ANNUAL MEETING REVIEWS FEDERAL HISTORY PROGRAMS

The Society held its annual meeting at the Library of Congress on March 19, 2004, with approximately 135 persons in attendance. The meeting celebrated the Society’s 25th anniversary with an impressive agenda that explored the past, present, and future of federal history programs. President Roger D. Launius welcomed all to the meeting, titled “SHFG at 25: The History of History in the Federal Government,” noting the importance of recalling the reasons for the founding of the Society, and declaring that such oral testimony would both reaffirm the organization’s purposes and guide it through new difficulties and opportunities.

PLENARY SESSION

SHFG at 25: Reminiscences and Ruminations

Vice President Suzanne White Junod began the plenary session by introducing Dr. Dean C. Allard, former director of the Naval History Center. Dr. Allard’s remarks on how the Center has changed over the last quarter century served in many ways to highlight the kinds of transformations experienced in many federal history programs. He noted that Center historians now not only preserve records and compile multivolume histories from archived materials, but they gather testimony and documents from the field. The greatly expanded staff handles far more annual inquiries than the 25,000 in 1979, and they have ongoing responsibility for declassifying records. Records now have legal and applied applications, such as for merchant marine benefits. He also pointed to the growing involvement of women on the staff, noting that the first woman was appointed to the Secretary of the Navy’s advisory committee in 1979.

The next four speakers, all founding members, recalled the special circumstances and professional needs that led to the formation of the Society in 1979. Philip Cantelon, president of History Associates Inc., remembered that in the years after his arrival in Washington to work at HUD in 1974, the job shortage in academia brought many young professionals to the capital, which raised the professional level in the workforce. Also, with the increased need for historical work at several agencies, particularly in the case of the crisis at Three Mile Island, such work was increasingly performed by contract historians. Trained historians now struggled with questions of whether their work qualified as “presentism.” But there was no professional guidance or standards for writing and research in such situations. These demands and changed circumstances led many in federal history to search out others in order to define the issues and needs of their nonacademic historical work. He recalled that no senior historians were active in the founding of the Society; the young professionals took the lead. But they could not have succeeded without support from several sympathetic office chiefs. Critical to the early stages and recruitment, he noted, was the fight at that time over the threatened dispersal of the National Archives holdings, which were integral to the work of federal historians. In a practical sense, he recalled, the advent of the rapid transit system (Metro) was critical, for it allowed members from surrounding areas to meet.

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2004–05

Vice President Suzanne White Junod will succeed Roger D. Launius as President in June, for a one-year term. Donald P. Steury, Senior Historian with the Central Intelligence Agency, was elected Vice President, and will serve as President in 2005–06.

Also elected were Richard W. Peuser, Supervisory Archivist with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), as Treasurer; John M. Carland, with the History Office of the Department of State, and John Lomquist, with the History Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to two-year terms on the Executive Council; and Bruce Bustard, Senior Curator with NARA, and Rebecca Raines, Chief of the Force Structure and Unit History Branch of the U.S. Army Center of Military History, to the Nominating Committee.
President’s Message

Roger D. Launius

As I write this, my final president’s message for the Society for History in the Federal Government, I have on my desk two recent publications of our Society. First, I am so pleased that The Federalist has been revived and will appear in the future on a quarterly basis. Second, the fourth issue of the Society’s Occasional Papers has just appeared, the first to be published since 2000. Both are benefits of membership in the Society for History in the Federal Government. Our Society’s officers and council hope you value these publications and will support them by contributing to them in future issues. If you have not received them, please contact me or Secretary Randy Papadopoulos.

Thanks to a dedicated team of editors—John Roberts, Benjamin Guterman, Betty Koed, and John Lonququest—the Society has been able to revive The Federalist. This issue features a detailed report on the proceedings of our annual meeting in March, including our awards presentations; an interview with NASA’s Chief Historian, Steven J. Dick; coverage of new records releases by the Interagency Working Group; and news and notes from history offices around the Federal government. I wish to congratulate the editors for their work in reviving The Federalist. Please support its continuation by submitting articles and news items for inclusion in it.

The Society’s Occasional Papers # 4 has also recently appeared under the editorship of Rebecca H. Welch and Alfred M. Beck. It contains five excellent articles exploring several aspects of the history of Federal government. These include:


Finally, as I turn the reigns of the SHFG presidency over to Suzanne White Junod on June 1, 2004, let me thank all members of the Society for their support and assistance during the past year. I, like you, value greatly the role of the Society in advancing the cause of Federal history as central to our understanding of the workings of our democracy. I will give Dr. Junod my full support during the coming year. I know all members will do the same. I wish her the best for her presidency and look forward to an exciting 2004–2005 time period.

Roger D. Launius is Chair of the Division of Space History at the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, and President of SHFG.
2004 Annual Prize Awards

The Society’s awards luncheon, held in the Library of Congress’s Statuary Hall, offered a fine occasion to celebrate some of the best recent products of federal historical work and to enjoy the company of fellow members. Thirteen Society members, in four committees, reviewed dozens of entries before deciding on the annual winners below. In addition, the Society presented two special service awards.

Henry Adams Prize (Major Publication)


   Alan Kraut at center and Thomas LeBein, Hill and Wang (right), accept the award from Suzanne White Junod.


   Professor Neil Smith could not attend.

George Pendleton Prize (Major Publication)


   Steven J. Dick (right), NASA Chief Historian, and his publisher, Rob Davis, accept the award.

Thomas Jefferson Prize (Research Aid)


   Melissa Ray, of the Scarecrow Press, Martin Gordon, Caroline Hamilton (left to right) celebrate the award.

John Wesley Powell Prize (Historic Preservation)

National Park Service & The National Trust for Historic Preservation, for “Adapting Historic Structures to Serve Modern Needs: The Rehabilitation of the McGraw Ranch, Rocky Mountain National Park”

   Kit Kimball and Randy Jones (left and center), National Park Service, with presenter Marilyn Parr.

   Note: The deadline for next year’s entries is Nov. 15, 2004. Send entries to Henry.Gwiazda@nara.gov

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FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT AWARD

Philip Cantelon

Philip Cantelon (left) receives the Society's special tribute from President Roger Launius.

MARYELLEN TRAUTFMAN AWARD

Sharon Gibbs Thibodeau

Sharon Gibbs Thibodeau (center) is congratulated by Roger Launius (right) and Maryellen Trautman.

