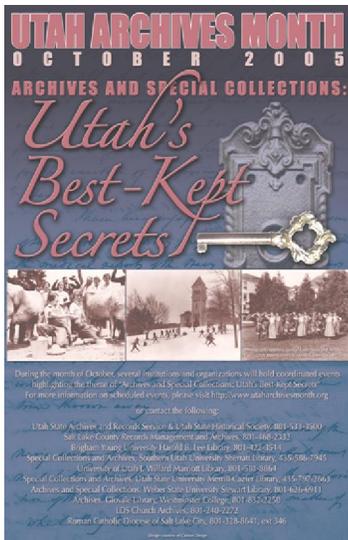


# For the Record

A Newsletter of the  
Utah State Archives



Utah Archives and Special  
Collections Libraries to celebrate  
Archives Month in October



Archives and records repositories throughout the Beehive State will observe Utah Archives Month during October 2005. The theme is "Archives: Utah's Best-Kept Secrets." Events include historical lectures by prominent scholars; tours of participating repositories; and family history classes. Governor Jon M. Huntsman Jr. will issue a Utah Archives Month

declaration.

Utah Archives Month Poster  
The Utah State Archives and Utah State Historical Society jointly will observe "Archives Month" in October with a series of free research classes on Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 1:00 p.m. Wednesday classes will be held in the Zephyr meeting room on the second floor of the north wing of the historic Rio Grande Depot at 300 S. Rio Grande Street (455 West) while Friday sessions are scheduled in the courtyard meeting room of the adjacent State Archives building at 346 S. Rio Grande Street. Free parking is available in the lot immediately north of the Rio Grande Depot. For information, please contact the Utah Historical Society information desk at 533-3500 or send email to [historyresearch@utah.gov](mailto:historyresearch@utah.gov).

The October "Research at Noon" class schedule follows.

**Wednesday, Oct. 5:** "Opening the Vault: An Introduction to the Resources Provided by the Utah State Archives and Utah State Historical Society," presented by Jim Kichas, Gina Strack, Doug Misner, and Greg Walz.

**Friday, Oct. 7:** "How Records Get Here: Acquiring Records at the State Archives." presented by Pat Scott, Janell Tuttle, and Rosemary Cundiff.

**Wednesday, Oct. 12:** "Wake the Dead: Family History

Resources at the Utah History Research Center" presented by Melissa Ferguson and Jim Kichas.

**Friday, Oct. 14:** "Peoples of Utah: Multicultural Resources at the Utah History Research Center" presented by Doug Misner and Gina Strack.

**Wednesday, Oct. 19:** "Archives for Discovery and Enhancement of Family History" presented by Holly Hansen (president, My Ancestors Found).

**Friday, Oct. 21:** Anniversary of the Bombings Related to the Mark Hofmann Forgeries presented by George J. Throckmorton (forensic documents examiner, director of the Salt Lake Police Department Crime Lab). **Wednesday, Oct. 26:** "Researching Your Historic Home" presented by Alan Barnett.

**Friday, Oct. 28:** "Preserving Local Government Records: The Millennial Project, 1999-2005" presented by Pat Scott and Stuart Preece.

Tours of the archives building and remodeled depot and demonstrations of the archives building's new automated storage and retrieval system are also planned. The Utah History Research Center at the historic Rio Grande Depot is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., accommodating anyone who wishes to perform research before or after the brown bag lectures.

A Governors exhibit of items relating to of Utah's five most recent chief executives (Scott M. Matheson, Norman H. Bangerter, Michael O. Leavitt, Olene S. Walker, and Jon M. Huntsman Jr.) is also planned at the Rio Grande Depot during October.

A schedule of Archives Month events statewide is posted on the Utah Archives Month web site, [www.utaharchivesmonth.org](http://www.utaharchivesmonth.org).

Other participating institutions include the Utah State Historical Society, Salt Lake County Records Management and Archives, University of Utah Marriott Library Special Collections, Utah State University Merrill-Cazier Library Special Collections and Archives, Weber State University Stewart Library Archives and Special Collections, Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library Special Collections, Southern Utah University Library Special Collections, Westminster College Giovale Library, Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City, and the Family and Church History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Message from the Utah State Archivist  
*Division of Archives recovers missing document offered for sale by auction house*

By Patricia Smith-Mansfield  
 Director

The mission of the Utah State Archives “is to assist Utah government agencies in the efficient management of their records, to preserve those records of enduring value, and to provide quality access to public information.”

