Access to Records Documenting the Sale of Southeastern Mill Villages Caps Project to Preserve History of the South Carolina Textile Industry

As part of Clemson University Libraries’ South Carolina Textile Research Resources Access grant from the NHRPC, a unique collection of records including many plat maps documenting the sale of textile mill villages to mill workers is now available. During the course of this project, which extended from 1991-1994, the University Libraries was approached by Mr. Alester G. Furman III, a prominent Greenville, South Carolina, businessman, regarding the disposition of some of his firm’s papers. Mr. Furman’s real estate company served as the agent for the sale of approximately one hundred textile mill villages between 1940 and 1960. George Vogt, then Director of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, was instrumental in referring Mr. Furman to Clemson regarding the disposition of these records.

The records of the Alester G. Furman Company consist of files documenting the sale of real estate, primarily residential housing, by textile manufacturing companies during the period c.1945-1970. The Furman Company served as the broker for the sale of real estate which, with respect to the residential housing, in most cases was sold to the mill workers. Furman handled the loan applications, insurance, and all other matters related to the sale. The textile manufacturers involved in these sales had their factories located in Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. This collection documents one of the most significant turning points in the history of the textile industry. The sale of the mill villages changed the relationship between the mill and its workers while at the same time providing capital for the renovation of the mills. The workers became home owners and could sell the homes if they so desired, thus changing the nature of the closely knit mill communities at the time of their sale.

The records are arranged alphabetically by the name of the textile firm and usually contain correspondence, records of financial disbursements, and sometimes insurance and other materials related to the sales. Most of the sales and the bulk of the records are from the 1950s and 1960s. There is an individual folder(s) for each mill community which often contains detailed listings of the names of the purchasers of homes and the amount of the purchase, method of payment, and status reports related to the liquidation of all properties and transfer of funds held in account. In the case of the J.P. Stevens Corporation, there is considerable documentation from the mid-1980s related to the sale of Stevens property after the purchase of that firm. In most cases, there are plat maps of the mill community or other property at the time of sale, although some plats may have been drawn up several decades earlier. The plats and sale information provide a snapshot in time of the mill communities at the very moment when they were to be forever changed.

The Furman Company sold the real estate of a number of textile firms whose records were processed as part of this project, including the collections of the Clifton Manufacturing Company and the J.P. Stevens Company. Overall, the project achieved its goal of providing access to a number of significant manuscript collections documenting the history of the U.S. textile industry, particularly in South Carolina.

The Clifton Manufacturing Company collection is distinguished as a unique source by its size, diversity of

(See Mill Villages, page 9)
NHPRC Receives Level Funding

The Congress and President Clinton have approved legislation giving the NHPRC $5 million in grant funds for fiscal year 1997 and authorizing appropriations of up to $10 million annually through fiscal year 2001. Neither is a cut from previous numbers.

The appropriation for NHPRC grants, contained in an appropriations bill for the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, maintains NHPRC funding at the same level as in the previous fiscal year.

Separate legislation is required to authorize the NHPRC to receive annual appropriations. The current authorization, passed in 1994, expires at the end of fiscal year 1997. The new legislation extends NHPRC’s authorization for four subsequent fiscal years, 1998-2001, and maintains the current ceiling of $10 million on the amount that appropriations committees can approve for NHPRC in each of those years.

Coast Guard Collection Open

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Collection is now available in expanded quarters at the Joyner Library of East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. The collection augments the library’s holdings on U.S. maritime history with papers of the volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliary on such subjects as recreational boating and maritime rescue operations. For more information or contributions to the collection, contact O.W. Martin, Jr., U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary National Historian, 209 North Yellowstone Drive, Madison, WI 53705-2449.

