

## Poets Laureate Past

As Maryland's Third Poet Laureate, Lucille Sales Clifton was responsible for restoring peace between poets and politicians in the state after a generation of controversy surrounding her immediate predecessor.

The post was authorized by the General Assembly in 1959 and Maria Briscoe Croker was the first, appointed by Gov. J. Millard Tawes that year. The controversial Rev. Vincent Godfrey Burns became the second three years later.

Burns was famous for introducing, and possibly ghost-writing, *I Am a Fugitive from a Georgia Chain Gang*. Made into a movie, the story was credited with advancing the cause of prison reform in Georgia and elsewhere. He wrote a sequel, *Out of These Chains*, published in 1942.

By the time of his appointment in 1962, however, Burns had become an active opponent of the Civil Rights movement (which he claimed was a tool of the international communist conspiracy). He supported the campaign of segregationist Democrat George P. Mahoney for Governor in 1966.

Burns was ousted as President of the Maryland State Poetry Society but claimed a lifetime appointment as Poet Laureate and held on to the position until his death in 1979. In his last dozen years, state legislators came to expect an annual battle for control of a small state appropriation to promote poetry.

Clifton served as Poet Laureate for six years, and was succeeded by Edward Reed Whittemore, Jr., who had previously served as Poet Laureate of the United States. In 1991, Linda Pastan was appointed; in 1995, Roland Flint; in 2001, Michael Collier; in 2004, Michael Glaser; and in 2009, Stanley Plumley, the present Poet Laureate of Maryland.

## Lucille Sayles Clifton, Maryland's Third Poet Laureate died in February

Lynn Waller, MLS, MSW, Archivist  
Sylvia Gaither Garrison Library at the  
Banneker-Douglass Museum



Photo courtesy Rachel Eliza Griffiths

Despite her numerous artistic accomplishments, when some people hear her name, they ask: Who is Lucille Clifton?

Lucille Clifton was the first African American Poet Laureate of Maryland. She served in this office from 1979 to 1985. At that time she had just completed five years as poet-in-residence at Coppin State College (now Coppin State University) in Baltimore. After her term as poet laureate she would head west as Professor of Creative Literature and writing at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She returned however, in 1989, as

Distinguished Professor of Literature at St. Mary's College of Maryland. She also held visiting professorships at numerous other universities, including Columbia and Duke, and served as a trustee of the Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Prof. Clifton, in addition, won numerous awards: the National Book Award, the Shelley Memorial Award, the Lannan Literary Award, and many more. Clifton was the first African American female to win the Ruth Lily Poetry Prize in 2007, the judges remarking that "One always feels the looming humaneness around Lucille Clifton's poems—it is a moral quality that some poets have and some don't."

Before she died on February 13, the Poetry Society of America decided to give her the Centennial Frost Metal. The Society paid tribute to her at its award ceremony, April 1, at the National Arts Club in New York.

Clifton's life began in Depew, New York, near Buffalo, July 27, 1936. In her childhood, she experienced sexual abuse and used that horrible episode in her life, as well as the terrible experiences of her mother, her gender, and her people to create great art. Clifton's poetry focused on her race and gender, yet it touched everyone.

Maryland's repository for African American history and culture, the Sylvia Gaither Garrison Library at the Banneker-Douglass Museum, celebrated the life and legacy of Lucille Clifton - a history maker - during National Poetry Month. As poet laureate of Maryland, as a member of the board of Governors of the Poetry Society of America, and as a Chancellor of the American Academy of Poets, she represented Maryland, women, and African American's very well.



How to Find a Book by Maryland's Poets Laureate available from the Enoch Pratt Free Library's Humanities Department.

@McDaniel College, Westminster

For: "Gloom"

From: H.L. Mencken

Barbara O'Brien, Archivist  
Hoover Library, McDaniel College, Westminster

Bertha Estelle Bloom Kubitz Williams aka "Gloom" (1886-1954) is a footnote in American literature. She was born in Frederick County, Maryland, the third of six children. Estelle's family soon moved to New Windsor in Carroll County. Here her family did quite well until her father's suicide in 1898.

At age 11, Estelle went off to work first in a creamery her father had owned and when she was sixteen as a telephone operator. She helped her mother, an invalid, at home with cooking and cleaning. When she wasn't working or cleaning she read dime novel romances popular at the time.

Barely eighteen and filled with wanderlust, romance, and the excitement of the "big city" Estelle left New Windsor for Baltimore. In Baltimore, she joined the Enoch Pratt Free Library where she renewed her love of reading - the one affair that lasted her entire life.

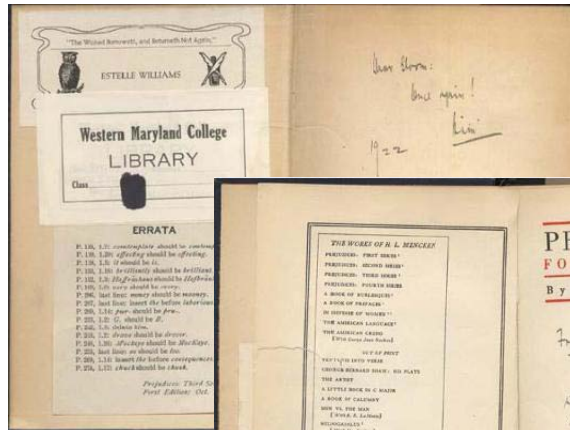
It was also in Baltimore she met her first husband Hans Kubitz. Kubitz was from Germany and Estelle saw him as romantic, exotic, and very handsome. It wasn't to last - in 1913 he abandoned her in Texas as he took off to see the world.

