

MHCC NEWSLETTER

Maryland History & Culture Collaborative

vol. 2 no.4

FALL 2011

See you in Salisbury!

David Ranzan, University Archivist
Edward H. Nabb Research Center,
Blackwell Library, Salisbury University

The Fall Collaborative Meeting will take place Friday, October 14 beginning at 10:30 AM. It's our first meeting on the Eastern Shore but will follow the same format of previous meetings with a discussion panel in the morning, lunch and meetings in the afternoon.

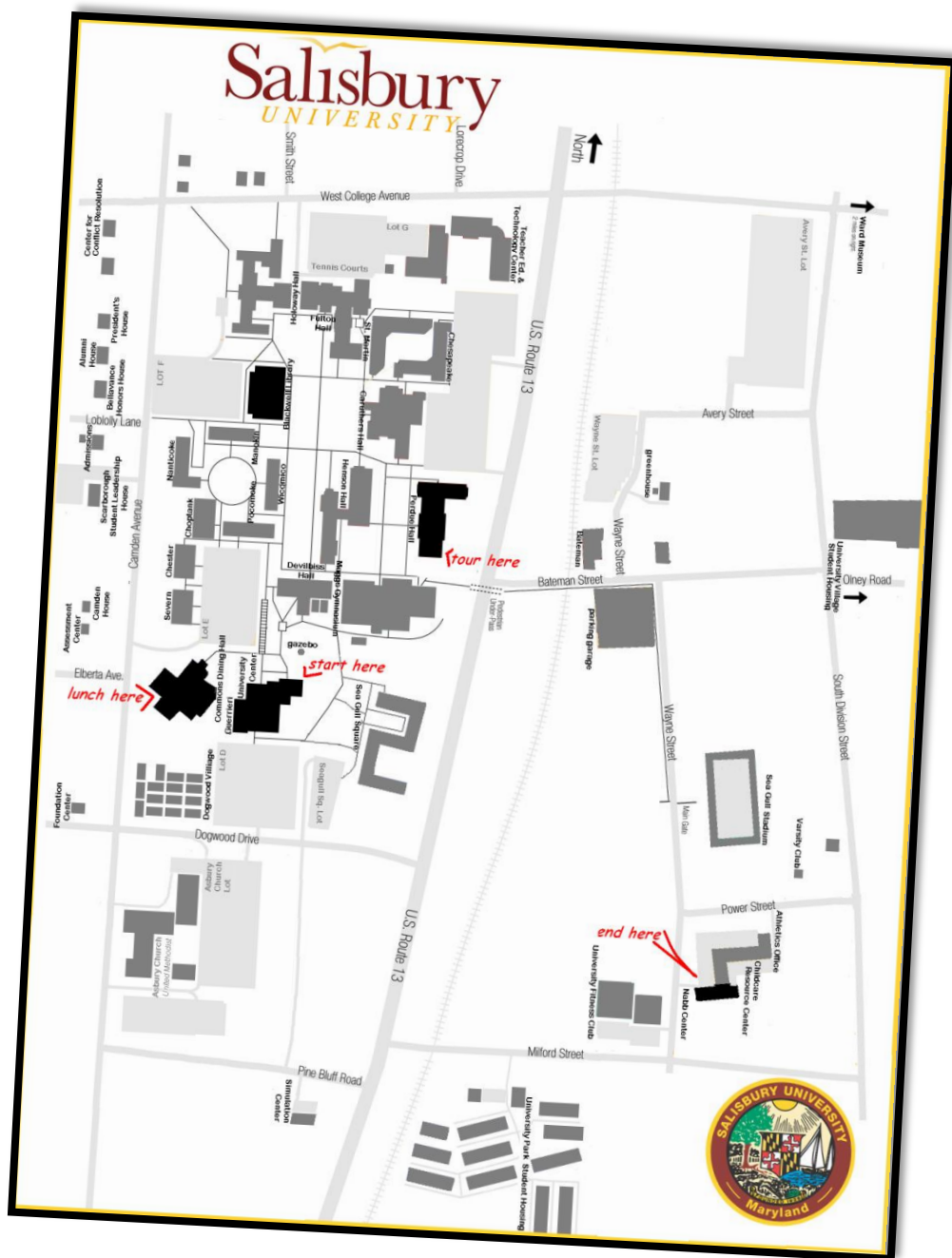
A tour of the newly opened Perdue Museum of Business & Entrepreneurship will follow and, if time permits, the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.

