

Access



FROM *the* DIRECTOR

When I faced the task of writing this column I had to stop and think about what I have written in previous issues. There was collaboration, and change, and history. I have written about exhibitions, the impact of social media, and the special circumstances that technology brings to archives. What I have never talked about, though, are our students.

Obviously as an institution of higher learning, everything we do is somehow related and connected to students. We process collections and provide finding aids to assist students with their research. We talk to classes and speak with student reporters regarding the history of the University. But what special relationship to students do we specifically have here in the SU Archives?

Let me say immediately that we could not survive without them. Each semester we have two or three undergraduate students who support our work by scanning, filing, labeling, delivering, and assisting with research. In addition we try to have one graduate student, usually from our iSchool, who handles more complicated tasks like processing collections and creating EAD finding aids. When we can we offer to mentor interns as well. Although our goal is to hire students to help get the job done, we also try to provide a rewarding, educational and enjoyable experience for our student workers. We recognize that sometimes this is an undergraduate's first job, and this is a good way for them to learn what it's like to work in a professional setting. We like to think too that we sometimes inspire students to consider archives as a career. Several of our students have moved on to archival careers.

I just took a few minutes to stop and remember the students who have crossed my path in the 17 years I have been working at SU. My guess is that I have seen nearly 70 students work with us in the Archives, either as work-study students, project workers, summer help, or interns. I am still in touch with several who have become friends as well as others who stay in touch via Facebook. Last week, Josh Eberle, who graduated in 2008, stopped by my office while on campus for a recruiting fair. I was touched that after a number of years he wanted to come by and say hello. The students may want to just say 'hello,' but what I want to say to them all is 'thank you!'

See a photo of some of our current students on the last page.

—Ed Galvin, *Director*

Mystery Photo

We recently added the finding aid to Chancellor Sims' papers to our web site [archives.syr.edu/collections/chancellors/sua_sims_cn.htm] so it seemed like an apt time to share this mystery photo. Actually this shouldn't be a mystery at all since most of the SU community has walked by this plaque at one point or another. Visit our web site, archives.syr.edu, to find out where it is and for more photos and information.



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You all know the song from *Mary Poppins*. Feel free to sing along as you read this – Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

What you all may not know is that the word actually originated here at Syracuse University. We knew there was a lawsuit in 1964 when the movie came out and that during the proceedings it was discovered that the word "Supercal..." (too long to keep repeating) was first found in a Syracuse University humor magazine in the 1930s. We looked – off and on for years – but never found any proof and always considered it a rumor.

Last April however, Archivist Ed Galvin's wife (a Boston area native) was reading the Boston Sunday Globe and came across an article by columnist Ben Zimmer who wrote that the origin of the word was from the March 10, 1931 *Syracuse Daily Orange*, in a column by Orange staffer Helen Herman. The process he used to get to that point is an interesting linguistic tale, but we won't go into it here. In the *D.O.* Helen Herman wrote, "Several years ago, I concocted an expression which, to me, includes all words in the category of something wonderful. I am sufficiently conceited — or is it merely self-confidence? — to warrant that not many people on this campus, unless they happen to be in some way associated with me, have ever heard my all-encompassing word. I believe I am the sole originator of it, or at least, I have my own interpretation of its pronunciation. "Supercaliflawjalisticexpialadoshus" is the word to which I refer. I'll admit it's rather long and tiring before one reaches its conclusion, but once you arrive at the end, you have a feeling that you have said in one word what it would ordinarily take four paragraphs to explain. It's very simple to say,

100 Years Ago in *The Syracuse Daily Orange*

September 16, 1912

CYCLONE WIPES NAVY OF THE UNIVERSITY OUT OF EXISTENCE

Total Loss Will Reach \$8,000

The Syracuse University Navy is a total wreck as a result of a cyclone which swept through this region last evening at 5:30 o'clock, completely destroying the University boathouse at Long Branch and all the shells and other equipment stored there.

