

Of Enduring Value: Preservation in the Real World

Upstate New York Archives Conference, Ithaca College, June 13-15 , 2002

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2002

WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD IN THE HARPER CONFERENCE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, CATHERWOOD LIBRARY, IVES HALL, CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

9:00-12:00

Preservation of Photographic Materials

Michele Hamill, Paper and Photograph Conservator, Cornell University Library Department of Preservation and Conservation

This workshop is designed to help small archives develop strategies to preserve collections of photographic materials through safe storage environments, handling and housing procedures, appropriate reformatting options and basic care procedures. Topics will include an overview of: identification of major print and negative processes and their characteristic deterioration; environment, including cold storage, handling, housing, exhibit issues and reformatting options.

12:00-2:00

Lunch on your own

2:00-5:00

Thinking About The Unthinkable: Protecting Your Archives Against Theft -

Richard Strassberg, Director, Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation and Archives, Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations

The presentation will focus on the major threats to archival collections from amateur and professional thieves and methodologies to protect against their depredations. The emphasis will be on low-cost approaches.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2002 CONFERENCE SESSIONS

8:30-9:00

Registration, light refreshments, Campus Center, Ithaca College

9:00-10:00

Plenary session

Striving for Comprehensiveness in Preservation: Managing New Preservation Technologies

John Dean, Director of Preservation and Conservation, Cornell University Library.

Klingenstein

10:00-10:15

Break

10:15-11:30

Concurrent sessions

Session 1

Perspectives on Appraisal Klingenstein

Session Chair, Thomas Norris, Manager of Training and Grants Support Services, New York State Archives

"Appraisal Issues from a Records Management and Archives Point of View"

Dr. Hans-J. Finke, Director and RMO, Ontario County Department of Records, Archives and Information Mgt Services

Most RMOs in local governments have the dual function of records manager and archivist. As such, the government records managers have to approach appraisal of records from sometimes conflicting points of view: the legal and functional requirements of local government and the historical value of records. How does an RMO/Archivist reconcile these differences?

"Appraisal: An Historian's Perspective"

Suzanne Etherington, Regional Advisory Officer, NY State Archives

How an historian might think about appraisal.

"Appraising Court Records"

Sarah A. Polirer, Archivist, New York State - Unified Court System - Office of Court Administration

This paper will discuss appraising the large of volume of records created by the courts. General questions that will be addressed include: what questions are asked when considering a records retention period; what best represents the interest of the individuals involved with litigation and the government for either saving or destroying these records; how does the appraisal process work? Specifically the New York State Court System will be used as a case study.

Session 2

Cayuga Indian Land Claims Clark

Session Chair, Kathleen DeLaney, Acting Archivist, University at Buffalo Archives

"How Fair Was the Jury Award in the Cayuga Land Claim? An Exercise in Applied Historical Geography" -

Scott Anderson, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Geography and Associate Director, GIS Lab, SUNY Cortland

On February 18, 2000, a jury awarded the Cayuga Nation \$36.9 million in compensation for their loss of the 64,015-acre Cayuga Reservation in what a federal judge had determined to be illegal state purchases in 1795 and 1807. Dr. Anderson will demonstrate how research methodologies employed by historical geographers, including thorough examination of archival resources concerning land and landscape transformations, supported by GIS presentation methodologies, were able to provide important insights into questions raised by the court, and how inattention to detail in the use of archival resources among expert witness for the Cayuga might have had a negative influence on the jury in determining the amount of the award. Evidence discovered in the archival resources submitted to the judge in the second phase of the trial, dramatically altered the outcome of the award, and are likely to raise even more questions for subsequent appeals.

11:30-1:00

Tour the Ithaca College Archives then Lunch on your own (those with Tower Club reservations will meet following the tour).

1:00-2:15

Session 3

Cornell's Digital Preservation Research Projects, Initiatives and Applications

Session Chair Barb Morley, Media Curator, Kheel Center, Cornell University.

