

A Publication for Child Nutrition Professionals from the National Food Service Management Institute — Fall 2005

Child Nutrition Archives: Preserving Child Nutrition Programs' Past

THE CHILD NUTRITION ARCHIVES AT NFSMI

Have you ever asked the question, what are archives? Archives house select non-current institutional records and personal papers that are preserved because of their intellectual value. Archival records/materials exist in many formats including photographs, video and sound recordings, electronic files, unpublished letters, diaries and scrapbooks that may have belonged to individuals, groups, institutions or governments.

Archives are similar to libraries in that both serve as repositories of information and make their resources available to patrons. However, they differ in the way their materials are arranged, described, and used. Library materials are often arranged by subject and placed on shelving. Archival materials are arranged according to the original order created by the person/entity that produced the materials and are then stored in archival containers for preservation. Library materials are described in a catalog which provides specific information about a book, journal, or other type medium. Archival description is based not on individual items but collections of items. Finding aids (guides) provide information about the subject or creator of the collection and describe its contents. In a library a patron may browse the stacks to locate materials of interest and check them out for use away from the building. In archives, staff retrieve materials for patrons and the materials must be used in-house. Most library materials are secondary sources of information—books and journals in a final published form. Most archival materials are considered primary sources, such as correspondence, diaries, and reports that researchers consult when writing books or journal articles.

The Child Nutrition Archives at the National Food Service Management Institute, established in 2003, collects, preserves, and makes available to researchers in all disciplines, collections of materials concerning the history of federal Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) — School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Summer Food Service Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Since the archives opened in November of 2003 on the campus of the University of Mississippi in Oxford, child nutrition professionals, state agencies, and state school food service associations have donated collections containing personal and organizational materials related to the history of Child Nutrition Programs. Each collection may contain an array of materials ranging from personal correspondence and work papers to school

food service publications and photographs. The earliest materials in the archives date from the turn of the twentieth century, but the bulk of the documents cover the 1940s through the present. Guides, or finding aids, to the collections are available through the archives' Web site and in-house. The Child Nutrition Archives staff also conducts and records interviews with child nutrition personnel at all levels of program involvement and with other individuals who have distinct memories of CNP. The interviews/oral histories, almost all video, are transcribed and are available on our Web site at www.nfsmi.org/Archives/.

OUR COLLECTIONS

The collections at the Child Nutrition Archives help document the course and evolution of Child Nutrition Programs in America. Since President Harry S. Truman signed the National School Lunch Act in 1946, the programs have undergone significant changes. The materials in the collections provide visual evidence of the changes in facility design, equipment, and standards through photographs, while other text based documents offer insight into the thinking and planning behind the Child Nutrition Programs.

The Earnestine Camp Collection contains photos that span the years from the late 1930s through 2000, which offer a rare glimpse at the early days of school food service in Arkansas. Similarly, the Mary Thompson/Lancaster County, South Carolina Image Collection documents school food service in Lancaster County from the mid-1940s through the 1960s. The Thelma Flanagan Papers include the 1946 speech given by Robert H. Shields, then Administrator of the Production and Marketing Administration at USDA, in which he spoke of one reason for support of a federally funded School Lunch Program—national security. Shields recalled:

"When war was declared in December 1941, the character of our national problems changed sharply...The Selective Service System was discovering that a large number of young men were not physically qualified for military duty. Many of these rejections could be traced directly to nutritional difficulties. There was convincing proof that thousands of our young people were poorly nourished. They had not received the proper food in childhood. And they had not been trained in good eating habits. So, in our wartime nutrition program, school lunch work assumed a leading place. Its value in safeguarding our national health and security was widely recognized."

—Robert H. Shields, Administrator of Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, 1946

DESCRIPTIONS OF CURRENT COLLECTIONS IN THE CNP ARCHIVES

Lucille Barnett Collection—Donated by Lucille Barnett of South Carolina, ASFSA President, 1974-1975. Materials in the collection, photos and papers, concern mainly the years of her presidency.

