



# What's So Special about Our Collections?

Promoting Special Collections to Redefine Academic Libraries

Sara A. Borden, CA  
Archivist  
University Archives and Special Collections  
Campbell Library  
Rowan University  
Glassboro, NJ



## About the Space/About the Archivist

- Rowan University Archives and Special Collections (RUASC) was established in 1949, when the school was called the New Jersey State Teachers College at Glassboro and RUASC was called the Frank H. Stewart Room
- Was initially in Savitz Hall, but moved to Campbell Library upon construction completion in 1995
- For many years, was relegated to an inaccessible space on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Library's tower
- In 2017, moved to the main 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Library – far more accessible! – visits increased three fold
- No professional archivist on staff until 2016 – nearly 70 years of backlog, no electronic records
- Sara joined Rowan in 2016 after 5 years of archival work in venues like the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Penn Museum, Philadelphia City Archives





## Frank H. Stewart Collection

- Stewart's 1949 donation establish RUASC
- Most-used collection
- Stewart and his collection have generated some fun stories
- Upon donation, it was the largest collection of New Jerseyana in existence
- South Jersey-focused, but world coverage
- Native American objects – Lenape tribe
- Southern New Jersey land deeds and indentures
- Revolutionary War militia muster roles and requisition forms
- Elizabeth Satterthwaite Papers - genealogy
- Innskeep Papers
- Samuel Mickle diaries and papers
- Early American pamphlets
- ...and so much more!





## Rare Books

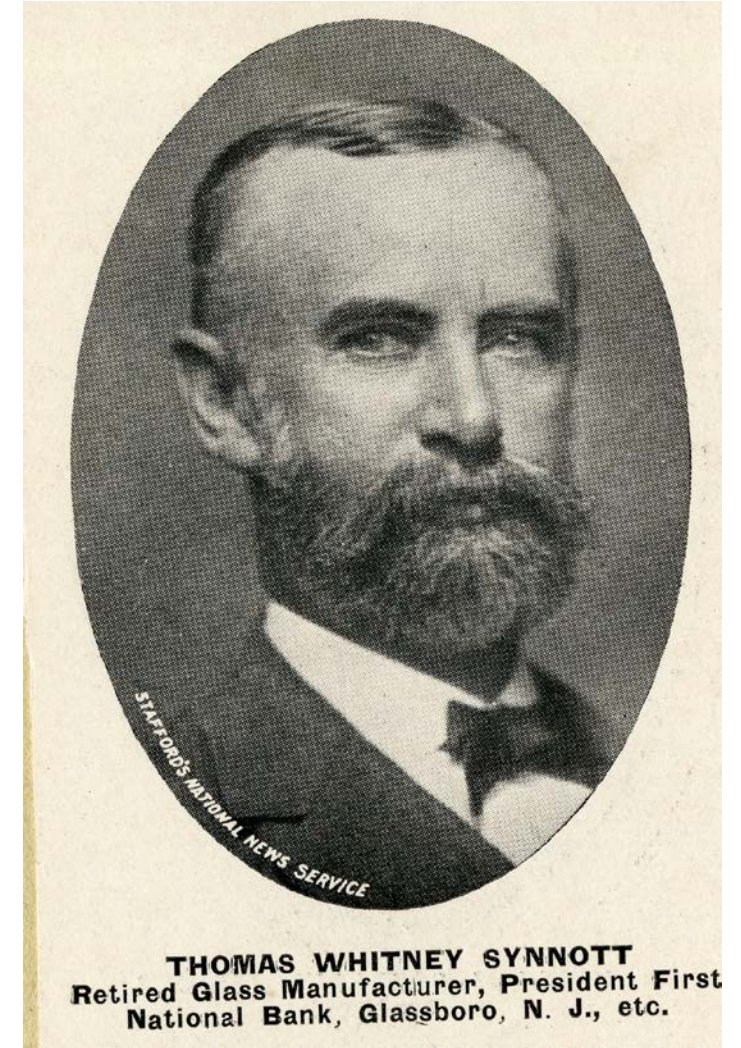
- Oldest book in collection dates to 1499, a book of poetry and philosophy by Italian philosopher Panfilo Sassi
- Approximately 4,000 of the 12,000 volume collection could be categorized as “rare”
- Bulk of collection dates to 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, though all centuries from 15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> represented
- Many different languages included, including German, Latin, Spanish, and French
- American and European publications
- Variety of subjects – no clear collection strategy or scope
- Large collection of pedagogical texts from 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Books come from many donors, including Stewart, faculty and staff, one-time donations, and by unknown means

