

Enriching the resources and facilities of
Clayton Library Center
for Genealogical Research

THE CLF NEWSLETTER

A Publication of Clayton Library Friends

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CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

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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 Genealogy Research.

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Number 2

[Http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/clayton/clf.html](http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/clayton/clf.html)

President's Message

Have you been to the library lately? Have you seen the exhibit on the census drive that Robert deBerardinis put together? I can tell you that it is working because patrons of the library are writing checks to help fund the purchase. I happened to be at the library when a lady from Austin was there and she made notes about every thing so she could duplicate the effort for her library in Austin. One great idea like that can make a difference...thanks to Robert for his efforts.

By the time you read this I will have hosted a meeting of several concerned citizens to discuss rumors and perceived problems with the Houston Public Library. I really do not have any idea on how a big library system like the Houston Public Library is organized or managed on a day-to-day basis but I do have selected interests that of course focus on the well being of the Clayton Library. So often libraries have to take a back seat or wait forever for funding from the governmental entity that is charged with support and I understand that but I am not one to sit by and let things "just happen." There have been staff cuts at Clayton and there has been discussion about changing the hours that The Clayton Library would be open. That would be a shame because we support patrons that can only come during specific times of the day or night due to work constraints and they depend on being open at specific times. Right now we are open three nights per week and I know that changing those hours is under consideration. There have also been rumors associated with the Texas Room and their magnificent collection. Will they have to move? If so where? What will happen to the Julia Ideson building? The Library Master Plan says

"While the Julia Ideson building represents a valued historic building in the fabric of the Central Business District, it will never function efficiently as a Central Library

1930 Census Report 10 States Completed

As of press time, Clayton Library Friends is expecting its first shipment of the 1930 census microfilm for Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, and Soundex for Arkansas and Louisiana. All of the three finding aids, M 1930, M 1931, and T 1224 have already arrived. By the end of May, Clayton Library Friends should have all of American Samoa and Guam Territory, Hawaii Territory, Maryland, West Virginia, and another 155 rolls from 20 different states and some Soundex.

The Clayton staff has been slaving night and day preparing bookplates for these thousands of boxes of film to thank our many contributors. Clayton Library Friends would like to thank our contributors so far.

**See Related Story on
1930 City Directories,
"the Other Finding Aid"
in this issue, page 5**

Featuring the theme, *Do you know where your parents are?* the Clayton Library Friends census display in its first three weeks has generated \$2,500 in contributions by patrons (April 6). Although the administration of Houston Public Library would not allow CLF to put its census slogan, "Immortality now, only \$34 per box" on a banner on the outside of Clayton Library, CLF is busy figuring a new approach to getting out the word to raise the rest of the \$108,000 needed to finish acquisition of the census and soundex.

The National Archives finding aids that are in and available are M 1930 entitled, Enumeration District Descriptive Maps for the Fifteenth

continued on page 3

continued on page 3



Clayton Library Friends Financial Report

Balance Sheet As of 3/31/02

Account	Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Beal Bank CD	15,565.46
IBC Commercial Savings	49,396.37
ICB Money Market	21,794.00
Postal Service Bulk Mail Acc.	400.00
Wells Fargo Checking	113,068.54
Woodforest CD	100,000.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	300,224.37
TOTAL ASSETS	300,224.37
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
LIABILITIES	0.00
EQUITY	300,224.37
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	300,224.37

Cash Flow Report 1/1/02 Through 3/31/02

INFLOWS	
411 - Unrestricted Gifts	2,941.04
412 - Rest'd - non Endowment	57,833.46
421 - 2002 Dues	2,395.00
440 - Interest - non Endowment	110.35
450 - Interest - Endowment	1,744.22
TOTAL INFLOWS	65,185.07
OUTFLOWS	
510 - Library Purchases	1,876.39
520 - Direct Pmts to Library	115.93
530 - Program Printing & Mailing	263.60
540 - Meeting & Seminar Expenses	20.80
660 - Office Supplies	89.99
670 - P.O. Box Rental	120.00
680 - Misc M&G Expenses	80.12
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	2,566.83
OVERALL TOTAL	62,618.24

Donald E. Pusch
Treasurer

Thanks to the VOLUNTEERS!

On behalf of CLF, I would like to give a big "thank you!" to the following members who volunteered their time recently. They each placed a friendly reminder telephone call to those members that had not already paid their 2002 dues. Patricia L. Thompson, Jane Hayes Brown, Lois Miller Grzenda, Laura R. Epps, William and Antonia Blauwhoff Plies, Aryl-Jeanne Vinson Reed, Rae Venable Calvert, Dianne Dauphin Johnson, Betty Mauck Elbus, Lori Lawson Avery, Janet Horstman Anderson, Betty Cutler Barrington, Sammie Gresham Graves, Stephanie Bragg Struby, Rebecca Hubbard Vantiger and Liz Hicks. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated as many members are now sending in their dues.