New Eisenhower Volumes Published

On October 15, the Eisenhower World Affairs Institute and The Johns Hopkins University sponsored a symposium to celebrate publication of volumes 14 through 17 of The Papers of Dwight David Eisenhower, edited by an NHPRC-supported project directed by Louis Galambos. The symposium featured a panel discussion by a group of distinguished leaders and scholars, and a major address by Stephen Ambrose. These volumes, which comprise a subset entitled The Presidency: The Middle Way, cover Eisenhower’s first administration. The new volumes reflect Eisenhower’s efforts to contain Communism and to reduce the Federal government’s growing role in domestic affairs. The published documents shed light on many matters, including the Korean War, the Suez Crisis, the deepening involvement in Vietnam, and Eisenhower’s attitude toward McCarthyism and the civil rights movement. The Eisenhower Papers project is currently working on its final subset, The Presidency: Keeping the Peace, which will cover Eisenhower’s second term.
The Uses Of “User-Friendliness”

Suppose you wanted the NHPRC to become more “user-friendly” to grant applicants. (Never mind the term itself, which is too much in common usage to be crammed back into the computer argot out of which it crept.) How would you recommend doing it?

Well, first you might tell us that the orange booklet containing our guidelines is too complicated. It describes a strategic plan under which we offer grants in seventeen prioritized categories. Consolidate those, you might recommend, into, say, four. I am delighted to respond that the Commission has just voted to do that. It will take a while to rewrite and get approval within the government for new guidelines, but when you receive them you’ll find them much more, yes, user-friendly.

Next, you might tell us to put the new guidelines on our Web site in a way that will enable grant applicants to read the guidance, fill out the forms, and submit proposals electronically. That would save both applicants and NHPRC staff time and money. Very good. No problem. We are already preparing to do that.

Anything else? Well, if you are having trouble responding, let me suggest that you study a report that the Commission just accepted from the NHPRC staff. In it, the staff reviews our “internal business processes” and makes some 23 recommendations for improving them. The recommendations include reducing steps for grant-letter approval, which means moving faster to authorize grant payments to you. Additionally the recommendations include reducing certain reporting requirements so that you can have more time to spend on actually doing the grant-project work. A lot of the other recommendations also will make us more user-friendly.

The fact is that, overall, the Commission and its staff together are moving toward something that is more than just user-friendly. As my colleague Richard Cameron puts it, we are trying “to move our emphasis from accountability to accomplishments.” We want to reduce the time you must spend on technical requirements so that you can spend more on conceiving and carrying out sound projects. We want to spend less time on the mechanics of grant making and monitoring so that we can spend more on evaluating and publicizing grant-project achievements. In that light, user-friendliness is a way to produce more of real use in documenting American history. And that, I trust, is the goal for all of us.

—Gerald George

Comments, including contrary opinions, are invited.
Please send them to Annotation, NHPRC, National Archives Building (Archives I), Room 607, Washington, DC 20408, or e-mail to jerry.george@arch1.nara.gov.

Eugene R. Sheridan

Gene Sheridan, senior associate editor of The Papers of Thomas Jefferson, died on May 4, 1996, in an automobile accident near Princeton, N.J. He was 51. Gene leaves a wife, Sylvia, who was seriously injured in the accident, and a daughter, Maureen. Charles T. Cullen, who served as an NHPRC editing fellow with The Adams Family Papers at the Massachusetts Historical Society. He was assistant and associate editor of the Letters of Delegates to Congress project at the Library of Congress from 1973 to 1981, when he moved to the Jefferson Papers as associate editor. While working in Princeton, he also edited Congress at Princeton: Being the Letters of Charles Thomson to Hannah Thomson, June-October 1783, published in 1985, and a three-volume edition of the papers of Lewis Morris, which appeared in 1991 and 1993. Gene served as a faculty member of NHPRC’s Camp Edit. His untimely death is a great loss to the historical profession and to his friends.
At its November meeting, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission simplified its strategic plan and revised the plan’s priorities.

The previous plan contained seventeen objectives at four levels of priority. In hope of reducing confusion for grant applicants, the Commission consolidated those objectives into just four categories in which grants will be offered. In recognition of the limitations of its funds, the Commission also gave two of those categories priority.

In the revised plan, priority will go to grants for improvements in documentary fields (research and development, tools, training, publications), and to grants for state collaborative efforts to meet documentary needs (state plans, state regrant programs, and work under collaborative agreements).

