

Law Library Historyⁱ

Compiled by Pamela Rogers Melton*

Reconstruction Era (1867-1877)

Although the first president of the South Carolina College, Jonathan Maxcy, recommended in 1820 that a professor of law be added to the faculty, it was not until South Carolina College was reorganized as the University of South Carolina in 1865-66 that the School of Law was established as one of ten academic schools. The Board of Trustees elected twenty-seven year old South Carolina attorney Alexander Cheves Haskell as the first professor of law and the law school opened on October 7, 1867. Professor Haskell developed his own system of leading the junior class through a course in *Blackstone's Commentaries* and the senior class through a course on *Stephens' Pleading*. The first class graduated in 1868. Haskell resigned the law professorship in November of 1868, closing the law school for the remainder of the academic year.

The Board of Trustees elected Columbia attorney Cyrus David Melton to the professorship of law on July 12, 1869. From the opening of the law school in October 1867 until the death of Professor Melton on December 4, 1875, classes were held in the University Library, now the South Caroliniana Library, and DeSaussure College.

The Board of Trustees chose Franklin J. Moses, Sr., the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Carolina, as Melton's successor. Under Moses, the curriculum of the law school was modified to place a heavy emphasis on *Blackstone's Commentaries* and *Kent's Lectures*. When Moses died on March 6, 1877, the law school ceased to function. A Joint Resolution of the South Carolina General Assembly closed the law school on June 7, 1877. The Reconstruction-Era law school had graduated thirty-nine students between 1868 and 1876, including eleven who were African-American.

University Library (1884-1891)



University Library - 1899

The law school reopened in 1884 and has operated continuously ever since. The Board of Trustees named **Joseph Daniel Pope** as Professor of Law on May 7, 1884. Admission standards for the law school were almost identical to those for incoming freshmen, the only difference being the age requirement. Law school applicants had to be at least nineteen years old, while college freshmen could enroll as young as fifteen. Professor Pope and University of South Carolina President **John McLaren McBryde** wanted incoming law

students to have attended college for at least two years, but most enrolled with no college experience at all. The law course remained a two-year program, as it had been during Reconstruction, with junior and senior classes. Bachelor of law degrees were awarded to students who completed the course. The Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, the Honorable **Henry Mclver**, said that, under Dr. Pope's tutelage, "graduates of the South Carolina College Law School manifested a knowledge of the fundamental principles and rules of law not observable in other young attorneys appearing before the Supreme Court."ⁱⁱ



University Library

The university assigned the law school to a classroom in the University Library, now known as the South Caroliniana Library. Daniel Walker Hollis, in the history of the University of South Carolina, suggested that the atmosphere of the library was perhaps expected to compensate students for the fact that, as far as he could determine, no funds were spent for law books.ⁱⁱⁱ However, notes from Dr. Pope's tenure indicate that, at least in 1905, there was an appropriation of \$200 for law books for the S.C. College by the General Assembly. While there was no law library, the [Catalog of the South Carolina College library of 1849](#) lists over 300 volumes on law, including South Carolina case reporters and statutes, statutes from 19 other states, federal

statutes and other Congressional documents, and treatises such as *Blackstone's Commentaries*, *Kent's Commentaries*, *Lex Mercatoria* and Bracton's *De Legibus*.^{iv} Students used the Supreme Court library in the State House to read cases and other authorities.

Legare College (1891-1919)

In 1891, the law school was reconstituted as the Law Department. Its quarters were moved from the library building to the first floor of Legare College. Professor Pope lectured on equity and property. In 1900, the Board of Trustees elected Professor Pope as Dean of the Law Department. The Board elected **Maurice Herndon Moore** as an adjunct professor of law. In 1901, Moore introduced the South Carolina Code of Laws to the curriculum. In 1906, the Board promoted Moore to full professor of law and elected **John Peyre Thomas, Jr.** as professor of law, enlarging the law faculty to three. Professor Pope died on March 21, 1908, at the age of eighty-one. The Board elected Professor Moore as the new Dean of the law school and chose **James Nelson Frierson** to fill the vacancy left by Moore's promotion. Under the direction of Dean Moore, law school entrance requirements were raised. Students were required to remain in law school for the full two years. Dean Moore died on March 1, 1910. The Board elected Professor Thomas to serve as Dean of the law school.

