Summer has arrived, which means that the AALL Annual Meeting will soon be here. I live a three-to-four-hour drive away from Washington, DC, so this is probably as close to having the conference in my backyard as I’ll get. For those of you coming from the four corners of the world, whether it’s your first time in our nation’s capital or you’re a regular visitor, I hope you will enjoy your stay. Once again, LHRB will offer plenty of opportunities for you to meet up with your fellow librarians, to educate yourself, and to spread the word about legal history and rare book librarianship.

**Get together, network, and talk business:** We’ll hold our business meeting on Sunday evening – find out what the SIS is up to, offer suggestions for what you’d like to see us do in the future, and witness the handover of the buffalo to our new chair, Christine George. After the business meeting, we’ll have a reception a short walk away at Penn Commons.
Continue your education: On Monday morning, Immediate Past Chair Elizabeth Hilkin will moderate the panel “Creating an Oral History Program: Capturing History and Building Connections”, sponsored by LHRB. Monday afternoon, sit in on the LHRB Host City Roundtable “Capital Lawyers: The Supreme Court Bar in the Nation's History” presented by Kurt Metzmeier. LHRB finishes its programming later that day with archives and rare book cataloging roundtables.

Introduce other librarians to LHRB: As usual, we’ll have a poster in the exhibit hall’s activities area. If you have some time between sessions, take the chance to drop by our poster and help answer other AALL members’ questions about our SIS and help show them how much fun we have.

AFTER the MEETING:

The time after the Annual Meeting is when LHRB begins to think about the year ahead, which means it is a great time for members to ponder how they would like to serve.

Volunteer for a committee: Consider serving on a committee, especially if you’ve never been on one before. It’s a great way to network with other people who share your interests and to get more involved with your profession. A list of LHRB’s committees and a brief description of what they do is on our website at https://www.aallnet.org/lhrbsis/about-us/committees/.

Write for UNBOUND or for the LHRB-SIS Newsletter: Want to exercise your writing chops? Our newsletter is always looking for member news, as well as coverage of LHRB-sponsored events at the Annual Meeting. LHRB’s journal, UNBOUND: A Review of Legal History and Rare Books, is interested in your academic articles and book reviews. If you’d like to write for the newsletter, contact Newsletter Editor-in-Chief Kasia Solon Cristobal. If you’re interested in submitting an article or review to UNBOUND, contact Publications Chair Mark Podvia.

Morris L. Cohen winner: Congratulations go out to Jake C. Richards, a Ph.D. student in history at Cambridge University in England. His winning paper is "Abolition as a sovereign project: the Auditoria Geral da Marinha, legal geography, and the testimony of slaves in ending the legal slave trade to Brazil, 1850-1856." In order to let more members enjoy the Cohen winner’s presentation, Mr. Richards will give a webinar at a later date to be determined. We are excited to try this new way of bringing legal history and rare book scholarship to LHRB members and to other people in AALL.

It has been a great year for me as LHRB Chair. I could not have done this on my own – there are so many people who make this SIS possible. Each and every committee works tirelessly to provide great programming, to create entertaining and informative publications, and to keep everything moving smoothly. And you, the LHRB member, make it worthwhile. I've learned a lot from talking with you over the years, so thank you as well. See you in DC!
Coming to the AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, DC? The Legal History & Rare Books SIS has a great line-up of programs and activities for its members. At the end of Sunday, July 14th, the LHRB-SIS Business Meeting will be 5:30pm-6:30pm in WCC Room 143B. This is not a dull affair, and consider taking the time to attend this meeting. You will hear the latest information on programs, projects and activities, and have the opportunity to voice your comments and suggestions. In addition, if you are looking for a volunteer position to bolster your professional development, the Business Meeting will reveal numerous opportunities. Following the Business Meeting, the LHRB-SIS Reception will be 7pm-10pm at Penn Commons (700 6th Street NW), about a 10-minute walk south of the convention center. William S. Hein & Co. is graciously sponsoring the Reception, and a glance at the Penn Commons’ menu reveals there will be some delicious refreshments to enjoy. What a great way to relax and catch up with friends and colleagues!

