

2012 Student Archivist Project



Kyle Davis

Montana SHRAB received grant funding through the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to continue the traveling archivist project this summer. Heritage institutions are encouraged to apply to receive 320 hours of assistance from an Archives and Records Management graduate student from Western Washington University or University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. Any Montana institution with significant archival responsibilities will be eligible to apply.

Just as a reminder the 2011 Student Archivist, Kyle Davis, a graduate student from the Eastern Washington University, spent seven weeks working in Butte with the staff of the Butte Silver Bow Archives. During his tenure he reviewed, created an inventory and completed cataloging for over 300 linear feet of Police Court records. He also presented a public program regarding some of the more interesting things he found in the records and touted the importance of local government records and their preservation. Kyle gained some really valuable hands on work and Butte Silver Bow archives users gained expanded intellectual access to some really interesting records. What is there to lose!? If you could use similar assistance in your institution...**PLEASE APPLY!!! Application deadline is March 15. See insert for application form.**



Advocacy idea: SAA's "I found it in the Archives" Contest

The Society of American Archivists is encouraging a special effort to involve people who have sought out archival collections by engaging them in a fun contest that makes use of online social platforms. *I Found It In The Archives!* is a collective effort to reach out to individuals who have found their records, families, heritage, and treasures through archival collections. Archivists are encouraged to ask their users to share their stories of discovery. Set up a contest, select the best entries, and allow others in the online world to vote for their favorites. Local winners can then be added to the national competition, which will culminate in August 2012 when the national winner will attend the SAA Annual Meeting in San Diego. **Deadline for 2012 entry at National level is March 2, 2012** (send to saahq@archivists.org).

If you can't make that deadline, plan now to launch your *I Found It In the Archives!* local contest during American Archives Month in October. Either way, it's a great way to highlight the work we do, the great collections we hold and the amazing patrons who "Find it in the Archives"!

Montana Historical Society Offers James H. Bradley/Dave Walter Research Fellowships

The 2012 James H. Bradley Fellowship is awarded annually to two graduate students, faculty, and/or independent scholars pursuing research on Montana history. Each fellowship includes a stipend of \$2,500.

The recipients of the fellowship are expected to be in residence at the MHS, conducting research for the equivalent of four weeks between the date of the award and October 31, 2012. Fellows are expected to make use of the MHS's collections and to submit a written report upon completion of the research. Bradley Fellows also agree to submit an article based on the research for possible publication in the MHS' quarterly journal, *Montana The Magazine of Western History*, within one year of their residency.

Fellowship applications are evaluated based upon the following criteria

- suitability of research to the MHS' archival, library, photograph or museum collections ,
- applicant's experience and training,
- potential of the project to make a significant contribution to historical scholarship on Montana, and

- potential of the project to produce an article-length publication.

Applications must include a cover letter, a project proposal not to exceed three double-spaced pages, a 2-3 page resume, and at least one letter of recommendation. The proposal should indicate what specific material in the MHS collections the applicant intends to consult. Montana Historical Society employees and previous Bradley Fellows are not eligible to apply. Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 1, 2012** and sent to the:

Bradley Selection Committee
Montana Historical Society
PO Box 201201
Helena, MT 59620-1201

Applications can also be submitted via email to mhslibrary@mt.gov. Emailed applications must be received by **March 1, 2012**. Announcement of the award will be made in early April.



Upcoming Events, Conferences and Training Opportunities

March 22-24, 2012

Bozeman, Montana, Museum's Association of Montana

April 11-14, 2012

Big Sky, Montana, Montana Library Association Annual Conference

April 26-28, 2012

Salem, Oregon, Northwest Archivists/Oregon Heritage Conference. "Fertile Ground: Planting the Seeds for Restoration, Innovation and Collaboration"

June 4-15, 2012

Washington, D. C., Modern Archives Institute.

September 20-22, 2012

Helena, Montana, 39th Annual Montana History Conference

October 19-22, 2012

Buffalo, New York, National Preservation Conference

The 2012 Dave Walter Fellowship will be awarded to two Montana residents involved in a public history project focused on exploring local history. The award is intended to help Montanans conduct research on their towns, counties, and regions using resources at the Montana Historical Society. Research can be for any project related to exploring local history; including exhibit development, walking tours, oral history projects, building history/preservation, county or town histories, archaeological research, class projects, etc. Fellowship awards of \$1,250 each will be given to two researchers.