The loss to the Syracuse University Athletic Association was as follows: the boathouse, a frame building 80 feet long, the roof of which was blown completely off and carried to the edge of the outlet several yards away and the sides of which are in splinters, the foundation stone being left; five eight-oared shells; two four-oared shells; two four-oared working boats; one pair-oared working boat; two single sculls, one life-boat; sixty oars; twenty sculling oars; rowing equipment, including six dozen suits and jerseys, underwear, shoes, etc., belonging to the men. In fact, everything in the boathouse was destroyed with the exception of the heavy outriggers which the wind did not lift.

The loss to the Athletic Association is \$8,000 which is a total loss, as there was no insurance against cyclones. Insurance of \$7,900 was carried against fire.

The roof of the boathouse which was carried to the bank of the outlet landed on top of the shells which had been moved right along beneath it, with the exception of the new shell which was used for the first time last spring by the Varsity eight. This shell was blown out on top of the roof and was cracked and splintered straight up through the back. One other shell was carried into the outlet and was drifting.....



University boathouse at Long Branch destroyed in the 1912 cyclone
[Photo courtesy of Dick Case]

The building of the Ka-ne-en-da Canoe Club which stood scarcely thirty feet beyond the University boathouse was not injured in any way.

The storm came down through Long Branch, blowing down practically every tree at the pretty resort, and seriously damaging the big dance hall, almost shaking it from its foundations. It then raced along the car track, taking Lakeshore car completely off the track and killing the motorman. It followed the loop of track to the boathouse, then went across the outlet and demolished the fishermen's shacks on the opposite bank. The whirling wind then raced on across the flats and is reported to have gone into the Oneida Lake region, where wires were all down at the time of this writing and where it is feared great damage and perhaps much loss of life has resulted.

The possibility of sending Orange crews to Poughkeepsie next spring becomes at once the all-absorbing question on the lips of every Syracusan. The matter will, of course, come up for earnest discussion tomorrow evening at the meeting of the Athletic Governing Board and will have to be decided very soon. If Syracuse is to have crews next spring, Graduate Manager M. S. Stedman stated last night, the shells would have to be ordered at once and work commenced almost immediately on a new boathouse, so as to complete it before the winter sets in.

Want to Help Save Paper? E-VERSION OF ACCESS AVAILABLE

Although many of us still enjoy the feel of paper in our hands as we read a newsletter, it is true that the printing and mailing of a newsletter is not an inexpensive proposition. If you would be just as happy to receive each issue via email instead of paper, please let us know by sending a message to archives@syr.edu. All issues of *Access* are also available on our web site at archives.syr.edu/access/

Exhibitions and Displays

Visit the Archives online exhibition pages at archives.syr.edu/exhibits/

Current Online Exhibition

Changing Women's Fashion: A Look at Coeds' Clothing on SU's Campus pre-1900-1950s

archives.syr.edu/exhibits/fashion.html

January 2013

Gimme an "S"! : A History of the Block Letter "S"

Lubin House

August 2012 – January 2013

Manley Field House 50th Anniversary

January – July 2013

The Quad thru the Years

Crouse-Hinds Hall

August 2012 – January 2013

The Quad thru the Years

January – July 2013

The University Farm

Goldstein Alumni and Faculty Center

August 2012 – January 2013

The Freshman Beanie

January – July 2013

When Baseball Ruled at SU

Recent **Additions**

Since the previous newsletter Archives has received many new additions to its collections including:

- Syracuse 8 materials from Greg Allen '72 and Bucky McGill '72
- Original plan drawings done by Donald Bogie for the PA103 Memorial Cairn, Arlington National Cemetery
- Two scrapbooks of Lynn B. Wyckoff (Class of 1902) from granddaughter Sylvia Stalker
- Recent Letterwinners of Distinction banquet programs from Ruth E. Sadler '72
- Original documents regarding the history of SU from the 1880s-1890s from the United Methodist Church Archives, Madison, NJ
- Papers of late Law professor Donna Artz relating to Lockerbie Trial Families Project
- 15 cartons of Renee Crown Honors Program Honors Capstone Projects
- Papers of William T. Hulse '14 from granddaughters Jamie Hulse Smith and Betsy Hulse Doyle
- Book - *Fifteen Feet for Free* by Jim Lee '75
- Papers of Emogene Pearl Stook ('28 Nursing certificate) from her son John Rose
- 28 boxes of alumni records from Advancement and External Affairs
- Additional materials from Elizabeth Philipps, mother of PA103 victim Sarah Philipps
- Maxwell Information and Computing Technology Event Videotapes
- Photographs of Rod Steiger and Claire Bloom and Film Forum Schedules from Norman O. Keim

Pan Am 103 Place of Remembrance Reconstruction

Syracuse University's Place of Remembrance, dedicated in April 1990 to honor and remember the 35 SU students and all those killed in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, is undergoing a complete restoration. In the 22 years since its construction the Wall of Remembrance and the surrounding Place of Remembrance have suffered weather damage resulting in shifting steps and masonry, as well as some cracks in the Wall itself. Replacing damaged sections and restoring the engraved panel is expected to be completed in time for the Rose Laying Ceremony and Remembrance Scholar Convocation on October 26.

The Archives has been documenting the reconstruction since it began in June by taking photographs each week and has created a photo album on Facebook. All the photographs taken are available on the Pan Am 103 Archives Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PanAm103Archives



The names of the 35 SU victims have been hand-carved onto three tablets of black granite imported from India

Staff Highlights

- Assistant Pan Am Archivist **Cara Howe** has passed the Academy of Certified Archivists examination and is now entitled to use the initials C.A. after her name. Congratulations Cara.
- Several staff participated in the annual meeting of the New York Archives Conference in Rochester, NY in June. **Susan Hughes, Cara Howe** and **Ed Galvin** were presenters at the session "Mobile Apps for Archives: QR Codes – A Three-Phase Case Study". **Ed Galvin** also spoke at a session on "Genealogical Records in Colleges and Universities".
- Archives and Records Management Director and Pan Am 103 Archivist **Ed Galvin** has been elected to the Advisory Board for the Victims of Pan Am 103, Inc.

Archives Processes Two Collections with Delmas Grant

Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and Genesee College

By Erin Lee G'12

This summer I processed the Genesee College and Genesee Wesleyan Seminary Collections by means of a generous grant from The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation. Syracuse University shares its Methodist-Episcopal roots with these institutions and became the repository for their records after the closing of the college in 1875 and seminary in 1941. The collections were previously unprocessed and not well described but are now housed in 211 acid-free boxes with a finding aid per collection.

