

ARTifacts

The Newsletter of The Art Libraries Society of North America,
Southeast Chapter
January 2003

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[Notes from the President by Roberto C. Ferrari, 2002 President, ARLIS/SE](#)

Greetings, Chapter Members!

From November 7 to 10, 2002, ARLIS/SE met for our annual conference in Asheville, North Carolina. Special commendations go out to Moira Steven and her planning committee for the fantastic job they did. We had a record attendance of 45 registrants! We were fortunate that North Carolina had a late fall, so we were treated to beautiful panoramic views of the mountains covered in autumn leaves and exceptionally sunny weather. Asheville is an exciting little city that, despite its small population, has some great surprises in terms of art galleries and architectural wonders.

We visited the Biltmore Estate, the largest privately owned home in the United States (owned by the descendants of the Vanderbilt family), and had a unique opportunity to visit their archives and have a special tour "behind the red rope" of George Vanderbilt's private library of 23,000 books. We also were given a guided tour of the historic arts and crafts style Grove Park Inn and the Biltmore Industries arts and crafts workshops and galleries, and went on a historical walking tour of the city. Michael McCue spoke to us on the art world of Tryon, North Carolina, and Frank Thomson spoke on issues related to archiving. ARLIS/SE members Lee Sorensen (Duke), Sarah McCleskey (Clemson), and Rachel Kuhn (NCSSU) also gave excellent presentations on image databases being utilized at their institutions. We must extend a special thanks to Helen Wykle and the University of North Carolina–Asheville Ramsey Library for the use of their facilities for our speakers and for providing refreshments and hospitality while there.

At our business meeting, we held elections for our new officers and made special appointments. At the end of our business meeting, we presented our annual LoPresti Awards for art book publishing in the South.

It has been a pleasure serving as your president for this year 2002. Things couldn't have run as smoothly as they did without the assistance of the rest of the board. I would especially like to thank Kathleen List for being an exemplary Secretary/Treasurer, and Sarah McCleskey for being a superb webmaster.

See all of you in Baltimore at the ARLIS/NA conference in March 2003. And don't forget about our next ARLIS/SE conference, jointly held with ARLIS/ Texas-Mexico in New Orleans in November 2003.

News from the Membership

From Sarah McCleskey, Gunnin Architecture Library, Clemson University:

I am pleased to announce that Sarah Legins joined the staff of the Gunnin Architectural Library at Clemson University on September 23, 2002, as the Visual Resources/Reference Librarian. Many of you met Sarah at the recent conference. Sarah's education and work experience (and winning personality) made her a perfect candidate for the position.

Sarah was an art history major at Bowdoin College. She recently received degrees from Pratt Institute in library science and art history, where she took a course in art librarianship from our ARLIS/NA colleague Paul Glassman. Her thesis examined the libraries designed by Alvar Aalto in their aesthetic and social contexts. During her graduate study, she interned for the library of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP, the New York School of Interior Design Library and Visual Resources Collection, Special Collections and Archives at Brooklyn College, and the library at Christie's Education.

Prior to pursuing graduate studies, Sarah worked at several fine-art photograph agencies in New York, where she organized, researched, and licensed images to publishers and advertising clients.

I am pleased to welcome her to Clemson University and to the ARLIS/SE Chapter!

In May, CU Libraries staff made a library-wide trip to the University of Tennessee libraries. After a general tour the afternoon we arrived, we met the following morning with "counterparts" in the libraries there. Phyllis Pivorun and I were led on a whirlwind tour of the school of architecture by Dean Marleen Davis. We were particularly interested to see their Image Center, similar to our Printing Output Facility with services in plotting, printing, and scanning.

As I may have reported earlier, I received a grant to develop a database using

the Madison DID product. To get an idea of how the product works in action, Phyllis Pivorun and I traveled to East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina (a beta site for the software), to meet with librarians and Kelly Adams, the Media Center Director, who served as the implementation team. Kelly gave us a great introduction to the database product, and we are now in the first stages of implementation. On the way back from ECU, we stopped by NCSU to see fellow Southeast chapter members Karen DeWitt and Rachel Kuhn in the Design Library. They were able to give us some valuable information about their slide digitization policies and procedures.

Eliza Robertson was named Acting Director of the Library of the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, N.C., in August. This follows her seven years there as reference and interlibrary loan librarian. The National Humanities Center is an independent not-for-profit center for advanced study in the humanities and supports the scholarship of forty Fellows each year.

From Patricia Thompson, Sloane Art Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:

While on a trip to Spain, I briefly visited Jorge Garcia Oria, librarian at the Prado Library in Madrid (thanks to an introduction from Lee Sorensen-Jorge had visited Duke in their exchange program a few years ago.) The Prado Library is a small (30,000 approximately) curatorial library, located in a building behind the Prado. A new building is in the works, designed by noted architect Rafael Moneo. The project will incorporate an ancient cloister.