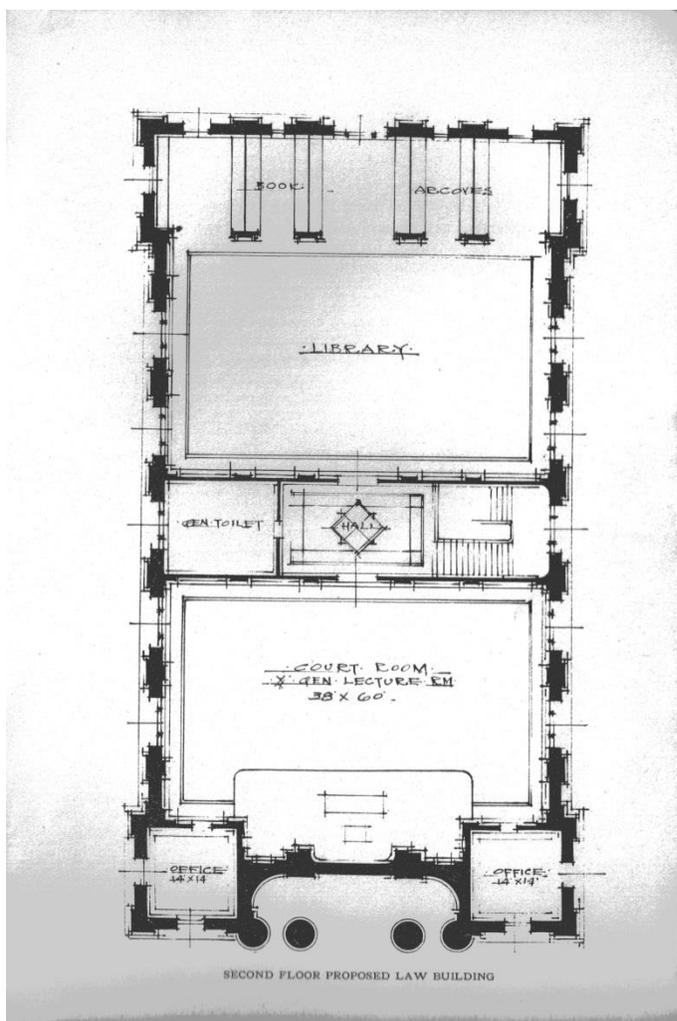
Dean Thomas made further changes to the curriculum during his tenure, instituting the case method of teaching. Law School enrollment more than doubled in the ten years following the 1906 expansion of the law faculty, increasing from thirty-two students in 1907 to seventy-five students in 1917.

In his first annual report, Dean Thomas called attention to the fact that the law school's quarters in Legare College were inadequate and the law books owned by the law school were in poor condition. The law school needed classrooms and a law library for students and faculty that could also be used for a study hall. He requested that the College establish a departmental library and purchase a set of *Lawyer's Reports Annotated*. In 1911, Dean Thomas suggested purchasing the *Trinity Series of Selected Cases*. Law students organized a movement to raise the sum of \$40,000 for a law school

building. The students themselves pledged the amount of \$4,000 immediately upon announcement of the plans for a building.

In 1913, additional sets of case reporters, costing \$1000, were requested. The required first year curriculum included *Introduction to the Study of Law*, a one hour course taught by Dean Thomas, which included “lectures upon the nature, classification, and sources of the Law, and upon law books and how to use them.”^v The catalog declared that “Besides the law library at the University, students of the Law School have access to the very complete library of the Supreme Court of South Carolina at the State Capitol, which is within two blocks of the University campus.”^{vi} In 1915, the library consisted of an alcove and some adjacent bookcases. Dean Thomas emphasized the need for more treatises, reporters, bookcases and furniture.

