Paul M. and Harriet L. Weissman
Preservation Center Named

The Harvard University Library is pleased to announce the naming of the Weissman Preservation Center in honor of a generous gift from Paul M. Weissman and Harriet L. Weissman. The gift adds to the distinction of the Library and advances its mission to preserve Harvard’s vast library collections for future generations of students and scholars.

“The Harvard Library collections are a significant part of what makes the University a great center for scholarship and teaching,” noted Sidney Verba, Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library. “The University has no higher responsibility than to steward those collections for current and future generations of students and scholars.”

Building the British Library

The new British Library at St. Pancras, London, is the only major public building to be built in Great Britain in the twentieth century. No other project, since the building of St. Paul’s Cathedral, over 400 years ago, took so long to construct or was surrounded by so much controversy. Designed by Professor Sir Colin St. John Wilson, and opened in 1998, the Library is now hailed as a great triumph of design and technology that it was well worth the effort.

An exhibition, “Building the British Library: An Architectural Exhibition,” featuring original drawings, architectural models, and photographs that chronicle the building from conception through opening, is on display in Pusey Library through May 26.

Visitors to the exhibition will see various beginning schemes for the new library on through to the completion phase of the present design. During the 37 years from the award of the brief to the opening of the last Reading Room, Sir Colin faced changes to the location, size, proportions, and funding for the building. He delivered a fitting tribute to the vision of those who created the British Library, and the scholarly ambitions of those who work in it now. The exhibition will appeal to anyone interested in architecture, libraries, and the modern urban landscape, and is sponsored by the American Trust for the British Library, Harvard College Library, and the Friends of Harvard College Library.

The British Library’s new building at St. Pancras is the Library’s first purpose-built home, and a major resource for Britain and the world. The new building allows the Library to enhance the quality and speed of its services to users, and brings together on one site the majority of the Library’s London collections. It also allows the Library to develop a lively and varied program for the general visitor.

Notable Features of the New Library Building:

- Eleven new reading areas provide seats for 1,206 readers with 23 linear km of open access shelving.
- The four basement levels descend nearly 23 meters and contain 300 linear km of various types of shelving.

Rediscover the Countway Library of Medicine

The workers are gone, earplugs are no longer a required study aid, and the air is clear of construction dust. At last, the Countway Library of Medicine renovation project is finished. It took two and a half years, $28 million dollars, and enormous amounts of patience on the part of the patrons and staff, but, looking at the final product, all will agree that it was well worth the effort.

The renovation entailed not only an overall face-lift for the Library, but also many infrastructure improvements and a reconfiguration of departments and services to make them more user-friendly. The most aesthetically striking feature in the renovated Countway is the graceful new stairway that takes users up through the open atrium to the reference area on the second floor. From the perspective of the reference desk, users have an unrestricted view of the Library entrance and of the Aesculapian Collection of leisure reading on the L1 level. Comfortable furniture, group study rooms, more computer
Personnel

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Jennifer Keats is the new Records Center Services Representative in the Records Management Office (RMO). Jennifer acts as a liaison between RMO, its clients, and the Harvard Depository in the transfer and storage of University records. Jennifer is a recent graduate of the University of Delaware, where she received a B.A. in Literature. She has database maintenance and user services experience from the University of Delaware and from Brandeis University.

BAKER LIBRARY

Erika McCaffrey has transferred from the Business Information Services Center to the Research Services Department. Erika has been a valued member of the Baker staff since she joined the former Reference Department in 1986. She served as head of that unit for several years until it was eliminated during a major reorganization.

Michael Moore is the new Coordinator of Public Services in the Historical Collections Department. Previously, Michael was the Head of Reference at Bradford College, in Bradford, Massachusetts. Prior to that, he was the Archivist & Librarian in the Texas General Land Office, in Austin, Texas, and the Head of the Collections of Political Materials at Baylor University, in Waco, Texas.

Michael Sorell has been appointed Research Database Analyst in Research Services. Michael recently finished his A.B.D. in Finance at the University of Delaware, where he also earned an M.A. in Finance. He holds an M.A. in Political Economy from Dartmouth College, and a B.S. in Economics from Connecticut College. From 1992-1993 he worked as an Expense Analyst at Bergdorf Goodman in New York City, and from 1991-1992 he was an Economic Consultant for the Latin American Economic Development Association, in Camden, New Jersey.

Liam Sullivan is the new Library Assistant IV in the Business Information Services Center. In this role, Liam is primarily responsible for coordinating and monitoring access to the Library during the day. Liam brings experience gained at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Genzyme, and Barnes & Noble.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY

Lawrence Marcus, Head of Reserves Services in Lamont, left HCL in March for the Washington D.C. area, where his wife, Lucy Barron, has assumed a position at the Library of Congress. Lawrence will be greatly missed by his colleagues at Lamont.

Laura Morrissey is the new Library Assistant with the Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Department in Widener Library. Laura is responsible for the operations required to provide Interlibrary Loan services to Faculty of Arts and Sciences affiliates. Before coming to Harvard, she did grant work for the Emma Goldman Papers at the University of California at Berkeley. Laura has an A.B. in English from Brown University.

Alan E. Puglia has joined the staff of Houghton Library as Conservator for Houghton Library Collections. Alan treats rare books from the Houghton collections, working in the Special Collections Conservation Lab in the Weissman Preservation Center. Alan is a 1996 graduate of the University of Texas Preservation and Conservation Studies program, with a Masters of Library and Information Science and an Advanced Certificate in Library and Archives Conservation. His third-year Conservation Internship in the University of Iowa Libraries’ Conservation Department focused on advanced treatment of special collections materials, particularly rare books. Alan entered the conservation field in 1989 as a Conservator Technician at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and in 1996 became Conservator at NARA. Alan has also received training in rare book conservation at the Library of Congress and at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin.

