

Newsletter
of the
Illinois
State
Archives
&
The Illinois
State Historical
Records
Advisory Board

Jesse White
Secretary of State
&
State Archivist

Volume 31
Number 3



Archives Month

Secretary of State and State Archivist Jesse White, the Illinois State Archives, the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) and the Chicago Area Archivists are once again joining together to co-sponsor Illinois Archives Month in October. This year's poster commemorates the centennial of World War I. America entered the war on April 6, 1917, and played a major role in its events until the war ended on Nov. 11, 1918. Archives, museums, historical societies, libraries and other groups are

invited to celebrate Archives Month by hosting local events, exhibits and activities that highlight the management and preservation of our documentary heritage.

The 2017 Archives Month poster is available online to download. To assist in publicizing Illinois Archives Month events, the ISHRAB is hosting an online Events Calendar. If you would like your organization's upcoming activities posted on the Events Calendar, please visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board) or call 217-524-9844.



200 years of Illinois history (1818-2018)

In 2018, Illinois will celebrate its 200th birthday. In anticipation of the bicentennial celebration, *For the Record* is featuring a document in each issue from the State Archives' holdings that is relevant to a significant event in Illinois history. The 10th featured document focuses on the Illinois State Penitentiary System.

During Illinois' time as a part of the Northwest, Virginia and Indiana Territories, corporal punishment and fines were the most common penalties for criminals and debtors. County jails were built as early as 1813, but these early jailhouses were difficult to secure and provid-

ed unsanitary living conditions for inmates. The earliest governors of the state voiced the need for a state penitentiary system; however, it was not until 1827 that the first state penitentiary was authorized by the General Assembly. The prison was constructed in Alton and completed in 1831 using funds from the sale of saline lands to the federal government.

In 1847, Dorothea Dix, the noted social reformer who advocated for prisoners and the mentally ill, inspected the Alton prison and reported her findings to the legislature. She detected severe over-

crowding and harsh, unsanitary conditions for prisoners. Floors were made of dirt and could not be washed. Inmates were forced to stand while eating. Due to the prison's location, deep gullies formed throughout the grounds when it rained. In response to Ms. Dix's report, the legislature passed some reforms, including the hiring of a chaplain, the appropriation of funds to purchase tables and benches for the eating area and the authorization to purchase land to expand the facility. Even with the improvements made, inspectors

(Cont. on pg. 2.)

Illinois State Archives • Margaret Cross Norton Building • Capitol Complex • Springfield, IL 62756
217-782-4682 • Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. • Closed state holidays

WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM

DATES & REMINDERS

Chicago Open Archives: Hidden Stories

Month-long, Multi-Cultural Institution Event
October 1-31, Chicago and suburbs
<http://chicagoarchivists.org/COA2017>

Midwest Archives Conference

Fall 2017 Symposium, "From Good to Great Exhibits"
October 13-14, Columbus, OH
<http://www.midwestarchives.org>

Illinois Association of Museums

Annual Conference
"More than Numbers: Making Museums that Matter"
October 18-20, Mt. Vernon
<http://www.illinois museums.org/inspire/annual-conference/>

Society of American Archivists Workshops

<http://www2.archivists.org/>
"Digital Curation: Fundamentals for Success"
October 20, Chicago
"Digital Repositories"
November 3, Chicago

Illinois State Genealogical Society

2017 Fall Conference, "Build Your Family Tree:
DNA, Research, and Writing"
October 27-28, Moline
<https://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=536>

2017 Chicago Home Movie Day

October 7, Chicago (Host: Chicago History Museum)
<http://www.chicagofilmarchives.org/current-events/chicago-home-movie-day-2017>

Downstate Local Records Commission Meeting

1st Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)
Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

Cook County Local Records Commission Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the month, 11 a.m.
Video Conference Room, 9th floor
Thompson Center, Chicago or
Capital City Center, Springfield, 130 W. Mason St.
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

State Records Commission Meeting

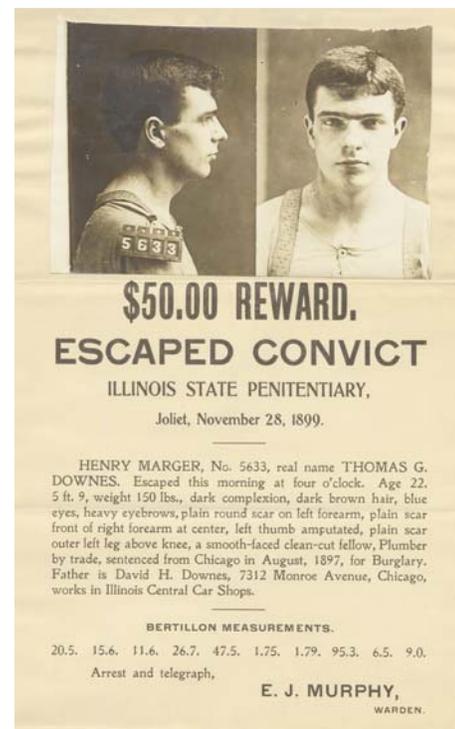
3rd Wednesday of every month, 9:30 a.m.
Margaret Cross Norton Building, Springfield
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

200 years of Illinois history (1818-2018) (Cont. from pg. 1.)

later recommended closing the Alton prison and building a new facility.

