An Informal History of ALA RSD/RASD/RUSA History Section 1961 – 2001:
Forty Years of Progress
When Charles Cummings was chair of the History Section, the issue of the preservation of the internal documents generated by the activities of our organization became a concern. I volunteered to gather these records. Diane Carothers, who was Communications Librarian at the University of Illinois, where ALA deposits its archival records, volunteered to assist in this effort. The idea was proposed at this time that a history of the History Section should be written, and several of us accepted this charge. Long active in the History Section, Diane wrote about the Local History Committee and the Local History Genealogy Discussion Group and I wrote about the Genealogy Committee plus the committees and discussion groups of the nineties. Joyce Jelks also volunteered to help, but, as time went on, she found that her busy schedule prevented her from assisting with this project. Marilyn Carbonell then volunteered to write the account of the Bibliography and Indexes Committee. I also recruited Don Brown, who had witnessed the organization of the History Section in 1961, to write the introduction.

A number of the History Section members have read drafts of portions of the history and offered their comments. I have made an editorial decision that all institutions of the History Section members are listed once in the Appendix D. The list of members is no doubt incomplete, due to lack of complete records. Finally, Jim Niessen, the History Section’s vice-chair, has volunteered to assist with its final production.

What began as record of memories has become a 40 year record of remarkable accomplishments by practicing professionals in the RUSA History Section, who have been dedicated to assisting reference personnel in providing access to quality historical data in every type of library to anyone who desires this information. --Margaret Ann Reinert --June 2001

The History Section has been in existence for four decades. The Section's growth and development over these forty years has been related to the
strength of its leadership and how well the Section's elected leaders have responded to the expressed needs of its members. (Appendix A is a list of the History Section Chairs 1961-2001.) The History Section's members have been welcome to attend meetings of the standing committees and discussion groups to express concerns. Dozens have done so through the years, both at the Midwinter and the Annual Conferences of ALA. The extent to which the History Section leaders have responded to these concerns and scheduled open programs on timely topics has been steady and progressive through the four decades. Also, the extent of response of the History Section's officers and those of its parent organization within ALA (RSD at first, then RASD, and since 1996, RUSA) to establish standing committees and ad hoc working committees to study issues, produce checklists, conduct clearinghouses and pre-conferences, and formulate guidelines has been steady and progressive.

Incubation of the History Section occurred during the early 1960s. Sometime in early 1960, Mary Barton of Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Free Library wrote to Isabel Howell, Director of the Tennessee State Library, to encourage planning for a unit within the American Library Association that would address the interests and concerns of librarians responsible for developing and providing services to users of collections of historical materials in all types of North American libraries. Miss Howell in turn wrote to Katharine G. Harris of the Detroit Public Library on April 29, 1960 suggesting the circulation of a petition among Reference Services Division (RSD) members to create a history section within ALA's RSD.1 Miss Harris at the time was president of ALA's Reference Services Division. Another member of the Detroit Public Library's reference services, Miss Rae Elizabeth Rips, happened to be chair of the RSD's Sections Committee. Katharine Harris referred the matter to Miss Rips, who replied to Isabel Howell that "as a reference librarian working in the field of history, I can heartily endorse such a section and will be happy to sign your petition."2 The petition crusade was conducted with success starting at ALA's Annual Conference in 1960 in Montreal, Canada. The first official meeting of the History Section occurred one year later, on July 10, 1961, at ALA's Annual Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, with Gerald McDonald of the New York Public Library its first elected Chair.

As a petitioning early member of the History Section, it is interesting and educational to reflect how the concerns of the History Section's members

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1 Letter from Katharine Harris to Isabel Howell, May 12, 1960.
2 Letter from Rae Elizabeth Rips to Isabel Howells, May 13, 1960.
changed focus with the times, and how the program themes for the History Section's open meetings at annual ALA conferences over the past four decades serve as barometers of changing concerns. It was my good fortune to have had the Section's first chair as my first supervisor on my very first job in librarianship at the Detroit Public Library in Michigan. Rae Elizabeth Rips was chief of the History and Travel Section at DPL. As chair of the RSD Sections Committee of ALA, she played a key role in organizing the History Section and producing its first elected slate of officers. I recall the petition she encouraged her staff to sign. She later served as the third elected chair of the History Section in the 1960's.

Membership in the History Section seems to have had breadth from the start. There were discussions of whether the History Section was a place also for archivists. The History Section's accepted statement of purpose "to represent the subject interests of reference librarians, archivists, bibliographers, genealogists, historians and others engaged in historical reference or research" has remained broad and basically the same over the years. So have its objectives "to identify common problems and to recommend solutions that can enhance service to all users" and "to improve the materials and methods for historical reference and research services."

An expressed interest among the early active members for improved bibliographical control and access to historical literature resulted by 1964 in the establishment of the Bibliography and Indexes Committee--the Section's first standing committee. Dr. Lee Ash of Yale University was its first chair. From this group, P. William Filby, Director of the Maryland Historical Society, began to spearhead his campaign for the creation of a Genealogy Committee, which became the History Section's second standing committee by time of the 1968 Annual Conference of ALA at Kansas City. Genealogy librarians had been active in the Section from its start. During the early 1970s, librarians responsible for providing service in local history expressed a rationale for a specific mechanism to address their needs. By the middle of the decade, the History Section's third standing committee became a reality--the Local History Committee, which held its first official meeting in January 1975 at Midwinter in Chicago. Nathan Josel, Jr, Director of the Memphis Public Library in Tennessee, was Local History's first chair. Hundreds of ideas and dozens of co-operative programs and projects, including clearinghouses of information, indexes, guidelines, and standards that serve the users of historical collections in libraries, have emerged from these three key standing committees of ALA's History Section in the years since their formation:
The Bibliography and Indexes Committee (B&I) seeks to improve the usefulness of bibliographies and indexes in the field of history. The Committee evaluates the pattern and effectiveness of coverage in all fields of history, promotes enhanced availability of historical works and information, and serves as liaison among bibliographers, indexers, publishers, and professional associations.³ Currently the B&I Committee compiles and publishes its annual “Best Bibliographies in History” article in the Reference & Users Services Quarterly, formerly RQ. In addition, B&I shares responsibility for planning the History Section conference program every three years in rotation with the other History Section committees.

³ B&I Committee Statement of Purpose.
B&I was formally organized in July 1964. The first chairs of the B&I Committee are familiar names in librarianship: Lee Ash served as the first chair from 1964-1965 and 1968-1969, and P. William Filby was the second chair from 1965-1967. First activities included Filby's basic list of British and American genealogy and heraldry, published by ALA in 1970, and a checklist of local newspaper indexes in American libraries. Another early proposal from B&I was compiling a list of American imprints, 1871-1875, to fill a gap in American 19th century bibliography based upon the WPA files in the Library of Congress, Union Catalog Division. The American imprints project was not completed because Scarecrow Press subsequently announced the inclusion of these imprints in its 1820-1875 compilation.

When Hans Raum was B&I chair, 1969-1972, the committee proposed a pilot project to determine the state of indexing for state historical publications. The resulting Directory of State and Local History Periodicals by Milton Crouch and Hans Raum was published by ALA in 1977 and sold very well according to Andrew Hansen's letter to Paul Mogren, the B & I chair in 1980, which praised the usefulness of the information on indexing. Raum also completed an article, "Oral History: Information and Bibliography."

Other early projects included a study of the state of indexing for state historical publications and a proposed study of the teaching or the use of bibliographic tools of history by university librarians and history instructors with Elizabeth Sylvester as project coordinator. The article by Annette K. Buurstra, Mildred Schulz, and John Bodger, entitled, "The State of the Art of Bibliography and Indexing in American History," was published in RQ in 1976.

Some projects arose to supplement standard bibliographic guides including the Harvard Guide to American History. Another role for the Committee members included serving as grant proposal reviewers for National Endowment for the Humanities projects involving historical bibliographies.

Given the nature of committee appointments, the B&I Committee decided that it could not undertake the compilation of continuing or serial bibliographies or indexes, nor could it supervise their production. However, B&I recognized a

4 Letter from Andrew Hansen to Paul Mogren, 1980.
5 Bibliography and Indexes Committee “Minutes,” January 21, 1975.
responsibility to identify useful projects and to serve as a liaison among bibliographers, indexers, publishers, and professional associations to promote the production of better reference tools.

At ALA’s 1975 annual conference in San Francisco, Joyce Duncan Falk of ABC-Clio Press discussed indexing practices and criteria for journal inclusion. Through the years other publishers were invited to meet with B&I Committee members. In 1977 Mimi Dudley and Joyce Duncan Falk proposed a plan to monitor history bibliographies and indexes. The B&I Committee took on the task of reviewing major bibliographic tools for coverage and other qualities. Benedict LaBue and Sharon Hogan volunteered to review *The Combined Retrospective Index to Journals in History* and Jean Coberly volunteered to review *The Writings on American History*. The B&I Committee also reviewed the *ALA Guidelines for the Preparation of a Bibliography*.

Liaison with professional organizations of interest to historians and librarians were discussed at the ALA’s annual conference in Chicago during the 1976 Bicentennial year—specifically the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, and the American Culture Association/American Studies Association. This list was enlarged in following years to include the Society for History Education, the American Society of Archivists, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Association for Bibliography of History. B&I sent letters to the organizations expressing interest in working together on bibliographic projects, including serving as reviewers.

The growing availability of online database services and resources for the study of history prompted a B&I Committee project to review the success of these databases as practical research aids for historians, including the usefulness of databases not specifically covering the discipline of history. The history of U.S. government land use was the topic to test the databases. The *RQ* article, “A Sampler of Databases for Searches in History,” was published with the papers from the 1981 History Section program, “Computer-Assisted

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8 Letter from B&I Committee Chair, Benedict LaBue to committee members February 16, 1977.


10 HS Executive Committee “Meeting Highlights,” July 12, 1982.
Reference Service in History,” which was planned by the B&I Committee. The database sampler, edited by Joyce Duncan Falk, was an effort of Committee members Paul Mogren, Gretchen Lake, Nathan Josel, Steve Zink, Ted Sheldon, plus Ann Marie Breznay, Ruth Frear, and Ken Tuddenham. 11

Correspondence between the Bibliography and Indexes Committee chairs and the NEH Division of Research Grants between 1977 through 1981 touched upon the role of Committee members as reviewers of large project proposals having an impact on libraries. The Committee proposal distribution system and the NEH review process figures in reports and correspondence from Benedict LaBue and Paul Mogren.

Early on the B&I Committee was concerned about library instruction in history. Liaison was established with the Library Instruction Roundtable and the ACRL Library Instruction Section. The 1984 History Section program, co-sponsored by the Government Documents Roundtable, “The Use of Government Documents in Historical Research,” centered on the theme of bibliographic instruction and specifically on instruction in the use of historical bibliographic materials for students of history at the college level; for historians of professional stature; and for history buffs interested in using a library for recreational learning. Other B&I Committee programs planned for the History Section included such hot topics as “De-Selection: Implications in Managing Historical Collections;” Microforms in History: Resource, Recourse, or Remorse?;” “Desperately Seeking Sources: Library Use and the Historian;” “Clio and the Net: Historians in the Electronic Age;” and “The Sensitive Side of Digitizing.”

(A list of the History Section Programs over a 40 year time-span can be found in Appendix B.)

Two Committee projects represented major, long-term B&I commitments— the Consumer’s Guide to History Series and the Best Bibliographies in History Series:

The Consumer’s Guide to History Series

As early as 1982, B&I Committee members Nancy Huling and Chris Ferguson prepared a proposal for the committee to study the bibliographic control of historical literature. They reported on the B&I Committee’s efforts in the mid-1970s to examine the state of the art of American history bibliography. Huling and Ferguson proposed a plan that extended beyond a traditional literature survey. They challenged the Committee to locate gaps and weaknesses in the control of historical literature and to take appropriate steps to promote the correction of deficiencies through lobbying and consultations with publishers. Originally the project proposed five subgroups covering chronological periods, geographical regions, or topical subject areas which included methodologies, social history, intellectual history, data archives, and online databases.  

