

Annotation

National Historical Publications and Records Commission

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



*Cover portrait: Thomas Edison, with phonograph, c. 1878. Courtesy
Library of Congress*



NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

NATIONAL HISTORICAL
PUBLICATIONS
& RECORDS COMMISSION

Annual Report 2013

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD



Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero with a National History Day student at the launch of Founders Online, June 2013

The work of the National Archives rests on the belief that citizens have the right to see, examine, learn from, and use the records that document the actions of their Government. New ways of creating and preserving Federal Government records—particularly digital information over the Internet—are causing us to rethink how to best open the Archives to all.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) enables the National Archives to reach beyond those Federal records under its stewardship to assist in the preservation and publication of collections of records held by state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities,

and other institutions. For nearly 50 years, the NHPRC has carried out this mission through competitive grants for archives preservation and access projects, by enabling projects to publish nationally significant collections of historical records in print and online; by investing in research and development in new archival methods, particularly for electronic records; and through public policy leadership.

A great deal has changed since the National Archives and the NHPRC were founded in 1934. Eighty years ago records were in analog form: words on paper, photographs, film, and audio. Central to the task at hand in those early years was for archives to figure out what to save and how to save it. We dealt with the question of access by opening up collections in Washington, DC and other Federal records centers and Presidential libraries to researchers and through publishing on microfilm and in print editions.

In the digital age, with so many records in electronic formats, we have gradually shifted the means of access and now provide finding aids and the records themselves

online. The Internet has opened up archives and collections of historical records in ways unimaginable a generation ago. It has changed the way people find and use information, including historical records; changed the nature of those records, from the digitized copies of older works to the original electronic records of today; and changed how organizations publish and distribute those records. Highly decentralized, the Internet has been the locus for an abundance of certain kinds of information and raised public expectations that all information—including historical records—are readily available.

The NHPRC is evolving with the times, and it now provides access to millions of historical records from organizations all across the nation. This report provides a glimpse at some of the current projects we support, but there is much more work to be done to open up the archives and make records accessible, discoverable, and usable by the public.

To that end, one of our major accomplishments in the past fiscal year was the launch of Founders Online (*founders.archives.gov*), which provides in a single, searchable, and online format nearly 175,000 documents from the papers of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison. Drawn from archives all across the nation, these documents are a rich resource for students of American history and government. Founders Online continues the mission of the NHPRC to document American democracy and make our shared heritage accessible to all.

Much work remains to be done to open the nation's archives to the American people. In his Executive Order of May 9, 2013, President Obama said: "Making information resources accessible, discoverable, and usable by the public can help fuel entrepreneurship, innovation, and scientific discovery—all of which improve Americans' lives and contribute significantly to job creation." The National Archives is hard at work on its Open Government initiatives, and through the NHPRC, it calls for archives everywhere to make their records accessible, discoverable, and usable by all.



David S. Ferriero

ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES

Message from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Organizers of the 1884 annual meeting of the American Social Science Association in Saratoga, New York, put out a special invitation to “professors, teachers, specialists, and others interested in the advancement of history in this country” to attend. Gathered together for the first time, the historians present voted to establish the American Historical Association (AHA) as a separate organization. Five years later, the AHA was incorporated by an act of Congress “for the promotion of historical studies, the collection and preservation of historical manuscripts and for kindred purposes in the interest of American history and of history in America.”

One of their first tasks was to focus on the need for a national standardized system of archival organization in the United States, and by 1891, the AHA published a paper by J. Franklin Jameson calling for a commission with “the power to edit and publish not only materials in possession of the Government, but also those which are in private existence.” For the next 40 years, Jameson and his colleagues would advocate for a National Archives to preserve the papers of the Federal Government and a National Commission to publish the public and private papers essential to the understanding of our history, culture, and democracy.

In 1934 that vision of preservation of, and access to, our nation’s documentary heritage became much clearer. While it would take several more decades before funds were appropriated for the grants program we know today, the National Historical Publications Commission (as it was known first) was part of the thinking behind the new National Archives from the beginning. As the agency itself began to grow and take shape, it became clear that some sort of publishing program was necessary to get the records out of the archives and into the greatest number of minds.

Archives.gov Home Contact Us About Founders Online

NATIONAL ARCHIVES Founders Online beta RELEASE BOTUNDA

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER WRITINGS OF SIX MAJOR SHAPERS OF THE UNITED STATES:
 George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams (and family), Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison. Over 92,000 searchable documents, fully annotated, from the authoritative, federally funded Founding Fathers Papers projects.

OVER 92,000 SEARCHABLE DOCUMENTS | Launching June 27, 2012 in Washington, DC

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GO

George Washington

AUTHOR	RECIPIENT	PERIOD
frequency sort: alphabetical more Washington, George (23,268) Jefferson, Thomas (10,166) Hamilton, Alexander (6,146) Madison, James (4,579) Adams, John (4,256) Adams, John Quincy (2,225) Randolph, Edmund (563)	frequency sort: alphabetical more Washington, George (13,837) Jefferson, Thomas (11,626) Madison, James (9,915) Hamilton, Alexander (6,295) Adams, John (2,622) Adams, Abigail (834) Hancock, John (392)	Colonial 1748–1775 (11,495) Revolutionary War 1775–1783 (23,824) Confederation Period 1783–1789 (14,065) Washington Presidency 1789–1797 (22,002) Adams Presidency 1797–1801 (6,833) Jefferson Presidency 1801–1809 (7,871) Madison Presidency 1809–1817 (6,931) post-Madison Presidency 1817–1827 (560)

Screenshot from Founders Online

Fast forward to 1964 when the Commission began receiving appropriations from Congress. For the first dozen years of the grantmaking program, awards went to projects to microfilm collections and publish print editions of the works of important historical figures or social movements. In 1976, the Commission expanded its mission as the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to include funding archival processing and to partner with newly created state historical records advisory boards. One of its most important roles was to fund research and development, awarding grants to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and others as early as 1979 to investigate the preservation of machine-readable records—the first in a long line of research and development projects.

Innovation has been the hallmark of the NHPRC. The Commission was instrumental in the development of archival descriptive standards, including Encoded Archival Description, and the “More Product/Less Processing” protocols for archives. It created the Institute for Documentary Editing, now in its third decade, and the Archives Leadership Institute, the first program of its kind to train midcareer archivists and records managers for leadership positions—both programs instrumental in helping archivists and editors help bring historical

records to the people. Our partnership with state archives, through historical records advisory boards, has helped bring state and local records to the public in every state in the country.

The NHPRC also established Founders Online, through a cooperative agreement with the University of Virginia, a database of the documents of six key figures in our nation's founding era. At a special launch ceremony at the National Archives on June 13, 2013, Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero was joined by University of Virginia President Teresa A. Sullivan, and George Mason University Professor of History Cynthia A. Kierner. National History Day student winners from middle schools searched the records of the very beginnings of American law, government, and our national story.

“Through Founders Online, you can now trace the shaping of the nation, the extraordinary clash of ideas, the debates and discussions carried out through drafts and final versions of public documents as well as the evolving thoughts and principles shared in personal correspondence, diaries, and journals,” said Ferriero.

“From the beginning, this has been a collaborative project that has brought together people and organizations that care deeply about our nation's early history and the need to preserve it for future generations,” said University President Teresa Sullivan. “Today, with the launch of Founders Online, we take a great stride forward, as we make the words of our nation's founders available to anyone, anywhere in the world.”