Estelle moved in with her younger sister Marion in Washington, D.C. Here she sought to legally rid herself of Kubitz - a nearly impossible task. She rarely heard from him and when she did, it was often only a postmark that told her where he was.

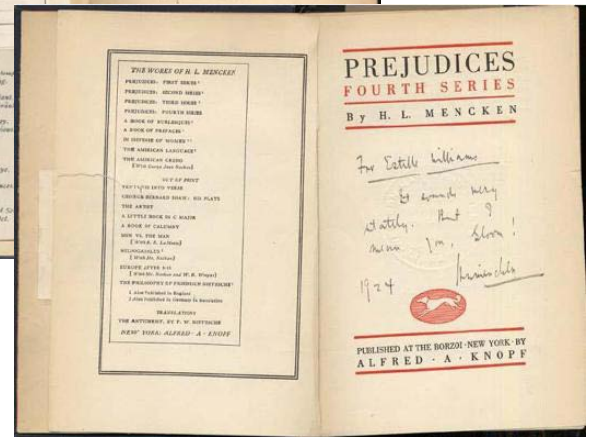
In 1914 it was a postmark from one of these letters that sent Estelle and her sister to the Baltimore Sun newspaper office in hopes of finding Kubitz, listed as victim of a disaster reported by the paper. On this trip, her sister Marion met H.L. Mencken, newspaper columnist, critic, and iconoclast. Marion and Mencken became lovers, an affair that lasted until Marion's impulsive marriage to another in 1923.

Through Marion, Estelle became friendly with Mencken, a friendship that lasted long after Mencken's relationship with Marion ended. Mencken dubbed her "Gloom" referring to the Russian novels she read so avidly.

This collection consists of ten books. Two of the books, which are signed by Mencken, were a gift to the Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) library. The seven books that are the nucleus of this collection were part of Estelle's personal library. They were purchased from the New Windsor Library of Carroll County for the College's circulating collection in January 1955 by Elizabeth



These inscriptions are from two of six books given to Estelle by Mencken



Simkins, Librarian. All but one of these books were a gift to Estelle by Mencken.

- *Newspaper Days: 1899-1906*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1941. Signed first edition.
- *Happy Days: 1880-1892*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1940. Signed first edition.
- *Treatise on Right and Wrong*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1934. First edition.
- *Prejudices: First Series*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1919. Signed.
- *Prejudices: Second Series*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1920. Signed.
- *Prejudices: Third Series*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1922. Signed.
- *Prejudices: Fourth Series*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1924. Signed.
- *Prejudices: Fifth Series*. H. L. Mencken. New York: Alfred A. Knoff, 1926. Signed.
- *The Man Mencken: A Biographical and Critical Survey*. Isaac Goldman. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1925, Signed by Mencken.

Mencken also introduced Estelle to American novelist Theodore Dreiser. Estelle and Dreiser had a torrid affair that lasted three years. "Gloom" and Dreiser, Marion and Mencken reigned as literary couples in New York's social scene and spent summers in New Windsor.

Counseled by Mencken to leave Dreiser because of his infidelities - Estelle stayed on. It was Dreiser who left following a young actress Helen Richardson to California. Dreiser was not true to Helen either but he married her just before he died. In 1923 Estelle married Arthur Williams.

[more from McDaniel on next page](#)>

## Twenty-Five Years and Counting

Lynn Waller, MLS, MSW, Archivist  
Sylvia Gaither Garrison Library at the  
Banneker-Douglass Museum



December 2009 marked the close of the Banneker-Douglass Museum's 25th Anniversary exhibit: *Hidden Treasures*, which featured artifacts from the Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church and the battle to save the historic edifice from being razed. Dedicated February 24, 1984, the original museum was housed within the former church located off Church Circle on Franklin Street. The Victorian-Gothic structure was included in the Annapolis Historic District in 1971 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

The recently completed Banneker-Douglass Museum addition is a four-story addition which uses the nineteenth century brick of the church's north façade as its interior lobby wall. The story of the museum's 25 years is told in *From Cause to Reality: The Banneker-Douglass Museum Story*, a documentary released last year.

On January 16, 2010, the museum unveiled *Portraits of Courage*, showcasing paintings, several of which were commissioned by the Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Inc, of some of the many brave Marylanders of African descent, such as Benjamin Banneker, Frederick Douglass, and Harriett Tubman.

@McDaniel (continued from previous page)

When "Gloom" moved back to New Windsor in 1937 she was alone. Her marriage to Williams ended in divorce after she discovered he was cheating on her, she was no longer communicating with her sister, and her friendship with Mencken had withered. She often went to New York City to visit with friends but made little or no attempt to make friends in New Windsor.

In 1945 she found out she had breast cancer and heard the news of Theodore Dreiser's death. Estelle plummeted into alcoholism and her trips to New York became fewer. She became a recluse only leaving her house to buy books and items she needed. She was found dead by her brother in 1954.

