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Winter 1998

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arginalia

friends of utah state university libraries

president emert's vision for usu libraries

braham Lincoln once said that "the best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." In other words, there is always time to reach those lofty goals if you chip away at them one day at a time. It takes determination. It takes work. And it takes vision. But we have the time, if we start today.

As we look to our future at Utah State University, we are encouraged by the picture we see. Let us think, for example, of our library system—its successes, its needs and its potential. All three are great, and we have a carefully charted strategy that will enable us to build upon the past, work concertedly in the present and look with optimism toward the future. We are optimistic—and for good reason. A history check shows we've recently come a long way during some tough financial times, and we're moving forward with focused goals and the determination to reach them.

Take a look at the progress we've made in the last five years. We have a new, state-of-the-art science and technology library facility. Our book collection



USU President George Emert

has increased dramatically. The professional library staff has almost doubled. Computer online resources seem to grow

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"portrait of a lady" rediscovered?

American ex-patriot artist Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828), has hung in the Merrill Library at Utah State University. The painting, labelled *Portrait of a Lady*, features a young hazel-eyed woman seated in an armchair with drapery of scarlet brocade behind her. Wearing a dark blue, square-collared gown, she is represented at half length, seated full-front, with a dreamy gaze high and to the left of the viewer.

Situated just behind the young woman's right shoulder is a dark, unfinished pillar or wall. Next to her left shoulder and beyond the drapery, is a small area of horizon and bluish sky.

Although Portrait of a Lady is presumed to be by Stuart's hand, this remains to be proven. Yet, the woman's genteel pose, head dress and fashion are characteristic of Stuart's treatment of feminine portraiture. The colors employed in the drapery and elsewhere in the sur-

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in praise of friends

his past year has been momentous for Friends of USU Libraries. We faced a challenge and met it, thanks to the support of many new members who shared our vision. We welcome each of you as Friends and look forward to a fruitful association.

Following its 1996 session, the Utah legislature left USU's libraries without funds to subscribe to journals needed for the research conducted by students and faculty. Recognizing the predicament, President Emert offered a grant of \$50,000, if Friends could match that amount with private donations.

These new Friends boosted our membership to over 750.

We approached our faculty, patrons, alumni and business leaders through Marginalia. Their response was encouraging, but fell short of our goal. Then Learning Resources Program Development Director John Payne and student callers directed a phonathon appeal to the parents of our students. Hundreds of parents recognized the importance of USU Libraries and pledged their support. Together we met the challenge. These new Friends boosted our membership to over 750.

We thank each of you who have provided support to USU's libraries and invite you to enjoy the benefits of being a Friend. These benefits include library book check-out privileges and access to other learning resources in USU's libraries. You are also invited to attend Friends

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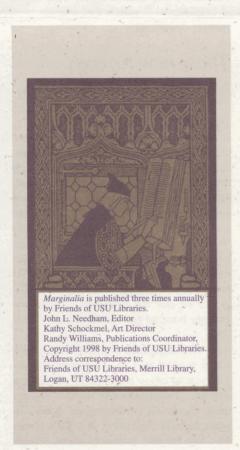
friends...continued from page 1

events such as the upcoming book reading (see page 6). In the summer, we feature weekly lectures of interest to Friends and campus visitors. We also co-sponsor special events such as annual Library, Week lectures, exhibits and tours; the Arrington Lecture; the Kinship Conference; and other lectures by special visitors to campus. And, of course, you receive our twice-annual publication, Marginalia, in which you may learn about Friends activities.

We hold two books sales annually. The first, which is hosted by USU Bookstore, is a "remainder" sale of recent books surplused by publishers. The second is the sale of duplicate copies from the libraries. The Friends sponsor these sales to help USU's libraries obtain new resources needed by library users.

We welcome you as a Friend of USU Libraries and encourage you to participate in our efforts to support USU libraries.

William F. Lye
 President
 Friends of USU Libraries =



"portrait of a lady"



Lady ... continued from page 1

rounding compositional elements are also consistent with Stuart's palette. Indeed, the manner and style embodied in the work are grounds for the painting's authentication.

