

Memorabilia

Trophies, old photos crowd University archives office

By KATHY McMANUS
Of the Emerald

"Cringe ye skuts of '25, prey of the powerful class of '24, slaughter awaits ye putrified, pobby, pimped, puffed up pepless pups who grovel like scrofulous scurvy slaves," says a poster in Fenton Hall.

This initiation warning hangs among busts of Henry Villard and Bill Hayward, pictures of the 1939 NCAA champion "Alley Cat" basketball team and ASUO election ballots going back 55 years.

This collection of University history is the archives and is open for research or browsing from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during the week in Fenton Hall.

"It is a place to deposit legal and evidential documents," says archivist Keith Richard. "So, what I have here is the public record of the University."

Indeed, boxes of student records, legislative records, bank statements, receipts and old University photographs fill shelf after shelf.

In addition to official public records, the archives contain 19th century textbooks, old annuals, flags, trophies, films and an audio collection.

Students wishing to hear 12 hours of architect Buckminster Fuller, for example, need only call Richard who will take the tapes to the library's Douglas Room.

You name it, and Richard has probably got it. And he's probably the only one who knows which shelf it's on.

Richard arrived at the University in 1972 with an interest in history, and a degree in history and library science.

"There is no typical day, thank God," he says. "It never gets boring."

Richard spends much of his time processing records that come in from departments all over campus, saving what needs to be saved.

Hard as it is to imagine after squeezing through aisles of cluttered shelves, he does throw some stuff away.

Richard also keeps busy taking requests. Because only the second floor is open to the public,

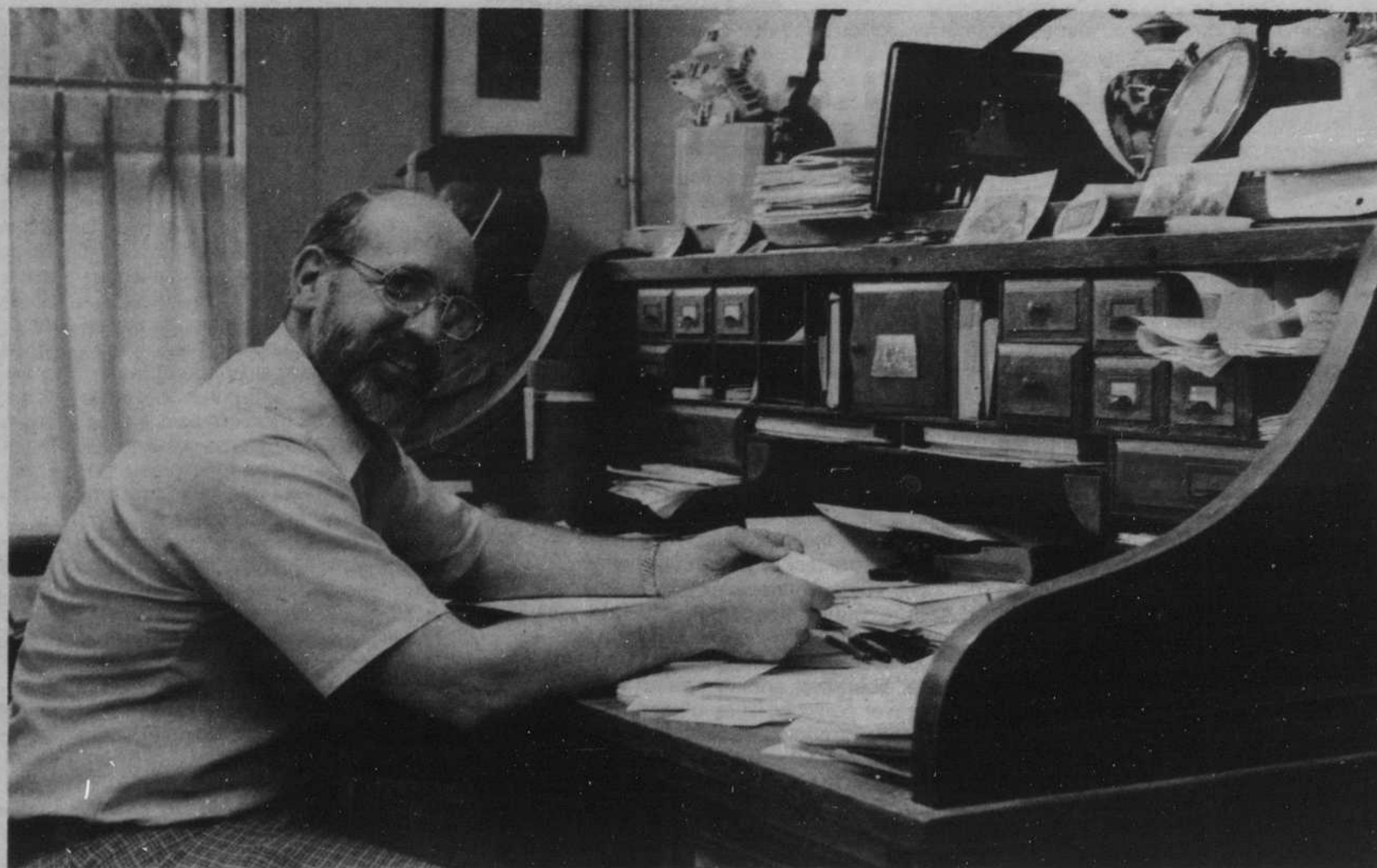


Photo by Nicholas Fleming

University archivist Keith Richard spends his day amid historical records, books, pictures, films and tapes. Included in the archives are

anyone wanting something stored above or below must let him fetch it to the public room where research is done.

"Unlike a library, the archives have no public catalogue, and people must stay here to do research," Richard says.

So, who visits the archives?

The recent addition to the music school brought a few people over to look at old photographs, Richard says. "People come in to look up a name of a tree on campus, to find out who Deady was or who Villard was," he adds.

And speaking of Matthew Deady and Henry Villard, the buildings named after these gents are now being prepared for restoration, with the archives playing a major part in the exercise.

Architecture students match 19th century photographs with old

paint chips to determine which colors go where, says Richard.

If the history of Deady Hall doesn't spark an interest, any student can look himself up in the archives. "I have student records going back to 1876," Richard says. "They are public but restricted, which means a student

has the right to look only at his own record."

Richard looks at the grassy area outside his west window and remarks that it wasn't always that way. "There used to be a tennis court out there."

A few things have changed since 1876, he remarks, noting

that one of the biggest differences is the amount of independence students have.

"In 1877, women went up the stairs on one side of Deady Hall, and men went up on the other side. The classrooms weren't segregated, but the stairwells

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