UofL Then and Now

By Bill Carner
Photographic Archives

Special Collections has been collaborating with Louisville’s Butler Books and Greater Louisville, Inc. on a book titled Louisville Then and Now. The book, which will be published this spring, features pictures from the Photographic Archives’ collections for the “then” images. Photo Archives employee Chrissy Leake and I hit the streets of Louisville this past summer and fall with photocopies of potential “then” pictures and digital cameras in hopes of making “now” pictures which showed the link between past and present and looked interesting. A lot of times the Xeroxes we held in our hands were of bustling 1920s city streets lined with handsome, unique buildings, while we found ourselves looking at grim “now’s” of parking lots littered with trash. Most of the time, however, we were more fortunate than that and we got many “now’s” of shiny new buildings packed shoulder-to-shoulder in the vibrant heart of Louisville. Although Chrissy cleaned up the images and corrected the perspective on the taller buildings with Photoshop, we found ourselves wishing for a mythical program we call Digital Chainsaw, which would take out all the trees in the photos and reveal buildings hidden behind them.

This aerial photo shows the UofL campus looking east circa 1948. Fourth Street runs parallel to the bottom edge of the picture, with the old Kentucky Cooperage on the west side of the street. The last day the trolleys ran in Louisville was Derby Day 1948; after that, the trolleys were stored on the east side of Fourth at the Louisville Railway Company car barn. The University was much smaller than it is today. The campus boundaries were Eastern Parkway (no viaduct yet), Third Street and Shipp Street. Second Street hasn’t been extended south to meet Third Street, and the Louisville Colonels were still playing at Parkway Field, as they would until the new fairgrounds opened in 1956. The Belknap Theater is just to the south of the J. B. Speed Art Museum. The theater had been the chapel at the old School of Reform. The theater was disassembled in the 1970s to make way for the Ekstrom Library and later re-assembled in Freedom Park. I-65 won’t be built for almost 20 years. The thriving neighborhood north of Shipp Street is all gone except for Robbins Hall, the Honors building and the Red Barn, which was then part of the Caldwell Tank Company. The bus turn-a-round for Parkway Field can be seen at the south end of Brook Street.
Cardinal Stadium

Cardinal Stadium stands on the site of the L&N Railroad’s old South Louisville shops. Locomotives and railroad cars were repaired here until L&N’s successor, CSX, closed the shops in 1990. L&N built over 400 locomotives and 14,000 railroad cars here and repaired thousands more cars and engines between 1905 and 1990. As many as 4,000 people worked in twenty buildings on the 68-acre site during the shops’ peak years.

Leopold Hall and Lutz Hall

The U. S. Navy trained officer candidates in an accelerated course called the V-12 program at the University of Louisville. The “then” photo shows a group of Naval cadets on parade in front of Leopold Hall near the end of World War II. Leopold Hall was one of many wooden frame structures built for the V-12 program. The buildings originally occupied the area where Schneider Hall now stands. In 1955 most of them were moved to the current site of the Chemistry building. The last structures to be torn down were just north of Schneider Hall. They were torn down in 1981 around the time the Ekstrom Library opened. Lutz Hall stands on the approximate location of the old Leopold Hall.

Louisville Then and Now covers a lot of ground, so there was only room for one UofL photo. We’d like to share some of the alternate takes that didn’t make it into the book with The Owl’s readers. If this feature draws a positive response perhaps we can find more UofL Then and Now views to publish in subsequent issues of The Owl. If you want to see the rest of Louisville Then and Now you’ll have to wait until it hits the bookstores later this year.
Confederate Monument (looking west)
It has been said that when Louisville joined the Confederacy after the Civil War, the business community played up its commitment to the South to increase commerce with the southern states. Nevertheless, many Louisvillians had marched with the Confederate Army and in 1895 the Confederate Monument was erected to honor them. There have been several efforts to re-locate or remove the monument since 1920, but none succeeded. The University recently renamed the triangle of land where the monument and the Belknap Theater stand as Freedom Park. The 1933 Caufield & Shook photo was taken looking west on Brandeis across Third Street. All of the buildings visible in the picture were torn down years ago.

