

Digitization in spotlight

U S C

New department converts collections

By KATE BOYD

University of South Carolina Libraries

A NEW DIGITAL ACTIVITIES Department has been established in the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library to digitize materials from the University Libraries' special collections and mount them on the Web in a searchable database. The new department has a large flatbed scanner with a transparency adapter and access to a large format scanner. OCLC's database, CONTENTdm, is used for accessing the images that are archived on a server at USC's Computer Services Department.

The first two collections that will be made available are Otto F. Ege's Fifty Original Leaves from Medieval Manuscripts from TCL's Rare Books and Special Collections and the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from the South Caroliniana Library, which includes over 2,000 maps of South Carolina. Both collections will be in the JPEG2000 format and will be available from the Library's Digital Collections web site at <http://www.sc.edu/library/digital/> this Spring.

An Advisory Team assists in choosing projects to add to the database from the special collections libraries on campus, in-

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Above, a page from a psalter in the Ege collection at USC. Below, Jennifer Marshall at the Spring Conference. [Top photograph courtesy of USC; bottom photograph by Brian Fahey]



C O N F E R E N C E

Legal issues focus of spring meeting

MORE THAN 55 archivists gathered on April 18 for SCAA's Spring Conference at the South Carolina Archives and History Center.

The conference began with concurrent morning sessions. In her session "Legal Aspects of Digitization," Dr. Jennifer Marshall of the University of South Carolina's School of Library and Information Science identified and elaborated on legal issues associated with the digitization of collection materials. At the concurrent session, "The History of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History," Charles Lesser read from his manuscript on the history of the department and Alexia Helsley reminisced about her tenure at SCAAH and the changes she personally witnessed.

Midday, attendees reviewed poster sessions and enjoyed a catered lunch. Keynote speaker Dr. Leader gave a humorously candid and wonderfully illustrated presentation on the history of the H. L. Hunley submarine and its recent excavation and conservation.

Panels comprised concurrent afternoon sessions. Jeanette Bergeron of the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives, Dr. R. Phillip Stone of Wofford College, and Brian Fahey of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston discussed the local history of

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Grant preserves imperiled films

By DENNIS TAYLOR
Clemson University

THE NATIONAL FILM Preservation Foundation awarded a grant of \$6,380

C L E M S O N

to the Clemson University Libraries to preserve three films having enduring value. The films, which are part of the video holdings in the University archives, were acquired in 2001. The films preserved were "Peaches—Fresh for You," pro-

duced in 1973; "Community Development at Bethel," 1960; and "A Challenge Met, a Story in Preventive Medicine at Clemson College," 1963. Dennis Taylor, University Archivist, and Joy Van Daele, Libraries Development Officer, submitted the grant proposal.

"Peaches—Fresh for You"

documented peach production in South Carolina in the early 1970s. The film, which was intended to serve as a training film for extension agents and home

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President's Letter

Archivists protecting state history

GREETINGS!

We had a wonderful conference. Thanks to Aimee and all those who assisted her. Suzanne had an intriguing social planned for 27 May. It was a great opportunity to explore a different kind of archives.

Thanks to all who attended the session on the history of the South Carolina State Archives. Chuck Lesser hopes to have his history finished by the fall. This year 2005 is the Archives' 100th birthday.

During the 1920s and 1930s South Carolina lost much of cultural heritage. South Carolinians sold family papers, antiques, and even historic buildings. Many of these items are now part of out-of-state collections. The Internet and digitization are making these materials more accessible. But we as South Carolina archivists have a calling. We have an obligation to the future to care for South Carolina's records (whatever their format!) today.

Thank you for letting me take this journey with you. Keep up the good work and let you know how your association can better serve you.

Alexia Jones Helsley

Alexia

President
SCAA

SCAA president hosts ETV series

ALEXIA HELSLEY, SCAA president, hosts the SCETV series "Branches." This eight-part genealogical series began airing April 4. The next episode is at 7 p.m. June 13, repeated at 11 p.m. In addition to being the host, Helsley developed and wrote the series. "Branches" highlights records of genealogical interest held by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. The first segment is an overview of genealogical research and sources in South Carolina. Other programs concern vital statistics, census records, land records, records of the Revolutionary War, records of the Civil War, court records and other records that tie particular people to a particular place at a particular time (for example, tax records, school records, voter

registration, vehicle registrations).