Virginia Smyers has joined the Refactoring Section of the Preservation & Imaging Services as Preservation Cataloger. Virginia began working for Harvard 27 years ago, as an Acquisitions Assistant in Houghton Library. Since then she has served as Librarian at the Bryher Library, in East Hampton, New York; Reference Librarian in Widener Library; Curatorial Associate for Reference in the Harvard University Archives; and Project Cataloger and later Head of Public Services in Houghton Library. In her new position, Virginia creates and improves bibliographic records for a broad range of materials that have been selected for microfilming, and assists in directing the work of Bibliographic Assistants in the department. She will also play an instrumental role in establishing and implementing procedures for creating various types of metadata for materials selected for digitization.

Craig Thomas is a new Cataloger with the German/Scandinavian Cataloging Team. Previously, Craig worked for twelve years in technical services at the New England Conservatory of Music, including five years as a Cataloger. Craig earned an A.B. in Music from Brandeis University, an M.M. in Musicology from the New England Conservatory of Music, and an M.L.S. from Simmons College.

Evelyn Walker has accepted the two-year position of Project Cataloger for Printing and Graphic Arts in the Houghton Library. Evelyn brings more than 17 years of experience as Rare Book Librarian at the University of Rochester. She earned her A.B. in Spanish and Music at Randolph-Macon Women’s College, in Ashland, Virginia; her M.A. in European History at the University of Rochester, in Rochester, New York; and her M.L.S. at the State University of New York at Geneseo.

DUMBARTON OAKS

Pam Allen is the new Acquisitions Orders Assistant. Pam started at Dumbarton Oaks as a Casual in the Garden Gate and the Museum Shop before coming to the Library, where she worked in Acquisitions.

Lee Kimball Clark has been appointed Head Cataloger. Kim comes to Dumbarton Oaks after ten years as Fine Arts Cataloger at the National Museum of American Art/National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution. He holds an M.A. in Library Science from the University of Chicago, an M.A. in Art History and Museum Studies from the George Washington University, and a B.A. in Art History from the University of Virginia.

Ludmila Gordon is the new Acquisitions Receiving Assistant. Previously, Ludmila was a Casual for three years. Before coming to Dumbarton Oaks she worked at the Historical Society “Memorial” in Moscow in the Collection Development Department. She holds a B.A. in Russian Literature from the State Pedagogical Institute, Moscow, as well as an M.A. in History and an M.A. in Library Science from the Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow.

Rod Lawlor was appointed to the new position of Serials and Acquisitions Specialist. Rod has spent the last eight years at the University of Oregon Library, where he worked variously in the Serials Department, the Authorities/Catalog Management Unit, and the Architecture & Allied Arts Library. Rod is currently completing coursework for his B.Arch. degree.

FRANCES LOEB LIBRARY

Tylka Vetula left the Frances Loeb Library at the end of April. Tylka accepted a position as Serials Librarian for the Jacob Burns Law Library at the George Washington University Law School. Tylka spent four years working for Harvard in a number of positions: as a Casual at Countway; as a Weekend Supervisor at Littauer; as a Bindery Assistant at Littauer; and, most recently, as the Serials Assistant at the Frances Loeb Library. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues at the Frances Loeb Library.

LAW SCHOOL LIBRARY

Cathy Conroy has resumed her position of Assistant Librarian for Administration after spending a year and a half on assignment as Special Assistant to Administrative Dean of the Law School, Sanda Coleman. Cathy resumes many of her former responsibilities for coordinating the library’s central administrative services, including budget, personnel, facilities, computer services, and general administrative support in the Librarian’s office. Cathy was the Library staff member most directly involved in the detailed management of the Langdell Renovation Project.

Karen Klein has joined the Acquisitions Department as a Searching/Receipts Assistant. In this position, Karen searches for HOLLIS records and creates invoice statements. Previously, she worked as a Library Assistant in the Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Department at Widener Library. In addition to a B.A. in English from the University of Massachusetts at Boston, Karen also holds a paralegal degree and is currently a Proofreader for the Harvard Bulletin.

Brian Sutton is the new Access Services Supervisor. Most recently, Brian was Daytime Circulation Coordinator. Prior to that he was a Supervisory Library Technician in Access Services at Boston University’s Frederick S. Pardee Management Library.

WEISSMAN PRESERVATION CENTER

Jane Hedberg has been appointed Preservation Program Officer in the Weissman Preservation Center. Ms. Hedberg will provide preservation field services for Harvard’s libraries; serve as managing editor of the Center’s print and web publications; and manage the
Curator Anne Anninger Retires

After nearly 18 years at Harvard College Library, Anne Anninger, Philip Hofer Curator of Printing and Graphic Arts in the Houghton Library, retired on March 31. Ms. Anninger has been responsible for a collection of 200,000 manuscripts, printed books, drawings, photographs, and ephemeral pieces documenting the development of letter-form and the history of printing and illustration, from eighth-century illumination to today’s digitized media. In addition, as Lecturer on History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University, she has conducted seminars for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. Ms. Anninger first came to Harvard in 1975, when she was promoted to Rare Book Cataloger for Printing and Graphic Arts in Houghton Library. She cataloged books from the sixteenth century to the present, concentrating on two major collections of eighteenth-century Venetian imprints and sixteenth-century and Portuguese imprints. She is a two-time recipient of the Douglas W. Bryant Fellowship for Bibliographical Research. In 1982 Ms. Anninger left Harvard for Wellesley College where she served as Special Collections Librarian and then as Associate Librarian before returning to Houghton Library in 1990.

