Archives & History

WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF CULTURE & HISTORY

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From the Editor:

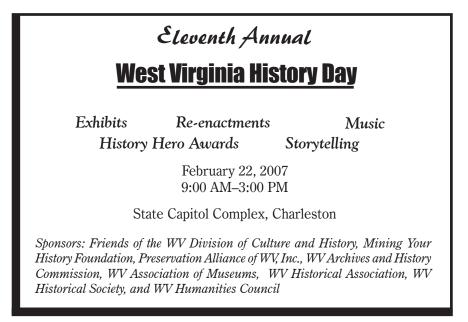
I belong to an Internet mailing list called Librarians Serving Genealogists. Most of the participants are public librarians who share advice and information regarding management of genealogy and local history collections within their libraries, and who discuss methods for best serving the patrons who use these specialized collections. Anyone reading the messages and questions posted on this list will quickly realize that even the best trained and most experienced librarian in a public library setting is totally at sea when dealing with genealogy and local history. I hope my reflection on that subject in this month's issue will enlighten our readers on the very specialized nature and importance of an archival library.

Musings of an Archives Librarian on the Nature of the West Virginia Archives and History Library

In library school, there are basically three tracks to follow in obtaining a Master of Library Science degree: school libraries, public libraries, or academic and special libraries. Each type of library has its own specific clientele with library collections and services tailored to the needs of that clientele. School libraries support the curricula of students in Kindergarten to 12th Grade, and school librarians almost always have education degrees and certification as teachers (depending on local and state requirements). Public libraries serve a general populace in the area in which they are located, offer a wide variety of materials and services, and are generally regarded as centers of learning, recreation and public service in their communities. Academic libraries are associated with colleges and universities, serve both students and faculty with an emphasis on research, and may include smaller, specialized libraries

within an overall university library system, such as law, medicine, art, business, geology, chemistry, etc.

Although usually coupled with academic libraries in a single category, special libraries exemplify their title. Special libraries may be archival libraries, historical society libraries, genealogy libraries, presidential libraries and museum libraries. Some special libraries are devoted to a specific audience, such as the blind and physically *Continued on the next page*





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handicapped, while others are based on specific media, such as videotape and film libraries. A special library may be a component or a partner of a public library or an academic library. In some states the state archives may be combined with the state public library or an agency serving and/or governing public libraries statewide. In West Virginia, the West Virginia Library Commission (WVLC) serves the public libraries in our state, and the WVLC Library in the Cultural Center serves state government agencies and the Legislature, as well as providing public library-type services to state employees and the general public. The West Virginia Archives and History Library is part of the Archives and History section of the Division of Culture and History in the Dept. of Education and the Arts, while the WVLC is an agency under the Dept. of Education and the Arts.

The Archives and History Library incorporates both public and academic library functions, as well as valiantly attempting to carry out its statutory mission to collect all things by and about West Virginia and West Virginians despite a century's worth of inadequate budgets for such an undertaking. The Archives Library is a reference library only, with no books or materials available for circulation or inter-library loan at this time. The

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(1) The reprint is not used for commercial purposes, and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the reprinted material: Previously published in *West Virginia Archives and History News*, [Volume and issue numbers], [Month, Year], a publication of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. preservation mission of an archival library creates another major difference with other types of libraries. While public libraries in particular are constantly weeding out lesser used materials, replacing old editions of reference books with the newest ones, adding multiple volumes of current best-sellers while removing those of past years, and otherwise discarding "outdated" resources, the Archives Library seldom withdraws any books or other materials from its collection.

