

African-American and Third World Archivists Roundtable

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7. No. 2.

August 1993

PRESERVATION AND ACCESS PROGRAM FOR HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Clifford L. Muse, Jr.

A significant, and much needed, workshop was held in Washington, D.C. during March 31-April 4, 1993. The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) sponsored a workshop on archival access and preservation. Representatives from twenty (20) historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) attended the workshop covering the archival topics of accessioning, arrangement, description, and preservation. Brenda Banks of the Georgia Department of Archives and History and Donald West of the Avery Research Center, SAA members of the Roundtable, served as the principal instructors during this valuable workshop. Clifford L. Muse, Jr., Howard University Archivist and current Chair of the Roundtable, spoke about the important connection between records management and archival management.

Several chief executives of HBCUs participated in the presidential panel and there were key addresses from NEH and NAFEO officials. The primary purpose of the workshop was to assist HBCUs in developing archival programs or improving existing ones through special training and financial assistance. Ten (10) of the twenty (20) schools attending the workshop have been selected to receive \$1000.00 grants for use in their archival programs and the use

(See NEH - page 7)

AATWAR IN NEW ORLEANS SEPTEMBER 1 - 5, 1993

As in previous years, the Roundtable will make an important contribution to understanding archival issues and perspectives during the annual SAA meeting. The AATWAR brainstorming session in Montreal, Canada generated a number of ideas for proposals for the New Orleans meeting. The New Orleans program reflects the success of AATWAR's efforts to develop top quality program sessions. This year's successful AATWAR sessions include: "Starting From Scratch: Establishing an Archives/Research Facility (Session No. 22); "Different Approaches to African American Women's History (Session No. 50); Afrocentricity: Strategies for Documenting African Americans (Session No. 60); and "Policies on Research Access to Unprocessed Collections (Session No. 73). Additional program sessions in which AATWAR members will participate include: "Let the Record Speak: Myths and

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**PEOPLE, PLACES,
PROJECTS,
PUBLICATIONS, AND
EVENTS**

Karen L. Jefferson, Curator of Manuscripts at the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, and co-editor of the AATWAR Newsletter, joined the staff as a Program Officer for the Division of Preservation and Access of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Karen will be at NEH from July 1, 1993 to June 30, 1994. During this time her chief responsibility will be evaluating grant proposals for institutions seeking funding for projects to preserve and/or make accessible significant research collections documenting the humanities. She has written and spoken on issues pertaining to the history and management of archives and special collections, as well as on the particular problems facing institutions entrusted with the care of materials important to the study of African American history and culture. Karen is a member and currently the secretary of the Academy of Certified Archivists. During her absence, **Ms. Joellen El Bashir** will serve as Acting Curator of the Manuscript Division of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center. Joellen is co-editor of the AATWAR Newsletter, and has served as Senior Manuscript Librarian for the MSRC Manuscript Division since 1988.

Brenda S. Banks was welcomed as the newest member of the National Historical Publica-

tions and Records Commission (NHPRC) at its February 1993 meeting. Brenda, who is Assistant Director of the Georgia Department of Archives and History in Atlanta, represents the National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators (NAGARA). She is also a member of the Council of SAA and served as team leader for the Clinton NARA transition team.

Florence E. Borders, Archivist at the Center for African and American Studies, Southern University in New Orleans, presented a paper entitled, "Dishwater Images; Black Women in Colonial Louisiana" at the New Orleans meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association. And she contributed to Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia, edited by Darlene Clark Hine. Florence is also director of a 7-lecture series on "Blacks in New Orleans: Colonials and Citizens in Slavery and Freedom." The series is co-sponsored by the Junior Division of SUNO, and two of the lectures have been presented at branches of the New Orleans Public Library.