When the Archives preserves Utah’s important government records, it preserves Utah’s history. Historical records are preserved in order that they may be made available to the public for research and review.



Outlaw Matt Warner  
 Photo courtesy of the Utah State Historical Society

When preserving the historical record, it is also important to maintain the context: Who created the records, how and when they were created are all key elements to the historical story. When part of the record is missing, then the complete history is not available.

The State Archives was fortunate this summer in recovering a piece of the historical record after an alert researcher in Nevada found it listed for sale in an online auction.



Governor Heber M. Wells  
 Photo courtesy of the Utah State Historical Society

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The State Archives was fortunate this summer in recovering a piece of the historical record after an alert researcher in Nevada found it listed for sale in an online auction.

Richard E. Johnston of Reno, Nevada, a photographer for the Nevada Department of Transportation, was doing an Internet search in March when he came across a listing for a two-page letter from outlaw Willard E. Christiansen (a.k.a. Matt Warner, a member of Butch Cassidy’s infamous “Wild Bunch”)

to Utah Governor Heber M. Wells written on March 1, 1900. The sale price was \$5,999. Johnston recognized the letter as something he’d seen some 30 years earlier while

doing research at the Utah State Archives in the mid 1970s. He recalled that then it was part of Governor Wells’ collection. He doubted that the Archives would sell such a letter and wrote an email to advise the Archives and suggest that the Archives look into the matter.

Archivists compared the hard copy of the Wells correspondence with microfilm from May 4, 1981. The letter was included on the microfilm copy but the original paper copy was missing.

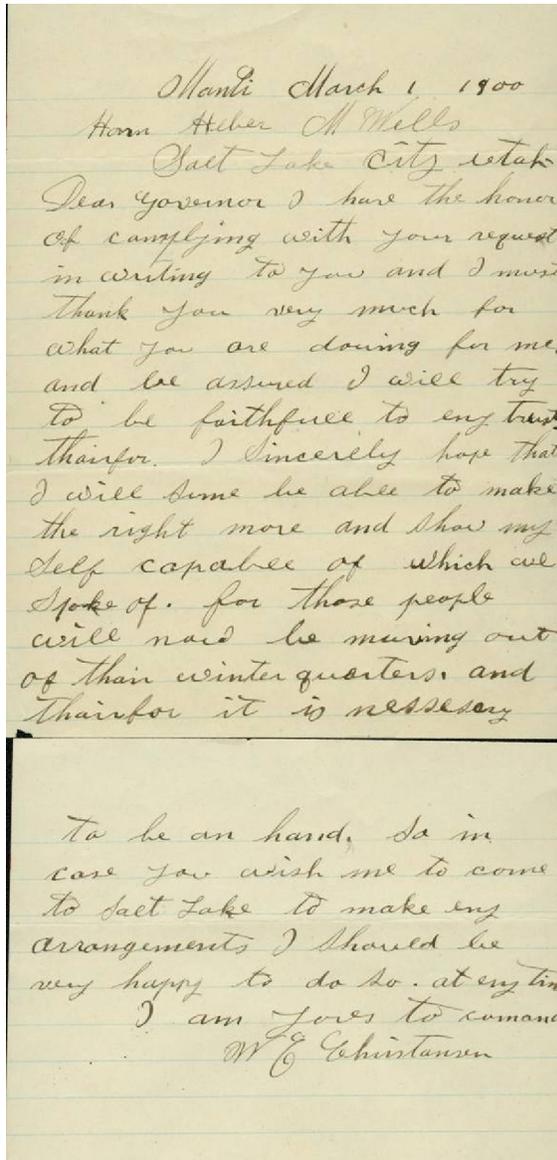
In follow up with the Nevada auction house, it was pleased to return the letter to its stewards at the Utah State Archives and its historical context. What makes this return more noteworthy is that as part of Governor Wells’ correspondence, the letters’ role in history becomes more complete. In fact, Governor Wells’ answer to outlaw Willard E. Christiansen is also found in the records.

The Archives thanks Mr. Johnston for his watchfulness and assistance. Johnston wrote: “It is a crime that material is being stolen from so many archives for it deprives future researcher’s insight into the past.”

Johnston hopes that publicizing the matter “might either deter thefts or make the public and researchers online more aware of the problem...”

“It makes me feel good to have saved that one document.”

It makes the staff and patrons at Utah State Archives feel good as well.



Letter from W.E. Christiansen recovered by the State Archives.