Purchased for the collection was a short biography of Estelle Bloom Kubitz Williams,

- *"Gloom:" A Case for Stella*. R. Bryce Workman. New Windsor, MD: Fountain Publications, 2007.

On January 18, 2010, the Banneker-Douglass Museum partnered with the Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center, the Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County, the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County to sponsor the *Dr. Martin Luther King Day of Service 2010*, where, like Dr. King, participants celebrating his birthday by serving humanity.

Also during the King Holiday weekend, the museum opened *Celestial Praise House for Seneca Village*, featuring a plexiglass sculpture, by two Maryland based artists, Dr. Leslie King-Hammond and Jose Mapily, of a praise house symbolic of Seneca Village, a nineteenth century New York City community founded by African Americans in a portion of what would later become Central Park.

On February 27 and April 10 of this year, young artists received an opportunity to create their own celestial praise house, decorate their medicine bag, and power pack, and have it displayed in the *Celestial Praise House for Seneca Village* exhibit! The young artists, some of whom are elementary school children, work remained on display until the end of May.

On the last Saturday in March, the Banneker-Douglass Museum partnered with the Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center to co-host *The Ladies Hats and Tea*. During this event, the First Lady of Maryland, Judge Katie O'Malley and Master Chief Evelyn Banks from the United States Naval Academy served as the keynote speakers. The ladies also enjoyed performances from singers, dancers, and a saxophonist, all of whom are young members of the Annapolis community.

The archivist of Sylvia Gaither Garrison Library lectured Coppin State University students concerning some of the rare books and manuscripts in the library's holdings, such as a signed copy of *A Century of Negro Migration*, written by Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, the 1787 Baltimore County, Maryland warrant issued for the arrest of an enslaved man named Charles and the *Journal of Negro History*, 1916, volume I, which was the first print of the historic publication.

The staff of Sylvia Gaither Garrison Library displayed and discussed primary source materials from the manuscript collection, such as the government documents detailing the Civil War service of Robert Jones, a member of the United States Colored Troops, and some 19<sup>th</sup> century pictures of African Americans.

The Sylvia Gaither Garrison Library hosted an African American trivia game where nearly 100 middle-school children from the Radical Readers program answered questions concerning African American history.



David Ranzan, University Archivist,  
Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History & Culture,  
Blackwell Library, Salisbury University



## Perdue Museum and Archives

Ground was broken last Fall for SU's new Franklin P. Perdue School of Business. The north wing of the new school, will house BOSS, the Business Outreach Services Suite, and the

Perdue Museum of Business and Entrepreneurship. The museum will provide space in which to exhibit material on the whole spectrum of regional enterprise but its most extensive collection will be the Perdue Archives.

The archives hopes to make many of the Perdue Farms, Inc. business records digitally available. Records include marketing and advertising materials, videos, photographs, posters and even bobble-heads. In addition to three generations of family management of the farms, the archives will document the Perdue family and include ephemera from their other business interests among which are the *Baltimore Orioles* baseball farm teams, the *Delmarva Shorebirds* and the *Bowie Baysox*.



## Nabb Research Center

SU recently acquired the Congressional Papers of Wayne Gilchrest who represented Maryland's first district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1991 to 2009. Prior to his election to

congress, he taught at Kent County High School and, in the spring 2010 semester, the former congress member returned to the classroom. Drawing on his years as a congressional advocate for the environmental conservation of the Chesapeake Bay, he taught a course in SU's Environmental Issues Program, "The Environment and the Political Process".

The Nabb Research Center continues to acquire interesting collections with emphasis on the Delmarva Peninsula. One of these collections, belonging to Brigadier General Mary Willis, contains uniforms she wore from her fatigues to her formal whites and other memorabilia throughout her career.

During the mid-19th century, the woman's domain was the home. Taking care of the family, toiling in the kitchen, and ensuring that the household was clean and presentable were all part of a woman's day-to-day responsibilities. The Nabb's spring exhibit *A Portrait of an Eastern Shore Woman* included vintage dresses, quilts and other items crafted by women from the period. It also drew on diary entries from Clara Gunby, a 19th century southern political activist during the Civil War; as well as charcoal, oil paint, and photographic

## Documenting the Delmarva



Beginning 35 years ago in historic Holloway Hall, Salisbury University has sought to preserve the history and culture of the Delmarva Peninsula.

In 1975, SU (then Salisbury State College) entered into partnership with the Ward Foundation to preserve the artistic legacy of brothers Stephen and Lemuel Travis Ward, Jr. of Crisfield, masters of decoy carving who successfully transitioned that craft into the art of decorative bird carving. The Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art moved from Holloway to its current location on Schumaker Pond in 1992. In addition to its collection of carvings, the facility houses Dyke Wildfowl Art Library of over 500 volumes cataloged by SU's Blackwell Library.

In 1982, history department faculty members Dr. Ray Thompson and Sylvia Bradley started the Archives Center and in 1988, Dr. Polly Stewart from the English department combined her Folklore Archive with the Archives Center, renaming it, Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture. In 1998 the center received a half million dollar endowment from Edward H. Nabb, Sr. and since then has been known as the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.