Thanks again,
Paula Perkins Parke
1st VP Membership

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual.....	\$10.00
Two People (same Address)	\$15.00

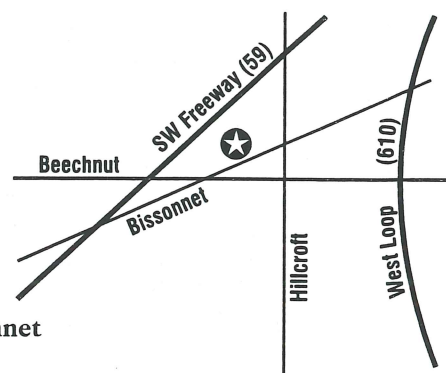
SPECIAL FRIENDS

Contributor	\$1 to \$49
Donor	\$50 to \$99
Patron.....	\$100 to \$249
Sponsor.....	\$250-499
Benefactor	\$500 and more

Clayton
Library
Friends
Meeting
Location:

Bayland
Community
Center

6400 Bissonnet
Houston



President's Message *continued from page 1*

space. However, when the Central Library locates to another site, the Julia Ideson Building could be used for city offices, a city conference center or museum."

I certainly would like to know more and I promise you I will. The purpose of our meeting is not designed to overthrow the Library Department but to make certain that our views and objectives are well understood and we will ultimately communicate them to the Library Department as well as The City Council after our meeting. If you would like to be brought up to date with what happened come to the next Clayton Library Friends general meeting. You will be updated and you will hear a great speaker. Details of the meeting are in this newsletter.

1930 Census Report 10 States Completed

continued from page 1

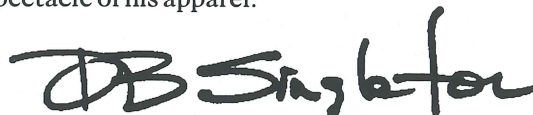
Census of the United States, 1930; M 1931 is entitled, Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1930 Census; and T 1224, a continuing publication, is Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts. The Clayton staff is able to show patrons their use.

Of course, there are still many state and counties and soundex available for potential tax-deductible purchase. CLF is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt organization. Those wishing to contribute may do so at the CLF census display in Clayton Library, which has booklets available showing which counties and soundex rolls still need sponsors; or they may e-mail Robert de Berardinis at: redeberardinis@yahoo.com; or phone him at (713) 266-1692.

Stay tuned in the future for a new book from our Board Member, Emily Croom. I know it

has been sent to the publisher for a publication date early next year. I have asked Emily to write an article for us to give us an edge on the rest of the genealogy community. I can tell you that the topic and the ideas are exciting.

I need your help. I need some Friends members to volunteer so that we can continue to work for this great Clayton Library. I am not talking about hours and hours of time but of some simple "bite sized" involvement. If you can help me would you please take the time to send me a personal e-mail at singletn@hal-pc.org. Please note that it says singletn...the last vowel is missing in my name. To close, please go by and look at Robert's census display and drop a check in the box. He checks it almost every day and if it is empty he is likely to go and purchase another of his horrible Hawaiian shirts to wear. Help support the public interest to avoid the spectacle of his apparel.



In Honor of C.M. McGee

by Robert de Berardinis

On February 21 Clayton Library Friends received a \$50,000 grant from the William A. and Madeline Welder Smith Foundation in honor of C.M. McGee, a long time trustee of the foundation and Clayton patron. The grant was given to "supplement other funds for the acquisition of items of special interest at the Center [Clayton] and/or sponsor events at the Center such as lectures, etc."

Following the recommendations of Marje Harris, Clayton manager, the Clayton Library Friends board voted unanimously to purchase all of the *Papeles procendentes de Cuba* or "Cuban Papers" relating to West Florida, Louisiana and the Mississippi Valley, the Gulf Coast, and Texas. Coupled with the Béxar and Nacogdoches Archives (available in the Texas Room of the Julia Ideson building), all of the prime early civil genealogical source material for this area, and the Texas and Northern Mexico church records to be bought later this year, Clayton patrons have will now have access to a research collection that exists no where else on the planet.

In fact, when this purchase is completed Clayton patrons will have access to the largest collection of the Cuban Papers outside of the Archivos Generales de Indias in Seville, Spain. Clayton's holdings will also be larger than the holdings of LSU, University of Louisiana-Lafayette, Loyola University, University of Florida, or

Historic New Orleans Collection.

The Clayton Library Friends Board voted to hold an annual symposium in memory of C.M. McGee with visiting lecturers and to purchase the 10-reel finding aid to the Cuban Papers developed by the University of Florida.

In response to a thank you and sympathy letter from CLF Director Elizabeth N. Hicks, Mrs. C.M. McGee's letter to Clayton Library Friends of April 1 sums up the shared experience of all Clayton patrons:

...He took great pleasure in unearthing ancestors and meeting cousins he didn't know he had. He was grateful for the help and friendliness of everyone at the library. As you know, he was responsible for the Smith Foundation allocating funds to the library in recent years.

When the trustees asked for my input in selecting a memorial to him, Clayton Library was my first suggestion, as I'm sure that was what he would have wanted....

As a result of the Smith Foundation grant, the CLF board voted to transfer the Mary Smith Fay bequest being spent of the Cuban Papers to the purchase of 1930 city directories.

