

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

P. O. Box 271078

Houston, Texas 77277-1078

Established 1987

Clayton Library Friends is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization under IRS Code 501(c)(3). The sole purpose of CLF is to enrich the resources and facilities of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research.

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Individual \$10.00
 Two people (same address).. \$15.00

Special Friends

Contributor \$1 to \$49
 Donor \$50 to \$99
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 Sponsor.....\$250 to \$499
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**Clayton Library Friends
 Financial Report**

January 1 through March 31, 1998

CHECKING ACCOUNT—Wells Fargo Bank	
Starting Balance	\$ 33,804
Unrestricted Funds.....	9,784
Restricted Funds:	
Binding.....	1,035
Endowment.....	- 0 -
Other.....	8,600
CLF Operating Funds.....	13,810
1998/99 Prepaid Dues (1999 = \$10).....	575
Deposits, total.....	23,639
Unrestricted Funds.....	11,114
Restricted Funds:	
Binding.....	36
Endowment.....	- 0 -
Other.....	770
CLF Operating Funds.....	11,200
1999 Prepaid Dues.....	520
Withdrawals, total.....	23,434
Unrestricted Funds.....	14,073
Restricted Funds:	
Binding.....	282
Endowment.....	- 0 -
Other.....	8,182
CLF Operating Funds.....	896
Ending Balance.....	34,010
Unrestricted Funds.....	6,825
Restricted Funds:	
Binding.....	788
Endowment.....	- 0 -
Other.....	1,188
CLF Operating Funds.....	24,679
1999 Prepaid Dues.....	530
ENDOWMENT FUND—Univ. Bank.....15,410	
Certificate of deposit #1	12,540
Savings account.....	2,870

Cal Wolford, Treasurer

Internet Access (Continued from page 1)

homepage, <<http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/hpl/hplhome.html>>. From here, patrons can select hyperlinks to other useful pages related to the library or can type in the Universal Resource Locator (URL) of any web page on the Internet. Be sure to look at our own CLF web page at <<http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/hpl/clf.html>>.

To exit from Netscape Navigator, click on "File" and then on "Exit." The browser will close and return the user to the main E-CAT screen.

Patrons should note that the terminals at Clayton provide full, uncontrolled access to the Internet, so there is no filtering of "objectionable" Internet sites. Appropriate use of Clayton's computer terminals for genealogical research is the responsibility of individual users. For further information, please read HPL's on-line policy statement at the URL noted above. ☺

Clayton launches re-labeling effort

State section being reorganized

by John Dorroh and Don Pusch

A wish expressed by many who use the Clayton Library collection is finally going to come true: The state section of the library will be rearranged so that books will be shelved alphabetically by county within each state. This is part of a general re-labeling project that will affect the state section, the foreign section, and the family histories section of the library. Marje Harris, manager of Clayton Library, and Brenda Tirrell, chief of Houston Public Library's Technical Services, have agreed on the implementation, and work is already under way to do the re-labeling and to complete the physical rearrangement of the books. The USA section will not be affected.

This effort will be handled in two ways. First, books currently in the three collections will be re-labeled (explained below). Because of the large number of these books, corresponding entries in the electronic catalog will not be updated. For books coming into the three collections, new labels and new catalog entries will be made as the books are processed into the library.

State Section

Arrangement of the state section of the library will continue to be alphabetical by state name (Alabama through Wyoming). Within each state's subdivision, books will be arranged in three sections: Books with applicability to the entire state or books whose subject matter relates to more than one county will be shelved first. These will be followed by books that relate to single counties, shelved alphabetically by county name. Third in line will be the state's bound periodicals. (The Texas section is already so arranged.) Labels on the spine—or front cover if the book is too narrow for a spine label—will be changed as follows (example: *Creole Mobile*, from the Alabama section):

<i>Current Label</i>	<i>Revised Label</i>
	MOBILE COUNTY
ALA	GEN
GEN	976.1
976.1	A567
A567	MOBIL
	ALA



The label "Mobile County" will be at the top of the spine—or on the top left-hand corner of the front cover if the spine is too narrow.

Foreign Section

The foreign collection will continue to be arranged alphabetically by country. Also, books in the Great Britain subdivision will remain the same—arranged by the sections England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Books in the Canada subdivision will be rearranged alphabetically by Canadian province name. Labels on these books will be changed as follows (example: *Tracing Your Donegal Ancestors*, from the Ireland section):

<i>Current Label</i>	<i>Revised Label</i>
	Ireland
GEN	GEN
941.5	941.5
D858	D858
IRELAN	IRELA
	GR BR

Family Histories Section

The family histories collection will continue to be arranged alphabetically by the primary family name. Labels on these books will be changed as follows (example: *Mr. Jim*, a biography and genealogy of James Abercrombie):

<i>Current Label</i>	<i>Revised Label</i>
	ABERCROMBIE
GEN	GEN
929.2	929.2
N627	N627
ABERCR	ABERC
	FAM

New Acquisitions

As mentioned previously, the labels and electronic catalog entries for books newly acquired by the library will reflect the revised classifications. However, since the locations of these books will be correctly recorded in the electronic catalog, the Dewey decimal number will no

longer be needed. Therefore, it will be dropped from the spine label (does not affect books in the USA section). Using, as examples, the books previously mentioned, the spine labels for newly acquired books will be as follows in the state, foreign, and family histories sections, respectively:

MOBILE COUNTY	IRELAND	ABERCROMBIE
GEN	GEN	GEN
A567	D858	N627
MOBIL	IRELA	ABERC
ALA	GR BR	FAM

Welcome to Reconstruction!