Earnestine Camp Collection—Donated by Earnestine Camp of Arkansas who has been involved at different levels with Child Nutrition Programs for over 60 years. The collection contains materials from the late 1930s through 2000, including photographs, small artifacts, office files, and school food service publications.

Betty Bender ASFSA Plates Collection—Donated by Betty Bender, ASFSA president, 1983-1984. The collection contains ASFSA annual conference plates from 1967 through 2000.

Connecticut Bureau of Adult Education and Nutrition Programs Collection—Donated by the state agency office. Documents in the collection include historical surveys of CNP, program evaluations, and copies of legislation from the 1940s through the 1990s.

Thelma G. Flanagan Papers–Donated in the 1990s by Thelma Flanagan (1907-2001), ASFSA President, 1950-1951 and retired Florida School Food Service Director. This collection consists of Florida and USDA publications, correspondence, drafts of speeches, clippings, and photographs from the early 1940s through the 1990s.

Jackson County, Tennessee Schools Collection–Donated by Brenda Hawkins, Food Service Director for Jackson County, Tennessee, Schools. Materials in the collection, from the 1970s through the 1980s, include a scrapbook and clippings concerning school food service in Jackson County Schools.

Marshall Matz Papers—Donated by Marshall Matz who has served as general counsel to the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs; as Special Counsel to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; and as lawyer for the American School Food Service Association. Documents concerning National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Programs from the 1980s through the 1990s can be found in the collection.

Josephine Martin Papers—Donated by Josephine Martin, ASFSA president 1976-1977, and first Executive Director of NFSMI. The collection contains USDA publications, manuals concerning school food service, ASFSA long range planning documents, and other materials.

Mary Nix Collection—Donated by Mary Nix, ASFSA President, 1981-1982. The collection contains a scrapbook of Nix's time as ASFSA President and other related documents.

Maine Department of Education Collection—Donated by the state agency office, the collection contains a 1977 USDA Food Buying Guide for Type A School Lunches.

Ruth Mosokowitz Collection—Donated by Ruth Mosokowitz, former Director of Food and Nutrition Services for New Jersey. The collection contains correspondence and citizens' petitions concerning CNP in New Jersey. The documents cover the late 1970s through the late 1980s.

Lexington District 3 Schools (South Carolina) Collection—Donated by Pat Holstein, former School Food Services Director for Lexington County. The collection contains photographs and scrapbooks from the late 1970s through the mid 1990s that document school food service in Lexington County.

Mississippi Office of Child Nutrition Programs Collection–Donated by Doris Schneider, Director of Division of Training, Office of Child Nutrition Programs, Mississippi Department of Education. The collection contains Mississippi publications concerning Child Nutrition Programs and schools as well as national publications about CNP. The materials cover the 1960s through the 1980s.

Mary Paden Collection—Donated by Mary Paden, who served for 29 years as cafeteria manager at Overstreet Elementary School, in Starkville, Mississippi. The collection consists of school food service publications and child nutrition posters from 1946 and 1971.

Jeanette Phillips Collection—Donated by Jeanette Phillips, retired professor who helped establish NFSMI at the University of Mississippi. Materials in the collection include several ASFSA conference plates and National Dairy Council and other nutrition-related publications.

Eleanor Pratt Collection—Donated by Eleanor Pratt, former Home Economist with the USDA Southeast regional office. The collection contains training materials, handouts, publications and reports from 1950 through the early 1990s.

School Nutrition Association of Kansas Collection (SNAK)—Donated by SNAK, items in the collection include photographs, videos, newsletters, publications and papers that document the history of the state association from the 1960s to the present.

Paul Schmitz Collection—Donated by Paul Schmitz (1939-2005), retired Chief of Program Development for the USDA Southwest regional office. The collection consists of photographs and newspaper clippings from the late 1940s through 2005, concerning mainly Texas school food service.

Vivian Pilant/ South Carolina Office of School Food Service and Nutrition Collection—Donated by Vivian Pilant, State Director of School Food Service Programs for South Carolina. The collection contains newsletters, videos, and newspaper clippings from the 1940s through 2000 that document the history of school food service in South Carolina.