For those interested in which *legajos* are being purchased, the list is: *série 1, legajos 1-227; série 2, legajos 228-282; série 4, legajos 488-668; série 5, legajos 669-706; série 8, legajos 772 and 830; série 15, legajos 1232, 1393, 1394, 1425, 1444, 1525, and 1533; série 18, legajos 2317-2321; série 20, legajo 2329; série 21, legajos 2335-38, 2343; and série 23, legajos 2351-2375.*



What's New

Barbour Series of Connecticut Vital Records

Included among the new items on the shelf at Clayton are volumes 25-6, 28-41, and 43 of the series *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records*, Lorraine White, ed. The series is named for Gen. Lucius Barnes Barbour, the Connecticut Examiner of Public Records from 1911 to 1934 who initiated the copying and abstracting of Connecticut vital records up to ca. 1850. These volumes, arranged alphabetically, are terrific finding aids to the original town records, which Clayton has on microfilm.

The new volumes cover the following towns: Madison, Manchester, Marlborough, Meriden, Middlebury, Monroe, Monteville, Naugatuck, Middletown (part I), Milford, New Canaan, New Hartford, New London, New Milford, Norfolk, North Stonington, Newton, North Branford, North Haven, Norwalk, Norwich, Orange, Oxford, Plainfield, Plymouth, Pomfret, Preston (parts I and II), Portland, Prospect, Redding, Ridgefield, Rocky Hill, Roxbury, Salem, Salisbury, Saybrook, Sharon, Sherman, Simsbury, Somers, Southbury, Southington, South Windsor, Sterling, Stratford, Stonington.

French Archives Finding Aids

Finishing the complete collection of the French national archives finding aids for archival documents and genealogy is noted by the arrival on Clayton's shelves of tome 3 (volume 3), *Marine et Outre-mer*, of the Archives nationales de France, *Etat des*

inventaires (Paris: Archives Nationales, 2000); Odile Krakovitch, *Arrêts, déclarations, édits, et ordonnances concernant les colonies, 1666-1779: Inventaire analytique de la série Colonies A* (Paris: Archives Nationales, 1993); Étienne Taillemite, *Inventaire analytique de la correspondance générale avec les colonies. Départ. série B, déposée aux Archives nationales* (Paris: Ministère de la France d'outre mer, service aux archives, 1959); Marie-Antoinette Menier, Étienne Taillemite; and de Forges, Gilberte. *Correspondance à l'arrivée en provenance de la Louisiane*, 2 vols. (Paris: Archives Nationales, 1976-83); and Gildas Bernard, *Les familles juives en France, XVIe siècle-1815: guide des recherches biographiques et généalogiques* (Paris: Archives Nationales, 1990).

For use of Krakovitch, *Arrêts, déclarations, édits, et ordonnances concernant les colonies, 1666-1779*, see "Acts of the King," on the Clayton Library Friends web page. The use of Menier, *Correspondance à l'arrivée en provenance de la Louisiane*, and its companion volume, Taillemite, *Inventaire analytique de la correspondance générale avec les colonies. Départ. série B*, are based on them being guides to each document in its respective sub series or collection. Menier is a guide with index to the correspondence received by the naval ministry/King from the French province of Louisiana, and

Researchers should note that now Clayton is the only library in the United States to have all of the French national archives finding aids for archival documents and genealogy.

Taillemite is a similar work to the correspondence sent from the naval ministry/King to the French province of Louisiana.

Germans to America-New Series, 1840-50

The first two volumes of Ira A. Glazier, ed., *Germans to America Series II, Lists of Passengers Arriving at U.S. Ports in the 1840s*, 2 vols. (Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, 2002) are now on the shelf at Clayton as well as volume 67, 1 Nov. 1895 to 17 June 1897, of Series I. The two volumes of Series II are subtitled, *1/1/1840-6/30/1843* and *7/6/1843-12/31/1845*.

Discovering your Irish and English Ancestors

Clayton Assistant Manager and native of England (the tiny country on Scotland's southern border) Lesley Douthwaite recommends Dwight A Radford and Kyle J. Betit, *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Irish Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage* (Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2001) and Paul Milner and Linda Jones, *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your English Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage* (Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2000). Mrs. Douthwaite says these books are good for beginner or intermediate overseas researchers who are interested in these two countries.

The Irish ancestors book begins with basic starting strategies based on which country the researcher is starting. After another round of methodology, discussions begin on the various types of extant records that are of primary importance. The

By Robert de Berardinis

appendix includes an "Archives and Libraries" section.

The English ancestors book begins the same way with starting methodologies and strategies. This is followed by a discussion of some of unique items of English research and then accessing these resources via the Internet, Family History Libraries, and regular libraries. Two chapters are devoted to the Civil Registration, its indexes, and analysis. With the acquisition of the Civil Registration indexes by Clayton Library Friends in January, this should certainly speed up the English researcher's activities. Then follows discussions of the various types of other more modern-type records.