Re-labeling of the state, foreign, and family histories collections really is a form of reconstruction, but one that we hope will be less traumatic than the one some of our ancestors experienced. Especially in the state section, we believe the new arrangement of books will be a big improvement, one that will enhance Clayton Library's solid reputation as a user-friendly research facility. ■

Membership Report

At press time, our membership stood at 1,390. We are way ahead of where we were at this time last year, but we are still aiming for 2,000 members by the year 2000. We finished last year right at the 1,500 mark and are well on our way to surpassing that total this year. Do your part! Tell your friends about our great library and about what they can do to support it. ■

Electronic Finding Aids

In April, a major update was made to the Electronic Finding Aids, and they now include all microfilm acquired by the library up to the end of March 1998. The library staff completed updates to the microfilm database, and CLF volunteer David Lodge regenerated all of the HTML pages for display on the Internet. The collection is divided into seven categories: Family (607 items), Ethnic (193 items), International (74 items), Military (292 items), Passenger Lists (111 items), State Records (6361 items), and United States Records (1630 items). The main Finding Aids web page is at <http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/hpl/fa001.html>. Listings of the microfilm collection begin at <http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/hpl/clmc0.html>. ☺

President's Message

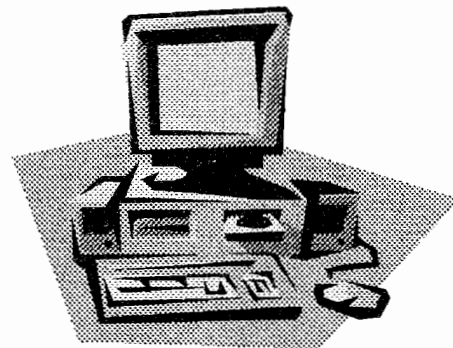
I'm excited about the many "new happenings" reported in this newsletter—the re-labeling activity, the NGS award for the newsletter, Clayton's web-access upgrade, and the new material being funded with patron donations. It is gratifying to see continuing progress made in our efforts to enhance Clayton Library and to promote CLF.

Under the supervision of Marje Harris and Irene Walters, Friends volunteers are re-labeling many of the books in the library's collection, and I'm thrilled that the Houston Public Library has trusted our volunteers to work on this project. Since the work is being done in a very orderly manner, patrons will not be greatly inconvenienced—even if the re-labeling is on-going in "their" state.

The other night, after the Friends committee meeting on grants and funding, there was just enough time for me to browse through some of the film cabinets. I thought that I had about exhausted Clayton's resources on one of my Texas projects; however, I found that the microfilm purchased with funds donated last fall included reels that will help me on this project. Just goes to show: We are constantly adding to the library through financial donations, matching funds, and the direct donation of books and microfilm; so don't forget to check often for new material that might help you!

Please note the location change for this month's general membership meeting. We will meet at the Montrose branch of the Houston Public Library, 4100 Montrose. Although the meeting room at Montrose is smaller than the one at the central library, parking is free and you will be much closer to Clayton if you intend to do research there on Saturday afternoon. Ann Crawford's presentation on using Clayton Library to support your writing projects should be very interesting. Also, this will be a good opportunity to purchase some of Ms. Crawford's books and have a significant portion of their purchase price go to the Friends for the benefit of Clayton Library. See you there!

Pat Metcalfe



□ WHAT'S IN THE LIBRARY

The Works Progress Administration Index to Texas Naturalizations, Texas State District and County Courts, 1846-1939

by Karen Stein Daniel, CG

Karen Stein Daniel is a certified genealogist specializing in Texas research and is a past president of Clayton Library Friends.

DURING the Great Depression of the 1930s, many well-educated people also found themselves out of work. These included college graduates, teachers, writers, researchers, historians, reporters, executives, and investigators, among others. Because of this, the **Works Progress Administration**, later called the **Works Projects Administration (WPA)**, an arm of the federal government, began several projects designed to provide suitable work for these "white collar" unemployed.

Among their projects was the **Historical Records Survey** of the entire continental United States. This work-relief project became the most extensive archival survey ever undertaken in this country. For this project, many types of records were scheduled for examination and publication, including surveys, inventories, lists, and various manuscript collections from federal, state, county or parish, and municipal or town records. Additionally, the survey would identify the agency or court having jurisdiction at that time. The work began in 1936 and continued until 1942 when World War II required the nation to turn its efforts elsewhere.