Vermont Child Nutrition Programs Collection—Donated by the state agency office, the collection consists of USDA and state departments of education publications and printed materials as well as programs from Vermont's annual School Nutrition Conference. Documents cover the 1940s through the 1990s.

Texas Region VII Education Service Center Collection—Donated by the Region VII Education Service Center in east Texas, this collection contains materials from Region VII Child Nutrition Program Specialists Pauline Moctiller and Dorothy Hopkins. The materials, dating from 1950-1983, include manuals and guidebooks produced by the USDA and printed materials from various food service companies and associations.

Mary Thompson/Lancaster County, South Carolina Image Collection—Donated by Mary Thompson, Food Service Director for Lancaster County, South Carolina. The collection contains images of Lancaster County school food service from the 1940s through the 1960s.

USDA Southwest Regional Office/Mary K. McDermott Collection—Donated by Mary K. McDermott, retired Program Specialist with the Southwest region of the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, this collection features documents from the late 1940s through 2000 pertaining to both private and public school lunch programs.

OUR COLLECTIONS (continued)

Another example comes from the Vermont Child Nutrition Programs Collection, which contains a 1951 publication explaining why the use of iodized salt in school lunches was so important in that state—the "partial deficiency of iodine in the soil results in enlarged thyroid glands in some people" of the area. To help lessen the occurrence of that condition, state authorities advised using iodized salt in the preparation of food for school lunches.

Researchers wishing to use these and other collections may do so by visiting the archives reading room at NFSMI; staff will also assist off-site researchers by photocopying and scanning documents. Finding aids/guides are available in-house and on-line to assist researchers in deciding which collection(s) to view. Due to the delicate nature of the materials housed at the Child Nutrition Archives, onsite researchers are asked to use pencils only and to use white gloves, provided by archives staff, when handling certain archival documents. The staff of the Child Nutrition Archives invites you to visit the reading room when you are at NFSMI or to visit the Web site at www.nfsmi.org/Archives to learn more. A list and brief description of the collections that have been received thus far can be found in Figure 1.

NAVIGATING YOUR WAY THROUGH A FINDING AID

Each archival collection has a guide or finding aid that provides information about the collection. The first section provides basic information such as the title, collection number and size/volume in cubic feet, the time period the documents concern, and information about the "provenance" or history of the collection itself (who donated it and when).

The brief historical and biographical sketch of the person or organization is next followed by the scope and content section, which describes the types of documents contained in the collection. In significant collections the major document types are listed by "series" with a box/container number where those document types reside. Lastly, the inventory section provides a list of materials/files in each archival container. Finding aids to the collections are accessible from the NFSMI Web site at www.nfsmi.org/Archives/finding_aids/guide.htm. Figure 2 shows a partial finding aid for the Kansas School Food Service Association Collection.

FINDING AID FOR THE KANSAS SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE ASSOCIATION COLLECTION

Kansas School Food Service Association/School Nutrition Association of Kansas Collection

Collection Number: M045 **Volume:** 7.25 cu. ft.

Inclusive Dates: 1955 – 2003 **Bulk Dates:** 1960 – 2000

Provenance: The School Nutrition
Association of Kansas donated this collection

in October of 2004.

Copyright: This collection may be protected from unauthorized copying by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code).

Historical/Biographical Sketch:

The Kansas School Food Service Association (KSFSA) was founded in 1953. Today, it is known as the School Nutrition Association of Kansas (SNAKS). The Association's members are drawn from school food service professionals, students, and industry partners affiliated with school nutrition. The mission of SNAKS is to provide quality nutrition programs for students and Kansans involved in food and nutrition programs. SNAKS was founded as an affiliate of the School Nutrition Association (SNA), formerly the American School Food Service Association (ASFSA). Both associations changed their names in 2004. SNAKS continues to recruit new members committed to quality food service for Kansans.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of materials from every decade of KSFSA's existence. Many of the materials concern future planning and initiatives to increase membership and workplace efficiency among members. One large segment of papers concerns the Youth Advisory Council's origins and activities in Kansas. The visual components of the collection include photographs, dating from the 1960s and video recordings compiled during the 1980s. An assortment of financial papers from the 1960s makes up another important part of the donation. The collection was donated by KSFSA following the death of Ms. Elizabeth H. Mettling who had served as President and later as historian for the organization. The following series may be found throughout the collection:

- Series 1: KSFSA Miscellaneous Working Files – Box 1
- Series 2: Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Papers – Box 1
- Series 3: Memorabilia Box 2
- Series 4: KSFSA Board & Meeting Minutes / Agendas – Box 3
- Series 5: Photos Box 4
- Series 6: Videotapes Box 4
- Series 7: KSFSA & ASFSA Plans of Actions / Strategies – Box 5
- Series 8: School Food Service Journals & KSFSA Newsletters– Boxes 5, 6, 7
- Series 9: Miscellaneous (Non KSFSA materials) Box 7
- Series 10: KSFSA Conference Papers Box 7 Series 11: KSFSA Financial Papers – Box 8

<u>Box 1</u>

Earliest Document: 1978 Most Recent: 1997

- KSFSA Friendship Kit, 6 4 93, Ziploc Bag containing: a blank Valentine's Day Card, one page of recipes, one tissue, one piece of candy (Almond Hershey Kiss, now discarded)
- ASFSA 4th Annual NAC (Nutrition Advisory Council) of the Year, Awards Program 1996-97
- ASFSA President's Award: Gold Award Application, signed by Barbara Cole, 6 / 1 / 88
- Promotional Materials from Kansas School Lunch Week: A Capital Idea, January 25 – 29, 1988
- Membership Information KSFSA, Copyright KSFSA, 1987
- 6. KSFSA's All Stars, 1987 100% Membership Schools
- 7. Newspaper Clipping from KSFSA Photo Collection
- 8. KSFSA Bake-Off, 1989-1990 & 1990-1991, Breads & Desserts
- 9. KSFSA Directory 1994 1995
- 10. KSFSA Handbook 1984
- Grant Extension Request from Deborah
 Canter to Richard Feleay (President of KSFSA), July 22, 1987
- 12. Contracts
- 13. KSFSA Awards and Scholarships Scope and Sequence, Rev. 5 / 1989
- 14. KSFSA Distinguished Service Award Guidelines, Handwritten Note: Prof. Growth Educ. Adv. Bd
- 15. KSFSA Educational Advisory Board, Attendance Roster, Sample

ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

Since February 2004, NFSMI and Archives staff have conducted interviews with child nutrition professionals and workers all over the U.S. The interviewees were asked a standard set of questions and their responses were recorded. Archives staff transcribed the interviews and made them available on the Web at www.nfsmi.org/Archives/oralhistories.htm. Some of these interviews include audio snippets which

can also be accessed at the NFSMI Web site. Listed below are a few excerpts from actual oral history interviews. See Figure 3 for the Group Oral History Interviews and Figure 4 for a listing of the Individual Oral History Interviews that have been completed as of June 27, 2005.

Finding aids to the collections are accessible from the NFSMI Web site at

www.nfsmi.org/Archives/finding_aids/guide.htm.

STANDARD QUESTIONS ASKED BY INTERVIEWERS

- 1. Would you tell us a little about yourself and where you grew up?
- 2. What is your earliest recollection of Child Nutrition Programs?
- 3. How did you become involved in the Child Nutrition profession?
- 4. Was there someone, a mentor, who was influential in directing you in the Child Nutrition field?
- 5. Would you tell us a little about your educational background and how that prepared you for the Child Nutrition profession?
- 6. Would you tell us about your career and the positions you have held in the profession?
- 7. How is (insert appropriate state) unique from other states in regards to Child Nutrition Programs?
- 8. What changes have you seen in the Child Nutrition profession over the years?
- 9. What do you think has been your most significant contribution to the Child Nutrition field?
- 10. Do any memorable stories come to mind when you think about your years in the Child Nutrition Profession?

RESPONSES TO THE QUESTION "WHAT CHANGES HAVE YOU SEEN IN THE CHILD NUTRITION PROFESSION OVER THE YEARS?"