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Once an item is accepted into the collection, it usually stays in the collection indefinitely. Because our emphasis is on history and historical context, age increases the relevance of an item to the collection rather than diminishing its value as a resource. Likewise, the popularity of an author, the accuracy of a history or biography, and the physical fragility of a book play no role in whether something remains in the collection of an archival library, as it does in a public or school library. In *Continued on the next page*

Video Clips of "A Celebration of Archives" Now Online

When West Virginia Archives and observed American History Archives Month with "A Celebration of Archives: Your State Archives Working for You" in The Cultural Center on October 24, 2006, archivist Richard Fauss videotaped the speakers who lauded the West Virginia State Archives that evening. Allen Fowler, a contract employee for Archives and History, prepared audio/video clips of each speaker which have been placed on our Web site at http://www.wvculture.org/ history/av.html. The featured speakers are Dr. Kenneth R. Bailey, Russ Barbour, Deborah J. Sonis, Terry Lively, Dr. Fred Barkey, and Woodrow Clay Hamilton, Jr. For more information about the celebration and the speakers, read "Speakers Laud West Virginia State Archives During A Celebration of Archives" in the November 2006 issue of West Virginia Archives and History News [http://www.wvculture.org/history/ ahnews/1106news.pdf].

While you are on the Audio/ Video Files site, check out the many other 60 to 90 second clips currently available in both dialup and broadband versions. Clips of thirteen governors of West Virginia, ranging from Governor William Gustavus Conley (1929–1933) through Governor Joseph Manchin III (2005–) are posted, as well as over forty clips representing a broad range of West Virginia people, places and events. The files may be viewed online or downloaded to your computer; however, reproduction or duplication of the files is prohibited.

Legislative Districts Photo Display

The first installment of a new exhibit entitled Legislative Districts was unveiled on the lower level of the Cultural Center, adjacent to the temporary cafeteria, on February 1. Legislative Districts is comprised of historic photographs from the West Virginia State Archives that have been chosen according to legislative districts in the state. The first segment has photographs from Senate District 7, and House Districts 30, 31 and 32. The exhibit will continue to rotate photographs of House and Senate districts on a weekly basis through the legislative session. For more information about the Legislative Districts exhibit, contact Adam Hodges, museum director for the Division of Culture and History, at (304) 558-0220, ext. 127.

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fact, the Archives Library is often the recipient of other libraries' withdrawn titles.

Special libraries may be more narrow in the scope of their collections, but still serve a wide variety of patrons. This is particularly true of archival libraries, such as the West Virginia Archives and History Library. Our patrons include the following and more:

- Lawyers, their staff and their clients involved in litigation that requires research involving land grants, land deeds, land tax, newspapers and other records and documents.
- Legislators and legislative staff with research needs.
- Staff of other state government agencies, particularly those responsible for writing histories of agencies.

- Law firms, medical offices, state government agencies and others who have old files preserved on microfiche, but no longer have machines to read and/or print copies from microfiche.
- Documentary and commercial film makers seeking fact verification and/or photographs, audio clips and moving images.
- Masters and doctoral degree candidates researching theses.
- Academics, journalists and historians researching for articles and books.
- Commercial book and periodical authors and publishers researching topics, seeking fact verification or looking for photographs and other images as illustrations.
- Individuals researching their own family history, with many of them

Eighth Annual Hoot Owl Research in the Archives Night Set for March 30-31

The popular annual "Hoot Owl" research all-nighter in the West Virginia Archives and History Library begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, March 30, and continues non-stop until 8:00 a.m., Saturday, March 31. Registered researchers will be "locked in" for events planned to include tours of the Closed Stacks and Processing areas of the Archives, as well as advice and assistance from recognized West Virginia genealogy experts. Although food and drink are not allowed anywhere in the Library and Collections areas, light refreshments, coffee and soft drinks are included in the \$25.00 registration fee and will be available in the staff conference room, plus a late night pizza delivery is usually arranged for those who care to contribute toward the cost.

"Hoot Owl" night offers participants an opportunity to meet and talk with other West Virginia researchers, many of whom live outof-state or who live in-state but seldom travel to Charleston. A prize will be given to the person traveling the farthest. The event is limited to fifty participants, who must register by March 17, 2007. (If spots are available, late registration will be accepted with a \$10.00 surcharge, for a total fee of \$35.00.) For additional information or registration, contact Fredrick H. Armstrong, Archives and History, (304) 558-0230 or fharmstrong@wvculture.org, or Wes Cochran, MYHF, (304) 422-1774, wescochran@juno.com.