Further Committee and Section review of this prospectus narrowed the focus to create consumer’s guides to historical research which would analyze and criticize historical, serial, and subject bibliographies for three potential audiences-- the student or beginning researcher; the librarian wanting to select appropriate resources; and publishers who might be contacted as improvements or gaps were noted in these sources. The Committee projected seven groups but then enlarged the list to nine groups. Thus, the 1984 publication plan was to develop guides to current bibliography; retrospective bibliography, which included bibliographies of bibliographies; guides to the literature; retrospective biography; dictionaries, handbooks, almanacs, manuals and directories; compendia, encyclopedias and sets; historical atlases and maps; sources for the study of local history; and sources for the study of genealogy. Committee members agreed to select a member of the committee as editor for each guide. Three guides were published after struggling to find a publisher, as RASD Occasional Papers Series-- #2,#6, and #7:  


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12 "Perspectives for a Committee Study of the Bibliographic Control of History," from Nancy Huling and Chris Ferguson, June 16, 1982; HS Executive Committee, “Meeting Highlights,” July 12, 1982.  
13 HS Executive Committee “Minutes,” July 8, 1985.

The Consumer’s Guide series was eclipsed by technological developments with rapid updating capabilities-- the Internet and the World Wide Web.

**Best Bibliographies in History Series**

In 1989, the Bibliography and Indexes Committee embarked upon this project “to highlight the most outstanding English-language bibliographies published each year in the field of history. Selection by the Committee means that the cited source is considered a significant contribution in history. Through this method, the Committee hopes to encourage both the work of scholars in this field and the support of publishers for this important activity.” Many titles are reviewed each year during the selection process to winnow the list to ten or fifteen titles. To assist the Committee members in the selection process, they have drafted the *Best Bibliographies in History Manual*. The “Best Bibliographies in History” article is published annually in the Summer issue of *Reference and Users Service Quarterly*. Before 1996, when this quarterly was known as *RQ*, the annual “best bibliographies” articles began in the Fall 1991 issue and then in the summer issues from 1992 to 1995. The editors of these articles in consecutive order are John Lawrence, Louis Vyhnanek, Charles Getchell, Agnes Widder, Martin Cavanaugh, John Haskell, Daniel Mack, David Langenberg, Claire Gabriel, Betty Jenkins, Cynthia Krolikowski, and Phoebe Janes.

During its 36 year history, the aims of the Committee have centered on encouraging high standards of publishing and indexing bibliographic sources and improving access to information in history for the practitioner. The Committee’s charge has evolved slightly over time as it has utilized different approaches and projects to support the History Section and its members, including compiling occasional guides, annual bibliographic reviews, and informative programs. The B&I Committee uses the dual approach of publications and conference programming to share information with RUSA members, librarians, and anyone who can not attend the ALA annual conferences by providing professional development opportunities and practical assistance to history librarians in public, special, and academic libraries. One example is its contribution of
recommended titles for publication in *RUSA Update* and for listing on the History Section’s website.

Thus, the Bibliography & Indexes Committee has made contributions to the profession; provided guidance to librarians and library users in the study of historical literature; and stands ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

**THE GENEALOGY COMMITTEE**

1968-2001

P. William Filby, an active member of the History Section Bibliography and Indexes Committee, inspired the formation of the Genealogy Committee in January 1968, at the American Library Association’s Midwinter Conference in Miami Beach. The History Section minutes reported that P. W. Filby, when asked to explain his article in *RQ*, “This Librarian Asserts: Genealogy Is Reference,” commented, “ALA is failing in its duties to a large segment of the population if aid is not given to those interested in the subject.”14 He served as the first chair of the new committee. Other committee members asked to serve were Lucille A. Boykin; Delbert E. Roach; Carolynne L. Miller; Dorothy M. Lower; and James Gregory. According to the *Reference Services Division Manual*, the Genealogy Committee was established “to provide within the American Library Association an organization which can serve the interests of genealogists and librarians whose work is in, or related to, the field of genealogy. The Committee seeks to train and assist librarians in history departments who must provide service to genealogists and to encourage public librarians especially to extend the range of their reference services to patrons who are interested in genealogy.”

The History Section scheduled two programs in Kansas City at the June 1968, ALA conference—one on immigrant trains and the next day a panel discussion, “Is Genealogy Reference?” According to Genealogy Committee Chair Filby’s report, “Over 400 people attended and it seemed that those present

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14 P. William Filby, “This Librarian Asserts: Genealogy is Reference,” *RQ* 6 (Summer 1967):164-68.
were enthusiastic.” One of the issues raised at this program was the need for a comprehensive index to genealogical periodicals.\textsuperscript{15}

It is interesting that this was not the first year the History Section sponsored a genealogy program, for one was presented in 1962, on the topics “Heraldry and You, the Librarian,” and “A Closer Look at Genealogy.” During the seventies the Genealogy Committee organized a number of programs for the annual conference. In 1971, a program discussing ethnic genealogy, current developments in genealogical publishing and reprinting, and computer applications in genealogical indexing and information retrieval was noted in the Executive Committee’s June 22, 1971, report as successful.\textsuperscript{16} In 1973, in Las Vegas, Clara Ward spoke on researching heraldry and James D. Walker talked about researching military records. In 1977, Rick J. Ashton explained the development of the remarkable genealogy collection at the Newberry Library in Chicago.\textsuperscript{17}

From its inception the Genealogy Committee became interested in the development of quality genealogical reference sources. At the History Section Executive Committee Meeting, in June 1969, Lucile Boykin reported that the general bibliography on genealogy was nearly ready to be published if money could be obtained to publish it.\textsuperscript{18} American and British Genealogy and Heraldry: A Selected List of Books, a bibliography of 1800 titles compiled by P. William Filby, was published by ALA in 1970. (Filby, in association with the Gale Research Company, would later compile a comprehensive, multi-volume set of ship’s passenger lists gleaned from published sources along with a bibliography of these sources as well as other remarkable indexes family historians.)

At its midwinter-meeting, January 24, 1972, the Genealogy Committee decided it “would seek to explore the possibilities of developing a cumulative index to genealogical periodicals.”\textsuperscript{19} For several years this committee searched for a way to develop and publish an index to over 100 American genealogical periodicals complete with bibliographic data, subject tracings, and cross-

\textsuperscript{16} HS Executive Committee, “Minutes,” June 22, 1971.
\textsuperscript{17} The article relating to this presentation can be found in the Library Quarterly, 47 (April 1977):149-62.
\textsuperscript{18} HS Executive Committee, “Minutes,” June, 1969.
\textsuperscript{19} HS Genealogy Committee, “Proceedings,” January 24, 1972.
references. Its members thought they had found the solution when an “unnamed philanthropist” seemed interested in funding this project. An ad hoc committee, appointed to develop the format of the index met in New York City in October 1972, and produced a prospectus of several pages entitled *Cumulative Index to Writings in American Genealogical Periodicals 1845-1870*. Printed in 1973 by the Genealogical Publishing Company, it contained testimonials from leading genealogists as well as sample indexing from ten genealogical periodicals.

In the forward to the prospectus, P. William Filby outlined an ambitious plan whereby volunteers from each state would follow explicit instructions and complete specially designed index forms. He projected the cost of coordinating the indexers and the final editing would be approximately $100,000. If such funding were soon forthcoming, he envisioned that it could become a Bicentennial project with completion in the fall of 1976. These high hopes were dashed when the philanthropist decided not to provide the money and several interested publishers could not underwrite such a project. However, the planning continued, as explained by Filby at the 1978 History Section program.20

At its January 24, 1972, meeting the Genealogy Committee “approved the proposal to provide editors of genealogical periodicals with minimum guidelines pertaining to format, paper quality, mailing, etc., but not to content.”21 These guidelines, *To: Editors of Local History Publications, Genealogical Magazines, and Family Newsletters*, were completed in the summer of 1974. Gunther Pohl, Chair of the Genealogy Committee, was instrumental in their development. This was the first of several guidelines developed by the committee to promote quality genealogical publications and better genealogical reference service.

Members of the Committee, especially those who relied upon Library of Congress cataloging, were disturbed by the lack of locality subject headings. In 1972, believing that this was a great hindrance to genealogists, the Committee decided to recommend to the Library of Congress Subject Cataloging Division that they reconsider their subject cataloging rules concerning genealogical areas of interest and specifically suggested that the Division change topical subject

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20 As part of the 1978 HS Program, “Dreams Into Reality--Access to Historical Materials, Local, National, and International.”

headings to locality subject headings. In a letter addressed to Genealogy Committee Chair, Gunther Pohl, dated June 15, 1972, Edward J. Blume, Assistant Chief of the Subject Cataloging Division of the Library of Congress, enclosed a copy of a memorandum implementing a decision “to add place names as main headings for the convenience of those studying various aspects of local history,” and explained that the subject subdivision, “Genealogy,” would also be “modified.”

An important issue to confront the Genealogy Committee in the 1970’s was Section V:2:e of the 1968 National Interlibrary Loan Code had been adopted with instructions that “libraries should not ordinarily ask to borrow genealogical, heraldic, and similar materials.” J. Carlyle Parker felt this discriminated against genealogists. Supported by a resolution of the California Heritage and Historical Convention and Conference on Records, Parker relayed his objections to the Genealogy Committee. The members of the committee reviewed the Code and felt it did protect costly collections and short publication runs. In 1976, Parker wrote an article, “Resources in the Field: Genealogy: Discrimination Against Genealogists,” which was published in the Wilson Library Bulletin and once again the Genealogy Committee was asked to review the Code. In a letter from Judith Krug, ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom Director, to Andrew M. Hansen, Executive Director of RASD in 1978, she stated that “the National Interlibrary Loan Code 1968 is not a prescriptive policy statement. It was formatted as a descriptive statement to facilitate interlibrary lending.... Libraries are in no way prohibited from lending genealogical materials.” Therefore, it was meant as a guide and not necessarily a restriction to libraries desiring to loan these materials, but it did place the responsibility upon the borrowing libraries to be informed about the lending policies of libraries. With this interpretation several members of the Genealogy Committee felt this clause was necessary to protect libraries with large non-circulating collections from unnecessary effort and expense in refusing an overwhelming number of interlibrary loan requests even though the members agreed that “it should remain the prerogative of each library whether genealogical materials should be loaned to another library.”

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24 Letter from Judith Krug to Andrew Hansen, May 16, 1968.
Meanwhile, J. Carlyle Parker was convinced that this clause discriminated against biographers, genealogists, and historians since it was the only part of the Code that prohibited interlibrary loan requests on the basis of a particular subject and was in direct violation of Article V of the Library Bill of Rights. In his opinion those libraries not wishing to lend this type of material were protected without this clause in the Code by their lending policy statement in the Interlibrary Loan Policy Directory. Consequently, Parker appealed to ALA President, Eric Moon, to ask that Section V:2:e be rescinded. The RASD Interlibrary Loan Committee did review this provision and the offensive section was dropped from the 1980 revision of the *National Interlibrary Loan Code*...

Addressing the problem of the overwhelming impact of the remarkable increase in genealogical research by the public upon libraries with large specialized collections of genealogical material would be a major part of the work of the Genealogy Committee throughout the eighties. It began with an unexpected charge. In 1979, Robert Wedgeworth, Jr., Executive Director of the American Library Association, visited the Genealogical Society of Utah Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Salt Lake City and learned that a substantial percentage of basic questions for information they handled could have been answered by reference librarians in local libraries. At the encouragement of Raymond S. Wright III, Manager of Patron Services at the Genealogical Society of Utah Library, who offered assistance from the library's staff, Wedgeworth proposed to Andrew M. Hansen, the Executive Secretary of ALA's Reference and Adult Services Division, that a two-day pre-conference be scheduled at ALA's 1981 Annual Conference in San Francisco devoted to instructing librarians about this specialized historical reference service.