In November 2007, Salisbury University established an official repository for the historically valuable records of the institution."

portraits of women of all backgrounds, races and ages.

Through images, documentary evidence and memorabilia, another Nabb Spring exhibit, *Sources of Black Community: Family and Faith Exhibit*, offered a picture of family connections, the role of religious institutions and the growth of Delmarva's African American community.

[more from Salisbury on next page](#)>

## @UM Baltimore County

# Patapsco Heritage Cultural Survey and Oral History

Susan Graham, Special Collections Librarian  
Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

In the summer of 2009, the Special Collections department at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County received 26 photographs by Peggy Fox from the project, "The Patapsco Heritage Cultural Survey and Oral History," as a gift from the sponsors of the project, the Friends of the Patapsco Valley & Heritage Greenway, Inc.

"The Patapsco Heritage Cultural Survey and Oral History" project was a collaborative endeavor by photographer Peggy Fox and writer and folklorist Alison Kahn, funded by The Maryland Historical Trust funded in 1997 to document the history, culture, and living traditions in the Patapsco Valley through oral history and photography. From 1997 to 2000, Fox and Kahn captured the voices and faces of senior citizens from various cultural and socio-economic backgrounds, who were longtime residents of the Valley. The accounts of the elders tell the story of the changing way of life in the small mill towns that occupy the region. Fox's "environmental portraits" of the subjects show them in their own setting, to illustrate the strong relationship between the person and his/her environment. The project culminated in the publication of the book *Patapsco: Life Along Maryland's Historic River Valley*, a traveling exhibit, a published catalog

@Salisbury (continued from previous page)

### Salisbury University Galleries

According to [University Galleries](#) Curator Linda Shipp, SU's holdings of twentieth and twenty-first century photographs increased significantly last year with the addition 216 items in two new collections.

Salisbury was among 180 college and university museums to benefit from the Photographic Legacy Program of the [Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts](#). The original Andy Warhol photographs are both color Polaroid images and black and white silver gelatin prints.

The Randolph Collection was given by Mrs. Francis F. Randolph, Jr. in memory of her late husband with whom she enjoyed collecting these works. Included in this collection are works of Shelby Lee Adams, silver gelatin portraits of one family's life in Appalachia; James Natchwey, a self-trained photographer who for the last 20 years has documented war and conflict; Ann Parker Neal, who projects light through fruit, flowers, and vegetables to create images on color-sensitive paper; Greta Pratt, whose favorite subjects include small fairs and family reunions; and pinhole photographer Marian Roth.

from the exhibition at UMBC's Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery entitled, *Patapsco: Portrait of a Valley*, and acceptance into the Local Legacies project that commemorated the Library of Congress Bicentennial. The Patapsco Valley spans Maryland's Baltimore and Howard Counties, occupying the area between Union Dam and Elkridge Landing. The communities represented include Oella, Ellicott City, Relay, and Elkridge, as well as the town of Daniels which was destroyed by Hurricane Agnes in 1972. The Valley is known as the source of Maryland's industrial revolution, and the birthplace of the National Road, which connected the Baltimore area to Illinois. Now a largely a suburban area, during the 18th and 19th centuries it was at once rural, surrounded by farmlands, and a hub of mill industry, where mills, warehouses and factories manufactured flour, cotton, and metals. The Oella mill was still operating until 1972.



Fox's gelatin silver prints depict neighbors, childhood friends, families, groups, and individuals alike. Some are former mill workers, others are local business owners or members of community groups, and most have lived their whole lives in the Valley, with long family histories in the region. They are shown in their homes with their prized possessions, in front of their row houses, in their yards, in local shops, at regional landmarks, and participating in various activities. The photographs not only illustrate the reminiscences of the elders, but stand on their own as strong portraits of real people, providing a glimpse of everyday life in these small towns. Also included in the collection are a few images of Valley residents from the 1920's and 1940's.

### Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art

In April through the first week of May, the museum's LaMay Gallery showcased a retrospective of decoys, decorative carvings and sculpture representing the winning pieces from the [Ward World Championship](#). This year's event at the Ocean City Convention Center on the last weekend in April marked the fortieth in which carvers from around the world have convened on Maryland's eastern shore to compete in categories such as decorative life-size and miniature wildfowl, floating waterfowl, gunning decoys and contemporary antiques.



# Civil War Manuscripts Made Digitally Available

Jennie Levine Knies, Digital Collections Manager  
R. Lee Hornbake Library, University of Maryland, College Park

In the past six months, the University of Maryland Libraries in College Park continued a steady stream of digitization from its special collections. In addition to over a thousand volumes that have been digitized by the Internet Archive, the Libraries are preparing for the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War in 2011 by a concerted effort to digitizing manuscript collections documenting this time in history.

*Civil War in Maryland: Stars, Stripes, and Glory* is a resource guide to the University of Maryland, College Park's manuscript holdings. Researchers may now link to digital images in select collections directly from the finding aids.



Ambrotype of Herman Burhaus and his brother, *Burhaus Family Papers*, Special Collections, University of Maryland Libraries

Herman Burhaus was a volunteer in the 4th New York Union Regiment during the Civil War and was stationed in various cities in the Washington, DC, area. His letters home, as well as some photographs, are now available online through the finding aid to the *Burhaus Family Papers*.