Petigru College I (1919-1950)



In 1917, the South Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$40,000 for the construction of a law school building on campus, including “a large and conveniently arranged library.”^{vii} The architectural firm of Edwards and Sayward of Atlanta designed the new law building, named Petigru College in honor of the famous antebellum South Carolina lawyer **James Louis Petigru**. “Frequent interruptions arising from shortages of labor and materials during the war years delayed occupation of the building until January, 1919.”^{viii}

Despite its new building, the law school was still unaccredited by

the Association of American Law Schools.^{ix} The school's reputation was so poor that the "president of a neighboring state university told his trustees to improve their own law department lest it 'assume, with South Carolina, a position at the foot of the group of Southern Law Schools.'"^x When his requests for improvements to the law school, including money for law books, were rebuffed by the Board of Trustees, Dean Thomas resigned in 1920.

The Board chose Professor Frierson to replace Thomas as Dean of the law school. That fall, spurred by a warning from President Currell that the law school was jeopardizing the university's standing in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the trustees reconsidered and adopted many of the measures Thomas had requested, including the three-year course of study.^{xi}

The library had an "excellent collection" of digests and treatises. However, in 1921, the law library contained only 1,200 volumes. Dean Frierson wanted to increase the holdings to at least 5000 volumes, which was the minimum standard of the AALS. That goal was met in January 1923, when John R. Abney gave the law school the library of his brother, **Benjamin Lindsey Abney**, consisting of between four and five thousand legal volumes, along with several thousand general volumes.



In December 1924, the law school was admitted to membership in the Association of American Law Schools at the Association's annual meeting. In 1925, the American Bar Association placed the law school on its approved list. A substantial number of books were also added to the law library in a bequest from deceased U.S. Circuit Judge **Charles A. Woods**, who died in 1925. In 1926, the need for a complete set of *English Reports* was noted. In 1929, the library was housed in a room in Petigru I that was lined with bookcases. The *New York Supplement* was added, completing the set of state reporters, and the *English Reports* were completed by the purchase of the *English Reprint*. Professor **Benjamin D. Hodges**, a member of the law faculty, supervised the law library, with the help of four law student "librarians."

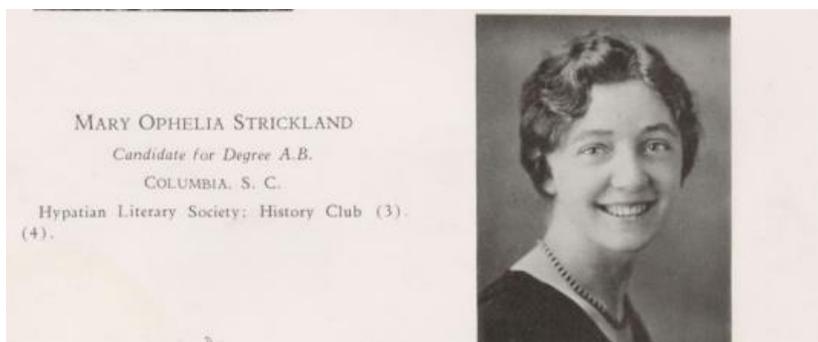
With the gifts of Mr. Abney and Judge Woods, and other acquisitions, the law library's collection reached 10,000 volumes 1931.