The format follows one Helsley uses for workshops at the Archives. The goal of the series is to educate the audience about records at the Archives and how they can be used, in this context, for genealogical research. Helsley has lectured regionally and nationally on South Carolina genealogy and speaks frequently on the subject around the state.



Helsley

USC Aiken unveils digital collections

By **PAUL LEWIS**

University of South Carolina - Aiken

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA Aiken Library recently inaugurated two historical digital collections on its website. The address is <http://library.usca.edu/gallery>.

Gregg-Graniteville Photographic Archive

The Gregg-Graniteville photographic archive contains selected photos relating to the history of the Graniteville Company, a major Southern textile manufacturing firm founded in 1845 by William Gregg. Photos are items from the Gregg Papers Archive housed at the USCA Library.

Aiken County Local History Archive

The Aiken County local history archive

On the Web

- View the USC Aiken Library's Gregg-Graniteville Photographic Archive at <http://library.usca.edu/gallery>
- For more information, contact, Paul H. Lewis at (803) 641-3320 or pauhl@usca.edu; and Tom Hobbs at (803) 641-3261 or tomho@usca.edu

consists of photographs, newspaper articles, letters, and other items collected over a number of years by Dr. William Brockington, USC Aiken history professor. Materials are grouped into several broad categories including Aiken in the 1800s, Aiken 1900 – 1950, business and industry, architecture, education, sports and leisure, religion, etc.

For more information about these resources, contact Paul H. Lewis (803-641-3320 pauhl@usca.edu) or Tom Hobbs (803-641-3261 tomho@usca.edu).

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Tranquility returning to Caroliniana

By JOHN HEITING

South Caroliniana Library

OVER THE PAST DECADE staff and visitors have grown used to towering scaffolds, scores of workmen, boarded-up windows, ubiquitous dust, loud noises, and gaping holes as the South Caroliniana Library has undergone one of the most comprehensive repair projects in the building's history. If walking under a ladder is truly a harbinger of bad luck, most staff members face dubious futures. Although it often seemed that this process was a never-ending story, the end is now in sight (knock on stripped, yet-to-be-painted wood). The opportunity to conduct research in an atmosphere of "quiet repose," which has been offered by the Library since 1840, should soon return.

Since the mid-1990s the structure has had a new roof installed, comprehensive brick and stucco repairs, complete replacement of all heating and air conditioning systems, moisture damage repair throughout the building and the restoration of all exterior windows, including the installation of new storm windows. The final phase of this work, now underway, includes the upgrading and replacement of all lighting fixtures in the second-floor Reading Room, electrical upgrades throughout the building and the renovation of the first-floor Manuscripts Room. If funding permits, all public areas in the building will get new carpet and the walls and ceiling of the two-story Reading Room will be repainted.

This is not the first time that the Library's facilities have undergone significant transformation. The most obvious and en-



[Photograph courtesy of Caroliniana Library]

A worker strips wallpaper in the Manuscripts room at South Caroliniana Library.

The final phase of this work, now underway, includes the upgrading and replacement of all lighting fixtures in the second-floor Reading Room, electrical upgrades throughout the building, and the renovations of the first-floor Manuscripts Room.

during change since the original structure was completed in 1840 as the campus' main library was the addition in the late 1920s of two fireproof wings and the complete renovation of the main building. One story in *The State* newspaper from June 1928 made reference to the opening of "long bricked-up windows... [which had been] covered with shelves of mouldering old books" and noted that the "sounds of saw and hammer replace whispers in the Hall of Learning."

The building was closed to the students during the summer and early fall of that

year. Those renovations included the addition of a restroom for women students—30-odd years past the advent of coeducation at USC in the mid-1890s.

Repairs and renovations occurred again in 1940 when today's McKissick Museum opened as the new central library and the University's South Carolina Collection was assigned to the South Carolina College Library building—which was renamed the South Caroliniana Library. In the 1960s a number of projects were undertaken, including a Memorial Garden project behind the building that was sponsored by the Columbia Garden Club in 1960. The next year the Kendall Memorial Room was formally opened on the west end of the second floor, and in 1969 the Olin D. Johnston Memorial Room on the first floor was dedicated. Major renovations in the mid-1970s resulted in new stairways, upgrading of the electrical wiring and the building's first air-conditioning system.

The current renovations, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars (the original building was constructed for \$23,000 and change), attest to the continuing commitment of the University and the state of South Carolina to providing a secure and suitable environment for the unique and priceless collection of manuscripts, images and published materials housed at the Caroliniana and utilized by thousands of researchers every year.

