

# MHCC NEWSLETTER

Maryland History & Culture Collaborative

vol. 3 no.1

WINTER 2012



## Welcome to Towson!

Nadia Nasr,  
University Archivist & Digital Collections Librarian  
Albert S. Cook Library, Towson University

A century ago, the Maryland General Assembly appropriated \$600,000 to build a new home for State Normal School No. 1, then located in the City of Baltimore. The cornerstone of the building, now known as Stephens Hall, was laid the next year on a new campus at Towson in Baltimore County, where the school moved in 1915. Renamed Maryland State Teachers College twenty years later, it became Towson State College in 1960, and a university in 1976.

I am so excited to be hosting our January meeting here at Towson University on Thursday, January 12. The meeting will take place in the Towson Room which is located on the fifth floor of the library (*map*: [www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=CK](http://www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=CK)) and is adjacent to the Special Collections suite.

The best place to park near the library is in the Glen Garage, on Cross Campus Blvd. off of York Rd., just south of the Stephens Hall complex (*map*: [www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=GPG](http://www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=GPG)) There is a parking kiosk on the main level of the garage, and the rate is \$2 per hour. Alternatively, across York Rd. almost equally distant to the Library is Towson



High School, and I understand that it may be possible to park in that neighborhood at no charge.

We will begin with a tour of the library at 10:30 a.m. Those of you who will join me in the morning for the library tour are welcome to come up and drop off personal belongings you would prefer not to lug around with you.

The tour will start on the main floor of the library in front of the elevators. We'll take a quick spin around the main reference/circ area and then make our way down to the second floor to see the Baltimore Hebrew University Library which came to Towson in 2009.

Our tour will culminate back in Special Collections for an overview of the materials and the renovation, which also took place in 2009. When you enter the fifth floor stacks from the elevator lobby and look to your left you will see the new main entrance.

Afterward, we will break for lunch. For those who have not already made meal arrangements, the best options for lunch on campus are the Café in the Administration Building (*map*: [www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=AD](http://www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=AD)) and the facilities in the Union (*map*: [www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=UU](http://www.towson.edu/main/maps/index.asp?id=UU)). Brown bags are welcome as well. Whatever the source, the group will gather together to eat, as being able to chat over lunch is often as helpful as the meeting that takes place.



The Maryland History and Culture Collaborative is an informal gathering of information professionals from throughout the state of Maryland whose job responsibilities include the acquisition, preservation, and management of collections related to Maryland history and culture. The mission of this group is to facilitate collaboration and communication in order to better serve both our institutions and our researchers. Members range from large academic institutions to public libraries, historical societies and other organizations.

Originally conceived at the University of Maryland, College Park, this group, which consists of approximately 75 members, has met several times each year since June 2006, and communicates via an email reflector list ([mdhist@umd.edu](mailto:mdhist@umd.edu)) and through a wiki (<https://wiki.umbc.edu/display/mhcc>).

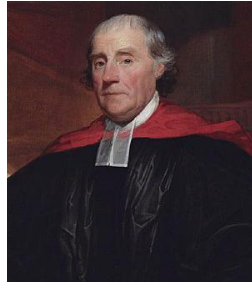
## Out of Many . . . Many!

In December, the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland voted down a merger of the University of Maryland College Park and Baltimore campuses in favor of a “strategic alliance” between the two institutions.

The proposal could have brought about yet another iteration of a state system of higher education which has been formed and reformed throughout most of the state’s history.

### False Starts and Founding

The first University of Maryland chartered by the state was that proposed by the Rev. William Smith (right), who founded two colleges, one on each shore of Chesapeake Bay .



Provost William Smith. Portion of the portrait (1801/1802) by Gilbert Stuart in the University of Pennsylvania Museum.

After founding Washington College at Chestertown and St. John’s College at Annapolis, Provost Smith, who had headed the colonial College of Philadelphia, returned to that institution which had since become the University of Pennsylvania.