Additionally, the NHPRC will continue to offer grants for documentary publications (currently supported on-going editions, new projects, and publication subventions), and grants for documentary preservation, access, and use (archival, educational, and promotional projects).

The first two categories, in the view of those who supported their priority, will increase the Commission’s ability to leverage its funds and invest them in activities of widespread benefit. For example, the Commission is investing in research-and-development projects that will help archivists cope with problems posed by electronic records and will help documentary publishers take advantage of electronic-access technologies. Also, the Commission is developing its state partnership, through which state historical records advisory boards create plans for documentary progress statewide, then match NHPRC funds for regrant programs to implement those plans.

In other actions, the Commission simplified its mission statement, formalized adoption of some evaluation factors, and voted to reduce its regular meetings from three to two annually when the revisions in its strategic plan are implemented. Grant proposals would be considered at the two regular meetings, and a third could be called by the Commission’s chairperson if needed for discussions of policy or other matters.

The simplified mission statement adopted by the Commission says this: The NHPRC exists to carry out its statutory mission to ensure understanding of our nation’s past by promoting, nationwide, the identification, preservation, and dissemination of essential historical documentation.

The evaluation factors formalized by the Commission, to be applied “as a matrix in the evaluation of new and on-going documentary publishing projects” and “records projects as applicable,” are in summary the following: Usability: the relative usefulness of the material to be published; Availability: the relative current availability of the records to be published; Ability to Complete: the relative prospects for completing publication of the records to be published; and Productivity: the relative rate of progress of a project.

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International City/County Management Association Cites NHPRC Electronic Records Grants

The May 1996, issue of Infotech Report, published by the International City/County Management Association for local governments, contains an article about the NHPRC’s electronic records grants program and about the City of Philadelphia’s NHPRC-supported electronic records project. The article notes some of the problems associated with preserving electronic records and describes the Commission’s support for research on electronic records management and preservation issues. The report also provides information about the Philadelphia Electronic Records Project, which is working to promulgate municipal standards for new electronic records-generating systems in order to enhance the legal value of the city’s electronic records.

The Philadelphia project is spearheaded by a task force staffed by personnel from the city’s records management division, the mayor’s office of information services, and information technology personnel from client city agencies. The task force has identified metadata requirements that will be incorporated into a new, paperless, human resource information system for the city’s personnel department. This metadata—which consists of information such as creation date, creator, and use history—will be “bound” to information content stored in electronic systems and will help to establish the legal acceptability of the electronic records. After the personnel system has been implemented and tested, the records commissioner will issue metadata requirements as a city-wide standard for all new, litigation-prone, municipal information technology systems. For more information about the Philadelphia Electronic Records Project, contact electronic records manager Mark Giguere at (215) 686-2284 (voice), or mgiguere@libertynet.org (e-mail).
Howard Lowell Joins Commission

Howard Lowell, the new Commissioner representing the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA).

Howard P. Lowell of the Delaware Public Archives will join the National Historical Publications and Records Commission at its meeting in February 1997.

Kathryn Hammond Baker, president of the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, has announced that Mr. Lowell will represent NAGARA, which is one of six national, professional associations authorized by statute to appoint members to the Commission. Lowell succeeds Brenda Banks of the Georgia Department of Archives and History, whose term on the Commission has expired. The Commission at its most recent meeting approved a resolution of appreciation for Ms. Banks’ contributions.

Mr. Lowell directs the Delaware Public Archives as state archivist and records administrator. Previously he has been administrator of the Oklahoma Resources Branch of the State of Oklahoma Department of Libraries; director of the Revere, Massachusetts, Public Library; education specialist for the Massachusetts Bureau of Library Extension; and administrative services officer for the Maine State Archives. He holds a B.A. degree in history from the University of Maine, Orono, and an M.S. in library science from Simmons College, Boston. Also at the graduate level, he has studied American history at the University of Maryland, archives administration at the American University, and public administration at Lewis and Clark College.

Mr. Lowell’s many distinctions include being a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists, past president of NAGARA, and author of more than thirty articles, manuals, and reports. Additionally he has consulted with institutions across the country on information management.