From 1936 through 1942, much of the collected data was published by the Historical Records Survey and/or the individual states. Most, however, was still in manuscript form by 1942, when the project terminated. In the majority of cases, the information collected was turned over to the various states. In this process, some of the unpublished data was lost or destroyed. In many cases, however, the information is still available for researchers, if they know where to find it.

A great deal of this compiled information is of significant value to genealogists and family historians who will

take the time to learn what is available for their state. Your task as a researcher begins by determining whether the records you seek have been moved, misplaced, or destroyed. When you do find these valuable sources, you may return again and again as they help to unlock your family's past.

Among the most important and sought after records for genealogists and family historians are those pertaining to naturalization, for they can ultimately lead us to the origin of our ancestor before his or her immigration to the United States. A primary goal in our research is usually to pinpoint the immigrant ancestor, the first generation in America. This is often an elusive task, because early naturalization records may be spread over many jurisdictions and areas where our ancestor lived. There are no hard and fast rules prior to 1906 for locating where one applied to become a citizen and then ultimately did become one. Additionally, many of our ancestors never actually completed the process or even began it. We may, therefore, be searching for documentation that does not exist.

Further, until the twentieth century, the privilege of citizenship was not extended to every ethnic group. As an example, a federal law in 1882 prohibited the Chinese from becoming citizens. Alternatively, large numbers of foreigners sometimes became U.S. citizens without the need for individual legal proceedings. Such was the case for residents of territories annexed by the U.S. during the nineteenth century. Hawaii and Puerto Rico were such examples.

A main point to remember is that, prior to 27 September 1906, a person could be naturalized by any federal, state, or local court in the country. On that date, the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization was established,

and with it all U.S. courts were required to follow certain guidelines regarding naturalization. This included forwarding a complete copy of each new file to Washington, D.C., where a master index was established for the entire country, arranged alphabetically. From 1906 forward, our search was made easier.

Clayton Library is indeed fortunate to count among its holdings the ten rolls of microfilm that are the WPA *Index to Texas Naturalizations, Texas State District and County Courts, 1846-1939* (film 7RA211). This collection is currently to be found in the second floor microprint area, cabinet 48, drawer 2. These records comprise part of the National Archives Southwest Region (Fort Worth, Texas), Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, San Antonio District Office, and they have been micro-filmed for preservation reasons.

The records are alphabetical by county, then by name within that county. *Not all counties are represented.* The following counties are represented, along with the roll number where they may be found:

Roll #1: Bexar County.

Roll #2: Anderson, Angelina, Aransas, Archer, Atascosa, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Baylor, Bee, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Bowie, Brazoria, Brazos, Brown, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Calhoun, Cameron, Camp, Cass, and Chambers counties.

Roll #3: Cherokee, Clay, Coke, Coleman, Collin, Colorado, Comal, Comanche, Concho, Cooke, Coryell, Crockett, Dallas, Delta, Denton, DeWitt, Dimmit, Duval, Eastland, Edwards, Ellis, Erath, Falls, and Fannin counties.

Roll #4: Fayette, Foard, Fort Bend, Freestone, Frio, Gillespie, Goliad, and Gonzales counties.

Roll #5: Grayson, Gregg, Grimes, and Guadalupe counties.

Roll #6: Galveston County (A-H) and Galveston County (I-Z).

Roll #7: Hamilton, Hardeman, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Haskell, Hays, Henderson, Hidalgo, Hill, Hood, Hopkins, Houston, Hunt, Irion, Jack, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jim Wells, Johnson, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Knox, Lamar, Lampasas, LaSalle, Lavaca, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Limestone, Live Oak, Llano, Madisa, Marion, and Mason counties.

Roll #8: Maverick, McCulloch, McLennan, McMullen, Medina, Menard, Milam, Mills, Montague, Montgomery, Morris, Nacogdoches, Navarro, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Palo Pinto, Panola, Parker, Polk, Rains, Red River, Refugio, Robertson, Rockwall, Runnels, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Patricio, San Saba, Shackelford, Shelby, Smith, Starr, Stephens, Sterling, Sutton, Tarrant, Taylor, Throckmorton, and Tom Green counties.

Roll #9: Travis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Uvalde, Val Verde, Van Zandt, Victoria, Walker, Waller, and Washington counties.

Roll #10: Webb, Wharton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wilson, Wise, Wood, Young, Zapata, and Zavala counties.

The records represented are in the format of a typed index to the naturalization records located in each of the above county's state district and county courts. The information given in each entry includes the following:

- (1). Name
- (2). Birth date or age
- (3). Country of allegiance
- (4). Whether a state district or county court
- (5). Date of naturalization proceedings
- (6). Whether record was a petition, declaration, or affidavit
- (7). Where proceedings were filed and location of original record as of 1930s.

