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Spring 1997

Caroliniana Columns - Spring 1997

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USCS Newsletter*

*See "From the President's Pen" below for naming the newsletter. Entry form on page 2.

SPRING 1997

From the President's Pen

Our New Arrival Needs a Name

by Harvey S. Teal

This inaugural issue of the University Society Caroliniana Society newsletter bears no name on its masthead. The Society Board thought the membership should be involved in choosing the name and is offering the lucky winner a free one-year membership renewal plus a ticket to our annual reception and dinner. Complete the suggestion form (on page 2) and mail to Allen Stokes. The masthead of the next issue will announce the selected title to all.

Over the years the society supported the development of various printed works to achieve the mission of the South Caroliniana Library and the society. Some examples are annual financial support to the publication of the Henry Laurens and the John C. Calhoun papers and support for letterpress editions of the library's collections. Your board has been seeking avenues of improved service to the membership and felt a society newsletter would help accomplish that objective. Consequently, the board voted at its September meeting to establish a newsletter providing news and information about the society and the South Caroliniana Library.

University Publications is providing assistance with layout and editorial work. South Caroliniana Library staff are also allocating time and expertise to write and edit articles. Susan E. Dick from the library's Modern Political Collections staff is the editor. In this inaugural year, we plan two issues of the newsletter, but may expand the number in the future.

We are interested in receiving feedback from you about the newsletter, or for that matter, any other society or library topic you may wish to address. Letters should be addressed to: Allen Stokes, SCL, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. ☐

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378.75771
C22c



River baptism, Colleton County, n.d. Photograph taken by Beulah Glover, who opened the Foto-Nook in Walterboro in about 1937. Miss Glover photographed events, places, and people all over the state and used many of the images in her articles and books. She also sold her photographs to newspapers and postcard companies. The South Caroliniana Library has over 100 prints and negatives taken by Miss Glover from 1938 until about 1952.

Society's Annual Meeting Scheduled for May

The 61st annual meeting of the University South Caroliniana Society will be held on Saturday, May 17, 1997. Dr. Carol Bleser, Kathryn and Calhoun Lemon Distinguished Professor of History at Clemson University, will deliver the address following the 1 p.m. luncheon and business session in the University's Russell House ballroom. Dr. Bleser's most recent publication is an edition of the correspondence of Maria Bryan Harford Connell entitled *Tokens of Affection: The Letters of a Planter's Daughter in the Old South*. Dr. Bleser will autograph copies of her book at the meeting.

Holding the meeting on Saturday is a departure from the Society's traditional meeting time on Friday evenings. The Society's Executive Council is hopeful that the Saturday date and time will enable more people from out of town to attend the meeting. Columbia is beautiful in May, and there are many other attractions including the University's historic Horseshoe, historic homes, museums, and the botanical gardens at Riverbanks Zoological Park.

Selections from collections that have been acquired through the generosity of the membership of the University South Caroliniana Society will be exhibited at the library which will be open on the day of the annual meeting from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and again after the meeting until 5 p.m. Our "famous punch" will be served at the library from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Invitations to the annual meeting will be mailed in April.

— see Annual Meeting on page 8

New Society Members

June—December 1996

Barnwell County—The Rev. & Mrs. Posey Belcher;
Charleston County—Mr. Pinckney S. Wilkinson;
Kershaw County—Col. Frank K. Babbitt, Jr. and Mrs. John W. Zemp; Oconee County—Mrs. Ann Russell;
Pickens County—Mr. David White;
Richland County—Mrs. Karen E. Donald-Tanney, Mr. William Roefs, and Mr. & Mrs. Emory Williams;
Sumter County—Mrs. Margaret L. Dinkins;
out-of-state—The Rev. Mary W. Anderson, Mr. William L. Gillespie, and Dr. John C. Guilds.

Reception Honors Isadore E. Lourie

by Herbert J. Hartsook

On Wednesday, October 30, 1996 the University South Caroliniana Society and the Thomas Cooper Society hosted a reception for Isadore E. Lourie to honor him for the gift of his personal papers to the library's Modern Political Collections Division. The gala affair drew a standing-room-only crowd that included family, friends, board members of the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina, and legislators and attorneys with whom Lourie has been associated.

A highlight of the event was a surprise visit by Lourie's close friend, and current U.S. Secretary of Education, Dick Riley. In his opening remarks, Riley said: "Izzy and I have had a wonderful life together in public service ... They called our crowd the 'Young Turks.' We didn't have a big crowd, but we had a very active crowd, and I hope an honorable one. Because we were really trying to bring South Carolina into this century ... Izzy Lourie did more to bring people together at a time that was extremely important for this country, and all of us should be forever grateful for that."

