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Did You Know:

In the past four years, Mason has added 40 new programs at the master's and doctoral level.



Catherine A. Baum, '81 and husband Mark Baum overlooking Lake Anne in Reston, VA.

Mason Alumna's Significant Gift Supports Collections in Planned Communities and New Towns

During the past several years, Catherine A. Baum, '81, has given nearly \$60,000 to support the University Libraries' collections in planned communities and new towns. The core of the Planned Community Archives (PCA) Collection is comprised of materials associated with the history of Reston, Va., where Baum has lived for more than 30 years.

Baum, who graduated from Mason with a degree in management, has been in the real estate and home building business for over 20 years. She is president of the Washington division of Drees Homes. Previously, she was executive vice president of Stanley Martin, and vice president of sales and marketing for John Laing Homes.

"Ms. Baum's generosity will be put to good work," says University Librarian John Zenelis. "A portion of the funds will immediately go toward selective digitization of the core of the Libraries' PCA Collection focusing on Reston, which is clearly a community of great significance for Ms. Baum. This gift allows us to immediately apply resources to scan and digitize materials so that they are available to researchers and the public via the Web 24/7."

Remaining funds have been placed in an endowment to support the collection in the future, including acquisition of primary source materials focusing on new towns and planned communities.

"Through the endowment, the PCA Collection will have a dedicated base of financial resources, thus ensuring that it remains one of the Libraries' outstanding and frequently accessed collections," Zenelis says.

As a student at W.T. Woodson High School in Fairfax, Baum went on a tour of Reston in 1967 as part of a government class. Reston founder Robert E. Simon, Jr. conducted the tour, and Baum says she knew then that someday she would return to Reston to live. "It was just the perfect place, a place that was interested in bringing adventurous people to the community."

Recently, the Libraries' Oral History Program conducted an oral interview with Baum, who recounted Reston's early years and what drew her back to Reston after spending time working in Brussels, Belgium.

"The idea that you could walk everywhere, the small town-ness, and the adventure of thinking that you were starting something brand new" is what attracted her. More important, however, was that Reston was one of the few places a single woman could purchase a home. "At that time, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act had not been passed, so it was very difficult for a woman to get a mortgage. Gulf Oil Co. owned Reston and they had their own mortgage company. So they were much more willing to forgive the fact that it was a woman buying because they wanted to help women; they wanted to help minorities buy a home."

For more information about the Libraries' collections on new towns and planned communities, go to <http://www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections/PCA.html>.

See related stories on the Libraries' Planned Community Archives Collection on page 7, and the Libraries' digitization efforts on page 2.

—Adriana Ercolano



Message from the University Librarian

Dear Friends,

The 2005-06 academic year is well under way, marking another year of activities and accomplishments across the university as well as the libraries.

I am pleased to share with you in this issue the Librarian's Report for Fiscal Year 2004-05. As you will see, it was a truly outstanding year for the libraries. We have made tremendous strides in increasing the level of private support that we can count on to serve Mason's educational and research needs. Four years ago, we had only 150 donors. This past year, I am pleased to report that we counted nearly 1,000 donors among our friends and supporters. Gifts from alumni, faculty and staff, parents, friends, corporations, and foundations have given us the means to expand our resources, services and programs, thereby elevating the libraries' visibility and ability to serve the academic community.

Private support allows us to go beyond "normal" services. It makes it possible to undertake ambitious programming such as digitizing some of our more important collections not only for Mason's benefit, but also for the broader community of higher education and scholarship worldwide. Several articles in this issue of *Full-Text* illustrate our activities and commitment in this vital area.

We have made steady progress, but we know there is still much more to do. With your continued support, we will propel the libraries toward our goal of becoming a first-class research library.

—John Zenelis

Digitizing Collections for Preservation and Access

The George Mason University Libraries have increased efforts to digitize rare or important collections to make them more available to students, faculty, staff, and the public. Digitizing consists of restoring and scanning manuscripts, documents, and images, and then storing them in an electronic archive that can be accessed by people anywhere in the world. The existence of an electronic archive ensures unlimited access via the Internet. Because the need for individuals to come into the libraries to browse the actual collections is reduced, digitizing is also instrumental in theft prevention and preservation of original documents.

Two collections presently being selectively digitized by graduate history students are the Planned Community Achieves (PCA) Collection and the C. Harrison Mann, Jr. Collection. The records contained in the PCA Collection were assembled by Planned Community Archives, Inc., a nonprofit organization, and cover the years 1961 to 2005. The collection contains historical records of Reston, Va., and other planned communities in the United States as well as overseas, and includes correspondence, reports, minutes of meetings, newsletters, newspapers, publicity, maps, architectural drawings, slides, videotapes, and photographs. (See related story, page 7.)



C. Harrison Mann, Jr. c. 1960 by James R. Dunlap

a year. In terms of man hours alone, the costs associated with digitizing a large collection are staggering. Private support from individuals, and grants from foundations and corporations, allow the George Mason University Libraries to continue these endeavors. Digitization of the C. Harrison Mann, Jr. Collection, the PCA Collection and future SC&A collections will allow for greater access to the George Mason University Libraries' original and rare documents and ensure the safety and preservation of these collections for future generations.

All of the George Mason University Libraries' currently digitized collections can be found at: <http://www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections/digitize.html>.