I have often heard in the past, "Oh well, you know, it's one meal a day, five days a week." Well, it just has grown a great deal beyond that, and so I think that this is being recognized now. I might also say that way back when I started with the program, I would have some directors say that, oh we have a lot of parent volunteers... but I think over the years and as we have expanded, I think there hasn't been, maybe, that emphasis... to bring in parents to have them a little more involved.

—Violet Roefs, Consultant with California Child Nutrition Services

We have point-of-service cashiering systems now. Little Johnny no longer has to have a lunch ticket... and next year we're piloting fingerprints. The computer reads who Johnny is, and his account flashes up, and we know in an instant whether or not Johnny has any money or he's approved for free meals or whether or not Johnny cannot have certain food items because of allergies... My only concern is that we don't want to lose Johnny as a person. We want to make sure we continue to treat Johnny as a little fellow who needs love and attention, who needs nurturing, and he needs a good hot meal.

—Tom Powers, Food Service Director for Roanoke, Virginia, City Public Schools

More awareness; more professionalism; promoting the program in such a way that there is an appreciation of the people out there where the "plate hits the table"... There is now more emphasis on obesity in this nation. We have had medical professionals come out to our meetings and talk; and the changes in the requirement of the meal program came about in an effort to reduce the fat in the program, to reduce the sugar.

—Lorita Myles, Former Director of Ohio Department of Nutrition Services

GROUP ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS^a

- Group interview with Shirley Watkins, Anita Ellis, Dot Pannell-Martin, Stewart Eidel and Beth King at NFSMI in Oxford, MS.
- Group interview with South Carolina School Food Service Professionals in Columbia. Twelve participants: Bernice Clark, Mary Thompson, Betty Werner, Jean Watts, Joan Bickley, Gertice Rister, Pauline Ballentine, Lova Jean Bullman, Pat Holstein, Susan Cassels, and Marcella Clark.
- Group interview with South Carolina School Food Service Professionals in Anderson. Nine participants: Joan Gardner, Vivian Pilant, Elizabeth Hadden, Mabel Quicksell, Sandra Jordan, Della Lollis, Kathleen Watson, Shannon Junkins, Ruth Aiken.
- Group interview with Paul McElwain and Sylvia Elam in Frankfort, KY, State Director and former Assistant Director.
- Group interview with Dr. Josephine Martin and Dr. Jeanette Phillips in Oxford, MS, concerning the history of NFSMI.

Figure 3

INDIVIDUAL ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS^a

INTERVIEWEE	STATE	INTERVIEWEE	STATE
Angie Avila - Legal Analyst, California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division	CA	Ruth Marsden - Dietitian, formerly with USDA	KS
Gertrude Applebaum - Food Service Consultant, Retired Food Services Director and Assistant Superintendent, ASFSA President 1981 - 1982.	TX	Lorita Myles - Retired State Director of Ohio Child Nutrition Programs	ОН
Sharon Barksdale - Retired School Food Service Director, Columbia, Missouri Schools, ASFSA President 1985-1986	МО	Mary Nix - Retired School Food Service Director for Bartow County and Assistant Director of School Food Services for Cobb County, Georgia, ASFSA President 1980- 1981.	GA
Lucille Barnett - Retired Supervisor of County and City School Food Service in Spartanburg, South Carolina, ASFSA President 1974 - 1975	SC	Dorothy Pannell-Martin - Retired School Food Services Director for Fairfax County, Virginia Public Schools, Food Service Consultant and author	VA
Betty Bender - Retired School Food Service Director, Dayton City Schools, ASFSA President 1983 - 1984	ОН	Vivian Pilant - Director, Office of School Food Services, South Carolina Department of Education, ASFSA President 1994-1995	SC
Marilyn Briggs - Former School Food Service Director, Nutrition Education and Training Coordinator, and Director of Child Nutrition Services, California Department of Education	CA	Tom Powers - Food Service Director for Roanoke, Virginia City Public Schools	VA
Earnestine Camp - Former Area Supervisor in the School Food Service Section for Arkansas Department of Education, Southwest Regional Director for ASFSA	AR	Eleanor Pratt - Retired Home Economist with the USDA Southeast Regional Office	GA
June Crews - former School Lunch Supervisor for Charlottesville, Virginia. Now resides in Mississippi.	MS	Violet Roefs - Child Nutrition Consultant with California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division	CA
Sue Greig - retired School Food Service Director, Manhattan, Kansas, ASFSA President 1991-1992	KS	Paul Schmitz - (1935 - 2005) Chief of Program Development, Special Nutrition Programs, USDA Southwest Regional Office	TX
Marlene Gunn - (1944 - 2004) Former Child Nutrition Director for Mississippi Department of Education, Food Procurement Consultant and author	MS	Liz Solomon - Interim Assistant Director for Ohio School Meal Programs	ОН
Brenda Hawkins - Food Service Director for Jackson County, Tennessee Schools	TN	Rene Weber - Director of Nutrition Services for Cleveland Catholic Diocese	ОН
Beverly Lowe - Retired School Food and Nutrition Director for Hampton and Richmond, Virginia Schools, Food Service Consultant, ASFSA President 1989 - 1990	VA	Gene White - Former Director of Child Nutrition Services, California Department of Education, ASFSA President 1977- 1978. Now resides in Washington state.	WA
Mary K. McDermott - Retired Program Specialist with USDA Southwest Regional Office	TX	Shirley Watkins - Former Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services. ASFSA President 1988-1989, former Director of Child Nutrition Programs for Memphis City Schools. Now resides in Maryland	MD