Lourie went on to say: "The highlight of my legislative career was those years when I was active with the group called the 'Young Turks' Through the efforts of this group and many others, we were able to be responsible for progressive legislation in the fields of education, senior citizens, consumer protection, economic development, health care, and many other areas, all of which we believed and hoped would have a lasting impression on the social progress of South Carolina. Our commitment to the cause of social and economic justice for all of our citizens was the anchor of our entire legislative program."

Modern Political Collections exists to document South Carolina society and government at the state and national levels. Lourie's life and career span a remarkable period of change in South Carolina's government in



The Honorable Isadore E. Lourie addressing audience. Seated behind him from left to right: Mrs. Susan Lourie; Dr. Ronald E. Bridwell, president, The Thomas Cooper Society; and Mr. Herbert J. Hartsook, curator, Modern Political Collections.

which he was an influential player. His papers will form an important resource for future generations of scholars who will find our recent history just as fascinating as we now find the colonial and Civil War eras. ■

Library Staff Seeks Preservation and Access Grants by Henry Fulmer

The staff of the South Caroliniana Library continues to seek sources of grant funding for projects relating to preservation and access. In July 1996, Manuscripts Librarian Henry Fulmer and Assistant Manuscripts Librarian Beth Bilderback submitted two proposals to the National Endowment for the Humanities' (NEH) Division of Preservation and Access. A separate proposal submitted to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) in October 1996 will be considered at their February 1997 meeting. The fate of all three applications should be known by April 1997.

Both NEH proposals are revisions of applications first submitted in July 1995. Though they were not funded at that time, each received positive endorsements from reviewers, and the funding agency strongly suggested that they be resubmitted. "Cultural Imaging: A Project to Enhance Preservation and Access to the Photographic Collection of the South Caroliniana Library" would initiate a preservation and access program for the library's rich collection of 20,000 historic photographs and

3,000 negatives dating from the 1850s to the present. Goals are three-fold: to ensure long-range preservation of the collection through rehousing in materials suitable for archival storage; to improve access through automation by loading electronic descriptions of each image or group of images into the University of South Carolina's online public access catalog (USCAN); and to develop a comprehensive preservation plan for the photographic collection, including

short-term and long-term recommendations from a consulting photograph conservator.

The second NEH application, "Cultural Crossroads: 18th- and 19th-Century Plantation Systems and Social Order in South Carolina, A Project to Preserve and Enhance Access to Manuscript Collections," would enhance preservation and access to 725 manuscript collections, among which are the library's most

— see *Library* on page 4

Name the Newsletter

You are invited to submit suggestions for the name of the society's newsletter. The winner will receive a free one-year membership renewal plus a ticket to our annual reception and dinner.

Suggested newsletter name: _____

Submitted by: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this form and mail to: Allen Stokes, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208.

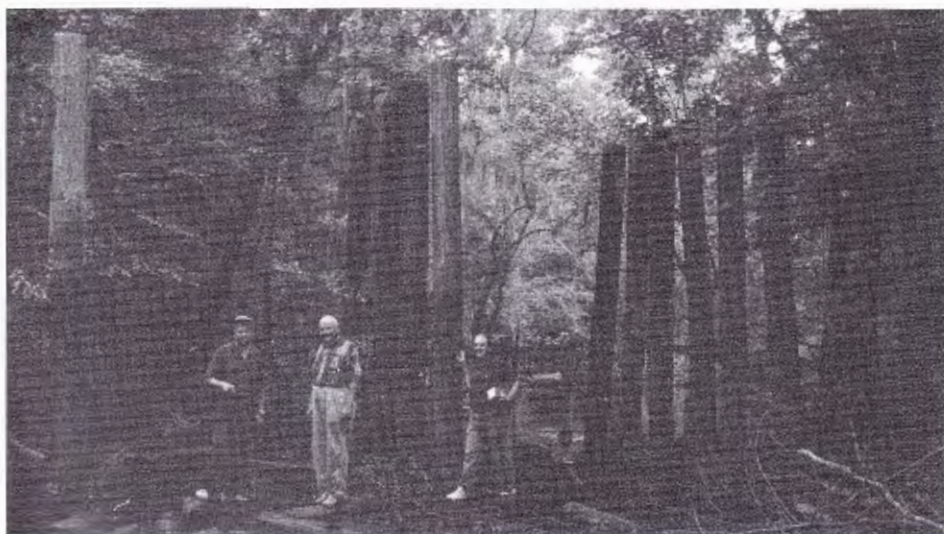
Experiencing History: A Visit to a Railroad "Stonehenge"