"The Society is delighted to recognize the longstanding and stellar work of Dr. Philip L. Cantelon in advancing the cause of history in the federal government. Phil is a charter member of SHFG, and has been in the forefront of the many challenges of federal historians since the 1970s. He has served with distinction as an emissary for federal history to government officials, the general public, and the academic community," said President Roger Launius. Dr. Cantelon, President of History Associates Inc., has served as president, secretary-treasurer, and executive council member; he has also participated in many SHFG training seminars and conferences.

Roger Launius presented this award stating that "it was a small token of the respect that we have for Sharon and her many years of service to the Society." Her leadership over the past 25 years has been of the highest order, as the first editor of The Federalist (1980); compiler of the last two issues of the Directory, for which she received a special award; member of the Executive Council, publications committee, and advisory committee to the new Federalist; and chair of the membership committee (1987–88). This award has only been presented nine times. Sharon is currently Director of Operations Staff at the National Archives (NWA).

Allen Weinstein Nominated As Archivist

Historian Allen Weinstein was nominated April 8 by President Bush to be the next Archivist of the United States. Archivist John Carlin announced later that day that he had informed the president of his decision to retire, in view of NARA's progress since his appointment in June 1995 towards being able "to deal with the challenges posed by the electronic records now being created by our government."

Weinstein has been a professor at Boston University, Georgetown, and Smith College; editor of The Washington Quarterly; chair of international election observation delegations to Russia, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama, and the Philippines; and author of several books that include Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case.

DHS Seeks Contract Historians

Like many federal agencies, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has a history office charged with recording, preserving, and disseminating the history of the department. These tasks are often carried out with the help of qualified contract historians. The DHS Historian encourages individuals with doctorates in history to obtain a DUNS number and to register as federal government contractors so that they will be eligible to apply for government contracts, which are advertised on-line at www.fedbizopp.gov, the single government point-of-entry for federal government procurement opportunities over $25,000. Registration as a government contractor can be accomplished on-line at www.ccr.gov, the Central Contractor Registration web site. Interested parties are advised to begin their registration process by reviewing the instructions set out in the "CCR Handbook" tab located at the top of the web site.

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Annual Meeting

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Richard Hewlitt, former Chief Historian of the Atomic Energy Commission and Department of Energy, recalled that in 1975 the American Historical Association asked him to form an American historians resource group in order to reach out to historians in the Washington, DC, area. He worked with Arnita Jones of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History (NCC), to deal with job-related issues. The issue of "public history" and the need for contract historians converged, and was especially critical for the Department of Energy in its need for contract historians to work on the crises of nuclear weapon testing and fallout in Nevada and the accident at Three Mile Island. He recognized the need for a community of federal historians, but didn’t know who they were. He and Arnita Jones compiled a directory. He also sought to formulate standards for federal historians, especially regarding degrees and training. Third, a group of federal historians soon organized meetings and determined to establish an organization to promote their needs.

Jack Holl, founding president of SHFG and a professor of history at Kansas State University, recalled meetings in the late 1970s of the DC Historians Luncheon at George Washington University, where, he noted humorously, nothing important happened but where at least federal historians could socialize. That venue, however, provided younger members in June 1979 with the idea that they needed to organize a professional association to address their increasingly urgent needs. He reiterated the primary role of younger historians, the tacit consent of key chiefs, and the role of women such as Maeva Marcus and Arnita Jones. On September 13, 1979, they organized a steering committee of 23 self-appointed members, and on October 16 they met at the Supreme Court. There, they settled on the organization’s name and discussed the issue of membership and whether it should include contractors. The group soon developed an agenda of nine goals that included educating senior civil servants and the public about the importance of history programs to governmental organizations, and working to establish professional standards. He also stressed the importance of the “Archives fight” for recruitment, the establishment of The Federalist under the guidance of Sharon Gibbs Thibodeau, and the compilation of the Directory by Roger Anders. (See Jack Holl’s article “Getting on Track: Coupling the Society for History in the Federal Government to the Public History Train,” The Public Historian 21, No. 3 [Summer 1999], pp. 43–55.)

Jack Shulimson, another past president (1993–94), noted that before the Society, military historians were an exception in that they did have some familiarity with each other and their activities. He also stressed that the preservation of records was a major concern for the early membership, and that such work must continue as a priority. He urged continued cooperation between archivists and historians. He stressed that the ongoing loss of institutional memory due to the extensive reliance on contractors presents a real crisis.

In answer to audience questions, Jack Holl replied that historians must preserve the documentation and write historical accounts. In that work, contractors play essential roles. Philip Cantelon ventured some thoughts about how electronic records are altering the work of federal history offices, that these records may bring GSA and the National Archives closer together, perhaps due to new standards and procedures. Also, historians are becoming the custodians of electronic records, so that the history office of the future must be multi-tasking.

CURRENT CONTOURS OF FEDERAL HISTORY
Session A: The Department of Justice

Examination of historical work at the Department of Justice presented an interesting case study. Chair Maeva Marcus, Editor of the Documentary History of the Supreme Court, opened with a brief overview of the history of the Department of Justice, and a discussion of the recent abortive efforts to establish a department-wide history office. Plans were in place during the administration of the first President Bush, but were sidetracked owing to the controversy over the Iran-Contra pardons. A Justice Department History Office came even closer to reality under President Clinton, and Attorney General Janet Reno even signed off on it, but eventually funds were transferred to the program to put more police officers on the street. Though still unfunded, however, authorization for the office remains in effect.

Sean T. Fears then described the development and programs of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Museum and Visitors Center, which he has headed since 1999. The museum was created in 1998, to commemorate the DEA’s 25th anniversary. The museum is located at DEA headquarters in Pentagon City, and currently has 5 full-time staff members, 2 part-time staff members, and one contractor. There are plans to hire a full-time historian. A foundation was set up in 2001 as a public-private partnership to help provide funding. Fears emphasized that DEA Administrator Asa Hutchinson remained committed to keeping the museum open.

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The 170-year span of the Observatory’s history encompassed many themes. As was the case with some of the other sciences, military patronage was very important for the rise of astronomy in the United States in the 19th century. In this instance it was because of the practical needs of navigation, but the Observatory’s history is a case study of the tensions and synergies between practical and pure research. The controversy over military vs. civilian control of the agency also echoes broader themes in science in the United States, extending even to the founding of NASA in 1958. The Observatory’s long history was an almost unique opportunity to examine six generations of scientists and how their work changed over time in a single institution as science and technology evolved. My research also starkly exhibits the differences among three levels of history: that deriving from the printed record, the archival record, and “what really happened in history,” sometimes hinted at in oral histories, but in many cases forever inaccessible.