Felix Agnus, a French-born soldier, enlisted in the army in 1861 and built an impressive military career. All 59 manuscripts in Agnus' collection of military records are now available online through the finding aid to the *Felix Agnus Papers*.

John E. Rastall was a Union Lieutenant with the First Regiment, Eastern Shore, Maryland Volunteers during the Civil War. All 128 letters written by Rastall to his family in Milwaukee, Wisconsin detailing his service in Virginia and Maryland, especially on the Eastern Shore, have been digitized and made available through the *John E. Rastall Papers* finding aid – they reveal that Rastall was quite the ladies' man!



More than one member of the Osburn family of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, served in the Civil War. The *Osburn Family Papers* consist of thirteen letters (some with colorful letterhead!) primarily written to Ginnie Osburn by her brothers Lewis and James who served in Maryland regiments of the Union Army during the Civil War. Major

topics within the correspondence include life as a soldier, family concerns, illness, financial worries, travel on the frontier, business prospects, and local news.

A more tragic tale is that of James F. Stepter of Elkton, Maryland, who, unlike the men mentioned above, did not survive the war. Stepter was wounded and captured on May 5, 1864, at the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia. He died while a prisoner of war at Andersonville, Georgia, allegedly on October 4, 1864, leaving behind a wife and family. Fortunately, all twenty-one letters to his wife, Amanda, survived. They are now available through the *James Stepter Papers* finding aid for anyone to read and think about the toll of war.

A number of additional documents, such as diaries and sketchbooks pertaining to the Civil War have also been digitized from our Maryland Manuscripts collection. Highlights include the *John Jacob Omenhausser Civil War Sketchbook* depicting life at the Point Lookout Prison Camp, and the 1864 *Diary of Private Lewis J. Watkins*, 1st Maryland Cavalry, Company A, in which he describes several major battles.



"Crabs," *John Jacob Omenhausser Civil War Sketchbook*, Maryland Manuscripts Collection, Special Collections, University of Maryland Libraries

**more from UM College Park on page 8**



## Dr. Cordell's Confederate Connection

Rich Behles, Historical Collections Librarian,  
Health Sciences & Human Services Library,  
University of Maryland, Baltimore

A researcher from the Sons of Confederate Veterans C.S.S. *Shenandoah* Camp #1820 in faraway Anchorage, Alaska contacted the University of Maryland's Health Sciences & Human Services Library seeking information about the Civil War service of Eugene F. Cordell.

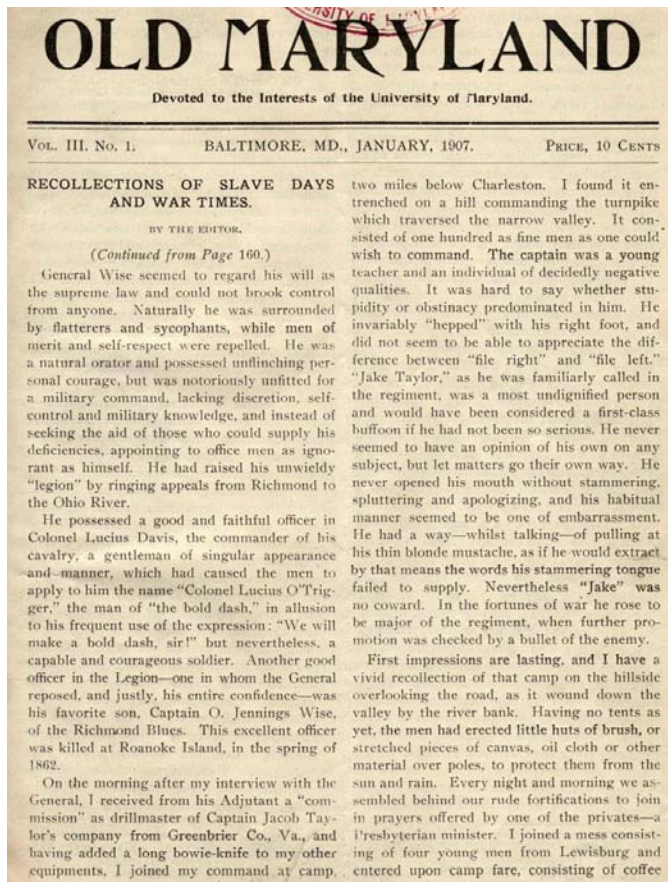
Author of the definitive centennial history of the University of Maryland, as well as "The Medical Annals Of Maryland," Cordell was the University's first librarian, and the person for whom our [Cordell Historical Collection](#) is named.

During his tenure on the faculty of the School of Medicine, Cordell founded the campus periodical *Old Maryland* as a forum that served to unify the various separate professional schools on the Baltimore campus. He recounted his military experiences in the series "Recollections of Slave Days and War Times," which appeared in segments throughout the journal between 1906 and 1912.

This question from the Alaska researcher prompted us to pore through the volumes of *Old Maryland*, and pool together each of the serialized portions of Cordell's "Recollections" which we have scanned them into a single (25.2mb pdf) document now available for viewing from our [Cordell Collection](#) page. We are excited to make available this significant institutional resource.