Preservation seminar focuses on mold

WHAT IS MOLD? How does one minimize mold growth? How do the cooling coils within an HVAC reduce relative humidity within a building? What are the potential health risks associated with a mold outbreak? How does mold growth damage collections? What is the proper way to remove mold from buildings and collections? How do mold spores enter a building? If one has a reaction to

On the Web

■ For more information about streaming video, go to <http://www.sc.edu/library/preservation>

mold, what type of physician should one see?

As part of the Preservation Training Initiative for Small Libraries and Museums in Virginia and South Carolina, a National Leadership Grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the University of South Carolina in partnership with the Virginia Conservation Association,

and the Virginia Association of Museums offered a topical seminar on mold. Three panelists discussed the topic on April 26 at the University of South Carolina. The complete seminar became available in May by streaming video.

For more information, go to <http://www.sc.edu/library/preservation>.

The three panelists for the discussion were Angela Benson, Supervisor, Facilities Services, University of South Carolina; Dr. Gerald T. Cowley, Mycologist, Professor Emeritus - University of South Carolina; and Dr. Dwight Underhill, Professor, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

Caroliniana holds symposium on former S.C. governor Russell

By **ELIZABETH WEST**

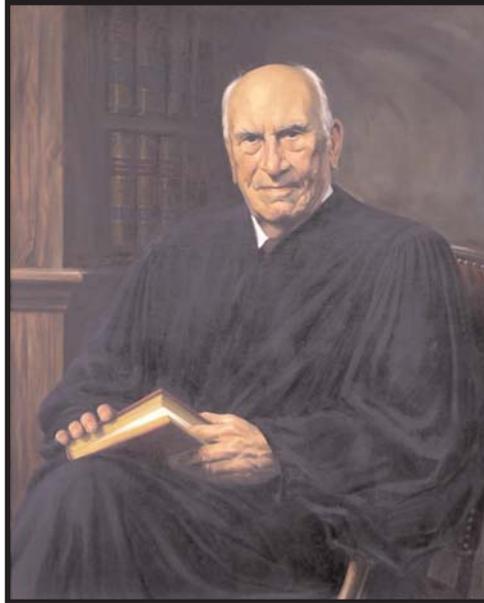
South Caroliniana Library

FEW INDIVIDUALS ACHIEVE the wide-ranging success and lengthy career that Donald S. Russell (1906-1998) enjoyed. Russell held important positions in the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration during World War II, practiced law in South Carolina, and served as president of the University of South Carolina, governor, and United States Senator, and federal judge. He served as an appellate court judge until the time of his death, in 1998, on his 92nd birthday.

On the Web

■ To view the online exhibit on Donald Russell, go to <http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/exh/russell/home.html>

On April 9, the University South Caroliniana Society celebrated Russell's contributions by hosting the symposium, "An Afternoon with Donald Russell: Recollections on the Life and Career of a South Carolina Statesman." A small but distinguished audience of scholars, politicians, and family members gathered at the Russell House Theater to hear presentations by C. Bruce Littlejohn, retired Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court; John B. McLeod, President of the Caroliniana Society; Dr. Henry Lesesne, historian; E.N. "Nick" Zeigler, former state representative and senator; Fred R. Sheheen, former advisor and aide to Russell; Robert Y. Knowlton, former law clerk for Russell; E. Emory Widener, Jr., United States Circuit Judge;



A portrait of Donald Russell, former USC president, S.C. governor, U.S. senator, and federal judge.

[Photograph courtesy of Caroliniana Library]

and Dr. John B. Edmunds, Jr., university professor and confidant of Russell. The South Caroliniana Library hosted a reception and exhibit following the symposium. An online exhibit produced by Modern Political Collections and the University Archives is on the Caroliniana's Web site at: <http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/exh/russell/home.html>.

Caroliniana hires oral historian

By **NICHOLAS MERIWETHER**

South Caroliniana Library

THE SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY has expanded its oral history efforts, creating a temporary full time position of oral historian. Building on a long tradition of interviewing that has already produced more than 400 hours of recordings, during 2005-06 the focus will be on two special projects, documenting the career of Gov. Carroll Campbell and the contributions of several prominent business leaders throughout the state. While these projects are underway, a host of other projects have emerged meriting attention, most centering on our extant collections.

