

## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY STEVE GRIFFITH

Today, the South Caroliniana Library is enjoyed by thousands of people. Sometimes, we take the library and the beautiful building that houses it for granted. Over the last couple of years the building has received a new roof, restored windows, a new heating and air-conditioning system, and interior painting. It is probably in as good condition as it ever was. We are all grateful. What made me think about the condition of the building was the 142nd anniversary of the burning of Columbia on Feb. 17, 1865. On Saturday, Feb. 17, there was a reenactment of that event with pictures and stories in the

newspaper. It is remarkable that the library building and other buildings on the college campus did not get burned. I have put together a very brief description of the evening and the following day to highlight how fortunate we are to still have these historic and handsome buildings to enjoy.

On Feb. 17, 1865, Colonel Stone of the 15th Corps of General Sherman's Army received the surrender of the City of Columbia from the mayor and several other members of the city council. General Sherman would enter the city later that day. That evening the general received the mayor and, according to the mayor, the general told him to get some rest and added, "You may lie down to sleep, satisfied that your town shall be as safe in my hands as if wholly in your own." Later that evening most of Columbia had been burned to the ground. Sherman

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## CHESNUT SCHOLAR REMINISCES ABOUT DOING RESEARCH AT SCL



*Elisabeth S. Muhlenfeld*

*Editor's note: Dr. Elisabeth S. Muhlenfeld, president of Sweet Briar College, was the featured speaker at the University South Caroliniana Society's 71st Annual Meeting on April 21, 2007.*

*She is a long-time Mary Boykin Chesnut scholar, having written Mary Boykin*

*Chesnut: A Biography (1981) and edited Two Novels by Mary Chesnut (2002) and (with C. Vann Woodward) The Private Mary Chesnut: The Unpublished Civil War Diaries (1984).*

*Dr. Muhlenfeld graciously agreed to provide reminiscences of her days at USC, where she earned her Ph.D. in English in 1978.*

*"The call last fall from Allen Stokes inviting me to give this year's talk to the University South Caroliniana Society worked on my mind like Proust's famous pastry.*

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## SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY TO PARTICIPATE IN WWI PROJECT

The South Caroliniana Library is joining a consortium of city and state institutions to develop a major project commemorating South Carolina's participation in World War I. Called "Forward Together: South Carolina in World War I" ([www.scforwardtogether.org](http://www.scforwardtogether.org)), the project is being funded in part by the Partnership for a Nation of Learners (a leadership initiative by the

Corporation for Public Broadcasting) and the Institute for Museum and Library Services. In addition to the library, the participating institutions are the McKissick Museum at USC, the South Carolina State Museum, the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, the Historic Columbia Foundation, and South Carolina Educational Television Network.

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Targeting the general public, as well as students and teachers in primary, secondary, college, and university settings, the project will include exhibitions, a public lecture series, and a symposium on the impact of World War I on South Carolina. The aim of the project is to give the community “a better understanding of the 20th century’s economic, political, and social issues that are embedded in the legacy of the Great War and continue to reverberate throughout regional, national, and international communities.”

The State Museum is the lead institution for the grant project; Fritz Hamer, Curator of History at the State Museum, and Elizabeth West, University Archivist at the South Caroliniana Library, are serving as the project’s co-directors.

## IMPACT OF WWI

According to the project’s Web site, “April 2007 marks the 90th anniversary of the United States’ entry into the Great War, an event which not only had profound immediate impact on the state, nation, and world, but sowed seeds of social, political, and economic influence that still resonate today.

“In the early 20th century, South Carolina was largely an isolated state. The U.S. war effort in 1917 and 1918 broke through that

isolation, bringing a variety of people and ideas in from around the nation, via the construction and manning of the military bases, as well as speakers from national tours exhorting South Carolinians to fulfill their patriotic obligations through conservation efforts and Liberty Loan drives. The Great War marked the first time that women moved into traditionally male occupations, and African Americans caught a glimpse of a different kind of society when they participated in military service and patriotic organizations.

“Beyond the Palmetto State, the international community is still affected by the repercussions of the political upheaval that occurred during the war, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. The Great War set into motion the events that would shape the world in the 20th century. Despite this, few people realize the lasting impact that the First World War had on the development of the 20th century.”

## PROJECT EVENTS

The South Caroliniana Library’s exhibit “The Great Adventure: The University of South Carolina in World War I,” which runs April 6–Dec. 20, is the opening event for the project. According to curator Elizabeth West, “A siren’s song of glory and honor transfixed

the students and alumni of the University of South Carolina during the Great War (1914–1918), drawing them and the University into tumultuous times just when USC’s future looked brighter than it had for decades. The students of Carolina looked upon World War I as a great adventure, while the administration feared the effects the war would have on the school. The exhibit examines how the war affected the University of South Carolina, as well as the contributions made by its students, faculty, and alumni.”

In April, McKissick Museum will mount an exhibit about propaganda and artwork produced to support the war effort. Other exhibits will feature the home front (State Museum), South Carolinians in the military (Relic Room), and war-related activities in the city of Columbia (Historic Columbia Foundation).

In the late summer and early fall exhibit curators will present a series of public lectures, and SCETV will produce a documentary on South Carolina during the war. A symposium at USC in October will cover war-time South Carolina, the 1918 influenza pandemic, war efforts by women and African Americans, and the legacy of President Woodrow Wilson.

## NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY

Nicholas Meriwether, head of the Oral History Program at the South Caroliniana Library, recently published the third issue of *Voices from the Caroliniana*, a newsletter with information about present and future projects. To obtain a copy, please contact Meriwether at 803-777-3133 or meriwetn@gwm.sc.edu.