Born June 25, 1843, in Charlestown, Jefferson County, Virginia, Eugene Fauntleroy Cordell embraced his hometown's fervor for the Confederacy. Intending to enlist, he hiked for several hours one day hoping to join the Stonewall Brigade mustering at Harper's Ferry, only to discover that his father had arrived there surreptitiously ahead of him, forbidding the officers from enlisting Eugene. After some time, however, his father finally acceded to his wishes and consented to his admission into the Virginia Military Institute, which was training young cadets for service.

Eventually joining the 60th Virginia, Cordell participated in several engagements throughout the Kanawha Valley. Wounded at Winchester in September 1864, he later was captured at Waynesboro, eventually spending two nights imprisoned in Baltimore's Fort McHenry before enduring fifteen weeks incarcerated in Fort Delaware. Following the cease-fire, he finally gained his release on June 19, 1865, just shy of his 22nd birthday.



Cordell entered the University of Maryland Medical School in 1866. The program at that time was a two-year course of study, and he successfully received his M.D. at the Commencement held on March 5, 1868. He held the position of "Clinical Clerk" in the University Hospital, for the period 1868-69, and went on to serve as attending physician in the Baltimore General Dispensary from 1869 until 1872.

It was during this period that he served his first stint as Librarian of the [Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland](#) (*Med-Chi*, the state's medical society) from 1870-71. He would again hold that position from 1880-87. He authored the *Historical Sketch of the University of Maryland* in 1891 and *Medical Annals of Maryland*, an exhaustive 889-page compilation of the history of medicine in Maryland published for the centennial of *Med-Chi* in 1899.

In 1903, Dr. Cordell was appointed Professor of the History of Medicine and University Librarian. Under his curatorship the Library grew in size and institutional significance. The growing collections were moved from the Medical College Building, now known as Davidge Hall, to a former church building acquired by the university in 1905, which would be the first building named Davidge Hall.

That building would serve the university's united libraries until 1926. Dr. Cordell served there as the University's Librarian and Historiographer until his death in 1937.

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# @The University of Baltimore Documenting Segregation and Public Housing in Metropolitan Baltimore

Thomas L. Hollowak, Associate Director for Special Collections  
Langsdale Library, University of Baltimore

Sixty years of segregationist policy in Baltimore's public housing left thousands of low-income, African-American children and their families vulnerable, isolated and perpetually locked in unsafe, distressed neighborhoods, suffering the consequences of concentrated poverty.

In 1994, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed a landmark suit on behalf of 14,000 low-income families in the face of the plan by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) to demolish housing projects in the city and rebuild all units in the same segregated, economically depressed locations. The case was partially settled in 1996 allowing that process to go forward, but the plaintiffs' did not agree that the demolition remedied the situation and litigation continued.

After a seven-year delay, the case finally went to trial in 2003. In January of 2005, the court ruled that, while HABC had few options to remedy the situation, since it could not place residents in housing beyond city limits, "through regionalization, HUD had the practical power and leverage to accomplish desegregation through a course of action that Local Defendants could not implement on their own, given their own jurisdictional limitations."

Finding fault with decades of HUD policy-making, Judge Marvin J. Garbis stated that "Baltimore City should not be viewed as an island reservation for use as a container for all of the poor of a contiguous region."

After the trial, the ACLU of Maryland arranged for the transfer of the local and federal defendants' and plaintiffs' exhibits from the case to the University of Baltimore's Special Collections in Langsdale Library. These records were added to the [ACLU of Maryland Records](#) donated in the early 1980s to the University's Baltimore Regional Institute Study Center (BRISC).

During the spring semester 2010, three undergraduate students have been working diligently to digitize all of the *Thompson v. HUD* exhibit documents. The scanning of the plaintiffs' exhibits is now complete; by the end of June 2010, both the local and federal defendants' exhibits will also be available online in pdf format through the [ACLU of Maryland Records Series III listing](#).

As part of the University's strategic plan for civic engage-

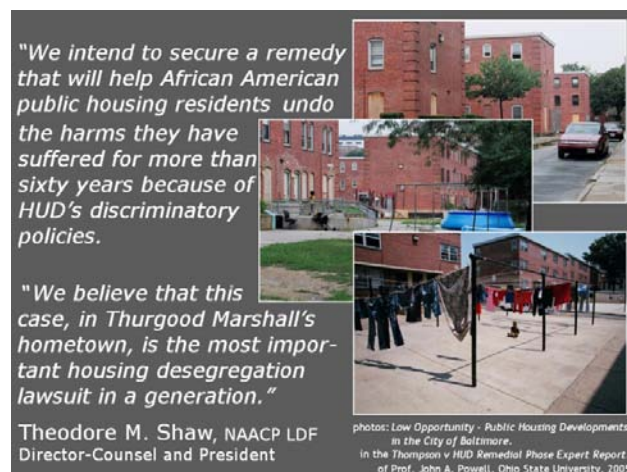
## @UM College Park (continued from page 6)

This October, Assistant University Archivist Jason Speck will publish a pictorial history of the College Park campus. Working with Arcadia Publishing, the book will be part of the company's Campus History Series and be entitled *University of Maryland*. The book features many previously unpublished photographs from the University Archives, as well as other campus sources.