In 1857, a penitentiary at Joliet was authorized and construction began in August 1857. Convicts from Alton constructed the new institution, which was built from limestone quarried by the prisoners onsite. The Alton site was abandoned after the Joliet Penitentiary was completed in 1860. It later served as a military prison for Confederate prisoners. The Joliet prison quickly became overcrowded despite its larger size and additional legislation that passed in 1863 which allowed for the early release for inmates who demonstrated good behavior. By 1865, it was one of the most populated prisons in the United States. In 1889, the General Assembly passed a bill which required female prisoners to be sent to Joliet. The women were initially housed in the administration building until a separate women's building was finished in 1895. Female prisoners were held at Joliet until 1931 when a new facility was completed for women inmates in Dwight.

In 1877, the Southern Illinois Penitentiary, known today as the Menard Correctional Center, was built to house prisoners from the southern counties of Illinois and to ease overcrowding at Joliet. Construction of Stateville Correctional Center in Crest Hill,



Joliet Prison held some of Illinois' most dangerous prisoners for 144 years. The Illinois State Archives holds records related to the prison, including this wanted poster from 1899.

near Joliet, began in 1917. The intention was to close the Joliet facility once Stateville was completed. This did not occur until 2002. The facility was open 144 years before the Joliet Correctional Center finally closed its doors. The majority of its staff and inmates were sent to nearby Stateville.

Professional development scholarships available to Illinois archivists

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) is offering professional development scholarships to Illinois archivists and archival volunteers to attend an archival workshop/seminar of their choice in Illinois (or an online professional archival development course). Awards are available for up to \$200 per applicant, per fiscal year, and may be used toward the cost of registration, housing and/or travel to the event. It is a reimbursable award. Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come basis until the funding is exhausted. Complete information and an application form can be found at www.cyberdriveillinois.com (click on Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Historical Records Advisory Board). This archival educational opportunity is funded by a State Board Programming grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

If you have any questions, please contact:

David Joens, Director, Illinois State Archives, M. C. Norton Building, Springfield, IL 62756
Phone: 217-782-3492; FAX: 217-524-3930; djoens@ilsos.net.

2017 ISHRAB Historical Records Grants



The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) awarded Historical Records Grants totaling \$24,000 to seven Illinois historical records repositories in an effort to develop and/or carry out projects that will lead to enhanced online access. Funding for the grants was provided by a State Board Programming Grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Since 2010, the ISHRAB has

awarded grants through the NHPRC to 73 institutions in 31 counties for the preservation and access to archival records. The following organizations received grants for their historical records projects:

Rockford: Midway Village Museum

Taking Rockford's History Online — \$4,000 to digitize 800 of its most popular photographs and add them to the museum's website. Photographs include Rockford's downtown, buildings, businesses and factories. The collection also includes photos of the 1940s women's professional baseball team, the Rockford Peaches.

Carbondale: Southern Illinois University

Digitizing Unique Maps of Southern Illinois University and the Southern Illinois Region — \$4,441 to digitize, catalog and make available online a small collection of maps in the Morris Library collection.

Lake Forest/Lake Bluff: Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Historical Society

Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Online Collections Catalog — \$4,000 to hire a temporary Collections Assistant to prepare collections, catalog records and launch PastPerfect Online.

Chicago: Media Burn Archive

Enhancing Digital Collections that Bring Illinois History to Life — \$1,500 to create online collection-level search aids for 35 collections of videos and papers documenting Illinois history and culture.

Chicago: Leather Archives and Museum, Inc.

Public Catalog and Online Exhibit for Archival and Museum Collections at the LA&M — \$3,600 to create a collections management system and exhibit website using CollectiveAccess to make records of over 12,000 objects and 46 archival collections searchable and to uncover currently inaccessible images.

Champaign: Illinois State Archaeological Survey

University of Illinois LOA Archaeological Archives & Digital Images Database: Early Exploration of Illinois Pre-History — \$5,000 for the arrangement, description and digitization of original photographic images and paper documents associated with early (ca. 1905-1960) mound surveys and archaeological investigations in Illinois.

Aurora: Aurora Regional Fire Museum

Preservation and Inventory of Aurora Fire Department Log Books — \$2,130 to inventory and preserve approximately 250 log books from the Aurora Fire Department spanning the 1920s to 1990s. These books chronicle fire calls, EMS responses and time logs.

ISHRAB members visit grant sites

Members of the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) and the board coordinators made site visits this spring to the 2016-2017 Historical Records Grant recipients. During the visits, grant recipients gave tours of their facilities, spoke about their collections and gave updates on the progress of their projects. All projects include activities that will lead to enhanced online access, including the development of plans to identify, preserve and facilitate online discovery of collections and create online finding aids and inventories.