Getting there is easy, but before you go:

1. Please RSVP – go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/KJ RDDGD
2. Obtain a Free Parking Pass – register at www.salisbury.edu/police/parking/visitor_parking.asp.
3. Find directions at www.salisbury.edu/Info/Directions.html

The morning session will take place in the Guerrieri University Center on the south end of campus – find it at www.salisbury.edu/campusmap

Lunch will be in the nearby Commons – www.salisbury.edu/dining/commons.html
Good food - good variety - cafeteria style and food vouchers have been arranged!



For an example of a weekly menu, go to www.salisbury.edu/dining/commonsmenu.html

For more on the many collections at Salisbury University, see "Documenting the Delmarva" in the *MHCC Newsletter*, Fall 2010. Highlights include:

- Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture
- Salisbury University Arboretum & Sculpture Garden
- Salisbury University Art Galleries
- Ward Museum of Waterfowl Art

THE CIVIL WAR IN YOUR ATTIC
Upcoming Scanning Events



www.mdch.org/civilwar

At these events, trained archivists, librarians, and digitization professionals will be scanning privately held manuscript material.

Scanned materials will then be made available in a digital collection posted on Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage website. "The Civil War in Your Attic," which is modeled after Library of Virginia's CW 150 Legacy Project, focuses on items created between 1859-1867 that reflect social, political, military, business, and religious life around the time of the Civil War and early Reconstruction periods.

2011

Wed., October 12, 2011, time TBA

R. Lee Hornbake Library

University of Maryland, College Park
to schedule an appointment contact
Jennie Levine Knies [levjen@umd.edu]
301-314-2558

Sat. November 12, 10:00am - 5:00pm

Edward H. Nabb Research Center

for Delmarva History and Culture,
[Wayne & Power St.] Salisbury University
to schedule an appointment contact
David Ranzan [dranzan@salisbury.edu]
410-677-5356

2012

Thurs. January 19, times TBA

Carroll County Historical Society

/McDaniel College, Westminster

to schedule an appointment contact
Barbara O'Brien [bobrien@mcdaniel.edu]
or 410-857-2793

@UM, College Park

The Civil War at the Maryland Agricultural College

Anne S.K. Turkos, University Archivist

R. Lee Hornbake Library,
University of Maryland, College Park

In addition the upcoming scanning event (see left column), the University of Maryland, College Park is marking the Civil War Sesquicentennial with two exhibits in the R. Lee Hornbake Library.

University Archives' staff member Malissa Ruffner curated a new exhibit, *A College Divided: Maryland Agricultural College and the Civil War*. The American Civil War had a significant impact on the MAC (as the College Park campus was known before it was joined to the University of Maryland in Baltimore in 1920) and this exhibit displays a series of panels chronicling the linkages of members of the MAC community with the conflict.

The Maryland General Assembly granted the college its charter on March 6, 1856, and MAC opened its doors to students on October 5, 1859, less than two years before the conflict began. Troops from both sides camped on the grounds of the college in 1864, and many of the MAC's students, faculty, trustees, stockholders, and presidents, both during the war and following the surrender, were linked to the conflict in some way.