by Harvey S. Teal

On one of our occasional trips to an historic site, this past August I took my grandson, Brooks Boswell, to visit Wateree Junction. Located near Wedgefield and the long-abandoned town of Manchester, the site sits at the point where the Wilmington & Manchester Railroad joins the Camden branch of the old South Carolina Railroad line. A few days later I described in some detail this trip to two Camden friends of mine, John Caylor and Colonel Frank Babbitt, Jr. John is president of the Kershaw County Historical Society and Frank is past president, an indication that both are keenly interested in history. Without much persuasion they recruited me to be their tour guide for another visit to the site. I knew Allen Stokes enjoyed opportunities to see historic sites for which the South Caroliniana Library had records and when told of the trip, he quickly agreed to join our "safari".

On a fall day in September Allen and I met John and Frank at the Church of the Holy Cross at Stateburg and proceeded along highway 241 to Middleton Road, about a mile beyond Wedgefield. This road descends to the now abandoned Camden branch of the old South Carolina Railroad about a mile away on the border of the Wateree River swamp. Since this area of Sumter County is a part of the "High Hills of the Santee", we had to descend a couple hundred feet to the swamp border.

Here we saw the antebellum location of Middleton Depot, a siding on the railroad where, over the years, thousands of bales of



Wateree Junction, South Carolina Railroad, near Wedgefield. Pictured (left to right): Harvey Teal, John Caylor, and Allen Stokes.

cotton from local plantations were loaded onto the depot loading dock or onto waiting railroad cars for shipment to Charleston. The bustle of wagons, the hoisting of bales of cotton onto the dock, and the distant whistle of a train were easy to imagine.

Since the rails and cross ties had been removed a few weeks before our visit, all that remained of the railroad was a ribbon of crushed rock stretching through the forest. Along this mile in April 1865, General Edward E. Potter and his Union army discovered nine locomotives and approximately 200 cars from the rolling stock of the Wilmington & Manchester and South Carolina Railroads. His army proceeded to burn, blow up, and otherwise destroy these trains and tracks.

As we began to follow the remains of one branch of the "Y" trestle, a canopy of large trees immediately engulfed us.

During World War II most of the remaining scrap metal from these trains was collected and used in the war effort, though much remained.

Over the past two decades, dozens of collectors

with the aid of metal detectors have removed cannon sites and mounts, cannon balls, Georgia pikes, bayonets, pieces of shrapnel, bullet molds, baggage checks, broken swords, and other weapons. Thinking of these finds inspired our imaginations to conjure up visions of umbrella-shaped clouds filled with pieces of cannon balls and other metal

spiraling skyward as the Yankees blew up and burned the trains and rolling stock.

see "Stonehenge" on page 8

University South Caroliniana Society

Executive Council

Mr. Harvey S. Teal, president (1999)

Dr. Constance Schulz,
vice-president (1997)

Mrs. Katherine Richardson,
vice-president (1999)

Dr. Allen Stokes, secretary/treasurer

Ms. Susan E. Dick, editor

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Caroliniana Website a Treasure for Research by Herbert J. Hartsook

Recently, a Florida woman was searching the Internet for information about her father, Ernst Windmeier. Her search led her to the papers of United States Senator Olin D. Johnston held at the library's Modern Political Collections Division. The finding aid that was posted on the library's website listed her father's name as it appeared in legislation written by Johnston.

In 1955 Johnston authored a bill for the relief of Windmeier, a German-born American who had attended college in Germany prior to the outbreak

of World War II. Windmeier was facing deportation to China following an accusation that he acted as a spy for the Nazis during the war.