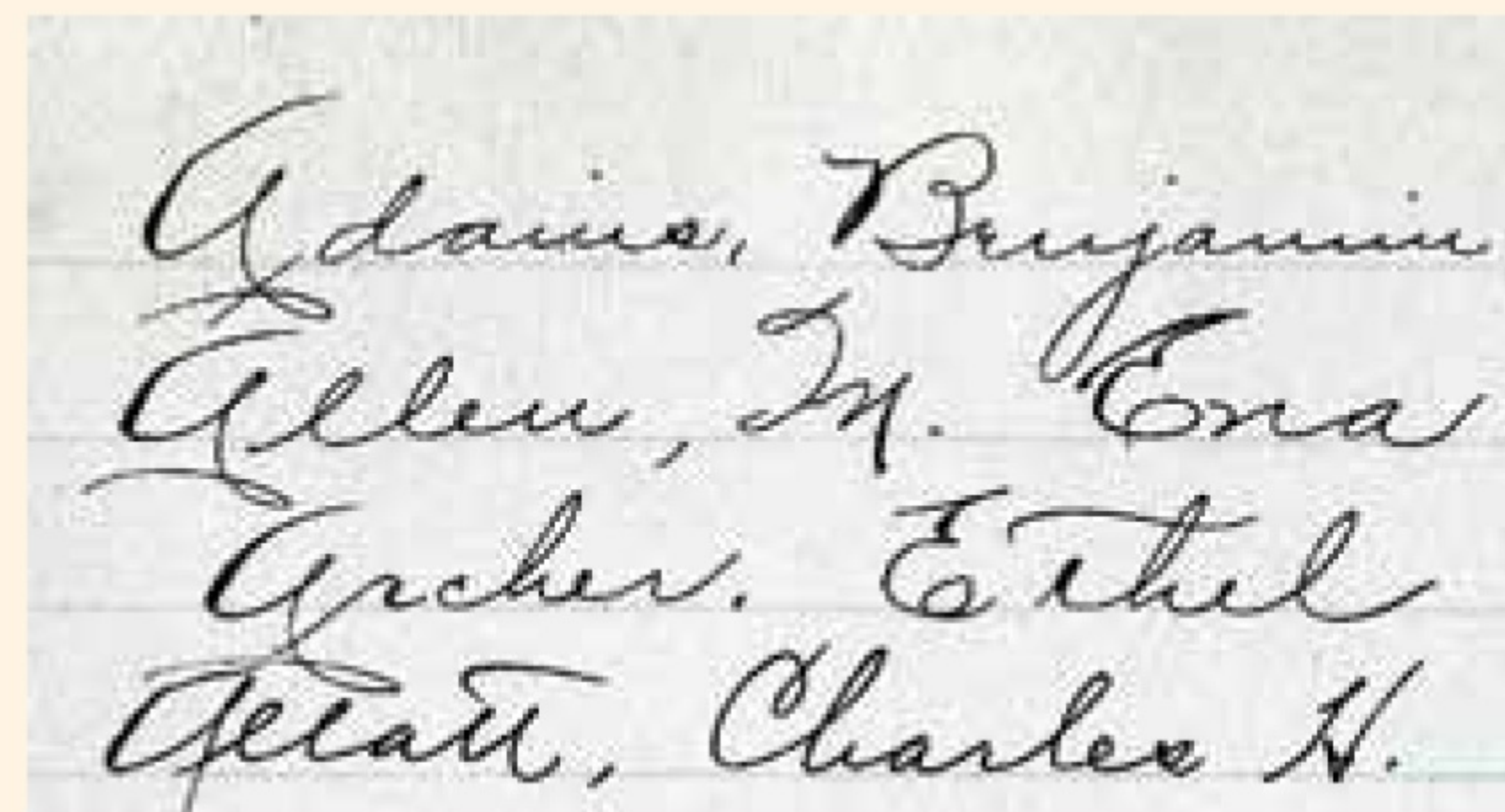
The Genesee Wesleyan Seminary was incorporated in 1834 as a secondary school and Genesee College in 1849 as a higher education school on the same site. These two institutions shared buildings with the students eating together and sometimes sharing classes. Upon the closure of the college in 1875 due to falling enrollment and defection of both students and faculty to the newly opened Syracuse University, the seminary resumed its sole use of the buildings and continued to function as a secondary school until 1941.



Seminary student, Miss Emma Terry
1881-83 Photograph Album
[Archives Image 12-0925]

The collections cover the years 1830 to 1940 and include student registers, account books, course catalogues, lectures, scrapbooks, correspondence, photographs and other historical materials. The records in these collections document early coeducational secondary and higher education in New York State. There are rich pickings for genealogical researchers with student lists, photograph albums, faculty personnel files and other detailed information concerning those who were associated with the college and seminary.

