

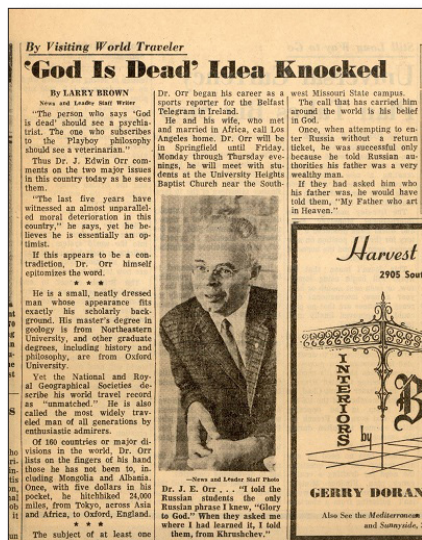
News from the Midwest

Assistant Editors: Alexandra Bisio, University of Oregon, and Lois Hamill, Northern Kentucky University. Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Alexandra at bisio@uoregon.edu and items from Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Lois at hamill1@nku.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

ILLINOIS

Billy Graham Center Archives

The BGC Archives is very pleased to announce that the J. Edwin Orr (1912–1987) Papers, Collection 355, filling 57 boxes and covering more than 60 eventful years, are now open to the public. This is a vast of expansion of the one box of his papers, most relating to his Latin American travels and correspondence, which the archives opened in 1987. Anyone who would like more information can find the updated guide online at <https://archives.wheaton.edu/repositories/4/resources/1173>. The Reading Room at the BGC Archives is temporarily closed, of course, because of the COVID-19 crisis. But this too shall pass and when it does, this archival feast will be open to all. In the meantime, the staff will be happy to respond to any questions or comments.



INDIANA

Bartholomew County Public Library

The Columbus Indiana Architectural Archives has received funding from the Clarence E. and Inez R. Custer Foundation and the Elizabeth R. and Walter C. Nugent Foundation to process its Harry Weese and Associates Collection and its *Republic [Columbus, IN] Newspaper* collection. Materials in the Weese collection document over 15 projects—built and unbuilt—in Bartholomew County, including First Baptist Church, a National Historic Landmark. The *Republic Newspaper* collection includes materials for two Myron Goldsmith–designed buildings, the Daily News building in Franklin, Indiana, and The Republic building in Columbus, Indiana. The Republic building is also a National Historic Landmark.



Above: Sketch of County Home for the Aged, Harry Weese and Associates, pencil on trace, undated, Harry Weese and Associates Collection, Columbus Indiana Architectural Archives, Bartholomew County Public Library, Columbus, Indiana

IOWA

Iowa State University Library Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA)

Iowa State University Library Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) has launched the ISU COVID-19 Stories Project at <https://specialcollections.lib.iastate.edu/about/projects/covid-19> to document and preserve the ISU communities' experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic. ISU students, faculty, staff, and community members are invited to share their experiences and thoughts during this unprecedented time. All stories are welcome. The archives will gather these materials and create a digital collection, as a contribution to the historical documentation of these events. For more information, visit the website, which includes instructions, links for uploading stories or linking independent projects, and a sign-up for oral history interviews. Questions can be sent to archives@iastate.edu. The archives has also launched the Tell Your Story Project to see how library student workers are responding to the pandemic. Students journal their experiences during these challenging times. Those experiences are shared on the blog *Cardinal Tales* at <https://isuspecialcollections.wordpress.com> and also uploaded into the ISU Digital Repository (<https://lib.dr.iastate.edu>) for long-term access.

University of Northern Iowa

During this pandemic, Special Collections & University Archives (SC&UA) at the University of Northern Iowa has turned to online engagement to reach patrons. Each week, staff and students take turns

creating a digital highlight showcasing various services, collections, and favorite items in the archives. For example, one student employee wrote about photographs she digitized for a patron from a 2001 campus theater performance, and she shared the excitement and inspiration she felt when she learned about the origins of that performance. The highlights are published on the website at <https://scua.library.uni.edu/highlights>, and the library's PR coordinator shares them on social media as well. These highlights are meant to be informative and lighthearted, and they help remind patrons that while the library is physically closed, SC&UA staff can still provide research and digitization services. Seeing the items that student employees choose to showcase has been a fun and enlightening added bonus.