The proposal was accepted by both the Genealogy and Local History Committees of the History Section and Margaret Ann Reinert and Donald R. Brown, respective chairs of these committees, agreed to co-chair this pre-conference. A planning meeting was held on September 12-13, 1980, in Salt Lake City with Andrew M. Hansen, Margaret Ann Reinert, Donald R. Brown, Raymond S. Wright III, Michael D. Kirley, and Thomas J. Kemp attending. Selecting the name of the pre-conference, "Genealogy and Local History Reference Services," the committee members outlined its program. General sessions emphasized concepts of genealogical research necessary to be understood by reference librarians for them to relate their professional

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expertise to the needs of genealogical researchers. Small group sessions focused on specialized sources available for genealogical research. As the planning continued twenty-five speakers accepted invitations to speak. Joanne A. Kosanke volunteered to assign participants to discussion groups while others on the planning committee took charge of the publicity, arrangements for speakers, and the syllabus.

The “Pre-Conference on Genealogy and Local History Reference Services” was held at the Lone Mountain facilities on the University of San Francisco campus, June 24-26, 1981. Robert Wedgeworth, Jr., gave the keynote address and Robert M. Warner, Archivist of the United States, presented the first general session. Forty-two sessions were held along with an evening reception arranged by the California Genealogical Society.

The general response of the nearly one hundred registrants was very positive. The Local History Committee meeting highlights of June 1981, reports, “Participants tell us that it was stimulating and informative and speakers were exceptional for the messages conveyed in their assigned roles....” One attender summed it up as follows: “This was an impressive conference from the depth and wealth [of knowledge] of the speakers to the excellent conference syllabus.”

Because of its valuable information, the duplication of the three hundred page conference syllabus and its additions became an item of business for several Genealogy Committee meetings until it was finally determined that the Genealogical Society of Utah Library could microfiche it and that Raymond S. Wright, III, its compiler, would write a book, instead, on genealogical references to be published by the American Library Association. This book, Genealogist’s Companion: Modern Methods for Researching Family History, was published by ALA in 1994.

With the enthusiasm generated from the success of the Pre-conference, it was suggested that a day-long conference be held in Philadelphia at the 1982 Annual Conference to extend the knowledge of librarians enabling them to provide better basic genealogical reference services on a local level. Although some members of the RASD executive board felt it to be very short notice, Committee Member Raymond S. Wright III and supportive members of the RASD Board of Directors shepherded it through for approval. Thomas J. Kemp

27 HS Local History Committee, “Meeting Highlights,” June 28, 1981.
volunteered to chair the planning committee and most of the Genealogy Committee offered to assist. At the 1982 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver the planning committee developed the program and chose the theme, suggested by Donald R. Brown, of “Four Centuries of Genealogy.”

P. William Filby, editor of Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, Passenger and Immigration Bibliography, and Philadelphia Naturalization Records, 1789-1880, presented a session on the topic of passenger and immigration lists on Friday evening, July 9. The next day, Gary Boyd Roberts, Lloyd Bockstruck, Gunther E. Pohl, and James D. Walker provided an overview of four consecutive centuries of useful genealogical research materials ending in the twentieth century. Particular emphasis was on the ways librarians could provide meaningful reference services to genealogical patrons utilizing the particular records available throughout these four centuries. Then, P. William Filby told about the importance of the Philadelphia naturalization records which he had been able to salvage, organize, and publish.

The program continued with J. Carlyle Parker, author of Library Services for Genealogists, speaking on “Becoming an Ideal Reference Librarian for Genealogy and Local History Patrons;” Carolyn Leopold Michaels presenting the “State of the Art: Bibliographical Records for Local History and Genealogy;” Judith P. Reid explaining the Scorpio System at the Library of Congress; and Charles Clement talking about “How Automation Helps to Improve Genealogical Service and Access to Sources.”

“Four Centuries of Genealogy” was a highly successful program, with an attendance of over two hundred people. The program was taped and its cassette sales were exceptionally large--far in excess of all other sales of cassettes during the year it was presented with one exception, which ran a close second. Edited by Margaret Ann Reinert and Donald R. Brown, six major articles were published in RQ by program presenters Lloyd D. Bockstruck, J. Carlyle Parker, P. William Filby, Judith P. Reid, Charles Clement, and by Russell E. Bidlack in the Winter 1983 issue,28 Diane Carothers was also instrumental in having the Summer 1973, issue of Library Trends devoted to genealogical reference service with several Genealogy Committee members contributing

articles.\textsuperscript{29} Previously, other articles on genealogy library reference service had been written by Robert Wagenknecht and Russell Bidlack.\textsuperscript{30}

Meanwhile, other matters occupied the Genealogy Committee. At the June 29, 1980, Genealogy Committee meeting, J. Carlyle Parker announced the future publication by Gale Research Company of its \textit{Genealogy and Local History Series} under his editorship. Also Jack T. Ericson appeared before the Committee to explain the genealogy and local history microfiche project of the Microfilming Corporation of America. This was a long-range effort to duplicate and preserve rare and primary genealogical research publications and, as its editor, Ericson requested advice and support from Committee members.

During the seventies the Genealogy Committee had discussed with the Accelerated Indexing publisher how the quality of his census indexes could be improved. Another concern was the delay in printing genealogical books purchased through prepublication offers. This would be discussed with selected publishers. Later a publisher was admonished to improve his title page book descriptions and in his advertising of reprinted books.

In 1981, P. William Filby requested that the Committee encourage ALA Publishing Services not to delay the publication of the third edition of his book, \textit{American and British Genealogy and Heraldry}. The Committee passed a resolution, \textit{“That the Genealogy Committee of RASD History Section wishes to learn the reasons why the ALA Publishing Services has taken a reluctant position regarding the immediate publication of a new edition at this time of P. William Filby's American and British Genealogy and Heraldry.”} Although reluctant to publish a new edition with several hundred copies of the second edition still for sale, ALA Publishing Services subsequently relinquished their right to publish further editions. The New England Historic Genealogical Society was eager to publish this highly regarded reference tool of over 10,000 titles.

Another issue of concern to the Genealogy Committee in 1982 was subject entries of variant names. The Library of Congress used standardizations of surnames for subject headings with cross-references to the

\begin{footnotesize}
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\item \textsuperscript{29} Diane Foxhill Carothers, Issue Editor, \textit{“Genealogy and Libraries,” Library Trends} 32 (Summer 1983).
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\end{footnotesize}
actual spelling of these names. Committee members believed this created unnecessary problems for patrons using catalogs with Library of Congress cataloging. Mary K. Pietris, Chief of the Library of Congress Subject Cataloging Division, was invited to explain to Committee members the value of this policy. According to her explanation this policy was meant to assist patrons who might not know the spelling of a family name. In spite of her explanation, the Genealogy Committee initiated a resolution petitioning the Subject Cataloging Division to use surnames as they appear on the title pages of books for subject headings.

In 1983, a task force, Subject Cataloging of Genealogies and Local Histories, was appointed. Chaired by Ottelia Koel, its members included Judith Austin, Catherine Scott of the Daughters of the American Revolution Library, Charles C. Clement, and Gunther Pohl with Mary Lou Miller from the Subject Cataloging Division of the Library of Congress as a consultant. Its charge was to study the subject cataloging of genealogies and local histories so that special guidelines might be developed for distribution through RASD to interested libraries. Emphasis was to be on cooperation between technical services and public services departments in libraries. In 1985, the task force completed its assignment with a written report ready for publication, which was later published. The report explained that for various reasons neither way of referring to names in subject headings was always helpful to researchers. The Genealogy Committee decided not to continue the effort to have the Library of Congress change their policy on variant names but hoped that future technological innovations would assist catalog users in searching for family surnames.

Again, in the early nineties, a request was made to the Library of Congress Cataloging Division, in the form of a resolution, that the subject heading, Register of Births, Etc., be replaced by more specific headings or more specific subdivisions used with geographical subject headings. A study had been made of a sample of cataloging records utilizing this subject and the resolution explained that “etc.” referred to a great variety of records such as cemetery records or head stone inscriptions, census schedules or census schedule indexes, marriage records, military records, or ancestral charts. Another request was that the subdivision, Genealogy, relating to geographical

headings be dropped in favor of specific record categories because it was much too general to be helpful to catalog users. The response from the Cataloging Division was defensive implying that the “general user” and “true scholar” should appreciate this method of bringing together “disparage elements.” In reply to the issue of using genealogy as a subdivision with a geographic subject heading, it was felt that because the title of the material would indicate the type of record, this adjustment would not be necessary.33 The advent of keyword searching in online library catalogs has helped alleviate these issues.

Early in 1982 genealogists and historians were much alarmed when the head of the General Services Administration, Gerald P. Carmen, deeply slashed the National Archives budget. From their own statistics 88% of all visitors to the National Archives in Washington and the eleven regional branches were genealogists and 75% of the reference requests were from genealogists. One of the programs that was curtailed was the lending of the federal census enumerations to individuals throughout the country which, during the fiscal year ending in 1982, was 368,000 rolls of microfilm. The budget cut also seriously hampered the National Archives ability to properly collect, oversee, and care for their valuable records including land, military, and veteran records.

Some members of Congress were also quite concerned. In 1981 at the Philadelphia Genealogy Committee meeting, Edward J. Gleiman, Staff Council with the U.S. House of Representatives Government Operations Committee, asked everyone present how the lack of this service would affect their patrons locally. The Meeting Highlights read as follows, “Members of the Committee stressed that cuts in the NARS budget impacted directly on the three to five million genealogists in America who need the records National Archives and Records Service (NARS) holds. Curtailed service from the National Archives and Records Service would threaten the ability of Americans everywhere to preserve their heritage and pass it on to succeeding generations.” In a few months an arrangement was made with a private vendor to continue the lending of the federal census enumerations.

In 1983, legislation was introduced in Congress to create an independent National Archives and Records Administration. It was eventually passed and the National Archives and Records Administration became independent effective April 1, 1985. This legislation, however, did not end the Committee’s concerns.

At the request of Carolyn Michaels, Chair of the Legislative Action Subcommittee, the Genealogy Committee approved a resolution to draft a letter “to request input on the choice and qualifications of the Archivist and Assistant Archivist to be appointed.” This resolution was sent through normal ALA channels. The following year the Genealogy Committee wrote a letter addressed to Senator William Roth, Chair of the Senate Committee for Governmental Affairs, objecting to the appointment of John Agresto as National Archivist due to his lack of appropriate professional qualifications. At the ALA membership meeting a protest proposal was presented which ALA developed into a Council Resolution strongly objecting to this appointment. With this and similar statements of objection expressed by historical and genealogical organizations around the country, the Reagan administration reconsidered this appointment.

In 1983 several subcommittees were organized. The Subcommittee on Cooperation Between Institutions with Genealogical Interests was chaired by Michael Clegg. It began compiling two lists—one was a mailing list of more than 1500 agencies with genealogical collections or interests and a second one became the Directory of Archivist and Librarian Genealogical Instructors, edited by J. Carlyle Parker, now in its second edition. Both lists were meant to help assist librarians throughout the country in genealogical reference services. For the same reason an offer was made to help the National Genealogical Society initiate several sessions especially for librarians serving genealogists at the National Genealogical Society’s “National Conference in the States” held each year in a different section of the country. This offer was welcomed. Members of the Genealogy Committee, who were also members of the National Genealogical Society, took turns helping plan these sessions. These included Donald R. Brown, Margaret Ann Reinert, Michael B. Clegg, Raymond S. Wright III, Charles R. Clement, and Curt B. Witcher. Often the speakers were members and past members of the Committee. In time this became an ad hoc committee. The objective continues with several History Section members assisting the National Genealogical Society in various capacities.

The Subcommittee on Cooperation Between Institutions with Genealogical Interests began to develop a union list of genealogy and local history periodicals. Michael B. Clegg recognized that with the advent of automation in libraries a comprehensive index of articles in these genealogy and local history periodicals (long a dream of the founding members of the Genealogical Committee) would now be possible. He also understood that this project would need special funding and the support of an institution with a large collection of
these periodicals. The Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana where Clegg was the head of the Genealogy Department at that time provided the ideal setting. Today, PERSI, *Periodical Source Index*, is a multi-volume set now also available through a subscription via the Internet. Supported by the Allen County Public Library, it encompasses over 2,000 periodical titles beginning in the 1850’s and estimates its retrospective indexing is over 65% complete. It is an outstanding reference tool for genealogists. In 1990, Clegg edited the *Bibliography of Genealogy and Local History Periodicals with Union List of Major U.S. Collections* published by the Allen County Library Foundation.