NHPRC-Supported Project Leverages More Grant Funds for Concord Free Public Library

An NHPRC grant of $59,487 made to the Concord Free Public Library in 1995 for a two-year project to arrange and describe materials in the library’s Vault Collection has resulted in an additional grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The NHPRC grant provided funds to process approximately 800 feet of archival and manuscript materials and to prepare MARC (MACHINE-READABLE CATALOGING) records and finding aids to improve access to the collection. As the materials were identified, processed, and cataloged, the project staff realized that many of the materials had sufficient historical value to warrant special conservation treatment and/or microfilming. A grant of $10,000 made by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners last spring is making this additional work possible.

The library’s Vault Collection includes materials ranging from papers of American literary figures like Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson to items documenting everyday life in Concord in the 18th and 19th centuries, such as account books, parish records, and diaries of lesser-known residents.
NHPRC Approves Grants for State Boards, Documentary Publishing, and Electronic Records Research and Development

At its meeting on November 7, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission approved grants totaling $2,251,620 for 30 projects to help archivists and historians document American history.

At the meeting, the Commission recommended that the Archivist of the United States make grants totaling $1,168,465 for eight documentary editing projects, $544,984 for six electronic records projects, $219,344 for one documentary editing consortium, $272,315 for ten state board planning grants, and $46,512 for five press subvention grants. In addition, the Commission selected the Thomas J. Dodd Center at the University of Connecticut as the host institution for the 1997-98 NHPRC Fellowship in Archival Administration, and the Frederick Douglass Papers Project at West Virginia University as the host project for the 1997-98 Fellowship in Historical Documentary Editing.

Electronic Records Projects:
- Mississippi Department of Archives & History, MS: A grant of $171,887 to establish an electronic records program in conjunction with the planned design of and move to a new state archives building.
- Syracuse University, School of Information Studies, Syracuse, NY: A grant of up to $100,000 for a project: 1) to evaluate the degree to which Federal and state government agencies are addressing records management and archival concerns in the management of World Wide Web sites; 2) to develop a set of model “best practices” guidelines for incorporating records management and archival considerations into Web site management; and 3) to promote use of the guidelines by print and electronic dissemination.
- WGBH Foundation, Boston, MA: A grant of up to $60,000 to develop and build support for a Universal Preservation Format (UPF) for audio and video digital recordings.
- City of Philadelphia, Department of Records, Philadelphia, PA: A grant of $117,862 to complete the third and final phase of the Philadelphia Electronic Records Project. The overall goal of the project is to develop comprehensive recordkeeping policies and standards for the city’s information technology systems. Phase III would extend testing of the functional requirements for electronic recordkeeping developed by the University of Pittsburgh in a related NHPRC-supported project.
- Maine State Archives, Augusta, ME: A grant of $85,235 for a project: 1) to develop state-wide policies for the identification and retention of permanently valuable electronic records; 2) to develop specific procedures for ensuring that permanently valuable electronic records are identified, retained, and accessible; and 3) to implement a plan for state-wide adoption of the policies and procedures developed.
- Alaska Department of Education, Alaska State Archives, Juneau, AK: A grant of $10,000 to hire an electronic records consultant.

Documentary Editing Consortia and Centers:
- University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC: A grant of $219,344 for the second half of a three-year project known as the Model Editions Project to address both the scholarly and technological issues involved in developing new approaches to enhance intellectual access to documentary editions using an international standard for text markup (the Standard Generalized Markup Language [SGML]) and guidelines for the use of SGML developed by the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI).
- University of Texas, Austin, TX: A grant of up to $146,926 for The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution.
- Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA: A grant of up to $121,750 for The Adams Papers.
- University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: A grant of up to $122,744 for The Papers of James Madison.
- Princeton University, Princeton, NJ: A grant of up to $140,346 for The Papers of Thomas Jefferson.
- Yale University Press, New Haven, CT: A grant of $10,000 for The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, Vol. 33.