The thick file contains a variety of documents, including Windmeier's 1955 plea to Johnston written on receipt of the deportation order, asking that if he was to be deported that he be sent to Germany - "if must be, I will rebuilt [sic] a home in Germany among people not unlike ourselves. To ask my family to join

see Website on page 7

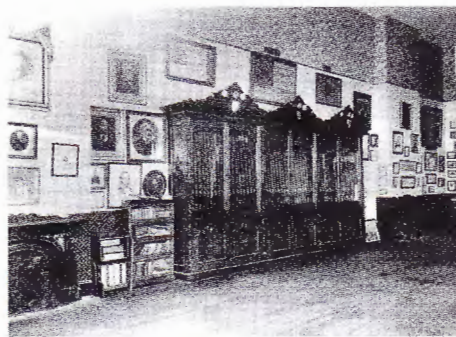
Visual Images — Sometimes a Mystery

by Beth Bilderback

The South Caroliniana Library has been collecting visual images from the earliest days. While this has not been one of its main collecting areas, the library has built a significant collection of photographs, original artwork, and prints such as lithographs and engravings which documents the history of South Carolina and the Southeast. The photograph collection itself contains well over 20,000 prints and 5,000 negatives. During the past few years we have become more aggressive in our collecting and have added an average of 100 images per year.

The library is dedicated to improving the storage of and access to all of its collections, and the photograph collection is not an exception. A grant application to rehouse and convert the catalog records into the University's online system is now being reviewed by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The two-year grant would provide for the staff and materials necessary to complete this project.

The photograph collection is used extensively by publishers, producers, writers, videographers, historical researchers, and genealogists. There are wonderful images, many of which are unknown to researchers because of the limitations of the card catalog or lack of information about the image. Sometimes the information attributed to an image is incorrect. Such a discovery occurred recently. In his research to document the extensive renovations



View #1 of mystery room. Contact Beth Bilderback at 803-777-5183 if you have the answer.

of the State House, Dan Bilderback, who heads up the documentation efforts, located a publication featuring photographs identified as the State House Relic Room. However, the architecture of the room in the pictures was incompatible with that of the actual room in the State House. The publication also identified the photographs as the property of the South Caroliniana Library. After viewing the original photographs in the library, he was no closer to solving the mystery of the identity of the room in the images.

The series of four copy prints show all four views of the room. There is a fireplace at each end, double rows of windows on one side, and series of doors under a row of windows on the other side. Typed on the back of each photograph is "Columbia: State House Interior" - no accession number or other marks. When the photographs were shown to John Bigham, curator of the Relic Room (now located in the War Memorial Building next to the library), he



View #2 of unidentified room. Can you identify this room? Help us solve the mystery.

immediately confirmed that the collection on display in the photographs did not belong to the Relic Room. So now the search is on to identify the collection and the room in the prints. Two of the four images are reproduced here. Anyone who recognizes them should contact Beth Bilderback at 803-777-5183 or write to her at the library. We hope to publish the correct information in a future issue! ■

Library continued

frequently consulted 18th- and 19th-century materials documenting the origins and development of the Palmetto State's plantation-based social and economic system and the institution of slavery that supported it. The project has three main goals: to stabilize their micro-environment by rehousing items using archival materials; to enhance intellectual control through the revision or production of collection inventories and descriptions; and to increase access by loading collection-level descriptions to USCAN and OCLC, a national bibliographic database.

The NHPRC proposal, "Accessing the Emerging South: A Project to Enhance Access to Unprocessed Manuscript Collections in the South Caroliniana Library," is designed to provide appropriate physical and intellectual access to large collections held in the library's backlog of heretofore unprocessed manuscript materials. The collections identified for this project would take too much time to be arranged and described by the library staff without outside assistance. Each is estimated to require in excess of 200 hours of processing time, the equivalent, on average, of a

full-time employee's entire attention for two months. Project goals call for materials to be sorted to the file or item level and physically rehoused in archival folders and boxes. In addition, detailed inventories will be prepared and collection-level machine-readable catalog records will be loaded to USCAN and the OCLC databases.

The Library's Books Division has been selected to participate in a SOLINET/ASERL Cooperative Preservation Microfilming Project which is awaiting funding approval from NEH. If approved, the project will fund preservation microfilming of approximately 800 catalogs from South Carolina colleges and academies plus some fifty 19th-century language and literature monographs from the University's South Carolina College collection.

Past grants received by the library include a three-year award from NEH that made possible the South Carolina Newspaper Project and two one-year grants from NHPRC that funded the initial phases of retrospective conversion of the Manuscripts Division's card catalog to electronic format. ■

The McDonald Furman Papers, 1889-1903

by Terry Lipscomb

McDonald Furman, a descendant of Richard Furman, was a history enthusiast with a taste for anthropology. Regarded as an eccentric by contemporary South Carolinians, he was held in high regard by the Smithsonian Institution Bureau of Ethnology. His research on South Carolina blacks and Indians fascinated the noted ethnologists Albert Gatschet and James A. Mooney.

