COMPETITIVE BUT NOT COMPETING:

Collaborative collection development in local history special collections

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Stockton University Special Collections

University Archives
Rare books / New Jersey books
Government Documents
“Local” manuscript collections
Mission vs. Collection Overview

• **Mission:** The Library collects, organizes, preserves and provides access to special collections related to all aspects of Stockton and the general history and culture of southern New Jersey.

BUT

• **Collection Overview:**
  • Stockton publications and unpublished documents.
  • Authors affiliated with Stockton.
  • History, politics, economics, environment, culture and folklore of Atlantic City and County, southern New Jersey and Delaware River Valley region.
  • Literature (local, regional and American authors).
  • Pinelands materials.
  • The Special Collections also has works of great value, precarious condition, historical importance and research value that have been transferred from the General Collection.
Policy vs. Practice
In policy, who else collects “South Jersey”?

- Rutgers University
- Rowan University
- NJ State Archives

County Historical Societies

- Municipal/township historical societies or public libraries with local history collections
Where should Stockton collect?

- In practice, are these other institutions collecting all South Jersey?
- Goals:
  - Communication
  - Collaboration
Questions and Comments?

Thank you!

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