Monday, July 15th is the big day for LHRB-SIS programs. Creating an Oral History Program: Capturing History and Building Connections will be 9:30am-10:30am in WCC Room 146B. This is the LHRB-SIS Independently-Produced Program, and will be coordinated and moderated by LHRB-SIS Immediate Past-Chair Elizabeth Hilkin, Head of Special Collections at the Tarlton Law Library. Speakers will be Kenneth Durr, Vice President of History Associates; Joe Noel, Head of Access Services at the Tarlton Law Library; Jane O’Connell, Associate Dean for Legal Information at the Levin College of Law; and Gail Warren, State Law Librarian at the Virginia State Law Library. Following the Exhibit Hall Lunch, the LHRB-SIS Host City History Roundtable will be 1:30pm-2:45pm in WCC Room 144B. Kurt Metzmeier, Associate Law Librarian and Professor of Law at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law will present Capital Lawyers: The Supreme Court Bar in the Nation’s History. If you miss the Exhibit Hall Lunch, feel free to bring a brown-bag lunch to the Roundtable. At the end of Monday’s programs, two more LHRB-SIS Roundtables will take place 5:30pm-6:30pm. The Archives Roundtable will be in the Marriott Dogwood room, and the Rare Books Cataloging Roundtable will be in the Marriott Scarlet Oak room (both on the 2 floor, above the lobby).

The Poster Session Presentation Period is Tuesday, July 16, 10am-11am, in WCC Exhibit Hall D. The Session is at the end of the 9:30am-11am Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break, and several posters may be of interest to LHRB-SIS members. For example, check out Digitization Project: USDA Office of General Counsel Agricultural Legislative Histories (1941-1971), by Kirstin Nelson at the USDA National Agricultural Library; and Creating a Treasure Map for Special Collections, by Judith Simms at the Rutgers University Law School Library.

A quick reminder... Later this year, the LHRB-SIS Morris L. Student Essay Competition winner will be presenting in an AALL-sponsored webinar, rather than in a
live presentation at the AALL Annual Meeting. The 2019 winner is Jake C. Richards, a History Ph.D. student at Cambridge University, and his winning essay is “Abolition as a Sovereign Project: The Auditoria Geral da Marinha, Legal Geography, and the Testimony of Slaves in Ending the Legal Slave Trade to Brazil, 1850-1856.” Webinar details will be announced on the Legal History & Rare Books SIS Community.

Be sure to review the final conference program to confirm rooms and times, as well check our website, for more details on LHRB-SIS activities at the 2019 AALL Annual Meeting. See you in Washington, DC!

**LHRB Happenings at AALL Annual Conference**

**Sunday, July 14:**

- LHRB-SIS Business Meeting
  - 5:30-6:30pm
  - Room 143B of the Washington Convention Center

- LHRB-SIS Reception
  - Sponsored by William S. Hein & Co.
  - Penn Commons
  - 700 6th St. NW
  - 7-10pm

**Monday, July 15:**

- LHRB-SIS Sponsored Program: "Creating an Oral History Program: Capturing History and Building Connections", Immediate Past Chair, Elizabeth Hilkin, will present and moderate
  - 9:30-10:30am
  - Room 146B of the Washington Convention Center

- LHRB-SIS Host City History Roundtable
  - Capital Lawyers: The Supreme Court Bar in the Nation’s History, presented by Kurt Metzmeier
  - 1:30-2:45pm
  - Room 144B of the Washington Convention Center

- LHRB-SIS Rare Books Cataloging Roundtable
  - 5:30-6:30pm
  - Marriott’s Scarlet Oak room

- LHRB-SIS Archives Roundtable
  - Carole Prietto, from Georgetown Law, will be leading a conversation about functional analysis and implementing MPLP
  - 5:30-6:30pm
  - Marriott’s Dogwood room
I look forward to being in DC again! The LHRB activities that our chair Fred Dingledy and Laura Ray have so nicely laid out will keep us all thoroughly entertained. Heather Kushnerick’s column on archives also encourages LHRBers to attend the Archives Roundtable where Carole Prietto, from Georgetown Law, will be leading a conversation about functional analysis and implementing MPLP.

For great ideas on what else to do in DC, check out new contributor Melissa Hyland’s sightseeing recommendations. For instance, I hadn’t realized until I read her guide that there is a legal history link between Lafayette Square and the insanity defense. Insanity in the midst of the White House—who knew? (On the off chance you have some down time, the Smithsonian also happens to be hosting Medieval Feasting, “Game of Thrones” Style—an “Evening Program with Tasting”—on Monday, July 15, at 6:45pm.)