Confederate Monument (looking south)
This alternate view of the monument shows its rather small footprint in 1933. Many of the houses seen on right were torn down when Confederate Place was shortened to make room for the widening of Third Street and the later construction of the UofL apartment tower on the southwest corner of Third and Brandeis.
This 1927 photo shows the Administration Building, now named Grawemeyer Hall, as construction was being completed (right). The site has been improved with trees and landscaping over the years. Rodin’s *Thinker* was a gift of Louisville Board of Alderman President Arthur E. Hopkins in 1949.
The new Library Associates Board held its business meeting on January 13 in the Kornhauser Library to finalize its bylaws and to appoint several new committees.

From December 5-6, I was one of 320 persons who attended the annual fall Task Force meeting of the Coalition of Networked Information (CNI) in Phoenix, AZ. CNI (http://www.cni.org) helps to advance the networked information technology related to scholarly communication and the enrichment of intellectual productivity. The organization represents more than 120 major academic institutions working to develop networked information content and build information technology, standards and infrastructure. In addition to the presentations by Clifford Lynch, the CNI Executive Director, and Tony Hey, Vice President for Technical Computing, Microsoft Corporation’s 36 briefings provided snapshots of current digital activities related to higher education and national library initiatives. I presented one of these briefings on “The Library as the Center for Teaching, Learning and Socializing.”

The Faculty Senate Committee on Libraries (FSCOL), chaired by Elaine Wise, met on December 14 and January 18. The agenda included news from the libraries regarding collection development, the search for a digital librarian, the libraries’ first digital repository of dissertations and theses, and the possibility of creating a student library advisory committee. The group is also beginning to address some of the student concerns.

On January 6 the SAALCK (State-Assisted Academic Library Council of Kentucky) Directors’ Council met at the University of Louisville. The group is exploring the possibility of a conference on digital repositories in the future. Two collection development workshops have been scheduled for April 24-25 in Lexington and for April 27-28 in Cincinnati. The Collections Committee is working on various negotiations with vendors to finalize contracts for serials.

A slightly revised administrative structure of the Libraries went into effect in January 2006. There are now three Associate Deans:

- Associate Dean for Collections, Preservation and Digital Initiatives, Suzy Palmer
- Associate Dean for Assessment, Personnel and Research, Melissa Laning
- Associate Dean for Library Operations and Director of Ekstrom Library, Diane Nichols

Mardi Gras @ the Library

Perspectives on the People and Culture of New Orleans
February 27-28, 2006

Teaching, learning, fun, and food: this event is an interdisciplinary celebration of and tribute to the people and culture of New Orleans. The proposal was written by members of the Libraries Information Literacy Team and funded by a special grant from the Provost and the Undergraduate Council. The event will include: performances of New Orleans-related drama and music; a teaching exposition of speakers from eight different schools/departments on a variety of New Orleans-related topics; a month-long exhibit of stunning New Orleans photos taken by 1940s Standard Oil documentary project photographers; exhibits of original student art; and a series of diverse films and documentaries including The Big Easy and The Louisiana Story. The teaching exposition will also offer a free lunch featuring traditional New Orleans cuisine: jambalaya, gumbo, and red beans and rice. For more detailed information and a schedule of events, see http://library.louisville.edu/MardiGras/.

We need volunteers to help direct students and visitors the day of the event as well as people to attend the speaker presentations and the films. Please contact Cathy Hoover at x8699 or cathy.hoover@louisville.edu if you are interested and can help!
Ekstrom Library
Media & Current Periodicals

We extend a warm welcome to Carol Kraemer who started working with us in the binding position in November. She has hit the ground running and with her help, we’ve managed to hire, schedule and train a new group of student assistants. Trish can finally concentrate again on the video shop and planning for the move to the first floor space.

Speaking of the renovated space, Circulation is probably as anxious as anyone to move into the new wing and we’re excited about a new space on the first floor. The planned renovation of the new digs for the Media Services area is also on “hold” until the details of the contract for construction are worked out.