Malcolm Tarver, GA.; Sen. Richard Russell, GA.; Sen. Allen Ellender, LA.; Rep. Clifford Hope, KS.; Sen. George Aiken, VT.; Rep. John Flannagan, WV.; Nathan Koenig, Assistant to the Secretary; Paul Stark, Director, Food Distribution Division; N.E. Dodd, Under Secretary of Agriculture; Robert Shields, Administrator of Production and Marketing Administration. (Photo is from the Paul Schmitz Collection at the Child Nutrition Archives at NFSMI. The photo is a copy of the original that resides at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library.)

MT16

MT16: School Food Service workers at Belair Grammar School in Lancaster County, South Carolina during the 1940s. (Photo from Mary Thompson/Lancaster County, SC Collection)

MT19: Students eating lunch at Kershaw School in Lancaster County, South Carolina during the 1950s (Photo from Mary Thompson/Lancaster County, SC Collection.)

MT12: Students eating lunch at Lancaster Colored School in Lancaster County, South Carolina during the early 1950s. (Photo from Mary Thompson/Lancaster County, SC Collection.)





THE CHILD NUTRITION ARCHIVES AT NFSMI:

- The Child Nutrition Archives are open 8 5 Monday Friday to assist onsite researchers.
- Archives staff will conduct limited research into the collections for off-site patrons.
- Archivist is available to talk with you about materials you might like to donate and if necessary arrange for transfer to the Child Nutrition Archives.
- We will be happy to photocopy and mail, or scan and email requested materials.
- The Child Nutrition Archives offers traveling poster displays. There is no fee; only return postage to be paid. Instructions on how to request one are available at our website located at http://www.nfsmi.org/Archives/index.htm.

To read oral history transcripts of interviews or browse through the collection quides/finding aids, please visit our website at http://www.nfsmi.org/Archives/index.htm.

If you would like to suggest someone to be interviewed or have materials to donate contact Meredith Johnston at mwjohnst@olemiss.edu or at 1-800-321-3054.



Please feel free to reproduce and distribute this publication. Copies are also available on our Web site: www.nfsmi.org

Information about this and other topics may be obtained by contacting the

NATIONAL FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE The University of Mississippi

Telephone: 800-321-3054

Item Number R-127-05

Author: Meredith Johnston, Ms. Johnston is Coordinator of Archiving Services at the National Food Service Management Institute, The University of Mississippi, Oxford.

This publication has been produced by the National Food Service Management Institute-Applied Research Division, located at The University of Southern Mississippi, with headquarters at The University of Mississippi. Funding for the Institute has been provided with Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service to The University of Mississippi. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of The University of Mississippi or the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.