Our other new contributor Lena Rieke provides us with a Member Spotlight that is an update on LHRB’s former chair, Sabrina Sondhi. Our trusted stalwarts Noelle Sinclair, Linda Tesar, and Mike Widener provide similarly welcome updates on exhibits, acquisitions, and member news. I hope to catch up on all such things and more at the Hein sponsored LHRB reception.

Thanks to all the editors and new contributors! I appreciate everyone pitching in to keep the newsletter a going concern. For more interesting items involving legal history, check out LHRB’s Twitter account (now with 280 followers!): https://twitter.com/lhrbsis. I welcome any comments or feedback:
kcristobal@law.utexas.edu
This past year has been pretty exciting for me. After finalizing the college records management policy and retention schedule, we are about to pick our Enterprise Content Management (ECM) system that will make the whole thing come to life. I'm sure the other departments in the College are excited about how it will streamline processes and save them time and effort in the future, but it’s the document management feature and retention workflow that makes me happy.

It is not uncommon for the roles of college archivist and records manager to be joined in academic institutions. I didn't realize, however, that most people don't know the difference between archives and records management. Records management is the systematic control of recorded information through its lifecycle, after which it is either disposed of or transferred to a repository – in our case, the archives. From a records management perspective the archive is the final repository for a small subset of records the college creates in the course of day-to-day business. As the institutional repository for the college, the archive seeks to preserve records of enduring value that demonstrate the history, growth, and evolution of the college. They are two sides of the same coin and completely different all at the same time.

Full disclosure: we just finished the last software demonstration so we haven’t picked a vendor, yet. However, the top contenders have similar features including an automated workflow that allows for retention schedules and disposition dates to be built in. Fortunately for me, the vast majority of records involved in this project will never be part of the College Archive. They are vital records as long as they are needed and then they need to be destroyed at the end of their lifecycle. I don’t need or want vendor records, financial spreadsheets, expense reports, or anything FAFSA related. Some departments that do produce documents of historic value, such as the registrar’s office, are their own repository. In the case of the dean’s office, we have
established transfer protocols in place already, so those will simply have to be automated.

The part of all of this that has me really excited, though, is that it will allow me to start a real digital archive. Like all of us, I have limited physical space. I also have an increasing amount of digital records. Some are born digital, but the bulk are digital surrogates. It will also allow for greater collaboration between myself and my biggest customer: the marketing and communications department. Rather than having copies of photos in multiple places, it will allow us to have a master photo library where the current digital images can be stored and new digital photos can be added as they are created. Our current system involves file shares on two servers, multiple copies, and confusion. As previously mentioned, the ECM workflow will also alert me when records destined for the archive have reached the end of their lifecycle, ensuring that things don’t slip through the cracks. I don’t expect this to be a seamless and trouble free process. There are always growing pains when change is introduced, and this will be a big change. But, all in all I am optimistic.

On a completely different note, don’t forget to join us at the Archives Roundtable at AALL in Washington, DC! Carole Prietto, from Georgetown Law, will be leading a conversation about functional analysis and implementing MPLP. Be there or be hopelessly mired in your legacy collections and their confusing and often incomplete documentation! ■
In February 2018, the Law Library celebrated the 40th anniversary of the University of Minnesota Law School building, now known as Walter F. Mondale Hall, with the opening of a commemorative exhibit. We are pleased to announce that the exhibit is now available in digital format as part of the Law Library’s Digital Special Collections.

Under Dean Emeritus Robert Stein’s visionary leadership, the Law School moved from Fraser Hall, built in 1928, to a new building on the campus’s West Bank in 1978. The state-of-the-art, award-winning facility provided a functional and attractive space for the continued growth of the Law School's curriculum, faculty, clinics, law library, and student-centered programs. However, with an expanding faculty and program of legal education, by the mid-1990s the Law School again faced serious space constraints.

Assessing the situation with an eye to functionality and costs, Dean Emeritus E. Thomas Sullivan moved forward with a plan to build an addition, rather than opting for a completely new facility. Completed in 2001, the new addition is a bright and open space designed to house student activities, research centers and institutes, and a long-needed café.