## @UM Baltimore (continued from page 7)

The Health Sciences & Human Services Library (HSHSL) recently received a World War I period photograph depicting the staff of Base Hospital #42. The item came to us through our collaboration with the University's Medical Alumni Association, to whom the donor originally presented it. The Association graciously funded conservation work for the piece, which now hangs outside our Historical Reading Room. Base Hospital #42 originally was organized at the University of Maryland in June, 1917, and subsequently mobilized at Camp Meade on April 1, 1918. The unit arrived at Bazoilles-sur-Meuse, Vosges, France on July 15, 1918, and began receiving and treating patients on the 19th. Our photograph is dated at Camp Meade on April 29, 1919, after the unit had returned from service, and just a few days before being demobilized on May 2, 1919.

HSHSL is moving ahead with plans to develop and mount an institutional repository/digital archive. After consideration of several options, we have decided upon the DSpace open source platform. In-house IT staff are working on appropriate server configurations, and we are learning the mechanical aspects of workflow procedures as we begin to build a pilot database, populated with selections from Historical Collections, as well as faculty publications. Our intent is to market the resource to the various health sciences and social work schools on our campus, as a viable and attractive open-access publication forum for scholarly research.



ment, the Special Collections department has been actively digitizing significant collections on an on-going basis since 2006. Digitized holdings are offered on-line in pdf format and listed on the [Digital Collections webpage](#).



## Baltimore Museum of Art Building and Exhibitions Lantern Slides on-Line

Michael Scott, Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage Project Coordinator  
State Library Resource Center, Enoch Pratt Free Library

The Building and Exhibitions Lantern Slides digital collection from the Baltimore Museum of Art was recently added to the [Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage](#) website. The collection currently includes 31 images documenting the exhibitions and architecture of The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) from its opening in 1923 through the 1950's.

The images in the online collection represent a small selection of the nearly 1,000 glass lantern slides in the museum's archives, a substantial portion of which were digitized as the result of a grant received by the BMA in 2009.

The larger collection also includes images of works in the BMA's collection, regional architecture, decorative arts, the museum's annual exhibitions of Maryland artists (also known as the "All Maryland Show") and one of the country's first exhibitions of African American art held at the BMA in 1939. Images of these exhibits and more will be added to the MDCH digital collection in the future.

Donations from scholars, organizations, and schools helped build the slide collection beginning in the 1920's. To reach out to the community, the slides were circulated to the public through the Museum's Library. A 1939 BMA membership campaign brochure listed the slides as one of eight major services offered by the Museum.

According to the brochure,

"the Museum places at the disposal of Baltimore its collection of some 6,500 slides – illustrating great works of all ages and countries. This collection of slides is in constant use. Groups, clubs and organizations of every type throughout the city draw on the collection for material for their lectures. Teachers in the schools and professors in the colleges borrow the slides and use them before groups that total thousands every year."

The Baltimore Museum of Art was incorporated in 1914, but did not find a suitable home until M. Carey Thomas, longtime companion of philanthropist Mary E. Garrett and executor of her estate, offered Garrett's mansion for rent to the Museum in 1922. After settling into the lovely Victorian home at 101 W. Monument St. near Mount Vernon Place, the BMA opened its first exhibition on February 22, 1923. Views of the Museum in the Garrett Mansion are among the lantern slides. Rarely photographed, the museum remained



China and Glass by  
Baltimore Craftsmen,  
Summer 1924,  
Mrs. Kingsbury & Miss Gross

at that site only until 1929 and the mansion was razed in 1930.

The museum's current home is also represented in the lantern slides. John Russell Pope, the architect of the new building situated on the campus of Johns Hopkins University just across from the Wyman Park Dell, also designed the Jacobs Wing, Antioch Court, and auditorium additions in 1937. Further additions such as the Saidie A. May Young People's Art Center in 1950 helped support the BMA's growing collection and educational mission. These spaces have been moved or changed in ensuing years, but are pictured in their original form in the lantern slides.

The Building and Exhibition Lantern Slides were an important resource for the community through the 1950's, but with the increasing availability of cheaper and less fragile transparencies and 35mm slides by the 1960's, they were moved to storage and eventually transferred to the BMA's [E. Kirkbride Miller Archives & Research Library](#) in 2003.

## Pratt Collections Digitized

The Pratt's collection of [Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century European Maps](#) has been digitized and made available online on the library's Digital Collections webpage. The maps date from 1629-1759, and were done by some of the preeminent mapmakers of the age.

Over 100 new items from the Pratt's [War Posters Collection](#) dating from WWI and WWII have been added to the existing digital collection.

On February, 15 images from the WPA of Maryland digital collection were posted on Pratt's Flickr photostream. The images were quite popular, with numerous Flickr users commenting, tagging, and marking the images as their favorites. More images from other Pratt digital collections will be added to Flickr in coming months.

[more from the Pratt on page 10](#)

## Oral Histories on-line

The first Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage collection comprised of audio/video content provides access to over 40 interviews with longtime Harford County residents.

Sponsored by the Harford County Cultural Arts Board with support from the County Council, the *Living Treasures Oral History Project* is a joint venture involving a number of government offices and agencies. Its goal is to preserve for future generations firsthand accounts of what life in Harford County has been like for previous generations.