SASSY  
SINCE  
BIRTH



# Thomas Whitney Synnott Papers

- Synnott was a well-known South Jersey businessman from the late 19<sup>th</sup> through the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Synnotts were integral in acquiring the initial tract of land that would establish Rowan University in 1923
- Hollybush Mansion, on Rowan's campus, was the ancestral home of the Whitneys
- Synnott was the leader of the Whitney Glassworks for several years before he retired a wealthy man and became a prominent philanthropist
- Integral to the founding of Wenonah, NJ
- Synnott funded a variety of projects, from churches and schools, to small businesses and scholarships
- Collection touches a variety of subjects and details the changing geography of southern New Jersey over the course of Synnott's life
- Worked with scions of high society, banks, financial corporations, mining corporations, colleges and universities, and many more
- Letters, maps, invoices, legal documents

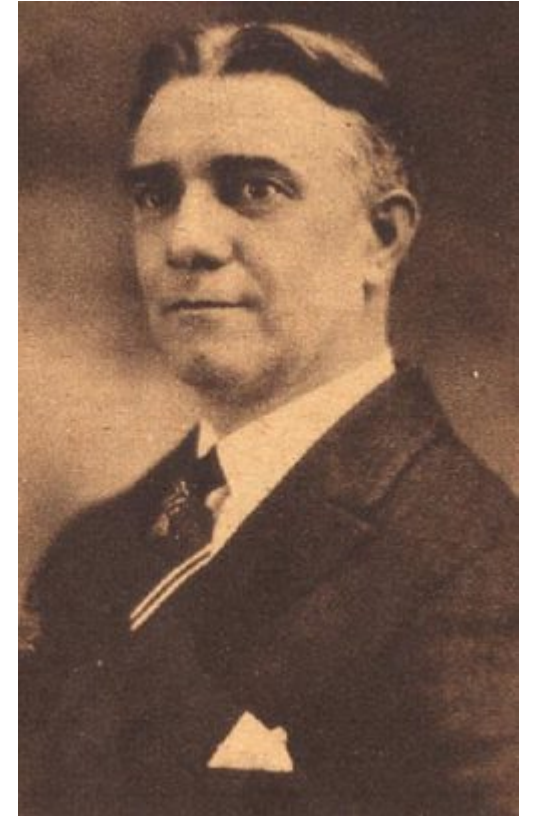






## Charles A. Wolverton Papers

- Wolverton served New Jersey's 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional district (Camden County and parts of Burlington and Gloucester Counties) from 1927 until 1959
- Was a Camden County native and worked as the county's prosecutor
- Also served in the New Jersey State House of Assembly
- Supporter of New Deal programs and public works projects that benefitted South Jersey
- Especially championed causes of ethnic constituents, such as Polish and Irish communities
- Collection is comprised of scrapbooks that document his political career
- Newspaper clippings, photographs, letters, press releases
- Seem to have been compiled by a secretary or assistant





## Hollybush Summit Collection

- The Hollybush Summit took place in June 1967 on Rowan's campus in Hollybush Mansion
- American President Lyndon B. Johnson met with Premier Alexei Kosygin of the USSR over the course of 3 days
- Kosygin was scheduled to speak at the United Nations in New York; Johnson was unwilling to appear weak by traveling to meet him and Kosygin also did not want to show weakness by making a special trip to Washington, DC
- Glassboro, NJ, was halfway between New York and DC and was thus chosen
- Collection consists mostly of newspaper clippings, with very few primary source documents
- However, there are some compelling photographs documenting the event, such as the one on the right





