The Herschel H. Helm Jamestowne Collection

The Herschel H. Helm Jamestowne Collection consists of books that cover a range of content relating to the first permanent British colony in North America. The collection offers a wealth of social, political, and economic information for scholars of this historic time in American history.

This important and historically significant collection would not be possible without the financial support of the Washington and Northern Virginia Company of the Jamestowne Society. Founded in 1936, the society is composed of local Jamestowne companies whose members are descendants of the early Jamestown settlers. The Washington and Northern Virginia Company was founded in 1980 and currently has more than 100 members.

Herschel H. Helm, the collection’s namesake, led the Washington and Northern Virginia Company from 1980 to 1993. The company created the Helm collection to promote the study of the Jamestown colony and aid scholars and citizens alike.

Many of the titles are 19th-century texts, such as John Burk’s *The History of Virginia: From Its First Settlement to the Present Day* (1804). This comprehensive history of the commonwealth was the first of its kind published after the Revolutionary War and is one of the earliest imprints in the collection. The Helm collection also includes other 19th-century titles of note, including an 1865 reprint of *The History of the First Discovery and Settlement of Virginia* by Joseph Sabin and an 1887 copy of *Pocahontas and Her Descendants* by Wyndham Robertson.

The remainder of the collection comprises 20th-century materials and includes postcards commemorating Jamestown’s tercentenary in 1907. From *Virginia Wills & Administrations 1632–1800* (1965) to Robert S. Cope’s *Carry Me Back: Slavery and Servitude in Seventeenth Century Virginia* (1973), the Helm collection includes books that provide an overview of early Virginia history, as well as that of Jamestown.

For more information regarding the Herschel H. Helm Jamestowne Collection and the Washington and Northern Virginia Company of the Jamestowne Society, visit www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections/jamestowne.html.

—Christine Brindza
Message from the University Librarian

It always seems fitting to take a moment and reflect on the year’s accomplishments as the academic year draws to a close. This year is no different; in fact, 2007 even compels us to look backward.

The commonwealth of Virginia has undertaken a vigorous commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia. As we considered this important time in the nation’s history, we felt it would be timely to share with you the University Libraries’ Virginia-related collections. Some of these are traditional, including such items as books and maps, and others are more unusual, comprising postcards and films. Such an eclectic array of library holdings merely illustrates the range of resources we have on hand for the creative and imaginative work of Mason’s scholarly community.

We have taken the lead here in the university in recognizing Jamestown’s 400th anniversary. This past March, the University Libraries hosted a panel discussion moderated by the eminent Roger Wilkins, Robinson Professor of History and American Culture. He was joined by a distinguished panel, which addressed the legacy of Jamestown from traditionally unexplored angles. In fall 2007, the University Libraries will hold a second event: a discussion that will spotlight how Jamestown has been considered in films from the silent era to the present day.

The end of every academic year is always heralded with celebration, especially by degree recipients, whose years of dedication and hard work are now culminating. We in the University Libraries are likewise pleased to celebrate the creation of three new library endowments that will allow us to build our research collections well into the future. Information about these endowments is provided in this issue of Full Text.

I wish you all an enjoyable and restful summer.

—John G. Zenelis
University Librarian

The Legacy of Jamestowne

On the evening of March 6, 2007, the George Mason University Libraries hosted “The Legacy of Jamestowne,” a panel discussion commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia. The panel was moderated by Roger Wilkins, Clarence J. Robinson Professor of History and American Culture, and included Mason faculty members Randolph Scully and Rosemarie Zagarri (History) and James Snead (Anthropology).

The panel also featured Mason anthropology student Landon Yarrington who, at the age of 19, led the way to one of the most significant archaeological finds at historic Jamestown: a wine cellar complete with 10 unbroken glass wine bottles believed to have belonged to Francis Nicholson, governor of Virginia from 1698 to 1705. The distinguished panelists, along with the University Libraries, were pleased to have a student as accomplished as Yarrington participate in the discussion.

Among the audience of more than 150 persons were several members of the Washington and Northern Virginia Company of the Jamestowne Society, whose members can trace their lineage back to the original Jamestown settlers.