Law faculty in the library - 1931

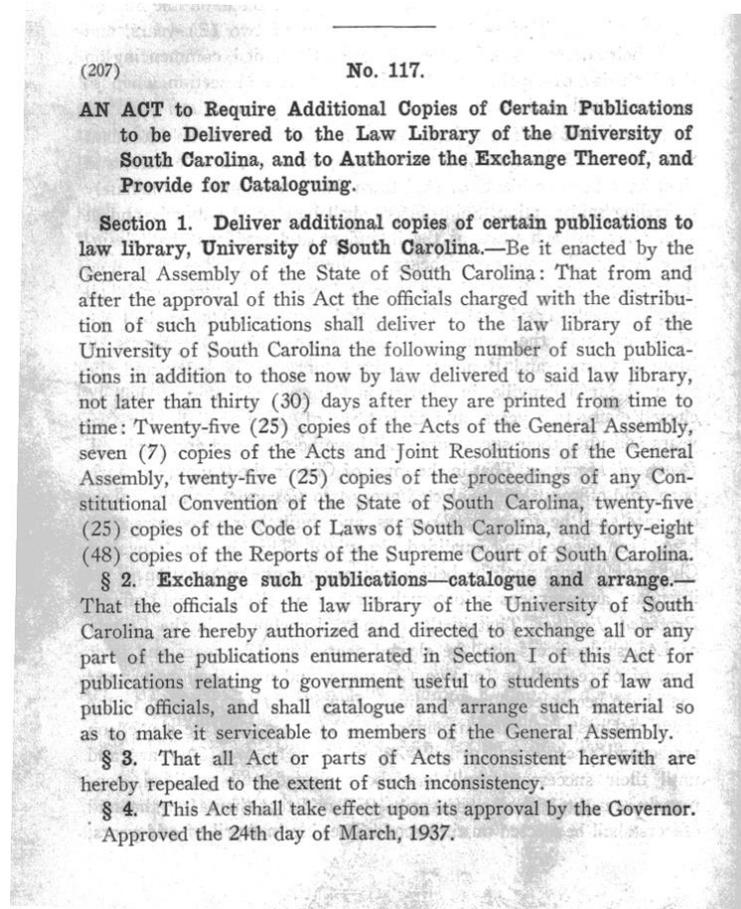
In 1933, due to a substantial reduction in the appropriation for the university, the teaching force of the law school was reduced to five, necessitating the elimination of certain substantive law courses and the loss of Professor William H. Wicker. However, the law library now contained a collection of 13,000 volumes and was managed by its first trained librarian, Mary Ophelia

Strickland.^{xii} Miss Strickland, a 1931 graduate of USC, had received a B.S. in Library Science from Columbia University in 1934. In addition to her duties as

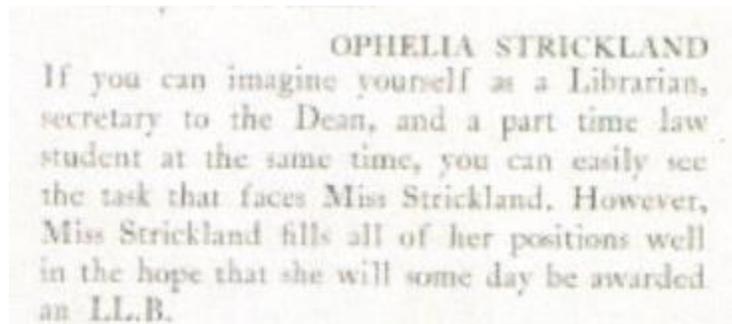


law librarian, she was the Dean's secretary. In 1933-34, the library acquired a complete set of the *Index to Legal Periodicals*. In August of 1935, modern metal shelving replaced the old wooden stacks. In 1937, the law library added *American Jurisprudence*, a legal encyclopedia, to its collection and nearly half of the library's collection had been catalogued according to approved methods.^{xiii}

The average expenditure for library books from 1932 to 1936 was \$1756 a year.^{xiv} Since sufficient funds to enlarge the collection were not readily forthcoming from state government, Dean Frierson was forced to be creative. In 1937, he persuaded the General Assembly to pass an act^{xv} directing that multiple copies of certain official state publications be given to the law library. One copy would be added to the holdings and the others would be traded for other publications, such as the official codes of neighboring states.



The *Year Book of the Selden Society*, the law review of the University of South Carolina, had a similar arrangement with law reviews of other schools. They would swap issues with each other, thereby enlarging everyone's collections. By 1939, the law library contained 15,803 volumes.



1939 Garnet & Black Yearbook

Miss Strickland enrolled part time in the law school in the fall of 1939, but unfortunately died in December, 1939, after a brief illness. She had been an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries and of the Carolinas Chapter of AALL and her untimely passing was mourned.^{xvi}

Efforts were made in 1940 to increase the funds available for library purchases. Mildred Doe, a 1940 graduate of USC, was hired as librarian. She was pursuing a degree in library science at Columbia University and was taking one law course a semester, to become better able to manage the collection and assist the student users. The library acquired a set of the *Selden Society* publications^{xvii} in 1941. By 1942, the law library contained 18,931 volumes, 2500 of which need to be stored in the basement of the new University Library. Miss Doe resigned as law librarian in 1942 to be married.^{xviii}



The next person to serve as librarian was Miss Virginia Reynolds Hodges. Miss Hodges was the daughter of Professor Benjamin D. Hodges and a 1941 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of South Carolina. She filled the

roles of librarian and secretary to the Dean until 1944, when she enlisted in the Navy WAVES.