The majority of the collections are made up of bound volumes for which there are now custom-made acid-



Detail of student list from 1900-1901 Student Accounts book from the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary Collection

free boxes. This new housing prevents future damage to the volumes and allows them to be stored safely. The collections are fully processed with online finding aids including detailed historical notes and cross-references. I am delighted that there has also been time to digitize many items such as photographs and sample items from correspondence and account books. These images are linked to the online finding aids and can be freely viewed at the click of the mouse. This really makes the collections come to life.

There have been many interesting finds in the collections from daguerreotypes to correspondence reporting on a student's misbehavior with a girl of "shady reputation" or sporting the letterhead "John L. Porter, Grower and Shipper of Celery, Lettuce and Onions." The most interesting part of the processing was really getting a sense of what life was like at the end of the nineteenth and start of the twentieth century for students not that much younger than myself. In some ways education has changed a lot (boarding is no longer the norm and there is less focus on the necessity of milk in the daily diet) but in others it has not (we still study a diverse syllabus in a coeducational setting). To find out for yourself what life at these institutions was like, check out the finding aids at archives.syr.edu/collections/org_non_su/sua_gws.htm and archives.syr.edu/collections/org_non_su/sua_gnc.htm.

"Like" the Archives' New Facebook Page

The Syracuse University Archives is now on Facebook! Want to learn about SU's history and find out what's going on at the Archives? Come visit us at www.facebook.com/SyracuseUniversityArchives and "Like" us to get our updates. Our page will include news about Archives events, collections, and exhibitions. We'll also post historical images from our collections. If you are on Facebook, this is a great way to stay in touch and keep abreast of the Archives. Feel free to post questions or comments on our Facebook page.



Syracuse University Archives Facebook page

SUpercalifragilistic-expialidocious

(cont'd from page 1)

and if you move along slowly until you are better acquainted with it, you're sure to appreciate its value as I do. It implies all that is grand, great, glorious, splendid, superb, wonderful, — well, all that is just "supercaliflawjalisticexpialadoshus."

Although the word was slightly modified by the time the Sherman Brothers used it for the *Mary Poppins* song, the origin is pretty solid. Helen Herman, for those who may want to know more, was from Mamaroneck, NY. She graduated in 1933 with a degree from the School of Speech and Dramatic Arts. She was a member of Phi Sigma Sigma; the English Club; *The Daily Orange*; the *Onondagan* (yearbook); and the Y. W. C. A. She married Vincent Lawkins and lived in Forest Hills, NY until her death in 1988.



Helen M. Herman, '33

This is all wonderful news for us in the Archives – a mystery solved and with the best possible outcome. The rumor is not a rumor after all!

P.S. – For those who want to follow the trail of the word, Ben Zimmer's article is available here. www.visualthesaurus.com/cm/wordroutes/tracking-down-the-roots-of-a-super-word/

BUILDING OUR HISTORY: Lyman Hall

Corner of College Place
and University Avenue

Once called "SU's most overlooked architectural gem", Lyman Hall was almost lost to fire. Construction began in 1905 with a bequest from University trustee John Lyman in memory of his daughters, Mary and Jessie. When completed in 1907, the modified Renaissance style building housed the Departments of Biology, Botany, Geology, Zoology, Psychology and Geography. In 1930, a Natural History Museum was installed on the fourth floor, only to be lost to a fire on January 11, 1937 that destroyed the building's top floor, roof, most of the museum's collections and the research materials of several professors. Restoration in September 1937 included the replacement of a central tower topped by a version of the ancient Roman temple of Venus at Baalbek, located in present-day Lebanon.

The Archives maintains a listing of SU buildings, past and present, on our web site at archives.syr.edu/buildings/.



Lyman Hall shown ca. 1910 [Archives Image 10-0853]

Dean J. Herman Wharton Papers

iSchool graduate student Sean Molinaro has been working in the University Archives since May. He has been processing and creating EAD finding aids for collections, including the Dean J. Herman Wharton Papers. Here he describes these papers in his own words.