One rich set of recordings once thought lost and recently rediscovered is a series of interviews conducted in the late 1980s by University of South Carolina history professor emeritus John G. Sproat, who interviewed 40 notable South Carolina bankers for a project sponsored by the South Carolina Bankers Association. Never fully transcribed, these interviews capture vital economic history as well as stories that reveal the often colorful and courageous careers of some of the state's most important captains of industry.

Another exciting effort focuses on a long-running project documenting an aspect of the state's African American history, with the completion of the last interviews conducted by Florence native Amelia Wallace Vernon for her ground-breaking study, "African Americans at Mars Bluff, South Carolina" (Baton Rouge and London: Louisiana State University Press, 1993). Comprising more than 60 hours of interviews over a 25-year period, the Vernon tapes capture a vanished way of life and a dazzling array of South Carolina history, culture, and social mores. These tapes represent a marvelous encapsulation of the South Caroliniana Library's mission to document the lives of all South Carolinians.

A number of smaller projects provide even more variety to our work, such as a series of new interviews with Gov. Robert McNair's Navy crewmates. These men went to great lengths to see that their former commander received the Bronze Star for his heroic actions in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest air-sea battle in history, and their reflections form an important addition to the McNair papers held by the Library.

While there are a host of technological and organizational issues that also keep us busy—as any new program must confront—we are excited at the opportunity to build on the Library's already impressive holdings and bring our oral history collections into the 21st century.

USC

FROM PAGE ONE

cluding TCL's Rare Books and Special Collections, and the South Caroliniana, Map, Music, and Film Libraries. Once a project is chosen, the metadata template is created and scanning begins. No images are scanned lower than 300 ppi and all are scanned as uncompressed TIFFs for the master files and then converted to JPEGs for uploading to the CONTENTdm database. Adobe Photoshop is used to review the scanned image, add some preservation metadata to the TIFF file, and convert it to a JPEG. Once the images are scanned and the metadata template is ready, the images are added to the CONTENTdm database as the metadata record is created. An intro-

On the Web

■ To view the Ege and Sanborn collections, go to <http://www.sc.edu/library/digital>

ductory or home page is also created for each collection. This page will include information about the collection as well as links to the CONTENTdm database.

All collections in the database are browse-able and searchable. Some images and collections, such as the Ege Manuscripts and the Sanborn Maps, will be in the new JPEG2000 format allowing users to zoom in on them. This will be important for large images like the maps, which are not easy to view on a computer screen. The JPEG2000 format is a part of the CONTENTdm version the university purchased.

USC receives Southern renaissance collection

By **PATRICK SCOTT**

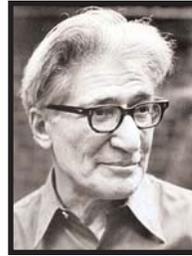
University of South Carolina Libraries

USC'S THOMAS COOPER Library Rare Books & Special Collections recently received as gift the literary archives of Anthony (Tony) Buttitta (1907-2004), novelist and playwright. In 2002, Mrs. Monica Hannasch Buttitta donated a significant group of books from their New York town house, and she placed selected typescripts on deposit with Thomas Cooper Library. In the fall of 2004, she decided to donate these and other papers.

Tony Buttitta was born in Monroe, La. He published his first plays and stories as an undergraduate at Louisiana State Normal College and the University of Texas. Subsequently, at the University of North Carolina, he was one of the group of friends who founded the avant-garde Intimate Bookshop and the literary magazine *Contempo* (1931-34). The magazine led to him

meeting and corresponding with such writers as Sherwood Anderson, Ezra Pound, George Bernard Shaw, and William Faulkner. In 1932 he edited a special *Contempo* issue devoted to Faulkner's work, now much coveted by Faulkner collectors.

In 1935, when proprietor of an Asheville bookstore, Mr. Buttitta got to know F. Scott Fitzgerald. His memories of Fitzgerald and notes of conversation with him were published as *After the Good Gay Times* (1974). In the later 1930s he worked with the Carolina Players and the Federal Theatre Project, a period recorded in his co-authored history *Uncle Sam Presents* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1982). After war serv-



Buttitta

ice, while he made his career in public relations for various arts groups in California and elsewhere, Mr. Buttitta continued writing, and the archive contains typescripts for over 20 of Mr. Buttitta's novels and plays, as well as correspondence with Beverly Sills, Joseph Papp, Bryan Forbes, and others.