In 2016, ISHRAB awarded six Historical Records Grants totaling \$26,217. Grant recipients were the Adler Planetarium; Southeast Chicago Historical Society; Loyola University Chicago's Women and Leadership Archives; Des Plaines History Center; the Morton Arboretum's Sterling Morton Library; and Oak Park Public Library. Funding for the ISHRAB Historical Records Preservation Grant program was provided by a State Board Programming grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.



Emily Reiher (left), archival resident at Oak Park Public Library, shows ISHRAB board member Cecilia Salvatore (right) the library's newly established online finding aids in ArchivesSpace.



Philip Mohr, curator at the Des Plaines History Center, demonstrates the use of grant purchased scanning equipment.

Processing state government emails

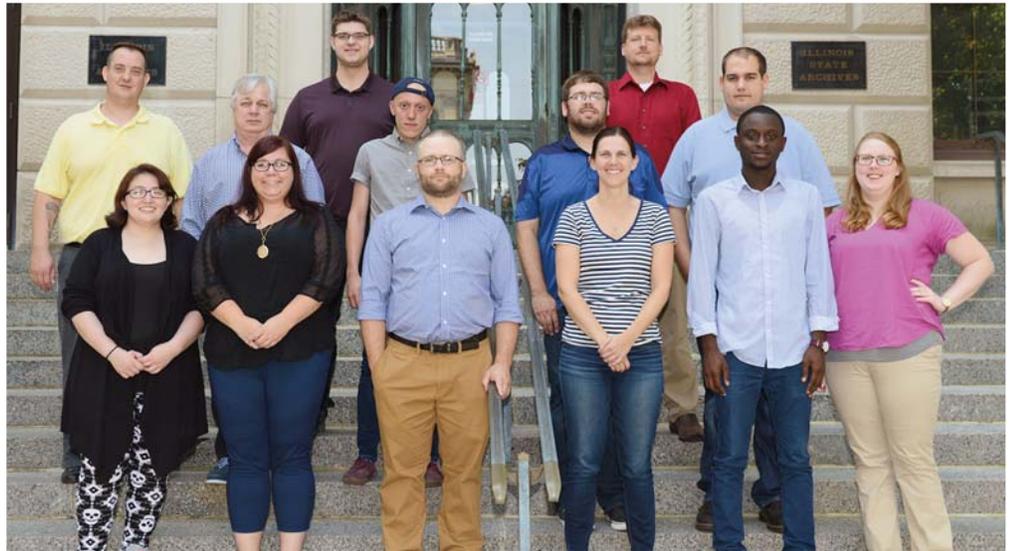
The Illinois State Archives, in partnership with the University of Illinois, is launching a project called Processing Capstone Email Using Predictive Coding (a.k.a. the Capstone Email Project). The project seeks to develop and demonstrate a reliable and sustainable method of identifying and providing appropriate access to the email messages of state agencies that have enduring value.

Following the lead of the National Archives and Records Administration, the project will start with using a Capstone approach to identify email messages having enduring value. This means the project will identify and secure email messages of senior administrative officers from state agencies. The project will work with experts in the areas of text analytics and electronic discovery to explore tools that use technology-assisted review techniques (predictive coding, in particular) for the purposes of parsing and classifying the email.

The expectation is that the tools will assist in identifying and prioritizing review of sensitive content, in generating descriptive metadata, aggregating email threads, identifying near-duplicates and providing some level of automatic appraisal and redaction.

This project was made possible by a three-year, \$197,130 State Government Electronic Records Grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

2017-2018 IRAD interns selected



The Illinois Regional Archives Depository (IRAD) system, a program of the Illinois State Archives, is dedicated to the preservation of local governmental records. The IRAD depositories, located at seven universities throughout the state, preserve the official records of local governmental agencies that have permanent legal, administrative, historical or other research values. Each year, graduate students are selected to serve as interns at the depositories.

The IRAD internships introduce graduate students to the functions of an archives institution and allow them to develop basic archival and research skills. Duties include arranging and processing records, preparing descriptive inventories and providing reference service to the public. Interns for the 2017-2018 academic year attended an intensive two-day training session in Springfield in August.

The following are the 17 interns and their academic majors, as well as the IRAD where they are serving:

Eastern Illinois University

Logan BraddockHistory
Emily MorenoHistory

Illinois State University

Ryan KemperHistory
Joseph Mensah.....Actuarial Science

Northeastern Illinois University

Paul M. HughesHistory
John HurleyHistory
Krystyna Korcz.....Political Science
Timothy LaneHistory

Northern Illinois University

Sean DalyPolitical Science
William WojtkiewiczHistory

Southern Illinois University

Emily HumbertPhilosophy
Jared KemlingPhilosophy
Kimberly TurnerPolitical Science

University of Illinois at Springfield

Corinne MayfieldPublic History
Benjamin Karl MillerPublic History

Western Illinois University

Nancy C. DixonHistory
Nicholas Piersee.....History

Illinois State Archives
Office of the Secretary of State
Margaret Cross Norton Building
Springfield, Illinois 62756

For the Record is published three times a year by the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board, Office of the Secretary of State.

Jesse White • Secretary of State & State Archivist
Produced by the Secretary of State Communications Department.