## Leo C. Beebe Papers

- Beebe was a prominent businessman who was integral in the development of Rowan's College of Business
- Had a long and varied career, ranging from work at Ford, Rowan University, and K-Tron (a South Jersey industrial supply company)
- During his time at Ford, Beebe worked closely with Henry Ford, II, most notably to close down the Edsel business
- Also directed Ford Racing to victories in 1965 and 1966, ending Ferrari's supremacy and leading the way for Ford's 1-2-3 win at the Le Mans 24-hour auto endurance race in 1966
- Was also a philanthropist who worked with Presidents Eisenhower and Johnson, assisting with relocating Hungarian and Cuban refugees, among other efforts
- Beebe's collection consists of correspondence, photographs, ephemera, and more, detailing the different eras of his career







## Marvin Creamer Collection

- Creamer was a professor of geography at Rowan University
- His passion is sailing, which he took up late in life
- Creamer, aboard the *Globe Star*, was the first in the modern era to circumnavigate the globe using no navigational instrumentation, only the stars, winds, wildlife, and currents, as well as a handblown hourglass to measure the accuracy of timepieces on board
- The trip took 18 months, from December 1982 until May 1984, nearly 12 of them spent at sea
- Collection contains correspondence before, during, and after his trip; photographs and videos; data reports; journals and logbooks; and documentation of his previous practice voyages
- The *Globe Star* left from and returned to National Park, NJ, near Red Bank Battlefield and opposite the Philadelphia International Airport
- Creamer will be 103 later this month!





## Lucille P. Pfleeger Papers

- Pfleeger was an ardent feminist who helped establish the South Jersey NOW – Alice Paul Chapter (the local chapter of the National Organization for Women)
- Also a champion of equal rights for the LGBT+ community and all races and genders
- Pfleeger was quite politically active in the 1970s and 1980s, including supporting the 1984 Mondale-Ferraro presidential campaign
- An energetic supporter of Rowan, as her husband, Clarke, was a music professor, which is what brought them to South Jersey (Rowan's Pfleeger Concert Hall is named for them)
- Collection contains correspondence, publications, newspaper clippings, and other ephemera





## David Bianculli Collection

- David is a prominent TV critic who publishes a blog called “TV Worth Watching”
- His columns on TV criticism were published in a variety of newspapers from 1975 through 2007
- He is also the TV critic for NPR’s *Fresh Air* show, on which he is also a frequent guest substituting for Terry Gross
- He has published several books on TV, the most recent being *The Platinum Age of Television: From I Love Lucy to the Walking Dead – How TV Became Terrific* (2017)
- David’s fascination with TV dates back to the 1950s, when he started collecting as many publications on the subject as he could
- He donated his collection in 2017, which consists of rare and unusual books on TV, hard-to-find recordings, interviews, and VHS and DVDs of TV shows, from pilots to full runs
- Some accessibility concerns such as media formatting and copyright





## Pete Zakroff Collection on Education

- Pete made his career as a writer for hire
- Also an illustrator and specialist in multi-media productions
- Wrote extensively on the history of education in New Jersey in the 1970s and 1980s
- Donated his materials on New Jersey education in 2018
- There are Pete Zakroff collections on other subjects in repositories such as the Hagley Museum, Seton Hall University, and the University of Maryland