What have you found to be your greatest program challenge thus far?

The NASA history office encompasses a broad array of activities, ranging from book contracts and our own research and writing to organizing conferences and answering historical inquiries. In addition our audiences are many and varied, including the general public and scholars. And we are called upon to answer internal inquiries and to provide input for policy decisions. I am a strong proponent for history being both scholarly and useful. So my greatest challenge has been not only to keep up with these many activities, but also to manage them and steer them in new and positive directions.

Do you plan any new history initiatives or programs?

We have developed a five year strategic plan leading up to NASA’s 50th anniversary in 2008. We have added “societal implications of space exploration” to our portfolio, and will support that with book projects and conferences. We plan a conference on “critical issues in the history of space exploration,” such as motivations for spaceflight, human vs. robotic issues, and NASA’s external relations nationally and internationally. And we will have conferences on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Space Age in 2007 and NASA’s 50th anniversary.

How can we promote good working relationships between archivists and historians?

I’m a great fan of archivists because I have used archives at NARA and elsewhere, and of course the NASA Historical Reference Collection is an important part of our work. Historians and archivists have different goals and duties, but each needs the other. The best thing we can do is communicate our needs effectively.

How has your program been affected by recent NASA setbacks and successes, and by presidential and congressional involvement?

We at NASA are all excited by the new space exploration vision to go to the Moon and Mars. There is a realization that if those programs are going to be funded adequately, the public will need to know what is in it for them. The Aldrich Commission charged with
implementing the new plan said exactly that. The History Office is in a unique position to study how the public has benefited from the last 45 years of space exploration, not in a public relations way, but applying the rigorous tools of historical analysis.

**In what ways does the History office seek to reach the general public.**

The societal implications study will address that. Our History Office web site (http://history.nasa.gov) receives upwards of 3 million hits per month. And I would like to see our books reach a wider audience. We need constantly to remember that the taxpayers pay our bills.

**How do you prioritize topics for new publications?**

In the past there has been an emphasis on human spaceflight. I would like to see research in areas that have not been adequately addressed. For example, the history of space science, earth science and life sciences at NASA have received little attention. Studies of the relations between NASA and the Department of Defense, international relations, and relations with industry are ripe for study. And again I return to the need for broad studies of the impact of space exploration on society.

**What has been the reception of the oral history program, and are transcripts available online?**

We have a fantastic array of oral histories available, many done through our oral history program at Johnson Space Center. Some transcripts are online, and these transcripts plus an index are available at http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/history/oral_histories/oral_histories.htm. More oral histories are housed in the NASA History Office at Headquarters, and an inventory is available upon request.

**For what project types or situations do you employ contract historians in your program?**

Normally we employ contract historians in response to requests for proposals that we issue on a variety of topics. The two most recent ones are a history of NASA’s planetary protection program, and a general history of NASA’s role in aeronautics since 1958. We also consider unsolicited proposals, though our budget for that is limited.

**Does your office gather data on current space programs such as the Mars landing missions?**

This is one of the challenges in an agency where so much is happening—how to capture current history. So far we have not devised a systematic way for doing that. But it should be done, and I would be interested in hearing what other agency history offices do in that area.

**Your planned conferences sound exciting. How do you hope they will enhance your program goals?**

Historians are in a unique position to provide perspective, both to the agency itself and to the general public. By sponsoring the broad conferences mentioned above, we will do first-class scholarly work, reach a wide audience, and hopefully inform policy decisions.

**How have technological tools affected the Office’s work, and how will work processes change in the near future?**

There is no doubt that the web is the most effective way of reaching a wide audience. We are working to completely revise our web site. E-mail has also revolutionized our office in terms of answering public inquiries. There are more of them, but more efficiently answered.

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**NASA HQ History Office staff. Back, left to right: Steven J. Dick, Elb Margolis, Stephen J. Garber, and Nadine Anderson. Front, left to right: Jennifer L. Troxell, Jane Odom, Colin Fries, and John Hargrader.**

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**The NASA History Program**

**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC

**Centers**

- Ames Research Center
- Dryden Flight Research Center
- Glenn Research Center
- Goddard Space Flight Center
- Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Johnson Space Center
- Kennedy Space Center
- Langley Research Center
- Marshall Space Flight Center
- Stennis Space Center

**Employees at Headquarters**

- Historians 2  
- Archivists 3  
- Program support asst. 2  
- Student interns 3  
- Program specialist 1  
- Presidential fellow 1

**Latest publication**


**Upcoming Conference**

Critical Issues in the History of Space Exploration (2005)

**Web site** http://history.nasa.gov
Annual Meeting

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even after the introduction of increased security measures after 9/11. The museum sponsors traveling exhibits and educational programs with local schools, and is seeking accreditation from the American Association of Museums.

History programs at the Federal Bureau of Investigation have been sporadic, according to FBI Historian John F. Fox. Apart from an early chronology, occasional articles, a series of “Interesting Case Memoranda,” and support for the best selling 1954 book The FBI Story, the FBI sponsored little historical work until it appointed Susan Rosenfeld (then Susan Falb) as its first full-time historian in 1984. Rosenfeld issued publications on FBI history, conducted individual studies for internal use, and gave lectures, but the FBI history program went into decline after her departure in 1992.

Fox was named FBI historian in 2003, after several years doing historical research as part of the FBI’s Research and Communications Unit. Seeking to expand both internal and external understanding of FBI history, Fox is putting more history-related content on the FBI’s web site, lectures new employees on the agency’s history, and sponsors a series of guest lectures at FBI headquarters on major FBI events. He is also writing a history of the pre-Hoover years and planning for a conference on the FBI’s role in World War II.