Any Harford County resident who is at least 70 years old, and has lived in the county for at least 40 years, can be nominated as a Harford Living Treasure. The project "identifies aging people whose memories of life in Harford County remain vibrant and record these memories for posterity." Nominations are reviewed by the Cultural Arts Board for authenticity and then sent to the Harford County Council for confirmation. Since the program's inception in 1981, over 250 people have been named Living Treasures and presented with Proclamations by the County Council.

Nomination forms are available from the Harford County Public Library. Trained library staff interview confirmed Living Treasures about their life experiences, including their trades, skills, community social events, and childhood memories.

Recordings, transcripts and other memorabilia become part of the library's oral history collection. The *Living Treasures Oral History Collection* is used by school students researching history, families interested in genealogy and those interested in Harford County's rich cultural past.

A second oral history collection will soon join Harford County's on-line. MDCH will be receiving audio files of interviews collected as part of a *StoryCorps* oral history project at Southern Maryland Regional Library. The interviews will be made available in a digital collection on the MDCH website.

In the Baltimore region, MDCH has partnered with the Special Collections Department of the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery at UMBC to digitize and provide online access to a collection of speeches written by Ferdinand C. Latrobe. Latrobe was a Maryland native and an important figure in state politics in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. He served as Mayor of Baltimore seven times, and held several positions at the state level, including Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates. Digitization of approximately twenty of his handwritten speeches and addresses has been completed, and the collection will be published on the MDCH website in the coming months.

MDCH is continuing its partnership with Western Maryland Regional Library, and will be harvesting metadata from some of WHILBR's recent digital collections, starting with *Boyd's Business Directory of Maryland, 1875*. The metadata will be imported into CONTENTdm, and will be searchable on the MDCH website.

## @Western Maryland Regional Library Boyd's Business Directories

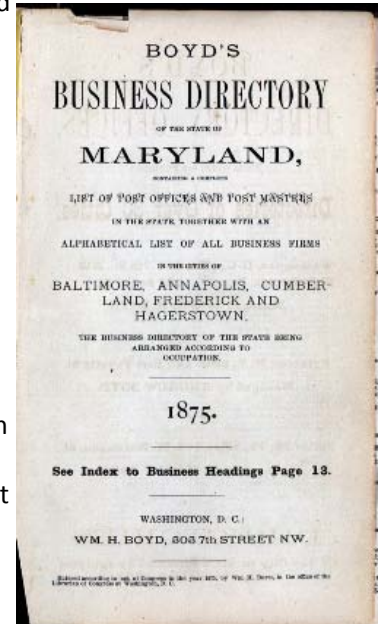
Jill Craig, Digitization Librarian  
Western Maryland Historic Library-WHILBR  
Western Maryland Regional Library

Genealogists can often find interesting snippets about their ancestors from City Directories. Directories were precursors to modern-day phonebooks and contain the names of each adult resident in the town along with their occupation and home addresses.

The first directory for Baltimore was published in 1796 by Thompson & Walker. Cumberland's first was published in 1859-1860. However for most small towns, there are no directories and no records of this nature. But Business Directories list the occupations and businesses throughout the state. Since many of the male citizens were self-employed, the list can contain most of the small town and village residents.

The *1875 Boyd's Business Directory for Maryland* is a case in point. It includes towns like Emmittsburg, Galena, Havre de Grace, Laurel, Manchester, North East, Owings Mills, Port Deposit, Salisbury, St Michaels, Towsontown, Upper Marlborough, and Westminster. In the directory 72 names are listed from Rohersville in Washington County (population twenty years later in 1895 of 225). In Garrett County, the most western county in the state, information on towns not available through City Directories is accessible. Hence Deer Park (179), Swanton (87), Accident (276), and Almont (56) are included (again using populations from Rand McNally, 1895).

The text is now available online at the Western Maryland Regional Library WHILBUR history website at <http://www.whilbr.org/CumberlandHagerstownDirectory1875/index.aspx> or by using the links on the public library websites in Allegany, Garrett and Washington counties.









## Collaborative at Saint Mary's June 2

The Maryland History and Culture Collaborative is headed for Maryland's colonial capitol for its Spring/Summer meeting hosted by St. Mary's College of Maryland.

The meeting will take place Wednesday, June 2 at St. Mary's College Library beginning at 9:30 AM, with the opportunity to tour Historic St. Mary's City in the afternoon.

Kat Ryner, Catalog Librarian/Archivist, will be our gracious host and the library will provide snacks and coffee in the morning. We will go next door to the Campus Center cafeteria for lunch. It is an all-you-can-eat place with sandwich makings, burgers, pizza, etc. (Kat believes that the summer rate for lunch will be about \$8.00.)

In the afternoon, all interested parties can tour Historic St. Mary's City. Admission will be \$10.00.

Directions to St. Mary's College can be found at:

[http://www.smcm.edu/visitors/maps\\_directions.html](http://www.smcm.edu/visitors/maps_directions.html).

On the "campus walking map" the Library is Building 18, and Lot K is the place to park.

Please rsvp via this SurveyMonkey link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/96MZZ7K>

**MHCC**  
Maryland History &  
Culture Collaborative

## NEWSLETTER

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