State Board Planning Grants:
- Nebraska State Historical Records Advisory Board, Lincoln, NE: A grant of $13,562 for a two-year project to implement selected high-priority recommendations from the board’s strategic plan.
• Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board, Boston, MA: A grant of $69,302 for an 18-month, strategic planning project to consider the board’s mission and goals, identify strategic issues, and involve stakeholders in developing an action agenda and plan.

• American Samoa Historical Records Advisory Board, Pago Pago, AS: A grant of up to $10,000 for a one-year project to produce a strategic plan for the historical records of American Samoa by compiling information gathered through two planning conferences, historical records workshops, meetings, surveys, and seminars.

• North Dakota State Historical Records Advisory Board, Bismarck, SD: A grant of $22,760 for a two-year project to monitor and update the board’s long-range plan and to implement key recommendations of the plan in the area of training and professional development.

• Wisconsin State Historical Records Advisory Board, Madison, WI: A grant of $53,328 for a 21-month project to build on and implement key parts of its recently completed five-year strategic plan by strengthening partnerships between the board and three statewide organizations: the Wisconsin Council for Local History, the Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians, and the Wisconsin Registers in Probate Association.

• Maine State Historical Records Advisory Board, Augusta, ME: A grant of $12,396 for a two-year board planning project. The board intends to use information gathered during its recent regrant project and from public board meetings to be held across the state in order to update its current plan.

• Montana State Historical Records Advisory Board, Helena, MT: A grant of $5,841 for a one-year project to complete planning efforts which are presently underway.

• Tennessee State Historical Records Advisory Board, Nashville, TN: A grant of $4,000 for a one-year planning project. Under this planning project, the board would complete its strategic plan, and undertake priorities established in its plan.

• Puerto Rico Historical Records Advisory Board, San Juan, PR: A grant of $42,119 to conduct a major assessment study and develop a long-term plan for preservation of historical records in Puerto Rico. The grant will also provide support for the initial organization of the board and training in strategic planning.

• New Mexico State Historical Records Advisory Board, Santa Fe, NM: A grant of $39,007 for an 18-month, strategic planning project to address key issues in the identification, preservation, and access to the state’s historical records. The project will assess the board’s mission and authority, develop strategies to increase its effectiveness, create a network of repositories and institutions, assess the historical records environment, and develop a statewide plan to guide the board in its work.

Sahli Receives ADE Resolution of Appreciation

We are pleased to announce that Nancy Sahli, former Program Director at the NHPRC, received a resolution of appreciation from the Association for Documentary Editing (ADE) on September 27, 1996. The resolution read,

Whereas, until her resignation on July 31, 1996, Nancy Sahli served the National Historical Publications and Records Commission with dedication and great ability in a variety of positions, as an archivist, a Grants Analyst, Director of the Records Program, Program Director, and Acting Executive Director; and

Whereas, Nancy Sahli’s editorial skills, critical eye, and intellectual acumen are reflected in her biography of Elizabeth Blackwell, her multimedia finding aids, and her work with automation; and

Whereas, documentary editors have benefited from Nancy Sahli’s judgement, from her ability to allocate wisely the always constrained financial resources of NHPRC, and from her patience and good humor; be it therefore

Resolved, that The Association for Documentary Editing, its members, its officers, and its Council, take this opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of Nancy Sahli.

Recent Records Products and Documentary Editions

Records Products

The following products from records projects funded by the NHPRC have been recently released. Information concerning availability has been provided.

• Anderson, Margaret T. Guide to the Corporate Record Collection of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company at the Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society. Clinton Forge, VA: Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society, 1996.

Finding Aid to the Corporate Records of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, 1852-1961.

Container List to the Corporate Records of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, 1852-1961.

Microfilm Index to the Corporate Records of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, 1852-1961.

Information regarding these items may be requested from Margaret T. Anderson, Archivist, Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society, P.O. Box 79, Clifton Forge, VA 24422; or call (540) 862-0067; or FAX (540) 863-9159.