Law Library in Petigru I - 1941

Sarah Glymph Wilcox, a 1936 graduate of the law school was hired as law librarian in 1946. Although she did not have a library degree, she was the first librarian with a law degree. She only served for a year before leaving to become an attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.



Sarah Leverette, a 1943 *magna cum laude* graduate of the School of Law, followed Sarah Glymph in 1947 as Law Librarian and Assistant Professor of Law, becoming the first female member of the law faculty. During the summer of 1947, she studied library administration under Miles O. Price, the law librarian at Columbia

University in New York.^{xix} Upon her return, she managed the law library and taught classes in legal bibliography. Under Dean **Samuel Prince**, the librarian was made a full member of the faculty, with voting privileges. The library staff increased to three, with the transfer of Beverly Boyer (M.L.S.) from the University Library to the law library and the hiring of a secretary. Ms. Boyer undertook the cataloging, introducing the Library of Congress classification, then in its infancy, to the collection of the law library.



By the fall of 1946, when Dean Prince's tenure began, the law school had once again outgrown its facilities. Veterans returning from World War II caused enrollment to balloon from 105 in 1934-35 to 232 in 1946-47. Students praised the faculty, their courses, and the texts they used, but complained about the lack of room and the poor condition of the building and library facilities.

Petigru I showing signs of wear – 1941



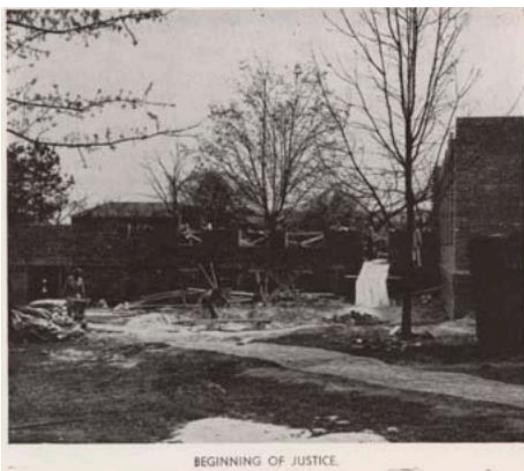
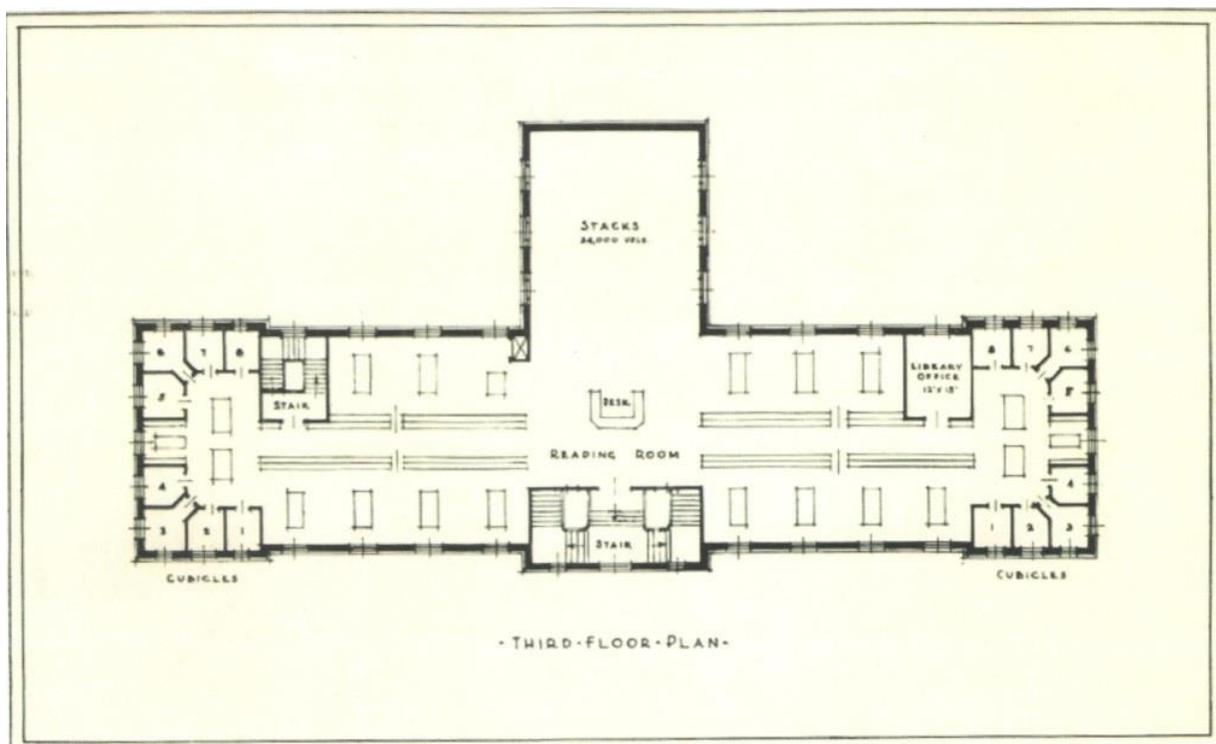
Moot Court in Petigru I - 1945