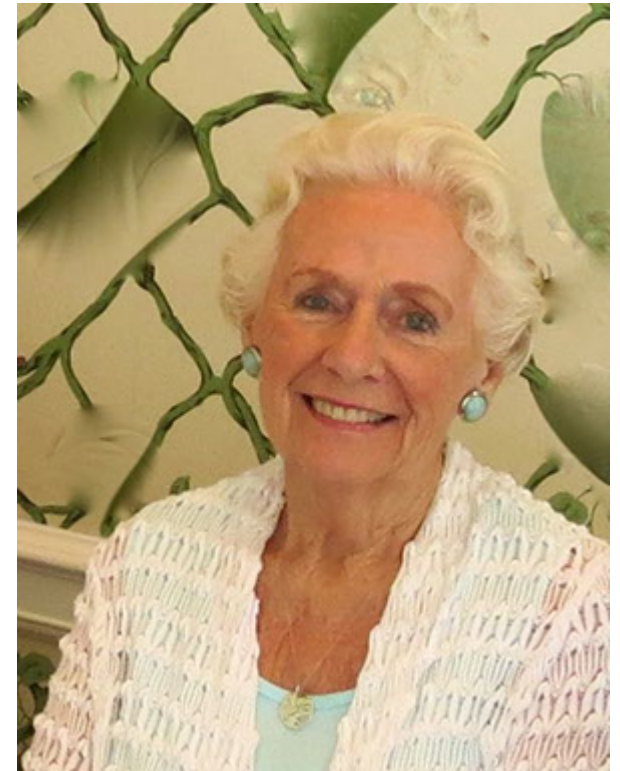






## Wendy Pfeffer Collection

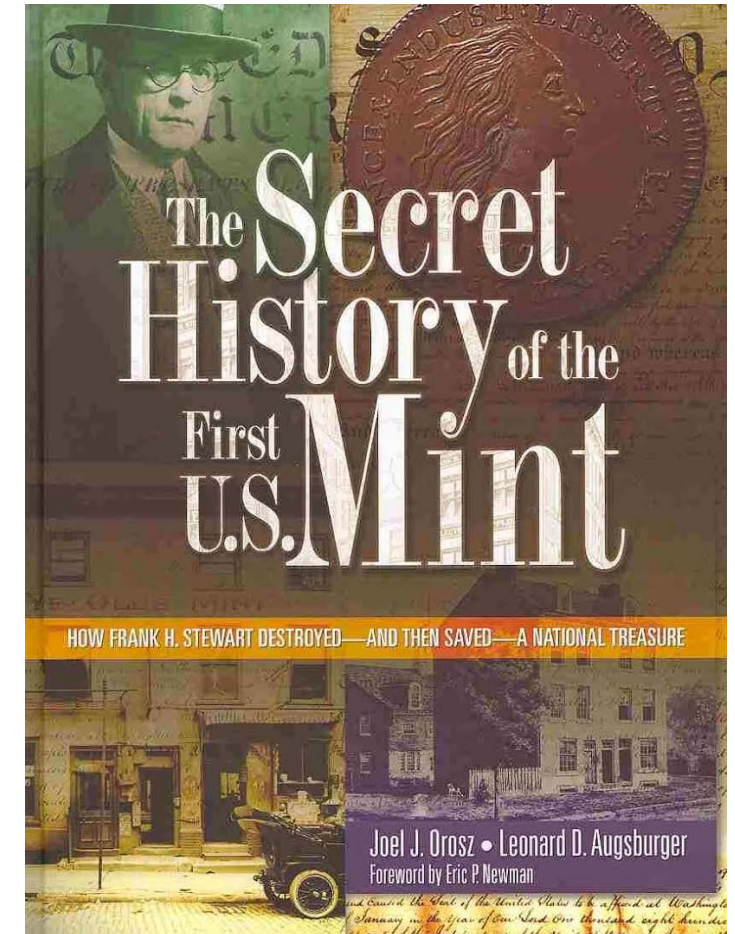
- Our newest collection
- Wendy graduated from Rowan in 1950 and all of her siblings are alumnae
- She met her husband on campus
- Wendy was first a teacher before transitioning to children's book author
- Her work is mostly narrative non-fiction
- Her 50<sup>th</sup> book will be published this fall, which we hope to commemorate with a special event
- Specializes in topics such as ecology, biology, and physical sciences, among others
- Collection contains not just books, but documents each part of the publication process, from idea to final drafts and everything in between





## Research Results

- *The Secret History of the First U.S. Mint: How Frank H. Stewart Destroyed – and Then Saved – A National Treasure* by Joel H. Orosz and Leonard D. Augsburger (2011)
- *Leo C. Beebe: Final Lecture and Papers – A Chronicle of Achievement and Service* compiled Robert D. Lynch (2010)
- *Summit at Holly Bush* by Robert D. Bole (1969)
- Innumerable theses, dissertations, and student papers