The event included an exhibit of rare books from the Herschel H. Helm Jamestowne Collection and rare maps from the C. Harrison Mann Jr. Map Collection. More information about the Helm Collection can be found on page 6, and more information about the Mann Map Collection can be found on page 4.

A video recording of the discussion is available for viewing in the University Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives. A copy is also available for general circulation in the Media Collection, Johnson Center Library.

—Rebecca Forrest
Three New Endowments Announced

One of the University Libraries’ highest priorities is to continually augment the scholarly resources available to Mason’s academic community—and a strong endowment is vital to achieving this goal. For this reason, the University Libraries are pleased to announce the creation of three new endowments: the Columbia National Real Estate Finance LLC Endowment, the Elizabeth Senda Endowment, and the Michael O. Terry Endowment. All three of these endowments will provide Mason’s academic community with library resources well into the future.

The Columbia National Real Estate Finance Endowment will be used to acquire library resources in the areas in which Columbia National does business—real estate and real estate finance.

“This endowment is unique for the University Libraries because it is the first established by a corporation,” says University Librarian John Zenelis. “It is for a rather specialized subject area, but one that is certainly of great significance given Northern Virginia’s overall development and real estate trends.” The endowment was established by Columbia National’s managing partner, J. Roger Edwards, who says that a gift to the University Libraries is a good investment in the future of business in the region.

The Elizabeth Senda Acquisitions Endowment was established by Joy R. Hughes, Mason’s vice president for information technology, in honor of her mother, Elizabeth Senda.

“Many Mason students are first-generation college students, children of parents who never went to college but who make many sacrifices so their children can have opportunities,” says Hughes. “I wanted to honor my mother in a way that would also honor all those other parents who motivate, inspire, and support their children’s degree aspirations.” Hughes’s mother, who despite being the algebra champion of Ohio, never went on to college because of family circumstances. The Senda Endowment will be used to acquire mathematics library resources, especially in undergraduate disciplines such as algebra, statistics, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus. Sharon Kerr, the University Libraries’ head of the collection development and preservation office says, “This endowment will enhance the foundational texts for undergraduate research in mathematics and benefit students now and for many years to come.”

The Michael O. Terry Endowment was established by Mr. and Mrs. Owen Terry in memory of their son, Michael Terry, who passed away unexpectedly in 2005. Terry was the physical sciences liaison librarian at Mason. The endowment will support acquisition of library research materials in subject areas and disciplines that reflect his varied and eclectic interests, including environmental science and policy; Japanese history, language, and culture; American and English literature (particularly Herman Melville); music (classical and jazz); and sports and roller coasters.

“This endowment is particularly distinctive because it reflects Mike’s multifaceted passions and varied talents,” says Jamie Coniglio, who was Terry’s supervisor and is head of the Fenwick Library Reference Department.

“Mike was an exceptional librarian and a dedicated colleague,” says Zenelis. He expressed appreciation to the Terrys for establishing this memorial endowment, adding, “We are honored to always remember Mike and his dedication to Mason’s students and faculty. We know he would be proud of the new items added to the library’s collection in his name.”

Endowments are becoming more and more important because they fill the gap between shrinking public support and the skyrocketing costs of library research materials. Ongoing income from endowments provides the steady support required to build collections despite fluctuations in state funding and costs of scholarly resources. The University Libraries are grateful for these opportunities to honor donor wishes, while at the same time supporting Mason’s academic community well into the future.
The George Mason University Libraries have recently digitized the C. Harrison Mann Jr. Map Collection, which features historical maps dating from 1607 to 1825. Given to the University Libraries in September 1978 by the family of C. Harrison Mann Jr., the collection includes 96 maps and 18 rare atlases dating from the 16th to 19th centuries. The maps represent mostly Virginia and the early New World but also contain images of the British Isles.

Mann (1908–77) was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1954 to 1970. An early proponent of higher education in Northern Virginia, Mann is recognized as one of the founders of George Mason University. He worked to win legislative approval for a branch college of the University of Virginia in Northern Virginia in 1953 and served as a member of the George Mason University Board of Visitors from 1975 to 1977.