The following example is from the Index to Naturalization Records for Austin County, Texas, Roll #2:

Name	Record Reference	Name of Court	Country of Birth or Allegiance	Birth Date or Age	Date of Proceedings	Nature of Proceedings and Remarks
STEIN, D.	Cit. Nat. Rec. Vol. Unmarked, p. 40	Dist. Ct.	Germany	-----	Nov. 7, 1855	Aff. of Arr.
	Cit. Nat. Rec. Vol. Unmarked, p. 40	Dist. Ct.			Nov. 7, 1855	Pet. For Nat.
	Dist. Ct. Civ. Min. Vol. D-2, p. 488	Dist. Ct.			June 7, 1858	Pet. for Nat.
	--	Dist. Ct.			June 7, 1858	Grant of Cit.

Using the above example, we note that because [D]ietrich Stein appeared in Austin County for all of his naturalization proceedings, we are fortunate in not having to search other counties where he may have migrated to or through in order to pinpoint his route to full citizenship. We can surmise that he probably remained in Austin County for some time and that our chances will be good for locating him in other Austin County records. A review of the Affidavit of Arrival will confirm the date of his arrival into the "United States in the month of June A.D. 1852." This will, in turn, lead us in a search for passenger lists and other records that will help establish his town or village of origin in Germany. In this case, we will eventually establish that he came directly from Germany to Austin County, that he owned land, raised a family, and lived there until his death.

A slightly different example may be observed in the Index to Naturalization Records for Bexar County, Roll #1:

Name	Age	Former Nationality	Declaration of Intention	Citizenship Granted	Court County/ District		Proceedings Recorded		Original Papers Filed		
							Bk	Pg	Box/ Document No./ Vault		
Abbondio, Designori	40	Switzerland	Oct 31, 1884 Jan 30, 1889		Probate Minutes		J	582	B	490	County
Achterberg, Fr.	45	Prussia	Oct 30, 1869			Nat. Papers			B	3	District
Ackermann, Frederick	33	Saxe-Gotha	Mar 24, 1855	May 16, 1857		4 th Civil Minutes	D	380			District
Acosta, Carlos	29	Mexico	Feb 5, 1889		Probate Minutes		N	504	E	5	County

In the above example, you will note that in some instances, the original papers are filed as document numbers within a box in the county or district court. In these cases, we will be eager to search the boxes, as there may be additional documents to be found there in our ancestor's naturalization process. Note also in these examples, apparently only one person, Frederick Ackermann, had both his declaration filed and citizenship granted in Bexar County. Perhaps a review of the documentation in Bexar County for each of the others will lead us to another county for additional clues and records in the naturalization process.

When searching the various indexes within each of the counties, make sure to look for any special notes or instructions at the beginning and end of the county's listing. For example, Bexar County offers the following clarification for the location of District Court records, as of the 1930s:

"District Court:

District Clerk's Record Vault, Third Floor Courthouse
District Court Civil Minutes

District Court Naturalization Records District Court Naturalization Papers"

Additional notes include a list of abbreviations used and their meanings and a list entitled "Unusual Characteristics," which tells us the following:

"Possibility of surname and given-name being reversed; Letters in old hand written records difficult to distinguish (A-O, E-I, F-T, L-S, Q-Z);

Himinez, Jiminez and Ximinez are all listed under Jiminez;

In Spanish names, B is often used for V, and S for Z.

Age shown is as of date of Declaration unless no Declaration date given."

Naturalization records are vital but often elusive keys in our genealogical research. The fact that those of us using Clayton Library have access to this useful tool should encourage each of us with immigrant ancestors in Texas to

use it to its fullest potential. Likewise, becoming familiar with the WPA Historical Records Survey for all our U.S. research may lead us to previously overlooked sources. We should never neglect any source that provides us the chance to expand our treasure chest of research methodology.

Bibliography:

Hefner, Loretta L., comp. *The W.P.A. Historical Records Survey: A Guide to the Unpublished Inventories, Indexes and Transcripts*. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 1980. (GEN 973 H461 USA)

Heisey, John W. *The W.P.A. Historical Records Survey: Sources for Genealogists*. Indianapolis: Heritage House, 1988.

Moulton, Joy Wade. "Unexpected Aids in Completing Ancestral Charts: The W.P.A. Surveys." Paper presented at the National Genealogical Society Conference in the States, Houston, Texas, June 1994.

(Continued on page 12)

□ PROPOSED ACQUISITIONS

The Cuban Papers (Part 2)

by Don Pusch

In the last newsletter, we introduced the subject of the Cuban Papers and pointed out their value as a source for genealogical research. In the current article, we present summary information relating to the archival arrangement of the Cuban Papers. This will help in determining which portions of the collection Clayton Library and the Friends will attempt to acquire. Within the next month, we will be recommending to the CLF board a specific list of *legajos* (bundles) with which to begin building our proposed collection of the Cuban Papers.

