

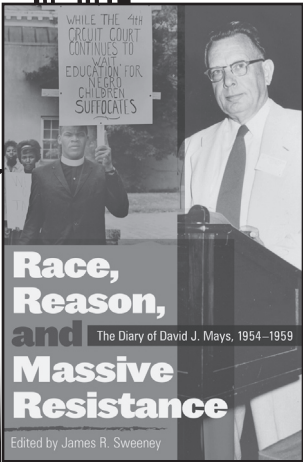
THE BALCH COLUMN

THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY • 208 W. MARKET ST. • LEESBURG, VA 20176 • 703-737-7195 • FAX: 703-737-7150 • EMAIL: balchlib@leesburgva.gov

Programs sponsored by Thomas Balch Library are held in the downstairs meeting room and are free unless otherwise noted. Due to limited seating we recommend registering in advance by calling 703/737-7195.

POLITICS AND CULTURE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY SOUTH: RACE, REASON, AND MASSIVE RESISTANCE

James R Sweeney
Sunday, 24 February 2008, 2PM



James R. Sweeney will discuss his recent book *Race, Reason, and Massive Resistance: The Diary of David J. Mays, 1954-1959*. David J. Mays, of Richmond, Virginia, was a highly regarded attorney, a Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer, and a member of his city's political and social elite. He was also a diarist for most of his adult life and his private writings offer insight into his state's embrace of massive white resistance following the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling. This volume comprises excerpts from his diaries from 1954 to 1959. During this time Mays was counsel to a commission, chaired by state senator Garland Gray, charged with formulating Virginia's response to federal mandates concerning integration of public schools. Mays chronicled the state's bitter and divisive shift away from the Gray Commission's proposal that school integration questions be settled at the local level. Instead, Virginia's arch-segregationists, led by US Senator Harry F. Byrd, championed a monolithic defiance of integration at the highest state and federal levels. Many leading Virginians of the time appear in Mays' diary, along with details of their roles in the battle against desegregation as it was fought in the media, courts, polls, and government back rooms. Mays' own racial attitudes were hardly progressive; yet his temperament and legal training put a relatively moderate public face on them. As Sweeney notes, Mays differences with extremists were about means more than ends—about "not the morality of Jim Crow but the best tactics for defending it."

James R. Sweeney, Associate Professor of History, Old Dominion University, specializes in Virginia history and recent American political history. He received his BA from Providence College and his MA and PhD from Notre Dame. His publications include *Old Dominion University: A Half Century of Service*; "The Trials of Shelby County, Tennessee: 'Judge Lynch' Presiding," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*; "A Segregationist on the Civil Rights Commission: John S. Battle, 1957-1959," *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, and Harry Byrd: Vanished Polices and Enduring Principles," *The Virginia Quarterly Review*.

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

THERE AND BACK AGAIN: NAZI ANTHROPOLOGICAL DATA AT THE SMITHSONIAN

Eddie Hedlin, Ruth O. Selig, and Beth Schuster
Sunday, 2 March 2008, 2PM

Lech Kaczynsk, President of Poland, formally accepted transfer from the Smithsonian Institution the *Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit* papers during a ceremony at the Polish Consulate, New York City, 26 September 2007. The transfer marked the end of the collection's sixty-plus year odyssey from Krakow to Germany to the United States and back to Poland. The collection consists primarily of anthropological research data from the Institute for German Eastern Research -- Section for Race and National Traditions Research (*Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit - Sektion für Rassen- und Volkstumforschung*) gathered from Poles in Nazi-occupied Poland by anthropologists employed by the Nazi government. The nature of this collection makes it an invaluable resource for genealogists, historians, and scholars of many specialties. Panelists will discuss the story of the documents, how they ended up in Poland, and explore types of data found in the collection.

Ruth Selig is Special Assistant to Cristián Samper, Acting Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Her educational background includes degrees from Wellesley College, Harvard University, and George Washington University. Selig taught anthropology and history at the college and high school levels before joining the Smithsonian to develop anthropology teacher training programs. She continues to co-edit *AnthroNotes*, a Smithsonian Department of Anthropology publication for teachers which she founded almost thirty years ago. A compendium of the best articles from this publication became the award-winning book, *Anthropology Explored: The Best of Smithsonian AnthroNotes* published by Smithsonian Books.

Eddie Hedlin served as Director of the Smithsonian Institution Archives from 1994 until her retirement in 2005. She held positions with NARA and NHPRC, served as consultant to major organizations, was the first Corporate Archivist for Wells Fargo Bank and began her career at Ohio Historical Society. Hedlin has an MA and PhD in history from Duke University. She is a past president of the Society of American Archivists and a founding member of the Academy of Certified Archivists.

Beth Schuster, Library Reference Specialist, Thomas Balch Library, holds a BA in History and German from University of Oregon, an MA in History with an emphasis in Central European History from University of Maryland, and an MLS, with a specialization in archives and concentration in academic libraries from University of Maryland. Schuster was archivist for the IDO-SRV project and has worked for the Collection Management Division of University of Maryland Libraries, University of Maryland Archives, and volunteered in the US Holocaust Memorial Museum archives.

News FROM THE DIRECTORS DESK



Thomas Balch Library hosted the fifteenth annual Loudoun History Awards sponsored by Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission on Sunday, 11 November 2007. Two Loudoun County residents and one group received awards. This year's honorees were the Laurel Brigade restoration and preservation group: Joe Ritenour, Dan Travostino, Christine Mougín-Boal, Stilson Greene and Rhonda Paice, for their role in restoring and preserving an historic landmark in Loudoun County, Lou Etta Watkins, for her longstanding commitment to Loudoun County heritage and its African American history, and Cate Magennis Wyatt, for her deep appreciation for the region's history and for her work in preserving it. In recognition of the Loudoun History Awards an exhibit, curated by Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist, was installed at Thomas Balch Library. It highlighted four past Loudoun History Award winners: Vinton Liddell Pickens, 1993, for her paintings of historic houses; Elaine E. Thompson, 1998, for her work in preserving and promoting Loudoun County's African American history; Patricia B. Duncan, 2005, for her efforts to increase access to Loudoun County's records through abstracting and indexing and The Honorable Thomas D. Home, 2005, for his work uncovering and preserving the history of the courthouse square. We were pleased to be able to include artifacts from the courthouse lawn excavation on loan from The Honorable Thomas D. Home.

Two additional exhibits curated by staff were on display this fall. One in honor of Native American Heritage Month which provided an introduction to Loudoun County and Virginia Native American heritage through a series of frequently asked questions. The exhibit featured a variety of artifacts, including arrowheads, celts, axe heads, and an atlatl stone, from the collection of Loudoun County resident Doug Allshouse and was curated by Beth Schuster, Library Reference Specialist. The other exhibit, curated by Mary Fishback, Library Assistant, was Leesburg Virginia Memorabilia 1900 to 1975. It included photographs and artifacts from downtown Leesburg's business district including Coca-Cola bottles filled in Leesburg, bottles from Purcell and Littlejohn Pharmacy, a replica of the Mighty Midget Kitchen, and 1950's play bills from the Tally-Ho Theatre.

The Lower Norfolk Antiquary was recently acquired closing a critical gap in our collection holdings. It is also a pleasure to announce Footnote.com is available for research use in the library. Footnote in partnership with The National Archives, Family Search and Allen County Library provides access to original documentation of interest to historical and genealogical researchers.

As manuscript collections are processed guides are posted to the library web pages. These may be found at <http://www.leesburgva.com/services/library/>. In a major step forward in managing our collections we have acquired Past Perfect software and Beth Schuster has begun entering data. As access to manuscript and book collections is currently available through alternate sources, i.e. NUCMC and HORIZON, our focus, initially, will be in entering data related to visual collections.

In response to a recent increase in inquiries for internships, guidelines and information about the application process have been formalized and posted to the town web site <http://www.leesburgva.com/services/library/interns/>. Revised guidelines and new application forms for library volunteers will be posted online in the near future. It is a pleasure to share with you an outstanding achievement of one of our volunteers. Emily Hershman, a student at Loudoun County High School who has been processing collections for us, was honored 11 November 2007 at the Loudoun County Public School's Excellence in Education banquet which recognized students for maintaining a 4.0 or better during their high school years.

As always it will be my pleasure to see you when visiting Thomas Balch Library or when attending our programs.

Alexandra S. Gressitt
Library Director



Old Court House, where President James Monroe presided as Justice, Leesburg, VA.

CLERK'S OFFICE TOUR, LOUDOUN COUNTY COURTHOUSE HISTORICAL RECORDS

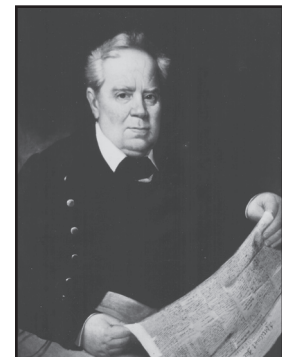
John Fishback
Monday, 3 March 2008, 7PM
Meet in the parking lot of Thomas Balch Library at 6:45PM

John Fishback, Historic Records Manager for Loudoun County, will lead a tour of the Clerk's Office. He will discuss the extent of Loudoun County's records holdings, where to look for records of births, deaths, marriages, and deeds, and how to use these records in research. No one is permitted to enter restricted areas of the Clerk's Office after 7:00PM, so the group will leave the library promptly at 6:45PM.

THE CARTERS OF OATLANDS: ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF A LOUDOUN FAMILY

Elizabeth Simon
Sunday, 9 March 2008 2PM

George Carter, who built Oatlands Plantation, was in many ways a typical wealthy gentleman farmer of the early national period. Fascinated by science and



George Carter

a student of the arts, Carter was also an enthusiastic and successful businessman who helped shape Loudoun County and influenced the lives of many of its residents. By his lineage and position he linked old wealth of the Tidewater with the up-and-coming Virginia frontier. This presentation will place the Carter family of Oatlands in the social and business milieu of 19th century Loudoun, from the time Carter took possession of the Goose Creek Tract in 1798 through the Reconstruction era as experienced by his wife, sons, and daughters-in-law. Elizabeth Simon is curator of interpretation and collections at Oatlands Historic House & Gardens, a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation near Leesburg, VA. She holds an MA from the College of William & Mary and has spent much of her working life as a writer and editor for scholarly, university press, and association publishers.

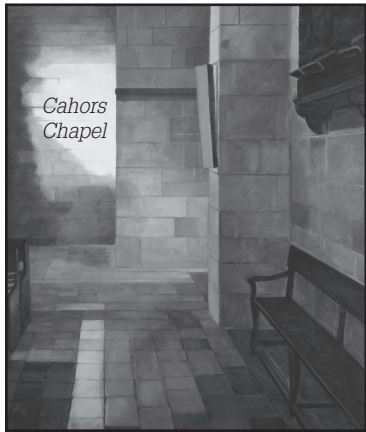
WALKING TOUR OF LEESBURG

James Roberts

Saturday 26 April 2008 9-12

Saturday 31 May 2008 9-12

James Roberts, a native of Leesburg and member of Thomas Balch Library Advisory Commission, will lead a walking tour of Leesburg. The tour is an insider's commentary of local people, places and points of interest both in and around Leesburg. Particular detail is paid to how Leesburg has grown and evolved through the years architecturally, economically and racially. Factual, historical and anecdotal information is intertwined and presented in storytelling fashion as only someone who lived through it and thoughtfully observed it can do. This unique tour will be offered twice and will leave each time from Thomas Balch Library parking lot at 9AM.



SANABRIA PAINTINGS ON EXHIBIT

Friends of Thomas Balch Library, Inc. Black History Committee member and artist Sherry Zvares Sanabria's work "Slave Quarters and Other African American Sites" will be on exhibition from mid-January through July 2008 at Dulles Airport. This exhibit consists of some of the artist's recent work exploring and recording sites throughout Virginia and Maryland that played significant roles in the lives of African Americans during and after slavery. Facsimiles of this series will be on display at Thomas Balch Library during the month of May.

From March 27 to April 14, 2008, Hoom-Ashby Gallery, 766 Madison Avenue in New York City will exhibit Sanabria's latest work, images of historic architectural structures in Southwest France.

MAXIMIZING YOUR TIME AT THOMAS BALCH LIBRARY: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LIBRARY, ITS RESOURCES AND RESEARCH TECHNIQUES

A series of classes introducing novice and experienced researchers to the intricacies of resources at Thomas Balch Library will be offered throughout the year. This series will include a tour of the facility; subject specific training by experienced staff, handouts, and an opportunity to ask questions. These classes will be limited in size, registration is required, and classes will repeat as demand suggests.

General Introduction to Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 7 February 2008 10-11AM

This session led by Alexandra S. Gressitt, Library Director and staff member since 2003, will provide a general overview of the Library, its history, organization, collections, services, programs, and volunteer and intern opportunities.

Leesburg: A Glimpse of History

Thursday, 6 March 2008 10-11AM

This session led by Mary Fishback, Library Assistant and staff member since 2000, will provide an introduction to researching local history. This class will help you learn how to research the fascinating history of a small town using collection materials in Thomas Balch Library.

Beginning Genealogy

Thursday, 3 April 2008 10-11AM

This session will be led by LaVonne Markham, Library Specialist and staff member since 1999, whose specialty is genealogical research. Find secrets to locating your ancestors using resources and online subscriptions available at Thomas Balch Library.

Manuscript and Archives Research at Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 1 May 2008 10-11AM

Stephanie Adams Hunter, Library Archives Specialist and staff member since 2005, will introduce users to the manuscript and archive holdings at TBL. The kinds of materials available, how they may be accessed and their use in historical and genealogical research will be discussed.

Research Using Visual Collections at Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 5 June 2008 10-11AM

Beth Schuster, Library Reference Specialist, staff member since 2007 and visual collections coordinator, will introduce users to Visual Collections at Thomas Balch Library.

Traditional Genealogical Resources at Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 7 August 2008 10-11AM

Mary Fishback will lead this session. Learn how to use traditional research materials in the collections of Thomas Balch Library to uncover your family history. Users will be introduced to documenting and abstracting historical resources.

Research Using Visual Collections at Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 4 September 2008 10-11AM

Beth Schuster will introduce users to visual collections at Thomas Balch Library. Types of images available, how they may be accessed, and their use in historical and genealogical research will be discussed.

Manuscript and Archives Research at Thomas Balch Library

Thursday, 2 October 2008 10-11AM

Stephanie Adams Hunter will introduce users to manuscript and archives holdings at Thomas Balch Library. The kinds of materials available, how they may be accessed and their use in historical and genealogical research will be discussed.

Leesburg's Historic District Files and Sanborn Maps

Thursday, 6 November 2008 10-11AM

Annie McDonald, Preservation Planner and staff liaison to the Leesburg Board of Architectural Review, will delve into using primary and secondary resources available at Thomas Balch Library for researching a property's history. She will explain the purpose behind the architectural surveys of the late 1990s and how to use architectural survey files, Sanborn fire insurance maps, and historic photographs to identify how a building changes over time. Previously employed by a DC-based preservation consulting firm and by a regional NGO based in Chattanooga, Tennessee, she has been with the Town of Leesburg since September 2005.

Loudoun County Historic Building Files and Assessment and Parcel Database Usage

Thursday, 4 December 2008 10-11AM

This session will be led by staff members Mary Pender and John Berfield.

Thomas Balch library Advisory Commission meets at the Library the second Wednesday of each month at 7PM. The public is always welcome.

Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, Inc. a 501c3 organized to provide support for Thomas Balch Library meets at the Library the third Tuesday of every other month at 8:30AM. The public is always welcome. For more information call 703/737-2166 or visit www.balchfriends.org. Annual meeting will be Sunday, January 20, 2pm Thomas Balch Library (snow date January 27).

Black History Committee of Friends of Thomas Balch Library, Inc. meets at the Library the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7PM. The public is always welcome. For more information visit www.balchfriends.org

LEESBURG'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

A series of lectures will be presented in 2008 in recognition of the 250th Anniversary of Leesburg's legal establishment as a Town. Programs will include individual lectures and panel discussions about distinctive features of this historic community. Detailed information on the programs and speakers will be available in a forthcoming brochure.

Sunday, 25 May 2008 – **"William Wirt: A Presence in the Heart of Leesburg,"** a presentation by Elizabeth Brand Monroe, Professor of History at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.

Sunday, 1 June 2008 – **"Leesburg's Development as Reflected in its Archaeology,"** a panel discussion of the town's archaeological footprint chaired by Michael Clem, Loudoun County archaeologist.

Sunday, 22 June 2008 – **"Mapping Leesburg,"** an illustrated lecture on the town's cartographical appearance over time by Eugene Scheel, Loudoun County geographer and historian.

Sunday, 14 September 2008 – **"Leesburg as Transportation Hub,"** a panel presentation chaired by Paul McCray of the Northern Virginia Park Authority.

Sunday, 28 September 2008 – **"Leesburg's African-American Community: An Exceptional Experience"** a discussion of unique African-American experiences, social relations, and the vital role of church and schools. Speakers will include Deborah A. Lee, public historian and Elaine E. Thompson, author.

Sunday, 2 November 2008 – **"Advantageously Situated, Indifferently Built': Leesburg on the Eve of the American Revolution,"** a joint presentation by Richard Gillespie, Director of Education at Mosby Heritage Area, and Tracy Gillespie, Director of Historical Operations for Morven Park.

EXHIBITS 2008 - MARGARET MERCER ROOM

January	Historical Postcards - Illustrated history of postcards featuring postcards from Thomas Balch Library's manuscript and visual collections.
February	Black History Month - Black History Committee of Friends of Thomas Balch Library, Inc.
March	Exhibit by Loudoun County Club of Zonta, a worldwide service organization working to advance the status of women.
April	Loudoun County Black History Memorabilia
May	Facsimiles of paintings by Sherry Sanabria from the "Slave Quarters and Other African American Sites" with text
June	Mt. Zion Church history and programs
July and August	Civil War Relics from the John Creamer Collection
September	250th Anniversary Celebration Town of Leesburg
October	Loudoun County Kitchens - Loudoun Farm Museum
November	Loudoun History Awards and Virginia Native American Heritage
December	New Collections at Thomas Balch Library

LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM

January-April 2008. Jim Hanna, award winning photographer, will display his Loudoun County Collection of local homes and scenery in the lower level conference room. Over 25 photographs will be

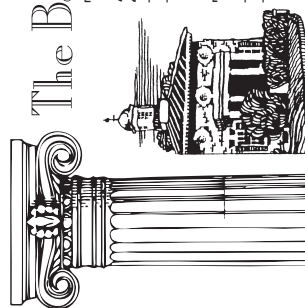


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January in the Margaret Mercer Room -
A visual collection of historical postcards



WINTER/SPRING 2008 LECTURES AND EVENTS

LEESBURG AND LOUDOUN
ANNIVERSARY