U.S. Marshals Service Historian David S. Turk reviewed some of the Service’s historical benchmarks, and noted the longstanding popular interest in the agency’s history—particularly as it relates to U.S. Marshals of the Old West. In conjunction with its bicentennial in 1983, the Marshals Service established a History Office under Ted Calhoun. Calhoun published an agency history in hardback in 1989 (with a paperback update in 1991), and created an exhibit that toured the United States from 1989 to 1991. As Calhoun’s successor, one of Turk’s goals is to find a new home for the Marshals’ history exhibit. He also maintains a History Room at USMS headquarters, featuring rotating exhibits and artwork on the history of the Marshals. He is working on a companion volume to Calhoun’s book, is organizing a symposium on the 40th anniversary of the Marshals Service’s role in achieving racial integration at the University of Mississippi, and is developing historical features for the USMS web site.

Commenting on the papers, Susan Rosenfeld (now with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration) emphasized the need for a Justice Department historian. She noted that the Department did employ a historian briefly during the Carter Administration, but that person was relegated to a desk that literally was in a stairwell. Having a historian on staff at the Department, Rosenfeld said, would have a favorable impact not only on the Department but on the public as well. She commended the role of foundations (such as those set up by the DEA and USMS) in financing museums and other history-related initiatives.

Session B: Science, Technology, and National Security

This session revealed how several key history offices are adapting to changing demands, duties, and technologies. William S. Dudley, Director of the Naval History Center, stressed the transformation of his office into a full-service institution, involving an expansion of his program and staff over the last 25 years. The publication program has grown to cover a wide range of topics that include early and contemporary naval activities, ships, naval aviation, and Naval Aviation News. The Naval Historical Foundation has helped expand the program. There are new buildings devoted to records of the Cold War and the Korean and Vietnam Wars that include galleries. Building 57 has operational records, and there is a photo service and a library. However, he noted, security considerations after September 11 have greatly limited public access.

Dick Anderegg, Director of Air Force History, highlighted the exciting technological applications and the difficulties and challenges they pose for historical work. The enormous task of data collection requires that historians in the field and at each base collect and submit their histories to a central office, where the histories are being digitized in a three-year program, with the goal of producing interactive CDs. Their scanners can process 240 pages per minute. Researchers can already do some research online. However, the process of collection from so many sources involves much duplication of certain types of data, a problem they are studying. Anderegg also pointed to a problem he called “death by PowerPoint.” Decision making with PowerPoint presentations leave no records of meetings and discussions. Consequently, documentation of decision making has become a serious problem that the office is studying.

Some of these problems and others were discussed by Martin K. Gordon, historian at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. His agency faces unique challenges now being confronted partially through technological innovations. He and his all-contractor staff, including curators, must devise ways to preserve a vast array of artifacts, such as light table systems relating to outer space images, a 65-foot Shuttle radar topographic arm, and a large printing press. They consult with both the National Archives and NASA on such work. Professio nal know-how is recorded through oral histories of former employees. And, they are preserving the major PowerPoint briefings used in agency planning.

Victoria Hardin, Director of the National Institutes of Health History and Stetten Museum, provided an overview of a program that includes 27 institutes and centers. The diverse duties of the Institutes have demanded creative solutions over the years that increasingly involved archiving and inventorying an expanded range of artifacts and digital collections of related web sites. These duties tie in with the work of contractors in their museum who inventory artifacts, photographs, and oral histories. Their web site and newsletter help organize and promote their programs. The expanded fellowship program allows the visiting scholars to research their own interests while enabling the institutes to acquire critical expertise. Seminars bring scientists and historians together in forums that stress interdisciplinary approaches. Hardin also raised the issue of the current two-tier pay and compensation structure for government employees and contract workers.
Steven J. Dick, Chief Historian of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, outlined the scope of his program. An interview with Dr. Dick in this issue provides more detail. The program includes publications, conferences, NASA historical records collections (maintained by three archivists), research and writing, reference duties, and miscellaneous efforts that involve maintaining their web site and expanding on their hundreds of oral histories. The office's agenda includes upcoming celebrations of the 50th anniversary of both space flight and establishment of NASA, forums on the issue of human space flight, several conferences, improved outreach efforts, and development of history programs at 10 field centers. NASA's recent successes and failures remind us of the need for historical work in government, and the Chief Historian expressed his belief that "history can be used," that it can prevent accidents and guide the future.

Deborah Jean Warner, Curator, Physical Sciences Collection, National Museum of American History, echoed some of the issues discussed by Martin Gordon. The Museum must also make difficult decisions about which artifacts to preserve, particularly scientific equipment. She pointed to three Cold War artifacts that have been preserved due to their importance in that era, one of which is an early device that helped determine distances for missile range. A fellow curator explained the work of the Museum's Lennoxon Center for the Study of Inventions and Innovations, particularly to preserve records of inventors. The Center also collects oral histories and documents technological processes. The program includes online finding aids, publications, fellowships, public outreach, exhibits, and symposiums.

FUTURE CONTOURS OF FEDERAL HISTORY

Session A: The Digital Age: Expanding the Web of Communication
Sarah Leavitt, Associate Historian with the National Institutes of Health, chaired this session, which explored methods for using the World Wide Web to disseminate information on federal history. Stephen Greenberg, Coordinator of Public Services for the History of Medicine Division (HMD), National Library of Medicine (NLM), described such features of the HMD-NLM web site (www.nlm.nih.gov) as bibliographic data, virtual exhibits, oral history transcripts, finding aids to HMD's manuscript collections, and "Profiles in Science," with biographies of pioneers in health and medicine whose papers are at NLM. New features are coming soon, he said, including the "Surgeon General's Catalog" and the "Fifty Books Scanning Project." In addition, there is a virtual library of HMD images on the site, and copyright information, permission requests, and order forms can be downloaded directly from the site.

Patricia Tuohy, Head of HMD's Exhibition Section, highlighted "Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians," a multi-media virtual exhibit on the site that features biographies of women who have been prominent in the history of medicine in the United States. Noting that the exhibit is 508 compliant, Tuohy emphasized the importance of ensuring that content and design elements in virtual exhibits are accessible to those who may have difficulty reading or comprehending text, may not be able to use a keyboard or computer mouse easily, or may have different browsers.