The first University of Maryland charter was allowed to lapse in 1807, the two colleges having become independent. The idea of a multi-campus university would not return for a century.

In 1807 a medical college was established in Baltimore, later the founding campus of the University Maryland. At the time, it considered affiliating with nearby St. Mary’s College and Seminary to form a university. Bishop John Carroll was proposed as Provost.



Bishop John Carroll. Portion of the portrait (1804/1805) by Gilbert Stuart in the Georgetown University Library.

However, neither the Catholic institution nor the Catholic bishop took to the idea. Carroll’s educational focus would remain Georgetown, a Jesuit institution after 1815. In 1853, the Jesuits would also take over Baltimore’s undergraduates from St. Mary’s Sulpician Fathers, opening Loyola College.

In 1812, however, the Medical College became the centerpiece of the second University of Maryland, chartered by the General Assembly. A fledgling law school and undergraduate college offered courses sporadically but the

university would continue to cast about for an undergraduate college with which to partner.

In the next century, St. John’s would reenter the picture and Western Maryland (now McDaniel) College; Westminster would be approached before the Land Grant Colleges joined with the Baltimore institution between 1916 and 1920 to finally form a successful multi-campus University of Maryland.

### Land Grant Institutions

In 1857, Charles Benedict Calvert, a descendent of Maryland’s colonial Lords Proprietor and later a Unionist Member of Congress, founded the Maryland Agricultural College at College Park.



Hon. Charles Benedict Calvert from a photograph by Matthew Brady in the Library of Congress

A decade later, the college became the beneficiary of the first Morrill Federal Land Grant.

It would be another generation, 1890, before Congress would require states to extend the benefits of the Land Grants to African Americans. In Maryland, the Princess Anne Academy, established by the African-American Methodists of the Delaware Conference four years earlier, was designated as Maryland’s segregated land-grant institution.

### Normal Schools

The Princess Anne institution had been established with help from co-religionists in the Methodists’ Washington Conference. They had, in 1867, established a biblical institute in Baltimore which, in 1890, became a normal school, Morgan College.

While Morgan remained Methodist affiliated in its first century, the city and state were establishing normal schools for public school teachers. State Normal Schools no. 1 and 2, later Towson and Frostburg, had been established in 1866 and 1898 respectively.

State Normal Schools no. 3 and 4 , later Bowie and Coppin, outgrowths of the Baltimore City Schools founded in 1865 and 1900 respectively, were absorbed by the state in 1908 and 1909.

A fifth state normal school was established on the Eastern Shore at Salisbury in 1925 and Morgan joined the state system in 1939.

## The UM System

By that time the University of Maryland was a system of three campuses and numerous extensions.

The Cooperative Agricultural Extension Service established by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 had extended the Land Grant Colleges' influence to every county. Off-campus Agricultural Research Stations extended the new university's reach as well. In 1925, the Fisheries Research Station became the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory.

In 1966, a fourth UM campus was founded at Catonsville in Baltimore County. In 1970, along with University College, and the original three campuses, it became autonomous. The scope of the Land-Grant institutions had long since expanded beyond agriculture and fisheries. With its autonomous chancellors and campuses, the University of Maryland was no longer a single institution, but a multi-institution system.

## The State Universities & Colleges

The scope of the former normal schools had likewise expanded beyond teacher education. In 1963, the six were placed under a single Board of Trustees for State Colleges. They were joined by St. Mary's College of Maryland, formerly a state supported junior college in St. Mary's County, a year later.

In 1975, the trustees absorbed the University of Baltimore, becoming the State Board for Universities & Colleges. Morgan and Towson State Colleges attained University status the next year. Frostburg, Bowie and Salisbury State Colleges had also attained university status by 1988.

## The University System

In 1988, the state proposed to combine its two university systems into one. All but two affiliated institutions, Morgan and St. Mary's of Maryland, were brought under the UM Board of Regents and UM President John S. Toll, who became the system's first Chancellor.

The University of Maryland System became the University System of Maryland (USM) in 1997.