The Subcommittee on Genealogical Publications, chaired by Ralph Crandall, began contacting book review editors of library journals requesting that outstanding genealogical books be reviewed. Favorable responses were received to this suggestion. Several journal editors also agreed to publish occasional bibliographic essays on genealogical sources. Judith P. Reid became a reviewer of genealogical reference books for *Library Journal*. Raymond S. Wright III became associate editor and began writing a genealogy column, “What’s New in Genealogy,” in *Reference Service Review*, a column later continued by Judith Austin. Several other committee members were given opportunities to write reviews and articles about genealogical sources and reference services.

Two other subcommittees were organized at this time. Diane Carother’s Subcommittee on Exhibitors was appointed to contact publishers of genealogical materials to ask them to exhibit at ALA conferences. Not only was this beneficial to the publishers who accepted, but this raised the level of awareness of librarians, who viewed these available genealogical reference sources in exhibits.

The Legislative Action Subcommittee was appointed to inform Committee members about legislation which would impact upon genealogical research. Several times it brought important issues before the Committee for deliberation and action.

In the mid-eighties these subcommittees ceased to exist. If their objective had not been completed, task forces were appointed instead. This was done so that both committee and non-committee members could legitimately serve.
While much progress was being made on many fronts, the revisions of *Guidelines to Editors of Local History Publications, Genealogical Magazines, and Family Newsletters*, which Gunther Pohl had revised in 1981, along with the *Guidelines for Developing A Genealogical Reference Collection* were still awaiting approval in RASD’s Standards and Guidelines Committee, in 1985, after the second year. Part of the problem was the different perspectives of the Genealogy Committee and the Standards and Guidelines Committee about what such guidelines should entail. At the January 1985 Midwinter Genealogy Committee Meeting, members voted not to change items that the Standards and Guidelines Committee wanted revised in the *Guidelines for Developing A Genealogical Reference Collection* but to resubmit them again stating that they “complement and are consistent with the guidelines of the Local History Committee and are sorely needed.”

When no guidelines were returned by the spring of 1986, the Chair of the History Section, Margaret Ann Reinert, wrote a letter to the RASD Board of Directors as ordered by the History Section Executive Board should this situation continue. The letter explained the need for these guidelines and requested that the RASD Board approve them. By June, 1986 the Chair of the Standards and Guidelines Committee returned the approved *Guidelines to Editors of Local History Publications, Genealogical Magazines, and Family Newsletters*. The RASD Board of Directors instructed the incoming Chair of the Standards and Guidelines Committee to put the other guidelines at the top of its agenda at its next meeting. Two more revisions of the *Guidelines for Developing Beginning Genealogical Collections and Services* were sent back to the Standards and Guideline Committee. These guidelines would finally be approved in January, 1992.

In the early nineties the *Guidelines for Editors of Historical and Genealogical Bulletins and Family Newsletters* were undergoing a revision for the third time. *The Guidelines for Preservation, Conservation, and Restorations of Local History and Local Genealogical Materials* had been approved. Another publication, proposed by J. Carlyle Parker, *Guidelines for a Genealogical Research Unit of Instruction in Reference Courses at Schools of Library and Information Science* was under discussion but finally approved in 1996. Committee duties are to periodically review and update their guidelines. The most recent guidelines are available from ALA or found in recent issues of *Reference and User Services Quarterly*. 
The Genealogy Committee has been responsible for the History Section Program every three years. These programs promote genealogical reference service with a variety of topics and have been well received. In 1985, Charles Clement organized a program, “Genealogy and Computers,” and these proceedings were published in ALA’s Conference Program Proceedings. Three years later, at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, the Committee sponsored a program, “Genealogical Research in the South,” and, in 1993, Joyce Jelks organized the History Section program on African-American genealogy for the Atlanta conference.

In the early nineties, Martha L. Henderson volunteered to write a Genealogy Committee column of information valuable to genealogy librarians. In RASD UPDATE between November 1992, and January 1994, a very useful list of roll errors found in the 1920 Federal Population Census Catalog of the National Archives microfilm was published in this “For the Record” column. Several years later Marjeanne Blinn would edit this column and write about locating specific ethnic materials. Currently Tom Kemp is writing the column with the latest edition of RUSA UPDATE listing a bibliography of free full-text books on the Internet.

Another cooperative effort to reach librarians serving genealogists was organized in 1996 with Dereka Smith, National Genealogical Society Librarian, Pam Hall representing the Federation of Genealogical Societies, along with the History Section Genealogy Committee members, Marjeanne Blinn, Suzanne Levy, Michelle McNabb, Martha H. Henderson, and Curt Witcher, who devised a survey of these librarians requesting their input of what assistance and what program information they would find most useful. This survey was mailed to nearly 700 librarians with good response. A database of librarians working with large and small genealogy and or local history collections has been created by Curt Witcher in order to contact interested persons about new developments in the field, future committee programs, and special notices of genealogical interest. A web site, Librarians Serving Genealogists, managed by Drew Smith, has offered another avenue of access for assistance to these reference librarians.

Genealogy training sessions for librarians have also continued. A series of pre-conferences were organized and presented by J. Carlyle Parker and his wife, Janet G. Parker, immediately prior to the annual conferences from 1993 to 1998. In 1999, Martha L. Henderson and Dereka Smith presented this popular pre-conference and at the Chicago Annual Conference in 2000 Tom Kemp gave the day-long training session.

The purpose of the ALA RUSA History Section Genealogy Committee, as stated in the ALA Handbook of Organization, is “to provide a forum serving the interests of genealogists and of librarians whose work is in, or related to, the field of genealogy. To train and assist librarians, especially in History Departments and public libraries, who provide service to genealogists.” The Genealogy Committee has strived to achieve this mandate and has succeeded in numerous ways. In fulfilling the Committee’s charge, members, past and present, have formed an informal network supporting each other in working toward the common goal of improved reference services to genealogists. This is probably its greatest achievement.

LOCAL HISTORY COMMITTEE
1974-2001

Newest of the three History Section committees, the Local History Committee was established by the History Section Executive Committee on July 10, 1974, with its purpose being “to provide a specific forum for those interested in and/or responsible for the library service in local history.” Its first meeting was held on January 21, 1975, and it became “official” on January 23, 1975. Members of the first Local History Committee were Nat Josel, Chair; Joe DeRold, M. Bates, Gunther Pohl, and Jean Coberly. Highlights of that inaugural meeting were the adoption of a proposal that the Chair of the new committee be an ex-officio member of the Genealogy Committee; discussion of questions of long-range purpose(s) and function(s) of the new Committee; and discussion of possible business sessions and program topics for the 1975 and 1976 ALA Annual Conferences. Subsequently, the History Section’s Executive Committee voted to have the Chair of the Genealogy Committee become an ex-officio member of the Local History Committee.

By July 1 of that year the new committee, under the guidance of Chair Nathan Josel, Jr., was presented with two possibilities for its activities -- to function as a clearinghouse for in-house local history indexing in cooperation with the History Section’s Bibliography and Index Committee and to assist librarians dealing with archives and rare book materials coordinating with the Society of American Archivists and ACRL’s Rare Books and Manuscript Section. It also considered surveying the art of local history bringing together examples of Bicentennial projects from throughout the nation which could have potential for development or continuation beyond the Bicentennial period. The latter idea was passed on to the History Section Executive Committee.36

In 1976, the Local History Committee began to develop standards and a collection of guidance handbooks and materials useful for local history collections. Prior to the initiation of determining the minimum standards for libraries with local history collections which would accompany the guidelines, a questionnaire was prepared and sent to selected libraries to gather pertinent information. A report, “Analysis of the Responses to the Survey of Local History Collections,” was compiled from the data received from 75 libraries which was quite useful to the Committee writing these guidelines and is cited in 1978 in the article, “Local History: Observation on a Survey,” written by Nathan A. Josel, Jr..37

That same January the Local History Committee requested a program slot for a presentation on some aspect of local history, but the request was denied in favor of the Committee’s participation in the History Section program. The 1976 program surveyed Chicago’s ethnic libraries and, in 1977, developed a program on pictorial resources for Local History and Genealogy.

Committee work preceded on a number of topics to be included in the guidelines for local history--oral history, local imprints, area local history, local government publications, genealogy, newspapers and newspaper indices, photographs, maps, manuscripts, city/county directories, and indices to local materials. Documents were prepared by the Committee on some of these topics. Nat Josel discovered in March, 1978, that the American Association for State and Local History had published a new book, Local History Collections: A Manual for Librarians, that appeared to conflict with the Local History

36 HS Local History Committee, “Minutes,” July 1, 1975.
Committee’s work on the guidelines for local history. However, the Committee was encouraged to continue its work on the guidelines “because ALA needs a statement regarding them even in the light of this publication.”

In the fall of 1979, the Guidelines for Establishing Local History Collections were accepted by the RASD Board of Directors and published in RQ. They identified what should be considered before making a commitment to develop a local history collection including the identification of the collection’s limits, how the collection would be acquired, the financial expense, the location of the collection, and how to insure the security of the collection. A bibliography to accompany these guidelines compiled by Carla Rickerson and Donald R. Brown was published in the Summer 1983 issue of RQ.38

Another set of guidelines, Guidelines for Reprinting or Republishing Books of Historical Interest, was prepared by Priscilla Ciccariello and published in RQ in the Fall 1984 issue. One of the twelve recommendations is that, “the reprint edition should cite clearly and accurately the full bibliographic information identifying the original edition. This information should appear on the title page or its verso, or on a bibliographic target, as specified in the American National Standards, Title Leaves of a Book...” Another recommendation is that “if there is no index in the original, a subject and name index should be added, clearly stating that the index is not a part of the original publication.”39

When Nat Josel resigned as head of the Committee in 1978, Tom Muth was appointed as the new Chair for the year 1978-79. He was succeeded in 1979 by Don Brown who created a number of subcommittees in an attempt to provide assessment, support, and dissemination of information about the published Guidelines. Due to publicity in archival, local history, public history, and special library publications (mostly newsletters), the Committee received over 100 requests for copies of the Guidelines or additional information about them by February 1981.

39 American Library Association, Reference and Adult Services Division, “Guidelines for Reprinting or Republishing Books of Historical Interest,” RQ 24 (Fall 1984) 33-34.
An important charge for the Local History Committee was organizing and presenting timely programs for the History Section every three years to assist librarians in acquiring and managing their local history collections. During the eighties Samuel J. Boldrick and Charles F. Cummings, supported by other committee members, developed several outstanding programs—“Indexing the News: Alternatives for Print and Media;” “From Daguerreotype to Videodisc: Photographic Images in Library Collections;” and “Ephemera: Trash or Treasure;” During the nineties the local history of northern California, Louisiana, and Florida was explored taking advantage of the location of ALA Annual Conferences not only with knowledgeable speakers but by pre-conference tours to Fort Ross, Key West, and a couple of Louisiana plantations. Another popular program was learning the techniques of house history research. In June, 2000, collection development and management of local history was discussed at the Chicago Historical Society in the program, “We Have History Too! Documenting Our Local Heritage.”

By 1986 the Committee’s purpose was expanded to state it “seeks to provide a specific forum for those interested in and/or responsible for library services in local history through discussion groups, bibliographies, guidelines, and professional training programs; and to develop a network of local history resources and professionals who review and update techniques in the management of local history collections.” Specific duties remained the same as originally stated in 1974: “(1) To explore areas of primary concern to librarians and others who provide library or library-type services in local history; e.g., oral history, interviewing in localities and/or local history indexing and/or local history file-organizing and developing; and (2) to provide a means for persons interested in and/or servicing local history to have their views expressed and positions aired to the membership of the Section as a whole as well as through RQ and/or other means, to the membership of the American Library Association at large.”