WVDCH Announces New Deputy Commissioner

Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History announced he has named Jacqueline A. Proctor Deputy Commissioner of the agency, effective January 16. A resident of Huntington, Proctor has worked as director of the Arts interested in the history of the localities in which their families lived, and in the social life and customs of various time periods.

- Both individuals and organizations seeking evidence to support grant applications, to make National Register of Historic Places nominations, or simply to learn more about a building, event or location.
- Other libraries seeking assistance for patrons in their libraries.
- Individuals who need help in locating copies of birth, marriage, death and census records in order to prove identity or eligibility for passports, medical assistance, citizenship, scholarships, etc. (Although we can not provide legally certified copies of documents, sometimes uncertified copies are accepted. If not, we help people who don't know where to look to locate records, then give them the contact information for the actual governmental agency holding that record.)
- Businesses (restaurants, hotels, offices, etc.) seeking photographs and other images for decorative purposes.
- Elementary school students with social studies projects about West Virginia or about specific people, places or events.
- Eighth grade West Virginia History students with research projects and papers assigned, plus those studying for the Golden Horseshoe examination.
- High school students with Continued on page 7

Section for the division since September. She replaces Ginny Painter, who resigned as Deputy Commissioner in December. For additional information, visit http:// www.wvculture.org/agency/press/ artsdirector.html.



Researching 18th Century American Indian History Topic of April Evening Workshop

On April 26. the West Virginia Archives and History Library is pleased to present an Evening Workshop with a guest speaker rather than a staff member. Doug Wood will discuss Researching 18th Century American Indian History, a topic he has researched extensively for over two decades, often using the resources of the Archives Library. Wood is a living history hobbyist who portrays Ostenaco, a Cherokee leader, both in independent activities and in association with the West Virginia Humanities Council History Alive program [http:// www.wvhumanities.org/ Ostenaco.html. He and his wife Dianne teach 18th century American Indian lifeways and interpretation skills throughout the southern Appalachian region.

Wood says the following about his research and the Archives Library: "A wealth of information is available from the West Virginia Archives Library on 18th century American Indians. Many of the sources available at the library are transcribed compilations of documents from the English and French colonial period, and the early American national period. These transcriptions of primary source materials are just one or two steps away from the original documents recorded in the 18th century. If you can't travel to remote locations to study the original documents, then the Archives Library offers you a good alternative for researching American Indian treaty negotiations, interpreted speeches, trade requests, and records of movements into western Virginia in the historic period. Numerous journals and correspondences of early European explorers give us windows on the

daily lives of 18th century First Americans in our region." Wood also will emphasize research of the historical and cultural contexts in which 18th century authors worked, in order to be "better equipped for judging the validity of statements made in their records—statements made about cultures they were less familiar with than their own."

Topics to be covered in the April 26 Evening Workshop include:

- Requesting staff assistance.
- American Indian reference materials available in the Archives Library.

- Understanding how authors' historical and cultural contexts influenced their writings.
- Properly substantiating information and recording references.

As for all Archives and History Evening Workshops, attendance is free and registration (just name and phone number) is preferred, but not required. If you plan to attend, please call or e-mail Robert Taylor at (304) 558-0230, or

bobby.taylor@wvculture.org. To learn more about Doug Wood, his research and his re-enactments, visit his Web site at http://mypeoplepc.com/ m e m b e r s / c h i n g w e / trailsinc18thcentury/index.html.

Editor's Note: Wood prefers to use the term "American Indian" rather than the more recently developed term "Native American."