## Retaining the Record



The libraries of the USM, and the two affiliated institutions, collaborate in a consortium, USMAI. Four years ago Archivists of USMAI libraries formed a community of interest within this consortium to address common concerns

### Institutional Records Management

The USM Central Office had promulgated Records Retention Standards, in 1992. Records Management was assigned to the Administrative Division of each institution, which was to create retention schedules based on the standards to ensure that archival records came to appropriate archives. But then the Central Office eliminated its own Records Manager, and many institutions followed suit, leaving archivists without a working system for retaining inactive records.

More recent records present a problem, even if they find their way to archives. The capabilities of the libraries to handle archival responsibilities vary widely between institutions. Few institutional archives have the means of retaining electronic records in a trusted digital repository, and retention of permanent data in malleable databases presents another technical challenge.

### Documenting Collaboration

The USM and Affiliated Institutions, with their complex and intertwined histories, are becoming even more complex and intertwined in "strategic alliances" and "research partnerships" which sometimes blur lines of responsibility for records.

Shortly after the system was established, for instance, the Agricultural Research & Extension Services were recreated as the Maryland Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources (MIANR). Institutional archives are understandably reluctant to take on unfunded responsibility for other institution's records, and Archivists at UMCP informed the newly autonomous research institute that it should "either develop its own archives program or rely on the State Archives in Annapolis to maintain its permanent records".

As the fate of these records was being considered, however, MIANR suddenly lost its autonomy and was placed back under the UMCP administration, and its records remained in the archives there.

That was a relatively simple issue. But when an autonomous research institution is split up among other institutions, it is less clear which is responsible for its records. Such was case with the UM Biotechnology Institute, which was recently split among four other institutions in the system.

These are just two of the challenges facing archivists and institutions in USMAI. The problems are not, of course, peculiar to Universities. It would seem, in fact, that large research universities are better equipped than most to address the problems of new information technologies.

Through communication and collaboration, archivists hope to bring their common concerns to the table, share workable solutions, and create alliances with those in their institutions and beyond who can aid in maintaining the record of Maryland's unique system of higher education.

## THE CIVIL WAR IN YOUR ATTIC

### Upcoming Scanning Events



[www.mdch.org/civilwar](http://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.

**Thurs. January 19, 10 AM to 5 PM**

**Hoover Library, McDaniel College,**

2 College Hill, Westminster

to schedule an appointment contact

Barbara O'Brien [[bobrien@mcdaniel.edu](mailto:bobrien@mcdaniel.edu)] or 410-857-2793

**Sat. March 10, Times to be announced**

**Albert S. Cook Library, Towson University**

8000 York Rd. Towson

Contact Joyce Garczynski [[jgarczynski@towson.edu](mailto:jgarczynski@towson.edu)]

or 410-704-5168

to schedule an appointment

*Events are currently being planned for Washington, Garrett, and Frederick counties but dates have not yet been set.*

@UM, College Park

## Exhibit and Symposium

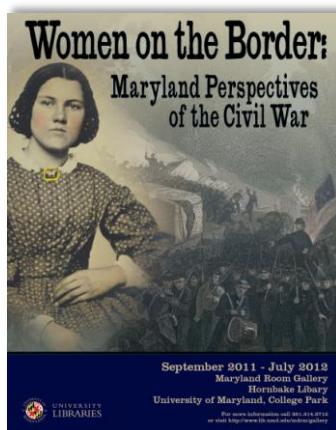
Elizabeth Novara,

Curator of Historical Manuscripts, R. Lee Hornbake Library,  
University of Maryland, College Park

The University Libraries at the University of Maryland, College Park, will host a scholarly symposium on the topic of "Women and the Civil War in Maryland" as part of continuing activities to commemorate the Civil War sesquicentennial.

The symposium will be held on Friday, April 27, 2012, from 9:00am-4:00pm, in Hornbake Library's Nonprint Media Services Room "J". Thavolia Glymph, Associate Professor of History and African American Studies at Duke University, will present the

keynote address.