Dr. Kierner, spoke about the lasting impact the site could have on high school and college students, and drew the biggest laugh of the day when she shared how she used to tell her students they would not be able to finish their projects on their home computer sitting around in their pajamas. “Now, you kind of can,” she said. In its first six months, the site had over 180,000 unique visitors.

Founders Online is a cornerstone in our ongoing digitization efforts to put online major historical records collections. Since the NHPRC's digitization program's inception in 2006, millions of records have allowed people anywhere in the world to conduct research on a wide range of topics such as the Civil War, environmental conservation, and genealogy.

In FY 2013, the NHPRC awarded 76 grants totaling \$5,577,796 to give the American people greater access to their historical records. In addition to our regular investment in publishing projects, state and national archival partnerships, digitizing, and electronic records, we funded four important projects under a new category: Innovation.

In this Annual Report, we are privileged to share just a few of the stories from the projects funded, and you can find out more at www.archives.gov/nhprc/ and every day on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nhprc.

Kathleen Williams

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Florida's

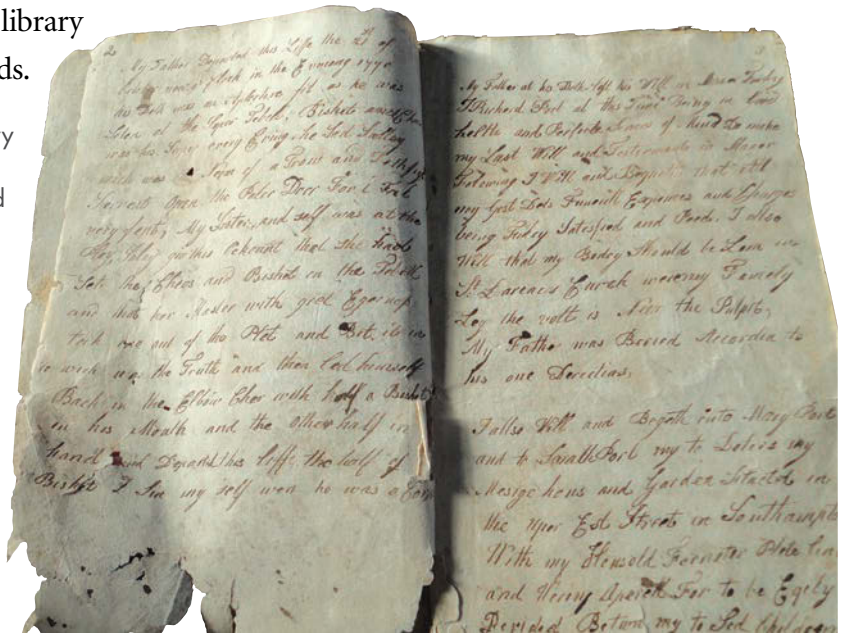
PIONEER DAYS

“We know as little of Florida as we do of the interior of Africa. Every foot we advance in the country we make new discoveries and meet with more obstacles to surmount, but they all vanish before our little band who are deserving of a better fate. The people of our country do not appreciate our exertions . . .”

—Joseph Van Swearingen to his sister, Kissimmee River, December 15, 1837. *Written 10 days before his death in the Battle of Okeechobee, Second Seminole War*

Located in the University of Florida’s George Smathers Library, the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History houses one of the state’s oldest collections of Floridiana, with approximately 40,000 books, 2,200 maps, 10,000 brochures and pamphlets, more than 18,000 reels of early records and newspapers on microfilm, and thousands of linear feet of manuscripts. All of its materials are accessible through the institution’s on-line library catalog or EAD finding aids.

Pages from the memoir of Mary Port Macklin, a working-class British woman who immigrated with her husband John to Charleston, S.C., at the beginning of the American Revolution, courtesy University of Florida, P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History.





Loose leaves from the diary of Lieut. Henry Prince, serving in Florida during the Second Seminole War (1837-1842), including his depiction of one of Florida's stockade forts, Fort Brooke, near modern-day Tampa, *courtesy University of Florida, P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History.*

The settlers, soldiers, and pioneers who wrote accounts of Florida in the late 18th and 19th centuries met with conditions remarkably parallel to other frontier situations. With its semitropical climate and a succession of violent conflicts—the War of 1812, the Seminole wars, and the Civil War—Florida was sparsely populated and unexplored. Only with the coming of railroads, canal dredges, and lumber interests staking claim to its rich resources did Florida finally capitulate to the forces of modernity.

The story of “Pioneer Days in Florida” is documented through eyewitness accounts that describe what it was like during this extensive frontier era. A grant from the NHPRC is supporting the University of Florida in its work to digitize the Florida Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection, which includes 14 collections of family papers, 134 volumes of diaries and memoirs, and 240 folders of letters, reports, and sketches. These firsthand accounts document the experiences of native peoples, European settlers, soldiers, slaves, and free blacks.

Key themes within the collection include westward expansion, assertions of Manifest Destiny, conflict between European settlers and Native Americans, and Florida's development into a modern state. Two family papers collections, one set of diaries, and numerous letters contain materials relating to the aftermath of the American Revolution and the United States acquisition of Florida from Spain. Five collections of family papers, three sets of diaries, and many letters give Floridians' accounts of the Civil War. Other materials document the tensions that led to the Seminole Wars. The project is documenting its progress through the “Pioneer Days in Florida” website at <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/pioneerdays>.

Montana

TRAVELING ARCHIVIST

One of the key challenges for a large and rural state is the lack of educational and training programs for archivists and records managers, particularly at smaller, underserved, or remote repositories. In Montana, the state historical records board has come up with creative solutions to meet this challenge. One program will provide scholarships to professionals or volunteers performing archival work that will cover the registration fees, travel costs, and other expenses related to participation in a workshop or other training event. Awards will be made based on the applicants' lack of access to other training resources and a letter of application describing its current work in the archival field.

The board will also offer a one-day workshop based on the successful "Basics of Archives" training materials created by the Council of State Archivists (CoSA). The workshop will be held in conjunction with the annual Montana History Conference during Archives Month. The board will continue publication of a biannual newsletter, *Montana Archivist*, which offers how-to information, articles on local workshops, news about archives in the state, a calendar of events, and other archives-related information.

For several years, the board has conducted a Traveling Student Archivist Program that matches a host institution with a graduate student archivist. After receiving a week of training at the Montana Historical Society, the student archivist spends seven weeks working at the host institution. Oversight is provided by members of the state historical records advisory board, who will be in regular communication with the student archivist and the host institution through telephone calls, email, and periodic site visits. Because of the success of this program, the Montana Historical Society has decided to fund its own Traveling Student Archivist program. The focus



Archivist Adrienne Evans (inset) and staff at the Heritage Museum in Libby, Montana (below) *courtesy Montana Historical Society.*

of this program will be on assisting local governments with their records needs.

In summer 2013, two interns began work. Adrienne Evans of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee was paired with the Heritage Museum of Libby, a small town in the northwestern corner of the state, where she processed collections and provided training to volunteer staff on preservation and handling of collections. Trent Purdy, a traveling archivist funded through the Montana Historical Society, was paired with the Marcus Daly Archives in Anaconda, where he processed records of Anaconda copper mining. The Montana Traveling Archivist program began after the board conducted a statewide survey in 2007–8 about the needs of small, underserved Montana heritage institutions for archival training and development.



THOSE

Extraordinary

BLACKWELLS

“If society will not admit of woman’s free development, then society must be remodeled.”