I also visited the Biblioteca (really a museum, although I imagine scholars have access to the library for research) in the Escorial, where the books are shelved textblock out, to "breathe"—part of the original Herrera design!

Jim Findlay notes that the Bienes Center's next exhibition will be Modernism for the Masses: Artist-Designed Postcards from the Collection of Anthony Guneratne, January 15-May 15, 2003. An illustrated catalog with an essay by Anthony Guneratne will be published to accompany the exhibition.

[Historic Emory Volume Finds Its Way Home Again](#) by Sandra J. Still, Robert W. Woodruff Library, Emory University

A long-missing volume containing the original minutes of the Few Society for the

period February 7, 1852, through February 16, 1861, has been returned to the Emory Archives, filling a gap in Emory history from 150 years ago. The Few Society was one of the two literary societies that dominated the cultural and social life of Emory College throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The archives holds approximately thirty other volumes of handwritten Few Society minutes and records, but this original volume was missing from the archives' holdings. Coincidentally, this volume was lent temporarily to the Emory Archives for microfilming in the 1960s, but we were not able to retain it at that time.

So how did this long-lost volume find its way home again? It's a story of serendipity, good will, and just plain luck.

Sandra Still, who works with the library's collection management team, was asked by Emily Katt, the Managing Director for Georgia of the Corporate Trust Group at First Union National Bank, for advice in preserving and placing historic documents that had to be removed from a vault formerly belonging to the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company in Augusta and that had been acquired by First Union. Inside the vault, under layers of dust, were old ledger books recording certificates of stock, certificates of deposit, registered bonds, transfers, and minutes of meetings. There were also canceled stock and bond certificates, letters, cancellation devices, and bank seals, some dating to the 1840s.

With the help of Cary Wilkins, Librarian/Archivist at the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, Sandra was put in touch with Gordon Blaker, Director of Curatorial Services at the Augusta Museum of History. Mr. Blaker was very enthusiastic about receiving the materials as a donation from First Union National Bank for the museum's permanent collection. Sandra helped in sorting the material and transporting it to the museum.

Realizing Sandra's Emory connection, Mr. Blaker showed Sandra the Few Society volume held by the museum. When she assured him that Emory would very much like to have this missing volume to complete its collection, he graciously returned it to Emory. It has now joined the other original volumes from the Few Society in the Emory Archives as a result of the generosity of Mr. Blaker and the Augusta Museum of History, who believe historic documents should return to their rightful home.

University Archivist Ginger Cain noted, "The nineteenth century records from old Emory College are remarkably complete, and we are delighted to have this original volume to add to those records. This particular volume covers a very interesting time period leading up to the temporary closing of the college in November of 1861. The topics debated in the years documented by this volume range from literary to economic and from political to philosophical, and include

the election of judges (1852), the building of the Pacific Railroad (1853), the admission of Kansas as a slave state (1856), the Puritans' treatment of North American Indians (1858), capital punishment (1860), and the justification of lying (1861)."

18th Annual LoPresti Award Winners

Winners of the 18th Annual Mary Ellen LoPresti Publication Awards were announced during the ARLIS/SE Chapter meeting held in Asheville, North Carolina, on November 9, 2002.

The Lo Presti Awards Committee members were Tom Caswell, University of Florida (Chair); Ann Lindell, University of Florida; Ellen Anderson, University of Central Florida; and Allen Novak, Ringling School of Art and Design.

The winners are:

The Ceramic Glaze Handbook: Materials, Techniques, Formulas, by Mark Burleson. Asheville, N.C.: Lark Books, 2001. (LoPresti Award Winner for Excellence in Art Book Publishing).

This well-designed handbook covers the historical and technical aspects of ceramic glaze. Of particular note is the fine color photography depicting the entire chronology of the process from choosing raw materials through mixing, application, firing, and the finished piece. The author provides an illustrated chapter of glaze formulas, a glossary of glaze terminology, and appendices dealing with chemical compounds and additional resources for the interested reader.

Let It Shine: Self-Taught Art from the T. Marshall Hahn Collection, by Lynne E. Spriggs, et al. Atlanta, Ga.: High Museum of Art, Distributed by the University Press of Mississippi, 2001. (LoPresti Award Winner for Excellence in Art Book Publishing).

A catalog of an exhibition held from June 23 to September 2, 2001, celebrating a remarkable collection that focuses on twentieth-century self-taught art from the American South. Three lengthy and scholarly essays cover reflections of collector Marshall Hahn, insights into the work of the major artists in the group, and a descriptive chronology of the evolution of Southern folk art from the 1930s through the 1990s. The second half of the book is a catalog of beautiful color plates with substantial information about each entry. Notes, references, a checklist, artists' biographies, and an index complete this notable volume.