Unfortunately, little is known of its provenance. It is known, however, that the painting was donated to USU in 1943 by Mitchel Taradash of New York City. In correspondence among the university president's papers, it appears that Mr. Taradash was an associate of Mr. and Mrs. L. Boyd Hatch, connoisseurs and philanthropists who had built an estate on the Providence bench overlooking Cache Valley, Utah. Writing to Elmer George "E. G." Peterson, then President of Utah State Agricultural College (now USU), Mr. Taradash noted that it had been in the family's possession "for some years" and "Mr. Frank X. Kelly, the well-known painting expert thinks very highly of this painting." Upon receiving the painting, it was to be displayed in the Commons Reception Room, where it stayed for some years until it was transferred to the university art museum which, at the time, was located just inside the library's entrance.

Since the portrait went virtually unrecorded for more than half a century, it passed undetected by surveyors of Stuart's work. The painting does not appear in Lawrence Park's catalogue raisonné of Stuart's works, neither under the title *Portrait of a Lady* nor any attributable description of known portraits. Most discoveries of lost Stuarts, and corrections of works attributed to him, were made in the years following Park's descriptive list of 1926. In fact, it was Charles Mount who, after adding upon Park's impressive list through methodical fieldwork, surmised in 1964 that many more Stuart portraits remained undiscovered.

Until its provenance can be more fully documented, USU's Portrait of a Lady will remain an enigma. The fact that it has been attributed to Stuart is nonetheless worthy of further investigation. Regardless of the painting's origin, the creator's artistic ability should be counted with other American artists of merit. The painting has certainly been a prized—though unauthenticated—work among the numerous art and artifact items held in the Merrill Library.

— Noel A. Carmack

Preservation Librarian

USU Libraries



art in the libraries

he holdings of Special Collections and Archives in the Merrill Library include a number of art and artifact items that deserve attention. A significant portion of these items are gifts made during the 1940s by the Hatch family of Providence, Utah, in memory of Ella Gardner McQuarrie Hatch and L. Boyd and Anne McQuarrie Hatch. Most of the items are now housed in the Hatch Room, a largeseventeenth century, English-style room which was donated in 1953 by the Hatch family. The items in this room represent the family's years of buying and collecting books, art, and antique furniture in New England and Europe. A few noteworthy pieces from the Hatch gifts are:

- Sixteenth century carved oak linenfold panelling from Ipswich, England, from the Hearst Collection.
- Seventeenth century carved stone fireplace, from the Charles of London Collection.
- Pair of seventeenth century antique bronze andirons, from the Collection of Count Magnelli of Arcevia.
- DeVillers Book of Hours, a late fifteenth century prayer book containing beautifully rendered illuminations and text.
- Eighteenth century Flemish tapestry, from the Charles of London Collection.
- Two walnut Florentine sgabello a wooden side chair with a carved back and octagonal seat—dating from the fifteenth century.
- Painting of a Young Girl by John Dowman, 1750-1824.

Of the above named items, the DeVillers Book of Hours is perhaps one of the most extraordinary. The Book of Hours is a private prayer book once used by the DeVillers family, a noble line among the upper bourgeoisie of Dijon, France. It is believed to have been created near Burgundy, France, ca.1470. This book, composed of ninety-nine un-foliated leaves, contains the holy calendar and is followed by Gospels lessons; the Passion of Christ; the Hours of the Holy Spirit; the Penitential Psalms and litany; the Office of the Dead; a prayer directed to the Blessed Virgin Mary; and suffrages or intercessory prayers to St. Gregory, St. John the Baptist, St. Christopher, and St. Barbara. Sections are beautifully illuminated with fullpage or three-quarter-page miniatures de-



st. luke from the "devillers Book of hours"

picting saints and gospel scenes. The hand-scripted text is rubricated in red ink and contains decorated capitals, setting off new passages.

The volume, a gift of L. Boyd and Anne McQuarrie Hatch in 1953, is a crown jewel of the rare books collections in Merrill Library. Currently, the *DeVillers Book of Hours* is among other Medieval manuscript items from Utah collections on exhibition at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition, curated by Dr. Elizabeth A. Peterson of the University of Utah, is entitled "Paging Through Medieval Lives" and will run from November 2, 1997 through January 4, 1998. For more information, contact the Utah Museum of Fine Arts (801) 581-7332 or click on www2.art.utah.edu.

Special Collections and Archives holds other art and artifact items unrelated to the Hatch gift, including:

• A series of original signed and dated prints issued by the Associated American Artists. They include prints by such artists as Thomas Hart Benton, Jackson Lee Nesbitt, Joseph Hirsch and Lawrence Beal Smith.

- Ornamental woodwork and furniture by David Hughes, former instructor of woodworking in USU's School of Mechanical Arts.
- Artistic photographs by LaVell Cooley, a USU alumnus.
- Drawings and sketches by Everett Thorpe, former faculty member of USU's Art Department.

These items and others are available for viewing or study by appointment with Rose Milovich, Art and Artifacts Curator. Call 797-0893 or, for Special Collections and Archives, 797-2663.

— Noel Carmack

Preservation Librarian

USU Libraries



friends

are a necessary

part of life for

institutions as well as

for people.

support and

recognition are

important elements of

any friendship.



friends of the library

groups can and should supply these elements to all libraries while they represent the library to the community. the potential effectiveness of a group of citizens with no vested interest cannot be overestimated.

— Sandy Dolnick,
The Whole Library Handbook,
1991



ement. . . continued from page 1'

overnight and outreach and distance education services are proliferating.

Yet, we must keep in mind the context. This is not just a numbers game for the sake of unencumbered growth. Hovering over all those numbers and this growth is the fact that our faculty have made USU a Carnegie Research I institution—among the top two percent of research universities. This university is ranked sixtieth in the nation in competitive research dollars generated. That puts us on par with the major research institutions in the country. USU is among the elite.

But our faculty have reached these heights with a library system that's still catching up to the faculty's research initiatives. We're hustling to make sure our libraries do catch up. And, in fact, one of our primary goals is to get the library up to Association of Research Libraries or ARL standards. ARL is comprised of the top research libraries in the country. Right now, only 120 qualify for membership, and of the 87 Carnegie Research I institutions, all but 10 are supported by ARL facilities.

ARL standards are tough, but in the last five years, we've moved half the distance it will take for us to join. And we're on course to make it happen. The USU library collection continues to grow at a tremendous rate. Bound volumes increased from 846,000 in 1991 to more than 1.35 million in 1996. We project that we need to reach two million volumes in order to meet ARL criteria. Our journal collection has remained stable at a time when subscription rate increases and tight budgets have forced massive cuts at academic libraries across the country. We have increased our professional library staff from 21 in 1990 to 40 in 1997. Our library expenditures are steadily increasing, rising from the \$3.8 million spent in 1991 to almost \$5.5 million in 1996.

Furthermore, our new SciTech Library offers faculty and students a facility outfitted with the most up-to-date information-access technology available. Our regional depository of government documents is one of the best in the nation. The Quinney Library has a significant international rangeland management collection. Special Collections houses one of the world's most prized collections of works by Jack London. Much more could be said of each segment of our library system.

We are proud of all these resources. But now is not the time to sit back and gloat about how far we've come—there is much work left to do. The road to the future is before us. One look at the horizon shows a world that will become ever-more complex and, of course, ever-more expensive. This demand for ease of access to information through computerization has added an entire new layer of infrastructure—communication lines, technical equipment, support staff, new instructional requirements. And the owners of all that new, easily accessible information are finding more and more ways to make us pay for it. At this point, we are hostage to any demands they make.

These are some of the hurdles we face. There are others—budget cuts, new copyright restrictions, distance education needs. And they won't go away. The high expectations we have set for our library facilities also will challenge us, now and as we take new roads. But we have proven again and again that USU is an institution that thrives during challenging times.

My vision for USU's library system is ARL competitive. It is grand. But it is not unrealistic. The same determination and commitment that have brought this institution to Carnegie Research I status will take our library system to those same heights. My goal is to offer our faculty and students access to anything they need to compete in their fields. One of my highest priorities is to make sure our faculty have the most up-to-date information available at their fingertips—as available as at any top-notch research institution in the world.