– Elizabeth Blackwell, letter to Emily Collins, August 12, 1848

The Schlesinger Library of Harvard University is home to one of the most extraordinary collections of family history in the country. Through a grant from the NHPRC, archivists there are digitizing five collections, nearly 190,000 pages, that detail the activities covering four generations of the Blackwell Family, from 1784 to 1981, in abolition, temperance, women’s suffrage, and education.

The Blackwell Family was at the center of American life for over two centuries. Their story begins with Hannah (1792–1870) and Samuel (1790–1838) Blackwell. Samuel was a lay preacher and sugar refiner troubled that his livelihood derived from the product of slave labor. His involvement with the English movement to abolish slavery led him to immigrate to the United States with the hope that he might replace cane sugar with beet sugar. He and Hannah were committed to raising all of their children, male and female, with concern not only for their material well-being but also for their moral and spiritual health. Both were supporters of women’s property rights as evidenced by their signatures on a petition on women’s property rights in Ohio.

Each of the nine children grew to maturity with a passion to lead an ethical, intellectual, and productive life. Among the most well known are Elizabeth (1821–1910), the first woman to obtain a medical degree, and Emily (1826–1910), also among the first woman doctors. These sisters were at the forefront of the struggle for equal education and medical training for women, active in



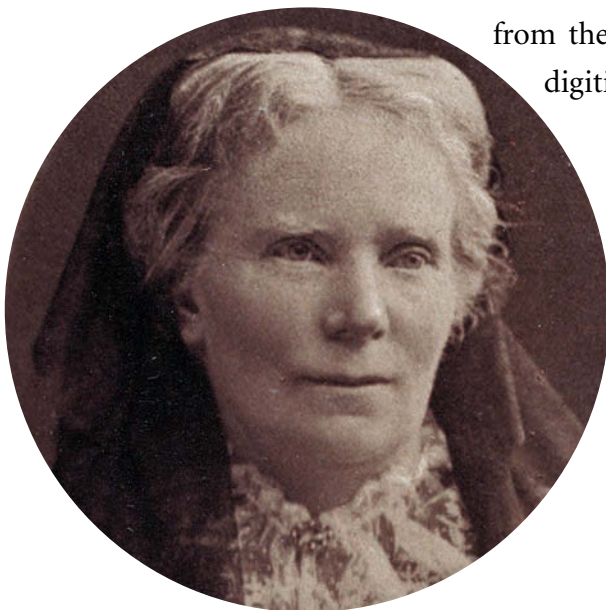


The Blackwell Family, ca.
1900-1905, Courtesy of the
Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe
Institute for Advanced Study,
Harvard University.

public health reform, and founders of the New York Infirmary and College for Women.

Their brother Henry Browne Blackwell (1825–1909), his wife Lucy Stone (1818–1893), and their daughter Alice Stone Blackwell (1857–1950) played leading roles in the abolition, women’s suffrage, and prohibition movements; and their sister-in-law Antoinette Brown Blackwell (1825–1921), wife of Samuel Charles Blackwell (1823–1901), was the first woman ordained as a minister in the United States and an active speaker on behalf of abolition, women’s rights and prohibition.

Currently, the collections are discoverable through Harvard’s online catalog, online finding aids, and web search engines, and have received exhaustive subject analysis, and both the bibliographic records and the finding aids contain significant key words to assist with discovery. Over the past 10 years, the Blackwell family collections have been cited in 30 published works (books and articles) on a range of historical topics including abolition, women’s suffrage, women in medicine, and many others. In the past 3 years, the Blackwell family collections have been used 142 times. Now, with funding from the NHPRC, the Blackwell papers are being digitized and will go online.



Elizabeth Blackwell, *Courtesy of the Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University.*

Frederick Douglass

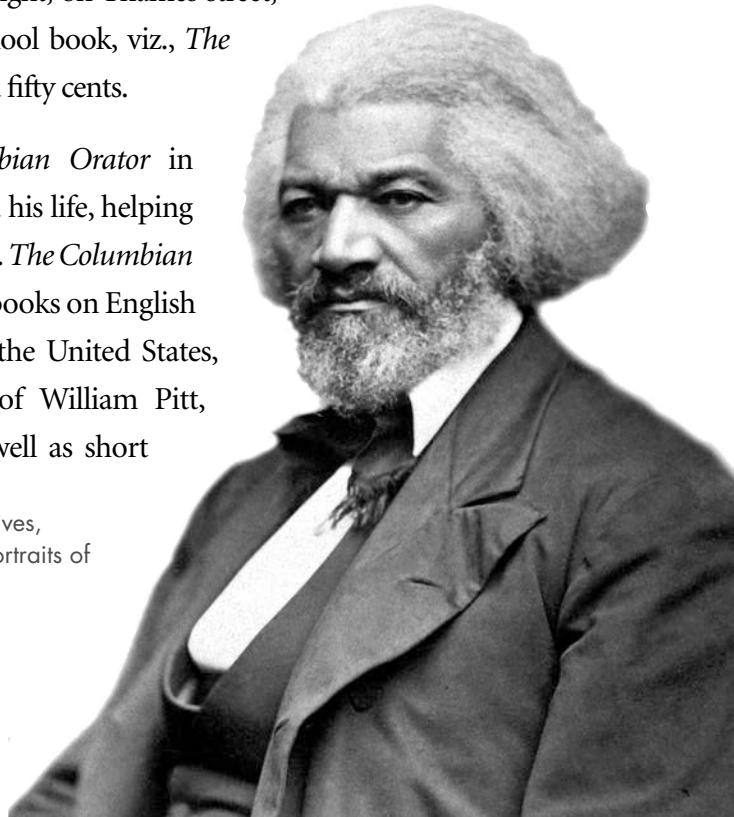
AND *THE COLUMBIAN ORATOR*

Born a slave in Talbot County, Maryland around 1818, Frederick Douglass became one of the leading voices of the abolitionist movement after his escape in 1838. Known for his dazzling oratory and incisive writing, Douglass was largely self-taught, and later claimed that one book provided the foundation for his early education. In the *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, he writes:

When I was about thirteen years old, and had succeeded in learning to read, every increase of knowledge, especially anything respecting the free states, was an additional weight to the almost intolerable burden of my thought—I *am a slave for life*. To my bondage I could see no end. It was a terrible reality, and I shall never be able to tell how sadly that thought chafed my young spirit. Fortunately, or unfortunately, I had earned a little money in blacking boots for some gentlemen, with which I purchased of Mr. Knight, on Thames street, what was then a very popular school book, viz., *The Columbian Orator*, for which I paid fifty cents.

Douglass purchased the *Columbian Orator* in Baltimore for 50 cents, and it changed his life, helping him hone his literary and oratory skills. *The Columbian Orator* (1797) was one of the first textbooks on English grammar and rhetoric published in the United States, with short extracts from speeches of William Pitt, George Washington, and others, as well as short

Frederick Douglass, c. 1879, National Archives, Frank W. Legg Photographic Collection of Portraits of Nineteen-Century Notables.



dialogues, plays, and poems on the themes of patriotism, education, and freedom. Douglass cited a speech from Richard Sheridan as the “most brilliant vindication of the rights of man. . . . I had now penetrated to the secret of all slavery and all oppression, and had ascertained to their true foundation to be in the pride, the power, and the avarice of man.”

The editors of the *Frederick Douglass Papers* rightly point out that while a speech by Richard Sheridan is included in *The Columbian Orator*, “Douglass is probably referring to another selection in the anthology entitled ‘Part of Mr. O’Connor’s Speech in the Irish House of Commons, in Favor of the Bill for Emancipating the Roman Catholics, 1795.’ Arthur O’Connor, a liberal Protestant member of the Irish Parliament, was a stronger supporter of Catholic rights . . . who resigned his seat after delivering this speech.” In later years, Douglass credited *The Columbian Orator*, his first book, and for a long time his only one, with clarifying and defining his views on freedom and human rights.