She earned her Ph.D. in Art History from Harvard University in 1994; an MA in Art History from Harvard University in 1987; an MLS from Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences; and her BA from Brandeis University in 1973. Between 1994 and 1996, she served as Co-Chair of the Friends of Harvard College Library, and as Treasurer from 1996-1998. She is a past president of the American Printing History Association, National Chapter, a member of the NEDCC, including the well-known series, “Managing Preservation for Library and Archives.” She is currently chair of the ALCATS/ALA Preservation Management Committee and the NEDCC Advisory Committee, and serves on the NELINET Preservation Advisory Committee.

Bette A. Viano Appointed Assistant Director for Human Resources

Bette A. Viano joined the Harvard University Library (HUL) as Assistant Director for Human Resources on April 24. “Bette will be a wonderful addition to the University Library,” said Sidney Verba, Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library. Bette’s appointment follows an extensive search process involving staff from the Harvard University Library, the Harvard College Library, and members of the University Library Council. “We are grateful to the search committee for helping to bring an exceptional candidate to the post,” said Professor Verba.

Bette will be responsible for all aspects of HR services for the HUL programs including recruitment and hiring; compliance and benefits; as well as development and training issues. She will also represent HUL among the HR Directors—a University group of senior HR specialists in each faculty and central administration department. Bette succeeds Malcolm Hamilton, who served as University Personnel Librarian since 1985. Malcolm was recently appointed Interim Librarian at the Andover-Harvard Theological Library. He continues his ombudsman and other advisory and institutional research roles for the University Library.

Barbara Graham, Associate Director in the Harvard University Library for Administration and Programs, notes “Bette’s experience both at the University and outside will be invaluable to HUL and to the Harvard libraries. I look forward to having her join our management team.”

Ms. Viano has been employed at Harvard for over seven years and comes to HUL from the Harvard Law School where she was Assistant Director for Human Resources serving 500 administrators, faculty, and staff. In this capacity she advised on complex workplace issues and problem resolution. She also was responsible for HR issues in the Law School Library, between 1994 and 1996, where she worked directly with library staff and became familiar with many library-related issues. She designed, implemented, and managed the Law School Technology Training Initiative. In addition, she developed strategic recruitment programs for 18 departments in competitive fields, including the library and information technology departments. During this time Bette also served on a University-wide committee on recruitment.

Earlier at Harvard, she held the position of Human Resources Consultant at the Harvard Business School Publishing Corporation where she was the facilitator of a management task force that developed an innovative team-based performance management process and a variable pay program. Ms. Viano also has extensive human resource management experience in the private sector. At the Shawmut Bank, she was a Division Manager for HR, and at PB Diagnostic, she served as a corporate compensation and benefits manager. Ms. Viano holds an M.B.A from Simmons College Graduate School of Management, a B.A. in English from Boston College, in addition to certificates for professional training in organizational development, technical recruiting, and regulatory environment for compensation.

Center’s teaching and training initiatives; oversee the organization and development of the Center’s preservation and imaging resource library; and with Nancy Schrock, Chief Collections Conservator in the Harvard College Library, direct the work of the Library Collections Emergency Team.

Most recently Jane was Serials Librarian and Preservation Administrator at Wellesley College. There, she developed a preservation program that serves as a model for college libraries; oversaw the design and construction of a conservation facility based in part on the HCL collections conservation laboratory in Widener Library; and played a leadership and educational role in a number of significant regional and national organizations and associations. She has also written a preservation news column for College & Research Libraries News for the past eight years. Jane has a B.A. from Smith College and an M.L.I.S. from Simmons College. Since 1993, she has served on the faculties of various preservation programs sponsored by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), including the well-known series, “Managing Preservation for Library and Archives.” She is currently chair of the ALCATS/ALA Preservation Management Committee and the NEDCC Advisory Committee, and serves on the NELINET Preservation Advisory Committee.
DIVINITY RENOVATION

The Andover-Harvard Theological Library will close on Friday, May 26 at 5 p.m. to begin a yearlong renovation. Library services will reopen on Monday, June 19, in various parts of Andover Hall, the Divinity School’s main building. Library users should check the LG database in HOLLIS or call 496-1615 or 495-5788 to verify hours and access information.

PRESEERVATION UPDATES

There was a strong showing of Preservation staff at the ACRU/New England Preservation/Conservation Interest Group spring meeting, held March 23 at the Homer Babbidge Library, University of Connecticut in Storrs. Beth Doyle, Conservator for Special Projects in the College and University Library, and Heather Caldwell, Preservation Services Librarian at MFI (and former intern in HCL Conservation Services), coordinat- ed and presented the program, “Leather Deterioration and Treatment Options.” At the same meeting, Susi Barbarossa, Conservation Technician in Widener Library, spoke about the board-slotting repair technique while Ethel Hellman, Collections Conservator for Widener Library, spoke on board tacketing. Also in attendance were Karen Bailey, Rare Book Librarian in Baker Library; Lori Foley, Binding and Conservation Assistant in Tozer Library; and John O’Regan, Conservation Technician in Widener Library.