For more information regarding the C. Harrison Mann Jr. Map Collection, visit www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections/mannmaps.html.

—Robert Vay

**Nova Terrae-Marie Tabula**
Map of Maryland by John Ogilby (1600-1676) published in 1671 illustrating 17th-century parts of Virginia and New Jersey.
Nova Orbis Tabula in Lucem Edita
Map of the New World, by A. F. De wit, ca. 1670 depicting eastern and western hemispheres surrounded by images of the seasons, elements, and mythological figures.

A Draught of Virginia
Map of Chesapeake Bay Area of Virginia, Mark Tiddeman, London, 1758. Map depicts 18th-century Tidewater and Chesapeake Bay area of Virginia.
Over the past year, the University Libraries acquired copies of all extant popular dramatic films related to Jamestown and associated topics, such as Pocahontas and Captain John Smith, as part of the University Libraries’ commemoration of Jamestown 400. These films range from the 1908 silent film Pocahantas [sic] by the Edison Manufacturing Company to the recently released The New World (2005), which was filmed close to the original Jamestown site on Virginia’s middle peninsula.

In fall 2007, the University Libraries will use this collection to examine how Jamestown, Pocahontas, and Captain John Smith have been presented on film throughout the years.

“It was important to acquire these films not just for this event, but also for the future benefit of Mason’s Film and Media Studies Program. We believe Mason will have one of the most complete dramatic film collections on this topic,” says University Librarian John Zenelis.

Studying films about Jamestown reveals how perceptions and attitudes about this important time in American history have been expressed through film over the years. The images, taken from films in the collection, illustrate how several figures central to the story of Jamestown have been interpreted by directors, actors, and illustrators.

—Rebecca Forrest

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES JAMESTOWN FILM COLLECTION**


The University Libraries wish to thank Steven Higgins, chief curator of the Film Department at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, for providing a copy of Pocahontas [sic]: A Child of the Forest (1908), and Jerry Hatfield in the Public Services Office, Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., for providing a copy of Jamestown (1923).
Postcards That Say More Than “Wish You Were Here”

Randolph H. Lytton, professor of history at Mason, traces Northern Virginia’s rich past through an unusual medium—picture postcards. Through his donation of almost 200 postcards to the University Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Lytton is now able to share this extraordinary resource with others.

The Randolph H. Lytton Historical Postcards of Fairfax, Virginia, Collection, to which Lytton is continually adding, show a rapidly changing landscape and provide unique insight into the City of Fairfax’s development. The postcards, mostly dating from 1900 to 1970, depict a variety of major Fairfax landmarks, such as government buildings, churches, public schools, and war memorials. Numerous postcards feature popular restaurants, some still in operation, such as the 29 Diner and Streamliner Restaurant. Other businesses depicted on the postcards, such as Charles F. Broadwater’s store and Ade’s Camp Comfort, have fallen prey to the region’s massive growth and are now just memories.

The collection consists of unmarked and cancelled postcards and features both monochrome and color images. Other postcards in the collection reflect the history of the postcard as an advertising tool.

Lytton and his wife, Ellen, have established the Randolph and Ellen Lytton Special Collections Endowment to support the collection, which can be viewed at www.aladin.wrlc.org/gsdl/collect/lytton/lytton.shtml.

—Veronica Fletcher

Charles F. (Fox) Broadwater’s store was located west of the Fairfax Cemetery near the present-day intersection of Main Street and Rail Road Avenue in Fairfax, Virginia. This postcard ad is from 1913.

Above: Randolph Lytton
Left: Ade’s Camp Comfort, U.S. Routes 211-50 and 29
Upcoming Events and Exhibits
Visit library.gmu.edu for updated information.

Fall for the Book
September 23–28, 2007
fallforthebook.org

Jamestown Film Event
October 10, 2007
How have Jamestown, Pocahontas, and Captain John Smith been presented through film?

Pocahontas (Jody Lawrance) saves John Smith (Anthony Dexter) in Lew Landers's 1953 film, Captain John Smith and Pocahontas.

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To learn more about the Virginia-related collections in Special Collections & Archives, please visit www.gmu.edu/library/specialcollections.