The University Libraries Digital Activities Department has recently mounted two new collections of materials from the South Caroliniana Library. These include *The New South* newspaper, 1862–66, and the Calvin Shedd papers, 1862–64. The Shedd collection, which comprises 44 letters from a Union soldier of Company A, Seventh New Hampshire Regiment, are written primarily from locations in coastal South Carolina and

addressed to the soldier’s wife. There are also links to two other digital collections about Calvin Shedd at the University of Miami and Dartmouth College.

Also mounted recently is Henri Grégoire’s *An Enquiry Concerning the Intellectual and Moral Faculties and Literature of Negroes* from TCL’s Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. In his book, written in 1810, Grégoire systematically refutes all the major arguments for the inferiority of blacks, countering them with examples showing how blacks and black societies possess the same elements of intellect and civilization found in white societies. The book is full-text searchable with a browsable table of contents.

In the ongoing project to digitize copies of the USC *Garnet and Black* yearbook, the Web

page now displays yearbooks for 1956–57, 1960–62, 1966–67, and 1975. Digital activities librarian Kate Boyd estimates that at least 20 yearbooks will be online by the end of the semester.



“African Americans in South Carolina: A Guide to Selected Resources” is a reference pamphlet created by TCL reference librarian Anthony McKissick and SCL librarian Robin Copp. Print copies of the guide are available in the libraries and it is also located online at [www.sc.edu/library/lgafro/lgafro.html](http://www.sc.edu/library/lgafro/lgafro.html).

The guide covers print and online resources as well as short biographies of African-American librarians Richard T. Greener, Ethel Bolden, and Augusta Baker.

# WILLIAM GILMORE SIMMS EXHIBIT MOUNTED IN SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY'S READING ROOM

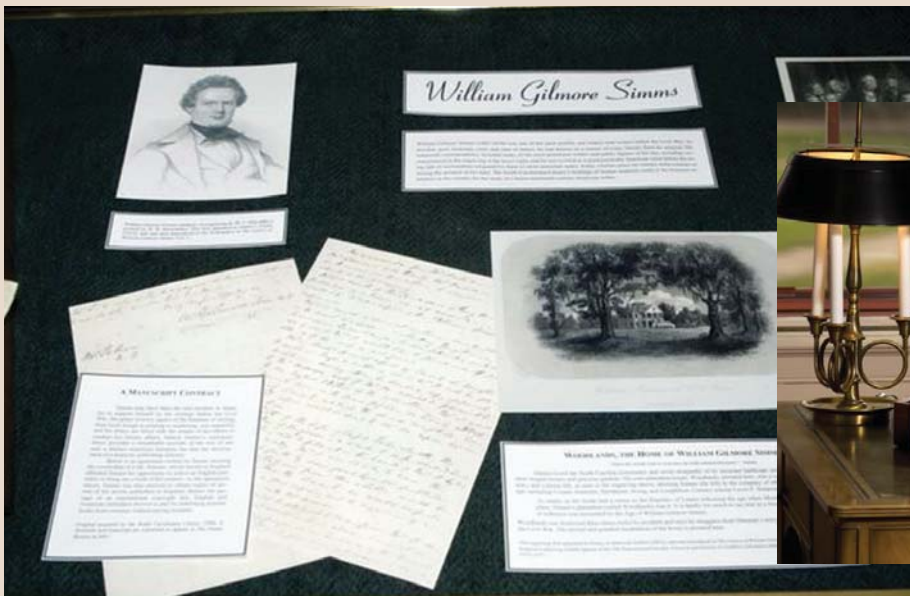
A new exhibit, "Introducing Simms: The William Gilmore Simms Exhibit at the South Caroliniana Library," is now on permanent display in the Reading Room of the South Caroliniana Library.

Created by Nicholas Meriwether, the exhibit provides an overview of the life and achievements of South Carolina's greatest literary figure. As the captions explain, "The Simms Exhibit introduces readers to this protean talent and highlights his prominence,

influence, and literary stature by placing him in his proper cultural and historical context. The exhibit presents six of the most dramatic and revealing images of Simms, along with one of the library's most compelling Simms artifacts, the Babcock Lap Desk. Originally owned by William Rogers Babcock, the Charleston bookstore owner and publisher who brought out Simms's *The History of South Carolina*, the lap desk was used by Simms when he revised the page proofs of that book.

It was given to Simms's granddaughter Mary C. Simms Oliphant by Babcock's great-great-granddaughter, Margaret Woods Babcock Meriwether, and presented to the South Caroliniana Library in 1999 by Mrs. Oliphant's daughter, Mary C. Simms Furman, Simms's great-granddaughter."

The exhibit also displays a picture of Simms's home, Woodlands; a manuscript contract; and an engraving which shows Simms in the company of his literary peers, including Washington Irving, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and James Fenimore Cooper.



Items from the Simms exhibit



The Babcock Lap Desk, with a contemporary inkwell, steel pen, and wax seal kit

# UNIVERSITY ARCHIVIST PRODUCES PICTORIAL HISTORY OF USC

University Archivist Elizabeth Cassidy West has created a book for the Arcadia Press Campus History Series titled *The University of South Carolina* (2006). The book illustrates the University's history from its inception to the present day with hundreds of photos and drawings from the holdings of the University Archives together with contemporary photos taken by University photographer Keith McGraw.

Chapters in the book are "The First Century," "College to University," "War and Renaissance," and "The Modern University." Included are reproductions of images of University buildings such as the original President's House, which is no longer standing; University officers such as the first

two presidents, Jonathan Maxcy and Thomas Cooper; distinguished faculty members; and students, including the first women students.