Douglass wrote several autobiographies, eloquently describing his experiences in slavery in his 1845 autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*, which became influential in its support for abolition. He wrote two more autobiographies, with his last, *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, published in 1881 and covering events through and after the Civil War. *The Frederick Douglass Papers*, undertaken at the Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis with NHPRC support, has just published an annotated edition (Yale University Press) that reintroduces readers to a long-neglected essential of African American literature. *Life and Times* revisits the events of his earlier autobiographies, demonstrating their connection to later events in his life: his political abolitionism, his connection to John Brown, the Civil War, his relationship with Abraham Lincoln, Reconstruction, the Jim Crow Era, and women’s suffrage.

George Washington's FINANCIAL PAPERS

Editors at the University of Virginia have been hard at work publishing the *Papers of George Washington*, in print and online. The documentary editing project was founded in 1968, first conducting a worldwide document search that eventually netted copies of some 140,000 documents. The project first published Washington's diaries in six volumes (1976–1979), and began publishing Washington's general correspondence in multiple series in 1983. To date, the project has published 64 of an estimated 87 printed volumes of Washington's correspondence. A digital edition team was established in 2004 to collaborate with the University of Virginia Press's Rotunda imprint in the creation of online versions of the volumes. And the Washington Papers are also available on Founders Online.

But a quandary emerged over the treatment of the voluminous financial records of George Washington and how best to develop an online mechanism for the editing and display of financial records from the Colonial and Early National Periods. The George Washington Financial Papers Project (GWFP) aims to address the challenge of transcribing and researching handwritten financial records of the 18th and 19th centuries. These records are rich sources of information about the economic patterns and daily lives of their creators.

Washington was as much a businessman and entrepreneur as he was a military and political leader. He kept detailed records of his personal expenses, the expenses related to his estate at Mount Vernon, his military finances, and his Presidential household. The financial records document interactions with thousands of individuals, including men and women, large- and small-scale farmers, tradespeople, mariners, and barristers. These records are on thousands of manuscript pages that would probably total 30,000 pages in print form.

Sedges

1799		Dr	1799	
	Fiskery	106		
	To 31 st June Sines Coffin & Co			
	- hauling of 205 th 211	50 30		
	Carrying the lines from town	3 7		
	and lines to Mr. Vernon	3		
	in Orleans	54 96		
	Fish Barrels from Sawwood 200 4/	133 33		
	Salt 200 lbs W. Salted --- 3/11	130 55		
	Do 300 Allen Sines Sineson 4/	200		
	- freight of this salt from New York	17 77		
	plus on 513 th lbs. Norman 18/5			
	Repairing the fishing Boat by days	4		
	unloading of the salt on a daily day	2		
	Tom Davis Rigging lines 6 days 3/	3		
	Several Sines haulers on Sundays			
	for 3 days at 2 Sines carries each	32 75		
	W. currs included			
	25 th April Salt from Capt. Gispin 200 lbs (see)	150		
	Salt from do 32 th of	43 75		
May 1	Do from William Hartshorn & Son			
	Norman 100 4/5	13 61		
May 1	Do from John & Thomas David			
	Norman 7 4/6	58 12		
May 14	Salt from Capt. Gilpin 50 cants	35 42		
	Do from do for farm & house			
	from Norman 100 4/5	3 33		
	Making 981 th lbs salt, that than load			
	of a good 2 th as per side			
	76 fish 13 th at 3 times from D. Canton			
	W. Coopers wage of last 13 th	74 42		
	2 nd D bought by the Proctor	1 33		
	James M. Leish			
	100 made by Mr. Norman Cooper	6/ 100		
	Hogheads 130 - to currs fish	35 17		
	Do sent from the (Distillery) Boat 15/	15		
	Hires of 12 Negro Men one month 5/10	12 6		
	Do of 10 Do 2 weeks do	50		
	Do of 10 Women 2 weeks 1/	18		
	Mr. Jarvis attendance work	20		
	Whiskies 60 Gallons	3/ 33 33		
	meat 25 Bushels	4/ 16 67		

Contra

1799		Dr	Cr
	Herrings sold Town	274	
	Spent for William Violet for Herrings	9000 10/	18
	William Cash for do	9000 do	16
	Mr. Simon Washington do	10000 do	20
	Henry Pike do	5000 do	10
	Mr. Eijs Cook for do	2000 do	4
	Mr. Gray do	3000 do	6
	John Jones do	2000 do	4
	James Cole do	3000 do	6
	Mr. Williams Boston do	2000 do	4
	Mr. Daniel Kitchen do	10600 do	21 16
	Mr. Israel Sney do	5200 do	10 39
	Mr. John David do	2000 do	4
	Mr. John Feigans do	4000 do	8
	Mr. Henry Downs do	4000 do	8
	Mr. William Silsbrough do	60000 do	120
	Mr. Thomas Sealock do	6250 do	12 50
	Mr. John Jones do	3000 do	6
	Mr. David David do	1000 do	2
	Mr. George Wiley do	3000 do	6
	Mr. Sarah St. John do	2000 do	2
	Sarah St. John by Order of Mr. Washington 1/8	3000 do	2
	Mr. Sarah Chichester do	7000 do	7
	Miss Pines Pines Chichester do	1000 do	1
	By George Paulens attorney 1/8	1000 do	2
	Robert Farret do	1000 do	2
	Miss David do	1000 do	2
	Barruled Herrings	138050	304 5
	Burgess Boat 4		
	San. Louis 6		
	Mr. Vernon 5		
	Mr. Braith 1		
	Capt. Gispin 10 2 1/2		50 67
	John & Tho. David 100 do		221 67
	Spent Capt. Cook 1 do		316 86
	Mr. Braith 3 20/		3 16
	James Wiley 4 15/		10
	but the boat empty 1/8		
	Negroes Fish 140 do		350
January	Mr. Smith 20 2 22/		73 33
July 19	Mr. Alexander Braith 2		6 33
Sept 10	William Braith 1		3 33
	James David 1		3 16
	George Gilpin 74		170



A Map of Washington's Farms at Mt. Vernon, reduced from a drawing made by himself. George Boynton 1830 engraving, *The Life of George Washington*, (1843).

A brief foray into how these records appear in ledgers helps explain the complexities associated with this data. Ledgers are arranged in date order, but the dates are only written out the first time, until a new day or year occurs. Likewise, if multiple transactions are associated with the same person, “dittos” or other marks (rather than text) are included. Then, monetary values may be listed in many different currencies, often unfamiliar to the modern reader. Finally, as in most handwritten documents, spelling is inconsistent, and abbreviations can be unfamiliar. As a result, the GWFPF staff concluded that it needed to develop new tools and new approaches for the presentation of such records different from those used in traditional documentary editing. The project staff recognized that to conduct analysis of these records, each financial transaction needed to have information associated with it to track financial patterns, types of expenses, people paid, and other questions that users may have.

Opposite: 1799 Ledger page, courtesy George Washington Financial Papers Project.

The Internet provides more flexible and creative options for presenting the information online, where research access and use can be maximized. Through support of an NHPRC Innovation grant, the GWFPF staff plans a free online version of George Washington's financial records and, further, will test the methods that are developed on an 1811–1816 account ledger of ambitious financial investor Gouverneur Morris, documenting his rather dramatic decline in wealth near the end of his life.