The increasingly complex and expensive demands of preserving electronic data was the topic of Steven Puglia's presentation. Puglia, a Preservation and Imaging Specialist with the National Archives and Records Administration, emphasized that the newest technologies are not necessarily the answer, and that digitization is not tantamount to preservation. The irony of modern media, Puglia said, is that higher information density translates into lower life expectancy. Traditional preservation microfilm has a life expectancy of 500 years, for example, whereas digital media have a life expectancy of only 5 to 10 years. Digitizing images and posting them to the Web for research use not only involves significant up-front costs of perhaps $18 to $20 per image, but also significant on-going costs—which Puglia estimated at between 50 and 100 percent of the initial investment after 10 years, given current realities. Digital preservation thus is as expensive as it is unstable, requiring reformatting at 5-year intervals, maintenance of large-scale automated systems, and selection from such preservation techniques as emulation, migration, transformation, refreshment, "digital archeology," and maintenance of obsolete systems. Puglia advocated preserving data rather than technology. Encapsulating data with its metadata would create "self-describing objects," that could be read by future computer systems. He also pointed to the Open Archival Information System model developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The session concluded with a presentation on providing web access to the Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, given by Taru R. Spiegel, program officer, and Eileen Simon, archivist, both of the center. The Veterans History Project is a grassroots effort involving contributions from volunteers throughout the country. It seeks to preserve and disseminate "The Give and Take of Wartime Stories" by collecting unpublished manuscripts and compiling oral and video histories providing firsthand accounts of U.S. military veterans and civilian support staff who served in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War. The Center is working with various partners, including the American Association
of Retired Persons, to conduct and acquire the interviews.

The Center is working to digitize all materials related to the project, and has created a web site (www.loc.gov/vets). The web site includes interview transcripts, biographies, and a "National Registry of Service" for all veterans who have participated in the Veterans History Project, photographs, personal correspondence and other donated documents, and virtual exhibits.

Session B: The Best and Worst of Times: Protecting the Expertise of Professional Historians in the Federal Government

This session offered a wide-ranging discussion of the issues of security, work, and compensation for federal historians and offices, especially in the areas of the use of contractors versus in-house practitioners, accountability and control, the highly technical work of government historians, and trends in government pay scales and ratings.

Daniel J. Gutman, attorney and fellow at the Center for Study of American Government, Johns Hopkins, framed the larger historical picture of the use of contractors in government work and offered his opinions on the benefits and dangers of that phenomenon. Contracting services, he stated, grew in the 1950s and 1960s out of the cooperation between government and private enterprise, including Washington think tanks. The Clinton and Bush administrations, he observed, continued those trends in a bipartisan approach. A "diffusion of sovereignty" developed in which government workers were checked by constitutional laws generally, and private officials by other laws. This can pose a problem of control, he believes, wherein private groups are immune from disclosure and prosecution. He noted that in the Coast Guard, for example, contractors have much of the core knowledge and technical expertise, which can pose a problem of ultimate accountability and raise the question of who is in control.

Patrick P. Harahan, of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, raised issues of professional development. He has participated in a study of the federal government and a seminar on defining historical activities across the government. Outlining the duties of historians, he stressed that they work at high levels of expertise in explanation of governmental functions and problems. Consequently, they must insist on an understanding of those standards and demand the resources necessary to achieve them, resources such as books, transcription services, and travel funds. Lastly, he urged historians to continue to work through organizations and networks to promote their profession and improve their products.

Jeffrey Clarke, Chief Historian at the U.S. Center of Military History, reviewed some of the evolving approaches to government pay scales. He noted that the system of "merit pay," if instituted, would replace GS ratings with about five pay "bands." There would be no automatic step increases, but increases based on performance. Workers would be organized by occupational clusters, such as historians. The system called SAW (Senior Army Workforce) could be first instituted in the army, and, if successful, extended outward. It would establish pay bands and have several career tracks and career fields (e.g., medical support track). Historians would be grouped in the "institutional support track." There would be centralized hiring and promotion boards and assignment boards. Although there are many uncertainties ahead, it is possible, he believes, that such a plan would enhance the position of historians.

U.S. Army Military History Institute to Open New Facility

The U.S. Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks, PA, closed its doors for the first time in its 37-year history on May 1, 2004. The MHI closed in order to move from the 1940s-era Upton Hall on Carlisle Barracks to the new $13.4 million Military History Institute building on Army Heritage Drive, adjacent to Carlisle Barracks. The new building is the first purpose-built archive facility in Army history.

The Institute is the Army’s central repository for its unofficial historical materials, and includes the world’s premier military history library consisting of nearly 300,000 volumes, 245,000 military publications, 60,000 periodicals, 1,200,000 photographs, and millions of pages of manuscripts, diaries, letters, memoirs, maps, and oral histories. The MHI also houses over 1,200,000 classified documents.

The MHI is the first of five buildings to be completed in the new Army Heritage and Education Center complex. The complex will also include a Visitor and Education Center (2006), the Army Heritage Museum (2008), and two other non-public support buildings. The Army Heritage and Education Center will be closed through July 31, 2004, and will re-open for public access on or about August 1, 2004, in a new, state-of-the-art archival storage facility. The Grand Opening Ceremony will be conducted on September 24, 2004, and the public is invited.

From a letter by Michael E. Lynch, MAJ, QM, Director of Operations Army Heritage and Education Center

David van Kuilenburg Mourned

On March 26, 2004, David van Kuilenburg, 53, historian of the Naval Research Laboratory, was killed by a hit-and-run driver while cycling to work. He was an active SHFG member who had participated in the annual meetings on several occasions over the years. A memorial service was held on March 31 at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C.

Van Kuilenburg, a Wisconsin native, earned a Ph.D. in History from the University of Pennsylvania (1982), an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin (1975), and a B.A. from UW-Eau Claire (1972). He joined NRL in 1986, and was active in local art, literary, and charitable groups. Donations to a planned charitable event in his memory can be made to his cycling group at cyclingfools@yahoo.com.
**IWG Announces Release of Records**

The Interagency Working Group (IWG) held a press conference on May 13 at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, to announce an important milestone in its efforts to uncover still-secret U.S. documents relating to World War II war crimes. The project has uncovered an additional 240,000 pages of original FBI files, 419 CIA name and subject files, and 3,000 pages of U.S. Army information, bringing its total to 8 million pages of records declassified. It's the largest declassification project in the nation's history. In addition, the IWG announced the publication of *U.S. Intelligence and the Nazis*, a volume of essays by its staff historians, Richard Breitman, Norman Coda, Timothy Naftali, and Robert Wolfe, that explore the significance of these latest documents.

