. The electronic version will soon be available at the Seattle Municipal Archives web page (<http://www.cityofseattle.net/CityArchives/>). For a hard copy of the guide, send your request to:

Valoise Armstrong  
NARA-Pacific Alaska Region (Seattle)  
6125 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 336-5117  
[valoise.armstrong@nara.gov](mailto:valoise.armstrong@nara.gov)

## 2004 Annual Conference

Save the dates, and come one, come all, to the 2004 Northwest Archivists annual conference, at the Red Lion hotel in Olympia, Washington, May 6-8, 2004.

For the first time in many years, we will be meeting with the Pacific Northwest History Conference and the Northwest Oral History Association. Together, we will explore Collaborations: Recording, researching, and writing Pacific Northwest history.

The program planning, already well under way, will recognize the importance of each of these groups in the preservation and interpretation of our regional history. Additionally, sessions will explore the research foundations of scholarly work and consider the intersection between the sources and the historical product.

Complete program and registration information will be included in the next issue of *Easy Access*. See you in Olympia next year!



**Join NWA:** Membership benefits include the exchange of information among colleagues, an annual conference, *Easy Access* published four times a year, and a membership directory.

To join send this form, along with \$15, checks payable to Northwest Archivists, Inc., to Diana Banning, City of Portland—Recorder's Division, 9360 N. Columbia Blvd., Portland, OR 97203. For more information, contact Diana at 503-823-4564 or e-mail her at <dbanning@ci.portland.or.us>.

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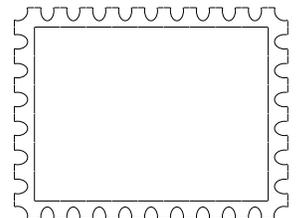
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