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# Retrospect

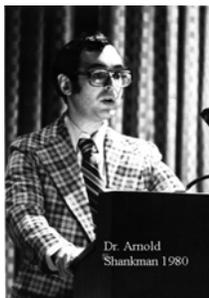
News from the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Winthrop University

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## Archives Receives SHRAB Grant



The Archives received a \$6,200 grant from the South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board (SC SHRAB) to organize and provide access to the papers of Dr. Arnold M. Shankman, a Winthrop University history professor from 1975 to 1983. Due to the sheer size of the collection, access has been limited. The goal of this project is to re-house the materials in archival folders and boxes, organize the records, and upload a finding aid to the library catalog so researchers can gain access to the wealth of materials in the Shankman collection. Grant funds will be used to organize, preserve, and create a finding aid to the Shankman collection, which numbers over 50,000 items. The collection includes Dr. Shankman's correspondence, articles and papers relating to Winthrop, photographs, lecture notes, and speeches. More importantly, the collection also contains Dr. Shankman's research materials, which deal with 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Southern history. Dr. Shankman researched immigrants in South Carolina and other Southern states, South Carolina women, civil rights, and Southern Jewish history. Two graduate students have been working on the collection—Joyce Plyler joined us in January and David Helms in April. We hope to have the collection completed by the end of 2008

## Revolutionary War Battle of Beckhamville Living History



For the past six years, the Archives staff has participated in the living history event commemorating the Revolutionary War Battle of Beckhamville in Great Falls, South Carolina. We have contributed by helping with research and participating as living historians. The seventh annual event has been set for June 6, 7 and 8 in Great Falls on the original battlefield.

Alexander's Old Field was the site of the first Patriot victory after the fall of Charleston. On June 6, 1780, ardent Patriots gathered at the home of Justice John Gaston to protest the brutality of the British. That group of men moved down the old Indian path and came to the Old Field, at Beckhamville, where they engaged over 200 British and Loyalists in what is now Great Falls. That battle came to be known as the Battle of Beckhamville. It spurred fierce resistance toward the British and eventually led to the victory of the Americans.

Sponsored by the Great Falls Home Town Association, the event will give those in attendance a taste of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and a view of the struggle of the people in the region to resist British tyranny. Participants include woodworkers, blacksmiths, people portraying soldiers, militia, musicians, artisans and much more, all weekend long. There will be battle re-enactments on both days, on Saturday the Battle, also known as the Battle of Alexander's Old Field will take place and on Sunday, June 8, a tactical of a typical type of battle featuring some of the many different uniforms and units that participated in the Revolution will take place. Visit a period style tavern with types of things you might encounter in one of these establishments that were stopping places for weary travelers. There will be something for everyone from shopping (18<sup>th</sup> century style) to quill writing, marble making, children's games and much more.

The camps open to the public at 9 am, on June 7, and throughout the day there will be living historians demonstrating various tasks and activities from the Colonial period. A stage, set up under

pecan trees, will be the site of vignettes detailing life between Fishing and Rocky Creeks prior to, during, and after the Revolutionary War. Presentations will include Colonial School Days, Oath of Allegiance to King George III, and stories from the period. Musicians playing period music will be on hand both days.

On Sunday, the camps will open once again at 9 am. A period church service based on a Covenanter service will be held at 9:15 am. Demonstrations and vignettes will once again take place throughout the day. The event will end at 3 pm Sunday.

Tickets for the event are \$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 6 to 12 and those under 6 will get in free. Tickets are good for both days of the event.

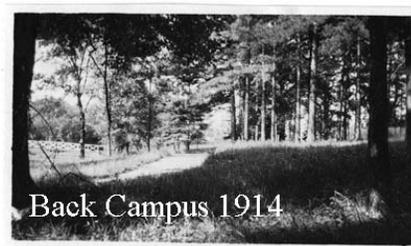
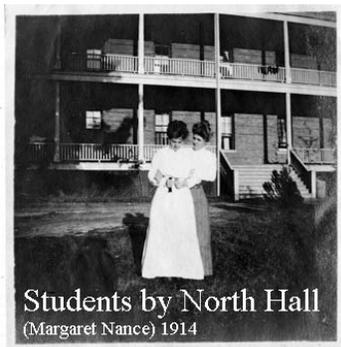
The battlefield and site is located at the intersection of S.C. 97 and S.C. 99 just outside the town limits of Great Falls. From I-77 take Exit 55. Turn toward Great Falls and travel 8 miles. The site is approximately 40 minutes from Columbia and an hour from Charlotte. For more information, contact the Archives or Great Falls Hometown Association at [gassociation@truvista.net](mailto:gassociation@truvista.net) or (803) 482-2370.



## Through the Casement—Window on Winthrop's Past

### Glimpses of Winthrop 1911 to 1914

The Archives has a wonderful scrapbook that, unfortunately, we do not know who assembled. It consists solely of photographs documenting student life, the Winthrop campus, and the surrounding area. The photographs are snapshots taken by a Winthrop student, or so we surmise. This collection has been digitized and is available for viewing on our Web site on the digitized collections page. Below are just a few of the 117 photographs. Please go to our Web site to see the others.



For information on the Archives' collections and holdings, how to donate historical material, or how you can help, contact:

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