• Guide to the Manuscript and Photograph Collections of the Southwest Collection. Lubbock, TX: Texas Tech University, 1996. Requests for information concerning this finding aid may be directed to Preston Lewis, Interim (continues next page)
(continued from previous page)

Publications Volumes

The following products from NHPRC-supported documentary editing projects have been received in the Commission office since June 1996.


The following reports coming out of state board planning efforts have been received:


- State Archives Strategic Plan. June 1996. Requests may be directed to State Archives, Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Boulevard West, St. Paul, MN 55102-1906; or call (612) 297-4502.

- Insuring Nebraska’s Documentary Heritage: A Strategic Plan. Requests may be directed to Andrea I. Faling, Nebraska State Historical Society, 1500 R Street, P.O. 82554, Lincoln, NE 68501; or call (402) 471-3270.

- Preserving North Dakota’s Collective Memory: A Collaborative Agenda. December 1995. Requests may be directed to Gerald G. Newborg, State Historical Society of North Dakota, North Dakota Heritage Center, 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505-0830; or call (701) 328-2668.


- Nippert Collection of German Methodism, 1779-1974 (Bulk 1830-1955). Cincinnati, OH: The Cincinnati Historical Society Library, November 1995. The complete 954-page register may be purchased for $143.10. Portions of the register may also be purchased: Container List with Table of Contents (735 pages) - $110.25, Index only (219 pages) - $32.85, Table of Contents (11 pages) - $1.65. Requests should be directed to Jonathan Dembo, Archivist, The Cincinnati Historical Society, 1301 Western Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45203; or call (513) 287-7068; or FAX (513) 287-7095.

Information about these finding aids should be directed to Keith Schrum, Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203-2137; or call (303) 866-4602.

Requests may be directed to: Gordon O. Hendrickson, State Historical Society of Iowa, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, IA; or call (515) 281-6412.
(Mill Villages, from page 1)
documentation, and strength in the areas of manufacturing production and labor relations. They show in detail the operation of the mills and their output. Clifton’s employee records are extensive in documenting health and safety, with long runs of accident reports filed with the firm’s insurance companies, and also include payroll records for a number of years through the mill’s history. In similar fashion, there are extensive personnel records in the collection, as well as material related to a number of labor disputes during the 1930s and 1940s. The collection’s extensive correspondence files document the relationship of this mill complex with both the larger world of the American textile industry and the financial community which underwrote it, including correspondence with shareholders and with organizations such as the South Carolina Cotton Manufacturers Association.

Although not as extensive, the other collections have particular strengths. The J.P. Stevens Company records include documentation related to the expansion of this firm through the acquisition of numerous mills in the South after World War II, as well as considerable materials about the takeover of the firm and its successor, West Point Pepperell, during the 1980s. There is also a large collection of photographs. The Lowenstein records include some material related to the social life of the mill villages, including the sale of a mill village. Material related to the Chiquola Manufacturing Company includes an insurance map of the plant from 1902, financial and stockholder reports, 1902-1958, and photographs from the 1930s. Some of the photographs document community life such as sports and fraternal organizations. The records about the Orr Mills include documentation about the sale of the mill village in Anderson during 1949. The Satre Collection with its oral history tapes of textile executives and educators serves as a counterpoint to the oral history collections held by other repositories. All told, these collections provide a collage of documentation about textile mill history in South Carolina, complementing each other in a manner that their total value for researchers is considerably greater than any one collection.

NHPRC Application Deadlines

February 1, 1997 (for June 1997 meeting)

Proposals addressing the following objectives:

- To continue the current cooperative agreement whereby the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators informs the Commission on needs and progress nationally.
- To collaborate with the states to promote archival and records management by and among state and local governments.
- To assist new documentary projects, in various forms of publication, that help teachers improve history education and that help researchers pursue significant lines of inquiry in historical scholarship.
- To increase document use by teachers, students, scholars, and the public.
- To help carry out agendas for archival progress put forward by the Society of American Archivists and the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators, particularly to meet needs for preservation, planning, training, and institutional self-evaluation.