A focal point of the addition is the Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center, designed to protect the Law Library’s irreplaceable rare books collection and to provide a scholars’ work area for legal history researchers. Equally important, the addition includes a significant number of classrooms and faculty offices.

At the celebration to commemorate the completion of the project in May 2001, the building was rededicated as Walter F. Mondale Hall to honor one of the Law School’s most accomplished and respected alumni, Vice President Walter Mondale ('56). The digital exhibit, "A Foundation in the Law: Celebrating 40 Years at Walter F. Mondale Hall," ensures that the story of the University of Minnesota Law School building will be permanently preserved. The digital exhibit was curated by Ian Moret, Patrick Graybill, and Ryan Greenwood.

The exhibit will run through early 2019.

The exhibit is available for viewing at the exhibit’s website: http://moses.law.umn.edu/mh40/. Additional online exhibits are available at: https://www.law.umn.edu/library/riesenfeld-center/digital-collections
FROM THE LILLIAN GOLDMAN LAW LIBRARY, YALE LAW SCHOOL:

“Legally Binding: Fine and Historic Bindings from the Yale Law Library”

Many of the historic volumes in the Lillian Goldman Law Library are significant not only for their texts, but for their extraordinary bindings. Over thirty of these were featured in the Rare Book Collection’s Spring 2019 exhibition, “Legally Binding: Fine and Historic Bindings from the Yale Law Library.”

The curators of the exhibition were Michael Laird, owner of Michael Laird Rare Books in Lockhart, Texas, and Michael Widener, the Law Library’s Rare Book Librarian. They selected bindings for their beauty, craftsmanship, functionality, and historical significance.

“These bookbindings tell stories about the people who owned them, read them, or sold them at some point in their long histories,” write Laird and Widener. “The bindings reflect the time and place of their creation, and reveal attitudes about the legal texts they continue to protect. They also illustrate chapters in the history of book binding.”

The examples date from the Middle Ages to the late nineteenth century, and from across Europe and the Americas. They include bindings prepared for students, lawyers, public officials, noblemen, wealthy magnates, a book collector, an Italian cardinal, a chained library in England, the tourist trade in China, the Queen Regent of Spain, the English diarist John Evelyn, and a palace of the Tsar of Russia.

“Legally Binding” was the latest in a series of exhibitions that examine law books as physical artifacts, and the relationships between their forms and content.

“Legally Binding: Fine and Historic Bindings from the Yale Law Library” was on display February 4 to May 30. 2019. Images and text from the exhibition are available in the library’s Flickr site: https://www.flickr.com/photos/yalelawlibrary/albums/72157678525675828.
Rarities, Authorities, and Oddities: Spring 2019 Acquisitions in the Yale Law Library, by Mike Widener, Rare Book Librarian

A Yale law student’s “autograph” book, acquired early in 2019, has turned out to be a significant source on the antebellum Yale Law School. The student, William T. Marsh of North Carolina (class of 1852), was part of a tight-knit group of students from the South. He filled his book with engraved portraits, New Haven scenes, and inscriptions from fellow students that reflect national divisions of the time regarding slavery. Marsh died ten years later as a Confederate officer, a casualty of the infamous “Bloody Lane” at the Battle of Antietam.

Marsh’s autograph book is one of several recent acquisitions dealing with issues of race. An early effort at school integration is documented in *Report of the minority of the committee upon the petitions of John T. Hilton and others, colored citizens of Boston: praying for the abolition of the Smith School, and that colored children may be permitted to attend the other schools of the city* (Boston, 1849), an effort turned back by the Massachusetts courts. A Virginia appellate brief, *F. W. Starke v. Commonwealth of Virginia* (1914), concerns an African American barber who shot at a drunken white mob in self defense. *Whither solid South?* (1947) is an argument in favor of white supremacy by Charles Wallace Collins, who was Librarian of the Supreme Court and Law Librarian of Congress in 1920-1921. *Black laws for all black people* (ca. 1970) includes a list of oaths, beginning with “A Black Brother or Sister must aid each other in trouble with any authorities representing the controllers, enslavers, oppressors or exploiters of our people.”
Other U.S. law acquisitions include a proof copy of Chancellor James Kent’s 1812 decision in Livingston and Fulton v. Van Ingen, a predecessor to the landmark Gibbons v. Ogden case, with Kent’s own handwritten corrections.