The library's initial contact with Mr. Buttitta had been through Prof. Matthew J. Bruccoli, stemming from their common interest in Fitzgerald. Prof. Bruccoli commented that the Buttitta Collection is important because "it documents the struggle of the Southern renaissance to achieve recognition and respectability." Preliminary cataloging of the collection indicates that some of Tony Buttitta's still-unpublished novels will provide fresh perspectives from his experience on race relations and immigrant life in the pre-Civil Rights South and on army life in World War II.

CLEMSON

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demonstration workers, followed peaches that were grown in various unidentified orchards in the Piedmont of South Carolina until they were shipped to market. The film also touched on related subjects of concern to consumers today—the use of insecticides and hybridization (an early form of genetic alteration). Because mechanized harvesting was not used widely at this time, the harvesting of peaches occurred manually; workers—often families—picked them by hand and then transported them to the Cribb, Big Robin, and Rivers packing houses where high school students and children washed and graded them—again, all by hand—according to size and quality. The peaches were then packed into containers (shown in the film as corrugated cardboard boxes having individual liners for each peach) and then shrink wrapped, which was the latest innovation in packaging.

Lewis Riley, a photographer for the Clemson Extension Service for almost three decades, directed and shot the film. Earlier in his career, Riley photographed all aspects of agricultural production throughout the state; the majority of these still images are held by the Clemson Libraries.

The second film, "Community Development at Bethel," documented the activities of the citizens of a small community in rural Fairfield County, circa 1960, to improve their community. Fairfield County, located north of Columbia, was created in 1785 and was settled by English and French

Digital betacam transfers were made to facilitate future duplication.

Huguenot cotton planters. In 2001 the population was 23,703 with about 59% of the population being African American. Today, Bethel, according to the county librarian, is almost non-existent, although lifelong residents of Winnsboro, the county seat, recall it fondly. The Clemson College Extension Service initiated the community development program. The goals of the program were to encourage civic participation of the citizens, raise their incomes, train community leaders, improve health, and increase food production. These goals were accomplished through the creation of a community center, park, and roadside park (rest area) for visitors; improvements at the Crooked Run Baptist Church, and Bethel Methodist Church; remodeling homes; soil testing to increase crop yields; pond creation; rebuilding fences; and planting pine trees on unfertile acreage. According to the film, Bethel was a state winner in the Community Development Program.

This film was also created as a training film for Extension agents and home demonstration workers. Lewis Riley directed and photographed the film and M. H. Sutherland, another employee of the Clemson Extension Service, wrote the script.

The third film, "A Challenge Met, a Story in Preventive Medicine at Clemson College," documented the tuberculosis and polio vaccinations at Clemson College in 1963. Clemson College was, according to

On the Web

■ For more information about the NFPF, got to <http://www.filmpreservation.org>

some sources, the only institution of higher learning that conducted vaccination programs for its students; most vaccination programs were carried out in elementary schools. Although the Salk polio vaccine was introduced in the late 1950s to the citizens of the United States in an effort to slow the spread of polio, by 1961 it was supplanted by the Sabin vaccine because of its convenience, economy of not having to administer it with needle and syringe, and its use of a dead virus (rather than a live virus, which carried risks). The Sabin vaccine, as many remember, was frequently administered on sugar cubes.

"A Challenge Met" also depicted the process of administering the tuberculosis vaccine by an innovative procedure in which a tiny amount of dead, purified TB was injected just barely under the top layer of skin, usually on the upper left arm. About three days later, the area was checked for excessive reddening or swelling, which indicated exposure to TB. The film was produced by Clemson College in conjunction with Lederle Laboratories, a subsidiary of American Cyanimid.

The NFPF grant provided for the creation of a new film print for each film as well as the creation of new sound and video tracks. Digital betacam transfers were made to facilitate future duplication of the films. The films have been cataloged and are now available for viewing.

For more information about the NFPF, its grants program, recipients of grants, and films that have been preserved, visit online at <http://www.filmpreservation.org/>.



CONFERENCE

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their respective denominations, the development and operation of their offices, and the types of materials held in their collections in "Religious Archives in South Carolina." Dennis Taylor and Priscilla Munson of Clemson University and Dr. Patrick Scott and Elizabeth West of the University of South Carolina discussed their experiences in planning, developing, and designing online exhibits.

SCAA Vice-President Suzanne Singleton speaks at the Spring Conference. *[Photograph by Brian Fahey]*

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