Dean J. Herman Wharton, Class of 1911 [Archives Image 07-0213]

J. Herman Wharton's life was closely tied to Syracuse University. It was there that he received undergraduate and graduate degrees, led numerous student organizations, taught as a professor across multiple disciplines, served as an administrator, and founded one of the University's most successful colleges. His death was also closely tied to Syracuse University—he was murdered in his office by an instructor of the college he founded.

After quickly making a strong impression on University administration through his work as a professor and administrator, Wharton approached Syracuse University in 1918 about creating a new College of Business Administration. Though the University trusted his vision, administrators offered him almost no resources with which to realize it. However, Wharton said he needed nothing more than a room and desk.

Named the dean of the new college, Wharton would get his room and desk, but little else. The college received almost no publicity, but Wharton's resourceful approach to administration helped immediately secure impressive enrollment numbers. Within a few short months, it was one of the University's most popular

programs, growing faster than the University could accommodate.

In 1921, this bright career came to a dark end. Wharton was meeting with an instructor of the College of Business Administration whom he had recently asked to resign. The instructor, deeply troubled and embittered, shot and killed Wharton and himself. The tragic incident attracted much attention and was covered in numerous newspapers, including the *New York Times*.

The J. Herman Wharton Papers at the Syracuse University Archives illustrate a simpler side of Wharton's life. The collection does not hold any materials documenting the administrative work to which Wharton dedicated himself. Instead, it contains many of his personal photographs of things he enjoyed at Syracuse University as well as the thesis he wrote as a young man, complete with annotated criticisms from those reviewing it. There is also a speech Wharton gave to members of the local business community, a community from which he often sought advice. The papers do not include the kind of things one would find in the sensationalist newspaper articles that were written about his death. These are the personal memories and works of a man who was well liked and highly admired by those who had the chance to know him in his tragically short life.

The J. Herman Wharton Papers finding aid is online at archives.syr.edu/collections/faculty/sua_Wharton_jh.htm

A Cataloging Partnership

Recently the University Archives and the SU Library embarked on a new partnership. Cataloger Sarah Theimer has been assisting us in getting some of our collections into the Library's online catalog, which can be found at library.syr.edu. We are able to use an open-source software called MarcEdit to pull information from our EAD finding aids and create MARC (machine-readable cataloging) records. We send those records to Sarah, who tweaks them and then loads them to the Library's online catalog. We're thrilled because this is one more way researchers in the SU community and beyond can find our collections. Unfortunately, we don't have a lot of EAD (Encoded Archival Description) finding aids online right now. But slowly their numbers are increasing—which means more records for the Library's catalog.

QR Code Update

In the Fall 2011 issue of *Access the Archives* unveiled its QR Code Buildings project, where a QR code was created for every building webpage on the Archives' website and placed on the entrance to the building. Over the last year additional codes have been placed on athletic complex buildings, South Campus buildings and off-campus buildings near campus, as well as those in New York City, Washington D.C. and the Adirondacks. These codes are intended to supplement campus walking tours by providing information on the histories of campus buildings. So, the next time you find yourself walking around campus, take a moment to snap our codes and learn a little more about our buildings, old and new!

The Archives listing of SU buildings, past and present, is on our web site at archives.syr.edu/buildings/.



QR code on entrance to Bird Library



Several of our students working in University Archives

Gifts and Donations

The Archives benefits from the generosity of the Syracuse University community. Donations of documents, scrapbooks, photographs, and memorabilia that help to tell the story of the University, its students, faculty, and staff are always welcome. If you have materials to donate, please contact the University Archivist, Ed Galvin, at 315-443-9760 or at elgalvin@syr.edu.

In addition, funding opportunities exist that help the Archives with its efforts to process and preserve the history of SU. To discuss ways to financially support the Archives contact Michael Mattson, Executive Director, Office of Gift Planning, at 315-443-4414 or at mlmattso@syr.edu.