Date	Conducted by:	Subject
February 13 Tuesday	Joe Geiger	Exploring the West Virginia Archives and History Web Site
February 15 Thursday	Dick Fauss	Home Movies and Video
February 27 Tuesday	Susan Scouras	Cemetery Research in West Virginia
March 8 Thursday	Greg Carroll	How to Apply for a West Virginia Civil War Medal
March 13 Tuesday	Susan Scouras	Cemetery Research in West Virginia
March 22 Thursday	Greg Carroll	How to Apply for a West Virginia Civil War Medal
April 26 Thursday	Doug Wood, guest speaker	Researching 18th-Century American Indian History

Evening Workshops Schedule

Registration for this free workshop is helpful but not required. Call our office at (304) 558-0230, or e-mail bobby.taylor@wvculture.org.

Workshops are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the West Virginia Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, Charleston, West Virginia.



Public Meetings to be Held on SHPO's Five Year Plan

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will conduct a series of public meetings across the state to discuss future historic preservation activities in West Virginia. In 2002, the SHPO published a fiveyear statewide comprehensive historic preservation plan. It included goals and objectives for the office and for use by local government agencies, property owners, non-profit organizations and other interested individuals. The plan will be revised in 2007 based partly upon public input through this series of public meetings. The SHPO is interested in obtaining input regarding the current plan as it relates to future historic preservation efforts and revised goals for inclusion in the plan. A questionnaire also will be available on the Division of Culture and History's Web site by the end of February. The first meeting set for Fairmont on February 8 has been postponed and will be rescheduled. Other scheduled meetings are:

- Keyser, March 5
- Berkeley Springs, March 6
- Elkins, March 15
- Wheeling, March 27
- Summersville, April 19

A meeting will also be held in Charleston to focus primarily on cooperative efforts with state agencies. The current statewide comprehensive historic preservation plan is available at http:// www.wvculture.org/shpo/ fiveyearplan/index.html. For more information on the plan or on meeting places and times, contact Susan M. Pierce, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, at (304) 558-0240, ext. 158, or e-mail at susan.pierce@wvculture.org.

New Titles

Marriages of Orange County Virginia, 1757–1880: Therese A. Fisher, 2006. Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, Volume 8, 1779–1782: Virginia Genealogical Society, 2005.

Marriage and Death Notices From Alexandria, Virginia Newspapers: Volume 1, 1784–1838, and Volume 2, 1838–1851: Wesley E. Pippenger, 2005. The 1774 List of Tithables and Wheel Carriages in Berkeley County, Virginia: William H. Rice, 2006.

Handbook of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and Proceedings of the Annual Conference Meeting, 1999 Edition: The Conference, 2006.

To the Front and Back: A West Virginia Marine Fights World War I: Thomas Bryan McQuain, 2005.

Virginia Marriage Records From the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, the William and Mary College Quarterly, and Tyler's Quarterly: Elizabeth Petty Bentley, 1982, 2002.

Booker T. Washington: Innovative Educator: Kristin Thoennes Keller, 2007. Charleston: Stan Bumgardner, 2006.

History of Grimes County: Grimes County [Texas] Historical Commission, 1982.

Early Memories-1860-1880: Josephine Ross Neel, [no date].

French Creek, Upshur County VA-WV in the Second American Civil War: James A. McDonald, [no date].

Genealogies of the Kimble and Alt Families: From the Time of the First Settler in Hardy County, Va. to the Fifth Generation Following, and Other Miscellaneous Matters: H. A. Alt, 1937, 2006 retyped edition.

The Robbins Families of Virginia and North Carolina: Eugene W. Robbins, 2006.

Braxton County WV 1910 Census: Lola Jackson, 2006.

1920 Kanawha County Census: Charleston District: Precincts 1, 2, 3 & 4: West Virginia Genealogical Society, 2006.

Kanawha Co., WV Cemeteries, Book VI: West Virginia Genealogical Society, 2006.

Report of Bureau of Negro Welfare and Statistics of the State of West Virginia, 1941–42: The Bureau, 1942.

1920 Kanawha County Census: Charleston District: Martin Precinct, Magazine Precinct, Sugar Creek Precinct: West Virginia Genealogical Society, 2006.

Wright Family Census Records, Deed Records, Land Tax Lists, Death Records and Probate Records: Appomattox County, Virginia: Robert N. Grant, 2006.