Klingenstein

"Digital Preservation Applications: Converging Objectives"

Bill Kehoe, Digital Library Programmer Analyst Specialist, Cornell University Library

"Digital Preservation Research Projects: Goals and Accomplishments"

Nancy Y. McGovern, Coordinator, Digital Imaging and Preservation Policy Research, Cornell University Library

This session will present an overview of the digital preservation program at Cornell University Library, both ongoing projects and planned initiatives. Cornell University Library has been creating digital content for over a decade, and has been a leader in digital preservation research for the past five years. More recently, the focus has been on practical applications for preservation solutions. The presentations will provide a non-technical take on preservation highlight priorities, trends, issues and concerns, and provide Web sites and citations for other resources to find out more about the projects discussed.

Break

2:30 - 3:45

Concurrent sessions

Session 4

The Forgotten Records: Church and Cemetery Archives in Western New York.

Klingenstein

Session Chair Nancy Piatkowski, Archivist, Episcopal Diocese of Western New York

"In the Beginning... to the Present" The Catholic Diocese of Buffalo Chancery Archives"
Sister Martin Joseph Jones, ssmn- Archivist, Chancery Archives, Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo

The Chancery records of the Catholic Diocese have been preserved from the beginning (more as the years passed), but were never processed, nor inventoried. Professional attention began in November 1997, and continues to the present day under the same Archivist. A summary of what has been accomplished will be given, as well as a display of a few photos - before and after.

"Cemetery Records from an Archival Perspective"
Molly Hauck, Historian/Archivist, Mount Calvary Cemetery, Inc.

The presentation will include the types of records which are available, how they are arranged, who asks for the information, who the requests are handled, Mount Calvary's uniqueness in initiating a cemetery archives, and Mount Calvary's digitization of the records.

"Archives from the Basement Up"
Nancy Piatkowski, Archivist, Episcopal Diocese of Western New York.

This presentation will look at what I faced when I began my work as Archivist for the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York in 1998; what I have done to turn 200 years worth of unprocessed material into an almost working archivist; how I developed a working plan to be pro-active in educating the clergy and congregations in the Diocese in the importance of historical records and archives.

Session 5

Electronic Records: Management and Disclosure. Clark
Session Chair Geoffrey P. Williams, University Archivist/Campus Records Officer, University at Albany, SUNY

"Disclosure"
Robert J. Freeman, Executive Director, New York State Department of State, Committee on Open Government

The Freedom of Information Law will be the focus of the discussion, with emphasis on issues relating to electronic information

"The Untamed Tiger: Managing Electronic Records"
Geoffrey A. Huth, Manager of Records Service Development, New York State Archives

Despite years of research and experimentation, the management of electronic records, especially archives, remains a daunting challenge to most of us. Geof Huth will explain some of the basics of managing and preserving electronic records, discuss some possibilities being currently developed, and will allow a good deal of time for questions and discussion of this topic.

3:45-4:00

Travel by carpool to Cornell University, Olin Library

4:00-5:00

Tour, Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Kroch Library, Cornell University

5:00-5:15

Travel by carpool to Kheel Center, Ives Hall

5:15-6:30

Tour and reception, Kheel Center for Labor-management Documentation and Archives, Catherwood Library, Cornell University

Travel by carpool to Ithaca College

7:00-9:00 Buffet dinner and presentation.

Klingenstein

"Hold to That Bright Shining Star!: Reflections on Tracking the Underground Railroad in Upstate New York" - Milton Sernett, Professor of African American Studies and History and Adjunct Professor of Religion at Syracuse University, and Vice Chair of the New York State Freedom Trail Commission

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2002 CONFERENCE SESSIONS

8:30-9:00

Registration and light refreshments,
Klingenstein

9:00-10:00

LOAC Annual business meeting.
All are welcome.
Klingenstein.

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:30

Session 6
Preservation Roundtable
Session Chair Bridget Bower, College Archivist, Ithaca College Archives and Special Collections
Klingenstein

Preservation is the central challenge in any archives. Join the discussion about preservation needs, problems and successes.