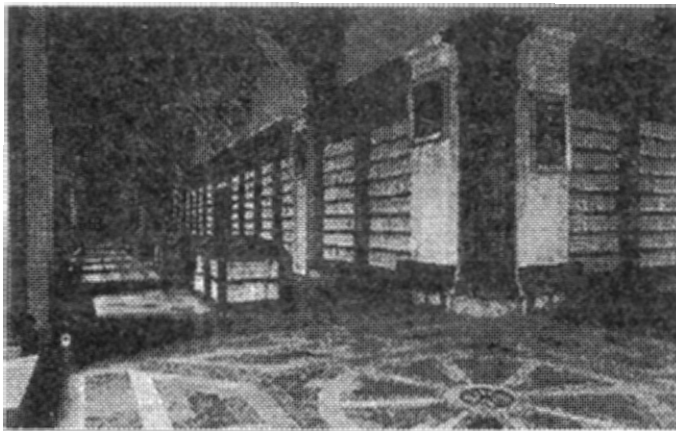
Availability of the Microfilm

In response to our inquiry at the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, we received a complete listing of the currently available film of the Cuban Papers and information concerning acquisition costs. With the exception of some materials contained in series 15 (Archivo de Guerra, Capitanes Generales), most of the Cuban Papers documents have been microfilmed and are available for purchase directly from the Archivo General de Indias. Typically, the microfilmed images of a single *legajo* of the Cuban Papers will be contained on up to four rolls of film. Cost of the microfilm is approximately \$9 per roll plus shipping. We say "approximately" because the film is priced on a per-frame basis (one cent per frame at the current exchange rate). The cost of, for example, *legajo* 5A, which is captured on 2,398 frames of film and spans two full rolls and a fraction of two others, would be \$23.98.

More Facts about the Cuban Papers

As mentioned in our previous article, the Spanish-language term for the Cuban Papers is *Papeles Procedentes de la Isla de Cuba* (Papers Proceeding from the Island of Cuba). The collection is also known as the *Papeles de la*

Capitanía General de la Isla de Cuba (Papers of the Captaincy General of the Island of Cuba). The Cuban Papers collection is housed at the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain, and is classified under *seccion* (section) XI of that archive. The collection is divided into 2,972 *legajos*, with an average *legajo* containing about 500 individual documents. Although there is material related to American history and genealogy in many of the other sections of this archive, the Cuban Papers section is of particular interest because it includes the official Spanish government records related to, and created during, Spain's domination of Texas, Louisiana, and the Floridas. Dates of the documents in the collection span the years 1580 to 1872, with the bulk of the collection consisting of documents dated between 1760 and 1805.



El Archivo General de Indias

Arrangement of the Cuban Papers

The Cuban Papers *legajos* are grouped into 23 series based on the subject matter dealt with and the primary places of origin of the component documents. The following descriptions were taken from Roscoe R. Hill, *Descriptive Catalogue of the Documents Relating to the History of the United States in the Papeles Procedentes de Cuba...*

(1916; reprint, New York: Kraus Reprint Corporation, 1965). Additional information was extracted from Guadalupe Jiménez Codinach, *The Hispanic World 1492-1898: A Guide to Photoreproduced Manuscripts from Spain in the Collections of the United States, Guam, and Puerto Rico* (Washington: Library of Congress, 1994).

Series 1, Archivo de Guerra, Florida Occidental: *Legajos* 1-227. Series 1 consists of correspondence of the governors of Louisiana with their subordinates, with the captains general of Cuba, the ministers of the Indies, the viceroys of New Spain, the bishops of Louisiana, and the

consuls of Spain in the United States; correspondence of the commandants of Pensacola, the intendants of Louisiana, and the commandants of Mobile; *expedientes* (files) in civil, criminal, and military cases; *reales cédulas* (royal identifications) and *despachos* (dispatches); and indexes and letter books. In this series, one will also find census records of Louisiana's German Coast, Arkansas Post, Ascension Parish, the Attakapas region, Acadian settlements, Avoyelles, Baton Rouge, Cannes Brûlées, Opelousas, St. Geneviève, New Orleans, Natchitoches and other posts and settlements in the colony.

Series 2, Florida Occidental: *Legajos 228-282.* Series 2 consists of correspondence of the intendants of Louisiana and West Florida; accounts of the treasury and *real almacén* (royal warehouse) of Pensacola, the office formed by Spain to conclude governmental affairs in Louisiana, the treasury of Nogales, and the hospital at Pensacola; *ajustamientos* (adjustments) and *listas de revista* (inspection lists) of troops and militia at Pensacola and Apalache; and treasury *expedientes* of New Orleans and Pensacola.

Series 3, Florida Oriental: *Legajos 283-487.* Series 3 includes accounts of the treasury, the *real almacén*, and the hospital of St. Augustine; *listas de revista*, *ajustamientos*, etc., of the troops at St. Augustine; correspondence of the *contadores* of St. Augustine; accounts of officials at San Vicente Ferrer, San Juan, and Isla Amalia; *registros de entrada y salida* (records of imports and exports) of St. Augustine; *asientos* (records) of employees; documents relating to *Floridianos* (settlers of Florida who were removed to Cuba when Florida was ceded to England in 1763); and treasury *expedientes* of St. Augustine, New Orleans, and Pensacola.