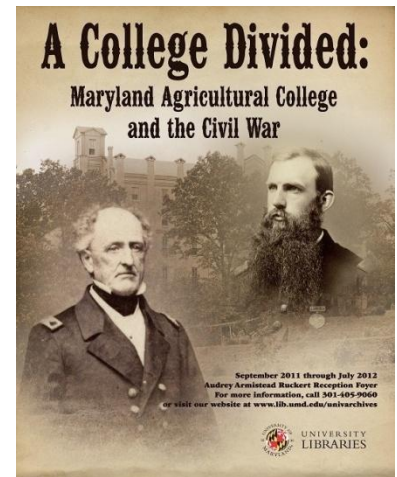
The MAC community produced foot soldiers, officers, spies, and Rebel sympathizers, as well as defendants in major legal actions relating to the war. *A College Divided* will trace the most significant stories about the participation of members of the Maryland Agricultural College community in the Civil War via a series of individual posters illustrated with images and documents drawn from the University of Maryland Archives and numerous historical repositories across the United States.

Elizabeth Navarro, Curator of Historic Manuscripts, has also mounted an exhibit in Hornbake Library. *Women on the Border: Maryland Perspectives of the Civil War* features unique manuscript, photograph, sheet music, and rare book materials from the University Libraries' Special Collections.

This gallery exhibition examines women's experiences, contributions, and perspectives on the sectional conflict in the border state of Maryland. Although the great majority of women did not participate in the battles fought during the war, women were witnesses, writers, spies, nurses, cooks, laundresses, supporters, mourners, and organizers.

Maryland's situation as a border state tested loyalties and sharply divided friends and neighbors, perhaps more than any other state in the conflict. Women in Maryland tried to find a voice for themselves, their state, and their country as everything seemed to be torn apart around them.

Both exhibits will remain on display on the main floor of Hornbake Library through July 2012. Plans are in the works to develop an online version of *A College Divided* as well.



@UM, College Park [continued]

To begin the academic year, the University Archives partnered with staff in New Resident Orientation (NRO) to welcome students to campus with a very popular run of ghost tours, and the first-ever UM Amazing Race, which NRO developed using images and information the Archives provided.

Each ghost tour and race participant received a stress turtle imprinted with the Archives' web address, so these students now have ready access to historical information about their new home.



The UM Archives is also pleased to announce the completion of two major digital projects relating to Terrapin athletics.

With the assistance of UM Digital Collections, [Men's Basketball Media Guides](#) from the 1955/1956 through 2008/2009 seasons have been added to the Internet Archive..

The Archives has also worked closely with UM Libraries' Information Technology Division staff to mount 477 digital files of [Historical Football Footage](#) in its online image repository, University AlbUM.

This grouping represents a significant portion of the Archives' holdings of game footage dating from 1946 to 1989; a search using the term "film" will quickly locate the games that have recently been mounted.

Fundraising continues for this project, with the intent of digitizing a second batch of film early in 2012.

@UM, Baltimore

Digitizing the History of "The Founding Campus"

Rich Behles,
Historical Librarian/Preservation Officer,
Health Sciences & Human Services Library
University of Maryland, Baltimore

The University of Maryland Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HSHSL) has officially launched two initiatives to document the history of the University of Maryland, the Founding Campus located in Baltimore.



<http://archive.hshsl.umaryland.edu/>

The library developed and maintains the UMB Digital Archive to collect, preserve, and distribute via the Web the academic works of the university. It contains many types of content, including gray literature (materials that cannot be found easily through conventional systems of publication), dissertations and theses, annual reports, historical images, oral histories, and more.

Built on the DSpace open source platform, it is a hierarchical arrangement of Communities, Sub-Communities, and Collections. We designed these structural elements to accommodate content originating from each of the schools and selected major administrative units on our campus.

We began by populating it with materials originating from the Library's collections and staff, and we are endeavoring to garner campus-wide participation. Sophisticated indexing mechanisms ensure retrieval of items from within the Archive itself, and measures are in place to provide access via external search engines on the Web.



www.hshsl.umaryland.edu/resources/historical/graduates

HSHSL has also opened its new Alumni Database which includes the names and graduation years of alumni from the University of Maryland Medical, Dental and Nursing schools. This resource is intended to provide basic verification of name, year, and school.