Today, Furman's work is not easily accessible. He never published a book or even a lengthy article, and said that his aim was "every now & then, to write short and pointed articles about some historical subject." Most of these appeared in the Sumter *Watchman and Southron*, *The State*, and the *News and Courier*, and they are now scattered through microfilmed newspapers and clippings in archival collections.

Furman's papers are one of the South Caroliniana Library's oldest accessions. Included in the original accession of 424 manuscripts are his diary (1878-1903) and drafts of his articles. Two boxes of letters from William A. Courtenay and Edward McCrady about publication of the state's colonial records and McCrady's history of the Revolution reflect Furman's life-long interest in South Carolina history and politics.

Recently, the library added 133 Furman letters and clippings relating to his fascination with the Sumter County "Redbones" or "Old Issues." He wrote many letters and articles trying to track down the history of these strange people who lived in Privateer Township near Furman's plantation. As he explained to his readers, "They are a mixed race and have never been slaves. They are supposed to be descendants of Indians and negroes, but nothing is definitely known of their origin."

"It seems the irony of fate," he continued, "that we should have cyclopaedias giving accounts of races in which we are not interested, and with which we will never come in contact, when right here in our State we have a peculiar race about which comparatively little seems to be known, and yet it is a race which is worthy of ethnological research."

The manuscripts record Furman's investigations of common Redbone family names like Goins, Chavis, and Oxendine, and his correspondence with authorities on similar and possibly related ethnic groups. Hamilton McMillan of Red Springs, North Carolina, sent material concerning the Croatan (Lumbee) Indians, and Dr. Swan Burnett sent an article on the Melungeons of East Tennessee. One item recounts James Mooney's theory of Portuguese ancestry for the Pamunkeys, Croatans, Melungeons, and other groups.

Some items are of outstanding historical value. On May 27, 1897, *The State* published Furman's sketch of James Edward Smiling, a Redbone who represented Sumter County in the radical legislature from 1868 to 1870. Information on Reconstruction figures like Smiling is often hard to find.

In 1893 J. A. W. Thomas sent Furman information on mixed breeds near Bennettsville. "Of course the people of 'mixed breed,' that we have among us in Marlborough," Thomas wrote, "are not known as 'Redbones,' and not until recently have they been called 'Croatan,' a name which some of them are now adopting. For generations they have claimed to have been of 'Portuguese' extraction, while more commonly the white people have thought them Mulattoes." Some had fought in the Revolution and won the respect of the whites. "And the consequence has been," Thomas explained, "that their complexion, their circumstances and general characteristics wonderfully improved, until now they are scarcely recognized as having 'mixed blood' in their veins."

Often, however, Furman's search yielded evidence of criminal activity. His clippings contained frequent references to murders and lynchings, and sometimes they related bizarre prosecutions under the miscegenation laws of the Jim Crow era.

The Bureau of Ethnology told Furman that if he would write a monograph on the Redbones and supply photographs, they would find money to print it. But when Furman died in 1904, his best printed summary of his findings was an 1896 article in the Sumter paper. James Mooney thought the piece significant and

inserted a notice of it in the July 1896 issue of *American Anthropologist*.

"While these people are classed with the negroes," Furman concluded, "their features & color as a race show unmistakeable evidence of white or Indian blood, or both. They are certainly an isolated people & I repeat here what I said in a communication to the *News & Courier* & the *Columbia State* a few months ago - that as a people, they are, if anything, more apart to themselves than are the Hebrews of our State."

Holman Endowment Supports Library

The Arthur Elliott Holman, Jr., Acquisition and Preservation Endowment was established for the South Caroliniana Library by A. Elliott Holman III on August 19, 1996, the occasion of his father's 80th birthday. Proceeds from the endowment will be used for new acquisitions and for the preservation of current holdings in the areas of Mr. Holman's interests, such as the Episcopal church, music and the arts, Anderson County, and other aspects of South Carolina history. This year, *An Historical Account of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina, from the First Settlement of the Province, to the War of the Revolution...* will be preserved with funds from this account. The volume was written by Frederick Dalcho in 1820 and was presented to the University by its former president, J. Rion McKissick.

The Holman family has a history of supporting the South Caroliniana Library, beginning with Mrs. Arthur Elliott Holman who was a charter member of the University South Caroliniana Society in 1936. Mr. and Mrs. A. Elliott Holman, Jr., are currently members of the society. Mr. A. Elliott Holman is continuing his family's tradition by establishing this endowment to benefit students and researchers at the South Caroliniana Library for years to come.