The most significant English rarity is An act, that all proceedings in courts of justice, within that part of Great Britain called England, shall be in the English language (London, 1731), in which Parliament put an end to the use of Law French in English courts. Our copy is the first printing, known in only one other copy at the British Library, with handwritten corrections reflecting the final version of the act as printed later that same year.

Among the several illustrated law books acquired this year, two are particularly outstanding. Francesco degli Allegri’s Tractato nobilissimo della prudentia et iustitia (Venice, 1508) is adorned with 18 allegorical woodcuts, including one of the author dressed as Dante. OCLC reports four other copies in Europe, no others in the U.S. The 1512 Augsburg edition of Ulrich Tengler’s Layenspiegel contains 40 woodcuts, 33 of them full-page or larger, depicting legal procedure, punishments, and allegorical images. Textually this edition contains Tengler’s final corrections to his influential handbook on German law.

Additions to the Italian Statutes Collection include the 1744 printing of the statutes of Peschiera del Garda and Legge organica delle amministrazioni particolari delle sette isole (1804), containing laws of the short-lived Septinsular Republic in Greece’s Ionian Islands. Both are known in only one other copy in Europe.

Finally, the Yale Law Library is now the only U.S. library with a complete run of Supernatural Law (1987-2018), the comic book featuring Wolff & Byrd, “attorneys for the macabre.” The final two missing issues were generously donated by a friend of the creator, Batton Lash, who passed away this year after a long battle with brain cancer.
The Spring 2019 issue of *Law Library Lights*, the newsletter of the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C., will interest LHRB’ers because of its theme, “Special Collections & Archives,” and because three of the articles are authored by LHRB-SIS members: “A Library Within a Library” by Hannah Miller-Kim (Georgetown University Law Library), “More than Paper” by Carole Prietto (Georgetown University Law Library), and “Tracing the Origin of the Elbridge T. Gerry Collection at the Supreme Court of the United States Library” by Bill Sleeman (U.S. Supreme Court Library). The issue is available online at https://www.llsdc.org/assets/LLL/62/LLSDC%20Newsletter%2062.3.pdf.

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Kaylan Ellis (Claude W. Pettit College of Law, Ohio Northern University) has been promoted to Assistant Professor.

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Douglas Lind (Southern Illinois University Law Library) has published “A Bibliography of Littleton’s Tenures as an Archetype for the Study of Early English Legal Printing,” 37 *Legal Reference Services Quarterly* 38 (2018). His article won the 2019 Outstanding Article Award from AALL’s Academic Law Libraries SIS.

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Rob Mead (Washington State Law Librarian) is collaborating with the Pacific Northwest William O. Douglas Society and the Yakima Valley Museum to create a display honoring Washington State’s only U.S. Supreme Court Justice, the longest-serving Justice (13,358 days, from age 40 to 76).

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John Nann (Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School) is the recipient of a 2019 Presidential Certificate of Appreciation from AALL President Femi Cadmus, “in recognition of your continuing exemplary contributions to the legal literature and your co-authorship (with the late Morris Cohen), of the *Yale Law School Guide to Research in American Legal History*.”

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Mark Podvia (George R. Farmer, Jr. Law Library, West Virginia University) has been promoted to the rank of University Librarian. He serves as the Head of Faculty Services, Curator of Rare Books and Archivist and previously served as Interim Co-Director of the library.

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Sabrina Sondhi has left Columbia University after ten years to become the Director for Administrative Services and Adjunct Professor of Law at Cornell University Law Library. She is happy to report that managing Cornell Law’s rare book collection is one of her many duties. She has also recently been elected as incoming Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect for ALL-SIS.

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Roy Sturgeon (Tulane University Law Library) attended the IALL Annual Course in Luxembourg in October 2018. At the conclusion of the course, he took a whirlwind day trip down to Nuremberg, Germany, to visit the Former Nazi Party Rally Grounds and the Palace of Justice’s Courtroom 600, site of the landmark 1945-46 Nuremberg War Crimes Trials.