By the Midwinter meeting of 1986, the Committee approved the following statement to the RASD Local History brochure: “By means of discussion groups, bibliographies, guidelines, and professional training programs, the Committee has developed a network of local history resources and professionals who review and update techniques in the management of local history collections.”

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The Committee also worked on the identification of Committee objectives at this time.\textsuperscript{41}

The Local History Committee became concerned about fugitive microfilm collections which were not listed in major bibliographic databases such as \textit{RLIN} and Union lists such as \textit{NUCMC}. In 1990, the Local History Committee began compiling a list of projects or organizations preserving or indexing local historical records or collections in microform, or machine-readable format. The goal of the Committee was to publicize such projects, possibly through a directory which might include a bibliography. Librarians working in local history or genealogy collections were asked to send a short description of their project and any bibliographic products that resulted from it.

After much discussion it was decided that two articles would be published in \textit{RASD Update} emphasizing the need to publish these microform collections and how this could be done. These articles appeared in the March 1993, issue of \textit{RASD Update} -- "Identifying, Finding, and Reporting Microfilm Collections" by Carla Rickerson and "National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections" by Judith Reid. At the Local History Committee Meeting that summer, Judith Reid reported that the department of the Library of Congress which compiled the \texttt{National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC)} had received over 40 new local history submissions. The publicity had paid off but needed to be continued through state library associations and organizations.

Norma Carmack became the editor of a local history column in \textit{RASD Update} in 1994 devoted to information helpful to librarians with local history collections including new books, interesting articles, programs, and seminars. In this column in the Oct/Dec issue of 1994 the local history emphasis was on business history including a list of references for the study of business history. In the April/June issue the following year her column was devoted to collecting and preserving local history resources which included a bibliography. With the electronic era this effort has evolved into a column of notable web sites of interest to local history libraries compiled by David Langenberg.

\textbf{THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HISTORY SECTION IN THE EIGHTIES AND NINETIES}

\textsuperscript{41} HS Local History Committee, “Meeting Highlights,” January 20, 1986.
The History Section Executive Committee is composed of a Chair, a Vice-chair, a Secretary, and three Members-at-Large who are elected by the membership plus committee chairs who are appointed. In the mid-eighties, because of communication difficulties with RASD “housekeeping committees,” the Executive Committee requested representation on these committees to have input into decisions affecting the History Section. This request was approved by the RASD Board and has been very beneficial. Since then these History Section representatives to RUSA-level committees also attend the Executive Committee meetings.

Communication to all members of our division and beyond has also been an important concern. Although articles had been published by the History Section members in *RQ* prior to 1980, including an important article on the state of bibliographical and indexing tools in 1976, a successful effort was made to have the History Section program papers published in *RQ* and other professional journals.\(^{42}\) When *RASD UPdate* was begun in 1980, it offered another opportunity to publicize the efforts of the History Section’s committees and discussion groups. The History Section asked that *RASD UPdate* be expanded which has permitted Committees to write informative columns as well as detail their activities. In this new electronic era the Web is fast becoming a popular way to communicate useful information of the Section’s activities to non-members as well as to members. Dedicated History Section members who have served on the RASD/RUSA Publications Committee are Ted Sheldon, Chris Ferguson, Charles Getchell, Jean Smith, and Nancy Huling, John Haskell and Martha L. Henderson. Recognition of Theresa Mudrock, as first and only Section Webmaster is also to be noted.

Relating to other professional organizations both within and outside ALA has continued. The Local History Committee has a special relationship with the ALA/SAA (Society of American Archivists). One of the History Section’s programs was in cooperation with the Government Documents Roundtable. In the mid-nineties Section officers investigated sponsoring affiliation by ALA with H-Net, but took the simpler, symbolic option of resolving to affiliate the Section with H-Net. The History Section and the Association for the Bibliography of History have been affiliated with H-HISTBIBL since its founding, this is an electronic forum for historians, librarians, and archivists, enabling members to

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discuss issues related to bibliographic and library services for the study and use of history. Its web address is http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~histbibl/.

The History Section is unique among ALA groups because librarians who manage special collections often have a longer job tenure at one location compared to other librarians. Therefore, many members representing major collections, have been active for years on the Section’s committees. A tradition, begun years ago, to have a dinner with other History Section members attending the conference is now known as the History Section Dinner and the restaurant is usually listed in the Executive Committee agenda. (A list of places where the History Section members have dined for the last twelve years is in Appendix C.)

From time to time the Executive Committee has discussed the best way to reach its membership and attract other members at ALA conferences. In 1979, a letter sent to all committee members by the History Section Chair Bob Wagenknecht contained his thoughts on broadening the Section’s sphere of interest. “There have been recent enthusiastic discussion regarding presentation of programs concerned with areas other than the United States....Another very interesting possibility is the creation of discussion groups rather than, or in addition to, sections.” The consideration of this idea continued throughout the eighties resulting in the organization of two new committees and two new discussion groups:

GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY DISCUSSION GROUP
1983-2001

In 1983 the History Section’s Executive committee created a Genealogy Discussion Group and appointed Diane Carothers to be the Organizing Chair.43 The inaugural meeting was held at ALA’s 1984 Midwinter Meeting in Washington D.C. and was attended by about 35 people. Representatives of the National Archives and Records Service were on the agenda to discuss the microfilm rental program for census enumeration records. In addition, other items, problems, and questions were raised regarding NARS procedures and materials.

43 HS Executive Committee, “Minutes,” July 9, 1983.
A general discussion followed of concerns such as the sharing of resources and publications, the use of volunteers, collection development, increase/decrease of genealogical patrons, and interlibrary loan usage. The meeting took the entire two hours allotted to it and a great deal of interest was expressed for future meetings. Diane Carothers was elected Chair of the group to serve for another year.

In Dallas, at the annual meeting that year, the attendance rose to about 40 people. Joseph Garonzik from the Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, and Robert Thomas from the Gale Research Company, Detroit, made presentations about their company policies regarding publishing selection, pricing, advertising, and distribution. Suggestions were made about advertising through genealogical publications and mailing to genealogical societies in addition to the usual library professional journals.

Brad Steuart, from the American Genealogical Lending Library, Bountiful, Utah, described how his company duplicated microfilm from existing records, how it was marketed, ordered, and distributed at a lower price than other firms doing the same thing. Suggestions were made about ways to serve libraries and individuals with specific future microfilming products.

1985 saw a discussion of reviewing processes for genealogical books, availability of reviews, notice of new titles, usage of reviews in ordering, contacting publishers to ask for review copies and/or their reviews on file, the status of Filby-edited titles, and a report on the programs of the NARA. David Thackery spoke to the group on genealogical research materials in the Newberry Library; Sally Everhardus and Sally Scarnecchia explained the genealogical publishing program of University Microfilms at the ALA’s July conference. George Gause, Jr. was elected Chair of this discussion group for the following year.

Attendance fell to 18 people at the Midwinter Meeting in 1986. Half of the time period was devoted to discussion of the RASD Planning Report and working on goals, priorities, and objectives of the Genealogy Committee and the Genealogy Discussion Group since most of the attenders were either former or present members of the committee. The balance of the meeting consisted of a general discussion on such topics as future publications involving genealogy, providing assistance to patrons, the creation of a bibliography of books to help adopters search for natural parents, and a genealogical project sponsored by the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation.
For the 1986 annual meeting the Chair, George Gause, arranged to have the co-head of the department of Genealogical and Local History Materials from Goodspeed’s Bookshop in Boston make a presentation concerning how to obtain out-of-print genealogical and local history materials. The chairs of both the Genealogy Committee and the Local History Committee then gave brief overviews to the approximately 35 people in attendance. The latter part of the meeting provided an opportunity for the exchange of information.

Midwinter 1987 focused on a discussion of the basic preservation of library materials from a practical perspective. The annual meeting that year featured guest speakers from the Los Angeles Public Library, the Sutro Library, and the California State Library, who reported on genealogical and local history collections in California.

The Midwinter meeting, in 1988, saw a presentation on Hispanic genealogy sources by four Texans that was followed by a tour of the Alamo. Hostesses for the meeting were the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. The Historic New Orleans Collection was the subject of the 1988 New Orleans annual meeting. In addition to a tour of the Counting House, information on “What’s Hot--Publishing News” was provided by P. William Filby, Brad Steuart, Joseph Garonzik, and Robert J. Welsh who represented Ancestry.

Judith Reid assumed the Chair of the Genealogy Discussion Group in 1988 when its name was changed to the Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group to better reflect its goals and mission. An official charge was drafted: “To provide a forum for the exchange of information about library services in local history and genealogy. To create and foster an environment for creativity and growth by acting as a catalyst for new ideas and problem-solving initiatives.” At that time a petition was submitted to continue the Discussion Group and Judy Reid continued as its chair.

At the 1989 Midwinter meeting, Bill Horton of NARA presented a program, “High Tech News From NARA.” A tour of the Society of Cincinnati Library was arranged. In 1990 Raymond S. Wright III. At the Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group in Chicago that year, he arranged for a talk on “Improving the Quality of Genealogical Literature” in the Fellows Lounge of the Newberry Library and also a tour of the Newberry Library given by David Thackery. “The Role of Computers in Genealogical and Local History Research”
was discussed at the 1991 Midwinter meeting by Judith Reid, Roger Flick, and Ray Wright III.

The theme for the 1991 annual meeting in Atlanta was “Resources for Ethnic Groups in the United States” with Joyce Jelks, President of the Afro-American Genealogical Society, and Joel Wurl, Curator of the Immigration History Research Center of St. Paul, Minnesota leading this discussion. The final portion of the meeting was devoted to the usual information exchange.

Jim Fox, Ethnic Musicologist from the Institute of Texan Cultures, spoke about the ethnic groups that settled in Texas at the San Antonio 1992 Midwinter Conference. The group then took a tour of the King William Historic District including visits to the San Antonio Conservation Society’s Headquarters and Library and one of the large homes backing on the river. The Sutro Library was the site of the 1992 Discussion Group in San Francisco. Clyde James, Director of the Sutro Library explained his library’s resources and Dan Nealand of NARA’s Sierra-Pacific Center plus three representatives from the California Genealogical Society told about the research value of their respective institutions.

Diane R. Parkinson succeeded Ray Wright as the discussion group chair in 1993. Members of the Colorado Genealogical Society, the Colorado State Archives, and the Denver Public Library presented an exceptional program in Denver’s 1993 Midwinter meeting. There was also a tour of the renowned “Western Collection” of the Denver Public Library. At the summer meeting, in 1993, Mrs. Yvette Bowling lectured on the “Nooks and Crannies of New Orleans from a Genealogical Standpoint.” The 39 meeting attenders then went to the New Orleans Public Library where its archivist, Colin B. Hamer, led an extensive tour of the facilities.

In 1994, Diane arranged to have Randall Butler, Professor of History at Northern Arizona University, talk about library preservation and conservation showing slides of the disastrous fire at the Los Angeles Public Library and how the recovery was handled. Sam Boldrick shared slides of the wind and water damage at several Dade County, Florida, libraries caused by Hurricane Andrew. A discussion on preventative disaster measures being taken by the discussion group members and their library affiliates followed. After the meeting Michael Kirley led a tour of the newly renovated Los Angeles Public Library and its new addition.
The wide range of discussion topics dealing with genealogy and local history continued with the History Section members and friends sharing their expertise. At the 1994 summer meeting in Miami, Sam Boldrick’s topic was "A Tale of Three Cemeteries: Havana, Key West, and Miami." In February 1995, Walt Stark, Librarian at the Philadelphia Free Library, described his library and passed out a bibliography of genealogical and local history and research sources in the Philadelphia area. Lee Arnold of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania showed slides on the growth of Philadelphia and then led the group on a tour of this library. At the 1995 summer meeting, the Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group once again met at the Newberry Library. The topic was, “How Genealogy Reference Correspondence Is Impacting Libraries.” The panel consisted of Dereka Smith, Curt Witcher, and Michelle McNabb with David Thackery moderating.