Wright Family Birth Records, Marriage Records, and Personal Property Tax Lists: Appomattox County, Virginia: Robert N. Grant, 2006.

Wright Family Records, Prince Edward County, Virginia: Land Grants, Deed Records, Land Tax List, Death Records, Probate Records: Robert N. Grant, 2006.

Ward W. Va. Annual Reunion, 28th Annual Reunion, 2006: Patsy Ruth (Hudson) Tucker, 2006.

Harrison County WV Marriages, 1912-1920: Wes Cochran, 2006.

Index to Obituaries in The Parkersburg News: 1970–1979: Wes Cochran, 2006.

Index to Obituaries in The Parkersburg News: 1980–1989: Wes Cochran,

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2006.

Wetzel County WV Marriages, 1941–1950: Wetzel County Genealogical Society, 2006.

History and Genealogy of the Durham and Nichol Families: Catherine Nichol Durham, 2005.

1930 Kanawha County Census, Charleston, Ward 17 District, Kanawha City: West Virginia Genealogical Society, 2006.

The Life and Times of Samuel Gorton: Adelos Gorton, 1907.

Ancestry of Nellie Maxine Valentine and Ferris Rossing Smith: Gayle Fisher, 2006.

That the Past Shall Live: The History Program of the National Park Service: John Shirley Hurst, [1959?].

42nd Virginia Infantry: John D. Chapla, 1983.

The Life of a Farm Boy During the Great Depression: Burl H. Gillum, 2005.

I Wish I'd Been There: Twenty Historians Bring to Life Dramatic Events that Changed America: Byron Hollinshead, editor, 2006.

Glass Towns: Industry, Labor and Political Economy in Appalachia, 1890–1930s: Ken Fones-Wolf, 2007.

And That's the Way It Was: A True Story as Lived "in the Valley": Florence Baltimore McDaniels, 2006.

West Virginia Kindness: Craig Sims and Joan Sims, 2006.

Carolina Mine: A Northern West Virginia Coal Camp: Trudy Ice Lemley and Irene Yuhas Ice, 2006.

300 Year Calendar, 1760–2070: Jack S. Koay, 2005.

For the Wandering Children of This Valley: The Story of the Folks of Greenbrier County, West Virginia as Told by One of Her Native Daughters: The People, Their Homes, Their Lives: Helen Lewis Lindsley, 2006.

All the Way From Omaha Beach to the Czech Republic: An Illustrated History That Outlines One Infantry Soldier's Part in World War II: William D. Wintz, 2006.

First National Underground Railroad Summit Scheduled

The Underground Railroad Research Institute (URRI) at Georgetown College, in conjunction with the National Park Service Network to Freedom Program, will host the first National Underground Railroad Summit, Looking Back, Moving Forward, on the campus of the college in Georgetown, KY, from September 10 through September 15, 2007. Their flyer states that "for the first time each nationally recognized Underground Railroad site, facility and program will be represented in one place to celebrate the history and research associated with the story of the Underground

Railroad. This historical five-day conference will feature preconference events, exhibits, speakers, workshops, performances, and more." For more information and to request a registration packet, visit the URRI Web site at www.ugrii.org.

The URRI was established by Georgetown College, in agreement with the National Park Service, the Kentucky Heritage Council, the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office and the U.S. Dept. of Education, to celebrate the role of African Americans in American history and to study the

MyFamily.com, Inc. Now The Generations Network, Inc.

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Those of you who use the Internet for genealogical research will be familiar with MyFamily.com as the parent organization of several subscription and free Web sites. As of December 2006, The Generations Network, Inc. has been chosen as the new name for the MyFamily network, which encompasses the following:

- myfamily.com, hosting family Web sites for a fee
- ancestry.com [including Ancestry Library Edition]*
- genealogy.com, with both free and subscription components
- rootsweb.com, a free site that hosts many mailing lists and message boards, WorldConnect family tree database, and over 13,000 Web sites
- ancestry.co.uk [Great Britain]*
- ancestry.ca [Canada]*
- ancestry.com.au [Australia]*
- ancestry.de [Germany]*
- Family Tree Maker, family tree software _____
- *Indicates subscription based access.