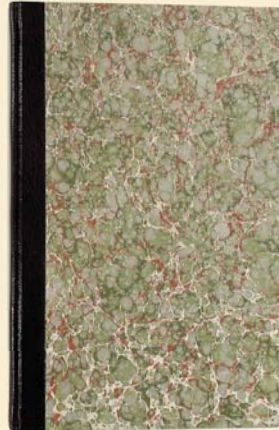
West holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from USC and was named University Archivist in 2001. Copies of the book are available from the South Caroliniana Library.

Elizabeth West



# THE PLANTATION JOURNALS OF DAVISON MCDOWELL

BY HENRY FULMER



Cover of the 1839 journal before and after conservation

In the mid-1990s, the South Caroliniana Library received two plantation journals documenting the rice planting interests of Davison McDowell (1783–1842). A native of Newry, Ireland, McDowell immigrated to America around 1810 and took up residence along the South Carolina coast in Georgetown District. His father, James McDowell, had settled in South Carolina in 1786, but he died there in 1787. Davison’s mother, Agnes Davison McDowell, arrived in South Carolina shortly after her husband’s death and ultimately married Robert Kirkpatrick. The young Davison McDowell had remained in Ireland with relatives to complete his studies before relocating to the United States.

An enterprising planter, Davison McDowell was associated with a number of plantation properties between the time of his arrival in America and his death in 1842. He acquired Asylum Plantation in 1819 and owned the property until 1836. Other tracts owned or planted by McDowell included Lucknow (the Pee Dee plantation, where he died), Rice Hope, Hoogley, Strawberry Hill, Pee Dee, Springfield, Oatlands, Sandy Island, and Woodville. McDowell was a founding member of the Planters Club on the Pee Dee, which was established in November 1839. He also served as vestryman of Prince Frederick Episcopal Church, Winyah, and represented Georgetown District at

South Carolina’s Union convention of 1832.

## A RICE PLANTER’S WORLD

The earlier of the two plantation journals, 1815–1833, is a rich source of information about a rice planter’s world and is particularly revealing in its documentation of life at Asylum plantation. The volume records seasonal household moves between

plantations, the seashore, and various other properties. Entries also note the importation of wine, which McDowell purchased jointly with neighboring planters J.W. Allston and R.O. Anderson.

Notations from 6 Oct. 1826 and 14 Oct. 1830 document McDowell’s involvement in local politics as supervisor of elections for Georgetown District. Further evincing his political stance, an entry from 3 Dec. 1832 comments on the Union convention and the Palmetto State’s growing preoccupation with sectionalism and states rights: “I hope the Almighty will direct our Consultation for the preservation of these U.S., the good of the State, the safety, honour & welfare of thy People.” A single July 1829 entry documents McDowell’s role as a bondsman in the trial of slaves accused of complicity in an abortive Georgetown insurrection.

## PLANTING AND HARVESTING

As one would expect, the journal contains detailed planting and crop statistics recording the dates when planting and harvesting began and were completed. Although rice was McDowell’s cash crop, subsistence farming was necessary to feed the many hands on Asylum. The journal denotes his careful attention to the cultivation of other crops such as corn, peas, potatoes, yams, and oats. As is typical with many plantation journals, the volume contains a systematic record of weather observations. McDowell’s record is particularly interesting for meteorological prognostication for the coming year based upon the weather for the 12 days of Christmas.

## PLANTATION GOVERNANCE

The journal provides substantive information on McDowell’s slave holdings, including yearly lists of slaves and their allowances of clothing and food. Records of slave “crimes and misdemeanors” and other notations shed light on punishments meted out to slaves accused of stealing or attempting to run away. A journal entry dated 24 Aug. 1831 reveals something of McDowell’s somewhat unique philosophy of plantation governance: “Moses & Doweey came to me ... this morn[ing] this day makes 4 weeks since the[y] went away. As they have come home themselves (agreeable to a Rule of the Plantation) they are not to be whipped! But the[y] are to be deprived of all the Comforts of the Plantation: the[y] are to get no Summer cloths, Christmas: & as their offence appears to me of great enormity (my Crop being very grassy when the[y] went away) I think I will give them no winter cloths: Moses being a class leader is prohibited from Public Preaching for a year.” Seemingly more vexing to McDowell was the discovery in 1830 that slave woman Sibbey had miscarried, McDowell speculated, on purpose. The prescribed punishment was the revocation of Christmas holiday privileges and confinement. A particularly intriguing journal entry, 9 Dec. 1831, alludes to legal action brought by McDowell following the unsanctioned whipping and confinement of one of his slaves.



Map of the rice fields

# SCENES FROM A 19TH-CENTURY SOUTH CAROLINA RICE PLANTATION



*Chicora rice mill*



*Threshing rice*



*Returning from the fields*



*Rice raft*



*Pounding rice*



*Opening the flood gate*



*Hoing rice*

Davison McDowell's plantations appear to have been under the direct supervision of drivers, two of whom, Manza and Sam, are identified in the yearly lists of plantation slaves and are named often in journal entries. An entry from February 1827 indicates that "the business of the Plantation went on under the sole direction of Manza" while McDowell was confined to his bed for more than three weeks with "a grievous sickness which the Doctor's called Epedimic." The sole reference to an overseer is in an account of the discharge of Mr. McCarty in September 1830 for intoxication.

## TAX RECORDS

Other information relating to the enslavement of African Americans can be gleaned from the record of tax returns found in the journal, according to which McDowell paid taxes on 84 slaves in 1826, 110

in 1829, 107 in 1830, 108 in 1831, and 113 in 1832. Additionally, the journal evidences the task system by which McDowell worked his slave laborers, with a detailed computation of approximate expenses for a cotton plantation with 100 slaves and estimates of the daily amount of labor to be expected from slave laborers assigned various tasks. Likewise, it documents the training of slaves at different trades. On at least two occasions, McDowell sent slaves off the plantation for extended periods to apprentice—one as a millwright and one as a blacksmith. (The millwright apprentice remained under tutelage for three years and four months.)