The 1996 Midwinter discussion was “Issues That Determine the Development of a Genealogy Collection” with Martha L. Henderson, Ruth Carr, David Heighton and Jo Mylar (San Antonio Public Library) as panelists moderated by Diane Parkinson. The following summer the preservation of genealogy and local history collections was the subject with panelists Robbie Giles, Bradley Steuart, Jim Powers, and Judith Reid.

During the last three years there have been discussions on book publishing, multi-cultural resources in genealogy and local history, library and genealogical society cooperation, e-books and digitized microfilm availability, and electronic resources on the web. For the seventeen years it has existed, the Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group has provided a great opportunity for interested professionals in these fields to gain a great deal of knowledge as well as share valuable information with others.

HISTORICAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
1990-2001

As a result of the recommendations of a History Section ad hoc committee, the Historical Events Committee was organized at the annual conference in Dallas, June 1989 and approved by the RASD Board in January 1990. It is to encourage the reading of quality historical sources in conjunction with the anniversaries of
historical events. It is another way to fulfill the ALA charge of reaching beyond the annual conference. According to the draft of its proposed organization “...the new committee will select the yearly topic, develop the text and bibliography, and arrange for the brochure to be distributed through ALA. Selections of materials can be books, music, and government documents with preference given to broadly based in-print sources.”

These sources are annotated and are including media and web sites as well. In June 1990, Paul Mogren was appointed its chair and a brochure celebrating the Bill of Rights was developed for distribution in 1991. In June 1991, he reported that it had been published in the May issue of *Booklist*. By the 1991 ALA Midwinter Meeting two more themes were selected--Columbus Maritime Exploration for 1992 and the invention of the Cotton Gin for 1993.

It had been determined that ALA Publishing would print 100,000 copies and sell these brochures for 10 cents each. By January 1991, it was announced that Ingram Publishers had agreed to buy fifty thousand brochures for free distribution in book stores. The “Bill of Rights” brochure was produced and distributed in the spring of 1991 and the bibliography was printed in the May issue of *Booklist*. It sold over 10,000 copies. By June 1992, the brochure on the Columbus celebration “1492-1992: The Columbus Experience,” was published and priced at 100 copies for $24.00. It listed 40 citations to scholarly works, a kit, a play, and children’s literature. The 1993 theme was changed to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” speech. The section minutes stated that “John Hope Franklin, noted historian, would write the introduction to the brochure.” The 1994 theme was a D-Day Guide, observing its fiftieth anniversary, and the 1995 brochure title chosen was, “1895-1995 The American West: Closing the Frontier.”

Marilyn Carbonell was appointed chair in 1995 and at the History Section Executive Committee meeting she announced that besides the brochure on the frontier, a brochure was planned to commemorate the anniversary of the beginning of the modern Olympics. Other ideas for future brochures were to focus on World War II, the founding of the United Nations, and space exploration.

At the July 1996 conference in New York City, the History Section minutes recorded a discussion about the future of the Historical Events

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Committee. It had two problems--committee members were not attending meetings and *Booklist*, was no longer willing to publish the bibliographies which had been its main avenue of publicity when ALA Publishing was reluctant to publish more brochures. No other publication had been identified to take the place of *Booklist* although the bibliography of the modern Olympics had been published on the History Section Web site. In February 1997, the History Section Chair Hope Yelich announced that the committee was “in limbo” and did not meet.

A new effort was made to continue the work of this committee and David Langenberg was appointed its chair. In the July/September 1999 issue of *Rusa Update*, the announcement was made that a bibliography commemorating the theme, “Forty-Niners of the California Gold Rush,” would launch the committee’s first web publication and would include books, periodical articles, bibliographies, videos, and links to other websites related to this theme. Two websites were provided to access it:

http://www.ala.org/rusa/hs/eve.html or directly at
http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/hist/resquide/Gold_Rush/

This committee has entered the electronic age

**HISTORY LIBRARIANS DISCUSSION GROUP**

1991-2001

In June 1991, a petition was circulated and completed establishing a history discussion group with broad objectives. According to its statement of purpose this discussion group is to be “a general clearinghouse for all fields of history, providing a discussion vehicle on collections and services for general, world, regional, topical and ethnic history. Participation is encouraged from librarians from all types of libraries.” The Organization Committee promptly approved the petition which was then approved by the RASD Executive Board. The October/December issue of *RASD Update* advertised the new discussion group as having “topics of interest to librarians who have history collections and patrons interested in history as an avocation or a scholarly pursuit. “ It held its first meeting at the ALA’s 1992 San Antonio Midwinter Conference. Ted Sheldon spoke on the topic, “How Do Historians Really Do Research.” This was a timely subject as librarians were beginning to deal with the new technologies that delivered information and relating it to historians’ methodologies.
Paul Mogren, a strong advocate for forming this group, was appointed its chair. The June 22, 1992, meeting at the Telegraph Hill Room in the San Francisco Marriott Hotel was entitled, “The Sad State of Historical Biography.” Very interesting and valuable discussions followed: “Political Correctness in Historical Collections;” “Internet Resources for History;” “Primary Sources--Now What Do I Do?” “Storage and Retrieval of Primary Sources and Epherema;” “Digitalization and Its Potential for Historical Collections;” “Out of Print Books in History;” “The Changing Role of the Bibliographers in History;” and “Optical Disk Storage Technology.”

Charles Getchell became Chair in 1995 and Jim Niessen was chosen Chair in 1997. It was decided that, due to difficulty of scheduling, the discussion group would only meet at ALA’s Midwinter Meetings. In 1997, the topic was “Presenting Archival information on the World Wide Web.” Sharon Fawcett, staff member of NARA’s Presidential Libraries, and Debra Wall of its Policy and Information Management Team told about the NARA’s web site and the National Archives Information Locator (NAIL) database containing thousands of descriptive records, while Bob Bohanan explained PRESNET at Jimmy Carter’s Presidential Library and Elliott Linder revealed how useful the Chadwyck-Healy database, Archives USA, can be in locating records and manuscripts in U.S. repositories.

The next year a round table discussion was held on “History Reference in Libraries and Archives: A Comparison” with Chair Jim Niessen, Mary Mannix, and Tom Kemp participating. At ALA’s Midwinter Meeting in 1999, the topic was “Historical Book Reviews: Where to Find Them, How to Use Them.” At the January 2000 meeting the discussion was “Indexing of Historical Publications: Who Needs It?” and, in January 2001, the topic was “Remote Storage of Historical Materials: What to Select and Implications for Users.” This discussion group is fulfilling its initial objectives to address history reference service from a broad perspective and often attracts members from outside our section.

THE HISTORY SECTION/GENEALOGICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY
AWARDS COMMITTEE
1993-2001

For several years the committee talked of honoring members who had made exceptional contributions. In 1983 Thomas J. Muth was asked to chair the
Awards and Recognition Subcommittee. Because the History Section did not have an endowed award arrangement, its members decided the Committee should nominate outstanding members for the RASD Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award. P. William Filby was nominated and received this high honor.

However, Committee members still wanted a special History Section award of recognition. Diane Carothers proposed, in 1988, that a planning committee be set up to study existing ALA awards, procedures, and criteria and to acquire a sponsor. Judith P. Reid and Thomas J. Muth accepted the challenge. When the Genealogical Publishing Company agreed to sponsor it, this award became a reality. As originally stated, the purpose of the History Section/Genealogical Publishing Company Award is “to encourage, recognize, and commend professional achievement in historical, reference, and research librarianship. Either librarians, libraries, or publishers who are RASD members may be recipients.” P. William Filby became the first recipient of this prestigious award in 1993. In succeeding years J. Carlyle Parker, Gunther Pohl, Donald R. Brown, Raymond S. Wright III, Judith P. Reid, Thomas J. Muth, Paul Mogren, and Margaret Ann Reinert have been recognized as outstanding History Section members.
APPENDIX A

THE HISTORY SECTION COMMITTEE CHAIRS 1962-2001

1961-62 Gerald D. McDonald
1962-63 George Bailey
1963-64 Rae Elizabeth Rips
1964-65 Dorothy M. Sinclair
1965-66 Isabel Howell
1966-67 Elizabeth Faries
1967-68 Felix Hirch
1968-69 Florence B. Murray
1969-70 Marion Kanaly
1970-71 Russell E. Bidlack
1971-72 Robert S. Adelsperger
1972-73 James A. Gregory
1973-74 Marianne L. Feldman
1974-75 Sam A. Suhler
1975-76 Donald R. Brown
1976-77 George Seriko
1977-78 James M. Babcock
1978-79 Robert E. Wagenknecht
1979-80 Ellen H. Brow
1980-81 Joyce Duncan Falk
1981-82 Thomas J. Muth
1982-83 Arthur H. Miller
1983-84 Judith P. Reid
1984-85 Paul A. Mogren
1985-86 Margaret Ann Reinert
1986-87 Raymond S. Wright III
1987-88 Diane F. Carothers
1988-89 Priscilla S. Ciccariello
1989-90 Thomas J. Kemp
1990-91 Charles F. Cummings
1991-92 Nancy Huling
1992-93 Michael B. Clegg
1993-94 Carla Rickerson
1994-95 Ruth Carr
1995-96 Hope Yelich
1996-97 Charles D. King
1997-98 David L. Langenberg
1998-99 Martha L. Henderson
1999-00 John D. Haskell, Jr.
2000-01 Curt B. Witcher
2001-02 James P. Niessen
APPENDIX B

PROGRAMS OF THE ALA RASD/RUSA HISTORY SECTION


Chicago • 1963 Western Americana Institute co-sponsored by the ACRL Rare Books Section and the RSD History Section with speakers Archibald Hanna Jr., Curator of Western Americana, Yale University Library; Bernard Weisberger, University of Rochester; Dolores C. Renze, Colorado State Archives; Robert Dechert, Collector of French Americana; Richard C. Wade, University of Chicago; Doyce B. Nunis, Jr., UCLA Library; John G. Cawelti, University of Chicago; Martin Ridge, San Diego State College; Colton Storm, Bibliographer; and Joe B. Frantz, University of Texas.45


Detroit • 1965 Program Chair: Agnes Tysse.

46 David E. Cassens, Editor, St. Louis and the Mighty Mississippi in the Steamboat Age: the Collected Writings of Ruth Ferris (St. Louis: The St. Louis Mercantile Library 1993), 13-22.
New York City • 1966 Paper: “Place Names in History,” Richard Sealock, Author of Bibliography of Place Name Literature. Program Chair: Gerald D. McDonald.

San Francisco • 1967 Herman Kahn, Archivist in Charge of Presidential Libraries, National Archives and Records Service.


Detroit • 1970 Topic: “Black History in Libraries,” Reginald Wilson, Assistant Dean, Oakland Community College, Farmington, Michigan; Charles Cottman, Assistant Professor of History, University of Detroit; and Audrey Smedley, Professor of Anthropology, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. Program Chair: Freddiemae E. Brown.


Detroit • 1977  Papers: “The Role of the Picture Postcard in Local History Collections,” Donald R. Brown, Coordinator of Materials Selection Program, State Library of Pennsylvania; and “Pictorial Source Materials for Local History and Genealogy,” Arnold R. Pilling, Professor, Department of Anthropology, Wayne State University. Program Chair: James M. Babcock.

To All Articles in All Genealogical and Local History Periodicals
in the United States and Canada Project.

Dallas • 1979  Topic: “Historical Instructional Media,” Three
instructional filmstrips were shown and critiqued.)
Program Chair: Arthur Miller Jr.

New York City • 1980  Topic: “New Methodologies in History: Implications
and Challenges for Libraries.” Papers: “Resources for Latin
American Research: Changing Needs and Perspectives,”
William E. Carter, Chief, Hispanic Division, Library of Congress
; “A New Age of Faith? The Role of Libraries in Gathering
and Discriminating Orally Devised Materials,” David P. Henige,
African Bibliographer, University of Wisconsin-Madison;
“Women’s History Implications for Collection Development,”
Barbara Haber, Curator of Printed Books, Schlesinger Library;
and “Oral History Value as a Resource for African Studies,”
Mary Brown. Program Chair: Ellen H. Brow.