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Mike Widener (Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School) and his co-author Christopher Platts (Director, Alexey von Schlippe Gallery, University of Connecticut) won the 2019 Publications Award from AALL’s Academic Law Libraries SIS, for Representing the Law in the Most Serene Republic: Images of Authority from Renaissance Venice (New Haven: Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School, 2018).
LHRB Member Spotlight: Sabrina Sondhi

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Members of LH&RB come from different backgrounds and work in a variety of settings. The LH&RB Member Spotlight interviews members to learn more about their roles in law libraries, their interest in legal history and rare books, and how they utilize these sources in their day-to-day activities. The hope is that readers will not only get a chance to learn more about a fellow LH&RB member, but that the interview will foster new ideas for how members can incorporate legal history and rare books into their work.

For this issue, Lena interviewed Sabrina Sondhi, currently a director of law library administrative services at Cornell University Law Library, formerly rare books librarian at Columbia Law, and a former LHRB chair.

LR: How did you become a librarian?

SS: I got my library degree from the University of Washington—my first librarian job was at Columbia as the Special Collections Librarian in the Law Library. At UW you graduate in the summer, and you are required to complete a capstone before graduation. Part of the capstone requirement is attending AALL’s annual conference, where you try to meet as many people as you can. So, at the AALL conference in Portland, I told everyone I encountered that I was going to be a rare books librarian but had no rare books background. Everyone was incredibly supportive. I remember telling a rare books vendor about my position, and he insisted I let him introduce me to Mike Widener and Morris Cohen. That was pretty much the beginning of my career as a law librarian.

LR: What prompted you to join LHRB?

SS: There was really no question that I was going to join LHRB after my experience in Portland. Having a great network at my fingertips was incredibly helpful during those first few months, and slowly I started to figure it out. About three or four years later, Jenny Meade called me and asked whether I would be interested in running for Vice Chair of LHRB, which completely took me by surprise. But I said yes and had a great
time learning more about how special interest sections operate and how LHRB as a big, extended family operates. In a way, I cannot remember a time being a librarian that I was not a part of LHRB.

**LR: You recently transitioned from Columbia University to a new role at Cornell. What prompted that change and how are the positions different?**

**SS:** For ten years at Columbia, I was the rare books authority in the Law Library and I loved it. But, while Columbia Law’s rare book collection is large, its patron traffic is not high enough to justify a full time position devoted to rare books. So for my latter five years there I also ran their Law Firm Services department. I learned a lot, and it made me hungry for even more scope and responsibility. I wanted to stretch and go a little further into new things, but I did not see a rare book opening that would make that possible for me. Some of the bigger law library collections out there, like at Yale, George Washington, or Harvard, all have directors and rare book librarians who are not going anywhere in the next few years.

While I hoped that the job I found would involve rare books and special collections, I was willing to accept a position that did not incorporate them as much. Coming from law, where we are all a bit of a jack-of-all-trades in a sense, I did not have the depth of any individual skill to be able to easily transition over into a university rare book library. I do a little bit of collection development, a little bit of preservation, some reference and teaching, some donor and access services, but when you split up into a whole library, you don’t want jacks-of-all-trades. You want somebody who has a lot of depth of knowledge in one or two things. So, the logical thing for me was to move upwards in law libraries.

My position at Cornell is entirely different than my position at Columbia. At Cornell, I am the Director for Administrative Services, which basically means that I am one of the associate directors of the library. My position now has a lot more management, which is not what I necessarily was aiming for, but I am enjoying it. Being at Cornell is also a bit like coming home since this is where I earned my law degree.

**LR: How do legal history and rare books come up in your day-to-day work?**

**SS:** At Cornell, I am technically a rare books librarian. But the collection here is a minor aspect of what the library does. We are not housing most of the rare books collection on-site because the Law Library lost its temperature-controlled space a few years ago. When I arrived 9 months ago, I did not have an inventory of the collection, much less what we had already shifted to the main library on campus for safekeeping. During much of that 9 months we were also without a Library Director, so the other aspects of my job needed to come to the fore. As a result, I have devoted very little time to rare books at Cornell. I think this is the first year I’m feeling a bit remote or separated from LHRB—which is terrible!
LH&RB is published by the Legal History & Rare Books Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. Submissions for publication are strongly encouraged. We have been known to beg. Correspondence can be sent to the appropriate editor at the following address:

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**PoliSci 101: The Capitol, White House, and SCOTUS**

You will need to arrange for tour reservations *in advance* for both the **Capitol** and the **White House**. If you’ve missed the reservation window, be sure to check out some of these other highlights.