Pacifica Radio

AMERICAN WOMEN MAKING HISTORY AND CULTURE

“We just want to be treated as human beings. I’m fighting for human rights, not equal rights.”

– Fannie Lou Hamer, civil rights leader in a 1961 Pacifica broadcast.

Broadcasting first in 1949, Pacifica Radio preceded the advent of National Public Radio by over 20 years. The Pacifica Radio Archives (PRA), a modern unit of the Pacifica Foundation, serves to appraise, collect, preserve, process, and make publicly available the work generated by and in association with Pacifica Radio. The PRA houses approximately 55,000 reel-to-reel analog audio tapes in its secure, climate-controlled space. Pacifica stations, program producers, and broadcast directors deposited the tapes at the PRA. Each of these tapes has an online description available via the PRA online library catalog.

The American Women Making History and Culture, 1963–1982 collection includes holdings from the five Pacifica radio stations: KPFA in Berkeley, CA; KPFB in Los Angeles, CA; WBAI in New York, NY; WPFW in Washington, DC; and KPFT in Houston, TX. This audio collection documents the Women’s movement, or the period popularly known as “Second Wave Feminism,” from the publication of *The Feminine Mystique* (Betty Friedan, 1963) through the failure of the Equal Rights Amendment in 1982. The American Women collection will document the emergence and evolution of the Women’s movement in cities across the United States, as well as the unique role Pacifica Radio played by

providing a place for women to create and air programming that communicated the movement.

This two-year project includes the digitization of nearly 1,700 reel-to-reel tapes, and the updating of legacy catalog records through two levels of cataloging—edited item-level descriptions with standardized metadata, and a searchable online finding aid available at the Online Archive of California. The digital objects and records will be preserved long-term at the California Digital Library via the UC Berkeley Library. Public access to streaming audio will be provided by the Internet Archive. Dedicated web pages on the PRA website will describe the collection and provide links to the streaming audio at the Internet Archive.

Notable women heard on the audio tapes include Gloria Steinem, Angela Davis, Lena Horne, Maya Angelou, Alice Walker, Susan Sontag, Bella Abzug, and Adrienne Rich, to name but a small selection.



The writer Anais Nin in the studio. Comedian Lily Tomlin, *courtesy Pacifica Radio Archives.*

Hidden Political Collections

AT THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

The Addlestone Library at the College of Charleston houses the Special Collections department and its over 500 manuscript collections concerning the South Carolina Lowcountry. With a grant from the NHPRC, the College will provide detailed arrangement and online descriptive access for two important political collections: the Burnet R. Maybank Senatorial Papers (330 linear feet) and the L. Mendel Rivers Congressional Papers (70 linear feet).

As mayor of Charleston for most of the 1930s, Burnet R. Maybank (1899–1954) played an important role in implementing New Deal relief programs at the local level. Elected to the United States Senate in 1941, he became a key ally of President Franklin D. Roosevelt for the duration of World War II and a staunch defender of President Harry S. Truman during the Dixiecrat Revolt led



L. Mendel Rivers, Burnet R. Maybank, *courtesy Addlestone Library, College of Charleston*

by Senator Strom Thurmond in 1948. As the chairman of the powerful Banking and Finance Committee, he shepherded legislation through Congress to fund the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Rural Electrification Act, and other hallmarks of what historians such as Alan Brinkley have defined as the “post-war liberal consensus.” These papers offer information on state, national, and international political history. The Maybank Papers cover a period when South Carolina played a major role in national politics on the front lines of the post–World War II African American rights movement.

L. Mendel Rivers (1905–1970) exemplified the fragility of the New Deal coalition amidst tension over issues of race, class, and gender following World War II. Rivers initially championed ultra-liberal farm subsidies, Federal relief efforts, and the expansion of Federal authority during the Roosevelt administration. But, in response to the quickening pace of the Civil Rights Movement, the Congressman (1941–1954) repeatedly broke ranks with his Democratic allies. He was one of only a few elected officials to endorse Thurmond’s run for President in 1948 as a Dixiecrat. Four years later, he campaigned for Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower under the auspices of the independent “South Carolinians for Eisenhower” organization. His allegiances to the Democratic Party were threatened further in the 1960s when Rivers assumed the mantle of Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee during the Vietnam War. From his powerful position in the U.S. Congress, Rivers ridiculed antiwar activism, civil rights agitators, and counterculture nonconformists.

Taken together, these collections document regional, national, and international issues and events during the post–World War II era through the prism of South Carolina politics. Representative documents will be digitized and included in the Lowcountry Digital Library, which produces digital collections and projects that strengthen the College of Charleston’s instructional programs and support research about the region.

The Papers

OF THOMAS EDISON

Having improved telegraphy equipment, and devised such important devices as the phonograph, the carbon microphone, the incandescent electric light, and new types of batteries, Thomas Edison (1847–1931) is famous as a great inventor and entrepreneur. For his inventions, he received over 1,000 patents. Apart from creating new technologies, Edison helped to create the institutional infrastructure to refine these and discover others. At Menlo Park, he established the first large research laboratory in the country, to be followed by an even larger one at West Orange, New Jersey. Eventually, he became involved in business ventures that sought to apply his inventions to fields as diverse as sound recording, mining, and cement manufacturing.

Edison left behind a voluminous archive, an estimated five million documents held at the Edison National Historic Site and other repositories. This enormous group of records includes correspondence; laboratory notes; technical, business and legal papers; and patent case files. Edison's papers reflect more than the great inventor's contributions to the development of electrical and communications technology. They also demonstrate the collaborative nature of modern industry, the connection between technology and culture, and the relationships between inventors, scientists, businessmen, and politicians.

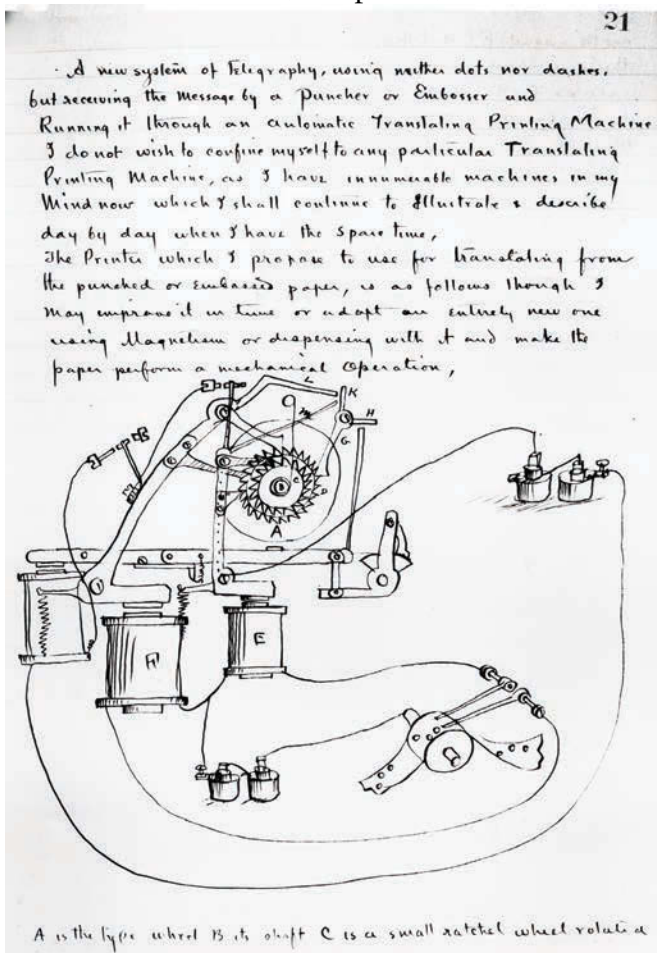
The Edison Papers is co-sponsored by Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, the National Park Service, the New Jersey Historical Commission, and the Smithsonian Institution. The team of editors at Rutgers is taking a unique approach to this massive amount of material, publishing Edison's papers in both a digital facsimile edition and a highly selective transcribed and annotated print edition.