Archivist John Carlin introduced two original congressional sponsors of the declassification efforts, Senator Mike DeWine (R-Ohio) and Representative Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) (A third sponsor, Senator Diane Feinstein [D-CA], could not attend), who recalled that they were stirred by allegations that former UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim had a Nazi background. Also, IWG Public Member Elizabeth Holtzman recounted that in 1974, as a member of Congress, she began to expose the presence of Nazi war criminals in America. These revelations created demands for disclosure and release of classified information. They steadily gained the confidence of the intelligence community and built congressional support, eventually securing passage of the Nazi War Crimes Act in 1998 and formation of the IWG.

IWG Chairman Steve Garfinkel introduced several members of the unique task force that includes government archivists and investigators from the National Archives, the FBI's Office of Special Investigations, State Department, CIA, and other intelligence agencies, and “public members” and historians from the private sector. Through their four-year congressional mandate to locate all pertinent records, they worked effectively together against the odds to achieve impressive results.

But group members also sought some preliminary meaning from the materials, to provide “road maps” that might stimulate international discussion and investigation. IWG Public Member Richard Ben-Veniste wrote that early on he suggested that “we hire outstanding, independent historians to provide insight and contextual understanding of the materials.” The resulting volume filled that need, and co-author Richard Breitman said the book was a “first cut” at analysis of these documents, predicting that many more investigations will follow for years to come.

Member Thomas Baer stressed the dangers of using Nazis as agents, and that “saving Jewish lives was not an imperative to the Allied leaders in World War II.” Holtzman pointed to the failure of the CIA-sponsored Gehlen network, that it was filled with dozens of former Nazi operatives, many of whom were blackmailed by the Soviets. Those failures impacted our postwar intelligence and probably distorted our Cold War policies. And numerous such ventures “trivialized the Nazi war crimes at Nuremberg.”

(continued on next page)
Britman noted some specific successes and failures, how certain interviews and bits of information were misused. Norman Goda said that FBI records show complicity by Chase and other banks with the Nazis, and that the FBI and CIA kept former Nazis in the U.S. hoping they would help control communists. Viorel Trifia, of the pro-Hitler Romanian Guard, came to the United States in 1950, and was protected by the FBI until he was stripped of his U.S. citizenship in 1984. Timothy Naftali noted that we now know “a darker side of the German occupation,” stressing a complete absence of restrictions on hiring of ex-Nazis and the dangers that such reckless procedures posed to reliable intelligence, and that the Gehlen organization was, in fact, run from Moscow. Naftali pointed to similar dangers today in our efforts to reconstruct foreign national security systems.

With the Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Act of 2000, the IWG has received an extension through 2005 to uncover remaining Nazi war crime documents and materials of the Asian front. It must also present a final report to Congress. Visit the IWG web site at http://www.archives.gov/iwg/

Archivist

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The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs will likely hold nomination hearings this year, but nine professional organizations, including the Society of American Archivists and the Organization of American Historians have criticized the process for the lack of consultation and discussion of such current issues as evaluation of the agency’s Strategic plan, the candidate’s experience in the field of electronic records, administration of the Presidential Records Act, and the needs of records facilities. The groups have sent a set of recommended questions to the committee. Archivist Carlin has promised to stay in office until a new Archivist is confirmed.

Civil War Specialist Mike Musick Retires

Michael P. Musick began his 35-year career with the National Archives on March 31, 1969, as a trainee in President libraries, when the agency was part of the General Services Administration. He arrived at the Archives fresh from graduate school, where he studied under Civil War scholar Bell Irvin Wiley. He soon transferred to the Old Military Records Division, in which he continued to work, though the branch name changed many times, until his retirement on May 1. Most of his time was spent in reference, meeting researchers, responding to letters and telephone calls, and in recent years answering e-mails, generally in the realm of pre-World War I records, and particularly the U.S. Civil War. Since 1991 he has been Subject Area Expert for the Civil War. Musick likes to point out that for those years when he worked with two other Mikes (Meier and Pilgrim), few people, including staff, seemed able to distinguish which was which. Any complaints or adverse criticism he shamelessly attributes to another Mike. Among the memorable incidents of his service, Musick recalls his time as a consultant for Ken Burns (an opportunity passed on to him by Tim Neminger); being designated an expert witness during the stolen documents trial of Charles Merrill Mount; and early in 2001, along with NARA’s Jim Hastings, joining an intimate birthday party for Vice President Dick Cheney (whose ancestor fought with the 21st Ohio), which included President Bush. In addition to working on a Civil War guide as a National Archives volunteer, Musick and his wife Judy will teach an introductory archives course in the fall at Shepherd University, in Shepherdstown, WV, which is designated “Anthropology 399.” He plans to stress historic preservation and material culture.

Lincoln Symposium

On Saturday, March 27, the Abraham Lincoln Institute, Inc., and NARA co-sponsored an all-day symposium at Archives II on recent scholarship on Abraham Lincoln. Michael Kurtz, Assistant Archivist for Records Services, welcomed the attendees. The Foundation for the National Archives provided a luncheon reception for attendees, and the NARA exhibit staff displayed an 1865 telegram to Gen. U.S. Grant, in Lincoln’s hand, urging the general to persist in his military operations. Also available for viewing was a map of the battle of Cold Harbor in 1864 and a photograph of the wartime president.

Over 250 persons listened to presentations in the auditorium at College Park. Professor Brian Dircks discussed Lincoln the lawyer; Prof. Silvana Siddali spoke on the effect of the Emancipation Proclamation on Northern public opinion; Prof. William C. Harris elucidated the president’s policy on trade through military lines; Nelson Lankford, of the Virginia Historical Society, gave a vividly illustrated talk on Lincoln in Richmond; and Prof. James M. McPherson recounted Lincoln’s role as commander in chief. The institute reported the recipient of the annual Hay-Nicolay dissertation prize of $5,000 (named in honor of Lincoln’s two young private secretaries), and presented its annual book award of $5,000 to Professor Harris for “Lincoln’s Last Months,” published by the Belknap Press of Harvard University.
MAKING HISTORY

AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
The American Historical Association has posted an article by Robert B. Townsend titled "Number of History PhDs Inches Upwards" on its web site of data on the historical profession. It reports that the number of new Ph.D.s increased slightly from 1,024 in 2000–2001 to 1,030 in 2001–02, but notes that this slight increase "reverses a brief decline and marks the second-highest number of new history PhDs since 1976." The report addresses such issues as the length of study, sub-fields, hiring trends, degree financing, and graduate study among women and minorities. View the study from the Association's site for new data at http://www.historians.org/info/AHA_Data.htm.