So far, inclusive dates are from the early 1840's to the 1980's, depending on the individual school's history. Schools included so far are:

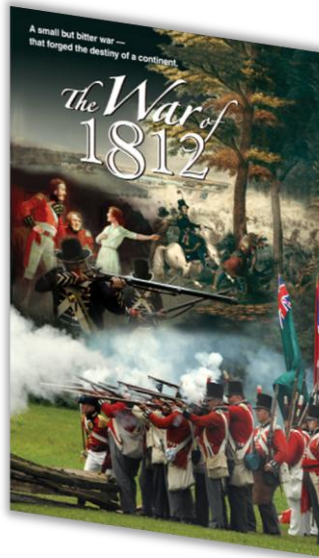
- ❖ Baltimore College of Dental Surgery,
Baltimore Medical College Dental Department,
Maryland Dental College,
University of Maryland Dental Department,
- ❖ Baltimore Medical College,
College of Physicians & Surgeons of Baltimore,
University of Maryland School of Medicine, and the
- ❖ University Hospital Training School for Nurses.

The annual college catalogs from each of the schools were the principal source for the information, with some data occasionally taken from other documentation as needed. More detailed information for these entries, or to verify names not yet found in the database, is available by going to [Ask a Historical/Special Collections Reference Question](#).

War of 1812 Film To Premiere on PBS

Kate Kelly, Marketing & Media Associate
WETA, Washington

Nearly two centuries after it was fought, the two-and-a-half year conflict that forged the destiny of a continent comes to public television in a comprehensive film history. "The War of 1812" is a production of Florentine Films/Hott Productions Inc. and WNED-TV, Buffalo/Toronto, in association with WETA Washington. The film will premiere nationwide on the Public Broadcasting Service on Monday, October 10, 2011 at 9 pm.



From 1812 to 1815, Americans battled against the British, Canadian colonists, and Native warriors; the outcomes shaped the geography and the identity of North America. This two-hour HD documentary uses stunning re-enactments, evocative animation, and the incisive commentary of key experts to reveal little-known sides of an important war — one that some only recognize for the "Star-Spangled Banner." The broadcast is accompanied by a companion book and website, as well as comprehensive bi-national educational resources.

"The War of 1812" recollects defining moments that are more familiar: First Lady Dolley Madison's rescue of a portrait of George Washington from the White House before it was burned; Andrew Jackson's total victory at the Battle of New Orleans; and, of course, the birth of the American national anthem penned by Francis Scott Key during the Battle of Baltimore.

Yet "The War of 1812" also pierces the heroic mythology that has grown up around the war to reveal a brutal, spiteful conflict dominated by fiascos and blunders. The documentary explores the events leading up to the conflict, the multifold causes of the war, and the questions that emerged about the way a new democracy should conduct war.

WETA is the third-largest producing station for public television including Florentine Films documentaries such as Ken Burns' "Prohibition" which also premiere's this fall.

Florentine Films/Hott Productions Inc., part of the Florentine Films group, is the production company of Lawrence Hott and Diane Garey, who have worked together since 1978.

WNED, broadcasting from Buffalo, New York, has significant viewership in Toronto and southern Ontario. It is one of fourteen public broadcasting stations near the border that will extend the national broadcast of "The War of 1812" into many Canadian communities.

"We have proudly created 'The War of 1812' for both nations," said Donald K. Boswell, president and CEO of WNED. "This timely examination of a shared history allows us to celebrate our past together, and renew the bond of our present and future as national neighbors."

The film is in many ways an examination of how the mythical versions of history are formed — how the glories of war become enshrined in memory, how failures are quickly forgotten, and how inconvenient truths are ignored forever, while we often change history to justify and celebrate our national cultures and heritage. Interviews with twenty-six leading authorities on the War of 1812 — American, British, Canadian and Native-American — present important accounts and research

Among them are three Maryland authorities on the Chesapeake Campaign:



Vince Leggett (above) author of *Blacks of the Chesapeake : an integral part of maritime history* and Educator for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources;



Anthony Pitch (above) a lecturer, tour guide and the author of *The Burning of Washington*; and



Scott S. Sheads (above) National Park Service Historian and Historic Weapons Officer at Ft. McHenry, and co-author of *The War of 1812 in the Chesapeake*.