The facsimile edition will include roughly 375,000 images and will appear on both microfilm and the project's website (<http://edison.rutgers.edu/digital>).

htm). Reproduced in the facsimile edition are notebooks, administrative records, correspondence, records of various Edison companies, legal documents, and certain family papers. Five of the projected six parts of the image edition have already been released on microfilm, covering the years from 1850 to 1920, and nearly 175,000 images are available online. A highly selective transcribed and annotated edition, of roughly 7,000 documents, is being published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

The project's website, which makes Edison material available to a wide range of users, from schoolchildren to advanced scholars, has been selected as one of the best humanities sites on the Internet by the EDSITEment project. The site includes a searchable database containing information relating to approximately 23,000 individuals, companies, and institutions. The editors have also assisted the

production of documentaries about Edison by George Lucas and the History Channel.



Thomas Edison notebook entry on an automatic translating printing machine for telegraphy, August 31, 1871, from the *Papers of Thomas A. Edison*.

Revealing her Story

DOCUMENTING AFRICAN

AMERICAN WOMEN INTELLECTUALS

Bishop Warren Candler acquired Emory University's first manuscript collection in 1911 when he purchased a small assortment of items relating to John Wesley, founder of the Methodist Church. Thirty years later, in 1942, the University formally created a special collections department within the library. Now known as the Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library (MARBL), holdings include thousands of rare books; Emory University's institutional archives; and more than 1,200 personal manuscript collections and organizational archives (over 13,000 linear feet) documenting British and Irish Literature, African American Culture and History, Civil and Human Rights, and Southern History and Politics.

With a grant from the NHPRC, Emory University is processing nine collections from African American woman artists, composers, writers, and educators, and digitizing 24 linear feet of related audiovisual material. The nine collections from African American women included in this project are at the intersections of literature, culture, and history. With some notable exceptions, African American women's collections are under-represented and under-described in archives and manuscript collections. As a result, African American women's influence on American history and culture remains obscured by minimal description and disorder. These collections document the lives of African American women artists as college students and faculty from the Harlem Renaissance to the Civil Rights Movement.

- Undine Moore (1904–1989): a composer and educator in the early and mid-20th century, Moore's papers comprise 47 linear feet of

correspondence, manuscript scores of her compositions, subject files, writings, notebooks, photographs, audiovisual material, sheet music, and other printed material.

- Geneva Southall (1925–2004): a musician, educator and author, Southall’s papers include 25 linear feet of collected materials relating to African American composers, including biographical information and sheet music; research files on “Blind Tom” and the Fisk Jubilee Singers; files relating to the National Association of Negro Musicians; photographs; and audiovisual material.
- Samella Lewis (b. 1924): an artist, educator, filmmaker, and author, Lewis’s papers include 46 linear feet of writings, correspondence, printed material, subject files, photographs, slides, and audiovisual material, including documents relating to her film about African American sculptor Richmond Barthé.
- Mildred Thompson (1935–2003): an artist, writer and editor, Thompson’s papers comprise 14 linear feet of correspondence, manuscripts, artwork, photographs, and printed material.



Jubilee Singers, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee (c. 1870–1880), *courtesy Library of Congress.*



Poet and novelist Sarah Wright, working with an unidentified woman, *courtesy Emory University.*

- Sarah Wright (1928–2009): a poet and novelist, Wright’s papers include 13 linear feet of correspondence, financial records, writings, photographs, speeches, subject files, printed material, and audiovisual material.
- Almena Lomax (1915–2011): an author, newspaper publisher, and activist, the Lomax collection consists of 12.25 linear feet of writings, correspondence, and printed material.
- Pearl Cleage (b. 1948): a novelist, playwright, and activist, the Cleage papers include 86 linear feet of journals, writings, correspondence, printed material, and audiovisual material.
- May Miller (1899–1995): an author, playwright, and educator, Miller’s papers include 19.5 linear feet of writings (both published and unpublished), correspondence, printed material, photographs, scrapbooks, artwork, and legal and financial records.

- Delilah Jackson (d. 2013): a scholar and filmmaker, the Jackson papers include 40.75 linear feet of personal correspondence, scrapbooks, subject files on individual performers, photographs, scripts, programs, oral history interviews, short films, and the records of the Black Patti Foundation. This collection was received in multiple donations; the 15 linear feet received since 2005 are included in the project.

Primary Sources

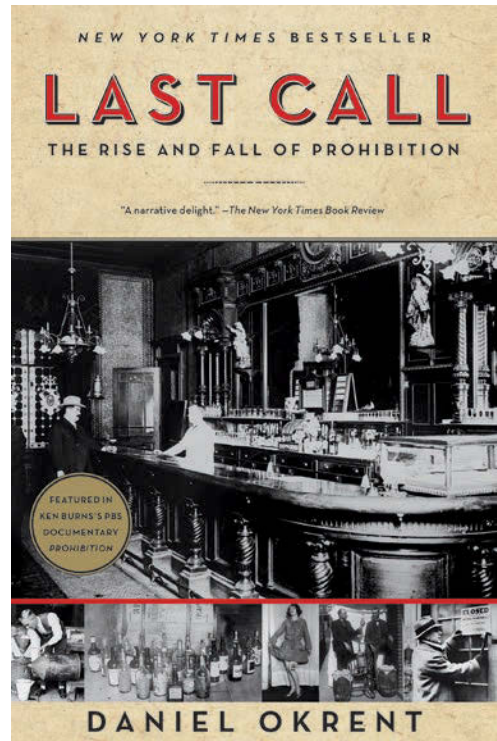
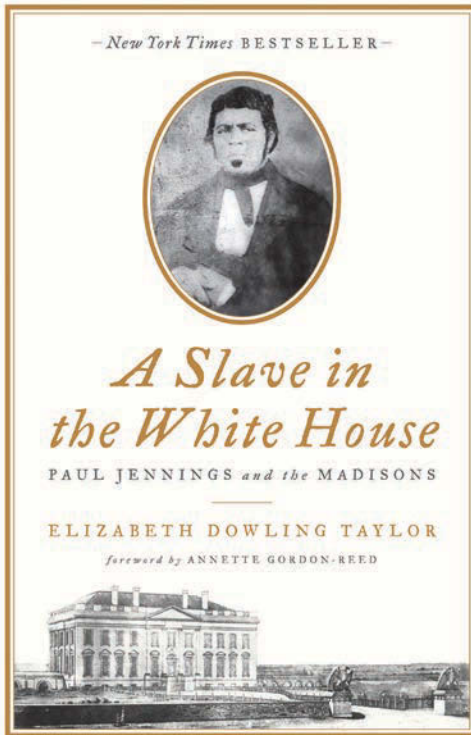
It all starts with primary sources. Projects supported by the NHPRC collect, preserve, process, transcribe, annotate, edit, and make public documents that reside in archives all across the nation.

From these collections, historians craft new works, the story of social movements and biographies of both famous and the relatively unknown in American history. In their own words, these writers talk about the value of the collections supported by the NHPRC.