A light luncheon at the symposium will be provided at no cost to those attendees who RSVP [enovara@umd.edu](mailto:enovara@umd.edu) or 301-314-2712 by Monday, April 16, 2012.

Two panel sessions will focus on the topics of "Women and the Struggle for Freedom in Maryland" and "Women in Civil War-Era Baltimore." Speakers for the panel sessions include

local and national historians and scholars of Maryland Civil War-era history.

The symposium is being organized in connection with an exhibition currently on display in Hornbake Library's Maryland Room Gallery: *Women on the Border: Maryland Perspectives of the Civil War*. A reception in the Ruckert Reception Foyer, just outside of the exhibition gallery, will follow the symposium sessions.

The *Women on the Border* exhibition seeks to demonstrate the importance of viewing American Civil War history through the lens of women's and gender history; to illustrate the particularities of living within the "border state" of Maryland; and to promote a deeper understanding of how historical documents are preserved, used, and interpreted.

*Women on the Border* focuses on the lives and experiences of ordinary women living in the state of Maryland during the war and uses letters, diaries, photographs, sheet music, rare books, and other special collections materials as sources.

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.

Both the symposium and the exhibition are free and open to the public. Members of the University of Maryland community and the general public are invited to attend.

The gallery exhibition will remain on display until July 13, 2012, as will its companion *A College Divided: Maryland Agricultural College and the Civil War*. A digital version of *Women on the Border: Maryland Perspectives of the Civil War* is almost complete and will soon be available at [www.lib.umd.edu/civilwarwomen](http://www.lib.umd.edu/civilwarwomen)

## Ellicott City Has New Home For County Library, Archives

Howard County's new Charles E. Miller Library and Historical Center opened December 17 in Ellicott City. It houses the County Archives and the Research Center of the Howard County Historical Society, as well as the largest branch of the Howard County Public Library.

The new library, just west of its predecessor, increases nearly threefold the library floor space. The existing Miller Library and the Historical Society's research center closed in October.

As designed by Grimm & Parker Architects of Calverton, the building's most prominent feature is a stone superstructure reminiscent of the historic Thomas Viaduct, which carried the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad across the Patapsco into Howard County, and symbolizes the new buildings purpose as a gateway to resources on Howard's natural and cultural history.

As stated in planning documents, the Miller Library is intended to "bring history to life through research opportunities, classes, seminars, and ... become the hub for historical research in Howard County and central Maryland." Groups of up to 300 people can be accommodated at events in the building's conference center. Exhibition space is provided nearby.

Located well outside the historic district of Ellicott City, it is near to the location of the former Enchanted Forest. The library recalls that much loved amusement park in an Enchanted Garden which is due to open in



Main entrance to the new library and historical center (above), Historical Society material and equipment moved in (left) and a sculpture in the Enchanted Garden (right). Howard County Library System photos

the spring. The site's location at the edge of modern development allows for a pastoral view of rural Howard from the second floor outside terrace.

The historical society retains its properties in the historic district, including the Weir Building, which has housed the archives and research center since 1988. That building originally housed the Ellicott Mills Quaker School, features elaborate iron grille work on its porch, and is believed to be the oldest structure in Ellicott City.

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### Obituary



**Edwin Schell**, Historian and Archivist of the Baltimore-Washington Conference, United Methodist Church for 35 years, who also worked in projects on the history of public transit, died in Baltimore November 25, 2011.

A 1952 alumnus of American University, Edwin Austin Schell went to the Theological School of Drew University where he received his graduate degree and was ordained in 1953. Assigned to a Baltimore parish, he was elected President of the Methodist Historical Society five years later.

He would later write that "[v]iewing a disciplined, methodical group such as the Methodists, an outsider might well anticipate that matters of history had ever and always been well cared for, but such is far from the case." He devoted himself to remedying this situation, working toward re-chartering the society in 1961, while at the same time fitting himself to its needs.