Series 4, Luisiana: *Legajos 488-668.* Series 4 contains accounts of the treasury, customhouse, the *contaduría*, and the *real almacén* of New Orleans; correspondence of the intendants of Louisiana and West Florida with the *Ministerio de Hacienda* (Ministry of Finance), the governors of Louisiana, the *contadores* of New Orleans and Pensacola, the intendants of Havana, the *Tribunal de Cuentas* of Havana, the various commandants of Pensacola and Mobile, treasury officials of Pensacola, customs officials of New Orleans, and commandants and *guardas almacénes* (warehouse keepers) of the posts of Louisiana; accounts of the *guardas almacénes* of Natchez, Nogales, Placaminas, Mobile, and New Madrid; records of the hospital of New Orleans; royal orders and *cédulas*; *asientos*, *listas de revista*, and *ajustamientos* of troops, militia, and employees; commissions and *hojas de servicio* (service records) of officials of Louisiana; and documents relating to the city of New Orleans.

Series 5, Nueva Orleans: *Legajos 669-706.* Series 5 consists of accounts of the treasury and the *real almacén* of New Orleans; accounts of the *reales almacénes* of Mobile,

Plaqueminas, Baton Rouge, and Pensacola; treasury *expedientes* of New Orleans; and correspondence of the intendants and *contadores* of Louisiana.

Series 6, Cartagena de Indias: *Legajos 707-738.* Series 6 consists of correspondence of the governors of Cartagena (a part of the viceroyalty of Nuevo Reino de Granada). In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 7, Nuevo Reino de Granada: *Legajos 739-757.* Series 7 consists of correspondence of the office of the viceroy and sub-inspectors, viceroyalty of Nuevo Reino de Granada. In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 8, Costa Firme: *Legajos 758-887.* Series 8 consists primarily of correspondence and accounts of the treasury at Costa Firme. Within the series, only *legajos 772* and *830* are related to the U.S. These contain accounts of the *guardas almacénes* at Plaqueminas and Natchez, respectively.

Series 9, Santa Fe: *Legajos 888-891.* Series 9 consists of correspondence and judicial papers related to Santa Fe (a part of the viceroyalty of Nuevo Reino de Granada). In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 10, Vera Cruz: *Legajos 892-895.* Series 10 consists of correspondence and judicial papers related to Vera Cruz (a part of the viceroyalty of Nuevo Reino de Nueva España). In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 11, Porto Cabello: *Legajos 896-915.* Series 11 consists of correspondence and judicial papers of the office of the governor and treasury of Porto Cabello (on the Venezuelan coast). In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 12, Castillo del Morro: *Legajos 916-920.* Series 12 consists of correspondence and accounts of the commandant of Castillo del Morro, a fortress guarding the entrance to the harbor at Havana. In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 13, Santo Domingo: *Legajos 921-1039.* Series 13 consists of correspondence of the office of the governor and the treasury of Santo Domingo. The title notwithstanding, this series is perhaps of some interest to Louisiana researchers, as many Louisiana families can be traced back to this French and Spanish colony.

Series 14, Cuba: *Legajos 1040-1048.* Series 14 consists of judicial papers related to the military authorities in Cuba. In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 15, Archivo de Guerra, Capitanes Generales: *Legajos 1049-2264.* Series 15 consists of correspondence from the Captain General's office at Havana with the governors of Louisiana and Florida, the intendants of Louisiana and West Florida, the bishops of Louisiana,

various Spanish agents, ministers and consuls in the United States, the commandants of Mobile and Pensacola, the commandant of the Army of Operation of 1781-1782, ministers in Spain (War, Hacienda, Indies, State, and Grace and Justice), and various officials in the United States.

Series 16, Varios: *Legajos* 2265-2269. Series 16 consists of correspondence from the Captain General's office at Havana dealing with various subjects, including Spain's debts to the U.S.

Series 17, Porto Cabello: *Legajos* 2270-2316. Series 17 consists of correspondence originating at Porto Cabello. In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 18, Luisiana: *Legajos* 2317-2321. Series 18 consists of royal orders and accounts dealing with the treasury at New Orleans.

Series 19, Florida Oriental: *Legajos* 2322-2327. Series 19 consists of accounts and judicial papers of the *Real Hacienda* originating at St. Augustine.

Series 20, Florida Occidental: *Legajos* 2328-2334. Series 20 consists of accounts and judicial papers of the *Real Hacienda* originating at the treasury in New Orleans and at the royal warehouse at Natchez.

Series 21, Varios: *Legajos* 2335-2346. Series 21 consists of accounts and correspondence originating from the treasury, intendancy, and royal warehouse at New Orleans.