KENTUCKY

Eastern Kentucky University

Within Eastern Kentucky University's Special Collections and Archives (SCA), there is a letter that paints a desperate scene. S. C. Carrier writes to Judge William Rhodes Shackelford during a smallpox epidemic. Carrier asks Shackelford to send 50 dollars to tide his family over, because Carrier's family are "pend up and cant get out and cant do nuthen." That letter was written in 1913. More than a hundred years later, the world faces another pandemic. Documenting experiences is relevant now more than ever. That's why SCA is encouraging ECU students, faculty and staff, and the local community to document their experiences in journals, oral histories, art, or by other means. Entries would be aimed at sharing how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their lives. Guidelines for oral history

interviews, writing prompts, donation forms, and more can be found at the Share How COVID-19 Impacts You web page at https://libguides.eku.edu/share-covid-impacts#_ga=2.146235828.1224936377.1588277279-1543894471.1582906052.

Filson Historical Society

On March 13, 2020, the Filson Historical Society was set to host the opening of its exhibit entitled *Women at Work: Venturing into the Public Sphere*. The exhibit explores women's professional roles during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Unfortunately, it was during the week leading up to the exhibit opening that COVID-19 became a pandemic and hit Kentucky, forcing the cancellation of the event. While the last wall panels were being mounted, the curators quickly ventured into the digital sphere by creating an online exhibit. The results of this effort to digitize a massive exhibit featuring materials from the Filson's collection that tell the amazing stories of these women from the Ohio Valley who took on new roles and ventured out into a new sphere can be viewed as a permanent online exhibit at <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/exhibits/show/women-at-work>.

Northern Kentucky University

Kentucky's Governor Beshear rapidly responded on March 6 to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the second week of March, while students were on spring break, Northern Kentucky University decided to extend the break, transitioned to virtual classes only, and mentioned the possibility of working from home, which quickly began the next week. In less than two weeks, face-to-face classes were over for the semester and the campus was reduced to critical personnel only. Since January, the



A Spanish Beauty fashion plate, Mary Cummings Eudy, 1930. Ink and watercolor. Filson Museum Collection [1986.11.2]

Special Collections and University Archives had been digitizing a body of 40-year-old oral histories conducted in eastern Kentucky/Appalachia for a student researcher. To support the completion of her capstone in the new virtual environment, 28 interviews were uploaded to the MS-13 Morris Garrett Kentuckiana Collection in NKU's Digital Repository at <https://dspace.nku.edu/handle/11216/3177>. To read more about the Morris Garrett Kentuckiana Collection MS-13 of which the interviews are a part, go to <https://inside.nku.edu/steelyarchives/specialcollections/alphabeticallist/garrett.html>.

MICHIGAN

The Henry Ford

The Archives and Library at The Henry Ford, located in Dearborn, has launched a public version of its finding aid search and browse application, which can be accessed at <https://findingaids.thehenryford.org>. Over 1,200 keyword-searchable collection descriptions are included, along with a title listing of new and unprocessed accessions.

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MISSOURI

The University of Missouri– Kansas City

The University of Missouri–Kansas City University Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives division quickly developed work-from-home projects that ensured more than 75 library staff and students were able to remain safe and employed during the limited campus closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These include a project to create transcripts and improve accessibility for digital audio content from Marr Sound Archives collections and another to inventory clippings from LaBudde Special Collection’s collection of morgue files from the *Kansas City Star*. The Marr Sound Archives is also pleased to announce that it was awarded \$33,323 by the CLIR Recordings at Risk grant to support the project Preserving 1940s Radio Broadcasts on Severely Damaged Lacquer Discs. The project will utilize IRENE technology located at the Northeast Document Conservation Center to transfer historic audio recordings that cannot be digitized with traditional playback equipment due to severe damage of the original objects.

OHIO

The Ohio State University Libraries Rare Books and Manuscripts Library

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Library at The Ohio State University Libraries is excited to announce that materials from its Women’s Suffrage Collection have been digitized and are now available online via its Digital Collections. Users will find nearly 40 early twentieth-century American and British postcards with both

pro- and antisuffrage viewpoints. Postcards of the 1913 Suffrage Parade in Washington, DC; cartoons satirizing suffragists; and postcards featuring key individuals involved in the British movement are included. In addition, two scrapbooks also have been digitized. Both feature small publications, clippings, leaflets, and other ephemera documenting suffrage perspectives and efforts from the late nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. This digitization project was motivated in part by the women’s suffrage centennial. 2020 marks the hundredth anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which established the right to vote for many women. To view the materials, please visit <https://library.osu.edu/dc>.