*Judicial Records Preservation and Access Project under way*

A project to accelerate implementation of a long-term plan to identify and preserve historical judicial records statewide throughout Utah as well as increase public awareness of the value and availability of these records is under way. Archivists anticipate that improved public access will stimulate interest in and dramatically boost use of historical court records.

The Utah Judicial Records Preservation and Access Project will target historical judicial records in Utah created prior to

1955 for archival processing (arrangement and description) and preservation microfilming. Included are probate, civil, and criminal records. The total volume of court records statewide (number of books, cubic feet, and microfilm reels) is unknown because holdings are widely dispersed among the Utah State Archives and the 29 district courts (one per county).

The overall goal is to increase access and security by archivally processing historical court records for the district courts statewide. Through preliminary inventories of the holdings of district courts in each county, the Utah State Archives will gain intellectual control over these valuable records and begin to relieve confusion for researchers and

reference staff members and make the records more accessible to researchers.

To better manage the project, a multi-phase effort is planned. The initial phase involves archivally processing records for eight counties from three judicial districts in northern Utah. The volume of court records in phase I includes 663 books, 622 cubic feet of paper records, and 3,453 microfilm reels.

Court records are among the documents most frequently requested by researchers

using the Utah History Research Center, a facility operated jointly by the Utah State Archives and the Utah State Historical Society. Judicial records in general, and the archivally processed records of the Third Judicial District, Salt Lake County, in particular, are used on a daily basis by a variety of researchers ranging from historians performing in-depth research (involving such topics as divorce or polygamy) to genealogists tracing family trees to one-time users seeking a copy of their divorce decree as documentation supporting a claim for benefits. Court records use accounts for an estimated 20–25 percent of the total number of research center requests.

By microfilming all court records, whether in the custody of the State Archives or the district courts, the records will be accessible through the Utah History Research Center, a facility which is set up to handle public requests (unlike the courts which primarily serve the legal system). Duplicate microfilm copies will make it possible for multiple research centers around the state to provide access to patrons. This arrangement relieves the courts which have limited space and time of having to provide public access.

Long-term preservation is another goal. Identifying historical court records and accounting for them through an inventory makes it possible for them to be preserved. Because of the fragile state of historic court records, repeated handling should be eliminated. Microfilming does away with the need for researchers to use original records.



Beaver County Courthouse  
Photo courtesy UtahReach.org.

## Archives accessions court records

In July records analysis archivist Rosemary Cundiff and processing/reference archivist Jim Kichas inventoried the historic records of the Utah State Supreme Court. Their work uncovered an extremely valuable set of records which includes Supreme Court Minute Books (1859–1987), the Supreme Court Registers of Action (1861–1985), Record of Opinion Books (1877–1894), and two separate docket books (one from the Territorial Supreme Court and the other from the Territorial First District Court), both of which cover the timeframe between 1851 and 1857.

After arranging these records and creating a basic series level inventory, Rosemary and Jim were allowed to remove the records from the Supreme Court for transfer to the Utah State Archives in August of this year. Subsequently all of the records have been moved and are currently being processed and microfilmed for use in the Utah History Research Center. When available these books will be of immense research value as they include records related to a number of high profile court cases from Utah's past including an 1857 slave running case involving Pedro Leone, the 1877 appeal of John D. Lee regarding the fairness of his trial in conjunction to his role in



Historic Utah Supreme Court docket books

the Mountain Meadows Massacre, and a number of high profile polygamy cases that help tell the unique story of a colorful period in Utah's history.

In July and August

2005 Utah State Archives accessioned civil and probate case files for Utah State Fourth District Court (Utah County) and for the Southern Division of the federal First District Court, which served Utah and neighboring counties during Utah's Territorial period. Provo was the court seat. First District Court probate records and civil cases files date back to the 1860s. The earliest First District Court docket book begins in 1852. The total volume of this acquisition is about 560 cubic feet of case files and an additional 350 volumes of court minutes, registers of actions and indexes. Archives staff anticipates that these acquisitions will be of great value to future researchers interested in Utah County.

## Records Management training sessions scheduled

The Utah State Archives offers monthly basic records management training to state and local governments. Training

sessions are designed to provide Records Officers and those who help manage government records with a basic understanding of how agencies can better manage their records and comply with the Government Records Access and Management Act (U.C.A. 63-2-101).

We also offer more advanced GRAMA training. These sessions give more in-depth information about records classification, access to records, the State Records Committee, and the GRAMA appeals process.