More on the Natchez Trace Collection

Although Clayton has the 10-roll Natchez Trace Collection along with the fine finding aid written by Judy Riffel, a book by the Center for American History in Austin is available concerning other parts of the parent collection from which the 10-roll set is derived. It is Katherine J. Adams and Lewis Gould, eds., *Inside the Natchez Trace Collection, New Sources for Southern History* (Baton Rouge, La.: LSU Press, 1999). Although the appendix will be the main focus for most researchers, the list of "Selected Sub-collections" of the Natchez Trace Collection and the essays by Randolph Campbell on slavery and Morton Rothstein on business history should be of most interest to Mississippi-Louisiana-Texas researchers. The plantation records of this collection are also available on microfilm series by the University Microfilms (UMI) series, *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War*, series G, parts 3-5.

1930 City Directories, "the Other Finding Aid" at the Clayton Library

California: Alhambra, Bakersfield, Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Modesto, Napa, Oakland, Palo Alto, Pasadena, Pomona, Redlands, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Fernando Valley, San Francisco, San Jose, San Pedro, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, South Pasadena, Stockton; **Connecticut:** Ansonia, Berlin, Branford, Bridgeport, Bristol

Connecticut River Valley, Danbury, Danielson, Darien, Enfield, Greenwich, Hartford, Hartford Suburban, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, Milford, Mystic, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Putnam, Rockville, Southington, Stamford, Torrington, Wallingford, Waterbury, Westport, Willimantic

Illinois: Belleville, Bloomington, Champaign/Urbana, Chicago, Danville, Decatur, East St. Louis, Evanston, Joliet, Kankakee, Moline, Peoria, Rock Island, Rockford, Springfield

Maryland: Baltimore;

Massachusetts: Beverly, Boston, Brockton, Brookline, Cambridge, Fall River, Fitchburg, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lexington, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, New Bedford, Newton, North Adams, Northampton/Easthampton, Pittsfield, Salem, Springfield, Westfield, Worcester;

Michigan: Adrian, Alpena, Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Bay City, Benton Harbor, Coldwater, Dearborn, Detroit, Escanaba, Flint, Grand Rapids, Hillsdale, Holland, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Lincoln Park, Ludington, Manistee, Marquette, Marshall, Muskegon, Owosso, Petoskey, Saginaw, Sault Ste. Marie, Traverse City

Minnesota: Albert Lea/Freeborn County, Austin, Bemidji, Brainerd, Duluth, Mankato, Minneapolis, Owatonna/Steele County, Rochester, St. Paul, Winona

Missouri: Cape Girardeau;

New Jersey: Asbury Park, Atlantic City, Belleville, Bridgeton, Burlington, Camden, Elizabeth, Hackensack, Harrison/Kearny, Jersey City, Millville, Montclair/Bloomfield, Morristown, New Brunswick, Newark, Ocean City, Orange, Passaic, Paterson, Perth Amboy, Plainfield, Princeton, Rahway, Rutherford, Summit/Millburn/Springfield, Trenton;

New York: Albany, Amsterdam, Auburn, Batavia, Beacon, Binghamton, Brooklyn, Sect. II, Buffalo, Canandaigua, Carthage/West Carthage, Corning, Cortland, Dunkirk/Fredonia, Elmira, Erie County, Freeport, Fulton, Geneva, Glens Falls, Gloversville, Granville/Whitehall, Herkimer, Hoosick Falls, Hudson, Ithaca, Jamestown, Kingstown, Little Falls, Lockport, Massena/Potsdam, Mechanicville, Middletown, Mohawk Valley, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, New York, Newburg, Niagara County, Niagara Falls, Ogdensburg, Olean, Oneida, Oneonta/Cooperstown, Orleans County, Ossining, Oswego, Peekskill, Plattsburgh, Port Chester/Rye, Poughkeepsie, Rochester, Rome, Schenectady, Staten Island, Syracuse, Tonawanda/North Tonawanda, Troy, Utica, Watertown, Waverly, White Plains, Yonkers;

Ohio: Akron, Ashland, Ashtabula, Bryan, Bucyrus, Canton, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Coshocton, Dayton, Delaware, East Liverpool, Elyria, Findlay, Fostoria, Hamilton, Ironton, Lancaster, Lima, Mansfield, Marietta, Marion, Massillon, Middletown, Montgomery County, Mt. Vernon, Newark, Norwood, Piqua, Portsmouth, Sandusky, Springfield, Steubenville, Tiffin, Toledo, Warren/Niles/Girard, Youngstown, Zanesville

Oklahoma: Ardmore, Bartlesville, Chickasha, El Reno, Enid, Lawton, McAlester, Miami, Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Shawnee, Tulsa;

Pennsylvania: Allentown, Altoona, Beaver Valley, Bethlehem, Braddock, Brookville, Butler, Carbondale, Carlisle, Carnegie, Chester, Clearfield, Coatesville, Connellsville, Du Bois, Easton, Erie, Franklin/Oil City, Greensburg, Greenville, Grove City, Hanover/McSherrys-town, Harrisburg, Hazleton, Homestead, Johnston, Kane, Kittanning/Ford City, Lancaster, Lebanon, McKeesport, Meadville, Monongahela, New Castle, New Kensington, Norristown, Oil City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Pottsville, Reading, Scranton, Warren, Washington, West Chester, Wilkes Barre, Williamsport, York;

Texas: Marshall, Mineral Wells, Pampa

Wisconsin: Oshkosh.