He studied in the annual Archives Institute, then led by Ernst Posner, at American University and would recall that "I learned more about archives than I was ever able to apply, but hopefully enough to avoid serious mistakes." He also studied history at American and library cataloging at the University of Maryland.

In 1962 the society was re-chartered and Ed stepped down as President to take the staff position, Executive Secretary, which it had created. For the next 25 years, he would be a part-time historian/archivist, while also serving Baltimore pastorates.

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# HBCU Photographic Preservation Project

Katherine Hayes, University Archivist  
Thurgood Marshall Library, Bowie State University

In October 2011, the Department of Archives and Special Collections at Bowie State University was one of ten institutions selected to participate in the HBCU Photographic Preservation Project, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

All participating HBCUs hold significant, at-risk photographic collections and as part of the project will receive in-depth collection preservation consultations and funding for demonstration projects.

The current grant funds will support Round 2 of a Mellon-funded project that began in 2007. Round 1 included multiple training programs, conservation assessments, and funding for demonstration projects and environmental monitoring at ten HBCUs.

The project partners are the Historically Black Colleges & Universities' Library Alliance (HBCU\_LA), the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA), the University of Delaware's Art Conservation Department (UD\_AC), the Rochester Institute of Technology's Image Permanence Institute (RIT\_IPI) and the Lyrisis Library Network.

The goals of the project are to provide practical training in photograph preservation and environmental monitoring and control, stabilize at-risk photographic collections at HBCUs, and build local preservation capacity within HBCU institutions.

In July 2011, Bowie State University Archivist Katherine Hayes, and Thurgood Marshall Library Associate Director/Interim Dean Marian Rucker-Shamu attended the HBCU Photographic Preservation Symposium at the Woodruff Library at Atlanta University Center. Participants in this 2-day conference were then invited to apply to participate in Round 2.

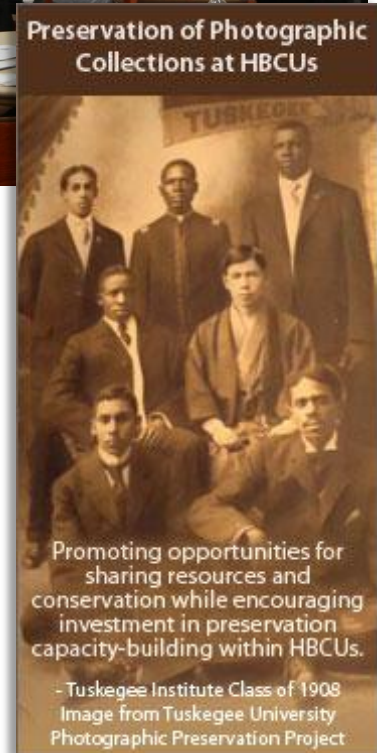
In early December, a photograph conservator from CCAHA visited Bowie State to help archives staff evaluate components of a preservation project, supplies needed for such projects, and



Jessica Keister of CCAHA speaks to a workshop at Bowie State University in December.

materials to be considered for specific conservation treatments, such as mounted panoramic photographs.

This project will also include environmental monitoring consultations and equipment, and support for student internships for the demonstration projects, including a summer institute, to provide additional capacity for the participating HBCUs and to introduce HBCU undergraduates to studies and careers in conservation and preservation.



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## Ellicott City Library, Archives from page 5

The old Miller Library, adjacent to the new structure, will become administrative offices for the county library system. It was Howard County's first permanent public library, built on land donated by Charles E. Miller, a farmer, businessman and philanthropist who served on the county school board, as County Commissioner, and then as County Councilor under Howard's 1968 charter.

Miller's career spanned the period in which Howard developed from a rural county between Baltimore and Washington to the suburban center of the Baltimore-Washington metropolis. When the original library was renovated in 1986, the County Council renamed it in Miller's honor and, twenty years later, the council resolved that any replacement for the original would retain his name.

