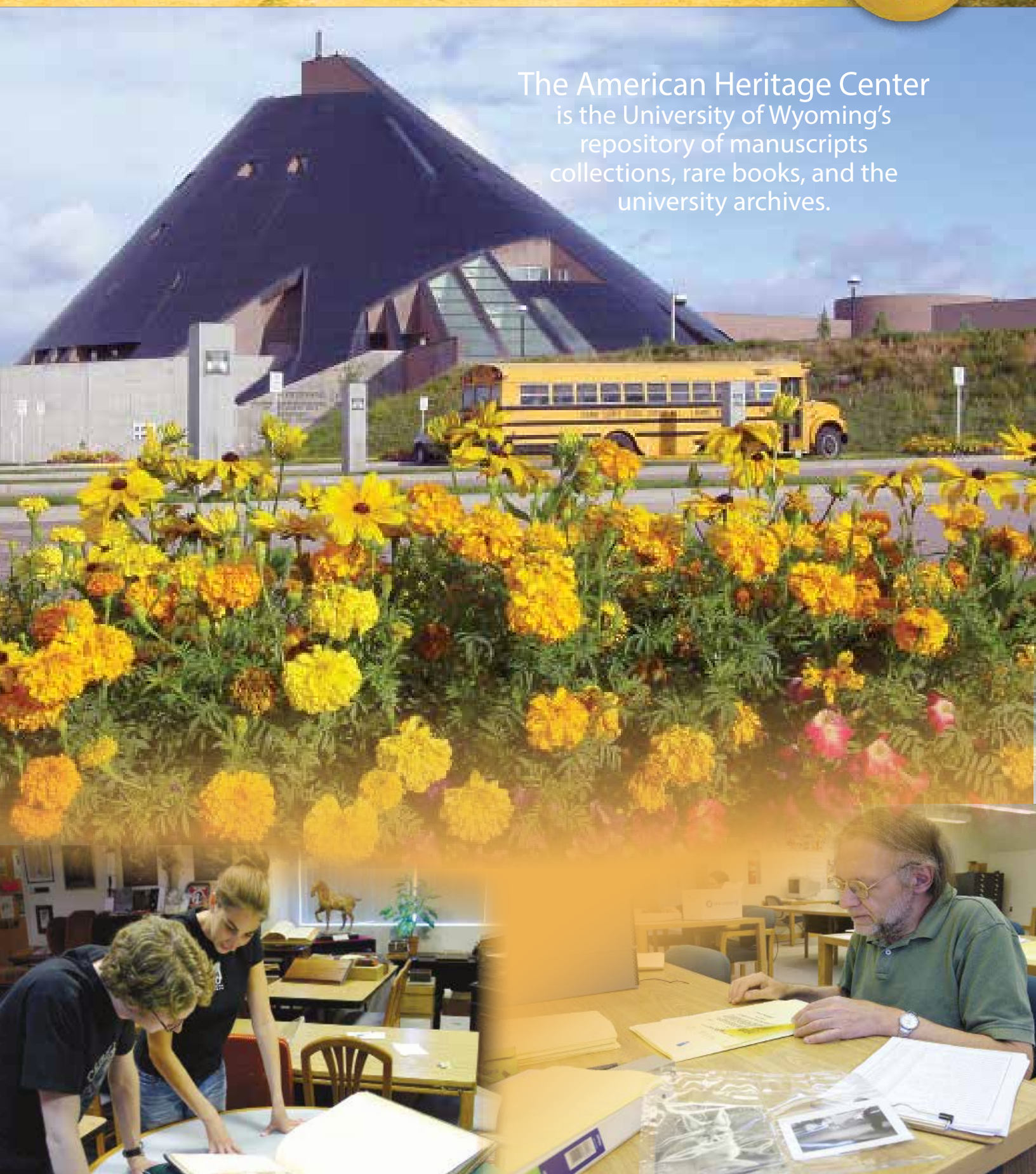




The American Heritage Center is the University of Wyoming's repository of manuscripts collections, rare books, and the university archives.





Wyoming History Day students researching collections materials in the AHC Reference Room.

Students from the Laramie County Community College look at book displays in the AHC Toppan Rare Books Library, following a presentation.



A student worker retrieves collections material from an AHC storage room.



Jeff Crane, AHC Travel Grant recipient, studies materials in the AHC Reference Room.

Photos on cover:

- University of Wyoming American Heritage Center.
- The Alfred Jacob Miller Classroom.
- Lawrence Mastroni, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Oklahoma, preparing a dissertation about the Bureau of Biological Survey, focusing on Vernon Bailey.

In 1945, the American Heritage Center (AHC) was officially established. The AHC is the University of Wyoming's (UW) repository of manuscripts, rare books, and the UW Archives. Internationally known for its historical collections, the AHC first and foremost serves the students and other citizens of Wyoming.

Not a dusty attic or an exclusive sanctuary, the AHC is a welcoming, lively, place where both experts and novices engage with the original sources of history. Access is free and open to all.

The AHC is acknowledged by students and scholars world-wide as one of the nation's finest special collections repositories. In 2010 we were presented with the Society of American Archivists' Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor possible for a U.S. repository.

Our holdings, which make us one of the nation's largest non-governmental archives, encompass nearly 75,000 cubic feet and include:

- 3,000 manuscript collections.
- 1 million photographs.
- 12,000 sound recordings.
- 15,000 films.
- 55,000 rare books.

### OUR MISSION

To preserve a clearly defined set of primary sources and rare books--reflecting the written, image, and audio history of Wyoming, the Rocky Mountain Region, and select aspects of the American past--and to make those sources accessible to all. Our diverse collections support casual inquiry and international scholarship: most importantly, we play an active and creative role in the teaching and research missions of the University.



Two graduate students from the history department examine a collection of materials related to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center as part of the Archival Research Methods class taught at the AHC.

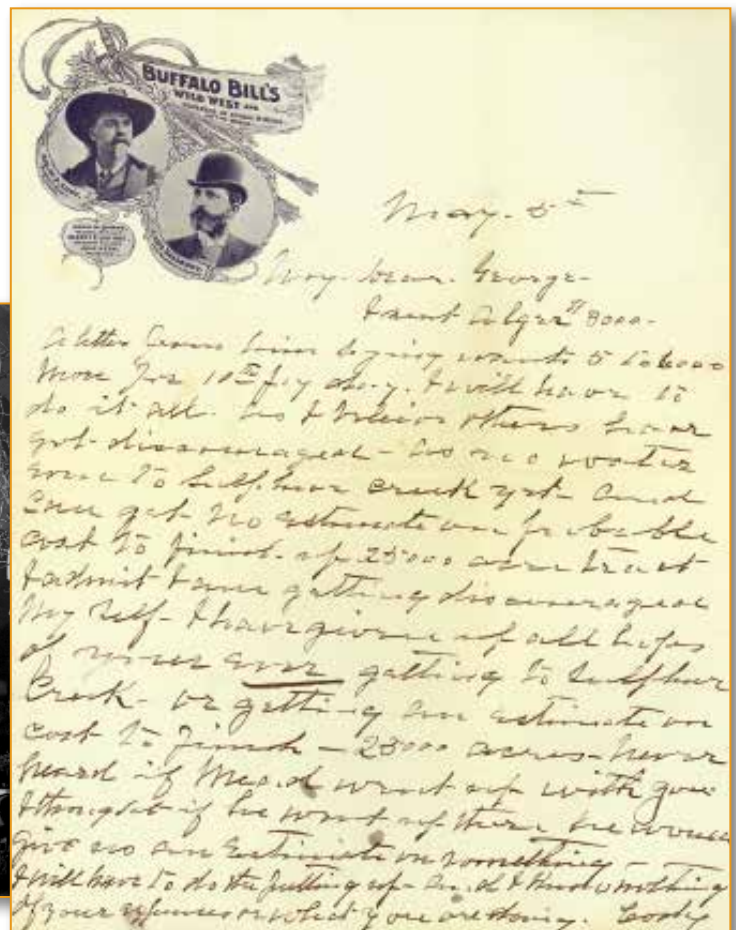
## AHC COLLECTIONS



1932 Highway Map of Wyoming, Frank H. Allyn Papers.

AHC collections go beyond Wyoming's or the region's borders and support a wide range of research and teaching activities in the humanities, sciences, arts, business, and education. Major areas of collecting include Wyoming and the American West, the mining and petroleum industries, environment and natural resources, journalism, military history, transportation, the history of books, and 20th century entertainment such as popular music, radio, television, and film.

A letter from William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody to George T. Beck, May 5, 1896. George T. Beck Papers.



Working cowboys singing around a campfire, no date, Pitchfork Ranch, Wyoming. Charles J. Belden Collection. Belden was a prolific photographer of Wyoming landscapes, ranches, and cowboy life.



EVS THE LADY EVE A-3

A-2 (cont'd)

They all wave good-bye and the little whistle on the launch shrills sharply. As it lets off a cloud of steam --

DISSOLVE TO:

A-3 LOW CAMERA SHOT - UP AT A VERY PRETTY GIRL - AT THE RAIL OF THE S.S. "SOUTHERN QUEEN"

She's a sweetie in a sweater and looks particularly well, leaning on the rail of the ship.

THE YOUNG GIRL  
There he is!

A-4 HIGH CAMERA SHOT - ON A LAUNCH SOME DISTANCE AWAY

A-5 AN OFFICER - ON THE BRIDGE

He throws the engine room telegraph to "Stop" then does whatever one does to make the whistle blow. As the whistle starts to blast --

A-6 LOW CAMERA - UP AT A STEAMSHIP WHISTLE

It is vibrating deafeningly.

A-7 CLOSE SHOT - THE LAUNCH WHISTLE

It peep-peeps its answer over the distant sound of the steamship whistle.

A-8 LOW CAMERA SHOT - UP AT THE PASSENGERS - AS THEY LEAVE OF THE S.S. "SOUTHERN QUEEN"

We start with the young lady we saw before don't hear the first few of them speak the boat whistle. Thus we see: The young mother, her father, a Spanish family, and in uniform. Now the whistle stops blow hear what the people say.

A MOTHER (A)  
You mean the Charlie Pike?

ANCIENT MOTHER (B)  
(To her daughter)  
Go change your dress.

A MAN WITH GLASSES (C)  
--- way up in the jungle looking for something or other. I read about it in the National Geographic. (Cont

10-18-40

Popular entertainment is one of the AHC's major collecting areas. These collections are often used for UW classes and serious scholarly study. Left, is a script from the Barbara Stanwyck Collection from the movie, *The Lady Eve*. Below is a photo from the set, with Barbara Stanwyck's handwriting noting, left to right, Henry Fonda, Preston Sturges, and herself.



Irene Corbally Kuhn Collection. Kuhn was a journalist and radio broadcaster. She was a war correspondent during World War II in the China-India-Burma theater. The AHC's collections on women journalists are among the best in the nation.



Cover of an 18th century illuminated Muslim Koran and pages inside a 15th-century illuminated Christian Book of Hours--Toppan Rare Books Library. The library holds books and manuscripts documenting all the world's religions, including a fine collection of early texts from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.



Miners at the Homestake Mine in the Black Hills (not dated). Homestake Mining Company Records. The AHC holds renowned collections documenting economic geology.

# what we do

## AHC DEPARTMENTS and PROGRAMS

The best-known activity at the Center is research by students, scholars, and the public in our two reading rooms, where our acclaimed reference staff pro-

vides assistance to newcomers and experienced researchers alike. The AHC also maintains an award-winning Website, and sponsors a wide range

of public and scholarly programs, including lectures, symposia, and exhibits.

### MANUSCRIPTS and ARCHIVES REFERENCE SERVICES

The Owen Wister Western Writers Reading Room is open to all: UW faculty, students and staff, as well as visiting scholars, high school and community students, and members of the public on an equal basis. Reference is also provided long distance, replying to requests via correspondence, phone, and e-mail. Photocopies and other forms of duplication are available. More than 5,000 patrons per year are served, making the AHC one of the most actively used university repositories in the nation. The reference staff also offers bibliographic instruction upon request to assist patrons--from entire UW classes to individuals--in the use of the collections.

Travel Grant recipient Ann Lundberg looking over maps in the Reference Room.



Students doing research for Wyoming History Day projects.

"I have done some research...in the Library of Congress [LC]. While I have great respect for the LC...the service that I have received from you and your organization [AHC] VASTLY outstrips my experience with the LC."

-- Jerry, an experienced scholar and researcher



Anne Marie Lane, curator of the Toppan Library, shows a class examples of books and materials from the collections.

### TOPPAN RARE BOOKS LIBRARY

The Toppan Rare Books Library is home to UW's rare book collection, consisting of more than 65,000 items. Subject strengths of the holdings include the American West, British and American literature, early exploration of North America, religion, hunting and fishing, natural history, women authors, and the book arts. Unlike many rare books libraries, the Toppan welcomes visitors and is an active site of learning for undergraduate students as well as a place of more formal scholarship.



Former Senator Alan K. Simpson.

## ALAN K. SIMPSON INSTITUTE for WESTERN POLITICS and LEADERSHIP

The Simpson Institute is a program of the AHC focusing on the acquisition, preservation, and research use of the papers of prominent individuals, businesses, and organizations that have provided leadership – political, economic, social, and cultural – for Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain West. The Institute also conducts major oral history projects to supplement the written word and focuses public attention on the people and issues shaping politics and economics in the region through public programs.

James G. Watt, former U.S. Secretary of the Interior, presenting at the 2005 Symposium “Through the Rearview Mirror: Wyoming Parks, Public Lands, and Politics” sponsored by the Simpson Institute and The George A. Rentschler Distinguished Lectureship, both of the AHC.



## WYOMING HISTORY DAY

Wyoming History Day is the state affiliate of National History Day, the nation’s premier history education enrichment program for elementary and secondary school students. The state program is run by the AHC and supported by the Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources and the Wyoming State Historical Society. Every year History Day engages 500 students throughout Wyoming in conducting original research in primary sources, facilitating critical thinking, writing, and analysis, and fostering a lifelong love of history.

“Ted’s history competitions have paid off. His love of history opened the door for some fantastic scholarships. More importantly, they were a major reason he will be attending the U.S. West Point this fall.”

-- Nancy, Wyoming History Day parent



Students set up their exhibit for the Wyoming History Day competition.

## LECTURES

A variety of lectures and other public programs are featured yearly, including two endowed lectureships. The George A. Rentschler Distinguished Visiting Lecturer is a nationally known expert in his or her field. Journalist Hugh Downs, Western historian Patricia Limerick, WWII historian Clay Blair, and environmentalist Brock Evans have served as Rentschler lecturers. The Bernard L. Majewski Research Fellowship supports use of AHC's collections by a recognized scholar in the history of economic geology or a related field.

## EXHIBITS

Although the AHC is not a museum, small exhibits highlighting AHC collections are on display throughout the year. The AHC also has a number of traveling exhibits available to museums, libraries, and other institutions at nominal cost. In a typical year, approximately 45,000 people view our traveling exhibits in venues across Wyoming and beyond.



Brock Evans, the AHC's 2008 George A. Rentschler Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, is a leading conservationist.

Gregory Franzwa speaking at the AHC about *The Mormon Trail Revisited*.



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nation.

Student viewing AHC archivist Leslie Waggener's traveling exhibit, "Please Give Us One More Boom": Oil and Gas in Wyoming.





## CATALOG

The AHC is one of only two major institutions (the other is Princeton) to have cataloged 100 percent of its archives and manuscripts collections for discovery by researchers across the globe. In addition to a comprehensive set of catalog records, the Center has created more than 2,000 web-accessible finding-aids. All told, the AHC is a leader in ensuring that students and scholars can find our collections easily, from anywhere in the world.

## WEB SITE

In 2011, the AHC Web site received 55,635 unique visitors, with 76,501 visits, and 367,920 page views. Our site has won two national awards for its superb content. The most important strength of our Web site are our digital collections...

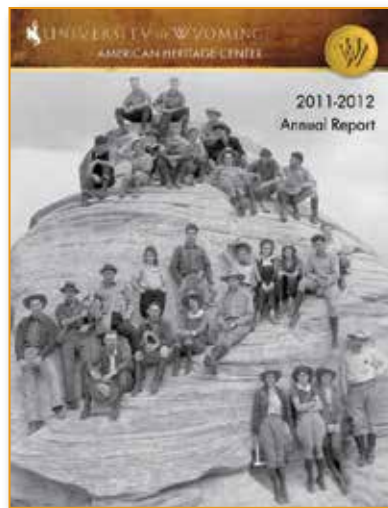
## DIGITAL INITIATIVE PROGRAM

...the AHC has digitized more than 100,000 items from its collections and made them available online through its Digital Collections Web site at: <http://ahc.uwyo.edu/digital>. The site provides access to a variety of materials, including images, text, audio, and video. Through grants from the U.S. Department of Education and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, the AHC also developed seven CDs containing digitized collection material on a variety of state and national topics, complete with related lesson plans—the CDs were distributed

free to all middle and high schools in Wyoming. The AHC has also provided regional leadership in the area of digitization, particularly in the development of standards to ensure that digital material can be retrieved, accessed, and preserved over the decades.

## PUBLICATIONS

The AHC publishes a newsletter two times each year, with information on new collections and traveling exhibits, lectures, and other events, as well as general information about the evolution and administration of the Center. In addition, the AHC publishes a colorful annual report each summer.



*Annual Report, 2011-2012.*

## SPEAKER'S BUREAU

The AHC Speaker's Bureau provides information about the AHC and shares the subject-matter and professional expertise of the staff. Speakers on different topics are available, without charge, to speak to civic groups, historical organizations, or other Wyoming groups.

## GRANTS and AWARDS

The AHC offers grants for travel to carry out research using AHC collections. The travel grant proposal deadline is mid-April each year. The grants are available to students, scholars, and independent researchers. In addition, we provide the opportunity for UW faculty to apply for competitive funds to assist them in developing new courses using AHC collection material as a substantial portion of the curriculum. The faculty and staff of the AHC have voluntarily funded two annual student cash awards: one is for the best undergraduate project university-wide based primarily on research using our collection material; the other is for the best research paper (graduate or undergraduate) from the course "Archival Methods," created and taught by AHC associate director Rick Ewig.



**The Digital Collections Web site.**

**AHC's state of the art scanning lab.**



# who we are

## OUTSTANDING FACULTY and STAFF

In addition to its renowned collections, the AHC draws distinction from a faculty of archivists universally recognized as leaders in their profession through service in national organizations, presentations at national and international conferences, and publications in a variety of peer-reviewed journals. Even more importantly, however, the faculty and staff are acknowledged by collection donors and researchers alike as superbly skilled and always focused on providing excellent service and results.

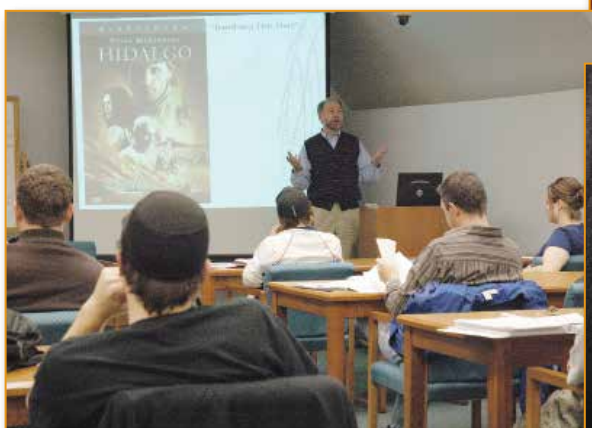
Archivist D. Claudia Thompson presenting a professional paper to a conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, 2006.



## SUPPORT

The AHC is a part of the University of Wyoming, a land grant school committed to public outreach and service. However, the Center receives only 45% of its funding from public sources. The remainder, 55%, is derived from annual gifts and endowment income. Ultimately, the stature and success of our operations—from our collections to our public programs—are highly dependent on private philanthropy. While financial support of the AHC is never a requirement either for using our collections or donating a collection, we are always grateful for voluntary gifts of any size. There are many ways to make a gift (e.g., trusts, annuities, or pledges over a five-year period). For those who may have the means, our endowment priorities are available for review.

If you wish to support the AHC or are interested in creating a lasting gift, please contact Director Mark Greene at (307) 766-2474.



Rick Ewig, AHC Associate Director, instructs students in the Alfred Jacob Miller Classroom on how to use the Center's primary sources.



Jewish Torah scroll and mantle recently purchased with private funds.



The covers of *The American Archivist* and a Brazilian publication on electronic records, both of which feature articles by AHC archivists.

# Important Collections Made Increasingly Accessible = Excellent Archives



*“I believe that the best archives are those that acquire and preserve great collections, but that take as their first priority making those collections accessible to the widest possible audience. We are not an attic or museum for documents, but a well-organized repository with a reading room full of students and scholars; a Web site valuable both to casual browsers and to teachers; and exhibits and public programs that bring our collections to life.”*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Greene". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Mark A. Greene, Director**

## AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER QUICK FACTS:

**Many universities have manuscript collections. Few have manuscript collections as extensive and significant as the American Heritage Center.** The Center is the University's repository of manuscript, rare books, and the university archives. Internationally known for its historical collections the Center first and foremost serves the students and other citizens of Wyoming. The AHC also sponsors a wide range of scholarly and popular programs including lectures, concerts, symposia, and exhibits. Access is free and open to all.

The Center was officially established in 1945. In the decades that followed, 75,000 cubic feet of historically important documents and 65,000 rare books were acquired. The AHC is among the largest non-governmental archives in the nation.

**AHC collections go beyond Wyoming's or the region's borders and support a wide range of research and teaching activities in the humanities, sciences, arts, business, and education.**

Major areas of the **manuscript collections** include:

- Wyoming and the American West.
- Mining and petroleum industries.

- Politics and leadership.
- Conservation.
- Journalism.
- Business.
- Air transportation and aerospace.
- 20th century entertainment such as popular music, radio, television, and film.

The **Toppan Library** is the University of Wyoming's rare book center. The collections document the history of the book from medieval illuminated manuscripts to the 21st century. Subject strengths of the holdings include:

- The American West.
- British and American literature.
- Early exploration of North America.
- Religion.
- Hunting and fishing.
- Natural history.
- Women authors.
- The book arts.

**AHC holdings are used by far more disciplines than history.** The professional archivists and librarians at the AHC provide bibliographic instruction to dozens of UW classes annually, and work with UW faculty to develop projects for their students using AHC collections. The classes come from 17 departments and four colleges, representing disciplines as different as

Art and Nursing, Anthropology and Secondary Education, History and Zoology.

**Scholars and the public from across the nation and around the globe--from all 50 states and a dozen nations--also regularly access the collections of the AHC annually.** The total number of researchers and long-distance reference requests typically runs to more than 5,000. In addition, the reference staff and the rare books curator give dozens of public tours and informal public presentations.

The Center is also home to **educational programs** such as the Alan K. Simpson Institute for Western Politics and Leadership and the Wyoming History Day Program. Each year the AHC offers a variety of symposia, lectures, and exhibits, that feature the Center's collections for both a scholarly and public audience.

**AHC web pages** (<http://ahc.uwyo.edu>) receive more than 110,000 visitors (450,000 page views) annually. The Digital Collections Web site ([ahc.uwyo.edu/digital](http://ahc.uwyo.edu/digital)) contains more than 100,000 scans of collection material accessible for worldwide research.

The **faculty of the Center** are national and international leaders in their fields, speaking and publishing on historical, archival, and library topics.

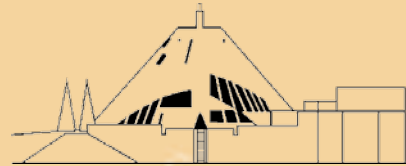
**Location:**

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Laramie, WY 82071

Open to the public, free of charge

**Mailing Address:**

American Heritage Center  
Dept. 3924 / 1000 E. University Ave.  
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Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/AHCnews>

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