English-Day Family Papers

by Trevia Wooster Beverly and Virginia Simms Toney

The announced acquisition of the English-Day family papers for Clayton Library brought several inquiries from individuals who were considering donating their own papers. Because of this, we thought it would be helpful to describe exactly what was done to the English-Day papers and to make some suggestions for those wishing to donate their own papers to the library.

The English-Day papers, representing the collective research notes of Mr. Luther "Woody" English, were offered to the library by Mr. English's widow, Mrs. Lucille English. The first step taken by the Friends and by the library was to determine whether or not the papers would be an appropriate addition to the Clayton collection. To make that determination, two CLF representatives visited Mrs. English and examined the papers first hand. After this initial screening, several of the component notebooks were taken to the library and examined by Marje Harris. This resulted in a decision to accept the English-Day papers into the Clayton collection.

As many of us do, Mr. English had his own style for organizing his research and for cross referencing the thousands of dates, names, and genealogical facts he had collected over the years. He then placed this material in ring-binder notebooks, twenty-seven altogether, each crammed full of handwritten, typed, and computer-generated notes, intermingled with pedigree charts, family group sheets, photographs, and copies of material obtained from other researchers. Unfortunately, part of his cross-referencing method included color coding. Thus, when microfilmed or photocopied in black and white, much of the cross referenc-

ing is lost. Genealogists rely very heavily on black and white microfilm and photocopies, so keep this in mind when you cross reference your papers and research notes.

In general, the component documents in the English-Day papers were not uniquely identified. Because of this, the first step in organizing the papers was to number each notebook and each page within each notebook. This will allow future researchers to properly cite items found in the English-Day papers and for other researchers to easily retrieve a cited item from the papers. If you have papers you would like to donate to Clayton, or to any other library, please remember that others will want to cite your work. Regardless of how you organize your research material, use some kind of unique identifier for the component material. If you keep your material in notebooks, then number the notebooks and number all the pages. Some researchers will go a step farther and affix a unique "accession number" to each piece of collected data. Taking the time to mark your material in this manner will greatly facilitate the later citation of that data, and future researchers will applaud you for your efforts.

The English-Day papers contained no specific introductory material or content listing, and there was no overall index. Preparing such things as detailed indexes was beyond the scope of the Friends' efforts for the English-Day papers; however, it was decided to prepare introductory notes for each volume. These notes provide an overview of each volume's content and give the reader some idea as to how the papers are organized. When putting your own material together, keep in mind that someone unfamiliar with your

methods of organization may be totally perplexed with your "raw" research notes. And there is no one better suited for fixing this problem than you. If possible, go that extra step by preparing such things as content listings, indexes, and descriptions explaining how your material is organized.

Some of the sheets in the English-Day papers were water damaged, torn, or had come loose from their ring binders. Because of this, it was necessary for the volunteers to repair some pages and to make photocopies of others so they could be properly bound. Also, the English-Day papers contained, in some cases, original family photographs or documents. Since the family wanted to retain these items, the volunteers replaced the original documents with photocopies. If you plan to donate your genealogical research material to Clayton, it would be best to go through the material and remove any items that you want to stay in your family, putting photocopies in their place. Remember, too, that Clayton Library is not an archive and has no facilities for archival preservation of rare documents and photographs.

Organizing, binding, and microfilming family papers and research notes does require work, and it is not always possible for the receiving library to bear the associated costs. In the case of the English-Day papers, Clayton Library was fortunate in that the English family provided a generous monetary gift to the Friends, and a portion of that gift was used to fund binding and microfilming. The family's gift also served as an incentive for Friends volunteers to work on the project, knowing that their efforts were bringing in funds to benefit Clayton Library. The point to stress here is that there are

continued at top of next page

costs involved in placing private papers in libraries and archives. When you donate or bequeath your papers, consider making a monetary donation to help offset those costs.

The volunteers who worked on this project could have benefitted greatly from the advice and assistance of Mr. English while he was alive. Unfortunately, at the time of his passing, the library and the Friends had no knowledge of his papers. If you are contemplating donating your papers to Clayton, or some other repository, even if the projected date of that donation is well into the future, you would do well to contact the institution and see what you can do now to facilitate that donation. Good places to go for advice are HPL's Houston Metropolitan Research Center (HMRC) or any university library. The staffs at these institutions

can show you how their personal and business "collections" are arranged and give you guidance on how best to prepare your papers for donation. Typically, such collections are inventoried or calendared and in some cases indexed. The documents themselves, unless bound, will often be placed in archival boxes. You may even wish to adopt such methods for organizing your material now. In any event, you will gain insight on how to make your own personal papers and research notes more usable.

Institutions that collect family papers have certain criteria that must be met before the papers will be accepted. These criteria are usually heavily weighted toward the quality and significance of the papers from a historical or genealogical perspective. Because of this, it may be necessary to contact several

institutions before finding one that will accept your papers. Again, it is best to make such inquiries well in advance if you want your papers preserved.

