

RYAN PATRICK SEMMES

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EDUCATION:

Master's of Public History-Archives, Graduation: December 2002
Master's of Library and Information Science, Graduation: May 2001
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Bachelor of Arts Degree in History, Graduation: May 1998
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Congressional and Political Research Center, MSU Libraries, Mississippi State, MS
August 2007-Present

Assistant Archivist: Assist CPRC Coordinator in processing, arranging, and describing of political collections, including the John C. Stennis and Ulysses S. Grant collections. Also manage student worker projects and assist patrons in reference needs.

Washingtoniana Division, DC Public Library, Washington, DC
March 2006-July 2007

Archivist/Interim Division Chief: Managed the DC Community Archives, processed collections, created schedules, signed off on employee leave requests, and assisted patrons in reference needs.

History Associates Incorporated, Rockville, MD
January 2003-March 2006

Archivist/Project Manager: Managed federal contracts including Library of Congress map re-housing project, Gettysburg National Military Park processing project, and US Senate office closeouts.

McNeese State University Archives, Lake Charles, LA
August 2001-December 2002

Assistant Archivist: Processed collections, created HTML finding aids, managed student workers, and assisted patrons in reference needs.

RELATED SKILLS:

Experience with
contentDM
Reference Queries/Library Cataloging Techniques
Archival Collection Processing/Finding Aid Creation
Archivist ToolKit

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Offices Held:

Society of Mississippi Archivists, Past President 2009-2011
Society of Mississippi Archivists, President, 2008-2009

Membership:

Society of Mississippi Archivists, 2007-Present
Mississippi Library Association, 2007-Present
Southern Archives Conference, 2007-Present
Mississippi State Historical Society, 2007-Present
Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, 2001-2003
South Carolina Archival Association, 1999-2002
Society of American Archivists, 1999-2008

PUBLICATIONS-Refereed:

“The ‘So-Called Civil Rights Movement:’ White Reactions to Civil Rights as Seen in the John C. Stennis Collection,” *Journal of Mississippi History*, Volume LXXII, Number 1, pages 47-69, Spring 2010.

“How Historians Use Primary Sources: The Ulysses S. Grant Collection Provides a Lesson,” with John F. Marszalek, *Mississippi History Now*, August 2010.

“Issues and Challenges of Maintaining *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant* Collection,” with John F. Marszalek. *Documentary Editing*, vol. 32, pp. 44-56, 2011.

“From Pea Ridge to the Potomac: Lemon G. Hine and the 44th Illinois Regiment, 1861-1862,” *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, Fall 2010 (Upcoming Publication).

CHAPTERS-Edited Books:

“The Swing Around the Circle,” with Sarah Thornburg, in *Past is Portal: Teaching Undergraduates Using Special Collections and Archives*, ed. Eleanor Mitchell (Association of College Research Libraries), (Upcoming Publication).

“Confederate Commissioners of the First Five Battlefields,” in forthcoming book on Battlefield Preservation, ed. Tim Smith.

PRESENTATIONS:

“Processing and Preservation: A Guide to Getting Started,” with Mona Vance, Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board and Society of Mississippi Archivists, Columbus, MS, August 2010.

“Digital Primary Sources at Mississippi State University,” with Mona Vance, MegaResources Workshop, Mississippi State University, February 2009.

“From Pea Ridge to the Potomac,” Golden Triangle Regional Civil War Round Table, Starkville, MS, November 2008.

“The Washington Area Performing Arts Video Archives,” Recorded Sound Roundtable, Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 2006.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS:

“Issues and Challenges Maintaining the papers of Ulysses S. Grant Collection: From Editors to Archivists,” Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, August 2010.

AWARDS:

Raymond W. Smock Fellowship of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress, May 2010.