All training sessions will be held at the Utah State Archives, Courtyard Meeting Room, 346 South Rio Grande Street (455 West) in Salt Lake City. To register for one of the following training sessions visit <http://archives.utah.gov/recmanag/training.htm>.

#### Basic Records Management Training Schedule

State Agency Training: Nov. 16 (Wed.), 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
 Local Government Comprehensive Workshop: Oct. 27 (Thurs.), 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
 Law Enforcement: Nov. 1 (Tues.), 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

#### GRAMA Training Schedule

State Agency Training: Oct. 18 (Tues.), 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon  
 Local Government Training: Oct. 18 (Tues.), 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Two additional on-site training sessions are also offered:  
 Comprehensive/Basic in Moab: Oct. 11 (Tues.), 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### *Utah State Archives staff news*

**Steven Tibbits** observed his fifth anniversary with the State Archives June 5 while Elizabeth Perkes noted fifteen years with the division on September 29.

**Anthony “Tony” Castro** was hired as a microfilm camera operator on August 15. Tony is a native of San Jose, California, and graduated with distinction in geography from San Jose State University. He began his career at the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, California, and then worked in the private sector for a couple of digital mapping companies in the San Francisco Bay area. Later, he worked in municipal government for the City of San Jose Planning and Building Department. Tony spent the last ten years in Carson City, Nevada, as a library assistant working in the capacity of Hispanic Services coordinator. He moved in early August to the opposite end of the Great Basin to join family and friends in Utah. He feels very fortunate to work in the Utah State Archives and hopes to have a long career contributing to this vital institution.

**Justin McFadden** was hired as a records analyst on August 29. Justin previously worked as a librarian at the law firm of Ray Quinney & Nebeker for six years. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in history from the University of Utah. In June he earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University

of Washington, through their distance MLIS program. During his studies at UW, Justin's greatest interests were in government publications, information behavior, and research methods. Justin will work with the following state agencies: Department of Commerce, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Financial Institutions, Department of Human Services, Labor Commission, Utah Technology Finance Corporation, and Department of Workforce Services.

**Ashley Lynne Arave**, a senior history major at the University of Utah, was hired as an intern September 8. Ashley will execute general administrative responsibilities associated with the Utah State Historical Records Advisory Board (USHRAB). The position requires Ashley to perform research, send out periodic mailings, record minutes of quarterly board meetings, etc., which assist the board in carrying out its programs. The internship will cover two semesters (200 hours per semester). Ashley has worked in the photograph archives in the special collections department at the J. Willard Marriott Library and is interested in a career as a preservation archivist. She resides in Ogden.

**Patricia Smith-Mansfield**, director of State Archives, and **Janell Tuttle**, records analyst, attended the 2005 National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) Annual Meeting held in Richmond, Virginia, July 20-23. There were a variety of sessions dealing with electronic records issues, such as preserving long term and permanent records and whether to digitize or microfilm records. Sessions stressed that digitization is a great tool for access to records and that microfilm is great for preservation. The plenary session was given by Dr. Allen Weinstein, newly appointed Archivist of the United States. He stated that the National Archives was willing to work with the states in cooperative projects.

As the director of State Archives, **Patricia Smith-Mansfield** attended sessions presented by the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators (OCSHRC). These sessions covered topics such as states working together with the National Archives and an analysis of recently completed surveys pertaining to state archives and records programs. The conference was a great way to see how other states are handling electronic records and how to improve our records management. Council members also had their annual business meeting during which COSHRC voted to change the name of the organization to the Council of State Archivists (CoSA). The new, more descriptive name will help the Council with its increasingly visible work in outreach and advocacy. The Council's new name retains links to the old, but provides a more concrete image for those outside the archival profession – an important asset as the group continues its work on the behalf of the nation's historical records. The change becomes effective October 1, 2005.

Reference archivists from the Utah State Archives, librarians from the Utah State Historical Society, and volunteers from the Family History Library all were on hand in the Utah History Research Center on Saturday, August 20, to

assist people with genealogical research. The occasion was Ferragosto 2005, Salt Lake City's third annual Italian Cultural Street Fair. Many fairgoers took advantage of the opportunity to use the combined resources of the State Archives and State Historical Society and the expertise of skilled researchers to assist them in furthering their family history pursuits. The Historical Society also hosted various presentations about the history of Italians in Utah at the historic Rio Grande Depot. Ferragosto 2005 was organized by the Italian Center of the West. Other fair events were held on Rio Grande Street and Pioneer Park in Salt Lake City.