Afro-American Collection Online

John Gartrell, Archivist
Afro-American Newspapers

The *Afro-American* Newspaper Morgue Collections is now online! The four-year grant project was completed at the end of 2010 and our new website is freely available to the public.

In 2006, with funding provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Afro-American Newspapers partnered with the Johns Hopkins University, to catalog and improve accessibility online.

Founded in 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., *the Afro*, as it is most commonly called, began publication with the specific mission of documenting the news in the black community of Baltimore City, Maryland. The Afro grew into one of the most influential news publications of the 20th century with distribution offices in Baltimore, Washington, DC, Philadelphia, PA, Richmond, VA and Newark NJ.

Over the course of its long history, the Afro compiled numerous primary document sources which were held in the newspaper's "morgue" files. These files represent over 150,000 file folders in our General Files and roughly ten Special Collections and is essentially designed to give users an idea of the bulk of materials we have related to the Afro's coverage of just about every subject, person, or event that took place in the Afro's coverage from roughly the 1930's-1980's.

Please feel free to visit –
<http://morgue.afro.com/AfroArchon/>.
Any comments or suggestions are more than welcome.

*John Gartrell confirms that Paul Henderson worked at the Richmond *Afro-American* before moving to Baltimore about 1930. Facts concerning his life may be pieced together through www.afro.com/afroblackhistoryarchives/.

@Maryland Historical Society Paul Henderson's Baltimore, c. 1940-1960

Jennifer Ferretti, Digitization Coordinator
Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland Historical Society received Paul Henderson's photograph collection when the Baltimore City Life Museum closed in 1997. Although the files contained scant information on the man or his work, the history he captured on film did come forth. Subsequent research has secured Henderson's place among Baltimore's most respected photographers.

One of eight children, Henderson lived in Lynchburg, Virginia and worked for the Richmond *Afro-American* before moving to Baltimore*. He married Elizabeth Johnson in 1930, and the couple took an apartment on McCulloh Street, within walking distance of Pennsylvania Avenue, the African American entertainment and shopping district. Residents considered the area a safe haven for the black community during an era of widespread racial segregation. Some businesses hired African Americans but did not allow them as customers, a practice found throughout the city. As activists staged boycotts and protests in their quest for equal rights, Henderson made his way around the city photographing those events as well as clubs, restaurants, and entertainment venues already desegregated.

Although Henderson primarily photographed people, some street scenes and architectural shots are interwoven throughout the collection. Henderson was there, camera in hand, for National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) meetings, Elite Giants practices and games, Morgan College graduations, protests at the segregated Ford's Theatre, and so many more events. He also met and photographed prominent African American figures such as Thurgood Marshall, Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Senator Verda Welcome, and Pearl Bailey. Whether important figures were being honored for their good work or were performing in public, they became more accessible through Henderson's photographs.

As a photographer he took just a few shots of each person or event, common practice in the pre-digital age when few could afford the luxury of taking hundreds of pictures at one time. The more than six thousand images in the Henderson Photograph Collection at MdHS make it clear that, although Henderson photographed to earn a living, he genuinely enjoyed his work. His legacy is an unparalleled photographic record of African American city life in the mid-twentieth century.

Inventory lists and select digital images of photographs in the collection may be found on the MdHS website www.mdhs.org. Images will be added frequently.

"Paul Henderson's Baltimore" was first published in the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, 105 (2010): 407–15



Paul Henderson with camera, photographer and date unknown.

Public Libraries Expanding in Eastern and Western Regions

Regional Library Collections of the Eastern Shore and Western Maryland will move into newly renovated repositories next year. Construction projects at the main Talbot County Free Library in Easton and the main Washington County Free Library in Hagerstown are on schedule.