Archives Work to Preserve University's History

by Elizabeth Cassidy

The University of South Carolina Archives were established in 1976 as a unit of the McKissick Museums whose purpose was to house under one roof the University's collections relating to art, science, and history. In May 1993, the archives, now the Department of Archives and Records Management, became part of the South Caroliniana Library and physically relocated to the Annex at 720 College Street.

During the early months of the archives' existence, approximately 1,000 cubic feet of records were located and transferred to the areas in McKissick Museum designated for archival storage. Key groups of records which were transferred include those of the USC Board of Trustees and the Office of the President, as well as the minutes of faculty meetings. Due to the long absence of an organized archival program, some of the University's historic records had been stored haphazardly over the years in the basements and attics of campus buildings.

As a result, some valuable documents did not survive, and many others suffer from water, mold, and insect damage.

As these documents and photographs are processed, insights into important events and eras in the history of the University and the state of South Carolina have been rediscovered. Records from the 1800s shed light on the college years of such important Southern statesmen as Preston Brooks, James L. Petigru, and Wade Hampton III. A collection of 19th-century documents from student literary societies reveals much about the mores and political views of that period's Southern youth. The effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction on the University and the state are also recorded

in these materials as is the traumatic arrival of coeducation in the 1890s.

Twentieth-century records detail the transformation of a small Southern college with an enrollment of under 300 students into a modern university which now ranks among the 100 largest in the country. Documented in the archives' holdings are the steps which led toward the integration of the University in the 1960s,



This cigar-smoking foursome graduated from South Carolina College in 1884 and were known in their college days as "The Immortal Four." As it turned out, Adolphus Fuller (lower right) of Mountville, Laurens County, was named Carolina's oldest living graduate in 1956, at the age of 94. In 1883 or 1884 he posed with his three best friends, Alexander Boyce Marion of Chester, James Beaufort (Jim) Davies of York, and Guy Warren McBride of Sumter.

including the successful efforts of the University and the surrounding community to prevent the racial violence that was prevalent elsewhere at that time. The recent history of the University, including further diversification of the student body with the increasing enrollment of foreign students in the early 1970s, can be studied as well.

The archives also house a variety of publications produced by academic and administrative departments, the Alumni Association, and student organizations. Of particular value to researchers are the

University's annual reports, the *Garnet and Black* yearbooks, and the *Gamecock* newspaper, as well as commencement programs, broadsides, photographs, posters, maps, and blueprints.

The Department of Archives and Records Management schedules the records generated in the various academic and administrative departments and identifies which records can be destroyed after a specified time. Records series which have permanent historical value are transferred to the archives. This ongoing effort will enable future researchers to study topics relating to the continuing development of the University. As of this date, 20 departments are participating in the records management program, with the eventual goal of full participation by all depart-

ments of the eight USC campuses.

The archives provide reference services to students, faculty, staff, and the general public and produces exhibits in cooperation with the South Caroliniana Library and McKissick Museum. An exhibit on the first one hundred years of student life at USC is currently on display at McKissick. ■

Manuscripts Division Improves Electronic Access to Collections

by Brian J. Cuthrell

The Manuscripts Division of the South Caroliniana Library recently completed the third year of a retrospective conversion project to improve access to and increase awareness of holdings in the library. The project began in 1994 as a cooperative grant-funded venture with the South Carolina Historical Society, the Avery Research Institute for African American Studies, and the College of Charleston. After two years of grant funding, the University of South Carolina confirmed its support of the project by establishing the permanent position of manuscripts cataloger, insuring continuation of the retrospective conversion.

More than 2,000 collections held by the South Caroliniana Library now appear in USCAN, the online public access catalog of the University's libraries. USCAN provides the researcher with a list of materials in various formats. Someone researching the history of Spartanburg County, S.C. will now find in USCAN a list of relevant books and newspapers, in addition to the letters, diaries, and records of Spartanburg residents which are held by the Manuscripts Division. Benefits of the project include an improved level of description, increased access to various topics, and a higher profile for the library in the state-wide network of the university libraries system. These benefits attract new researchers to the collections.

Many manuscript descriptions now found in USCAN include a section labeled "Background" which gives biographical information germane to

see Manuscripts on page 8

Now You See Them, Now You Don't: the Reading Room's Student Assistants by Robin Copp

Visitors to the Reading Room frequently find smiling young faces behind the desk. When they return later the young people are nowhere to be seen. Who are these men and women manning the desk at irregular intervals? They are our valuable student assistants, who perform innumerable tasks to make patron visits more productive and enjoyable.