One of the postcards from the Women’s Suffrage Collection, “Liberty and her attendants. Suffragette’s tableau, in front of Treasury Building, March 3, 1913, Washington, D.C.” On March 3, 1913, more than 5,000 women marched on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, DC, to demand the right to vote. An allegorical tableau staged in front of the Treasury Building was part of the event.



Image of a once-busy space on UW–Madison’s campus, now only empty sidewalks (left: Memorial Union; right: Red Gym), submitted by Katie Nash to the Documenting COVID-19 Project, UW–Madison Archives, April 2020.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society in Pierre is seeking assistance in documenting how the current COVID-19 pandemic crisis is affecting people in South Dakota. South Dakotans are encouraged to submit their electronic writings, photos, artwork, short audio or video clips, and other materials to a special digital submission page on the State Historical Society website at history.sd.gov/archives/covid19.aspx. “It is important to capture the ways we are experiencing this event, whether they be stories of loss and tragedy or stories of resilience, grace, and helpfulness,” said State Archivist Chelle Somsen. “Future generations will thank you for sharing a part of your lives with them.” The State Historical Society has collected items documenting South Dakota’s history since statehood in 1889. Everyday activities, life-changing events, triumphs, and achievements are all recorded in the oral histories, newspaper articles, films, diaries, photographs, books, and artifacts that make up the soci-

ety's collections. § The Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society has released new digital activities for students and families while schools across the state are closed due to social distancing. To access digital activities based on the museum's award-winning education kits that are normally available for checkout to South Dakota schools, visit the museum's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SDMuseum/?ref=sgm> or the museum's web page at <https://history.sd.gov/museum/digital%20outreach.aspx>. There is no fee to access these programs, and they are available 24/7. Digital offerings include a variety of activities, from word searches to crafts to crossword puzzles and more. They come with answer keys as well. Museum curator of interpretation Ronette Rumpca originally designed these activities for classrooms using the museum's education kits and has adapted them to create new digital content. More content will be developed in the weeks to come. "Having one digital access point for museum education materials is a great way to utilize the resources available," Rumpca says. "We will continue to modify the education kit materials and make them easy to find for our online audience." For adults and older students, the museum is offering free admission to "The Great Tours: Washington, D.C.," one of the Smithsonian Institution's popular courses taught by Dr. Richard Kurin. He visits the monuments, the National Zoo, and more, meeting famous people and scholars like Yo-Yo Ma, General Colin Powell, and Dr. Lonnie Bunch. The tour is available 24/7 and can be accessed at <https://history.sd.gov/museum/digital%20outreach.aspx>.

WISCONSIN

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

The University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Libraries is proud to join the newest cohort of the Collections as Data: Part to Whole grant led by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and funded by the Mellon Foundation. UWM Libraries' LGBTQ+ Audio Archive Mining Project will include development of openly available models for speech-to-text extraction, resulting in open and usable text data sets, and public-facing data visualizations based on audiovisual materials including oral histories in the UWM Archives. The UWM Archives houses one of the largest collections of historical and contemporary LGBTQ+ materials in Wisconsin, including a rich record of Milwaukee's LGBTQ+ communities. Use of this "mined data" will not only help researchers discover people and relationships that might have remained hidden in bounded and difficult-to-use formats, but will also help researchers generate new questions about the collections and make connections with related collections outside this repository. § On April 8, 2020, the University Archives at UW–Madison launched the Documenting COVID-19 Project (<https://www.library.wisc.edu/archives/archives/donate-your-materials/documenting-covid-19>). To date, over 30 people have submitted content and over 150 digital files. The types of materials submitted include photographs, artwork, poems, journal entries, maps, collages, survey form responses, and videos. The archives is conducting oral histories with staff and student employees, as well as anyone who expresses an interest in

sharing their stories and experiences. The goal is to make a lot of content available online in the near future so researchers and others studying COVID-19 will have access to relevant and useful primary sources. This project has been a team effort, but the majority of the development and implementation of the work that went into getting it off the ground was done by digital and media archivist Cat Phan. Her creativity, sound technical skills, efficiency, and overall knowledge of archival and digital best practices have been instrumental through this entire process and the archives couldn't have done it without her. Don't hesitate to reach out, and please share the Documenting COVID-19 Project at UW–Madison far and wide. Archives staff hope all communities stay healthy, safe, connected, and optimistic about the future!



Rose of Treason, 2001, in the Department of Theatre Files, #14/06/01 Box 23, Rose of Treason Folder, Theatre UNI Files-Programs and Photographs, University Archives, Rod Library, University of Northern Iowa