@Hagerstown

Construction on the expansion of the main Washington County Free Library continues, with a few surprises along the way.

In late summer, a buried fuel tank was found and added \$41,000 to construction costs. Total costs will surpass \$16,000,000. Most of the total will be paid by the county, but the state also contributed to the project, which houses the Western Maryland Regional Library, and private donations have been solicited as well.

A happier and less costly find happened in September when a time capsule was unearthed. Buried at 45 years ago when the existing building opened, the capsule was opened before a crowd of 60 at the nearby Bridge of Life Church.

Library Lead Maintenance Technician Jim Widmyer pried open the capsule to reveal what library worker Carol J. Appenzellar proclaimed "a soggy mess".

She and archivist Elizabeth Howe then proceeded to work to salvage the contents which included:

- a photograph, brochure ;program and newspaper clippings on the building of the library;
- library business forms, financial statements, staff directory and reading lists;
- a Hagerstown City Directory and Telephone Directory, Chamber of Commerce Bulletin, and a Washington County Public Schools calendar and staff directory;
- John S. Kausler's "History of City Park", "Bridges: Our Legacy in Stone", and a silver anniversary commemoration of the of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

The contents have been frozen and will be sent out for preservation treatment.

A 2012 time capsule will be placed in the new library expansion as well to which school children will be asked to contribute. The student's work will be preserved in both analogue and digital form which should prove an interesting experiment in digital preservation, the results of which will be known a few more decades in the future



An introduction to Washington County's new main library in 1966.

@Easton

Many of the Talbot County Free Library's Maryland Collections have been stored in the University of Maryland's Hornbake Library at College Park since last fall. Other material remained in Easton at the library's temporary location in a former Black & Decker facility. Some of the public library's circulating material was affected by leaks in the temporary library during Hurricane Irene, but none of the Maryland Collections were damaged.

The Maryland Collections includes original manuscripts from Dixon Preston, Kenneth Carroll and James Michener as well as books, newspapers, maps, pamphlets, periodicals, letters and books related to the history of Talbot and other Eastern Shore counties.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dixon and Mrs. David Lindsay Gillespie began the collections with an initial donation of 1,500 items in 1941. The collection expanded 25 years later when the library acquired the James Clayland Mullikin Marylandia Collection. Today the collections include over 5,000 books and periodicals; over 100 archival containers with manuscript and ephemera; and 165 reels of microfilmed newspapers, tax rolls, church and census records.

The \$5,500,000 building project will expand the library by more than a third to 28,500 square feet of floor space. The present Maryland Room will become the Frederick Douglass Meeting Room and the Maryland Collections will move to a larger space with climate controls.

The expansion was designed by Architect Michael Pones,, partner in Walton Madden Cooper Robinson Pones (WMCPRP) of Lanham. and is being executed by Scheibel Construction of Huntingtown. Library Director Robert Hovarth expects construction to be completed by the end of this year and hopes to open the expanded facility in January.



Marylanders on the Move



Beth inside Katherine Anne Porter's (unused) coffin, one of the treasures of the Literary Manuscripts Collections.

Beth Alvarez will be retiring from the University of Maryland Libraries, where she has served as Curator of Literary Manuscripts since 1993 effective September 30, 2011. Over the years, students, faculty, and researchers have greatly benefited from the care, excellence, and precision that she regularly brought to her work. She has been passionate and dogged in her outreach activities, seizing countless opportunities through public events, exhibits, and other programming to inform, educate, and otherwise bring to her constituencies an understanding and appreciation for special collections.

Beth earned a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland and completed a dissertation on Katherine Anne Porter, whose papers are housed at the University of Maryland Libraries. Beth has also been active in campus activities serving on the Executive Committee of the University Senate, and mentoring numerous staff and students over the years.