For more information, visit http://www.thegenerationsnetwork.com.

Archives and History News is available on the Archives and History Web site http://www.wvculture.org/history/ ahnews/ahnews.html

effects of resistance to slavery and racism. Among other activities and programs, URRI provides a central location for accessing and distributing information, documents, archival data and artifacts associated with the Underground Railroad.



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research projects and papers.

- K-12 students with family history projects.
- College students, particularly history majors, with research papers.
- Historical re-enactors researching their characters.
- Television stations seeking their own file footage archived in our collection.
- Civil War scholars and amateur historians alike who delight in the variety of materials available in our collections, particularly the first and early editions of books, periodicals and pamphlets, as well as a treasure trove of original military records from the office of the West Virginia Adjutant General.
- Musicians and music lovers seeking sheet music for West Virginia's three state songs, as well as shape note song books and recordings of traditional mountain music.

In addition to people who use our resources, don't forget those who bring their treasures to us to add to our resources and for preservation—the State Archives is West Virginia's attic, photograph album, and collective memory in general. We preserve artifacts and recorded thoughts of ordinary citizens and notable personages

Rebels at the Gate and Born of Rebellion in Tucker County

Civil War historian and author W. Hunter Lesser will talk about his book, *Rebels at the Gate: McClellan* and Lee on the Front Line of a Nation Divided, March 3 at 2:00 p.m. at the Tucker County High School Auditorium in Hambleton. Born of Rebellion: West Virginia Statehood, an exhibit from the West Virginia alike for posterity and interpretation, for understanding and appreciation by all. Whether it is a farmer's journal recording the daily weather, the ledger book of a general store, a Civil War muster roll, a woman's letters to her family describing wartime deprivation, a tape recording of your grandmother's childhood memories, Jim Dent's political cartoons or a governor's inaugural address, all are treated with the same regard for their potential importance in making history come alive and for their role in helping today's West Virginians recognize progression, regression and continuity between past and present.

Calendar of Events

Please check our web site (http://www.wvculture.org/history) for genealogical and historical society meeting announcements, and for more complete information on activities listed below.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY, February 12:

No longer a state holiday. All government offices will be open.

PRESIDENTS' DAY, February 19: Archives Library will be open.*

HISTORY DAY, February, 22: The Capitol Complex, Charleston.

REBELS AT THE GATE, AN AFTERNOON OF WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY, March 3:

W. Hunter Lesser, speaker, and *Born of the Rebellion: West Virginia Statehood* exhibit, Tucker County High School Auditorium, Hambleton.

"HOOT OWL" RESEARCH NIGHT, March 30-31: Archives and History Library, The Cultural Center, Charleston.

> VANDALIA GATHERING, May 25–27: Capitol Complex, Charleston.

MEMORIAL DAY, May 28: Archives Library will be closed.

WEST VIRGINIA DAY, June 20: Archives Library will be open.*

INDEPENDENCE DAY, July 4: Archives Library will be closed.

*Only the Archives Library will be staffed—all other Archives offices will be closed. The West Virginia Library Commission Library in the Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

Humanities Council, will also be available for viewing. Following the presentation, Mr. Lesser will sign copies of his book and refreshments will be served. All activities are free and open to the public. This event is presented by the Tucker County Historical Society and its partners, Corricks Ford Preservation Roundtable and Tucker County Schools, with funding provided by the West Virginia Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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West Virginia Division of Culture and History The Cultural Center 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Charleston, WV 25305-0300

We would love to hear from you.

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ives & History Let us know what you find helpful in the newsletter, and what new topics you would like covered. Contact West Virginia Archives and History News Editor Susan Scouras, (304) 558-0230, Ext. 742, or by e-mail: susan.scouras@wvculture.org.

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Terry Lowry	Library Assistant (Veterans records)
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Harold Newman	Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
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