Session 7

Going for Preservation Grants

Clark

Session Chair Chris Hunter, Archivist, Schenectady Museum.

Grants can be an archivist's best source for preservation funds, but they come with complexities and uncertainties. This session will address these issues, including which items to select for grant projects, preliminary work that needs to be done before applying for grants, identifying funding sources, tips on writing the grant, and what to do when you get (or don't get) the grant. Participants will be encouraged to share their experiences (both good and bad).

After the meeting.....

1:15-2:30

Walk to Taughannock Falls

Tired of sitting? Want to bring life back to your legs before you drive home? Get some lunch and then join us for a walk along the gorge at Taughannock Falls State Park, Trumansburg, NY, about 15 miles north of Ithaca on the west side of Cayuga Lake. It is an easy 1.5 mile round-trip walk along the creek-side trail to the waterfall which drops 215 feet, making it one of the highest cascades east of the Mississippi River.

Directions to Ithaca College

Please see Ithaca College's website at <http://www.ithaca.edu/directions.php> for directions to the campus. A campus map can be found at <http://www.ithaca.edu/map.php>. The conference will be held in building 9, Campus Center in the Clark and Klingenstein Lounges. Those staying in residence halls will need to pick up their keys in Eastman Hall (see Q10 on the map). Parking tags will be provided. A later mailing (or email) will indicate the appropriate lots for parking.

All conference participants will be issued a guest identification card from the College, which identifies you as a conference attendee. This card provides you with access to the College's Fitness Center, so bring workout clothes if you like that sort of thing.

Directions to Cornell University

The Cornell University web site includes directions to and from Cornell at <http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Ithaca/Directions/>. It also has a searchable map of New York, Ithaca and the campus on which to locate campus buildings at <http://www.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/MapMove.x/M4-1-4?358,303>. Catherwood Library is in Ives Hall, the home of the School of Industrial and Labor Relations and is found east of East Avenue, west of Garden Avenue, and south of Tower Road, near central campus.

Lunch at the Tower Club

On Friday, lunch is on your own. We will make a group lunch reservation at the Tower Club for anyone who is interested. Located on the 14th floor of the East Tower, the Tower Club has a tremendous view of Ithaca, Cayuga Lake and the surrounding countryside. There is a buffet lunch which costs around \$11 - expect extras to be extra, including service from

the full bar. There is a salad and bread bar, a hot foods buffet and an elegant dessert array. To be included in the reservation, please check the space at the bottom of the registration form.

Other options for lunch include the food court in the Campus Center and downtown Ithaca. Lists of local restaurants will be available at registration.

Residence Hall Accommodations

Residence hall accommodations in single or double rooms are available near the conference site on the Ithaca College campus. Telephone service (local only) is provided in the rooms if you bring your own touch-tone phone (long-distance access is available with a credit or calling card). Linens include sheets, pillow with pillowcase, 2 towels, 1 washcloth and 1 blanket per person. You may want to bring a fan and clothes hangers.

Traditional-style residence halls are not air-conditioned and have shared bath facilities. The costs for these are \$35/night for a single room and \$30/night per person for a double room. If you are choosing to share a room, please provide us with the name of your roommate. LOAC cannot be responsible for assigning roommates.

If you need accommodation for a physical disability please add a note to the registration form requesting an accessible room.

Conference Fees

The cost for the conference is \$45/person. We are aware that this is a significant increase over previous years' costs but the cost of putting on conferences has been going up quickly as well. We hope to cover our expenses, but not much more. The LOAC membership fee is in addition to the conference fee and is required of all attendees. If you wish to join LOAC or remain a member without attending the conference, please send the registration form and a check for \$5 to Barb Morley at the address on the form.

Questions If you have any questions, please contact the planning chair: Barb Morley or Bridget Bower for local arrangements.

2001-2002 LOAC Board

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Maintained by: Bridget Bower, College Archivist, Ithaca College Library.
Last updated on October 4, 2007