After all, that is what our researchers are now—top-notch—and that is what we will strive to be in every arena at USU including our libraries. It will take some effort, but we're moving—one day at a time.

— George H. Emert
President
Utah State University



clicking on usu libraries

abitual users of the World Wide Web recognize that find-Ling noteworthy information on the Internet can be similar to searching for the proverbial needle-in-a-haystaçk. Unlike browsing through a library or bookstore, where you can be fairly certain of the quality of materials you'll find there, "surfing" the Internet has a distinct element of the unknown. This is particularly evident in that many Internet sites—commercial. educational, and nonprofit—are known more for their fancy graphics and glitzy web applications than for the quality of the content. Fortunately, this is where librarians, the traditional gate-keepers of information, can and do play a pivotal role on the World Wide Web.

The Utah State University Libraries home page is one example of librarians' efforts to organize access to worthwhile web resources and sites. The home page maintains a collection of local resources such as library guides, thematic maps and web resources. The library guides portion of the home page is an on-line collection of materials to help patrons utilize the various resources throughout the libraries.- Now, remote users can obtain help whether in the library, home or office.

The thematic map collection features user-defined maps created by the Government Documents Librarian here at

internet WIZARÓRY:

tracking new sites on the world wide WEB



USU using a geographical information system. Each map is created based on the end-user's needs and available data sets. Maps can be either downloaded, printed or, if necessary, requested electronically and delivered via the libraries home page.

The web resources section of the home page is an attempt to organize Internet/Web-resources of relevance to faculty, students and research staff of the University. Web resources are recognized

as the electronic counter-part to the traditional print reference collection.

Recently, many commercial publishers have developed web-based electronic equivalents to their traditional print materials. Commercial providers are making electronic journals, periodical indexes and abstracts, and full-text journal databases available over the Internet. Many of these products have additional features such as search engines and print options that are only available with the web-based versions. These are only a few of the electronic resources available via the USU Libraries home page and, unlike more traditional library materials, these are constantly evolving with the electronic environment that contains them.

- Kevin Brewer Reference Librarian SciTech Library

List of sites mentioned:

Libraries home page Libraries guides Thematic maps Academic web resources Electronic journals

www.usu.edu/~library ... www.usu.edu/~library/Res/guides.html www.usu.edu/Res/Govt/toc.html www.usu.edu/~netref www.usu.edu/~library/Res/E jrnl/e jrnl.html www.usu.edi/~library/Res/Db/db.html

Other sites of interest to users of USU libraries:

Special Collections home page www.usu.edu/~specol/index.html What's new at the Libraries

www.usu.edu/~library/About/new.html www.usu.edu/~library/Test_db/index.html

yes! I would like to join friends of utah state university libraries!

category

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thank you for your support!

"my oream was to live in this heavenly Building and know all its secrets... to be allowed to go behind the curving Book-clad walls into the stacks and have keys to unlock the cabinets of Bookish Rarities."

— Germaine Greer, Daddy, We Hardly Knew You, 1989

the inner life of libraries

ood books elicit an emotional re sponse in the reader. Library: The Drama Within is just such a book. It is made to be browsed and lingered in like the libraries it portrays. Its evocative photographs—accompanied by brief descriptive notes and carefully chosen quotationstransported me back to my youth and trips to the Carnegie Library in Smithfield, Utah. Climbing the steps, barely reaching my mother's hand, the smells of polished wood and leather bindings, the silence of dust flakes floating through angled sunlight, and the sure promise of untapped knowledge sparked a joy within me that has never dampened. I have not visited any of the libraries featured in this compilation. Yet, turning the pages, I was continually reminded of the many library cards I have used-and the mystical hours spent enclosed in rows of printed words.

As I moved from my home library to the larger world of college, my continuing love of books led to a career as a librarian at Utah State University. I eventually gave up my childhood fancy of reading every book in my hometown library's collection (it had actually seemed possible then). Now, I find time only to read those books recommended by best friends or respected colleagues.

Today, the library as I thought I knew it has become a world dominated by infor-

mation technology. I have grudgingly accepted the computers, the Internet and the moveable, motorized shelving systems that make up the SciTech Library. Working in this building that sometimes seems more like a spaceship than a library, with its metal ceilinged corridors and swishing automatic doors, feels distant from the cozy wood and light-filled haven I encountered decades ago. Indeed, I still find myself drawn to the dignified peace and solace of the Merrill Library's Hatch Room; or I feel an occasional and unexplained longing to catch a lift aboard the oldest elevator on campus in Special Collections.

Library: The Drama Within not only defines what a library can be, it suggests how a library—from the grand to the humble—should feel to its users. It assures us that we are not alone in our apparently incurable affection for the printed word, our need to commune with musty pages with the rather daft hope that all of the secrets of the world can be discovered within the world of books.

By Diane Asseo Griliches, with an essay by former Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin, *Library: The Drama Within* is available in the Merrill Library.

Vicki Read
 Patron Services Specialist
 SciTech Library

upcoming events of interest to friends

12 January-13 march • library exhibit • merrill library • weekdays: 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

"Painted Illusions: Trompe L'Oeil-Embellished Furnishings and Architectural Details." USU Special Collections & Archives will host an exhibition featuring artworks by Alice Brown that incorporate or are embellished with trompe l'oeil painting. The history of trompe l'oeil or "foolthe-eye" painting dates back to ancient Greece and Rome. It was also popular as a decorating technique for furniture, walls and floors during the Victorian period. In Utah, European craftsmen who were early converts to Mormonism practiced the art of wood graining and faux marbling in the place of hardwoods and other costly materials. During the twentieth century, artists, designers and craftsmen have revived the use of trompe l'oeil techniques in architectural and interior design. Contemporary artist Alice Brown applies trompe l'oeil imagery as an embellishment to the surfaces of walls, floors, molding and furniture. The exhibition includes furniture and wall panels painted by Alice Brown together with educational materials that demonstrate a variety of faux techniques and painting tools.

Alice Brown holds an MFA in painting from the University of Iowa and an BFA in drawing from Utah State University. She was a visiting instructor at the prestigious School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and most recently the Visual Arts Director at the Cache Valley Learning Center.

6 march • Book reading & signing • eccles conference center auditorium • 7:00 p.m.

The latest publication from USU Press . . . hot off the press!

19-25 april • national library week

Connect @the Library: Global Reach, Local Touch. See the spring issue of Marginalia for details.

22 april · lecture · to be announced

"Delays and vexation': Jack London and the Russo-Japanese War." In conjunction with National Library Week, Michael Sweeney, Assistant Professor of Communications at USU, will speak on Jack London's experiences as a war correspondent in the Russo-Japanese War; details in Marginalia.

Just Between friends: meet three friends of usu libraries

aye Steed represents the Cache Valley community on the Friends of USU Libraries Board. Born in Ogden, the daughter of a principal and a fourth grade teacher, Kaye received her education at USU with a double major in elementary education and child development. Kaye is married to Dr. Allan Steed, who is President and CEO of USU's Research Foundation and Space Dynamics Laboratory. They have four children who are all USU graduates.

Kaye is an avid reader and enjoys reading biographies, women's studies, literary classics, newspapers and children's literature. Her hobbies include exploring bookstores and libraries, camping in the family trailer and listening to classical music, particularly live performances.

To Friends members, she recommends three books: Jill K. Conway's *The Road From Coorain* and *True North*, both of which are available in the Merrill Library, and *A Circle of Quiet* by Madeleine L'Engle.'

lizabeth Rozum, another member of the Friends Board, is a California native who received a BS in biology from San Francisco State University. She took her master's degree in library science at the University of Michigan and is now a Science Librarian in USU's Science and Technology Library.

As a kindergarten student in USU's Edith Bowen Laboratory School, Betty's son Jordan is already an Aggie. Her other son, William, is four months old, and hasn't committed to a particular school. Her husband, Rick, is a former optician who has recently changed careers to become an electronic technician.