BOOK REVIEW

A review of a book by Olga Strakhov, Preservation Assistant with the NEH Project in the HUL Weissman Preservation Center, appeared in a recent issue of the German journal Jahrbuch für osteuropäische Geschichte. The reviewer, G. Podskałsky, praised Olga’s book, The Byzantine Culture in Muscovite Ruś: The Case of Eufimia Chudowska (1620-1705) (Köln: Böhlau Verlag, 1998), calling it “a mature masterpiece” written in a style that makes it “accessible to a broad readership.” Mr. Podskałsky is a leading specialist in Byzantine-Slavic cultural relations and Byzantine and Slavic cultural history.

PRESEERVATION WEB SITE UPDATED

A revised and expanded Web site, “Library Preservation at Harvard” (http://preserve.harvard.edu), debuted on March 30, 2000. The site promotes the services offered to the libraries at Harvard by the Weissman Preservation Center in the Harvard University Library and Preservation & Imaging Services in the Harvard College Library. Practical, up-to-date information on preservation and imaging topics are organized under the general headings Services, Resources, and Emergencies. A News section includes exhibitions highlighting preservation challenges, a virtual tour of the HCL Conservation Lab, and links to articles about program accomplishments. This is the first major revision of the site since its initial release in 1997. Over the course of the next year, work will focus on augmenting the guidelines, procedures, and other documents currently posted in the Resources section.

EXHIBITION

The Frances Loeb Library Special Collections Department is displaying a collection of material related to the “One Hundred Years of Landscape Architecture at Harvard, 1900-2000: Our Heritage/Imagining Futures” exhibition which is in the main lobby of Gund Hall. Special Collections is open Monday through Friday, from 1 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

FRANCES LOEB LIBRARY 2000 SPRING LECTURE

On Thursday, May 11, the Friends of the Frances Loeb Library 2000 Spring Lecture presents Elizabeth S. Eustis, who will speak on “Garden Prints as Primary Sources for Landscape Design History.” Ms. Eustis holds an M.A. from Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum/Parson’s School of Design. A historian of the garden print, she has served as researcher and cataloger at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and a research assistant at the Cooper Hewitt Museum. In 1998 she co-curated an exhibition from the New York Botanical Garden Library at the Grolier Club, New York. Ms. Eustis also teaches at the Radcliffe Seminars program at Harvard University.

Ms. Eustis has worked extensively with early garden print resources in the Special Collections Department of the Frances Loeb Library. She will present several case studies from her research, featuring resources from the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Frances Loeb Library. The lecture will be held in Gund Hall Room 111 at the Graduate School of Design, followed by a reception in the Special Collections Department of the Library.

SYMPOSIUM


RADCILFEE ALUMNA EXHIBITS WORK AT THE SCHLESINGER LIBRARY

Mary Pennington Weatherall, who lives and paints in Ipswich, Massachusetts, will be showing her work in the exhibition “Landsapes: River, Marsh, and Town,” May 3 through May 31 at the Schlesinger Library of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University. The exhibition is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A graduate of Radcliffe College with a concentration in Fine Arts, Ms. Weatherall also studied painting in Oxford, England; at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education; at Montserrat College of Art in Beverly; and at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vermont. She has shown her oil paintings of the tidal marshes, rivers, and bridges of Ipswich and the textile mills of the Merrimac River at numerous exhibitions on the North Shore and in

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Visiting Committee Book Prize Winners Announced

On April 7, Heather E. Cole, Librarian of Hilles and Lamont Libraries, announced that senior David Timothy Horn’s, ’00, book collection and essay, “French Colonialism in the 1920s and 1930s,” won the $500 first prize in the 1999-2000 Visiting Committee Book Prize for Undergraduate Book Collecting. The award is sponsored by the Members of the Visiting Committee.

Horn’s collection, which he developed during his junior and senior years at Harvard, consists of a unique collection of 30, rare, European travel books and journals. The award is sponsored by the Members of the Visiting Committee, and the award winner is selected by an independent panel.

The winning essay was titled “French Colonialism in the 1920s and 1930s,” and the essay is available online at www.librarynotes.com. The essay explores the impact of French colonialism on the region, and Horn’s collection of books and journals provides a rich resource for researchers and students.

The second prize of $400 was awarded to Social Studies major David Mihalyfy, ’02, for his collection and essay, “Autographed Books.” Mr. Mihalyfy writes that he began collecting autographed books as momentous of trips he had taken to hear authors speak.

David Mihalyfy, ’02

“...the bulk of which was purchased in Paris, France, during two trips there in 1999. Mr. Horn also discovered a limited selection of titles at the open-air markets in Aix.

The British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and one of the world’s greatest libraries. It is funded by Government through the Department of Culture, Media, and Sport. The British Library offers the widest range of services of any national library from the new building at St Pancras and from Boston Spa in Yorkshire. At present there are over 2,300 staff at both locations. The Library's collection has developed over 250 years and exceeds 150 million separate items. It includes books, journals, manuscripts, maps, stamps, music, patents, newspapers, and sound recordings in all written and spoken languages. The Library's primary users are independent researchers, the academic community, the library and information science sector, and business and industry. Further information about the British Library is available at its Web site (www.bl.uk).
Leading Environmentalist Leaves Papers to Harvard

Environmental scholars at Harvard will soon have access to the personal papers of Maurice Strong, one of the central figures in international environmental politics for the past 30 years. Mr. Strong’s papers, recently donated to the University, document crucial events in the evolution of international environmental policy from an ad hoc collection of bilateral agreements to a growing system of global accords such as the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, the Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Convention on Biodiversity.

William C. Clark, Harvey Brooks Professor of International Science, Public Policy, and Human Development, and member of the executive committee of the University Committee on Environment, stated that “a growing community of scholars will find these materials instrumental in their investigations of the past, present, and future of the international environmental movement.”

During his career, Mr. Strong has served as the secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972), the first executive director of the United Nations Environment Program, and the secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio De Janeiro, 1992). He also served as a member of the World Commission on Environment and Development and the Commission on Global Governance.

The papers will be housed in the Environmental Science and Public Policy Archives of the Harvard College Library. The Archives were established in 1997 to preserve documentary collections describing scientific, political, and cultural aspects of the contemporary environment movement.
Chinese and Korean Scholars Visit Harvard-Yenching Library

Harvard-Yenching Library is host to visiting scholars Dr. Soon Gu Lee, from Korea and Professor Zuo-zhi Yan, from China, who are participating in a Visiting Scholars Program sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute. The scholars are assisting the Library in an ambitious task to publish two annotated rare book catalogs, one for 2,800 Chinese rare books and the other for 3,000 Korean rare books.

Zuo-zhi Yan, a Professor of Chinese at the East China Normal University, in Shanghai, will be at the Harvard-Yenching Library through August 2000, working with Chun Shum, Curator of Rare Books, to compile the second volume of the Annotated Catalogue of the Chinese Rare Books in the Harvard-Yenching Library of Harvard University. The volume will cover approximately 2,800 titles printed during the early Ch’ing Dynasty, before 1795. The Library holds between 4,000 and 5,000 Chinese rare books printed between the tenth and seventeenth centuries, the largest collection of such books outside mainland China.

Dr. Soon Gu Lee, an expert on Korean rare books from the Korean National History Compilation Committee, in Seoul, Korea, is working with Choong-nam Yoon, Librarian for the Korean Collection, to critically review 3,000 Korean rare book titles in the Library. An annotated catalog of these rare books will be prepared for publication. Dr. Lee will focus on books printed before 1900 during the Yi Dynasty (also known as the Choson Dynasty). When completed, this project will help Korean scholars study Korean classics in Harvard-Yenching Library’s collection. Dr. Lee will be at Harvard-Yenching Library until December 2000.

In March, both scholars attended the annual meetings of the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) and the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), in San Diego, California, as part of their programs at Harvard-Yenching Library.

Judaica Division and Weissman Preservation Center Collaborate in Isfahan Ketubah Exhibition

Harvard College Library’s Judaica Division and the Weissman Preservation Center, Harvard University Library, collaborated on the exhibition, Preservation: Linking Source and Scholar, The Case of a Harvard Ketubah, now on display on the third floor of Widener Library. This exhibition features an early twentieth century ketubah from Isfahan, Iran, presented to Harvard in 1990 by the late Dr. Henry J. Tumen as part of the Bernice and Henry Tumen Collection, and illustrates the extensive conservation work required to make it accessible for research.

The Isfahan Ketubah, circa 1913, stands as a work of art as well as a legal and historical document. A ketubah (translated to mean “that which is written”) is a document used in accordance with Jewish religious law to record the husband’s financial obligations toward his wife, particularly with respect to divorce or death. From the early Middle Ages it was the custom among European Jewish communities to decorate the ketubah, which were often on parchment with an illuminated border depicting Biblical images and Jewish symbols. Decorated ketubot (plural of ketubah) of Jewish communities in the Middle East, such as the piece currently on exhibit, are a much later phenomenon. They are often on paper and feature flowery and geometric designs. With their precisely dated and detailed information concerning the bride and groom, the ketubah is an important and reliable historical source.

Because of their decoration, ketubot are also a significant genre of Jewish art. This ketubah required extensive conservation work, which was performed by paper conservator Debora Mayer under the auspices of the Weissman Preservation Center, “Before” and “after” photographs in the exhibition demonstrate the conservation work done. The Library’s Judaica Division and the Weissman Preservation Center presented the Isfahan ketubah in this exhibition as an illustration of the work sometimes required to preserve historical documents and make them accessible for research. Along with the ketubah, a sampling of the Library’s resources for the study of the ketubah were also presented in this exhibition, in order to set the document in its scholarly context. Preservation: Linking Source and Scholar, The Case of a Harvard Ketubah was prepared by Elizabeth Vernon, Judaica Technical Services Librarian, and Elizabeth Morse, Paper Conservator in the Harvard College Library.
Environmental Monitoring: A Gateway to Long-lived Collections

A n audience of library, archives, museum, and facilities staff at Harvard gathered at the Starr Auditorium in the Kennedy School of Government on March 30, to hear William P. Lull discuss environmental monitoring within the context of cultural repositories. The seminar was sponsored by the Weissman Preservation Center in the Harvard University Library and Preservation & Imaging Services in the Harvard College Library.

Mr. Lull is principle and senior conservation environment consultant for Garrison/Lull, Inc., Adjunct Associate Professor of Building Technology at New York University; and author of Conservation Environment Guidelines for Libraries and Archives. He has worked as a designer and project manager for architects, engineers and government agencies; and has been an instrumental participant in the construction and renovation of a great many facilities that house library, archives, and museum collections.

While temperature, relative humidity, light, and air quality are well-understood factors in determining the rate at which paper, cloth, leather, glass, metals, and other materials decay, techniques for monitoring environmental conditions are less well documented and understood. The purpose of the seminar was to introduce practical, affordable strategies for conducting ongoing environmental assessment, a critical activity for identifying and correcting minor and major facilities problems.

Mr. Lull began the program by delineating four types of environmental monitoring programs, and emphasizing the importance of articulating an institution’s environmental goals to be certain that relevant information is collected in the monitoring process. He also noted that as a consultant he assists institutions in their efforts to create and sustain appropriate collections storage conditions. He is a frequent consumer of the results of monitoring programs.

This perspective has made him a strong advocate for collecting environmental data that meet the needs of the people who design, construct, and maintain building systems. Through experience, Mr. Lull has learned much about the types of data that can support effective problem solving.

According to Mr. Lull, preservation and collections librarians, curators, and archivists must be acutely aware of the mechanisms that damage the collections in their care. These can be characterized as mechanical (that is, physical), chemical, and biological factors. Those closest to the collection must understand each of these threats in order to be able to work with facilities managers and engineers to match environmental conditions to the needs of the collections. In so doing, the potential for damage can be minimized and the overall rate of aging slowed. Environmental monitoring programs are most useful when all parties concerned are involved in collecting and evaluating results.

After creating a context for discussing monitoring programs, Mr. Lull reviewed in detail a series of environmental goals as well as methods for monitoring conditions. Temperature, humidity, light (including intensity, ultraviolet light, and color temperature), particulate matter, and gaseous contaminants were discussed. In most cases, various pieces of equipment useful for both spot monitoring and monitoring over time were reviewed, with mention made of the types of instruments that are easily found on the market and the strengths and shortcomings of each. Routine handling and calibration of the equipment were mentioned, with much attention given to real world experience.

A broad range of devices was explained over the course of the morning, including humidity strips, hygrometers, RH meters and sensors, and psychrometers for measuring relative humidity and calibrating instruments; hygrothermographs and dataloggers for measuring and recording temperature and relative humidity over time; light meters, textile fading strips, and dataloggers for measuring and recording various characteristics of light; particle counters for measuring particulate matter in air; and a variety of monitors for measuring harmful gaseous contaminants—such as indicator strips that assess the degree to which cellulose acetate film has deteriorated.

Jan Merrill-Oldham, Malloy-Rabinowitz Preservation Librarian in the Harvard University Library and the Harvard College Library, highlighted for the participants, one of the many handouts distributed at the conference. The document describes two dataloggers, each of which record temperature and relative humidity at fixed intervals and support the uploading of data into a computer for manipulation. The differences in the capabilities of the two instruments reveal the tradeoffs that collections managers must make in planning and implementing a monitoring program.

As the morning drew to a close, Mr. Lull reviewed general considerations in establishing an environmental monitoring program, from the need to establish a clean, accurate description of current conditions and facilities (air handlers, chillers, steam pipes, etc.) to the placement and rotation of instrumentation when it is not possible to place equipment in every room for which documentation is desired. He reminded participants that maintaining a simple log that notes such events as a major storm, or shutdown of a chiller for servicing, is critical to developing an understanding of how a building responds to various conditions and how it can be brought under better control.

The Weissman Preservation Center may be reached by phone (495-8596), or online (http://preserve.harvard.edu/).

COUNTWAY
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workstations, and attractively painted walls throughout the Library invite users to settle in and stay awhile.

Infrastructure improvements include a state-of-the-art climate control system, networked computer jacks throughout the Library, and better lighting. The relocated Reference and Education Department on the second floor boasts several banks of computer workstations, an open and airy atmosphere, and an expanded stack area to house the reference collection.

Historians and other scholars can work in the quiet of the Holmes Reading Room in the Rare Books and Special Collections Department on the L2 level. Once spread over three floors, the Department’s historical treasures are now stored in a single stack area adjacent to the staff offices.

The Russell Current Journal Reading Room on the first floor provides users with easy access to the most current issues of journals. Previously, these journals were kept with the bound journals on the L1 level and could be removed from the floor and left in locations throughout the Library. Searching for a current journal was often a difficult and time-consuming task. In the new configuration, current journals remain in the Russell Reading Room where they can be promptly reshelved for the next user. Copy machines are also provided in the Reading Room.

Written descriptions cannot do justice to the many changes, renovation brought to the Countway Library. Library Director, Judith Messerle said, “Words can only convey so much. You need to visit the Library to fully appreciate the transformation that has occurred.” On May 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Library will host a User Appreciation Day to reintroduce users to the Library and department locations. At 3:30 p.m. on May 16, the Communications & Orientation Committee of the HUL Librarians’ Assembly will host a tour of Countway for library professionals. For more information on either event, contact Kathy Wahl (432-4807; kwahl@hms.harvard.edu).
and future generations of Library users. Preservation is an overwhelming need among Harvard’s libraries. The reformating of brittle materials and the conservation of rare books and manuscripts is not well understood by most of us who use research collections. The Weissman’s gift demonstrates their deep understanding of what is at stake if collections remain at risk. Their
generous support will enable the Preservation Center in the University Library to kindle further understanding of this important work.

At a ceremony held March 20 to celebrate the Center’s naming, Provost Harvey Fineberg unveiled a plaque and thanked the Weissman’s for their remarkable gift, saying, “The efforts and accomplishments of the Weissman Preservation Center in the Harvard University Library will stand as a living demonstration of Paul and Harriet’s profound understanding of the importance of preservation to scholarship at Harvard. Their gift will ensure that present and future scholars and students will have access to Harvard’s incomparable collections.”

“The Library is the heart of this institution, and a vital part of all the Harvard libraries is the Preservation Center, which ensures that the University’s great collections remain forever safeguarded for students and scholars.” Paul M. Weissman, AB ’52

the Weissman Center for reformating were collected comprehensively only at Harvard. And, many of the materials that we conserve are the unique products of research, scholarship and artistic achievement.

The Weissman Preservation Center in the Harvard University Library, together with Preservation & Imaging Services in the Harvard College Library, administer programs dedicated to ensuring that Harvard’s library collections remain accessible for teaching and research. The Weissman Center, in addition to managing a conservation laboratory where rare books, manuscripts, maps, prints, drawings, and other rare and unique materials of extraordinary research and artistic value are conserved, provides a range of services to the libraries at Harvard. These include advisory services regarding collections care, conservation, microfilming, digitizing, and micropublishing; assistance with preservation program development; field services (collections surveys, environmental monitoring, emergency preparedness); and grant writing and project management. Currently the Center, with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is managing a program to microfilm decaying nineteenth- and twentieth-century texts in the history of science (medicine, astronomy, anthropology, and botany) from the Countway, Wulbach, Tozer, Widener, and Botany libraries.

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Burned Books and Blasted Shrines: Cultural Heritage Under Fire in Kosovo, is on display at the Fine Arts Library now through June 30. The exhibition features photographs and other materials documenting the destruction of the cultural heritage of Kosovo in the 1998-99 conflict. Many of the photographs, by András Riedlmayer, Bibliographer for Islamic Art and Architecture in the Fine Arts Library, and Andrew Herscher, architect and Ph.D. candidate at the Design School, were brought back from an October 1999 survey of Kosovo’s historical architecture and cultural institutions—the Kosovo Cultural Heritage Survey.

A grant from the Packard Humanities Institute, administered by Harvard’s Center for Middle Eastern Studies, enabled Mr. Riedlmayer, Mr. Herscher, and Mr. Genc Samimi, conservation expert from Albania, to conduct the survey. The grant covered the preparatory research and the three-week field study in Kosovo last October (three months after the end of the war). The group brought back a trove of documentation including more than 2,000 photographs and slides—both those they took and others they acquired from third parties. A small selection of this documentation is featured in the exhibition. All of the photographs of the Kosovo Cultural Heritage Survey now reside as a special collection in the Fine Arts Library. A subset of these images is being digitized, to be included in the Kosovo Cultural Heritage Survey’s database and in the ArchNet Web site. The project’s entire archive of documentation will also be made available for research as a special collection in the Fine Arts Library.

Harvard College Library’s own collections provided Mr. Riedlmayer and Mr. Herscher with the materials they needed for their research. Information on Kosovo’s cultural heritage in hard-to-find publications from the former Yugoslavia and other Balkan countries was readily available at the Fine Arts, Widener, and Tozzer libraries. This information was consolidated into a database designed and assembled by volunteer Donna Viscuglia, a member of the HD PUSH project team in Widener Library. The database was of vital importance in locating the burned-out mosques and other historic landmarks destroyed in Kosovo.

Shown here are photographs taken by Mr. Riedlmayer and Mr. Herscher as well as photographs acquired for the Survey from third parties in Kosovo on display in the exhibition.

View of the 500-year-old Charshi Mosque (Market Mosque) in Prizren, taken before its destruction. (Visible in the background just to the left of the mosque is a modern apartment building, which can also be seen in the second photo, taken from the same vantage point before the war.) Photo credits: Photo taken in 1998 by Ralf Virmiça, Prizren (Kosovo), in the collection of the Kosovo Cultural Heritage Survey, Fine Arts Library, Harvard College Library.


Left: View of the back of the burned-out Library of Hadum Suleiman Efendi in Djakovica (Gjakova) (founded 1595; the building dates from 1733), with holdings of about 200 manuscripts and 1,300 rare books in Ottoman Turkish, Arabic, and Aljamiado (Albanian in Arabic script), as well as the regional archives of the Islamic Community with records dating back to the seventeenth century. The library was burned in March 1999.

Above: historic family mansion (kulla) in the town of Junik, one of more than 500 traditional Kosovar Albanian residences, built in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, that were destroyed by Serbian security forces in Kosovo in the summer of 1998 and the spring of 1999. Photo taken July 1999 by Xhavit Lokaj, Pristina (Kosovo), in the collection of the Kosovo Cultural Heritage Survey, Fine Arts Library, Harvard College Library.
Bryant Fellowship Winner Announced

Brian Sullivan, Reference Archivist in the University Archives, is the recipient of the 1999-2000 Douglas W. Bryant Fellowship. Brian will use the fellowship to complete a project to transcribe the personal journal of former Librarian of Harvard College, John Langdon Sibley (1804-1885).

Since 1999, Mr. Sullivan has been preparing a transcription of the Sibley journal for electronic publication. An 1825 graduate of Harvard, John Langdon Sibley worked in the Harvard College Library while he was a student. After various careers as a minister and publisher, he returned to Harvard as Assistant Librarian in 1841, the same year that the Library moved into Gore Hall. He was appointed Librarian in 1856, and served in this capacity for 36 years. “Aside from building and defending the collections of the Library, Sibley was also an avid biographer and antiquarian,” notes Mr. Sullivan. “His exertions to save historical as well as contemporary documents did not end when he left the Library each night. He also strove, in his journal, to create a continuous record of his observations, insights, and opinions on events at Harvard, Cambridge, and beyond. Curiosity led me to the journal, and as I read the varied and interesting entries, I began to visualize it reformatted as a Web-based resource.”

Although Sibley’s journal has been available to scholars, the fragility of the original made it necessary for the University Archives to provide them with an aging facsimile that is nearly impossible to read.

“The Bryant Fellowship Committee was unanimous in its high judgment of the merits of Brian’s project. We were very happy to support such a project as this, bringing to light a document so rich in general historical and specific institutional interest,” said Hugh Olmsted, Slavic Specialist in Research and Bibliographic Services in Widener Library and Chair of this year’s committee.

Mr. Sullivan, who has worked at the University Archives since 1995, plans to use the fellowship to complete the transcription and to prepare it for delivery via the Archives’ Web site.

Although the transcription project is a personal endeavor, it complements the University Archives’ efforts to make Harvard history more broadly accessible online. In 1999, the Archives, in collaboration with the Radcliffe Archives, launched an LDI grant project to digitize the Annual Reports of both institutions.

Established with a gift from Charles and Mary Tanenbaum, the Douglas W. Bryant Fellowship supports research in bibliography and historical aspects of librarianship, the production of reference and bibliographic tools, and scholarly investigations outside the field of librarianship. Available each year since 1974 to promote scholarly research, the fellowship is intended to provide incentive and assistance to those seeking to develop or complete projects of academic importance. The jury for this year’s award consisted of Hugh Olmsted; Kevin Lau, Systems Administrator, Countway Library of Medicine; and Karen Nipps, Senior Rare Book Cataloger, Houghton Library.

SAMPLE ENTRIES FROM SIBLEY’S JOURNAL

ON DISORDERLY STUDENTS
October 31, 1846 “Last evening some one, probably an undergraduate, set fire to a bunch of crackers which exploded in the entry to the President’s study. This morning the students were desired to remain in the Chapel after prayers, and the President, after requesting the Professors Francis and Noyes to withdraw, addressed the students very successfully upon the subject.”

ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN
April 19, 1865 “There is a general inclination to drape public buildings as well as private residences. All the black cambric is bought up for the purpose … the four pilasters on the west side of University Hall are entirely covered from bottom to top with black.”

ON HIS CAREER AS LIBRARIAN
January 12, 1846 “My salary, which has been five hundred dollars and room rent, and pay at 40k per hour between four o’clock and prayer bell … and for the half day on Saturday, has been increased by one hundred dollars. I generally commence my duties, the year round, between half past seven and eight o’clock in the morning.”

AALL Adopts Universal Citation Guide

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) recently announced that its professional publication, Law Library Journal, would begin adopting universal citation formats in its articles. This decision will be applied to both citations within articles as well as the creation of universal citations for the articles published by the journal itself. This action was taken by AALL as a sign of its further commitment to creating for legal literature, a citation system that is not based on medium or vendor. Last summer, AALL published its Universal Citation Guide (UCG), which was written by the association’s Committee on Citation Formats, currently co-chaired by Paul George, Associate Librarian for Research Services at the Harvard Law School Library.

In publishing the UCG, the Committee noted that the citation is the linchpin to the legal system. The exchange of information about the law and access to legal information is based upon accurate citations that indicate where the source can be found as well as how current it is. As the legal systems developed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, citations became dependent on both the format and the publisher. A citation would indicate not only the court and jurisdiction for a case, but also the publisher and the format. This would force the user of a citation to consult the same source, regardless of the availability of other sources for the same information.

ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING EXPLOSION

The explosion of the availability of electronic publishing on the Internet, the disputes over the copyright status of private publishers’ pagination of government information, and a new competition between nonprofit electronic publishers of legal information and the traditional private publishers has brought the citation problem to the forefront. Access to information has expanded dramatically, thanks in part to the U.S. Government’s posting on Web sites information that previously was available only in limited paper formats. Often these electronic resources do not contain the citation elements required by the traditional citation rules. For example, the traditional rule for citing a federal appellate court case requires a citation such as 76 F3d 1283. This citation contains a volume and page number from a publication of a particular private publisher, West Group. Now, however, the same case is available on several Web sites—although without any of these citation elements.

The UCG is the result of several years of work, drafts, and comment periods. The AALL Citation Format Committee has proposed rules, giving guidance to publishers and users of legal information who want to make information accessible regardless of whether it is published in paper or electronic formats. For example, case citations should be based on the year of decision, sequentially assigned numbers for the decision, and paragraph numbers for citations within a case. The current edition of the UCG presents rules for citing cases, statutory materials, and regulations. Draft rules for citing law review articles, administrative decisions, and court rules will be published in an upcoming edition of Law Library Journal. The Committee is comprised of law librarians from law schools, courts, and law firms, and portions of the rules have been adopted in several states. Additional information about the Committee and the UCG is available on the Committee Web site (http://www.aallnet.org/committee/citation/).
TR in Cartoon: The Verdict, 1898-1900

When Theodore Roosevelt was governor of New York, the New York World said, “An honest and fearless governor—a combination of conscience and backbone—is a mighty good thing to have at Albany!” However, not all periodicals of the time shared this sentiment. The Theodore Roosevelt Gallery, Pusey Library, now through June 30, 2000, features a selection of cartoons that lampoon Roosevelt’s gubernatorial career. The cartoons, by artists Horace Taylor and R.L. Bestol, were published more than 100 years ago in The Verdict, a New York periodical.

The Theodore Roosevelt Collection, housed in Houghton and Widener libraries and curated by Wallace Dailey, is a major resource for study of the life and times of the twenty-sixth President of the United States. The collection originated as a research library and opened in New York City by the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Association (RMA) in 1923. It was presented by the RMA (known since 1956 as the Theodore Roosevelt Association) to Harvard University in 1943.

The Theodore Roosevelt Gallery is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Note

Library Notes will not be published during the summer months. During this time news items and personnel updates will be distributed via HULINFO and posted on the HUL Web site.

Submit news and information to: http://hul.harvard.edu/publications/staff_news.html
Add exhibitions and events to: http://hul.harvard.edu/calendar/