Did you know: In addition to the ever popular SGA Video Collection (which beats the heck out of Blockbuster) we also have a really excellent collection of DVDs from the Criterion Collection which are available for faculty and staff checkout? Just ask or do a Minerva search using the words “criterion” and “video recording” in the advanced search. You’ll be amazed at this collection — many of them remastered editions of classics.

Office of the Dean

Personnel News

Andrew Rader accepted the position of Computer Operations Advisor with the Office of Libraries Technology effective January 3, 2006. Andrew reports to Weiling Liu.

Leon Leydershnayder resigned from his position as Technology Specialist in the Office of Libraries Technology effective January 3, 2006 to focus more fully on his studies.

Kornhauser Library

Staff News

KHSL welcomes a new crew of student assistants: Kiran Amancherla, Chris Becker, Amelia Jackson, Dan Koenig, Cliff Wieck, and Sufang Yang. We also belatedly welcome two new staff members who joined us in 2005: Joe Dresselhaus in Circulation, and David Sauter in Technical Services.

Pedometer Fever Strikes Health Science Campus

On January 19, a resolute group of KHSL staffers kicked off a month-long “Trek to Greatness” and better health. Sponsored by the Jane Ramsey Campus Beautification Task Force Committee, the “T to G” campaign is designed to get individuals to try to take at least 10,000 steps a day, which is roughly the equivalent of walking five miles or engaging in 30 minutes of physical activity (as recommended by the U.S. Surgeon General). The first person to finish the 77-mile trek (a distance equivalent to that between Lexington and Louisville) will receive a shirt with the word CHAMPION blazoned across the back. All other finishers will receive t-shirts indicating their participation. Everyone will receive the benefits of improved health. The winner will be announced in the next issue of The Owl.

Other News of Note

Talent abounds throughout the University Libraries and KHSL is no exception. Late last year KHSL Library Specialist Elizabeth Osofsky and her group Trio Louisville recorded and released their first CD. “Favorites Through the Years,” the aptly named collection, features an eclectic mix of pop tunes, show tunes, and standards the Trio has performed in various venues around the city to the delight of their fans, old and new. Elegant and lush, controlled but free, unanimous in style and spirit, Trio Louisville’s virtuoso renditions of classics like “Moonlight in Vermont,” “Autumn Leaves,” and “Yesterday” equally impress and entertain. To acquire your copy of “Favorites Through the Years,” or booking information for Trio Louisville, contact Betsy Osofsky at KHSL.

Law Library

Law Library Hosts The Clothesline Project

Through the month of April, the Law Library is hosting The Clothesline Project, an exhibit bearing witness to violence against women. This marks the third time that the library has hosted this very moving display, featuring t-shirts decorated by victims of domestic violence and/or their family members.

Along with the t-shirts, the Project has added a second display showcasing the quilt made more than ten years ago by the Battered Offenders Self-Help Group, a support group for women who were incarcerated in Pewee Valley for either killing or conspiring to kill the men in their lives who had abused them. After the women completed the quilt, their counselor asked the State Fair Board to exhibit it with other quilts on display at the 1995 Kentucky State Fair. When then-Governor Brereton Jones saw it, he committed to help the women and they were eventually freed. The original
B.O.S.H. Quilt is now too frail to display, but with generous grants from the Louisville Bar Foundation and the Judah Family Foundation, a replica of the quilt along with a set of panels describing the quilt were created and are on display in the Law Library Reading Room (first floor) during all of the library’s operating hours. For more information, contact Robin Harris robin.harris@louisville.edu or 852-6083.

**Music Library**

**Women Composers**

In honor of Women’s History Month in March, a new Music Library exhibit focuses on women composers. It will present information ranging from a look at the first-known female composer all the way to more recent composers, including Grawemeyer winners Kaija Saariaho, Joan Tower and Unsuk Chin. Scores composed by women composers, as well as books on women composers, will be featured. The exhibit will also present examples of journals that relate to women composers.

**Remembering George Yater**

_by Tom Owen_

George Yater loved to tell and write stories about places. His stories though were mostly about this place — his home City of Louisville. His eyes sparkled when he caught you up in a tale about our home that he thought was news to you. Historian John Kleber described George as “Louisville’s Tom Clark” — Kentucky’s recently deceased historian emeritus.