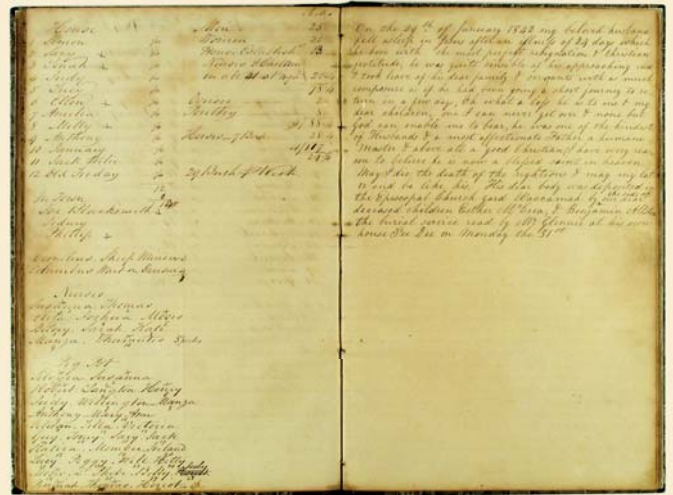
The subsequent journal, 1815–1842, continues the record of seasonal household moves and crop statistics, including the amount of corn and rice harvested in 1825 and 1826, respectively, as well as meteorological observations. Additional information about McDowell's slave holdings includes lists of slaves and their allowances. Especially

significant is an 1839 list of slave crimes and misdemeanors. Other slave-related information can be gleaned from the record of tax returns found in the journal, according to which McDowell owned 103 slaves in 1839, 108 in 1840, and 110 in 1841. The journal concludes with an entry penned by Catherine McDowell recording her husband's death on 29 Jan. 1842.

## PRESERVING THE JOURNALS

When received by the library, both journals were badly damaged. The signatures were loose but more or less intact, the binding boards were detached, and the spines were missing altogether. Both showed signs of extreme water damage, mold, and insect damage, including some evidence of long ago intrusion by bookworms.

The 1815–1842 journal was sent to Etherington Conservation Services of Greensboro, N.C., in the mid-1990s. However, the 1815–1833 journal, the more badly damaged of the two, was to wait another 10 years until funding was available to underwrite its full restoration. Again, Etherington Conservation was chosen to conserve the volume, with funding provided through the Jane Crayton Davis Preservation Endowment and a generous supplemental gift from Mrs. Davis. The purpose of the endowment is to help fund the preservation of irreplaceable materials at the South Caroliniana Library. This mission is in keeping with Mrs. Davis' awareness of the need for a central repository for historical materials and the ongoing obligation of the library to maintain the integrity of its collections.



Final entry in the hand of Davison McDowell opposite the entry written by Catherine McDowell recording her husband's death:

*"On the 29th of Jan. 1842 my beloved husband fell asleep in Jesus after an illness of 24 days which he bore with the most perfect resignation & Christian fortitude, he was quite sensible of his approaching end & took leave of his dear family & servants with as much composure as if he had been going [on] a short journey to return in a few days. Oh what a loss he is to me & my children, one I can never get over & none but God can enable me to bear, he was one of the kindest of Husbands & a most affectionate Father, a humane Master & above all a good Christian. I have every reason to believe he is now a blessed saint in heaven."*



Jane Crayton Davis

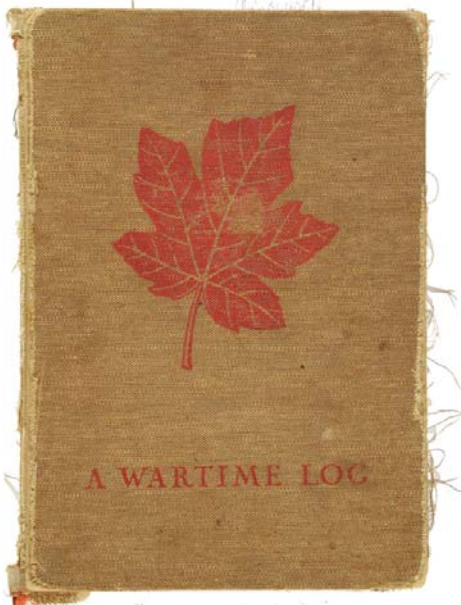
## JANE CRAYTON DAVIS

The person responsible for the preservation of the Davison McDowell Plantation Journals, Mrs. Jane Crayton Davis, of Aiken, S.C., has been a devoted friend and supporter of the South Caroliniana Library for many years. She served the University South Caroliniana Society as a member of the Executive Council, 1988–96; vice president, 1991–92; and president, 1993–96.

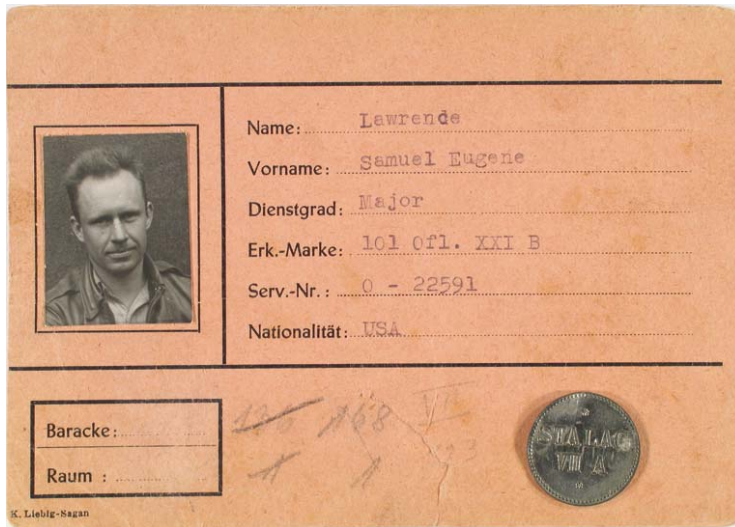
The Confederation of South Carolina Local Historical Societies honored Davis recently when she received the confederation's 2006 Robert N. Pryor Volunteer Award for her lifetime commitment to preserving South Carolina's local and state history. The confederation is a statewide organization of local historical groups dedicated to the study and preservation of local and state history.