June 1, 1997 (for November 1997 meeting)

Proposals addressing the following objectives:

- To strengthen the efforts of state historical records coordinators and boards by offering grants for creating and updating state strategic plans for meeting records needs, based on the previous state assessments, and encompassing both documentary preservation and publication.
- To bring to completion within the next 20 years nine present projects that document the formation of basic American political institutions—editions of the papers of Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, and Washington, and papers on the ratification of the Constitution, the First Federal Congress, the early Supreme Court, and the beginnings of U.S. foreign relations.
- Through matching grant offers and other means, to develop consortia and centers to edit documents, deal with documentation problems, raise funds for projects, share equipment and staff, and provide training as well as editing.
- To carry out the recommendations in the report of the Working Meeting on Research Issues in Electronic Records.

October 1, 1997 (for February 1998 meeting)

Proposals addressing the following objectives:

- To help local organizations preserve records and make them accessible by providing grants to state historical records coordinators and boards for state regrants.
- To bring to completion within the next 20 years 36 present, Commission-funded projects that help document a range of historical subjects including the history of American women, the history of minority groups, and historical developments during and after the founding era.
- In collaboration with the Association for Documentary Editing, to help editors resolve issues and improve techniques, tools, media, training, and standards for documentary editing.
- To increase access to and use of records, based on recommendations in the reports of the Historical Documents Study and the Society of American Archivists’ Task Force on Goals and Priorities.

Application guidelines and forms may be requested from NHPRC, National Archives Building (Archives I), Room 607, Washington, DC 20408, (202) 501-5610 (voice), (202) 501-5601 (fax), nhprc@arch1.nara.gov (e-mail).

Commission and Volunteers Celebrate Conclusion of The Emerging Nation Project

The NHPRC recognized The Emerging Nation Project staff consisting of Commission staff and volunteers at a reception on November 7, 1996. The third and final volume of the project was completed and sent to the printer at the end of August. Photographs from the celebration appear opposite this page.

Upper left. Three consulting editors assisted in the work of The Emerging Nation project. Shown with Associate Editor J. Dane Hartgrove and Editor Mary A. Giunta are Professor Peter P. Hill (far left) and Professor Lawrence S. Kaplan (far right). Norman A. Graebner (not pictured) also served as a consulting editor.

Upper right. Volunteers transcribed and translated documents, verified texts, conducted historical research, worked on document databases, located and copied documents in manuscript repositories, located copies of illustrations, and drew maps. Volunteer Pat Alfredson receives a certificate of appreciation from Archivist of the United States John W. Carlin.

Center. Twenty-four volunteers assisted the editors of The Emerging Nation project. Shown with Archivist Carlin (center) are volunteers Helen G. Cullinan, Beatrice Meyerson, Burt Knauff, Pat Alfredson, Liz Lourie, Norma Hoehndorf, Betty Moore, Art Gamson, Renee Schick, and Carol Aitken.

Bottom left. Commissioners Alfred Goldberg and Winston Tabb reflect on the successful completion of the project.

Bottom right. Executive Director Gerald W. George extends his appreciation to Editor Mary A. Giunta and Associate Editor J. Dane Hartgrove upon completion of The Emerging Nation project at a reception held at the National Archives Building on November 7, 1996.
Miss Mabel Vernon (center) and Miss Anne Martin (right), with driver, campaigning for women’s suffrage in rural Nevada, July, 1914. Martin was president of the Nevada Equal Franchise Society, which organized members to canvas the state promoting a suffrage amendment to the Nevada constitution. This was no small task in a state where 20,000 male voters were spread over 112,000 square miles. Vernon, from Delaware, was dispatched by the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage to assist in the effort, and she and Martin crisscrossed the state in the convertible pictured here. The Nevada suffrage amendment was approved in 1914, largely because of support by rural voters. Credit: Special Collections Department, University of Nevada, Reno Library. The photograph was discovered in a vertical file at the Carson City Public Library by Nevada Women’s Archives Project surveyor Jean Ford. The project is supported by an NHPRC grant to the University of Nevada, Reno. Ford found public library clipping and vertical files to be rich sources of historical information about the activities of women in Nevada. The library donated its suffrage photographs to the women’s archives project, where they will be processed by a project curator.