In summary, if you want to eventually donate your research papers to Clayton, or to any other institution, start now by properly organizing them. Also, contact the institution well ahead of time to see if they will consider accepting your papers and to find out what kind of advance preparations should be made. Unfortunately, many individuals, after a lifetime of family history research, leave such tasks to their heirs or make no arrangements at all. The result of this can be the total loss of their research notes and papers. Plan ahead and don't let this happen to your valuable work.

Those Natchez Trace Papers Revisited

By Trevia Wooster Beverly

The paper old and faded and falling to pieces, the writing faded, almost indecipherable, yet meaningful, familiar in shape and sense, the name and presence of volatile sentient forces. (William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom*)¹

In 1914, George W. Littlefield (1842-1920)² established at the University of Texas the Littlefield Fund for Southern History, to support the acquisition of books and archival materials. The Natchez Trace Collection [NTC] is a part of the George W. Littlefield Southern History Collection, spans the era between 1709 and 1900, and measures well over 400 linear feet.

The UT team of researchers first saw this immense archive of Southern history at the home of its owner in Mississippi. Room after room, from house to slave cabin and in outlying buildings, were the original letters and documents of history, many unseen by scholars since they were first written. Items within the

Collection have been found to have "a Texas connection," not previously known. With letters from the likes of Stephen F. Austin, James Wilkinson, Wade Hampton and others, also included are plantation records, bank correspondence, financial and legal records, diaries, family letters of the less well known and an assortment of other personal items, and including old songbooks, photographs, broadsides, and newspapers. One will also find miscellaneous records of politicians, lawyers, physicians, and clergy, planters and homemakers, military officers, steamboat operators, merchants and slaves.

This mass of material, acquired by the University of Texas in 1985, was originally pieced together by a

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Millennium Book List

The response to the February appeal for sponsors for early New England records was considerably less than expected. So, now that Christmas bills have been paid and tax returns sent off, it's time to help out at your favorite genealogical library with this much needed record set. At \$4 per fiche, the donation cost is small. In fact, it's near impossible to buy lunch anymore for \$4. But through Clayton Library Friends, your \$4 counts for something other than a potential tax deduction (Clayton Library Friends is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt organization).

Not only that, but you can designate your gift as a permanent memorial to some dear ancestor or make it in honor of a friend or your favorite librarian. When you do this, your gift acquires a beautiful Clayton Library bookplate (no extra charge) to the microfiche sleeve. To sponsor these records of Early New England, please contact Robert de Berardinis at: redeberardinis@yahoo.com, or send in your check telling us how you want your bookplates to read.

New Ashford 1755-1849 Transcripts. (2 fiche);
Otis 1764-1849 Transcripts. (5 fiche);
Peru 1742-1849 Transcripts. (5 fiche);
Mansfield 1730-1849 Transcripts. (11 fiche);
New Bedford 1650-1849 Transcripts. (45 fiche);
Norton 1688-1849 Transcripts. (16 fiche);
Chilmark 1673-1849 Transcripts. (4 fiche);
Amesbury 1686-1849 Transcripts. (19 fiche);
Georgetown 1639-1905. (53 fiche);
Lynnfield 1763-1905. (12 fiche);
Manchester 1661-1849 Transcripts. (11 fiche);
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Methuen 1714-1849 Transcripts. (19 fiche);
Middleton 1703-1849 Transcripts. (6 fiche);
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Newburyport 1740-1849 Transcripts. (48 fiche);
North Andover 1854-1905. (21 fiche);
Montgomery 1698-1849 Transcripts. (5 fiche);
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Phillipston 1762-1849 Transcripts. (6 fiche);
Princeton 1742-1849 Transcripts. (11 fiche);

Original Church Records:

Andover 1647-1905. (242 fiche);
Athol 1734-1905. (145 fiche);
Bolton 1726-1905. (102 fiche);
Harvard 1723-1900. (110 fiche);
Lawrence 1847-1905. (277 fiche);
Lowell 1779-1905. (442 fiche);
Ludlow 1745-1905. (64 fiche);
Marblehead 1648-1905. (179 fiche);
Methuen 1714-1905. (103 fiche);
Sutton 1720-1948. (33 fiche);
Westminster 1728-1905. (172 fiche).

Those Natchez Trace Papers Revisited *continued from page 7*

private collector during the 1920s, and had remained virtually untapped by researchers. While it is true that a large portion covers the South, especially the lower Mississippi River Valley, the Researcher should not take lightly the items from the Old Northwest Territory or from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, or Ohio, as well as a few documents related to England, France, and Spain.

In the lower Mississippi River Valley, the old Indian trail developed into "The Natchez Trace," a postal route from Nashville, Tennessee, to Natchez, Mississippi, and was the first route through the southwestern regions of the United States after the lower Mississippi Valley came into American possession. It had a glamorous history for about three decades. Over it passed missionaries, adventurers, soldiers, and Kentucky boatmen, and it provided the way for settlers who flocked to Mississippi during the 1820s and 1830s.

As family researchers seek out the names, localities, and dates of the ancestor, we must not forget to document life and culture during the ancestor's life span. The Natchez Trace Collection provides a broad spectrum for this.