Series 22, Varios: *Legajos* 2347-2350. Series 22 consists of miscellaneous documents originating from the Captain General's office at Havana. In general, documents in this series are not related to the U.S.

Series 23, Florida Occidental, Miscelánea: *Legajos* 2351-2375. Series 23 consists of materials removed by the Archivo General de Indias from *legajos* 1-227. This series contains miscellaneous correspondence and other documents of the same character as the documents in series 1.

A Sampling of Cuban Papers Content

Roscoe Hill's *Descriptive Catalogue*, previously cited, provides excellent descriptions of many of the Cuban Papers *legajos*. And, while the sheer mass of the collection makes it difficult to relate such details here, we thought it instructive to sample a few of the topics noted by Hill in the first 30 *legajos* of series 1.

Legajo Numbers 1-10

Copy of the will of Mr. LaCledé of St. Louis, 1779; petition of the French inhabitants living east of the Mississippi; Acadian affairs; list of officers and troops for the expedition of 1780; English subjects in Louisiana; petitions for land grants; French immigrants from Illinois; immigrants from the United States and their oaths of allegiance;

passports granted by Governor Miró; the project of Charles Wheelan with thirty Catholic families, 1789; Pantón and the Indian trade; the rebellion at Natchez; American immigrants at Natchez; lists of militia at St. Louis and St. Genevieve.

Legajo Numbers 11-20

Muster rolls of officers and soldiers; petition of Harry Alexander, David Hodge, and ten other Englishmen regarding their status; case against William Davenport for sedition; petitions and oaths of fidelity taken by the inhabitants of Natchez; lists of Acadians and French arriving at Passe à l'Outre; orphans in the Ursuline convent at New Orleans; lists of persons arriving at Natchez from Kentucky; lists of militia companies at Natchez; land grants at Natchez; remittances of petitions for land grants; lists of crews and passengers on boats arriving from the United States (via the Mississippi River); the application of George Adams to Col. George Morgan for 320 acres of land at New Madrid; list of Americans taking oath of allegiance at New Madrid; list of immigrants from the United States settling in the San Luis de Illinueses (St. Louis, Illinois), 1787-1789; the census of New Madrid; petitions of creditors seeking to secure the collection of debts; notices regarding various convicts and their trials.

Legajo Numbers 21-30

List of American families from Fort Pitt that arrived at New Madrid in August 1795; list of Indian traders at St. Louis; inventory of the archives at the post of Atakapas; aid granted to German settlers; petition of the inhabitants of Baton Rouge; the census of Galveztown and its district; lists of Indians presenting themselves at various posts to receive presents; report of the robbery and murder of Henry Owens, 1794; drafts of certificates of Governor Carondelet regarding the services of various military officials in Louisiana, 1797.

Summary

Microfilm of the more significant portions of the Cuban Papers collection is currently available at reasonable cost directly from Spanish archives. If acquired, the Cuban Papers would be our largest such acquisition from a foreign archive and would open up a fresh new path for library patrons to conduct research into a largely untapped primary source of genealogical data. The next step in the acquisition process will be to identify the specific *legajos* to be acquired and to obtain exact cost quotes from Seville. Patrons interested in working toward this acquisition or in donating or raising acquisition funds should contact Don Pusch at (281) 326-3278. ■

□ BEGINNERS COLUMN

A Walk Through the Foreign Collection

Perhaps the most intriguing section of Clayton Library is the foreign collection. Unfortunately, it is also the one least familiar to many patrons. For this reason, CLF has more requests for programs and seminars on the foreign collection than we do on any other area of the library. So, what is the basic organization of the books in the foreign section? How can a researcher get started in England, Germany, or France at Clayton Library?

The books in the foreign collection are on shelves 31, 32, 33, and 34 on the south side of the first floor, near the reference librarian's desk. They begin immediately in back of the shelves that hold current periodicals and continue to where the state section ends, at Wyoming. Although arranged alphabetically by country name, there are a few exceptions that should be noted.

Books on England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales are grouped under Great Britain, immediately following any books that deal with Great Britain in general. This is our largest subdivision of the foreign section and takes up an entire set of shelves.

Since heraldry is closely associated with European history and genealogy, most of Clayton's books on that subject are shelved in the foreign section. In keeping with the alphabetical arrangement, books on heraldry are shelved under "H" in this part of the collection. The same scheme was followed in the shelving of miscellaneous international books that deal with more than one country. These are shelved under "I" (International) in the foreign section.

Over forty countries are repre-

sented in the collection, and although Great Britain is easily the largest segment, the library also has large sections devoted to Canada, Germany, and Mexico, including a number of texts in foreign languages. In general, countries having the largest number of researchers will have the most books, but you will find some interesting material even on the less-researched countries, including Barbados, China, Israel, Luxembourg, Liberia, Panama, and Switzerland. On the spine of each book is a color-coded dot. This helps patrons locate books on a particular country and also makes it easier to re-shelve books.