# SCL ACQUIRES POW LOGBOOK OF WWII HERO

BY HENRY FULMER



Cover of the logbook



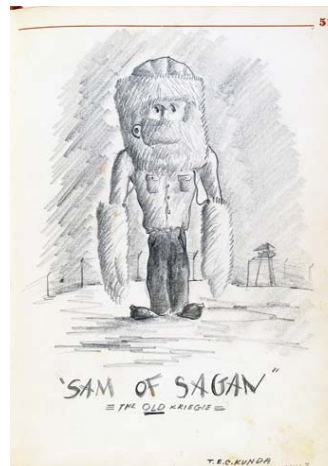
Samuel Lawrence's ID card

The South Caroliniana Library recently acquired a POW logbook of longtime Columbia resident Samuel Eugene Lawrence Jr. (1914–2004), a World War II airman who was shot down over North Africa in 1942 and held as a prisoner of war for two and one half years.

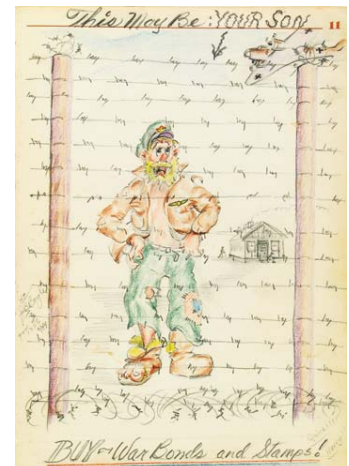
Major Lawrence, an alumnus of Louisiana State University with a degree in civil engineering, trained as an Army Air Corps fighter pilot at Kelly Field, Texas. His official photographic ID card identifies him as POW number 101 at Oflag XXI-B, a prison camp for officers located near Schoken, Poland. Elsewhere in the collection there is evidence that he was also confined at Luftwaffenlager III in Silesia, the Nazi encampment for captured British and American Air Force personnel known as Sagan that was immortalized in Paul Brickhill's 1950 book, *The Great Escape*, and in the 1963 film adaptation. A cartoon pencil portrait of Lawrence drawn by T.E.C. Kunda of Langwasser, Germany, identifies the subject as "Sam of Sagan" The Old Kriegie."

The POW logbook is recorded in a volume titled *A Wartime Log: A Remembrance From Home Through the Canadian Y.M.C.A.* that was issued in 1943 through the auspices of the War Prisoners' Aid of the Y.M.C.A. in Geneva, Switzerland. It appears to have been compiled both during the time of Lawrence's imprisonment at Sagan and while he was at Stalag or Stammlager XIII-D near Nuremberg. Included in the volume are "Complaints Respecting the Conditions of Cap[t]ivity" addressed to the "Commandant of Stammlager Luft XIII D" on 28 Feb. 1945 by Col. Darr H. Alkire as senior Allied POW officer.

American POWs at Stalag XIII-D were evacuated in early April 1945 and marched to Stalag VII-A at Moosburg. Along the way, however, many POWs began to drop out of the march and prison guards made no serious attempt to halt the disintegration. Ultimately the POWs were liberated by members of General Patton's 14th Armored Division on 19 April 1945. Among Sam Lawrence's mementoes from the march to Moosburg is a round metal token embossed on one side "STALAG VII A."



"Sam of Sagan"



A pictorial appeal from one of Lawrence's fellow GIs, Lt. J.B. Boyle, POW#1356, February 1944

Among the many fascinating things recorded in Lawrence's wartime log are his list of "Books I'd Like to Have for My Library"; a "Record of a four-way cooperative by persons in four sections of the country to procure best foods" set up by Lawrence "in accordance with my policy of never having to go hungry again"; the names and, in some instances, addresses of fellow detainees; and the names of participants in a "rotating pool made up of twenty five individuals, each betting one hundred dollars, to continue until cessation of hostilities of war between Allied powers & Germany."

In addition to the "Sam of Sagan" portrait, the logbook features other cartoon drawings executed in colored pencil, among them several signed by noted artist Stan Rames, a lieutenant with the 361st Fighter Group. Rames later worked professionally as an artist for NBC and for WDSU-TV in New Orleans. He also was a professor of art at Tulane University. The volume includes additional drawings signed by J.B. Boyle and David Ker, all of which caricature some aspect of POW life.

# CHINA IN THE 1930s THROUGH THE EYES OF AN AMERICAN CONSUL GENERAL

BY GRAHAM DUNCAN

A set of dispatches produced in the 1930s by Walter Alexander Adams while he was serving as American Consul General in Harbin, which is located today in Northeast China, has recently been presented to the South Caroliniana Library by Adams' niece, Carol Adams Wilkins, of Easley, S.C.

The 279 items include carbon copies of reports written by Adams, translations of articles appearing in Harbin newspapers, and clippings from *The Peking and Tientsin Times*, *Zarya*, and *The Manchuria Daily News*. These were directed to the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., and to Clarence E. Gauss and Nelson Trusler Johnson at the American Legation in Peiping [Beijing], China, between October 1934 and August 1936.