When not busy being a science librarian, wife and mother, Betty enjoys gardening. A lover of mysteries, she reads the works of Carol O'Connell, Sue Grafton, Nevada Barr and Patricia D.

Cornwell. From her biology background, Betty suggests *Behavior of Captive Wild Animals* by Hal Markowitz (available in the SciTech Library). And for fun, she recommends *Mallory's Oracle* by Carol O'Connell.

arl Lundahl, a member of Friends, is a full-blooded Aggie. Not only is he a USU alum, but so are his wife, Mary Sue, and two oldest daughters. He has a son who is a senior at USU, and their fourth daughter will be coming to USU next year. His is a family that believes in the great education that USU offers.

While at USU, Carl majored in biological science, with a minor in chemistry. He spent his career as a chemist at Thiokol Corporation, where he worked in a development laboratory directing liquid chromatography.

Since retiring last June, Carl has had a bit more time for his hobbies, which include golf, wood carving, stained glass and calligraphy. He once served as the President of the Northern Utah Calligraphers Association. He devotes much of his time to church activities and to the USU Alumni Association, where he serves as Vice President and President-elect.

Carl recommends reading James A. Michener's *Hawaii*, Gore Vidal's *Lincoln: A Novel* and *That All May Be Edified* by Boyd K. Packer. The first two are available in the Merrill Library. The third may be checked out through Interlibrary Loan.

John Payne
 Development Director
 Learning Resources Program

"friendship for libraries is enlightened self-interest."

– Barbara Tuchmar

The Friends of USU Libraries seek to further the appreciation of books; foster an awareness of the importance of USU Libraries to the community and the state; organize programs based on library holdings and interests; and stimulate private support for the Libraries.



from the shelves:

the horace h. cummings family papers

SU's Special Collections and Archives is pleased to announce the opening of a significant new manuscript collection that documents the daily life of a nineteenth century Mormon family: the Horace H. Cummings Family Papers.

Horace H. Cummings (1858-1937) is best known as an early Utah school teacher, author of textbooks and, from 1906-1919, general superintendent of Mormon church schools. The collection contains letters and financial records which detail the life of the Cummings family, at home in Cache Valley and during Horace's mission to Mexico in 1885-1887. In addition, the collection documents the Mormon presence in Mexico during the 1880s and the founding of the colonies in Chihuahua. It contains letters from Mormon apostles Erastus Snow an Henry B. Eyring and Mexican mission president Helaman Pratt.

Most of the collection consists of letters written by Horace's wife, Barbara Matilda Moses, to her husband. These include letters written by "Tillie", as she signed herself, to Horace in the fall and winter of 1880-1881 when Horace was living in Cache Valley and teaching at the Brigham Young College in Logan and printing the *Logan Leader*, a weekly newspaper. Tillie wrote the second group of letters in 1885-1887 when Horace was on a mission in Mexico. With good fortune, Tillie wrote faithfully, as many as five letters a month. On December 3,1880 she wrote:

Your very welcome letter came duly to hand a few days ago and I was pleased to hear from you again. I did not think you could read such harried scribbling but my hands were so cold that I could scarcely hold my pencil let alone write. We have had very cold weather and some snow but not enough to make good sleighing. Coal is very scarce here or at least I have herd [sic] a number complain that they could not get it readly [sic]...You ask how I spent thanksgiving well I stayed at home and sewed all day as usual and I am getting so I almost hate the name of sewing. I would rather teach school.

Each letter is a window into the daily life of an independent Mormon woman of the 1880s. This is especially true of Tillie's writing on polygamy. When Horace announced that he had taken a second wife in Mexico, Tillie informed him that if he came home with her she would not live with him anymore. However, with time polygamy became something of an inside joke to Horace and Tillie by which they teased each other in their letters.

The Horace H. Cummings Family Papers may be reviewed in the Tanner reading room of the Merrill Library weekdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. An unpublished finding aid, which contains a biographical sketch of the family, pertinent notes and a listing of every item in the collection, is available.

John L. Powell
 Manuscript Curator
 Special Collections & Archives



Utah State UNIVERSITY



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USU Libraries