

The Greater New Orleans Archivists

Newsletter

Summer

1993

Next Meeting
Wednesday, June 2nd
Time: 5:00 PM
Louisiana Historical Center
The Old Mint Building
400 Esplanade Ave.

Summer Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday June second at the Louisiana Historical Center of the Louisiana State Museum. We will meet on the third floor of the Old Mint building, 400 Esplanade Ave., at 5:00 p.m. Our hostess, Katheryn Page, has ordered gourmet food and refreshments for the meeting. Limited free parking is available on a first come first served bases in the rear court yard on Barracks. There is a new hourly rate parking lot across from the Mint on Esplanade that you might want to use otherwise.

On the Agenda for the meeting is a report from the Society of American Archivist Host Committee and a discussion of the South West Archivist meeting which took place May 19-21, in Houston, Texas. A tour of the facilities of the Louisiana Historical Center of the State Museum is also planned.

1993 Spring Meeting

The Spring meeting was held on March 17 at Patout's Restaurant. This was a joint meeting of GNOA with the New Orleans chapter of the Association of Record Managers and Administrators. Ms. Theresa LeFevre spoke on "Regional Archival Repositories: Holdings, Staffing, and Challenges. In her talk Ms. LeFevre reminded us of the importance of the documents we house and how the records we maintain hold the truth and will let the image of today be known in the future. They have been reproduced with her permission for members who were unable to attend the meeting in March.

National Archives

Dr. Trudy Huskamp Peterson, Assistant Archivist for the Office of the National Archives, has been appointed Deputy Archivist of the United States and is serving as Acting Archivist until a new Archivist of

the United States has been appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. It was also announced on March 9 that Raymond A. Mosley will become Chief of Staff, Claudine J. Weiher will become Assistant Archivist for Special and Regional Archives, and Michael J. Kurtz will serve as Acting Assistant Archivist for the Office of the National Archives.

NUCMC in Jeopardy

Due to budget cuts the Library of Congress may eliminate the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, NUCMC. Those who support and value NUCMC and do not wish to see it eliminated are asked to write letters to James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress, and Winston Tabb, Assistant Librarian for Collection Services at the Library of Congress, Washington DC, 20540. Letters should also be sent to the Congress Joint Committee on the Library and your local Congressmen.

News From the Archives

The Historic New Orleans Collection

Currently on exhibition in the Williams Gallery is the second part of the two part exhibition "The Long Weekend: The Arts and the Vieux Carré between the World Wars, 1918-1941." It focuses on the period between the stockmarket crash and Pearl Harbor. On Saturday June fifth the Collection will hold a symposium on the 1930s in New Orleans, focusing on the impact of the Depression-the effects of the Crash of 1929 and New Deal programs, the art scene in the Vieux Carré, the Federal Writer's Project, and the transformation of the music scene. This symposium is free and open to the public. Presentations will be given by Bruce Boyd Raeburn, Hogan Jazz Archive, and Judith H. Bonner, Patricia Brady and John T. Magill of the Historic New Orleans Collection.

Recent acquisitions include two oil paintings by Louis Antoine Collas of François Gardère and Madame François Gardère, née Elizabeth Rivière, 2

done in 1825 and a copy of the 1910 Protestant Orphans' Home's cookbook, Sweets and Meats and Other Good Things to Eat. Evelyn Witherspoon has donated papers dealing with the Arts and Crafts Club, the Orleans Gallery and her own career as painter, potter, and teacher. The papers cover the period 1943 to 1991 and consist of correspondence, notebooks, brochures, photographs, and exhibit announcements. The manuscripts division has received a collection of Civil War letters written by Union soldier, Capt. R. R. R. Dumar of Elmira, New York. The sixty-seven Dumar letters contain descriptions of Louisiana, the siege of Port Hudson, and other military activities.

New Orleans Public Library, Louisiana Division

The Louisiana Division currently has on display an exhibit celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Fisk Donation. Abijah Fisk donated a house and land at the corner of Customhouse (now Iberville) and Bourbon in 1843 to be used to establish a free library in the city. Besides the Fisk donation the exhibit also highlights other major benefactors of New Orleans Public Library through 1858. The exhibition will remain up through the Society of American Archivist Convention.

Notarial Archives

The Notarial Archives has loaned two documents to the "Treasures of the Church: 200 Years of Faith and Service" exhibit at the New Orleans Museum of Art. They are the 1847 presentation drawing made by Jacques NB de Pouilly for the contract to design a New St. Louis Cathedral and a drawing entitled "Section, Ground Plan, Front on St. Anthony Square, Section on line AB and Section on line EFG." Plans have been made for the archives to hang a mini-exhibit featuring actual-size reproductions of six plans of nineteenth century New Orleans houses in several public

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spaces in the Civil District Courts Building.

Xavier University Archives and Special Collections

Xavier held the grand opening of its new archival facility on the twenty-second of April. This is the first purpose-built archival facility on any historically-black college or university campus in the United States.

Documentation and Preservation of New Orleans Architecture

The Association of College and Research Libraries invites you to attend the Arts section of the American Library Association's annual meeting on Saturday 26 June from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. for a presentation entitled, "Balconies and Verandas: Documentation and Preservation of New Orleans Architecture." Speakers for this presentation will be Sally K. Reeves, Archivist of the New Orleans Notarial Archives, Patty Gaye, Executive Director of the Preservation Resource Center, architect and scholar Sam Wilson, and author, Jesse Poesch. For further information contact Rhea Bradley, co-chair ACRL/ARTS Program Planning Committee at (804) 367-1112.

SAA Workshop on Photographic Collections Management

The SAA will present a workshop on Photographic Collections Management, at the Historic New Orleans Collection, August 30-31. The workshop is being held in conjunction with the SAA annual meeting. The course will present ways to administer photographic collections to allow maximum access while preserving the photographs for future users. Instructors will be Richard Pearce-Moses, curator of photographs at Arizona State

University, and Laurie Baty, grants analyst for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Subjects which they plan to cover include identification and dating of materials; special problems of graphic materials; gaining control of large quantities of materials; arrangement; description; preservation; and reference and access. For further information call or write Jane Kenamore, Society of American Archivists, 600 South Federal, Chicago, Illinois 60605; telephone, (312) 922-0140.

The Greater New Orleans Archivists Newsletter

Send submissions to Carol Bartels, The Historic New Orleans Collection, 533 Royal St., New Orleans, La. 70130-2179. Telephone: (504) 523-4662. Fax: (504) 522-5108.

The Greater New Orleans Archivists Officers

Sally K. Reeves, President
Carol O. Bartels, Secretary
Andrew Simons, Treasurer

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