History.” (Co-sponsored by RASD MARS Section) Papers:
“The Librarian-Historian Interface,” Chris Ferguson,
Reference Bibliographer for History, University of Mississippi;
“History Online: A Sampler of the Use of Online Databases for
Historical Research,” Evelyn Kiresen and Simone Klugman,
Librarian, University of California-Berkeley; and “Primary Data
for Historical Research: A New Reference Resource,” Judith S.
Rowe, Associate Director, Princeton University Computer
Center. Program Chair: Joyce Duncan Falk.
Genealogy and Local History Reference Services,” Robert
Wedgeworth, Jr., Executive Director, American Library
Association; “Unique Sources: The Central Role of the
National Archives and Records Service in Genealogical
Reference,” and Panel: “Reviewing the issues in Genealogy
and Local History Reference Service,” Robert M. Warner,
Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Record
Service; “Off to a Good Beginning: The Library’s Role in
Facilitating Genealogical Research.” Arthur Kurzwell, Author,
From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish
Genealogy and Personal History; “Unique Sources: Identifying,
Philadelphia• 1982  Topic: “Four Centuries of Genealogy.” Papers:
“Passenger and Immigration Lists Index and Bibliography” and
“Philadelphia Naturalization Records, 1789-1880,” P. William
Filby, Editor, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index and
Philadelphia Naturalization Records, 1789-1880;
“Genealogical Sources of the 17th Century,” Gary Boyd
Roberts, Librarian, New England Historic Genealogical Society
Library; “Genealogical Sources of the 18th Century,” Lloyd
D. Bockstruck, Head, Genealogy Section, Dallas Public
Library; “Genealogical Sources of the 19th Century,” Gunther
E. Pohl, Chief, Local History and Genealogy Division, New
York Public Library; “Genealogical Sources of the 20th
Century,” James D. Walker, Genealogy Specialist, Retired,
National Archives and Records Services, Washington, D.C.;
“Becoming the Ideal Reference Librarian for Genealogy and


Dallas•  1984  Topic: “The Use of U.S. Federal Documents in Historical Research.” (Co-sponsored by the Government Documents Round Table) Peter Hernon, Associate Professor, Graduate Library School, University of Arizona; Bruce Morton, Information Service Librarian, Carleton College; Frank S. Lee, Manager of Government Publications Division, Dallas Public Library; Steven D. Zink, Government Publication Librarian, University of Reno-Nevada. Program Chair: Paul A. Mogren.


New Orleans• 1988 Topic: “Genealogical Research in the South,” James R. Johnson, Head, History and Travel Department, Shelby County-Memphis Public Library; Lloyd D. Bockstruck, Supervisor, Genealogy Section, Dallas Public Library; and Collin B. Hamer, Jr. Head, Louisiana Division, City Archives, New Orleans Public Library. Program Chair: Lloyd D. Bockstruck.
Dallas• 1989  Topic: “Ephemera: Trash or Treasure,” Charles Cummings, Assistant Director of Development, Newark Public Library; Samuel J. Boldrick, Head, Florida Collection, Miami-Dade County Public Library; Dr. Paul A. Stellhorn, External Affairs, Newark Public Library; and John Jenkins, The Jenkins Co., Austin, Texas. Program Co-Chairs: Charles F. Cummings and Samuel J. Boldrick.


New Orleans• 1993 Topic: “Desperately Seeking Sources: Library Use and the Historian.” Elizabeth Israels Perry, Associate Professor of History, Vanderbilt University; Jon Kukla, Director Historic New Orleans Collection; Stephen Sloan, Assistant Director for
Public Services, University of Texas-Arlington; Heather Cameron, President, ABC/Clio. Moderator: Louis Vyhnanek. Program Chair: Hope Yelich.


San Francisco• 1997 Topic: “How Old is My House? How Do We Answer the Question?” Panel: Anne Bloomfield, Architect and History Consultant; Glory Anne Laffey, Historical Consultant; William Kostura, Neighborhood and House Historian; and Tim Kelly, Historical Consultant. Program Chair: Charles D. King.
Washington, DC• 1998 Paper: “Roots on the Web: Practical Sites for Harried Librarians,” Mary Mannix, Library Director, Howard County, Maryland Historical Society; Drew Smith, Instructor, School of Library Science, University of South Florida. Program Chair: Thomas J. Kemp.

New Orleans• 1999 Topic: “The Sensitive Side of Digitizing,” David Seaman, Director of Electronic Text Center, University of Virginia; Faye Phillips, Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections, Louisiana State University; and Erica Lilly, Coordinator of Electronic Information Services, Kent State University. Program Chair: Carla Rickerson.

Chicago• 2000 Topic: “We Have History Too! Documenting Our Local History,” Russel Lewis, Andrew W. Miller Director for Collections and Research, Chicago Historical Society; Ralph Pugh, Public Historian, Chicago Historical Society. Program Chair: Ed Frank.

## APPENDIX C

### The History Section Dinners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Restaurant Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1990</td>
<td>Italian Village</td>
<td>(Chicago)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1991</td>
<td>Savannah Fish Company</td>
<td>(San Francisco)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1992</td>
<td>Laundry’s Sea Food Inn</td>
<td>(San Antonio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1992</td>
<td>New Joe’s</td>
<td>(San Francisco)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1993</td>
<td>Marlow’s</td>
<td>(Chicago)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1993</td>
<td>Delmonico’s French Cajun Restaurant</td>
<td>(New Orleans)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1994</td>
<td>Express Pavilion</td>
<td>(Los Angeles)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1994</td>
<td>Sam and Eddie’s Cuban Cuisine</td>
<td>(Coral Gables)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1995</td>
<td>Upstairs at Varalli</td>
<td>(Philadelphia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1995</td>
<td>Pegasus</td>
<td>(Chicago)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1996</td>
<td>Zuni Grill</td>
<td>(San Antonio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1996</td>
<td>Siam Inn</td>
<td>(New York)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1997</td>
<td>Magic Gourd Restaurant</td>
<td>(Washington D.C.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1997</td>
<td>Pucinni and Pinetti</td>
<td>(San Francisco)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1998</td>
<td>Crawgator’s Restaurant</td>
<td>(New Orleans)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1998</td>
<td>Scotland Yard Restaurant</td>
<td>(Alexandria, VA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1999</td>
<td>Bookbinder’s</td>
<td>(Philadelphia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1999</td>
<td>Ralph and Kacoos</td>
<td>(New Orleans)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2000</td>
<td>Rio Rio Cantina Restaurant</td>
<td>(San Antonio)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX D

THE HISTORY SECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS
1961-2001

Key to symbols below:
BI = HS BIBLIOGRAPHY & INDEXES COMMITTEE
GE = HS GENEALOGY COMMITTEE
LH = HS LOCAL HISTORY COMMITTEE
HE = HS HISTORICAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
EX = HS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RB = RSD/RASD/RUSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

* indicates has been Chair of that committee

Adelsperger, Robert J. (University of Illinois Lib.) EX*
Agnew, James C. (New England Historic Genealogical Society) GE
Anderson, Myra (University of California-Riverside Lib.) LH
Arlen, Sherry BI
Ash, Lee (Yale University Lib.) BI*
Ashton, Rick J. (Allen County Public Lib., Fort Wayne, IN; The Newberry Lib.) GE
Austin, Judith P. (Lib. of Congress) GE LH*
Babcock, James M. (New York Historical Society Lib.; Detroit Public Lib.; Stalker Books, Inc.) EX*
Bailey, George M. (Northwestern University Lib.) EX*
Barthell, Daniel W. (George Washington University Lib.) BI* EX RB
Beard, Geraldine EX
Benefiel, Candace R. (Texas A & M University) HE
Bennett, Helen L. GE EX
Bidlack, E. Russell (University of Michigan School of Lib. Science) EX*
Blatt, Anne (Greenburgh Public Lib., Elmsford, NY) LH
Blinn, Margeanne B. (Palos Verdes Lib. District, Palos Verdes, CA) GE EX
Boatman, Mildred  
Bockstruck, Lloyd (Dallas Public Lib.) GE LH  
Bodger, John C. BI*  
Boldrick, Samuel J. (Miami-Dade Public Lib.) BI LH* EX  
Boykin, Lucille A. (Dallas Public Lib.) GE  
Braun, Mary  
Brow, Ellen H. (University of Kansas Lib.) BI EX*  
Browarek, Matt (Cleveland Public Lib.) LH  
Brown, Freddimae (Detroit Public Lib.) EX  
Brown, Donald R. (Detroit Public Library; Western Michigan University Lib.; State Lib. of Pennsylvania) GE LH* EX* RB  
Buchanan, William (Clarion University of Pennsylvania Lib., Clarion, PA) BI  
Buckner, William D. (Waco/McLennan County Library) GE  
Bull, Jacqueline P. EX  
Burnett, Helen L. (Fenger High School Lib., Chicago, IL) GE EX  
Buurstra, Annette (Northeast Illinois University Lib.) BI EX  
Byers, Edward (Laramie County Lib. System, Cheyenne, WY) GE  
Callard, Carole C. (Library of Michigan) GE  
Campbell, Ted Thaxton (Ector County Lib. System, Odessa, TX; Greenwood-Leflore Public Lib., Greenwood, MS; Mississippi Lib. Commission) GE*  
Carbonell, Marilyn (University of Missouri-Kansas City Lib.) BI HE* EX  
Carmack, Norma J. (Trinity University Lib.) GE LH EX  
Carothers, Diane F. (University of Illinois Lib.) GE LH EX*  
Carr, Ruth A. (New York Public Lib.) GE EX* RB  
Carson, Lynn R. (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) GE  
Cavanaugh, Martin A. (Washington University Lib.) BI  
Ciccariello, Priscilla (Port Washington Public Lib., Port Washington, NY) LH EX*  
Clark, Andrea (Oklahoma Historical Society Lib.) GE  
Clark, Alice  
Clark, Juleigh M. (Williamsburg, VA) LH  
Clegg, Michael B. (Western Reserve Lib.; Allen County Public Lib., Fort Wayne, IN) GE* LH EX*  
Clement, Charles R. (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) GE*  
Coberly, Jean (Seattle Public Lib.; University of Houston Lib.) EX RB  
Cosgriff, John C., Jr. (Virginia Polytechnic Institute State University Lib.) GE  
Cox, Barbara BI  
Crandall, Ralph J. (New England Historic Genealogical Society) GE  
Crouch, Milton H. (University of Vermont Lib.) BI EX
Crumb, Lawrence N. (University of Oregon Lib.) BI EX
Cummings, Charles F. (Newark Public Lib.) BI GE LH* EX*
Curley, Elmer F. BI
Custer, Arline K. (Lib. of Congress) EX
Cyr, Paul Albert (Free Public Lib., New Bedford, MA)
Dallas, Larayne J. (University of Texas-Austin Lib.; Rutgers University Lib.) BI
DaRold, Joe (Santa Fe Springs City Lib., Santa Fe Springs, CA) LH
Davison, Frieda M. (Mississippi University for Women Lib.) LH
Dawe, Andrea (Montana State University Lib.) BI
Deal, Harvey N. (Virginia Commonwealth University Lib.) EX
DeVille, Winston (Polyanthos, Inc.) GE
Doane, Nancy (Godfrey Memorial Lib.) GE
Doyle, James M. (Macomb Community College Lib.) BI
Dudley, Miriam BI
Dusenbury, Carolyn (Arizona State University Lib.) EX
Dyson, Frederick C. (Montana State University Lib.) BI
Eckermann, Nancy (Indiana University School of Medicine Lib.) LH
Endelman, Sharon Bice (Houston Public Lib.; University of Houston Lib.) BI
Erickson, Annamarie (Chicago Lib. System) LH
Evans, Charlotte E. (University of Central Arkansas Lib.) BI
Fagin, Michelle (Memphis State University Lib.) BI
Falk, Joyce Duncan (ABC/Clio) BI EX*
Faries, Elizabeth EX*
Feldman, Marianne L. (Oregon Historical Society Lib.) EX*
Ferguson, Chris D. (University of Mississippi Lib.; University of California-Irvine Lib.; University of California-San Diego Lib.) BI* EX*
Filby, P. William (Maryland Historical Society; Gale Research Co.) BI* GE*
Fink, Linda M. (Los Angeles Public Lib.) BI
Flanders, Frances (Ouachita Parish Public Lib., Monroe, LA) GE
Frank, Edwin G. (University of Memphis Lib.) LH*
Freeman, Michael S. (Dartmouth College Lib.)
Freides, Thelma (Atlanta University School of Lib. Service) EX
Frevert, Rhonda (Newberry Lib.) GE LH
Frisch, Paul A. (Southeast Missouri State University Lib.) BI
Frost, John E. (New York University Lib.) GE
Gabriel, Claire M. (New York University Lib.) GE
Gambrill, Georgia EX
Garonzvik, Joseph (Genealogical Publishing Company) GE
Gause, George R. Jr. (Pan American University Lib.) GE* LH
Gersack, Dorothy H. EX
Getchell, Charles M. (University of Kansas Lib.; Wake Forest University Lib.) BI* HE* EX*