Elizabeth Dowling Taylor wrote *A Slave in the White House: Paul Jennings and the Madisons* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), the story of a man once owned by President James Madison, who rose from slavery to freedom and became a leading abolitionist. As part of her research, she used documents published by the *Dolley Madison Digital Edition* and the *Papers of James Madison*.

The letters in these two collections were of inestimable value to me in my research. It is Dolley Madison who saved several letters that Paul Jennings wrote to her in the 1840s as well as one he wrote to another household slave, Dolley's maid Sukey. Being able to "listen" to Jennings's sentiments in these letters was wonderful. Also revealing were the many letters between Dolley and her son Payne highlighting plantation dynamics.

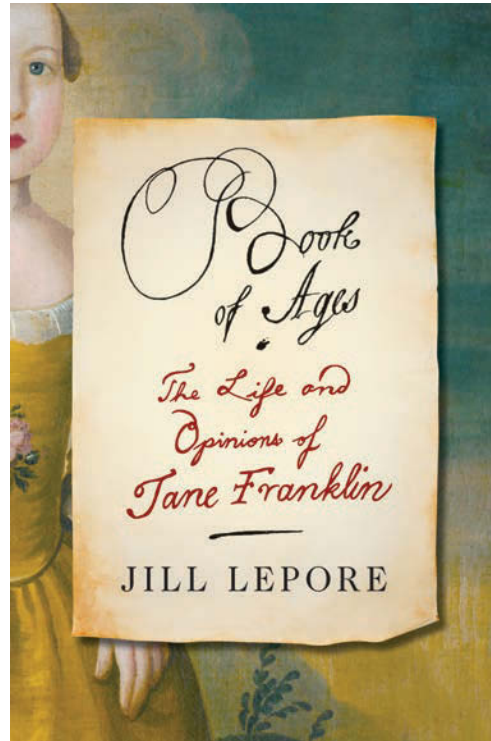
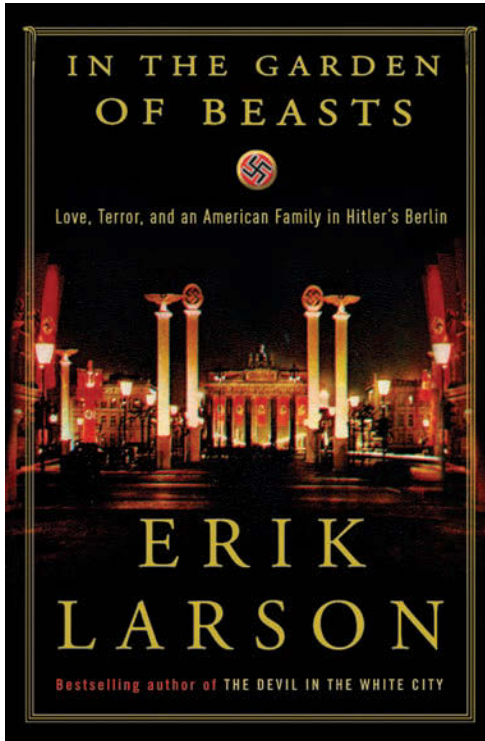
Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition (Scribner, 2010) is a national bestselling history of the temperance movement and prohibition. Written by Daniel Okrent, *Last Call* was also featured in Ken Burns's PBS documentary series



Prohibition. As part of his research, Okrent worked through the Temperance and Prohibition Papers at the Ohio Historical Society, a microfilm publishing project.

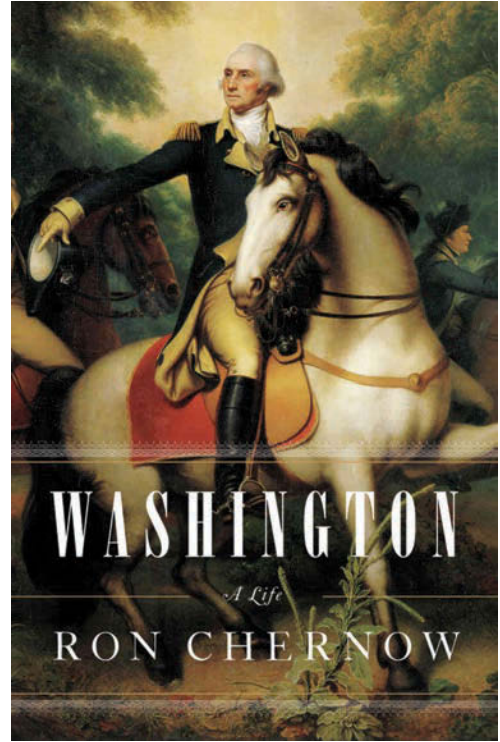
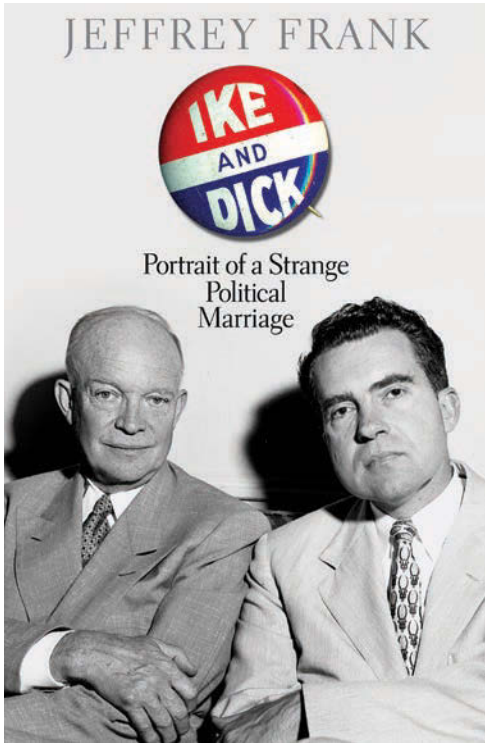
The Temperance and Prohibition Papers (more than 100 rolls of microfilm!) were of course invaluable; to their credit, the leaders of the prohibition movement saved everything, and the papers reveal both the noble and the cynical motives of the activists, the internal divisions within their movement, and the extraordinary nature of friendships (and antipathies) born of common cause.

Erik Larson's *In The Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin* (Crown, 2011) tells the story of William E. Dodd who was chosen



by Roosevelt to be America's first ambassador to Nazi Germany. As part of his research, Larson investigated the papers of George Messersmith, consul general at the U.S. embassy in Berlin. In the book's notes, he describes Messersmith's papers at the University of Delaware, Newark, as "one of the most beautifully archived collections I've ever come across."

Messersmith provided an absolutely wonderful window upon the period, because he viewed the Third Reich the way an anthropologist would view an aboriginal tribe. He wrote—at length—about everything, including a lengthy dispatch entirely focused on the Hitler salute, its uses and its meaning. This was invaluable, because one of the most important things I try to do is see the world through the eyes of those living at the time—again, point of view. And Messersmith, if you'll forgive the pun, gave me an eyeful.



We forget, today, how new and novel many of these tropes of the Nazi era were at the time. The salute. The swastika. The goose step. Messersmith's dispatches provide an excellent contemporary sense of the daily reality of the Third Reich.