Recipients will be expected to:

- travel to the MHS to conduct research
- spend a minimum of one week in residence conducting research
- provide a copy of their final product or a report on their completed project to the MHS Research Center

Applications for the Dave Walter Research Fellowship are evaluated on the following criteria:

- suitability of the research to the Society's collections
- potential of the project to make a contribution to local history
- experience in conducting local history research

The application must include a cover letter; a project proposal, not to exceed 3 pages in length, describing the research, including the specific collections at the Montana Historical Society that you intend to use; a 1-2 page resume, and a letter of recommendation.

Applications must be postmarked no later than **March 1, 2012** and sent to:

Dave Walter Research Fellowship Selection Committee
Montana Historical Society
PO Box 201201
Helena, MT 59620-1201

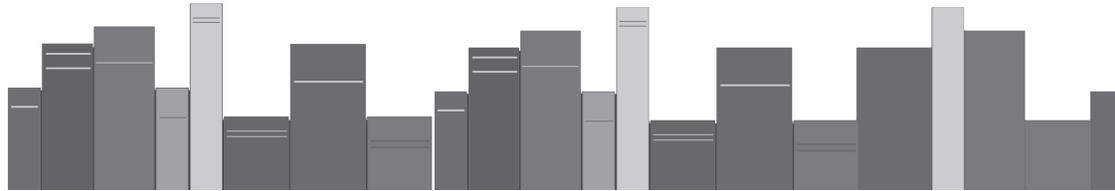
Applications can also be submitted via email to mhslibrary@mt.gov. Applications submitted via email must be received on **March 1, 2012**. Announcement of the award will be made in early April.

For more information about the **James H. Bradley or Dave Walter Fellowships** or the **Montana Historical Society** and its collections see:

www.montanahistoricalsociety.org

or contact MHS staff at mhslibrary@mt.gov.





The Future of the Library is in the Archives



by Kim Allen Scott

[This paper is a preliminary outline of a study I am conducting in anticipation of the International Conference on Archives meeting to be held in Brisbane, Australia in August 2012.]

A scene in the 1960 motion picture, *The Time Machine*, suggests a disturbing future for the printed word. When the nineteenth-century time traveler asks the future Eloi people if they have any books, he is shown a dusty shelf of volumes in a forgotten alcove. The visual depiction of a book disintegrating in the hands of the time traveler startled many of the film's twentieth-century audience, but few imagined within the next fifty years they would witness indications of that scene becoming reality. As contemporary university programs replace the word "library" with "information science" in their titles and library rubbish bins daily fill with volumes superseded by electronic surrogates, the signs of print's accelerating obsolescence seem ubiquitous.

There was a time, two centuries ago, when practitioners of an important manufacturing trade fought a desperate and ultimately futile war against the steam powered looms that would make their wood frame devices obsolete. As the Luddites attacked factories in early nineteenth century Britain and smashed the machines that threatened their livelihood, they fought a losing battle against "progress," a strategy that modern librarians have abandoned while facing similar obsolescence. Unlike the Luddites, twenty-first century librarians have embraced the new machines that threaten their livelihood in an attempt to find a role in their use. However, just as the most talented handloom weaver would find his expertise largely irrelevant in the configuration of a power loom,

librarians are experiencing an evaporating demand for their traditional skills as book custodians as they struggle to establish their newly proclaimed function as referees of the internet. The tension resulting from this attempt to balance the new while retaining the old can easily be seen in library spaces. Once considered the source of information storage in the form of paper resources, libraries are now slowly converting their buildings into bookshelf-decorated internet cafes.

Archivists need to be prepared to assume the duties of traditional librarianship because the library profession is rapidly abandoning them. We can no longer afford to rely on a preservation ethic among librarians because their self-declared contemporary emphasis is on "information," and that information is going to become digital by default. As archivists, we understand that three-dimensional objects must be appraised by more than mere informational value. Evidential value, the clues contained within a given object that allow one to trace the activities of the creator is probably our most significant departure from librarians. We know that the author of the book is only one creator that displays this evidential value. How about the publisher? How about those who owned the book over time? How about those who read the book and underlined, annotated, or otherwise altered its pages? These are some of the factors that will come into play when book collections slowly become the purview of our profession as the twenty-first century progresses.