Some of the library's foreign material can also be found in the vertical file. This is a collection of loose papers, photographs, manuscripts, clippings, and other materials donated to the library. The vertical file is located on the south wall of the first floor and is housed in several file cabinets. The foreign section is arranged alphabetically by country, and the folders on each country are color-coded to correspond to the color-coding of the book collection.

Clayton also has some foreign material on microfilm on the second floor of the library. To get started in this area, look through the finding aids contained in ring binders in the microprint area. Also, if you have access to the Internet, look through the microfilm listings in Clayton Library's Electronic Finding Aids (see announcement on page 4).

The library is constantly adding to the foreign collection; however, it is important to know that new books are not immediately shelved in their respective sections of the library. They

are placed first in the "New Books" section (the first set of book shelves nearest the library entrance). A new book will remain in this area for up to three months before it is moved to its permanent location. Again, if you have access to the Internet, the Clayton Library's Electronic Finding Aids will be of help. Check <http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/hpl/ml002.html>, which contains the "New Materials" listing. This is arranged by month of acquisition and lists newly acquired books, fiche, film, and compact discs.

When doing your foreign research, don't overlook the library's collection of maps and atlases. These can be especially helpful in foreign research if, for example, you know only the name of the town from which your ancestor came and need to determine the department, county, province, etc. The map collection is located under the stairs and immediately in front of the elevators on the first floor. The atlas collection is located at the end of shelves bay #23.

So, now that you can walk through the foreign collection, how do you get started on your foreign research? Space here does not permit us to discuss foreign research in any depth. However, two things are essential foundation elements in your foreign research: An understanding of the country you are researching and (to a fairly high degree of confidence) knowledge of your ancestor's place of residence in that country. For the first element, you should be familiar with at least the general aspects of the country's history, its past and present geographical organization, major sources of published genealogical data, and the locations of the primary

records archives. Much of this type data can be gleaned from "how-to" books and anthologies, many of which you will find at Clayton. The second element—determining your ancestor's place of origin in the mother country—will more often be done using records generated in the U.S. (or the American colonies). Such "pointers" back to the place of origin can then be followed up with more detailed research in foreign sources.

We hope this "walk" through the foreign collection has been of some help. At our November meeting, Trevia Wooster Beverly, publisher of *The Tejas Gazette*, will speak on the subject "How to Use the Clayton Collection to Make the Big Jump Across the Atlantic." This should be of interest to anyone who is at that point in their genealogical research. ■

New materials on the way to Clayton Library

Clayton Library will soon have the complete set of *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, a 40-volume set that has long been out of print but which is a must for genealogical research in Michigan. We are obtaining these books with funds donated by CLF members and members of the Houston Genealogical Forum.

Microfilms of Louisiana vital records are being purchased with donations provided by the Louisiana in-

terest group of the Houston Genealogical Forum. The acquisition includes Orleans Parish certificates of birth (1790-1897), marriage (1831-1946), and death (1804-1946) and statewide death certificates (1911-1946).

Thanks to a very generous donation from Raymond F. and Ann MacLaren Cathcart, we are purchasing the microfilm of two groups of Vermont birth, marriage, and death records: A 250-roll collection of records covering the period 1760-1870 and a 200-roll collection covering the period 1871-1908. ■

Index to Naturalizations (Continued from page 7)

- Newman, John J. *American Naturalization Processes and Procedures 1790-1985*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1985. (GEN 973 N553 USA)
- Schwarz, Gregory C. "From Whence They Came: Locating an Immigrant's Origin Through Naturalization Records." *The Genealogical Helper*, (November-December, 1980), pp. 11-15.

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"How to Use Clayton Library Effectively"

finding books and periodicals, CARL, CD-ROM, & more!

Margaret J. Harris, Manager, Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research

"What You Need to Know Before Going to the Library"

tips for beginning genealogical researchers

Emily Croom

Author of *Unpuzzling Your Past* and *The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook*

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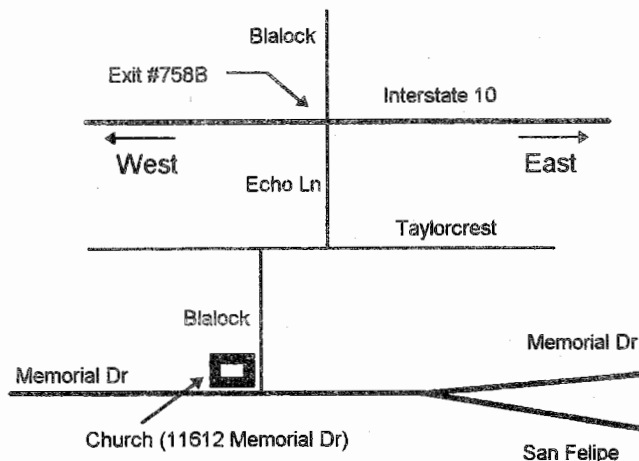
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS JUNE 2, 1998

Please note:

You must be a member of Clayton Library Friends, and you must pre-register in order to attend.

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