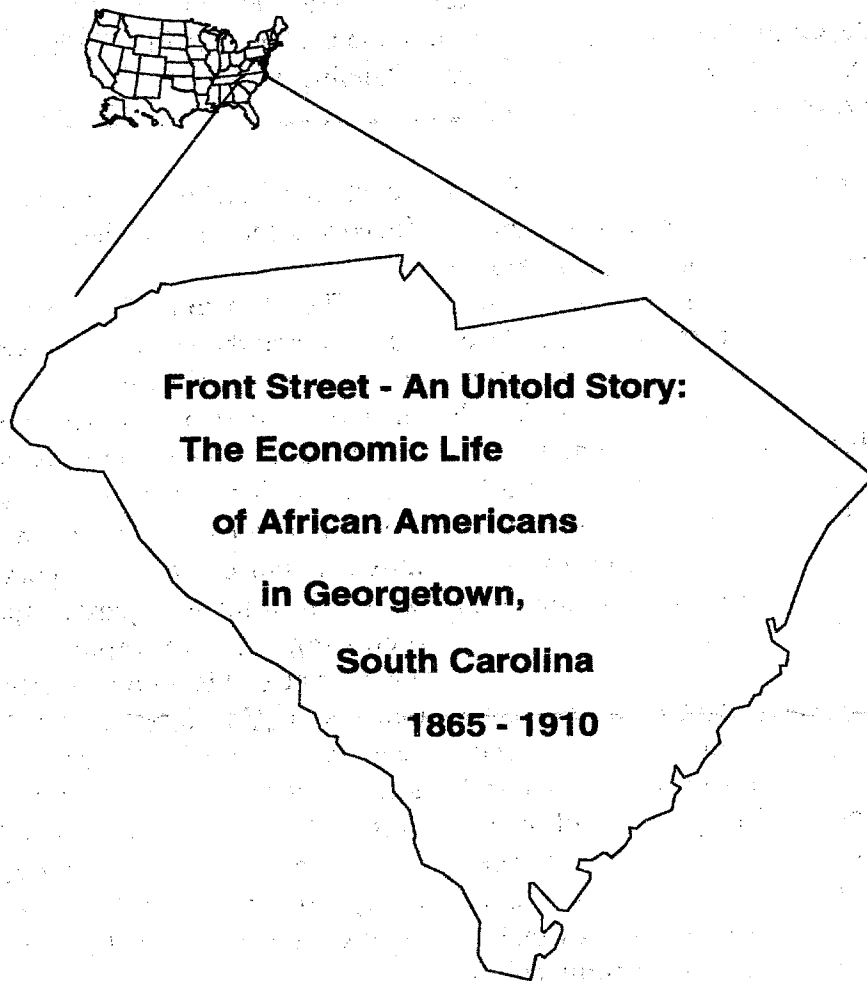
The Southern University Library, Shreveport, Louisiana, has established the University Black Ethnic Archive. It is funded by a grant from the Louisiana Education Quality Support Fund Enhancement Program. Its mission is to make available materials documenting African American history in the local area. Holdings include The Shreveport Sun news-
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**WE NEED TO HEAR
FROM YOU**

AATWAR members are yearning for more news about other AATWAR members, their institutions and activities. The newsletter co-editors, in an attempt to meet this demand, are seeking news items of upcoming events as well as articles about past events. Exhibits, new projects and programs, recent acquisitions, promotions and other appointments, institutional profiles, births and deaths are some examples. Even if you think your information is not newsworthy, send it in anyway and let us decide. Please refer to the editors address listed below to send information. We look forward to hearing from you. The deadline for the March issue is mid-February.

The African-American and Third World Archivists Roundtable Newsletter is published twice a year. Questions? Contributions? Contact co-editors: **Karen L. Jefferson** and **Joellen El Bashir**, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C., 20059, (202) 806-7480/FAX (202) 806-6405.

The AATWAR Newsletter is produced by Afro-Info Inc., and financially supported by the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center and the Society of American Archivists.



The Committee for African American History Observances received a \$10,000 grant from the South Carolina Humanities Council to explore, collect and record the economic heritage of the African American community that developed during the post Civil War, Reconstruction and post Reconstruction era.

The overall purpose of the project is to document and re-

create a period in time when Front Street in Georgetown was primarily owned and operated by ex-slaves and their descendants. Georgetown's Front Street, Atlanta's Auburn Avenue, and Memphis's Beale Street and other streets like them were "little Harlems" around which the post-war freedmen formed their communities.

The project is developing in 4 stages:

- 1) Community Introductory -- to elicit support and participation;
- 2) Training/Education -- to prepare data collectors;
- 3) Content -- to locate, collect and process data and artifacts received; and;
- 4) Presentation -- to display and disseminate findings to the public and to segments of the school community.

Several products will result from this project: the final exhibit consisting of photographs, a video, a sketch and tour guide of Front Street recreated, and other memorabilia which will be housed in Georgetown County and ultimately shared in diverse venues across the state. Material collected will also be used in a scholarly treatise entitled "Front Street - An Untold Story." For more information contact Flashette S. Shirer, Executive Director of the Committee for African American History Observances, P. O. Box 1507, Georgetown, SC 29442; (803) 546-1974.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND THIRD WORLD ARCHIVISTS ROUNDTABLE

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paper (1927-1969), and the Adrena and T. J. Hawkins Family Papers. For more information, contact the Library of Southern University - Shreveport, 3050 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Shreveport, LA 71107.

Sara D. Jackson, longtime archivist with the National Archives and the NHPRC who died in 1991, has been honored by the inclusion of her picture and biography in the 1993 South Carolina African American History Calendar. Sponsored by the South Carolina Department of Education and supported by the Southern Bell telephone company, the calendar features twelve African Americans from South Carolina whose lives can help the state's young people understand the value of cultural diversity. The calendars are distributed to school children throughout South Carolina. WIS Television in Columbia, S.C. ran a video presentation highlighting the lives of the twelve individuals.