George was unpretentious and approachable, possessing a dry wit backed by a warm smile. To my knowledge, he had little time for self-pity in himself or others.

To the historian’s craft, George combined the researcher’s doggedness with a newspaper writer’s deep respect for a deadline. His work was leavened with a broad sympathy for our very human condition. Amazingly, throughout his several employments, he managed to manipulate his job into the service of his passion for history. Look for his by-line in the Chamber of Commerce magazine over thirteen years and you will see the launching pad for his definitive history of Louisville.

His zeal for Louisville’s history made him a dumpster diver. Years ago, he had me stop in the alley behind his Belgravia Court home to load his most recent haul for the University Archives: hundreds of WAVE radio transcription discs from the late 1930s to the late 1950s that he pulled from a dumpster.

From his childhood in Beechmont George rode streetcars. In their dying days, he made notes about them and took their picture and after they were gone, he chased far and wide to ride them and told their story without end. I think George Yater is still mad that the streetcars don’t run here any more. I swear I never saw him on a bus.

George Yater will be missed. Our crystal clear memory of him will dim. The passion that he poured into his research notes and writings about home and rail will live long after him.

Now, we who measure our lives by decades, leave George in the hands of the Author of Time and Eternity—the Alpha and Omega—our beginning and our end.

George Yater was a long-time volunteer as well as donor to the Photographic Archives and University Archives. Bill Carner first met George when he was doing research for Two Hundred Years at the Falls of the Ohio published in 1979. Sometime later, George became a volunteer working mainly on the description of the Gibson Louisville Railway Co. collection in Photo Archives. He was pivotal in the Photo Archives’ acquisition of Chamber of Commerce materials. He also donated a variety of historic photographic items and books from his personal collection.

**UARC**

Tom Owen released Butchertown: The Resilient Neighborhood, the fifth neighborhood walking tour video in his “Tom Owen’s Louisville” series. This latest offering is on DVD. There are two copies in Ekstrom, one in Media & Current Periodicals and the other in Photographic Archives. Butchertown, as well as earlier videos in the series, is also available at local bookstores.

Kathie Johnson is serving as consultant to the Crescent Hill and the St. Matthews/Eline branches of the Louisville Free Public Library in a six-week film and discussion series that LFPL is presenting on World War I. The series began January 17 and runs through February 23.
When you’re visiting the Galleries in Schneider Hall, plan to stop by the Art Library to see more artwork. Drawings, prints, watercolors and sculpture are interspersed throughout the 80,000 volume collection. Highlights include a collage by nationally known artist Alma Lesch and several works by UofL faculty, past and present.

Exhibits

Art Library
Joseph Fitzpatrick Retrospective – Belknap/Covi Gallery
Berry Klingman, Drawings & Prints – Gallery X
January 12 – February 19, 2006

Alma Lesch: Life Fabrics – Belknap Gallery
“Dissent” Exhibition – Covi Gallery
African Hats from the Stalnaker Collection – Gallery X
February 23 – March 26, 2006
Reception – Friday, March 24, 5 – 7 PM*
*In conjunction with ACC/Southeast Conference

Ekstrom Library
Lobby
Kentucky Quilts: Images of Quilts from the Collection of the Kentucky Historical Society
Through February, 2006

Special Collections:
Photographic Archives
All Possible Worlds: Photographs by Douglas D. Prince
January 17 – March 24, 2006

Rare Books
Elizabeth I: Ruler and Legend
American Library Association traveling exhibit
January 9 – February 17, 2006

Law Library
The Clothesline Project
An exhibit bearing witness to violence against women
Through April 2006

Music Library
First Floor
Women Composers
Selected works and materials about women composers from the first composer to recent Grawemeyer Award winners
February – March 2006

Second Floor
New Books

Correction
In the October 2005 issue of The Owl, the title of distinguished guest Sally Forbes was erroneously reported. Sally was chief librarian, curator and researcher. Our apologies to Ms. Forbes for the omission.

Photo by Bill Carner