It is ironic that during the early twentieth century when our profession attempted to define itself by insisting on our differences from the practice of librarianship that now, as the printed word faces such a stark future, the library must become part of the archives.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Western Archives Institute

The 25th annual Western Archives Institute will be held at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, **July 8 – 20, 2012**. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices to individuals with a variety of backgrounds, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but who 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.

The Institute also features site visits to historical records repositories and a diverse curriculum that includes history and development of the profession, theory and terminology, records management, appraisal, arrangement, description, manuscripts acquisition, archives and the law, photographs, preservation administration, reference and access, outreach programs, and managing archival programs and institutions.

Thomas Wilsted has graciously agreed to serve as Principle Faculty Member for the 2012 Institute. Wilsted has been an archivist for more than forty years. During his career, he has worked at the Illinois State Historical Library, the National Library of New Zealand, The Salvation Army Archives and Research Center, and the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming before retiring from the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut in 2008. He is currently the principal at Wilsted Consulting, and is the author of *Managing Archival and Manuscript Repositories* (SAA, 1991) and *Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities* (SAA,

2007), and co-editor of *Archival and Special Collections Facilities: Guidelines for Archivists, Librarians, Architects, and Engineers* (SAA, 2010). He taught archives administration at the University of Wyoming and the University of Connecticut as well as numerous workshops for the Society of American Archivists. Mr. Wilsted is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists and a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists.

Tuition for the Institute is \$700 and includes a selection of archival publications. Other non-negotiable fees including program transportation, facility fees, opening dinner, and luncheon at the closing program will be available in early February. Housing and meal plans are available at additional cost.

The application deadline for the 2012 Western Archives Institute is March 30, 2012. For additional program information, see <http://www.calarchivists.org/WAI>, or contact:

Administrator
Western Archives Institute
1020 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Telephone: (916) 653-7715
Fax: (916) 653-7134 E-mail: ArchivesWeb@sos.ca.gov
The application package is available on the California State Archives web site at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/wai/>, and on the Society of California Archivists web site at <http://www.calarchivists.org/WAI>.



Upcoming Conferences and Training Opportunities cont.

National Preservation Conference

The National Preservation Conference will be held in Spokane, Washington, October 31- November 3, 2012. Come to Spokane to discover and explore preservation's role in cities, towns and rural communities. Attendees will discuss how to expand the role of preservation in revitalizing cities, combating sprawl, creating jobs, saving energy, preserving landscapes and building community. How to better partner and work with traditional and new partners to increase preservation's relevance in modern communities. How to become better advocates in our hometowns? Come to Spokane to bridge chasms, break tradition, and explore what going beyond boundaries can do to move preservation deeper into the consciousness of Americans of all ages, backgrounds, and outlooks. For more information see <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc/>

Society of American Archivists offers spring and summer workshops including:

Basic Electronics Records

March 2 in Boston, Massachusetts

April 18 in Grand Rapids, Michigan

April 24 in Austin, Texas

May 14 in Salt Lake City, Utah

Project Management for Archivists

March 2 in Bloomington, Indiana

April 25 in Jackson, Mississippi



Managing Electronic Records in Archives and Special Collections

March 8-9 in College Station, Texas

Visual Literary for Photograph Collections

March 9 in Chicago, Illinois

Security in Archives and Manuscript Repositories

March 12-13 in Fargo, North Dakota
[Scholarships available]

Preserving Digital Archives: Concepts and Competencies

March 13 in New Orleans, Louisiana

Implementing "More Product, Less Process"

March 23 in Middletown, Connecticut

May 30 in Manhattan, Kansas

Archivists' Guide to Balancing Legal Issues in Photographic Collections

March 28 in Greensboro, North Carolina

Oral History: From Planning to Preservation

May 7 in Chicago, Illinois

Arrangement and Description of Electronic Records

May 23 in Chicago, Illinois

For more information see www.archivists.org.

*Massachusetts · Michigan · Texas · Utah · Indiana · Mississippi · Illinois · North Dakota
· Louisiana · Connecticut · Kansas · North Carolina*

Resources

National Park Service – Museum Management Program

<http://www.nps.gov/museum/publications/conserveogram>

Conserve O Grams are short focused leaflets about caring for archival and museum objects, published in loose-leaf format. Beneficial to anyone who cares for fine arts, books and papers, also furniture, ceramics and glass, leather work. Offers online leaflets for paintings, paper objects, photographs, archival and manuscript collections and rare books, and creation, care and storage of digital materials.

Canadian Conservation Institute – CCI Notes

<http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/crc/notes/index>

CCI Notes deal with topics of interest to anyone who cares for cultural objects. Online notes offer practical advice about issues and questions related to the care, handling, and storage of cultural objects, including paper and books, photographic materials and electronic media. Many notes are illustrated, and provide bibliographies as well as suggestions for contacting suppliers.

Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)

<http://www.nedcc.org/home.php>

NEDCC is a nonprofit, regional conservation center specializing in the preservation of paper-based materials. It serves collection-holding institutions such as libraries, archives, museums, and interested individuals. The website offers links to Preservation Leaflets such as:

- Planning and Prioritizing
- The Environment
- Emergency Management
- Storage and Handling
- Photographs
- Reformatting
- Conservation Procedures

Archives Listserve

http://www.archivists.org/listserves/arch_listserv_terms.asp

Managed by the Society of American archivists and established as an open forum for all topics relating to archival theory and practice. The archive listserv is open to all individuals with an interest in the archives profession and in the preservation and promotion of archival materials. Offers a great opportunity to ask a broad range of questions from professionals in the field.

Grant Opportunities:

National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access

The National Endowment for the Humanities' Division of Preservation and Access has offered **Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions** for more than a decade. These grants help small and mid-sized cultural heritage institutions such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. Awards of up to \$6000 support preservation related collection assessments, consultations, training and workshops, and institutional and collaborative disaster and emergency planning. Preservation Assistance Grants also support education and training in best practices for sustaining digital collections, standards for digital preservation, and the care and handling of collections during digitization. Institutions may request funds for a preservation assessment of digital collections. *NEH does not fund digitization or the development of digital programs in this grant category.*

Small and mid-sized institutions that have never received an NEH grant and those considering projects in digital preservation are especially encouraged to apply.

All applications to the NEH must be submitted through Grants.gov. The 2012 guidelines for Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions are available at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/pag.html>. You will also find sample project descriptions, sample narratives, and a list of frequently asked questions. The deadline for applications is **May 1, 2012**.

For more information, contact the staff of NEH's Division of Preservation and Access at 202-606-8570 and preservation@neh.gov

Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives Grant Program

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) is now accepting proposals for the 2012 cycle of the Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives grant program. Information about the program and links to the online application and guidelines are available at <http://www.clir.org/hiddencollections/index.html>. Deadline for submitting proposals: Friday, March 16.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC):

See <http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply/program.html>

- **Digitizing Historical Records:** The National Historical Publications and Records Commission seeks proposals that use cost-effective methods to digitize nationally significant historical record collections and make the digital versions freely available online. Projects must make use of existing holdings of historical repositories and consist of entire collections or series. The materials should already be available to the public at the archives and described so that projects can re-use existing information to serve as metadata for the digitized collection. Final Deadline: June 7, 2012
- **Electronic Records Projects:** The National Historical Publications and Records Commission seeks proposals that will increase the capacity of archivists and archival repositories to create electronic records archives that preserve records of enduring historical value. Final Deadline: June 7, 2012

Humanities Montana See <http://www.humanitiesmontana.org/Grants/grants.php>:

Applications for \$5000 and less	20th of May, August, and Nov
Applications over \$5000	20th of April, August, and Dec
Film and digital production	20th of August
Book subvention applications	20th of December
Fellowship applications	20th of December
Opportunity grants (\$1000 max)	At least two weeks prior to program

SHRAB Publication Available Online

Montana SHRAB's manual, *Preferred Practices for Historical Repositories* is available see http://mhs.mt.gov/research/library/Best_Practices.pdf. This publication is a checklist and self-assessment manual and provides information on a wide variety of management and preservation topics related to archives and museums.

SHRAB Offers Scholarships

The Montana State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is pleased to announce the availability of \$1000 worth of scholarship funds. Scholarship funds are available to paid and volunteer staff of Montana's cultural heritage institutions to support training, educational workshops, or courses on topics related to the management and/or preservation of historical records. Each scholarship may cover registration fees, travel costs, lodging and per diem (for food). Funding may also be used to bring recognized experts into an institution for consultation related to the management, accessibility, or preservation of the historical records in its care. The scholarships are made possible through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). See application form insert.



Board Members

Jodie Foley, Helena
Kim Allen Scott, Bozeman
Ellen Crain, Butte
Judy Ellinghausen, Great Falls
Anne L. Foster, Gardner
Jon Ille, Crow Agency
Sam Meister, Missoula



2012 MONTANA SHRAB Student Archivist Program

Institutional Application

The Montana State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is pleased to announce a new on-site assistance program to cultural heritage institutions in Montana whose duties include the care and preservation of historical records. A student archivist from the Western Washington University Archives and Records Management Program or University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee Library and Information Sciences program will provide 320 hours of assistance to one Montana heritage institution over the summer of 2011. Students will provide assistance based on specific goals set by the institution and may include archival surveying, processing, cataloging, basic conservation, training and creation of finding aids.

This program will be made possible through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Application DEADLINE: March 15, 2012.

APPLICATION FOR ON-SITE ASSISTANCE: (limit responses to 2-pages total)

Applicant Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

What is your institution's annual budget/ _____

How many FTE (full time equivalent) paid employees does your institution have? _____

How many FTE (full-time equivalent) volunteers does your institution have? _____

What assistance would the student archivist provide your institution? How does this fit your institutions goals/mission?

Briefly outline your institution's experience with historical records. Include any related special projects that your institution has worked on or is currently involved in. _____

Please complete and attach a one-page project description that includes specific goals to be accomplished by end of the students stay. (This may include but are not limited to linear feet processed or inventoried, finding aids completed, guidelines and procedures established, and/or cataloging entries created).

2012 MONTANA SHRAB PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Montana State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is pleased to announce the availability of \$1000 in scholarship funds for paid and volunteer staff of Montana's cultural heritage institutions to attend training, educational workshops, or courses on topics related to the management and/or preservation of historical records. Each scholarship may cover registration fees, travel costs, lodging and per diem (for food). Funding may also be used to bring recognized experts into an institution for consultation related to the management, accessibility, or preservation of the historical records in its care. The scholarships are made possible through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Scholarship recipients will be notified within 15 business days of receipt of the application

Please send your complete application to:

Montana State Historical records Advisory Board
Montana Historical Society
P.O. Box 201201
Helena, MT 59620-1201

Telephone: (406) 444-7482

Fax: (406) 444-5297

Email: jfoley@mt.gov

*PLEASE FILL OUT **EITHER** THE APPLICATION FOR TRAINING/WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE
OR THAT FOR ON-SITE ASSISTANCE, NOT BOTH*

APPLICATION FOR TRAINING/WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE:

Applicant Name: _____ Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Are you a paid employee of a library/museum/archives? Yes No

If yes, what is your title and how many hours per week do you work? _____

Are you a volunteer at a library/museum/archives? Yes No

If yes, how many hours per week do you volunteer? _____

What is your institution's annual budget? _____

Does your institution pay for professional training? Yes No

Name of workshop/conference/training you wish to attend: _____

Amount requested: Registration fee(s): _____ Travel/per-diem: _____ Total amount: _____

What are your reasons for attending this training, workshop, conference, etc.? How do they fit your professional goals? How do they fit your institutions goals? _____

Briefly outline your experience with historical records and any related special projects that you have worked on or are currently involved in. _____

Sleeping Giant, Helena, MT
graphicsbyjg@bresnan.net



Big Sky. Big Land. Big History.
Montana
Historical Society

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PO Box 201201
Helena MT 59620-13301