**The Capitol**
First Street, SE (1.2 miles from Convention Center; ~30 min. walk)

The Exhibition Hall, located in the [Visitor Center](#), houses some unique historical artifacts, including a cast iron table made for President Lincoln’s second inauguration, the plaster mold used to cast the Statue of Freedom that sits atop the Capitol Dome, and 24 of the 100 statutes in the National Statuary Hall Collection.

**The White House**
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (.9 mile; ~20 min. walk)

The [White House Visitor Center](#), renovated with new exhibits in 2014, is a great alternative if you’re unable to make a tour reservation. The new exhibits contain more than 90 White House artifacts, including the telegraph key used by the Lincoln administration to receive General Grant’s message of General Lee’s surrender during the Civil War. The Visitor’s Center is also the entrance point for [President’s Park](#), which offers walking trails around the White House.

**SCOTUS**
1 First St., NE (1.4 miles; ~34 min. walk)

The Supreme Court is open to the public Monday-Friday, 9am-4:30pm. Be sure to check out the various exhibitions, including “In Re Lady Lawyers,” highlighting the experiences of the first women attorneys to advocate before the Supreme Court.

**The Founding Documents**

**National Archives**
701 Constitution Avenue, NW (.7 mile; ~16 min. walk)

Be sure to check out the new exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage! “[Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote](#)” highlights National Archives’ records to tell the story of the women who fought to secure the vote.

The National Archives Museum is open every day from 10am-5:30pm. The general public entrance is near the corner of Constitution Avenue and 9th Street, to the left of the stairs.
**Library of Congress**

101 Independence Avenue, SE (1.6 miles; ~38 min. walk)

Public tours of the Thomas Jefferson Building are available on a first-come, first-served basis without prior reservations. Tours run Mondays-Saturdays on a set schedule, so be sure to plan ahead and arrive early. Current exhibitions feature Baseball Americana, Mapping a Growing Nation: From Independence to Statehood, and Thomas Jefferson’s Library. Check out a full list of exhibits at this [link](#).

Complete information about guided tours are available on the Library of Congress’s [website](#).

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**Government Publishing Office**

732 North Capitol Street, NW (.9 mile; 18 min. walk)

If you're curious to visit the agency responsible for the publication of government documents that serve as the bread and butter of most law libraries, be sure to check out the Government Publishing Office’s Visitor Center. In addition to a permanent exhibit on the history of the GPO, you can also view special exhibits on American artifacts, the GPO during the Civil War, and the history of the U.S. Congressional Serial Set.

The GPO Visitor Center is open to the public Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm. While there, be sure to check out the bookstore too!

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**Exploring Civil Rights History in DC**

**Frederick Douglass National Historic Site**

1411 W. St., SE (4 miles; ~15 min. drive)

The Frederick Douglass National Historic Site preserves and interprets Cedar Hill, where Douglass lived from 1877 until his death in 1895. The historic house has been restored to its 1895 appearance and is furnished with original objects that belonged to Douglass and other household members. Be sure to check out Frederick Douglass’s Library, which contains his personal Bible, his diary from 1871, and Helen Douglass’s diaries from 1887 and 1889.

Access to the house itself is only available through guided tours, and space is limited. You are strongly encouraged to make [reservations](#) ahead of time.

**Note:** If you want to learn more about Douglass’s reading material, the National Park Service created searchable PDFs of the majority of [books](#) and [booklets](#) that historians believe Douglass owned (links open as PDFs).

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**Sewall-Belmont House and Museum**

144 Constitution Ave, NE (1.6 miles; ~34 min. walk)

Donated in 1929 to the National Women’s Party, the Sewall-Belmont House currently serves as both the headquarters for the NWP and a museum honoring the women’s suffrage movement and the campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment. In addition to containing sculptures and portraits of important suffragettes and ERA advocates, the museum also houses Susan B. Anthony’s desk and a banner used during the first U.S. protests for women’s enfranchisement.
Interesting Moments in American Legal History

**Lafayette Square - First Use of the Temporary Insanity Defense**
Pennsylvania Avenue, NW & 16th Street, NW (.7 mile; ~16 min. walk)

Lafayette Square is generally known for its lovely location near the White House and its collection of interesting statues, but it is also famous for its connection to the development of American criminal law. On February 27, 1859, after suspecting his wife of having an affair, Congressman Daniel E. Sickles witnessed his wife’s supposed lover standing in Lafayette Square waving a handkerchief, the purported signal for Sickles’s wife to meet the man. Enraged, Sickles stormed onto Lafayette Square and killed the man. (If you want the full details of this violent exchange, check out this link.) At trial, Sickles’s legal team (which included future Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton) argued that their client was not guilty by reason of temporary insanity – the first time in American legal history that this defense was used in court.