Reference supervisor **Alan Barnett** was recognized as the Utah State Archives' "employee of the year" September 7 at the annual Department of Administrative Services (DAS) awards presentation and picnic. The DAS quality service awards are presented to those "displaying a commitment to quality customer service, creativity in identifying problems and solutions, and dedication to efficiency in government." Alan has been with the archives since September 2003. Alan's award was presented by Patricia Smith-Mansfield, director of the Division of Archives, who complimented his work in coordinating the opening of the new Utah History Research Center with the Utah State Historical Society. Alan, working in partnership with Terry Ellis of Salt Lake County Records Management and Archives, presented a workshop on "Research Opportunities in State and Local Records" during the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in Salt Lake City, September 10. Approximately 130 attended the session.

A strong contingent of employees representing the Utah State Archives attended the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists' Utah fall caucus meeting in Salt Lake City, September 15. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Utah State Historical Society's annual meeting, September 15-17. **Alan Barnett** and **Stuart Preece** participated in a panel discussion on "Construction and Moving Archives." **James Kichas** served on the program committee and introduced panelists. Two employees made presentations at the annual meeting September 16. **Rosemary Cundiff** displayed "Images of the Thistle Disaster" from the Utah Department of Transportation Official photographs series. **Patricia Lyn Scott's** presentation was titled, "In the Interest of Women: The Women's Board and Westminster College, 1902-2005."

Two archivists from the Utah State Archives have been invited to address members of the Southwestern Association of Forensic Document Examiners (SWAFDE) seminar on Sunday, October 16. **Patricia Smith-Mansfield**, state archivist, and **Brandon Metcalf**, processing and reference archivist, will explain how historic records are processed and outline routine preservation measures. SWAFDE will also host an all-day seminar entitled "The Hands of Hofmann: Motive for Murder," an in-depth analysis of the crimes of Mark Hofmann, held at the Red Lion Hotel on Saturday, October 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., which is open to the public. The cost is \$40 per person. The seminar is described

as a "comprehensive study of the criminal investigation surrounding the Mark Hofmann bombs and forgeries, and the Salamander Letter. For the first and probably the last time, we will bring together prosecutors, investigators, victims, historians, and forensic document examiners to discuss their involvement in this investigation and answer your questions. Speakers include the people who solved the most sophisticated crime in Utah's history. Now after 20 years you will hear the facts; no more rumors." The meetings are being organized by George J. Throckmorton (forensic documents examiner, director of the Salt Lake Police Department Crime Lab).



*Artist donates "Tartan stones", Archives observes anniversary*



Frank Maurer

Frank Maurer, a stone carver from California, donated a pair of "Tartan stones" hand carved from native granite featuring Utah's state symbols to the Utah State Archives on August 2. Mr. Maurer previously made presentations to state archives in California, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada, and visited Wyoming following his Utah stop. Coincidentally, the date of Maurer's visit to Salt Lake City was the one-year anniversary of

the date the archives staff began moving into the new State Archives building adjacent to the historic Rio Grande Depot. Archives staff members planned a ceremony encompassing both events. During his Utah stay, Maurer also visited students at Magna Elementary School in Magna and demonstrated his stone carving technique dressed in a Scottish kilt.

*GRAMA Task Force examines records issues*

The 2005 Legislature created the Government Records Access and Management Act Task Force to review GRAMA and, in accordance with HB 75, make recommendations concerning various electronic records issues (i.e., manipulation of data, market based fees), personal data, and

other identified issues. The joint Task Force is co-chaired by Representative Douglas C. Aagard (Kaysville) and Senator David L. Thomas (South Weber) and is required to submit a final report in November. It has already held meetings in May, June, July, and September and has taken public testimony on a various issues. Other meetings have been scheduled for October 18, and November 8. Information on the Task Force, including its agenda, background materials, and minutes, is available on the legislative website: <http://le.utah.gov/asp/interim/Commit.asp?Year=2005&Com=TSKGRA>.

### *Archives suspends destruction of obsolete records not stored at Records Center*

Because the destruction schedule is already booked solid, the Utah State Archives Records Center is unable to accept any obsolete agency records not already stored at the temporary storage facility for destruction. State and local government agencies are encouraged to contact Wasatch Energy directly at 801-771-3032. Revised records destruction procedures should be in place by the time the practice resumes next summer.