For those who may have missed Robert de Bernardinis' article³, you'll want to refer to it again as you begin your personal research. de Berardinis dealt with only one *sub-collection*, that of the *Provincial and Territorial Documents 1759-1813*, covering mainly the civil records of the various jurisdictions of colonial Louisiana, Mississippi, and adjacent areas. The ten rolls of microfilm which Clayton Library owns are from this portion of the NTC, made available through the efforts of Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane⁴. A *Calendar* was prepared to accompany these rolls⁵.

While the rest of the Natchez Trace Collection remains without microfilm (project, anyone??⁶), specific inventories of the larger collections of the NTC have been prepared. A descriptive copy of the following *Inventories* is now available through the courtesy of the Center for American History⁷.

Natchez Trace Collection, ca. 1780-1935. (250 ft.) Divided into sub-collections by personal name or topic, then organized into series and subseries, within which arrangement is chronological.

- 1) Civil War Collection, 1861-1865 (11 in.) Papers relate to civilians living in and soldiers from Mississippi, particularly Vicksburg and Natchez, as well as occasionally Louisiana. Documents provide information on the lives,

business, etc. both before and after the Union army took control of the Mississippi River region. A significant group relates to the Military Relief Fund for destitute Confederate or Mississippi State troops and their dependents.

- 2) Slaves and Slavery Collection, 1793-1864 (2 ft. 2 in.) The collection includes runaway slaves, free blacks before 1865, manumission, slave sales, court cases, entry of slaves into Louisiana, lists of slaves and slaveholders, and Guards and Pickets Passes for Colored Persons.
- 3) Small Manuscript Collection. Inventory printout is 60 pp., with listings shown as Austin (Moses) Papers, Austin (Stephen Fuller) Papers, Claiborne County Schools (Mississippi) Records, Mantua Plantation Report, Ward (Adam J.) and Martha S. Rawlings Marriage License, and Duncan (S. Duncan, Sr.) Family Papers.
- 4) Natchez Children's Home Records, 1816-1945, 1990 (2 ft.) In March 1816 the Female Charitable Society of Natchez, Mississippi, was formed by 74 women through donations and subscriptions "to give instruction to the poor children," with any surplus to be "applied to the relief of orphan children and poor widows." Their Natchez Academy opened in April with ten children, a teacher, and a matron for the orphans boarding with local families. In 1823 a building to house the orphans was finished and later came to be called the Protestant Orphan Asylum of Natchez, and still later the name was changed to Natchez Children's Home.
- 5) Crime and Punishment Collection, 1876-1879 (5 in.) Principally dealing with Warren County, Mississippi, court records document criminal charges and disposition of cases. The records are grouped according to particular crimes, which include robbery, assault, murder, gambling, horse theft, grand larceny, dueling, and morals charges, and then arranged by name of defendant. This also includes a list of prisoners in the Warren County jail in 1861.
- 6) Imprint and Newspaper Collection. The list of papers is 8+ pages, some are single copies which others cover a specific period and cover a wide geographic area. While the collection is heavy on Mississippi and Louisiana, states such as New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and

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Those Natchez Trace Papers Revisited continued from page 9

Tennessee are represented. Texas is represented by the *Texas Planter* (Brazoria), *Democrat and Planter* (Columbia) and the *Galveston Daily News*.

- 7) Photographs, ca. 1855-1920 (3 feet). Well over 800 various types (daguerreotypes, tintypes, cartes-de-visites, lantern slides, etc.) represent individuals, families, and various subjects. Places represented in the collection included Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, France, Panama, etc.
- 8) Map Collection (1 item). A reproduction of D.H. Huyett's *Map of the roads Leading to Natchez [Mississippi] drawn for Brig. Gen. Wirt Adams by D.H. Huyett from a Reconnaissance Made and Data Collected in May, June & July, 1864*.
- 9) Ferry Boat Collection, 1917-1935 (1 ft., 8 in.) Among others, represented are the Mississippi River Ferry Company, Sunflower River Packet Company, Vicksburg & Delta Transportation Company.
- 10) Railroad Collection, 1837-1913 (4.5 in.) Arranged alphabetically by company, with the exception of the Vicksburg, Shreveport, and Texas Railroad Company (separate series), are the companies operating primarily in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas between 1837 and 1889.
- 11) Provincial and Territorial Records, 1759-1813 (3 ft., 9 in.) Organized in alpha order by jurisdiction, then by date, this portion of the Collection highlights the significance of notaries and notarial records in colonial Louisiana⁸.
- 12) Sheet Music Collection (11 ft., 3 in.) Forty boxes, this collection includes classical and popular music represented by composers Will Hays, Stephen Foster, Henry C. Work, John Philip Sousa, as well as minstrels, war songs, and Negro songs.

The Researcher may view the entire NTC at the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, SRH2.101, Austin TX 78712. (512) 495-4515.

Notes:

¹ From the Introduction by Lewis L. Gould to *Inside the Natchez Trace Collection. New Sources for Southern*

History by Katherine J. Adams & Lewis L. Gould, eds. (Louisiana State University press, Baton Rouge, 1999).