Giles, Robbie L. (Washington State University Lib.) GE

Gilligan, Janet (Colorado State University Lib.; International Communication Agency, Washington, DC) BI

Godleski, Nancy M. (Yale University Lib.) BI

Goehlert, Robert (Indiana University Lib.) EX

Goggin, Margaret Knox (University of Denver Graduate School of Librarianship Information Management) EX RB*

Gregory, James (New York Historical Society) GE* EX*

Griffiths, Brent E. (GSU Family History Lib.) GE

Hackwelder, Michelle LH

Haka, Clifford H. (Michigan State University Lib.) BI

Hambric, Jacqueline B. (Texas A & M University Lib.) BI EX

Hamer, Collin B., Jr. (New Orleans Public Lib.) GE

Hamilton, Darlene E. (Seattle Public Lib.) GE

Hanson, Carl A. (Trinity University Lib.) BI* EX

Hargrave, Victoria (MacMurry College Lib.) EX

Harris, Joan S. (Winnetka Public Lib. District, Winnetka, IL) GE

Harris, Margaret (Clayton Lib., Houston, TX) GE

Haskell, John D. Jr. (College of William and Mary Lib.) BI* LH HE EX*

Hawley, George (Newark Public Lib.) LH

Heighton, David P. (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) GE

Henderson, Martha L. (Mid-Continent Public Lib., Independence, MO) GE* EX*

Hillman, Barbara J. (New York Public Lib.) GE

Hilton, Robert C. (Cary Memorial Lib., Lexington, MA) LH

Hirsch, Felix E. (Trenton State College Lib., Trenton, NJ) EX*

Hogan, Sharon (New York City, NY) BI

Holley, E. Jens (Clemson University Lib.) BI

Howell, David (Nicholls State University Lib., Thibodaux, LA) GE

Howell, Isabel (Tennessee State Lib.) EX*

Huling, Nancy (University of California-Riverside Lib.; University of Washington Lib.) BI LH EX* RB

Irwin, Janet (Multnomah County Lib., Portland, OR) GE

James, Phoebe (University of California-Berkeley Lib.) BI*

Jelks, Joyce E. (Atlanta-Fulton Public Lib.) GE RB

Jenkins, Betty L. (University of New York Lib.) BI

Johnson, James R. (Memphis-Shelby County Public Lib.) LH

Josel, Nathan A., Jr. (Madison Public Lib., Madison, WI; El Paso Public Lib., El Paso, TX) BI LH* EX
Jung, Norman (SUNY-Stonybrooke Lib.) GE* LH
Kaser, James (George Washington University Lib.) LH
Kemp, Thomas J. (Ferguson Lib. and Weed Memorial Lib., Stamford, CT; Historical Society of Pennsylvania Lib.; University of South Florida Lib.; New England Historic Genealogical Society Lib.; Heritage Quest) GE LH EX*
Kanaly, Marion (Wellesley Memorial College Lib.) EX*
Kendall, Stephen (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) GE LH
Kierstead, Marilyn J. (Reed College Lib., Portland, OR.) BI*
Kiesel, Jean Schmidt (University of Southwestern Louisiana Lib.) BI
King, Charles D. (Louisville Free Public Lib.; Kenton Co. Public Lib., Covington, KY) GE LH* EX*
Kirkendall, Hugh R. (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) GE
Kirley, Michael D. (Los Angeles Public Lib.) GE LH
Koel, Maria Ottillia (New Haven Colony Historical Lib.) GE* EX
Kosanke, Joanne A. (Oskosh Public Lib.; Toledo Public Lib.) GE LH EX
Koshinsky, Deborah (State University of New York-Buffalo Lib.) LH
Krolikowski, Cynthia H. (Wayne State University Lib.) BI*
LaBue, Benedict J. (University of Colorado Lib.) BI*
Lake, Gretchen (Fairbanks, Alaska; Austin, TX) BI
Langenberg, David L. (University of Delaware Lib.) BI GE HE* EX*
Lattimer, Barbara A. (Chesterfield County Public Lib., Chesterfield, VA) GE
Lawrence, John R. M. (College of William and Mary Lib.; UCLA Lib.) BI
Lee, Andrew H. (New York University Lib.) BI
Lesley, J. Ingrid (Chicago Public Lib.) HE
Lincove, David (Ohio State University Lib.) BI
Lind, Carol C. (Seattle Public Lib.)
Litzer, Don (McMillan Memorial Lib., Wisconsin Rapids, WI) GE
Lossing, Sharon (University of Michigan Lib.) BI
Lower, Dorothy M. (Allen County Public Lib., Fort Wayne, IN) GE
MacConomy, Edward (Library of Congress,) EX
Mack, Daniel C. (University of Akron Lib.) BI
Malbin, Susan L. (Martin Luther King Lib., Washington, D.C.) GE
Mallory, Carlyle (Cabell County Public Lib., Huntington, WV) GE
Mannix, Mary (Frederick County Public Lib., Frederick, MD) GE
Martin, Donald J.
MacDonald, David (Stanford University Lib.)
McCleary, Linda (Arizona Department of Lib. Archives & Public Records, Phoenix, AZ) GE
McDonald, Gerald D. (New York Public Lib.) EX*
McKenzie, Mary A. (Connecticut College Lib.) GE EX
McKibbin, Joyce A. (Memphis State University Lib.) LH
McNabb, Michelle C. (McLean County Historical Society Lib., Bloomington, IL; Urbana Free Lib, Urbana, IL; Kokomo-Howard County Public Lib.) GE
Michaels, Carolyn Leopold (NSDAR Lib., Washington, DC) GE LH
Miller, Carolynne L. (Indiana State Lib.) GE
Miller, Arthur H. (Lake Forest College Lib., Newberry Lib.) EX*
Mistaras, Evangeline EX
Mogren, Paul A. (University of Utah Lib.) BI* HE* EX*
Monahan, Michael A. (New York Public Lib.) GE
Mook, Susan (Oshkosh Public Lib., Oskosh, WI) GE
Mudrock, Theresa A. (University of Washington Lib.) BI HE* EX
Murray, Florence B. (University of Toronto School of Lib. Science) EX*
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Muth, Thomas J. (Topeka and Shawnee Public Lib.) GE* LH* EX*
Myers, Steven W. (Allen County Public Lib., Fort Wayne, IN) GE
Mykytiuk, Lawrence J. (Purdue Univ. Lib.) HE
Niessen, James P. (Texas Tech University Lib.) BI HE* EX*
Oetting, Edward C. (Arizona State University) BI* LH
Parker, J. Carlyle (California State University-Stanislaus Lib. and Archives) GE*
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Pence, Judy (University of New Mexico Lib.) LH
Peterson, Gale (Purdue University; U.S. Newspaper Project, Organization of American Historians) BI GE
Pierce, Renee (Miami-Dade Public Lib.) GE
Pilvin, Barbara (Free Lib. Of Philadelphia) GE
Plakas, Rosemary (Library of Congress) HE
Plum, Dorothy A. EX
Pohl, Gunther (New York Public Lib.) GE* EX
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Quartell, Robert J. (Michigan State University Lib.) BI
Quinlan, Judith B. (Duke University Lib.; Univ. Of Georgia Lib.) BI
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Rees, Trevor L. (Ramsdell Public Lib., Great Barrington, MA) GE LH EX
Reid, Judith P. (Library of Congress,) GE LH EX*
Reinert, M. Ann (Nebraska State Historical Society; Mid-Continent Public Lib., Independence, MO) BI GE* LH EX* RB
Rencher, David E. (GSU Family History Library, Riverton, UT) GE
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Ring, Daniel F. BI
Rips, Rae Elizabeth (Detroit Public Lib.) EX*
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Roberts, Jayare (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) GE
Roehm, Frances (Bloomington Public Lib., Bloomington, IL) LH
Rose, Keith F. (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT) BI GE
Russo, Edward (Lincoln Lib., Springfield, IL) LH
Ryan, Delores L. EX
Sahli, Sue EX
Scanland, Roger (University of Arizona Lib.) GE
Schaffner, Jennifer (Institute for Advanced Studies Lib., Princeton, NJ) BI
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Schroer, Helen (Purdue University Lib.) GE
Schulz, Mildred (Illinois State History Lib.) BI EX
Sereiko, George (Notre Dame University Lib.) LH EX* 
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Shires, Leslyn M. EX
Shumaker, Earl BI
Silvester, Elizabeth BI
Sinclair, Dorothy M. EX* RB
Slevin, Ann EX
Smith, Dereka (National Genealogical Society, Washington, D.C.) GE
Smith, Jean A. (University of California-San Diego Lib.) BI*
Smith, Harold E. (Parkville College Lib. and Archives, Parkville, MO) HE
Snow, Bobbie (University of Michigan Law Lib., Ann Arbor, MI) GE
Spiers, Bonnie E. (Georgia College) GE
Steuart, Bradley W. (American Genealogical Lending Lib.; Heritage Quest) GE
Stickney, Edith P. EX
Straw, Joseph E. (University of Akron) BI*
Streeter, David (Pomona Public Lib.) GE LH EX
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Swan, James (Central Kansas Lib. System, Great Bend, KS) GE
Szucs, Loretta D. (Ancestry) GE
Tepper, Michael (Genealogical Publishing Co.) GE
Thackery, David T. (Newberry Lib., Chicago, IL) GE LH EX
Ulmer, Mary Lewis (Clayton Lib., Houston, TX) GE
Uva, Peter BI
Valk, Barbara (UCLA Latin American Center) BI
Van Orden, Richard (Online Computer Lib. Center [OCLC]) BI*
Van Orsdol, Mary E. (University of California-Irvine Lib.) BI* EX
Viskochil, Larry R. (Chicago Historical Society Lib.) LH EX
Vyhnanek, Louis (Washington State University Lib.) BI* EX
Wagenknecht, Robert E. (Lincoln Lib., Springfield, IL; Springfield Public Library, Springfield, MA) EX*
Walton, Clyde C. (University of Colorado Lib.) LH* EX RB
Wellington, Roger (Greenville Public Lib., Greenville, SC) LH
Wendel, Carolyanne L. (Indiana State Lib.) EX
Widder, Agnes H. (Michigan State University Lib.) BI LH HE EX
Williams, Sheryl (University of Kansas Lib.) LH
Witcher, Curt B. (Allen County Public Lib., Fort Wayne, IN) GE LH* EX*
Wolohan, Juliet Frances (New York State Lib., Albany) EX
Wright III, Raymond S. (GSU Family History Lib., Salt Lake City, UT; Brigham Young University) GE* LH EX*
Yab, Nancy (Enoch Pratt Free Lib.) GE
Yang, Andrea Dawe (Montana State University Lib.) BI
Yang, Basil (Brigham Young University Lib.) GE
Yelich, Hope (College of William and Mary Lib.) BI HE EX*
Young, William F. (State University of New York-Albany Lib.) BI
Zell, Emma A. (Art Institute of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA) GE
Zink, Stephen (University of Nevada Lib.) BI, EX, RG