Michelangelo: Drawings and Other Treasures from the Casa Buonarroti, Florence, by Pina Ragionieri. Atlanta, Ga.: High Museum of Art, 2001. (LoPresti Award Winner for Excellence in Art Book Publishing).

A beautifully illustrated and highly annotated exhibition catalog of a rare showing of drawings and other personal treasures from the family home of Michelangelo. The exhibition premiered at the High Museum in the summer of 2001 and was the first time many of these sketches and personal artifacts had been seen outside of Florence. Included in the catalog are superb reproductions of two-dozen rare sketches and studies Michelangelo did for the Sistine Chapel and Medici tombs, showing some of the workings and re-workings he did in red and black pencil and brown watercolors. Each of the works that were exhibited has a page or two of scholarly discussion along with detailed footnotes.

ARLIS/SE South Regional Representative Report by Laura Schwartz, Fine Arts Library, University of Texas–Austin

I am so glad to hear that the meeting of ARLIS/SE was such a success! I wish I could have been with you all.

As most of you know, I became South Regional Representative when Paula Hardin was forced to step down because she moved out of the region. I took over responsibilities in April and since have been to Baltimore in June for the Conference Planning Advisory Committee meeting and to New York in August for the Mid-Year board meeting.

A quick note about my status as South Regional Representative: I have been asked to fulfill a full two-year term, which I will plan to do. I will be bringing the chapter request to have an allotted meeting time during the annual meeting with me to the pre-conference board meeting in Baltimore. Speaking of Baltimore . . .

As many of you know, the ARLIS/NA annual meeting is March 20-26, 2003, at the Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor. The registration form is now available online. The hotel is lovely. It is in a terrific location-walking distance to the Inner Harbor as well as several neighborhoods and plenty of eateries. The hotel prices have gone up a bit; the room rates are set at the following: Single: \$153; Double: \$163; Triple: \$173; Quad: \$193.

The special events should be terrific. Friday night is movie night. There will be three documentaries on Baltimore shown: Little Castles, The Screen Painters, and Divine Trash. Saturday before the Welcome Party, there will be an Elvis lecture by Dr. Gary Vikan. The convocation will be at Johns Hopkins, the guest speaker is artist Joyce Scott, and the reception will be at the Baltimore Museum

of Art. Tuesday night there will be a Poe Party to be held at Westminster Hall, a Gothic-style church with a burial ground holding the graves of Edgar Allan Poe and his wife. The event will feature tours of the graveyard and catacombs, as well as food and libations. And the closing plenary speaker will be Camille Paglia, noted author and cultural critic.

Tours include Row Houses, Cast Iron Architecture, the American Visionary Art Museum, Fell's Point Ghost Walk, Bolton Hill, Federal Hill, to name a few. Workshops include Looking at Pictures: How to Identify Illustrations in Books, Book Structures and Bookbinding Techniques, Descriptive and Subject Cataloging for Art Materials, How Books Fall Apart and What You Can Do About It, Effective Library Surveys: Creating, Administering, and Analyzing, and a disaster preparedness workshop. There will be great sessions as well. If you have any questions about the conference, please let me know.

The Executive Board met in New York in August at the Bard Graduate Center on the Upper West Side. For the most part, we took care of standard society business like the budget, conference planning decisions, renewing the contract for the management company, and society document revisions (policy manual and chapter success book).

The most significant accomplishment at the meeting was the beginning of the organizational restructuring of the society. Daniel addressed three major areas of concern:

- The number of committees and the resulting impact of so many business meetings on conference planning-the number of rooms we require to hold these meetings determines the size of the hotel needed for the annual conference and limits our choices as to when and where we can meet.
- The difficulty of effective communications between and among multiple committees with overlapping charges.
- The challenge for the Executive Board members serving as liaisons to so many groups.

A few standing committees were dissolved, a few ad hoc committees were made standing, and some committees were turned into task forces with very specific charges. If anyone has specific questions about our decisions regarding committees, please let me know. Furthermore, due to lack of interest and waning participation and membership, the Indigenous Art Round Table and the Public Library Division were dissolved.

Our goal is to make the society work better for all of you. We hope this streamlining and refocusing strategy makes the society more effective and efficient in meeting the needs of the membership and our profession.

Looking forward to seeing you in Baltimore!

Minutes from ARLIS/SE Annual Conference Business Meeting November 9,
2002, Renaissance Asheville Hotel, Asheville, North Carolina

Become a Member of ARLIS/ Southeast!

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ARTifacts Next Submission Deadline:

May 2, 2003

Please send newsletter contributions to: Cary Wilkins Morris Museum of Art 1
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