The **Oakwood College Museum Exhibit Room** is celebrating its 20th year in the Eva B. Dykes Library, April 1-August 1, 1993. Minneola L. Dixon, Archivist, reports that the Museum has the finest collection of Black Seventh-Day Adventist history in the world. It also documents the formative years of Oakwood College, including personal papers, correspondence, legal documents, artifacts and photographs. For further information, contact Minneola Dixon at the Oakwood College

Archives, Huntsville, AL 35896; (205)726-7249.

As part of the **Anacostia Museum's** (Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.) commitment to collect and preserve materials relating to African American history and culture in the Upper South, the Research Department is preparing to launch "A Sacred Trust: Identifying, Documenting, Preserving, and Interpreting African American Church History in Washington, DC," a long-term program to identify, collect and preserve documents and objects on African American church history and traditions in Washington, D.C.

The project will first target eight Christian Methodist Episcopal churches in the District and suburbs. The project will be expanded later to bring in other denominations. The goals are to examine the evolution of worship traditions within denominations and to compare religious traditions across denominations. The Museum also seeks to assist churches in recognizing the importance of saving and managing their materials and in establishing their own preservation, archives and in-house museum programs. The Research Department staff will develop a comprehensive list of holders of religious materials within the local CME churches including the materials held by central church administrations, individual members, and church clubs; and will begin a preliminary de-

Hope to See You in New Orleans
For the SAA 57th Annual Meeting
August 31 - September 5, 1993
Join in the Dialogue and Festivities
Start Planning Now to Attend!

scription of archives and objects found at the target churches.

The **Library of Congress** has acquired the papers of American composer Charles Mingus, the most important acquisition of a manuscript collection related to jazz in the library's history. The collection consists of original music manuscripts, arrangers' scores, instrumental parts, tape recordings, photographs, the manuscript of his autobiography *Beneath the Underdog*, and other memorabilia from his career. The goals of the library are to serve as conservator of the collection and to promote the Mingus creative legacy through performances, recordings, lectures and publications.

Texas Southern University established the **Mickey Leland Center on World Hunger and Peace** in 1989 in honor of Congressman Leland of Texas who died in a plane crash in western Ethiopia. The Center was established to support the work of those who make significant contributions to the cause of improving the lives of the poor and hungry. This year the Center has begun processing the Mickey Leland Papers. The staff is working diligently to have the papers available to scholars in 1994. If you need
(See Leland - page 7)



The Society of
American Archivists

58th Annual Meeting
Sept. 6-11, 1994
Westin Hotel
Indianapolis, IN

THEME:

*The Archival Core:
Defining the
Profession in the
Information Age*

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS:
October 8, 1993

GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS TO THE 1994 SAA PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The 1994 Program Committee invites submission of program proposals for the SAA Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, September 6-11, 1994. The theme for the meeting will be "The Archival Core: Defining the Profession in the Information Age." In addition to the normal range of issues, proposals addressing the theme are especially encouraged. This proposal form on the reverse side of this page is designed to facilitate fully developed sessions. Fully developed proposals have a better chance of being adopted.

Proposals should:

- be limited to 75 words;
- identify the targeted audience;
- address issues of importance from several perspectives; and
- allow for adequate coverage of the session topic in the time allowed.

The Program Committee encourages proposals that may include, but are not limited to, the following formats:

- **Traditional:** Open session: two-hour timeframe consisting of two to three fully prepared papers of 15 to 20 minutes each and a comment and discussion period.
- **Work-in-Progress:** Open session: two-hour timeframe consisting of two to three presentations of 15 to 20 minutes each, describing on-going research topics, and at least one hour for feedback and discussion.
- **Panel Discussion:** Open session: two-hour timeframe consisting of a panel of 3-5 individuals providing a variety of theories or perspectives on the given topic.
- **Point/Counterpoint:** Open session: two-hour timeframe designed to give two distinct perspectives on a specific issue; the chair serves as moderator for the panel and facilitates discussion.
- **Workshop:** Limited enrollment: two-hour timeframe; an interactive session, usually designed to teach or refine archival skills.
- **Seminar/Roundtable:** Limited enrollment: two-hour timeframe; usually designed as a directed discussion among archivists sharing a common experience or preparation.
- **Special Focus Session:** Open session: one-hour timeframe designed to highlight innovative archival programs, new techniques, and research projects; audience participation is significant.

These guidelines are suggestive. Please note that archivists who participate in the program must register and secure institutional or personal funding. Nonmember non-archivists are eligible for complimentary registration upon request.