² In 1914, Major George W. Littlefield, a prominent Texas businessman and University regent, donated funds to the University to purchase material "bearing on the History of the South." A native of Mississippi who had served with Terry's Texas Rangers during the Civil War, Major Littlefield was concerned about what he felt was the misrepresentation of the Southern cause in American history textbooks. His 1914 bequest established the Littlefield Fund for Southern History, which was strengthened by an additional gift following Littlefield's death in 1920. From <http://www.cah.utexas.edu/>

³ The *CLF NEWSLETTER*, August 2001.

⁴ Ten rolls (3 ft. 9 in.) filmed at a cost to the le Comité group of \$1,868.12 (1998).

⁵ Judy Riffel, *Calendar of the Natchez Trace Collection Provincial & Territorial Documents 1759-1813* (Baton Rouge: La Comité des Archives de la Louisiane, 1999).

⁶ Contact Ms. Brenda Gunn, Head, Archives and Manuscripts. Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, SRH 2.101, Austin, Texas 78712. (512) 495-4385.

⁷ See *Inventories of the Natchez Trace Collection* by Trevia Wooster Beverly, editor. (2002)

⁸ See de Berardinis' article.

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Natchez Trace Parkway Survey of 1941, Dept of the Interior, US Government Printing Office, DC

A Charter Member of Clayton Library Friends, the author is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a genealogy instructor and lecturer. She also serves on the Harris County Historical Commission with an expertise in cemetery restoration and preservation.

A newly revised brochure is now available for Clayton Library Friends. This brochure includes updated material as well as a membership registration form. This is a great tool for recruiting new members to the CLF!

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HPL Computer Classes for May and June

Following is the schedule of HPL-sponsored FREE computer classes for May and June. All classes are taught in the Computer Training Center on the concourse level at HPL Central, 500 W. McKinney at Bagby. Prospective participants should sign in 30 minutes before starting time, as classes are on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

May	Date	Time
Computadora Básica en español,	May 1	6:00 pm
Genealogy Classes	May 7	6:00 pm
Windows Básica en español	May 8	6:00 pm
Introducción a la Internet en español	May 15	6:00 pm
Computer Basics	May 22	6:00 pm
Computer Basics	May 25	10:00 am
Internet Basics	May 29	6:00 pm

June	Date	Time
Word Básico en español	June 5	6:00 pm
Introducción a Power Point en español	June 12	6:00 pm
Excel Básica en español	June 19	6:00 pm
Introduction to Word	June 22	10:00 am
Introduction to Excel	June 25	12 noon
Introduction to PowerPoint	June 26	6:00 pm

Winston De Ville, FASG, has donated a rare nineteenth century Cuban *limpieza de sangre*, or chart showing purity of blood lines, to Clayton Library in memory of Charles Fay, PhD., and Mary Smith Fay, MS, CG, FASG. This framed, legally-required chart of all of the provable paternal and maternal ancestors of a prospective groom or bride is intact and complete.

This example of government required genealogy was hung in the main reading room in Clayton House with a small plaque commemorating the gift underneath it. For those wishing to see the entirety of the six foot chart, a photocopy was also placed with Clayton Library in its vertical files.

2001 Donations *continued from page 12*

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**Cash donations and gifts-in-kind received by CLF after December 31, 2001 have been credited to 2002 and will be acknowledged in the first newsletter of 2003.*

CLAYTON LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS HONORED

Clayton Library volunteer Harold Jarvis, Clayton Library Friends immediate past president and current Treasurer Lt. Col. Donald E. Pusch, USAF (Ret.), and Clayton Library Friends second term director Robert de Berardinis were honored by Houston Public Library. Also in attendance was Mrs. J. William Toney, past president of Clayton Library Friends, and Irene Walters of the Clayton staff. The ceremony was held Tuesday evening, April 9, at the downtown branch of Houston Public Library honoring all library volunteers with the theme, *"Thanks for all you that you do."*

The ceremony was emceed by manager of volunteer services Marlana Mitchell with each participant receiving a certificate from Barbara Gubbin, director of Houston Public Library.

Harry Jarvis was recognized for his work volunteering at the microfilm and microfiche check-in/check-out desk. Don Pusch was recognized for his work in the last ten years as editor of The CLF Newsletter, president of the Friends, and other hours spent on behalf of Clayton Library. Robert de Berardinis was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for his efforts in writing articles for The CLF Newsletter, coordinating the purchases of all of CLF books and microfilm/microfiche, writing all the thank you notes in 2001, teaching mini-classes at Clayton, and Clayton staff training.



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NEXT MEETING

"A CASE STUDY"

Speaker: GINNY TONEY

May 11, 2002 • 10:00 am
at Bayland Community Center

Her topic deals with a search for a Civil War ancestor but concerns strategies and reminders that all of us can use.

Ginny is a native of Wheeling West Virginia but lived in Chicago, Richmond Virginia, North Carolina and New Jersey before moving to Houston in 1981. She is a member of several hereditary organizations, including DAR, Colonial Dames of the 17th Century and Daughters of the War of 1812.

TO: