PLAN DE LA NOUVELLE ORLEANS

E. Corps de Garde
F. Gouvernement
G. Intendance
H. Hôpital
I. Ursulines

K. Magasins du Roi
L. Cazernes
M. Forges du Roi
N. Moulin a vent et a Cheval
O. Hangard de la Marine sous lequel on Construit s Nouv Maison de

P. Corps de Garde des
Q. Cabanne des Negr
soin du Moulin
R. Poudriere

Echelle de 50

Corps de Garde
L'osser plein d'eau
Chemin de Bayonne

Rue de Bourbon
Rue Royale
Rue de Conde
Rue de la Monnaie
Rue du Palais
Rue de la Faisceau

FLEUVE MISSISSIPI

Quay
Canal
Quay
The Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC) supports the teaching, research, and community-building missions of Tulane University by collecting, preserving, and providing access to library and archival resources relating to the study of Louisiana.

“PLAN DE LA NOUVELLE ORLEANS,” JACQUES NICOLAS BELLIN, 1764. BELLIN'S PLAN WAS FIRST ISSUED IN CHARLEVOIX'S HISTORY AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF NEW FRANCE IN 1742, WITH VERSIONS SUCH AS THIS APPEARING IN SEVERAL LATER PUBLICATIONS. THE PLAN BECAME THE STANDARD MAP OF NEW ORLEANS THROUGHOUT THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.
“From Chalmette to Shanghai, LaRC’s internationally-renowned collections draw researchers from around the world to Tulane University. That makes the Louisiana Research Collection one of Tulane’s most significant links to the global research community.

Preserving international cultural treasures is a privilege, but it is also a responsibility we share with everyone. Whether it is to conduct your own research or to discuss how you can help preserve our past for the future, I look forward to welcoming you to the Louisiana Research Collection.”

LEON MILLER, CA, FSAA
Head, Louisiana Research Collection

WHAT IS THE LOUISIANA RESEARCH COLLECTION?

The Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC) is one of the older, larger, and more comprehensive library and archival research centers for the study of Louisiana.

Tulane University’s archival program began on May 3, 1889, when Mrs. L. Dolhonde presented to the Charles T. Howard Memorial Library a letter from Thomas Jefferson to M. duPlantier (pictured on cover). When the Howard Library merged with Tulane’s Tilton Library, that donation marked the beginning of what eventually became the Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC).

In 1956, Tulane University hired its first person charged with overseeing its archives and special collections. The new Special Collections department initially had three sections: Rare Books, the Manuscripts Department (for archival collections), and the Louisiana Collection (for books and other printed resources about Louisiana). Those departments were soon followed by the Hogan Jazz Archives (1958), the Tulane University Archives (1962), and the Southeastern Architectural Archive (1979).

In 2009, the Manuscripts Department and Louisiana Collection merged to form the Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC). In the more than 120 years since its initial donation, the Louisiana Research Collection has grown to encompass almost four linear miles of archival documents, books, maps, images, and other resources central to the study of our state.
“One of my greatest discoveries at the Louisiana Research Collection was a map of New Orleans’ population by race tucked inside a 1923 report on the city’s streetcar system. A school board member who figures prominently in my research mentioned the map in a separate source, and I eagerly searched for it at LaRC in hopes of developing a better sense of how Progressive era policymakers understood issues of race and space in the Crescent City. I am excited to include this map in my book, along with other images I’ve secured with the help of LaRC’s excellent staff.”

WALTER C. STERN
Assistant Professor of Educational Policy Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison
WHAT KINDS OF MATERIALS DO WE PRESERVE?

**BOOKS.** LaRC preserves one of the finest 19th century Louisiana libraries. We seek to acquire a copy of every significant Louisiana book, magazine, or journal.

**ARCHIVES.** LaRC’s archival program encompasses more than three linear miles of personal papers and organizational records from before the founding of Louisiana to the present.

**IMAGES.** LaRC preserves more than 300 linear feet of photographs, prints, and cartoons spanning 1850 to the present, including the Joseph Merrick Jones Steamboat collection.

**EPHEMERA.** Ephemera are small printed items such as pamphlets, programs, and menus. We acquire ephemera in all subjects but special strengths include gallery invitations from 1880 to the present, campaign literature going back to 1850, and theater programs from as early as 1830.

**MAPS.** LaRC’s renowned map collection extends from 1513 to the present and encompasses a full range of cartographic materials, from hand-drawn maps of plantation boundaries to modern state highway maps.

**STATE DOCUMENTS.** As a selective Louisiana Public Documents Depository, LaRC preserves possibly the finest collection of 19th century Louisiana state documents.
“As a historian of modern America, having an office near the Louisiana Research Collection is what I imagine it would be like for a chef to have a kitchen attached to the world’s best supermarket: I am always inspired—and a little daunted—by the range of possibilities so close at hand. LaRC’s deft staff of experts have helped me work with treasures ranging from Army Corps maps to Huey Long’s recipe for potlikker. Louisiana’s past, as archived by LaRC, offers a storehouse of revelatory, cautionary, gripping, and useful stories. We’d be lost without them.”

ANDY HOROWITZ
Assistant Professor
Tulane University History Department

TOP: COSTUME DESIGN FOR THE 1914 MISTICK KREWE OF COMUS PARADE. THE THEME THAT YEAR WAS “CHAUCER.” MIDDLE: PROGRAM FROM TEMPLE SINAÏ CORNERSTONE CEREMONY, 1871. BOTTOM: IN ADDITION TO THE RECORDS OF JAX BREWERY, LARC PRESERVES EXTENSIVE HOLDINGS RELATING TO LOUISIANA’S DINING, BAR, AND RESTAURANT TRADITIONS.
WHAT SUBJECTS DO WE ACQUIRE?

A common misperception is that the Louisiana Research Collection is only for history. In fact, LaRC supports almost every field of Louisiana research, including:

**ART.** LaRC preserves records of art associations such as the Southern States Art League and the Art Association of New Orleans, papers of noted artists and cartoonists such as Ellsworth Woodward and John Chase, and gallery catalogs, invitations, and brochures.

**BUSINESS.** LaRC preserves all aspects of Louisiana business, including corporate reports, business records, and papers of business leaders.

**CARNIVAL.** LaRC’s holdings represent more than 200 Carnival krewes. We have placed more than 5,600 original float and costume designs online.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES.** LaRC preserves records from more than thirty Louisiana horticultural, gardening, and environmental societies, environmental studies, waterways management documents, and maps recording four centuries of Louisiana’s changing landscape.

**FOOD.** LaRC preserves the records of Jax Brewery, cookbooks and dining guides, and publications of food trade groups. Our Louisiana menu collection is available online.

“I have researched in archives and libraries all over the world, but have never had a better experience than at Tulane’s Louisiana Research Collection. I first visited the library in 2009 to see the Toole papers and determine if the material could serve as the foundation for a biography. After a week at the archive I left confident in the project.”

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CORY MACLAUCHLIN
Author, *Butterfly in the Typewriter: The Tragic Life of John Kennedy Toole and the Remarkable Story of A Confederacy of Dunces*
“The very first time I walked through the neat stacks of the Louisiana Research Collection, I was in awe. In awe that all this, thousands of linear feet of research materials, lay tucked away beneath my Intro to Psych classroom. To be trusted with the archival materials they hold is an honor. I hope to continue my experiences with LaRC and encourage the public to make use of the incredible service they provide.”

CARLO VESCOVI
Tulane University, Class of 2019

JEWSH STUDIES. LaRC serves as the archives for the Jewish community of the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan Area and is honored to be the official archives for most local synagogues and Jewish social welfare organizations.

LGBTQ. LaRC is the official archives of the New Orleans LGBTQ Community Center. We also preserve papers of activists (including Stewart Butler, Rich Magill, Frank Perez, Alan Robinson, and Skip Ward) and records of organizations, businesses, clubs, and carnival krewes.

LITERATURE. LaRC preserves a major Louisiana fiction and poetry library and papers of noted authors including Roark Bradford, Catharine Brosman, George Washington Cable, Charles L. Dufour, Lafcadio Hearn, Frances Parkinson Keyes, Lyle Saxon, Ruth McEnery Stuart, and John Kennedy Toole. The Toole papers are available online.
MEDICINE. LaRC is the official archives of the Orleans Parish Medical Society and preserves papers of noted physicians including Stanhope Bayne-Jones, Patrick Hanley, Joseph Jones, Charles Kells, Rudolph Matas, John Riddell, Edmond Souchon, and Bernard Weinstein.

MILITARY HISTORY. While LaRC’s holdings represent most major American conflicts, our strongest area is the Civil War, including the papers of Jefferson Davis, Stonewall Jackson, Albert Sidney Johnston, the Gettysburg letters of Robert E. Lee, and papers of Union soldiers serving in Louisiana.

POLITICS. LaRC preserves the papers of scores of elected officials (including Hale Boggs, Lindy Claiborne Boggs, Sam Houston Jones, Bob Livingston, Huey P. Long, “Chep” Morrison, Victor Schiro, David Treen, and David Vitter), the records of political organizations (including the League of Women Voters, the Independent Women’s Organization, and the Jefferson Democratic Association), and campaign brochures from 1860 to the present. Our campaign flyers from 1860 to 1920 are online.

SOCIAL WELFARE. LaRC is the official archives for the Community Chest of New Orleans, the Council of Social Agencies, the Jewish Children’s Home, Kingsley House, the Protestant Children’s Home, the Traveler’s Aid Society, the Waldo Burton Home, the Women’s Exchange, and many more.

WOMEN. From the personal papers of notable women (Hilda Phelps Hammond, Ethel Hutson, Angela Gregory, Connie Griffith, Bessie Margolin, Martha Gilmore Robinson, and many others) to the records of women’s organizations (the Friday Afternoon Club, the Louisiana Women’s Committee, the Metairie Women’s Club, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Poydras Home, the Quarante Club, the Stuart Clan, the Women’s Exchange, the YWCA, and more), LaRC is a leader in preserving the contributions of New Orleans women.

“Whenever I have a chance to visit the Louisiana Research Collection it’s as much in the spirit of retreating to a sanctuary as visiting a manuscript library to cull more data. The attitude comes from a professional lifetime of having dwelt in the past, and the past that has been entombed in Jones Hall is rich and extensive and, miraculously, still full of life. LaRC’s exceptionally helpful and professional staff have had a lot to do with ensuring that those collections live on for researchers to come.”

LAWRENCE N. POWELL
Professor Emeritus, Department of History
Tulane University

“As an engineer with an interest in Louisiana land loss, I learned from my family’s papers at LaRC about my third great-grandfather, L.H. Place, who dug several New Orleans canals. He was part of the great debate on how to drain Louisiana’s swamplands. That led me to the New Orleans Academy of Sciences records, which LaRC also preserves. The French engineer Marie Joseph Raymond Thomassy was a member of the New Orleans Academy. In his pioneering work “Géologie pratique de la Louisiane” (1860; also preserved by LaRC), Thomassy proposed diverting the Mississippi river with alluvium to elevate Louisiana’s swamps, rendering them drained. Today, the State of Louisiana is proposing to do exactly that. If realized, Thomassy’s dreams, my family’s history, and my professional interests will have come full circle.”

DENNIS G. LAMBERT, P.E.
New Orleans, Louisiana

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you have a drawer of old Louisiana brochures, or your grandmother’s World War I letters, or if your church, club, or krewe has old record books and reports, please talk to us about how we can help preserve those valuable materials. Also save for LaRC all brochures, menus, programs, and invitations you receive.

**MORAL SUPPORT.**
If you know someone doing Louisiana research, let them know that they are welcome to use our resources.

If you know a Louisiana collector, please ask them to get in touch with us.

If your club, business, or family produces a newsletter, please add us to your mailing list.

If your organization or club hosts speakers, let them know that we can provide one.

Keep up with our activities by following “The Louisiana Research Collection at Tulane University” on Facebook and Twitter and by letting us send you our email newsletter.

**MONETARY SUPPORT.**
When we agree to preserve something, we make a commitment to preserve it permanently. “Permanently” means “forever,” and forever is expensive. We therefore depend on private gifts to support many of our special projects.

Because they provide reliable ongoing support, our greatest need is for endowed funds and positions. Named funds offer a tremendous opportunity to honor someone in a permanent and prestigious manner. For more information, please contact Leon Miller, Head, Louisiana Research Collection, lmiller@tulane.edu, 504-314-7833.

You can also give to the Louisiana Research Collection online by credit card at larc.tulane.edu/giving.

There are many other meaningful ways to support the Louisiana Research Collection while also meeting your personal planning goals. To learn more about gift planning at Tulane, please contact the Office of Gift Planning, 1-800-999-0181 or giftplanning@tulane.edu, and mention “the Louisiana Research Collection.”

For more information about supporting Tulane, go to giving.tulane.edu.
WHY DO WE COLLECT AND PRESERVE LOUISIANA RESEARCH MATERIALS?

Quite simply, we acquire them for you to use, and we take pride in making our holdings available in as comfortable and welcoming a manner as possible.

Because we can provide only limited mail and email support, most researchers will need to visit the Victor H. and Margaret G. Schiro Reading Room, located on the 2nd floor of Jones Hall on Tulane University’s uptown campus. We’ve worked hard to make it possible for you to identify resources online from your home or office, allowing you to save time, better plan your visit, and lower your travel costs.

Therefore, before arriving, please do the following:

Search our online discovery tools to identify items relevant to your project. You will find a “search box” on our website homepage, larc.tulane.edu.

Review the reading room guidelines on our website, larc.tulane.edu/services, so you know what to expect when you visit.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU WHEN YOU VISIT:

A photo-ID.

A camera. Researchers are welcome to take photographs of our holdings.

A laptop with power cable.

Pencils and paper. Ink pens are not allowed in our reading room because of the permanent damage accidental ink stains can cause.

A USB flash drive for saving images from our easy-to-use self-service scanner.

A light sweater or jacket. We keep our reading room slightly cool for preservation purposes.
“The Louisiana Research Collection is a real treasure trove, and it has proved vital for my PhD research on opera in nineteenth-century New Orleans. As a scholar living outside of the United States, the detailed online finding aids and digital collections were an enormous help, as they allowed me to plan my visits in advance, as well as enabling important preliminary research from abroad. During my time in New Orleans, the collection staff went out of their way to provide friendly and useful advice. Their extensive knowledge of the collections made my research experience a pleasure.”

CHARLOTTE BENTLEY
University of Cambridge