AMERICAN RED CROSS
During World War II, the American Red Cross mobilized a civilian workforce that peaked at 7.5 million volunteers to support the military at home and overseas, and to alleviate the suffering of thousands of war-afflicted civilians. "Volunteering for Victory," a new temporary exhibit at the American Red Cross Visitors Center, 1730 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., describes some of those volunteers' stories, as well as those of more than 40,000 paid staff members who made significant contributions to the war effort.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
In cooperation with Corps Southwest Regional History Program, the Office of History has begun work on a history of Task Force RIO (Restore Iraqi Oil). In the early stages of the war Corps of Engineers task force developed plans to enable coalition forces to secure the Iraqi oil fields and then helped extinguish oil fires that were raging in the southern oil fields. Later, TF RIO began helping the Iraqis rebuild their nation's worn and often outdated oil infrastructure, a mission that will continue for some time to come. Publication is expected in early 2005.


DEPARTMENT OF STATE
The Department hosted a conference on the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, on January 12–13. The conference was held in conjunction with the publication of Foreign Relations, Volume IX, Arab-Israeli Crisis and War, 1967. Ambassador David Satterfield, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, opened the conference with a speech detailing the current state of relations and negotiations in the Middle East. The role of history resonated within the context of the current climate. The conference brought together over 40 scholars from the United States, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Canada, Britain, and Austria, as well as from government agencies (including the State Department, CIA, and National Security Agency) and think tanks, and embassy officials from Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Israel. Scholars at all stages of their careers—many meeting for the first time after years of reading each other's work—presented papers and participated in discussions on the latest work being done on the history of the 1967 war. Interest in attending the conference proceedings exceeded expectations.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
The Federal Aviation Administration has posted an article titled "The Government Role in Civil Aviation: An Overview" by agency historian Edmund Preston that celebrates the centennial of flight. It has a bibliography that includes online references. See http://www.centennialofflight.gov/essay/Government_Role/POL-OV.htm.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
The Modern Records Program, Office of Records Services, held its 16th annual Records Management Conference (RACO 2004) on May 11 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. This event presented the latest exchange of ideas from both the public and private sectors. For more information, see www.archives.gov/records_management/training/training.html.

NARA accessioned approximately 700,000 cable communications from the State Department on April 13 in a ceremony with Secretary of State Colin Powell. The records cover the period July 1973–December 1974. The transfer is part of a joint research effort between the two agencies to best store and transfer such electronic records. Eight new microfilm publications of records have been completed. Three reproduce immigration records from Minnesota and Hawaii. One contains case files of the U.S. District Court for the Territory of Hawaii, 1900–1927. Another contains Freedmen’s Bureau field office records for Maryland and Delaware, 1865–1872. Three contain World War II draft registration cards for Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The National Archives has just published U.S. Intelligence and the Nazis, by Richard Breitman, Norman J. W. Goda, Timothy Naftali, and Robert Wolfe, of The Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group (IWG) (See page 11.) The exhibit “The Treaty of Kangawa: Setting the Stage for Japanese-American Relations” is on display through September 6. Tim Mulligan presented a paper on “Recent Developments in the Declassification, Description, and Return of German Records at the National Archives” on March 10 at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

The National Council on Public History will hold its 2005 annual meeting April 14–17, 2005, at the Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. The theme will be “Defining Region: Public Historians and the Culture and Meaning of Region,” and the conference will explore the ways in which public history and public historians investigate, collect, present, and preserve regional culture and history.” The deadline for the calls for papers has passed. The event will be hosted by the Truman Presidential Museum and Library. The Council notes that the Muehlebach Hotel was completed in 1915, and that the Presidential suite was once used by President Truman as campaign headquarters, and later, throughout his Presidency, served as the command center for his presidential visits. The event will be hosted by the Truman Presidential Museum and Library.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

On July 8th, Stetten Fellow Sara Shostak will present a lecture about her work this past year with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. She will focus on the history of genetically modified mouse models at NIEHS and the National Toxicology Program. Ray Tennant, Director of the NIEHS’s National Center for Toxigenomics, will then provide an overview of how such models are currently being applied in the efforts of the NIEHS and NTP to protect and improve public health. The lecture will be in the Lipsitt Auditorium in Building 10 at NIH at 1 p.m. on July 8, 2004.

The Second Annual NIH History Day will be held on September 21, 2004, featuring a lecture by Thomas Soderqvist, Director of the Medical Museum at the University of Copenhagen. His most recent book is Science as Autobiography: The Troubled Life of Niels Jerne (Yale University Press, 2003), an integrated personal and scientific portrait of a Nobel Laureate. He is presently working on a book on the status of the genre of biography in the history of science and medicine. He is also directing the build-up of the new Medical Museum in Copenhagen, a combined museum and research institution that specializes in the material culture of recent biomedical sciences. History Day programs will also include a seminar about collecting objects from scientists; a poster series on the NIH campus; collection stations for NIH staff to donate objects, papers, and photographs; and more.

On-line exhibits: The Office of NIH History will add several new exhibits to its web site at www.history.nih.gov this spring and summer. The first will be “Deciphering the Genetic Code: An Exhibit Honoring the Work of Nobel Laureate Marshall Nirenberg.” An exhibit on the NIH’s move to Bethesda in the early 1940s will follow in the fall. Recent exhibits on the web site have included “A Thin Blue Line: The History of the Pregnancy Test Kit,” and “The Stadtman Way: A Tale of Two Biochemists at NIH.” The Office has also added many documents to the “In Their Own Words” web site on the NIH researchers’ response to AIDS in the early 1980s, and will continue to add other research resources to the website as well. On-campus exhibits: The Office of NIH History is featuring exhibits across the NIH campus. Themes will include alternative medicine at NIH; the pool of Bethesda; and a series of instruments from the Stetten Museum collection. Other initiatives: The staff has been busy preparing for the launch of an online collections database later this year. When completed, the database will give researchers access to the Office’s vast collections of photographs, papers, and artifacts. They have also been wrapping up their 2nd Annual NIH Archive project, which seeks to document important activities on the NIH campus during the previous year. Book projects in the works include one on intramural research at NIH in the post-WWII era, and the proceedings of a conference held here last year on the research at NINDS and NIMH in the 1950s. Visit the web site at http://www.history.nih.gov
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

"Changing the Face of Medicine," a exhibition honoring the lives and achievements of outstanding American women physicians, opened on October 14, 2003. The exhibition features stories from a rich diversity of women physicians and a broad range of medicine that they practice in communities across the United States. More than 300 physicians are featured. "Women waged a lengthy battle to gain access to medical education and hospital training," noted Elizabeth Fee, Ph.D., Chief of NLM's History of Medicine Division. "Since winning those struggles, women from diverse backgrounds have carved out successful careers in areas as diverse as sports medicine, space medicine, and surgery." The contributions of these remarkable women are showcased in artifact, textile and digital-portrait galleries as well as in an "activity zone" with interactive installations. The exhibition runs until Spring 2005 and has a companion Web site at www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine.