"I adore archives," historian Jill Lepore wrote. "There are two sorts of particular joy. The discoveries—finding something no one's ever found before—and the unveilings—getting to hold in your hands something no else's bothered to hold." In *Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin* (Knopf, 2013), Lepore takes as her subject the story of Benjamin Franklin's youngest sister Jane. While her famous brother's letters and published writings have been saved by archives around the world, relatively little remains of Jane:

One of my favorite discoveries was at Sterling Library at Yale, where the *Benjamin Franklin Papers* project is housed. Two letters Jane wrote near the end of her life had been lost in the 1950s and, miraculously, they had once gone through that office at Yale, where a Photostat had been made, before the originals disappeared. One of them Jane wrote when she was near death, and very alone, “I feel the Diminution of my few friends very Sensibly tho I am grown almost Stupid to Every other Sensation.” I didn’t even end up using it in the book, but I was glad to know that Jane’s words had finally gotten read.

To write *Ike and Dick: Portrait of a Strange Political Marriage* (Simon and Schuster, 2013), novelist and journalist Jeffrey Frank used multiple sources, such as the *Papers of Dwight David Eisenhower* and the *Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Here he writes about modern methods of digging into collections both online and in person:

[The Eisenhower Papers Online] were indispensable. In the 21st century, it’s hard to imagine undertaking a research project without such online resources, not to mention the . . . databases found through educational institutions and public libraries. But they can’t replace repeated visits to the presidential libraries and other archival collections, which not only provide access to so much material, but the chance for serendipitous discovery, and, above all, the invaluable help and expertise of the archivists who know what’s there...

Ron Chernow’s biographies *Alexander Hamilton* (Penguin Press, 2004) and Pulitzer-Prize winning *Washington: A Life* (Penguin Press, 2011) were made possible by the work undertaken by documentary editors.

I would have never been emboldened without the edition of the papers. It would have taken me a century to write without them. And in a sense, I am standing on the shoulders of a team of editors.

And he had this to say about Founders Online:

Unfortunately, the Founders have become remote and abstract, when in fact they are rich, full-blooded, and fiery characters. This new site will not only help students learn more deeply and develop a visceral love and respect for this era, but it will stimulate interest in history for teachers, too, and will reconnect them to primary sources. Archives used to be restricted to those historians able to come visit and examine the documents first-hand, but now an inquisitive child with a computer will be able to look at what the Founders thought.

Financial Summary of NHPRC Awards

Recommended Grants for FY 2013

Documenting Democracy: Access to Historical Records	\$899,244
Digitizing Historical Records	\$419,520
Electronic Records	\$235,415
Innovation in Archives and Documentary Editing	\$511,968
Institute for Historical Editing	\$261,030
Publishing Historical Records	\$2,500,620
State and National Archival Partnership	\$750,001
TOTAL AWARDS	\$5,577,796

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission

As of the end of FY 2013

Archivist of the United States, *Chair*

David S. Ferriero

Representing the United States Supreme Court

Judge Jeremy D. Fogel

U.S. Senate

Vacant

U.S. House of Representatives

Vacant

Presidential Appointee

Karen L. Jefferson *Records Manager, Robert W. Woodruff Library, Atlanta University Center*

Presidential Appointee

Vacant

Library of Congress

Nicole Saylor, *Head, American Folklife Center Archive*

United States Department of Defense

Erin Mahan, *Chief Historian*

United States Department of State

Stephen Randolph, *Historian*

Association for Documentary Editing

Raymond Smock, *Director, Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies, Shepherd University*

American Association for State and Local History

Rodger E. Stroup, *Curator, South Carolina Railroad Museum*

American Historical Association

William G. Thomas, III, *Chairman, Department of History, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators

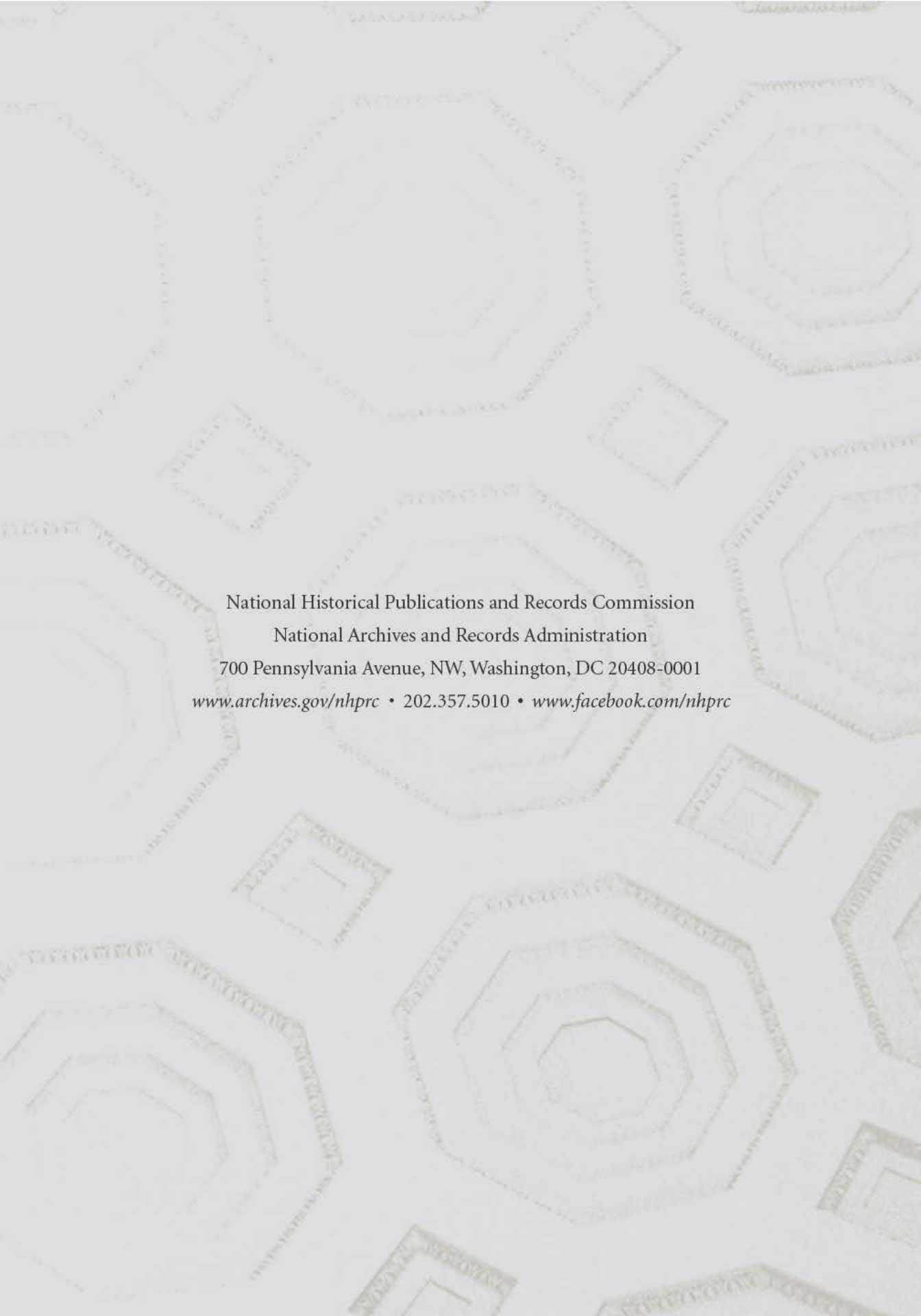
F. Gerald Handfield, *Former State Archivist, Washington State Archives*

Organization of American Historians

George Miles, *Curator, Western Americana Collection at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University*

Society of American Archivists

Peter Gottlieb, *Former State Archivist, Wisconsin Historical Society and Past President of the Society of American Archivists*



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National Archives and Records Administration
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