Walter Adams, a native of Greenville, S.C., was born in December 1887 to William Alexander and Sarah E. Adams. He graduated from Clemson College (now University) and was later awarded a law degree from George Washington University. He was appointed to his first consular posting in 1916 as United States Vice Consul in Shanghai and served in a similar capacity throughout China until his retirement in the late 1940s. During this time he married Elizabeth Christina Eastman, a native of Winston, Mo., in Yokohama, Japan. After his retirement from consular service, Adams returned to Greenville, where he maintained a home until his death in September 1979.

During Adams residence in Harbin, the city was located in the state of Manchukuo. This area corresponds with the region known historically as Inner Manchuria and is today contained within the borders of the People's Republic of China. Manchukuo was formed in 1932, following the Japanese invasion of Manchuria. In 1934, after the League of Nations refused to recognize Manchukuo as an independent state and declared that it remained a part of China, Japan withdrew from the body. The U.S. never recognized the nation diplomatically, insisting rather that it was a puppet-state created and administered by the Japanese. However, the country did receive recognition from Japan, the U.S.S.R. (the former Soviet Union), Vichy France, Italy, Spain, Germany, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic. Manchukuo was abolished in August 1945 following an invasion by the former Soviet Union.

The dispatches produced by Adams detail American, Chinese, Japanese, and Soviet military and economic

involvement in Manchuria, Manchukuo, and Mongolia. Particular attention is focused on actions associated with the merger of the Soviet-owned Chinese Eastern Railway and the Japanese-controlled South Manchurian Railway Company, the increased power and militarism of Japan's Kwantung Army (a unit of the Imperial Japanese Army based on the Liaodong Peninsula on mainland Asia), and growing tensions between Japan and the countries of China, the United States, and the Soviet Union. The diplomatic maneuvering that was necessary when commenting on the activities of a state that Adams's own country did not recognize is evident throughout the dispatches: he chose to enclose

"Manchukuo" in quotation marks when using the term in his reports.

Some of the more interesting and unusual dispatches generated by Adams include "The Japanese Venture in Manchuria," written 20 Nov. 1934, which details Japanese (and more specifically the Kwantung Army's) activities in Manchuria and Manchukuo beginning in 1931. "Political Reports," generated for February 1935 and April, May, June, and July 1936, summarize the political, economic, and military atmosphere in Manchukuo during the respective months. "Terrorism in Harbin," written 18 Dec. 1935, concerns the arrest and imprisonment of "Soviet

Russians, Russian émigrés ... Jews of Russian Soviet and émigré status ... [and] well-to-do Harbin Chinese ... " by Manchukuo and Japanese army officials for political and economic reasons and details the arrest and torture of "Soviet and white Russians and Jews ... [and] also the citizens of nontreaty powers, such as Latvians and Lithuanians" by the Bureau for the Affairs of the Russian Émigrés. "The German-

'Manchukuo' Trade Agreement," May 1936, discusses the political implications of a recent agreement regarding the increased importation by Germany of soybeans grown in Manchukuo in exchange for the increased importation of German manufactured munitions and heavy machinery by Manchukuo.

Looking at these reports 70 years later, it is evident that the increased Japanese militarism, which Adams discussed at length, led directly to the invasion of China by Japan (using Manchukuo as a staging area) in the summer of 1937. This conflict would signal the beginning of World War II in the Pacific Theater.



Walter Alexander Adams



Image of a Chinese dignitary painted on rice paper, ca. 1930



“Instantly I was a graduate student again, in a new interdisciplinary program housed in Lieber College called the Southern Studies Program. Arriving in January 1975, a single mother with two children, ages 2 and 4, I was determined to complete a Ph.D. quickly, but to have as deep a learning experience as possible. And I was not disappointed. Taught by brilliant faculty, and expected to work on serious scholarly projects from the start, I quickly became consumed by the heady experience of doctoral study. My world was so bounded by Lieber College and the South Caroliniana Library that I was in Columbia for 18 months or so before it occurred to me that the Gamecocks I saw everywhere must belong to the football team.

“Literary luminary Cleanth Brooks and C. Vann Woodward, the “dean” of American historians, were both in residence at Lieber College the first semester I was there. In fact, my introduction to the South Caroliniana Library was in the company of Dr. Woodward; as a graduate assistant I had been assigned to assist with the transcription of the Chesnut diaries Woodward intended to edit. But those initial forays into the great library were fairly routine, undertaken only to check and collate transcriptions against original text.

“It was not until I became immersed in a major research project that I really understood the richness of the Caroliniana. Under the direction of Stephen Meats and James B. Meriwether, the Southern Studies Program had agreed to provide annotations for the eight Revolutionary War novels of William Gilmore Simms. Mine was *Katharine Walton*. I was completely out of my depth. Except for a couple of history courses in college, I had had no historical training, but with the help of Stephen Meats, I quickly fell in love with research, and while I was at it, with the Caroliniana itself. I clamored over dingy and labyrinthine stacks, in search of endless dusty and fascinating volumes. I devoured scores of books, among them

Ramsay’s *History of the Revolution of South Carolina*, Moultrie’s *Memoirs of the American Revolution*, Alexander Garden’s *Anecdotes*, Elizabeth Ellet’s domestic histories, Henry Lee’s *The Campaign of 1781 in the Carolinas*, and Banastre Tarleton’s *A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781*, not to mention innumerable letters and pamphlets. In the process, this wonderful library taught me how to access and understand the past.