—Rebecca Forrest



Graduate students in history Carrie Bowers (above) and Carrie Hoover (below), work on selecting and digitizing important materials from the Libraries' special collections.



The C. Harrison Mann, Jr. Collection comprises personal papers related to the political career of "Hank" Mann, Jr. who represented Arlington in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1954 to 1970. The collection includes memoranda, campaign materials, speeches, news clippings, and even a handwritten draft of his history of George Mason University. Mann was instrumental in the founding of Mason. Among his many other public policy concerns, he was dedicated to remedying transportation issues in Northern Virginia and the surrounding metropolitan area.



c. 1960 bumper sticker. C. Harrison Mann, Jr. was committed to improving traffic conditions in Northern Virginia, and championed roads such as I-66 and the widening of Shirley Highway (I-395). Not all projects Mann promoted were built, such as the I-266 spur to the proposed Three Sisters Bridge.

Did You Know: In FY 2006, 35 percent (\$2.03 million) of the University Libraries' research materials budget will go toward journals.

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Focus on the Collections: The Planned Community Archives Collection

Among the Mason Libraries' largest holdings is a unique and highly accessed collection known as the Planned Community Archives Collection (PCA Collection). The PCA Collection is comprised of primary and secondary source materials that chart the history of the planned communities movement worldwide. The PCA Collection is particularly strong in its documentation of the history of Reston, Va., a planned community in Fairfax County. The collection includes Reston-related oral histories, architectural plans, photographic images, newspapers, and records of civic organizations.

In addition to Reston, the PCA Collection contains information from planned communities and new towns from across the nation as well as communities in Israel, Russia, and France. All the major Internet search engines—Yahoo, Google, Netscape, and MSN—will yield a “number 1” result for this collection when using the term “planned community.”

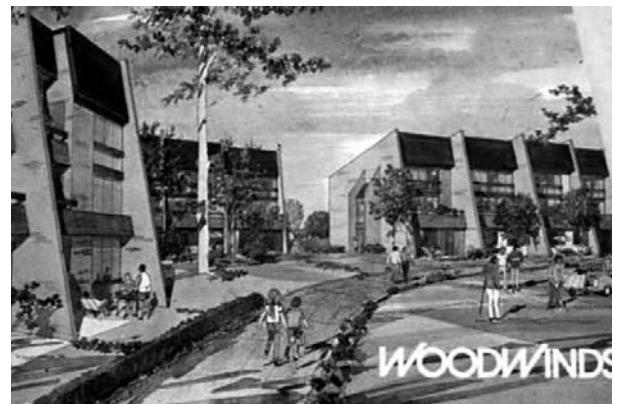
“What makes this a unique collection, in the truest sense of the word, is that no other collection like it exists,” says Paul Koda, head of the Libraries’ Special Collections & Archives. “Scholars from across the United States and from as far away as Japan have come to Mason to access these distinctive materials.” Scholarly research topics have included Reston’s architectural design; new towns in the United States in contrast to those in Europe; and financial considerations with the new town movement.

The Libraries’ PCA Collection owes its existence to the foresight of the founding members of Planned Communities Archives, Inc. (PCA, Inc.), a nonprofit corporation dedicated to improving the quality of community development in the United States. Contained within the Libraries’ PCA Collection are the papers of these prominent individuals such as Robert E. Simon, Jr., the founding developer of Reston; William Nicoson and Charles Veatch, two of PCA, Inc.’s founders; and Francis C. Steinbauer, former president of Reston Land Corp.

A number of terms, including “garden cities,” “new towns,” and “smart growth,” have been used to define the planned community movement. Planned communities tend to share a belief that planning should be carried out in an orderly fashion with concern for community values. In the United States, planned communities grew in popularity as a reaction against perceived suburban flaws such as cultural conformity, social isolation, unattractiveness, and environmental problems.

The PCA Collection, which continues to grow, currently contains approximately 675 linear feet (450 cubic feet) of research materials. Further digitization efforts are also under way; see related story on page 2. Online research guides are available for the PCA Collection at: <http://www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections/PCA.html>.

—Anne Hakes



The Woodwinds offered condominium housing just off of Soapstone Drive near the South Lakes area of Reston. This conceptual design envisions how residents might use walking trails and outdoor common areas.



Above: The kitchen from a model apartment in 1970; the wall-to-ceiling flowered wallpaper, dark cabinetry, and avocado-hued appliances reflect decor preferences of the day. In contrast, the kitchen below is from the winner of the “Best Small House” award in 1984. This kitchen followed the movement to create an open feeling with clean lines, white cabinetry, and lots of natural light.

Did You Know: Since FY 1998, annual expenditures for library electronic resources (databases, e-journals and e-books) have more than doubled to \$1.9 million.

Special Collections & Archives New Acquisitions:

Kingsbury, Susan Myra. *The Records of the Virginia Company of London*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1906.

Rayne, Martha Louise. *What a Woman Can Do, Or Her Position in the Business and Literary World*. New York: Eagle Publishing, 1893 (Rare Salesman's Sample Copy).

van Rensselaer, Mariana Griswold. *Henry Hobson Richardson and His Works*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1888.

Upcoming Events & Exhibits:

December—Recent Acquisitions of Chinese Language Books

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Early Spring—Fenwick Fellow Lecture

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