Mountains are as much a part of the human psyche as they are a part of the landscape. In his last speech, Martin Luther King spoke of having “been to the mountaintop” and seen a land of greater promise, and Americans proudly sing the lines, “From every mountainside, let freedom ring.” Literally and symbolically, mountains are a source of liberation. But in helping some reach new heights, mountains have also been the backdrop to past and present struggles.

To provide material for exploring how the world’s highest places have shaped human history and culture, Special Collections has been expanding its holdings on mountaineering. Notable recent acquisitions include a complete early run of the journal of the Mazamas, a mountaineering organization based in Portland, Oregon, since 1894. This is complemented by journals of other important organizations, including the Alpine Clubs of London and New York, and early mountaineering classics such as Edward Whymper’s *Scrambles Amongst the Alps* (1870), which helped usher in the golden age of climbing in the nineteenth century.

The oldest acquisition to date is a copy of William Gilpin’s *Three Essays: On Picturesque Beauty, On Picturesque Travel, and On Sketching Landscape* (1794). The work played a major role in inspiring the first generation of mountain tourists.

Continued on page 4

Newsletter content contributed by Elizabeth Joffrion, Rachel Thompson, Tony Kurtz, Ruth Steele and Michael Taylor. Edited by Rozlind Koester.

Contact: Heritage.Resources@wwu.edu; (360) 650-7534; http://library.wwu.edu/hr.
In discussing the theme for this issue, the staff of Heritage Resources chose to feature our “collections in action.” In other words, we wanted to explore the dynamic and exciting ways that our collections impact our students, faculty, staff and the broader community. Fundamentally, the effectiveness of our work is dependent on relationships with the individuals and institutions who create the documentation that we collect, as well as those who use these materials. The use of our collections in public programming, research, and teaching is the primary reason that we exist as a repository of cultural heritage. These pages provide just a few examples of how Heritage Resources can partner and collaborate with our core constituencies to further our mission.

As our faculty changes and grows, it is critical that we remain responsive to the needs of the Western community, and our collecting areas must reflect these teaching and research trends. With the development of the Ray Wolpow Institute and the Jaffe Professorship, both Jewish and Holocaust Studies have emerged as teaching and research priorities at Western. With this in mind, I am pleased to announce that Special Collections has successfully negotiated the transfer of the Edward S. Setchko collection from the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley to WWU. This important collection of over 1000 books and other rare monographs represents critical post-war scholarship on the Holocaust, including documentation of anti-Semitism, the ghettos and camps, survivor accounts, and other post-war memoirs. A subsequent addition from the Bancroft has also arrived. It comprises materials on the Jewish experience in the American West and miscellaneous rare Judaica dating back more than 500 years, including a work printed by Menasseh Ben Israel, founder of the first Hebrew printing press in Amsterdam in 1626. Together, these resources will provide foundational support for our future collecting efforts in Holocaust and Jewish Studies.

I invite you to contact me with questions about our current collecting initiatives, or if you have materials that you might wish to donate.

~ Elizabeth Joffrion, Heritage Resources Director

Recently, the WWU Transportation Office needed information about the history of parking policies and fees on campus. University Archives and Records Management responded to this seemingly routine request and found more than just the answer to the question of “when did Western first charge for parking?” The answer is, in fact, 1959, which we discovered in the digitized Board of Trustees minutes recently migrated to our new (in development) digital assets management system.

In January, 1959, President Haggard reported to the Trustees that Western had the legal authority to charge parking fees, and the Board agreed to establish fees at a future time. By that fall (October, 1959), Dean of Students Bill McDonald reported that the school had collected nearly $4,000 in parking registration fees from students, faculty, and staff.

And so parking fees began at Western. The 1960 Catalog lists a $3 parking fee for students. By 1964, the Board of Trustees raised fees to $18 per year for faculty and staff parking near Old Main; $12 per year for anyone parking in perimeter lots; and $5 per quarter for students in residence halls. In 1966, the Board approved a restriction on parking for first-year students—and even on their owning a car within the City of Bellingham, in some cases.

The Board minutes revealed the role of the Auxiliary Enterprises Committee as a key arbiter of fee and use policies and regulations on campus, including not only parking but housing and dining. A deeper dive into records of this committee in the University Archives revealed a trove of committee records from the formative period of the 1960s-1970s, including five whole files devoted to—of course—parking.
**Exploring Journalism in the Archives**

By Ruth Steele

With the beginning of each academic year, we look forward to connecting new and returning faculty and students to Heritage Resources’ programs and collections. This past quarter was no exception and it has been our pleasure to welcome a variety of different researchers with wide-ranging interests and topics. Professor Betsy O’Donovan and members of the Journalism 404 (Feature Writing) class were among this quarter’s first-time visitors to the Archives Building. Their whirlwind orientation session included a brief Q&A with and introductions from archivists at the University Archives, Washington State Archives, and the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies, followed by time in the Research Room for active exploration of a broad selection of unique and historical resources. This “hands-on” portion of the class prompted a lot of productive discussion and questions, and students also had time for individual conversations with archives staff and their instructor about ways to access and use different types of archival resources in their research.

Many thanks to Professor O’Donovan for connecting her class to the Archives Building, and to her students for their ideas, enthusiasm and excellent questions about the nature of archives. We’re looking forward to hearing more as their research topics take shape!

“As a professor, I want my students to experience those Hermione Granger/Indiana Jones moments when they discover something that’s been overlooked or forgotten. Our trip to the archives yielded a few of those moments, as well as a starting point for further adventures. …. I’ve gotten to dig around a lot of stacks. I have never felt quite so warmly welcomed and supported.” ~ Professor Betsy O’Donovan.

Interested to learn more or plan a class session with Heritage Resources? Please visit our [online instruction page](mailto:Heritage.Resources@wwu.edu) or email Heritage.Resources@wwu.edu.

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**Records Management Updates**

By Rachel Thompson and Tony Kurtz

Last Spring, University Archives and Records Management (UARM) had a [new university policy](mailto:UARM) approved by the President’s Cabinet. Titled "Managing University Records," the policy affirms existing state recordkeeping requirements for Western as a state institution, and also outlines a framework for compliance at WWU. This new policy, and in particular the implementation framework, provides a stronger institutional foundation for work that UARM has been carrying out for nearly 50 years. UARM has incorporated the new policy’s elements throughout its work. We have developed a more nimble model for documenting records at the office level; we have created more meaningful ways of documenting compliant records systems across campus; and we have incorporated the core elements of the new policy into our existing training on records management. As part of the outreach for this new policy, UARM has produced an FAQ [webpage](mailto:FAQ) for common questions about the policy. Additionally, we have incorporated the new policy into quarterly trainings that UARM holds for university employees. This quarter, we are holding three records management trainings, including a new class on email records management.
William Combe’s *The Tour of Doctor Syntax in Search of the Picturesque* (1813), a satire of elite notions of mountain scenery that gradually trickled down to the middle classes, has also been acquired. Among them are early works on the mountains of British Columbia and Alberta, and several books and brochures on the Canadian Pacific Railway’s development of alpine resorts.

Sir Francis Younghusband’s *The Epic of Mount Everest* (1926) sheds light on early efforts to climb the world’s highest peak, including the contributions of Sherpa porters. Two other new acquisitions are *The Life and Adventures of James P. Beckwourth* (1858), an account of one of the few African-American mountain men, and *The History of the White Mountains* (1886), the first history of an American mountain range, written in 1846 by Lucy Crawford.

Several acquisitions were made possible by a grant to support Canadian-American Studies at Western. These and other materials are on display in Special Collections through March 2019 as part of our current exhibition, *To the Mountaintop: A Social History of Mountaineering*. Featuring selections from all three Heritage Resources units, the exhibition explores the complex relationship between our love of high altitudes and issues of gender, race, and class.

Questions? Contact Michael Taylor, Special Collections Librarian, at (360) 650-3097 or Michael.Taylor@wwu.edu.

**Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank our volunteers and student employees for all they do in support of Heritage Resources. We would also like to thank the many individuals, families, and organizations who have made generous monetary gifts and contributions of collection materials. To donate to Heritage Resources, please email Eliza-beth.Joffrion@wwu.edu or phone 360-650-3283. Donations can also be made online or by mail to the Western Foundation, MS-9034, Western Washington University, 516 High St, Bellingham, WA 98225-9034. Please designate your contribution to Western Libraries and identify “Heritage Resources” as the program you wish to support.