The Food and Drug Administration’s seizure case-file collection (2,679 linear feet; 1907–1963) was transferred recently from the Federal Records Center to the National Library of Medicine’s History of Medicine Division. The files consist of evidence accompanying federal court judgments against violators of the Pure Food and Drug Act (1906 and as amended). Each case file contains correspondence, legal records, artifacts, photographs, etc. related to the product seizures. The collection is accessed by index numbers found in the published FDA Notices of Judgment. Each case is summarized there, and subjects and defendant names are indexed. This is one of the largest and most significant additions to the Library in many years.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park Service opened the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, on April 29, and will hold formal dedication ceremonies on May 29. The Memorial, located on the National Mall between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, honors the entire World War II generation—the 16 million who served in uniform, and those who toiled in the factories and mines and made other contributions on the Home Front to the war effort. The era’s national unity is signified by twisted bronze ropes that unite the stone pillars that ring the Memorial’s Rainbow Pool. Highlighting the Memorial are two 43-foot high arches, representing the war’s Atlantic and Pacific Theaters, and the “Field of Gold Stars,” containing 4,000 stars—each one representing 100 American deaths in the war. The 3-year, $172 million project was funded largely by donations, nearly half of which came from World War II generation Americans.

President Bush was the principal speaker on May 17, the National Park Service held the grand opening of the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, Kansas. The opening took place on the 50th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s unanimous Brown v. Board of Education decision, which declared that separate education facilities were inherently unequal and violated the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. The site includes the newly renovated Monroe Elementary School, which was one of the segregated educational facilities involved in the landmark case. Among those who participated in the ceremony were the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, former pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and a founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Cheryl Brown Henderson, whose father was one of the lead plaintiffs in the case; Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton; Secretary of Education Rod Paige; the U.S. Senators from Kansas, Pat Roberts and Sam Brownback, plus several other members of the Senate and the House of Representatives; Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius; and National Park Service Director Fran Mainella.

More than 2,000 people, including hundreds of former internees, attended the grand opening of the Manzanar National Historic Site Interpretive Center in Manzanar, California, on April 24. During World War II, more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans were removed from their West Coast communities—often losing their homes and businesses—and held in internment camps. Manzanar was one of those camps, and 11,000 internees lived there for all or part of the war. The interpretive center is in the internment camp’s restored high school auditorium. It features 8,000 square feet of exhibits and two 45-seat theaters showing a 20-minute film, "Remembering Manzanar."

Engineer J. Lawrence Lee of the Historic American Engineering Record collaborated with Jim Hanson, Bryan Taylor, and Jeremy Kinney on a multi-volume documentary history of the airplane and aerodynamics in America entitled The Wind and Beyond: A Documentary Journal into the History of Aerodynamics in America. The first volume, The Ascent of the Airplane, was published in 2003 by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as part of its “NASA History series.”

On March 19, Cultural Resources Diversity Program historian Michele Gates Moresi presented “Diversifying Cultural Resources: African-American History” as part of the symposium “Documenting the African-American Past,” sponsored by the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and Old Salem, Inc. Academics, preservationists, librarians, and museum professionals attended the conference. Dr. Moresi’s presentation provided an overview of the National Park Service’s Cultural Resources Diversity Program and highlighted current research projects related to African-American history.

On April 1, the National Park Service designated the cadet area of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, as a National Historic Landmark. In conjunction with the Academy’s 50th anniversary, the National Park Service, in partnership with the Academy and the Organization of American Historians, has crafted a “Teaching With Historic Places” online lesson plan, highlighting the Academy’s history and architectural significance. Check http://www.cr.nps.gov/hr/twhp for more information.
A crew from NTV Broadcasting Company, a Russian television network, visited the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in South Dakota to do filming for a documentary on Vladimir Tehelomey, the Soviet Union’s chief missile designer during the Cold War. The site, a former Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) base, was transferred from the U.S. Air Force to the National Park Service in 2002. NTV selected it for filming because it is one of the best examples of ICBM technology still available. National Park Service historian Sue Lanie was interviewed for the documentary.

OFFICE OF THE U.S. SENATE CURATOR

The Office of the Senate Curator has published a new book emphasizing that the dramatic architecture of the Senate wing of the United States Capitol is complemented by an equally impressive collection of fine art. The United States Senate Catalogue of Fine Art marks the first time that the Senate has presented its entire collection of fine art in a publication, complete with color reproductions and informative text about the creation and background of each work. This new book is available from the Government Printing Office. For more information, see: http://www.senate.gov/reference/reference_item/art_catalogue.htm

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

On March 4–5, 2004, the U.S. Census Bureau and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars co-hosted a symposium entitled, “America’s Scorecard: The Historic Role of the Census in an Ever-Changing Nation.” The symposium was held at the Wilson Center International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., and made possible by a generous grant from The Russell Sage Foundation.

“America’s Scorecard” sought to raise public awareness of the value and importance of the U.S. Census Bureau’s work, past and present. Noted Stanford University Historian David M. Kennedy set the tone for the two-day event with a keynote address on the history of the census and data use in the 19th and 20th centuries. Symposium participants, representing public and private institutions, shared their expertise, engaged in lively discussions, and offered informed presentations. The days’ events were augmented by exhibits and multimedia presentations developed by the Census Bureau’s Marketing Services and Public Information Offices. The Russell Sage Foundation has the right of first refusal for publishing papers delivered at the symposium. The symposium was the brainchild of the Census Bureau’s History Staff. This staff serves as a primary contact point for inquiries regarding the historical context of Census Bureau programs. It also undertakes a number of ongoing projects including, the procedural histories of the decennial and economic censuses and studies on specific census-related topics.

U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM