



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR INFORMATION:

Nancy Vaupel
Box 7111
North Carolina State University Libraries
Raleigh, NC 27695-7111
(919) 515-2843

August 30, 2002

NCSU Libraries Awarded Preservation Grant for Textiles Industry Materials

The North Carolina State University Libraries has received a grant of services from the Southeast Library Network (SOLINET) worth an estimated \$80,000. The Libraries will use its grant to preserve an important collection of research documents ranging in age from fifty to 150 years old on the development of industry, particularly the textiles industry, in the American South.

SOLINET will administer the grant as part of its Cooperative Preservation Microfilming Project (CPMP), with money coming from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the U.S. Congress. The CPMP, currently in its sixth two-year cycle, has also supported the NCSU Libraries' preservation programs during cycles four and five.

Soon after the Civil War ended in 1865, the South saw major growth in its textiles industry to

a point where its output rivaled that of New England. The growth of the industry not only produced new towns and villages—having a profound impact on how the South looks today—but also generated conference proceedings, serials, journals, manuals, books, and many other documents. For the grant application, the NCSU Libraries identified more than 400 volumes needing preservation—all vital research documents for anyone studying the industrialization of the American South. Most of the material relates specifically to the development of the textiles industry and comes from the collection housed at NC State's Burlington Textiles Library. Under the terms of the grant, 416 volumes will be microfilmed.

All CPMP projects focus on the preservation of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century research materials. Most of these items were printed on



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first-generation wood-pulp paper, which can become extremely brittle and begins to crumble after about 100 years. The items identified for preservation by the NCSU Libraries' staff, have already started to deteriorate.

During the past four years, the NCSU Libraries has been one of over sixteen libraries participating in CPMP projects. Each participating library sends documents to SOLINET for microfilming. SOLINET takes responsibility for material preparation, microfilming and quality controls and then returns the originals along with two microfilm copies. One microfilm copy is intended for the institution's archives, and the other for everyday use in the library.

All the NC State documents already preserved or slated for future preservation are from NC

State's important history of science and industry collections. In 2000/2002, the Libraries sent several collections for preservation microfilming under its CPMP5 grant, including items from NC State's historic entomology collection. Because many monographs in that collection contain valuable, often unique, full-color illustrations of insects, SOLINET decided, for the first time in CPMP history, to capture the material on color microfilm.

To learn more about CPMP and other preservation projects, contact Scott Devine, head of the Preservation Department at NCSU Libraries. He may be reached at (919) 513-1226 or scott_devine@ncsu.edu.

The NCSU Libraries offers the resource wealth of a vast central library, the D. H. Hill Library, as



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well as the resources of branch libraries and special departments. In all, the Libraries has a collection of more than 3.0 million volumes, 47,000

print and electronic serials, and hundreds of databases, with emphasis on science and technology.

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