A fascination for books and libraries makes **Anand Gurumoorthy** a perfect match with the South Caroliniana. As he states it "the historical nature and contents of this library

have bred in me an awareness of America's amazing and glorious heritage." Anand is the graduate student responsible for filling most of our photoduplication orders. A real whiz with the microfilm reader/printer, he also carefully photocopies manuscripts and books. A native of Tirunelveli, a

small town in Southern India, Anand went to school there and in Bombay. He completed his undergraduate studies in electrical engineering at the Central Electrochemical Research Institute, a national laboratory in South India. Anand entered the chemical engineering graduate studies program at the University of South Carolina in the spring of 1995, switching to computer engineering last Fall. He hopes to apply his graduate training in the specialized areas of chemical process stimulation and computer-based chemical control systems by obtaining a dual degree in both chemistry and computer engineering. Anand will be leaving the Caroliniana to pursue a doctorate degree in chemical engineering at the University of Houston.

Denise Marie Barcomb, originally from Derby, Connecticut, but a resident of Spartanburg for the last five years, assists Mae Jones in processing new books, typing the neat labels you find on our materials, making phase boxes to preserve books, and replacing pamphlet and small item enclosures with archival mylar envelopes. In addition to these duties, she helps patrons at the desk and reshelves books. During her freshman year at Converse College, she worked in the college library. Denise transferred

to USC this fall as a sophomore and immediately began working at the Caroliniana. Majoring in English, she hopes to attend graduate school in library and information science. She says working "gives me extra experience with a non-circulating library as well as with other duties."

Aimee Berry is from Neeses, a small town in Orangeburg County. Currently an Honors College senior, she is majoring in anthropology with her special interest being historical

anthropology. Her minor is history, focusing on South Carolina history, and her senior thesis topic is the oral history of Neeses. Following graduation in May, Aimee hopes to enter graduate school in the Applied History Program. She is vitally interested in helping the people in Neeses and Orangeburg County

learn about and preserve their past, and is excited that the county will be a part of the Heritage Corridor. Aimee assists Dr. Tom Johnson with the vertical files, photocopying, and numerous other tasks. She says, "I enjoy working with the letters and papers of famous South Carolinians that I had previously only read about." Aimee can be seen in and about the Reading Room most days, at the photocopy machines, and on the desk one Saturday a month.

Although born in Washington, D.C., **William David Fetty** known as Billy, is almost a native of Columbia since he has lived in the city for 12 years. While attending St. Andrew's Middle School, he participated in National History Day, researching his topic at the Library of Congress. Billy graduated from Columbia High in 1995, entered USC and began working at the Caroliniana, where he serves on the desk, reshelves books, and helps with the photocopy orders. His assistance on projects is especially noteworthy, recently compiling a list of the city directories in our holdings as well as doing the title searching for a large book collection. Billy likes the "pressure free atmosphere of the South Caroliniana, being able to know everyone I work with, and feeling a better sense of my own value because I can help patrons."

Now that you have met our able assistants, please do speak to them when you are in the library. Each Saturday a month finds one of the four on duty. But their other hours are scattered throughout the week, which is one reason why you see them, then you don't. But they are here daily, each doing their jobs well. We are lucky to have such congenial, able assistants and hope that you will get to know them even better. ■

Website continued

me in a land as unfamiliar as China is unthinkable." Due to Johnston's intervention, Windmeier was permitted to remain in the States with his American-born wife and children. He died of brain cancer in 1959, when our correspondent was only six years old.

The magic of the Internet helped our researcher locate documents which shed some light on the details of a poorly remembered piece of family history.

Among the many changes taking place at the library as we enter the computer age is the way in which we advertise our holdings to researchers across the globe by posting the descriptions of collections on the library's website. In addition to learning the library's hours of operation, location, and use procedures, drivers on the information super-highway can peruse the electronic finding aids to major holdings and, via electronic mail, contact the library with research queries. You can access the Library's home page at <http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/> ■

Membership in the society is by invitation. Any officer or member of the society may nominate persons interested in the society's work. Please submit nominee's name and address to

Allen Stokes
South Caroliniana Library
University of South Carolina,
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Plans Are Set for 1997 Landmark Conference

The Marlborough Historical Society and the Marlboro County Historic Preservation Commission will serve as the local hosts for the 1997 Landmark Conference, "Steppin' In High Cotton," April 17-19, in Bennettsville. The tentative schedule for the conference includes:

Thursday, April 17: tour of downtown Bennettsville, dinner in local homes, overview of area, candlelight reception at Jennings-Brown House.