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**The Watergate Hotel - Presidential Impeachment & Resignation**
2650 Virginia Ave, NW (1.8 miles; ~15 min. drive)

On June 17, 1972, E. Howard Hunt and G. Gordon Libby checked into Room 214 at the Watergate Hotel. From Room 214, the two orchestrated the break-in at the Democratic National Convention headquarters, which eventually led to the resignation of President Richard Nixon. The Watergate Hotel completely updated the “Scandal Room,” which now includes original newspaper clippings from the period and unique furnishings from the 1960s/70s.

You are free to roam around the lobby of the hotel. If you play your cards just right (and the room is unoccupied), you can also ask for a quick tour of Room 214.

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**Prohibition**

Temperance Fountain
678 Indiana Ave., NW (.8 mile; ~15 min. walk)

The Temperance Fountain was donated to the city in 1882 in the belief that easy access to cool drinking water would keep people from consuming alcohol. The fountain originally contained a reservoir for ice that cooled the pipes providing water to thirsty DC residents.

While you can no longer drink from the fountain, you can visit it and proudly boast that you’ve seen what many consider one of D.C.’s ugliest statutes.

**The Bootlegger to Congress**
27 Independence Ave, SE (1.9 miles; ~34 min. walk)

Even Congressmen flouted the 18th amendment in search of a cold one, and George L. Cassiday became infamous for his work as Congress’s bootlegger. Known for wearing a green bowler hat to his deliveries, Cassiday made on average 20-25 deliveries of booze to the Senate and House Office buildings each day. At one point, he was even given an office in the basement of the Cannon House Office Building, across the street from the Capitol.

The House of Representatives Historian isn’t clear which room in the Cannon House Office Building was used by Cassiday, but the building is open to the public. After you’ve spent time reflecting on what life was like during Prohibition, you can head over to the New Columbia Distillery to enjoy a glass of “Green Hat Gin” in homage to Congress’s bootlegger.
Sites Near the Convention Center

D.C. History Center at the Carnegie Library
801 K St., NW (.1 mile; ~3 min. walk)

Located across the street from the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, the newly opened D.C. History Center is housed inside the Carnegie Library on Mount Vernon Square and highlights the social life, transportation, urban development, and local business history of Washington, D.C. There is also an exhibit on the Carnegie Library, which explores the history of the city's first public library.

The Mary Surratt Boarding House
604 H Street, NW (.4 mile; ~9 min. walk)

If you feel like taking a walk around the Convention Center area, you can pass by the Mary E. Surratt Boarding House, the townhouse at which John Wilkes Booth conspired to assassinate President Lincoln. On the night of the assassination, police showed up at the townhouse looking for Booth and his associates, and they returned a few days later to also arrest Surratt as a co-conspirator. She was eventually tried and hanged – the first women to be executed by the U.S. government.

The building is now a Chinese restaurant, but you can see the historical marker identifying the townhouse’s infamous place in U.S. presidential history.

Ford’s Theatre
511 10th St., NW (.5 mile; ~10 min. walk)

Keep heading south and you will reach Ford’s Theatre, the location where President Lincoln was assassinated. The building is open for tours of the theater, museum, and Peterson House. Advanced tickets can be purchased for $3, but same-day tickets are also available.

Missed Out on a White House Tour?

St. John’s Church
1525 H St., NW (.8 mile, ~17 min. walk)

If early presidential history is of particular interest to you (and you missed out on snagging a tour of the White House), be sure to stop by St. John’s Church in Lafayette Square. Every president since James Madison has attended services there, and you can view the President’s pew inside the church building. The bell inside the steeple was cast by Paul Revere’s son, Joseph Revere, in 1822. The Parish House adjacent to the church served as the residence of Alexander Baring, Lord Ashburton, who negotiated a treaty in 1842 with U.S. Secretary of State Daniel Webster establishing the final boundaries between Canada and the United States. Regular tours of these buildings take place at 10:30am on Sundays.