## Want More Information?

- Rowan University Archives and Special Collections  
Third Floor, Campbell Library  
201 Mullica Hill Rd.  
Glassboro, NJ 08028
- E-mail: [borden@rowan.edu](mailto:borden@rowan.edu) OR [archives@rowan.edu](mailto:archives@rowan.edu)
- Phone: (856) 256-4500, ext. 53543
- Finding Aids: <https://findingaids.rowan.edu>
- Library Website: <https://www.lib.rowan.edu/campbell/spaces-collections/university-archives-special-collections>
- LibGuide: <https://libguides.rowan.edu/c.php?g=441409>

# What's so special about Seton Hall University's collections?

Brianna LoSardo and Alan Delozier





# Rare Books



- MacManus Irish
- Civil War
- Catholicism
- Italy and Italian-American studies
- Jewish-Christian Studies

# Jewish-Christian Studies



Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher papers  
Mss 0053



Sr. Rose Thering papers  
Mss 0016

# African-American Studies



Congressman Donald M. Payne papers  
Mss 0078



Thomas and Margaret Melady papers  
Mss 0072



# Italian-American Studies



Ace Alagna photographic collection  
Mss 0018



Sons of Italy collection  
Mss 0088



# New Jersey Politics



Richard J. Hughes papers  
Mss 0003



Matthew J. Rinaldo papers  
Mss 0009

# Education & Outreach

## Undergraduate Courses

- Interdisciplinary
- History Department
- Communication and the Arts
- Catholic Studies

## Graduate Courses

- History of Higher Education
- Immaculate Conception Seminary
- Students and scholars from other institutions

# Education & Outreach

## Special Presentations/Classes

- Human Resources – Introduction to School History
- University Weekend, Charter Week, and other University events
- New Jersey Catholic Experience

## External Research Community

- Long-term research projects
- School Groups
- Unique and International Research Projects

# Contact us

Msgr. William Noé Field Archives and Special Collections Center  
Ground Floor, Walsh Library  
Seton Hall University  
400 South Orange Ave  
South Orange, NJ 07079

Main number: 973-761-9476  
[archives@shu.edu](mailto:archives@shu.edu)

Brianna LoSardo, Records Manager: [brianna.losardo@shu.edu](mailto:brianna.losardo@shu.edu)  
Alan Delozier, University Archivist: [alan.delozier@shu.edu](mailto:alan.delozier@shu.edu)



# The “Special” in our Collections

*Stockton University*

*Richard E. Bjork Library Special Collections*



# Stockton's Special Collections

- Government Documents
- Rare Books
- University Archives
- South Jersey collections





# The Pinelands

## INTRODUCTION

On this poster one can find a general overview of the Pinelands research materials available at Stockton's Archives. All of these materials are free for anyone to use and can be found by visiting the Special Collections room in the bottom floor of the Richard E. Bjork Library.



## INSIDE THE PINELANDS

From 1994-2012, the Pinelands Preservation Alliance issued a bimonthly newsletter called *Inside the Pinelands* detailing topics such as local Pinelands events and stories from Pinelands locals. The PPA also issued a newsletter entitled *PinelandsWatch* from 2000-2012 that focused specifically on environmental issues and urging citizens to take action to protect the Pine Barrens. In Stockton's archives, there is a copy of every iteration issued.

## THE PINE BARRENS VERTICAL FILE

When you walk through the main entrance to the bottom floor of the Library, directly on your left is a large filing cabinet. This cabinet contains what is known as the Pinelands Vertical File, which is a large collection of non circulating print materials on an extensive variety of topics concerning the Pine Barrens, such as historic towns, Pinelands flora and fauna, early recollections of life in the pines, minorities in Southern New Jersey, blueberry horticulture, and changes in environmental patterns. The collection began to be compiled in 1988 and is no longer being developed, however, the resources located in this collection are unique and invaluable.

## CRANBERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION

The New Jersey Cranberry Grower's Association is the oldest cranberry growing association in America, and Stockton is proud to own two pieces of its history. Firstly, within the archives are all of the Convention and Meeting booklets from 1891-1917.