Friday, April 18: business session, educational sessions on care and use of old photographs, lunch, and an organ recital at First United Methodist Church. Plus, a tour of homes, reception, awards banquet, and entertainment at the Marlboro Country Club.

Saturday, April 19: tour of county homes and buildings, picnic lunch.

For more information, contact Ben Hornsby, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 803-734-8577. ■

Annual Meeting continued

Library staff are currently working on the report of acquisitions for the year 1996. Every department of the library has been busy this year. Modern Political Collections, the Manuscripts Division, and the Book Division have added important materials that will be permanently available for scholarly research. In addition to gifts donated by members and friends of the library, materials have been acquired through purchase from book and manuscript dealers from California to North and South Carolina by our field archivist, library staff, and acquisitions volunteers.

We look forward to your attendance at the annual meeting to hear Dr. Bleser's address, to renew acquaintances with friends from other areas of the state, and to view the exhibit of recently acquired materials. ■

"Stonehenge" continued

At the end of this crushed rock mile the railroad began a bend to the right as its route headed to the Wateree River channel over a mile in the distance. At this bend in 1854, the completed Wilmington & Manchester Railroad joined the Camden branch of the South Carolina Railroad. A "Y" track was constructed whereby trains could enter the South Carolina Railroad track, back down that track, and then return to the Wilmington & Manchester line by the other prong of the "Y" track; in other words, it was a turn-around.

In the bend there were two trestles on the South Carolina Railroad and three on the Wilmington & Manchester. Much of the "Y" track on the Wilmington & Manchester was located along and over two creeks, requiring it to be "trestled." As we began to follow the remains of one branch of the "Y" trestle, a canopy of large trees immediately engulfed us. The pilings of the long abandoned railroad rose to a height of about eight to twelve feet above us, creating a ghostly, shadowy "Stonehenge" in two parallel lines through gums, oaks, poplars, and cypresses. We were at Wateree Junction where two of South Carolina's antebellum railroads joined! ■

Manuscripts continued

a better understanding of the description that follows. For example, the description for the papers of Robert Johnson (1677-1735) includes dates of his terms as proprietary and royal governor. These new and improved record descriptions reflect efforts to provide the context in which the correspondent or diarist wrote. The electronic format allows greater description of this context by allowing for more subject entries than is possible in the traditional card catalog. The number of access points which are available results in a greater number of names which can be included in a description, whether they be family correspondents, business clients, or witnesses to the signing of a will.

With the keyword searching capabilities available in USCAN, researchers now enjoy far greater access to topics than was possible with the three access points used in traditional card catalogs. Expansion of the number of topical subjects allows the researcher greater access to many topics not widely studied at the time many of these collections were originally described.

Over 150 years ago, each railroad had been created with much publicity and promise and now both lay abandoned before us. As we stood at the junction, in our minds' eyes the long trains filled with cotton, lumber, and other goods and trains carrying Confederate soldiers passed in review. In a passenger car window we "saw" Colonel and Mrs. Chesnut on their way from Camden to Columbia.

At this site we experienced history in a way that gave new life to the words in history books. To see the swamps, the abandoned railroads, the Wateree Junction, the site of Middleton Depot, the site of Potter's destruction of the trains in 1865, and now to understand the geography surrounding these sites, all located within a mile and a half of each other, was an experience we will cherish and always remember. This trip also gave Allen and me a pleasant change of pace from reading old manuscripts or microfilm screens.

If you wish to enrich your visits to historic sites, visit the South Caroliniana Library and consult our many collections. Our library features one of the most comprehensive collections of information about South Carolina historical subjects, including historic sites. A capable, cooperative, professional staff waits to serve you. ■

New descriptions note materials of interest to researchers studying the history of such diverse topics as agriculture, labor, industry, African-Americans, and women, to name but a few.

Frequently, a physical inspection of the item results in a more refined description which is then reflected in the electronic description. Reading the shelves in this fashion brought to light a number of previously uncataloged items. One such find is a hand-drawn map dating to the 1780s titled, "A Representation of the County of Spartanburgh." The map records boundaries between North Carolina, the Enoree River, and "Indian territory," now Greenville County. Detailed drawings record locations of saw and gristmills, a forge, and houses, including the Moore family's home, Walnut Grove plantation.

For more information on the South Caroliniana Library's holdings of books, manuscripts, Modern Political Collections, and university archives, please visit our home page on the World Wide Web: <http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/> ■