“Over the next two or three years, I became an intimate of the Caroliniana, particularly as I began work on a biographical chapter for my dissertation on Mary Boykin Chesnut, work that would later be expanded into a book. Because Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut’s and James Chesnut’s lives were intertwined with many of the great antebellum South Carolina families, my research ranged widely around the collection from the late 18th century through the 1880s and required immersion in South Carolina history from Charleston and the Lowcountry through Camden, Columbia, and points west.

“I remember the Caroliniana in the mid-70s as an open and friendly place. Rules were utterly relaxed, and I was given extraordinary access to anything the library had or could get. The library’s skilled staff (Les Inabinett was director then, and I think Allen Stokes was a graduate student—or at least very lowly) never failed to answer a query or point out a connection. They clearly loved tracking down mysteries as much as I did. And, of course, the patrons of the library became something of a family of researchers with interests in common. I remember a long and fruitful conversation with someone who turned out to be Carol Bleser, beginning her work on James Henry Hammond. In short, this rarified world not only nurtured my research skills, but taught me what a privilege it is to be a member of a community of scholars.

“My visit for society’s annual meeting was for me nothing less than a homecoming to the place of my academic birth.”

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING ROOMS DECORATED WITH IMAGES FROM LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

University Archivist Elizabeth West has been working for about a year to prepare reproductions of images from the libraries’ special collections to decorate the new meeting rooms of the USC Board of Trustees at 1600 Hampton Street.

The main meeting room and dining room are decorated with images

from University history. The committee meeting room has materials from the South Caroliniana Library and Thomas Cooper Library’s Department of Rare Books and Special Collections relating to South Carolina history.



The USC trustees board room with items from the libraries’ collections



Reproductions of some of the University’s original Audubons grace one of the Board of Trustees meeting rooms.

## “ETHEL BOLDEN: A PIONEERING SPIRIT” EXHIBIT AT SCL



Ethel Bolden

An exhibit titled “Ethel Bolden: A Pioneering Spirit” was on display at the South Caroliniana Library in February. The exhibit presented information about the life and career of Ethel Bolden, Columbia educator and librarian who touched many generations of South Carolinians through her instruction and community activism. Mrs. Bolden, a native of Charleston, led the establishment of libraries at African-American public schools in Columbia, including the first such library at Waverley Elementary School.

Mrs. Bolden was the mother of astronaut Charles Bolden.

An opening reception on Feb. 21 was cohosted by the African American Studies Program.

### Report from the President *cont. from page 1*

blamed General Wade Hampton of the Confederate Army for burning Columbia. Sherman wrote in his official report that “without hesitation, I charge General Wade Hampton with having burned his own city of Columbia . . . filling it with lint, cotton, and tinder.” What General Sherman referred to were the many bales of cotton in the streets of Columbia when Sherman’s troops entered the city. Sherman said Hampton set the cotton on fire before he evacuated the city.

The South Carolina College campus was being used as a hospital. Some troops under the command of a Captain Young approached the campus. The professors and a doctor made an appeal to the captain for protection of the library and the other buildings. Captain Young stationed guards around the entrance to the campus. Some of the roofs burst into flames but with the help of the professors, doctors, servants, patients, and some Federal troops the fires were put out. However, the next morning about 150 cavalry troops arrived to burn the buildings, but Colonel Stone, who had received the surrender of the city the day before, came at the urging of the professors and dispersed the troops, thereby saving the Caroliniana Library and the college campus.

By the time you read this we will have had a symposium on Wade Hampton in the library with a number of scholars presenting papers on that famous man. I am sure we will have heard much more during the symposium about the infamous day when Columbia burned.

I invite you to come and enjoy the South Caroliniana Library. We are indeed lucky to have it.

## EX LIBRIS SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING



Mark Dimunation, Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division at the Library of Congress, addresses members of the University Libraries’ support group, the Ex Libris Society.

Members of the University Libraries support group, the Ex Libris Society, gathered on March 6 to hear a presentation by Mark Dimunation, Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division at the Library of Congress, the largest collection of rare books in North America. The evening also included a business meeting, presided over by the society’s president, Claude M. Walker Jr.; recognition of charter and new members; and the opportunity for

members to view exhibits from Thomas Cooper Library’s Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, the South Caroliniana Library, South Carolina Political Collections, and the Newsfilm Library.

Dimunation told society members about his work, including a project to recreate Thomas Jefferson’s collection of books, which formed the core collection for the Library of Congress at its inception. About two-thirds of that collection of more than 4,000 books was destroyed in the War of 1812, but the library has been successful in acquiring replacements for all but about a thousand volumes.

Dimunation also showed images from another major LC collection, the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection. This collection features illustrated books and manuscripts from the 15th to the 20th centuries. Included are 15th-century woodcut books, early 16th-century illustrated books, one of the finest collections of books, plates, drawings, and engravings by William Blake ever assembled, and 20th-century *livres des peintres*. A particular treasure is the manuscript known as the Giant Bible of Mainz (1452–53). It is on permanent exhibit in the library’s Great Hall, together with LC’s copy of the 1454–55 Gutenberg Bible. Dimunation pointed out the significance of the pairing of these two volumes, one epitomizing the conclusion of the art of illuminated manuscript and the other marking the beginning of printing with movable type, and both created in Mainz, Germany, within the same short time period.

The Ex Libris Society, which was formed in 2001 to recognize those who donate \$1,000 or more in support of the various units of the University Libraries, now has about 124 members.

For more information, please contact Carol Benfield or Trip King at 803-777-3142 or visit [www.sc.edu/library/develop/develop.html](http://www.sc.edu/library/develop/develop.html).

# SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY RESTORES 19TH-CENTURY SCARBOROUGH PAINTINGS AND FRAMES

With support from the Portrait Preservation Fund, the South Caroliniana Library completed the restoration of two portraits by 19th-century artist William Harrison Scarborough together with their contemporary frames. The portraits depict Anna Jane White (Mrs. Peter Samuel Bacot) and Mary Hart Brockinton (Mrs. Richard Brockinton). Both portraits were painted in Darlington, where they were kept until they came to the library.