These pamphlets provide a fascinating look at cranberry production around the turn of the century, and contain interesting vintage ads for cranberry growing supplies. In addition to the Convention booklets, the archives also own two ledgers that cover the Association's financial records from 1906 to 1941. These ledgers contain a list of all members of the Cranberry Grower's Association at the time. If your family lived in New Jersey during this time, its possible a relative of yours could be listed in one of these ledgers!



## PINELANDS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

In the area to the far left, when entering the library's main entrance on the bottom floor, is a set of filing cabinets that hold all of the Pinelands Commission meeting minutes from its founding in 1979 up to the present. These documents provide a comprehensive look at the details of everything the Pinelands Commission has done since its creation, such as regulating new construction within the Pine Barrens and compiling environmental reports.



## EVANS AND WILLS

Evans and Wills was a cranberry and blueberry business in the heart of the Pine Barrens that lasted for almost a full century. Stockton's special collections, courtesy of Rowan College at Burlington County, has in its possession a wide and extensive variety of documents saved throughout the entire history of Evans and Wills. The oldest documents, starting at about the 1830's, include hand drawn property maps and a handful of deeds. As the documents cross over into the 20th century, they become more and more extensive, and include, for example, items like the original documents recognizing Evans and Wills as an incorporated entity, two books of shareholder information from the 1920's, and ration checks for gas from World War II. Overall, this collection provides a fascinating look into the affairs and minutiae of a small business that spanned over a long and very formative portion of American history.

## DR. ROBERT E. ROSE COLOR GLASS PLATE SLIDES

Housed in a small wooden box, with the inscription "Dr. Robert E. Rose, E. I. DuPont de Nemours" on the inside lid, are a set of 63 color glass slides taken during the mid to late 1930's. Dr. Rose was a chemist who worked for DuPont, as well as an amateur photographer in his spare time. Many of the slides depict the flora and fauna of South Jersey and the Pine Barrens, as well as historical buildings, farmlands, and Dr. Rose himself.

## PINE BARRENS NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

The Pine Barrens have had a rich print history in the past few decades, and Stockton's Special Collections has a file cabinet drawer dedicated to compiling all the instances that the Pine Barrens have mentioned or made an appearance in local newspaper articles. The articles range from 1980 to 2001, and include a variety of topics such as news on endangered species native to the area, radioactive tracking of animals, the threat of new land development, information and opinions on the Pinelands Master Plan throughout its formation, forest fires, and the return of bears to the area.

## BUDD WILSON MATERIALS

Over the past five years, retired archaeologist and notable local historian Charles "Budd" Wilson has donated a wealth of materials relating to the Pine Barrens to Stockton's Special Collections. The materials donated cover a range of different forms of media, including vintage photographs, letters, reports, books, postcards, maps, pamphlets, and news clippings. The materials also cover a range of prominent Pine Barrens towns and historical sites, such as Batsto, Chatsworth, Weymouth Furnace, Atsion, Martha Furnace, and Pleasant Mills. Included Below are two vintage pictures of Batsto village that were included in Budd Wilson's donations.