In addition to all these things, she has been a die-hard Terp. In retirement, Beth does not plan to go far, and hopes to contribute some of her time towards working on Katherine Anne Porter-related digital projects, and in helping her colleagues adjust to a workplace without the daily benefit of her expertise.

— Jennie Levine Knies, Hornbake Library
University of Maryland, College Park

Robert Shindle bid a fond farewell after 11 years with the Special Collections Department in Langsdale Library at the University of Baltimore (UB). Robert leaves to become the new director of the United Methodist Historical Society of the Baltimore-Washington Conference, established in 1855.

Robert began working in Special Collections as an intern when he was a student at UB. He later returned to work for the Steamship Historical Society of America. After SHSHA moved its collection to Rhode Island, Robert began working in Special Collections as the university's archivist. While on staff at UB, he earned his MLS degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.

He has also worked for St. Mary's Seminary University as administrator of the historic chapel of St. Charles' College, Catonsville, and of the SMSU/Sulpician Archives before it became part of the Associated Archives of SMSU. Although he will be missed at UB, everyone at Langsdale Library wishes Robert the very best as he returns to church history work.

—Tom Hollowak, Langsdale Library
University of Baltimore

@Baltimore City Archives

Much Accomplished – Much More to Do!

Robert W. Schoeberlein, Ph.D., Acting Deputy Archivist,
Baltimore City Archives

In June of 2010, the Maryland State Archives signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Baltimore to administer the Baltimore City Archives. Priority goals included better access to the historical records and the revival of the record management program. The work commenced immediately.

We have accomplished much since the initiation of the project. We are progressing ahead of our timeline to integrate the collections of the Baltimore City Archives into the Maryland State Archives' online *Guide to Government Records*. Descriptions of seventy-six record groups have been entered into the *Guide* on-line catalog. Certain high-demand groups, such as the Mayor's Correspondence (RG 9), have been input to the folder level. In the case of War of 1812 Papers (RG 22), the entirety of this digitized record group may be accessed remotely from the *Guide*. Permanent stack locations have been assigned for hundreds of boxes.

Digitization of previously microfilmed and original paper finding aids is an important part of the on-going effort to provide better access. Commencing in September 2010, our digitization staff have worked diligently to scan and place a variety of finding aids on-line such as LeFurgy's *Guide to the Baltimore City Archives* and the *Guide to Security Microfilm*. In addition, tens of thousands of index cards that comprise the topic and surname files can be accessed and searched on-line (see our website: <http://baltimorecityhistory.net/>).

The on-going revival of the Baltimore City Archives program has generated interest in the academic community and elsewhere. Our efforts to digitize and produce on-line finding aids have helped both to publicize and provide better access to the holdings.

Researchers, some making multiple visits, have pursued information on topics such as World War II civil defense, housing segregation, the desegregation of city parks, civil war soldier relief activities, tuberculosis control, and War of 1812 city defenses. Other visitors have included the former director of The Johns Hopkins University Special Collections, the staff of the Jewish Museum of Maryland, the Maryland Historical Records Advisory Board, and the Maryland Caucus of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC).

[continued next page]

@Baltimore City Archives [continued]

Much of this work has been accomplished through the efforts of a cadre of dedicated volunteers. In August 2010, we first brought together concerned members of the archival community, as well as interested researchers, to form our initial team of part-time catalogers. Entering descriptions into our online catalog is still ongoing and we are always seeking individuals for this task.

Opportunities for volunteer work have expanded over time. One major project involves the preparation of case files from the City Law Department for future digitization. The small, but interesting, photograph and map collections require further accessioning and description. We also have two very large manuscript collections (The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and the Provident Hospital Collections) that need some rehousing. Someone to compile additional subject findings aids would also be welcomed.

If you would like to volunteer, please write to bcavolunteers@gmail.com providing contact information and an idea of when and how much time you might be able to volunteer.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

[TBA]

Winter 2012 _____ @Towson University

Spring 2012 _____ @Johns Hopkins University

MHCC

Maryland History &
Culture Collaborative

NEWSLETTER

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