*Mary Hart Brockinton*

The frame for the White portrait was in a very fragile state with significant losses. The conservator made replicas of existing molding to bring the frame back to its original splendor. Both paintings are hanging in the Manuscripts Reading Room. The Richard Brockinton portrait and frame are at the conservators now and will be added to the

family grouping later this year.

Anna Jane White, Mrs. Brockinton's niece, lived in Mississippi until coming to Darlington to marry Bacot in the 1830s. The Mary

Brockinton painting also shows a young boy, assumed to be Peter S. Bacot or one of his children. The Brockintons took in Bacot and his siblings after their parents died in 1811. When Anna Jane White died in 1847, the Brockintons took in Peter's children. It is not known when the paintings were executed. The library owns a letter to Peter Bacot from Scarborough in 1836 discussing doing paintings in Charleston and a postscript referencing Mr. Brockinton.



*Anna Jane White*

## WADE HAMPTON SYMPOSIUM HELD IN MARCH

"Wade Hampton: Military Leader, Governor and U.S. Senator" was the subject of a series of events held on March 24 at several Columbia locations. The events were sponsored by the University South Caroliniana Society, the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, and the Historic Columbia Foundation.

A living-history event was staged on the grounds of the Columbia Mills building by the Palmetto Living History Association. Uniformed participants portrayed South Carolina Civil War soldiers in the Hampton Legion of the Army of Northern Virginia from 1861 to 1862 and gave tours of the campsite and demonstrations. On display at the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum were Hampton's saber, a signed copy of Gen. Robert E. Lee's farewell to the Army of Northern Virginia, and an exhibit about Malvina Black Gist, who worked at the Confederate Printing Plant in Columbia.

The South Caroliniana Library was the venue for a panel of scholars who gave presentations about the

military and political career of Wade Hampton. Virginia Meynard, author of *The Venturers*, treated the Hampton family with particular emphasis on its women. Military historian Edward G. Longacre presented a paper titled "The Grandee and the Cavalier: Wade Hampton, Jeb Stuart, and the Cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, 1862–1864," and William J. Long, curator of education at the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum presented a paper titled "The Chieftain and the War Baby: Hampton's Cavalry in the Carolina Campaign."



*General Wade Hampton*

Other papers, which focused on the period of Reconstruction and Hampton's service as governor and U.S. senator were presented by Gaines Foster, Lewis Bruke, Lee Drago, Fritz Hamer, and Robert Ackerman.

The day concluded with a reception at the Historic Columbia Foundation's Robert Mills Carriage House and a tour of the Hampton-Preston Mansion.

# IN MEMORIAM

University Libraries faculty and staff members noted with sadness the passing of four significant individuals whose gifts of funds, papers, books, and other materials have enriched the South Caroliniana Library's holdings and will support the efforts of researchers for many years to come.

**The Rev. Dr. George E. Meetze** (June 24, 1909–Nov. 23, 2006) served as chaplain of the South Carolina Senate for 56 years and often offered the invocation at University South Caroliniana Society luncheons and dinners. He attended USC as well as New York Theological Seminary and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. The South Caroliniana Library's Manuscripts Division holds his papers.

**Julian Hennig Jr.** (March 12, 1922–Dec. 31, 2006) was president of August Kohn and Co., Inc., a subsidiary of First National Bank of South Carolina, from 1971 until his retirement in 1985. He served on the Executive Council of the University South Caroliniana Society and,

together with his wife and other family members, presented the South Caroliniana Library a collection of more than 4,000 items collected by his mother, Helen Kohn Hennig, and his grandfather, August Kohn. The collection comprised one of the largest groups of South Carolina material ever held in a private library and includes many items not known to exist elsewhere.

**William F. Bagwell Jr.** (Jan. 19, 1923–Sept. 21, 2006) was a writer, university professor, and human rights advocate. Together with his first wife, Maude Magill Bagwell, he donated a collection of family papers to the Manuscripts Division of the South Caroliniana Library. Dr. Bagwell was a frequent recipient of the Lewis P. Jones Research Fellowship in South Carolina History.

**Dr. James B. Meriwether** (May 8, 1928–March 18, 2007) was a 1949 graduate of USC who received master's and doctoral degrees from Princeton University. He was a professor of English at USC from 1964 until his retirement in 1990 and a noted William Faulkner scholar.

Dr. Meriwether's donations to the South Caroliniana Library comprise a significant unit of research materials, including research notes, correspondence, lecture notes, and texts, as well as materials concerning his work with the documentary edition of the writings of William Gilmore Simms and as founding director for the USC Institute of Southern Studies.

In 2000, Dr. Meriwether donated a major collection of recordings and other items related to the life and work of noted Italian orchestral conductor Arturo Toscanini to USC's Music Library. At the same time the James B. Meriwether Music Library Endowment was established by Mr. and Mrs. Alester G. Furman III to provide for new acquisitions, conservation, publications, and programming opportunities related to the Toscanini Collection.

## MEMORIALS

### Memorial made to:

Mrs. Bettye Ackerman Jaffe

Mr. J. Ives Townsend

Mr. Gene Norris

Dr. Francis H. Gay

Mr. Harvey W. Tiller Jr.

Mr. E. Don Herd Jr.

Mr. Curtis Fletcher Watson

Mrs. Alice Fulton Green

The Rev. Dr. George Elias Meetze

Mr. William F. Bagwell

Mr. Julian Hennig Jr.

Rev. Monsignor Richard C. Madden

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### In Honor of:

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