## Marylanders on the Move

### @University of Baltimore

**Philip Deloria, CA**, has been selected after an exhaustive search, and we are pleased he has accepted the position of University Archivist in the Special Collections Department at Langsdale Library.



Phil graduated in 2007 with an MS in Information [specialization: Archives & Records Management], from the School of Information of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He was the recipient of the Wallace and Joyce Bonk Scholarship.

As an undergraduate at Michigan, Phil spent three years working with the Visual Resources Collection of the Department of the History of Art, while working toward a degree in Classical Archaeology, which he received in 2004.

He has also gained experience working in the University of Michigan Libraries' Papyrus Collection, the Public Health Library and Informatics and, in the Bentley Historical Library, particularly with the Michigan Historical Collections, the University Archives and in the Conservation Lab.

Additionally, he has worked at the University of Michigan Museum of Art and at the Cranbrook Educational Community Archives in Bloomfield Hills,.

Prior to coming to UB he was the archivist at Iron Range Research Center, Minnesota Discovery Center in Chisholm since July 2008 and, before that, was Archivist for Digital Projects and University Records at Ball State University Libraries in Muncie, Indiana, from June 2007.

Phil's professional memberships include: Academy of Certified Archivists; Midwest Archives Conference; and the Society of American Archivists.

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

### @United Methodist Historical Society

**Wanda Barnes Hall**, retired from her position as assistant director of the United Methodist Historical Society of the Baltimore-Washington Conference at the end of 2011.



Wanda's work has made her the face of the Society to countless visitors to the Lovely Lane Museum. She has been particularly appreciated by genealogical researchers with whom she has shared her vast knowledge of resources in our region.

—**Rob Shindle**, Archivist/Director,  
United Methodist Historical Society  
of the Baltimore-Washington Conference

### @Antietam Natl. Battlefield

**Dr. Susan Trail** began her new duties as Superintendent of Antietam National Battlefield on November 21st.



"I am very much looking forward to working with the battlefield's great staff, as well as partners such as the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, the Save Historic Antietam Foundation, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area."

She has served for the past eight years as the superintendent of Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick County and will be returning to Antietam where she was the assistant superintendent for five years.

Dr. Trail is an alumnus of the University of Virginia, the College of William & Mary and the University of Maryland, from which she has a doctorate in American studies. She worked as a National Park Service contract archaeologist on a variety of projects, as supervisory archaeologist at Harpers Ferry, and as Cultural Resources Manager at C&O Canal Natl. Historical Park, before coming to Antietam.

"I am extremely honored to be selected to serve as the new superintendent of Antietam National Battlefield, especially at a time when we will be commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam in September 2012," Trail said.

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### **Obituary** continued from page 5

Leaving his last pastorate, Historic Old Otterbein Church, in 1988, he worked full-time in the archives for the next five years.

In addition to his work in church archives and history, he was a historian of public transit systems who lent time and talent to both the Baltimore Streetcar Museum and the National Capitol Trolley Museum. "In 1935 I became nuts about streetcars and began to collect maps, pictures, timetables" he wrote in 2004, adding "I'm still nuts about streetcars."

His church work covered an era that included the 1966 bicentennial of the first Methodist Societies in America and the 1984 bicentennial of the Baltimore Christmas Conference which actually established the denomination.

Complicating the work were the mergers of the previously segregated Baltimore and Washington Conferences and the merger of the Methodist with the Evangelical United Brethren Church which had deep roots in Baltimore and Western Maryland.

Ed Schell developed an encyclopedic knowledge of the history of all the strands of United Methodist history, which he shared with colleagues and researchers until a week before his death. He also continued to research and write, and had just completed draft histories of Lovely Lane Church and of the United Methodist Historical Society at the time of his death.

## Upcoming Meetings:

Spring 2012 –  
Milton S. Eisenhower Library  
Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore  
TBA

Fall 2012 –  
R. Lee Hornbake Library  
University of Maryland  
TBA

# MHCC

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