Send all proposals to the committee co-chairs:

Bob Sink
New York Public Library Archives
521 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036
(212) 714-8572
Fax (212) 268-9129

Fynette Eaton
National Archives and Records Administration
Center for Electronic Records (NNXR)
Washington, D.C. 20408
(202) 501-5565
Fax (202) 501-5005

SAA Program Proposal 1994

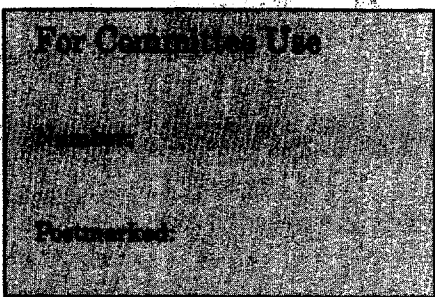
Please type. Deadline: Postmarked by October 8, 1993.

Proposed by: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____



1. Session Title: _____
2. Type (check one): Traditional Work-in-Progress Panel Discussion
 Point/Counterpoint Workshop Seminar/Roundtable Special Focus
3. If this proposal is submitted on behalf of an SAA group, give name of group: _____

PARTICIPANTS:

(circle one) Chair / Comment / Leader _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Paper Title: _____

Contacted/Agreed to Participate?	SAA Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Paper Title: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Paper Title: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Paper Title: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No

4. Description of Proposal, attach additional sheet if necessary (75 word limit, see Guidelines):

5. Audiovisual Requirements

AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND THIRD WORLD ARCHIVISTS ROUNDTABLE

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more information please contact: Manuscripts Section, The Mickey Leland Center on World Hunger and Peace, Texas Southern University, 3100 Cleburne Avenue, Houston, TX 77004; (713) 527-4294.

The New York City Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS) and the Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs presented, May 24 - August 7, "New York City Remembers: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial" an exhibition of powerful and moving images and words of the courageous New Yorkers who served in Vietnam, their families and friends. Recently published is a guide book to the New York Vietnam Veterans Commission Records, 1963-1990, available for research during the regular working hours at the Municipal Archives, a division of DORIS. For additional information contact Leonora Gidlund, Municipal Archives, 31 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007; (212) 788-8629.

A Guide to African American and African Primary Sources at Harvard University and Radcliffe College was recently completed by Elizabeth Sandager, compiler and editor. The publication is the first topical guide to primary sources at these institutions, including manuscripts, personal papers, archives, photographs, etc., and will provide users with a scanning knowledge of research materials related to African Americans and Africans. Updates will be available in one-to-two years. Copies will be provided at cost (\$17.00) to any inter-

ested repository or individual. Direct requests to Ms. Sandager at the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, 11 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138; (617) 495-2975.

The **Hammonds House** in Atlanta, Georgia is celebrating its fifth anniversary this year with a variety of exhibits. The sculptures of Artis Lane were featured May 16 - June 27; and the painted furniture/Afro-Deco designs of Tom Miller are being exhibited now through August 29. The permanent exhibit is the collection of artworks by significant African American artists dating from the 19th century, including Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Hale Woodruff and David Driskell. The collection, which includes sculptures and masks from Africa and paintings from Haiti, was amassed by the founder of Hammonds House, Dr. Otis T. Hammonds, who also acquired and renovated the site of the museum in Atlanta's historic West End. Since 1988, Hammonds House has exhibited the works of more than 60 artists of African descent in 26 exhibitions. The vision of its current director, Edward S. Spriggs is to establish a national imaging database of African American art; to become a catalyst linking other resource centers into a national network; and to utilize the imaging database as an income-producing mechanism. For more information contact Edward S. Spriggs, Director, Hammonds House, 503 Peoples Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30310; (404) 752-8730.

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of the professional services of consulting archivists during scheduled site visits.

The NEH/NAFEO workshop was part of a two-year funded project. A second workshop will be held in 1994 for additional institutions. Because of the important value of records created at HBCUs, it is imperative that professional archival programs be implemented at these institutions. The NEH/NAFEO funded project provides crucial assistance to HBCUs pursuing this worthwhile effort.

FUTURE SAA MEETING SITES

Join us in the following cities:

Indianapolis

September 5 - 11, 1994

Westin Hotel

Washington, DC

Aug. 25 - Sept. 3, 1995

Mayflower Hotel

San Diego

September 1 - 8, 1996

Sheraton Harbor Island

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Realities in the History of Sexuality (Session No. 17); "Outreach and Community" (Session No. 43); and "Gone With the Wind and Giants in the Earth: Coping with Catastrophic Disaster (Session No. 72).

We encourage all AATWAR members, and individuals interested in joining the Roundtable, to attend the New Orleans brainstorming session. Information about the date and time of the gathering will be posted on the SAA meeting information board. Let's get together to come up with as many ideas as possible for good proposals for Indianapolis.