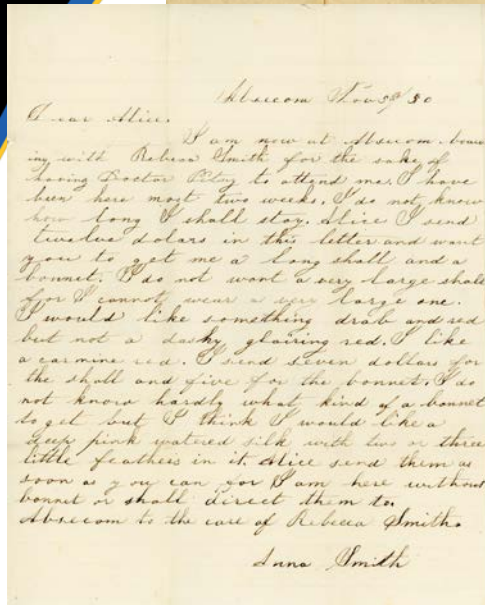
BATSTO MANSION



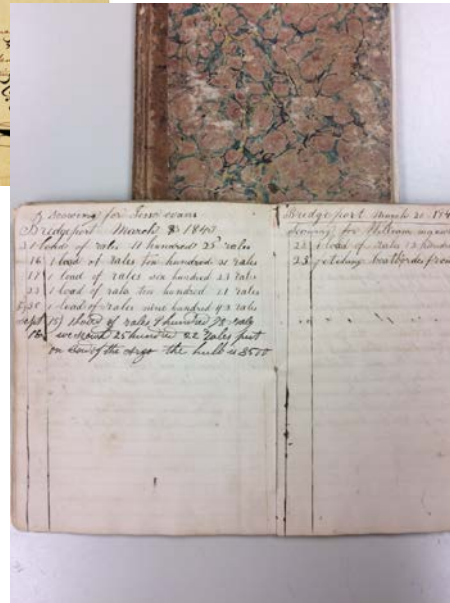
BATSTO GENERAL STORE



# South Jersey History



Rebecca Estell Bourgeois  
Collection (U0030)



Steve Eichinger Wading  
River Collection (U0004)

Book collections from  
local historians:

- William Leap
- David Munn

Oral Histories:

- Atlantic City  
residents (2015)
- Stockton  
presidents and  
professors



# South Jersey People



Richard E. Bjork  
Papers (U0025)



Elizabeth Alton  
Papers (U0001)



William J. Hughes  
Papers (U0038)



Representative  
Frank A. LoBiondo  
Congressional  
Papers

Fred W. Noyes  
Sr. Collection  
(U0002)



# South Jersey Businesses



Seaview Country Club  
Records (U0032)



Buzby's Chatworth General  
Store Collection (U0003)



Evans and Wills Inc. Records  
(U0014)

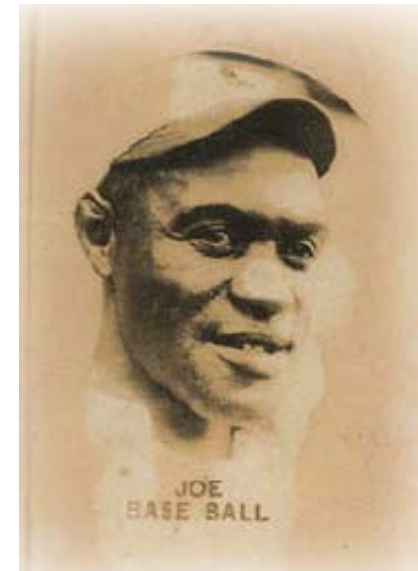
# South Jersey Organizations



Cape May Jazz Festival  
Records (U0010)



Noyes Museum Records  
(U0042)



John Henry "Pop" Lloyd  
Committee Records (U0007)

# Using the Collections



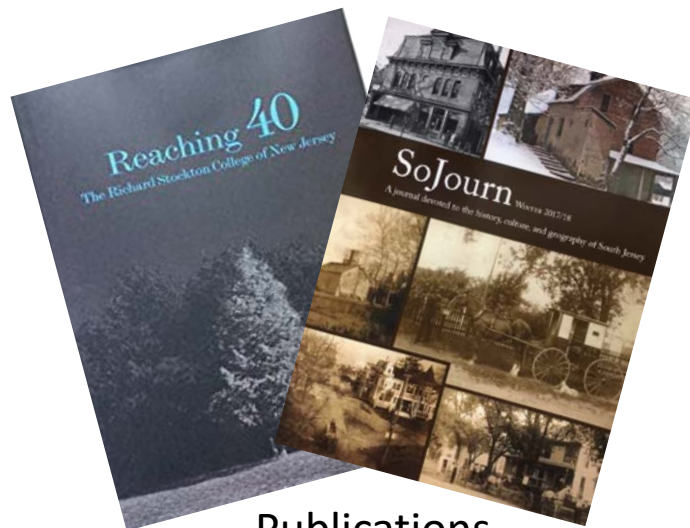
Classes



Personal research



Internships



Publications



Exhibits



# Please Visit!

Stockton University

Richard E. Bjork Library

Special Collections

Room E-056

Reading Room: 609-652-4532

Heather Perez, Special Collections Librarian

Louise Tillstrom, Archives Assistant

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