“The classes were crowded and there is a strain on Library facilities.”^{xx}
Petigru College had been designed to accommodate 60 to 75 students and the

library was not adequate in its holdings or study areas. The original Petigru College could not measure up to the facilities of most good law schools.

Petigru College II (1950-1974)

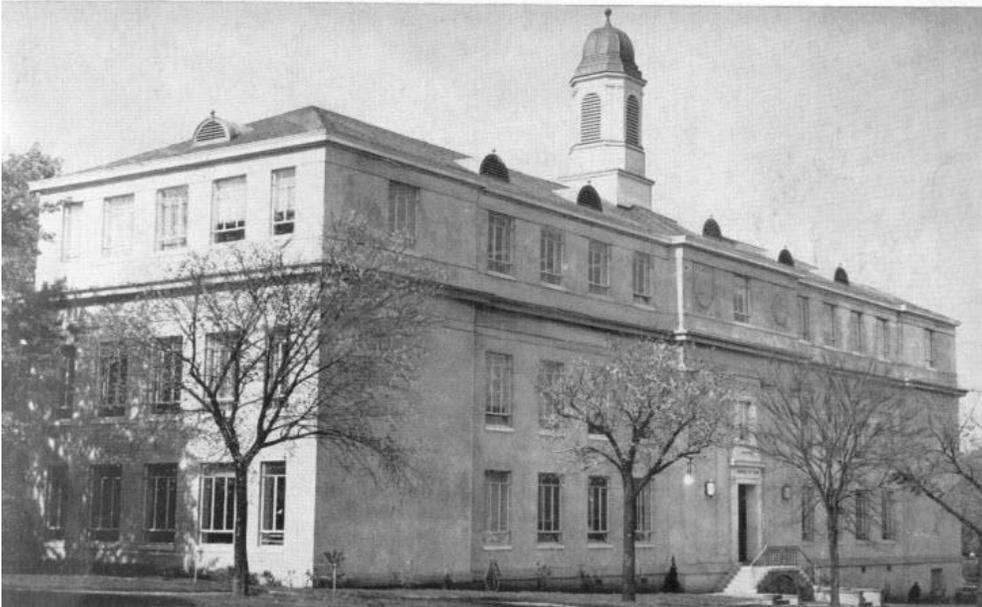
The South Carolina Bar Association prevailed upon the General Assembly to provide funds for a new law school building. In April 1948, the General Assembly appropriated \$250,000, with the stipulation that the new facility be completed by September of 1949.



The new building, also named Petigru College, was dedicated in April, 1950. When the Petigru name was transferred to the new building, the old law school building was renamed Currell College. Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme

Court [Arthur T. Vanderbilt](#) was the featured speaker at the dedication of the new Petigru College of Law.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA School of Law



PETIGRU BUILDING

Strong Faculty — Courses adapted to needs in modern Law Practice.

Adequate Law Library — Modern in every respect (over 40,000 volumes).

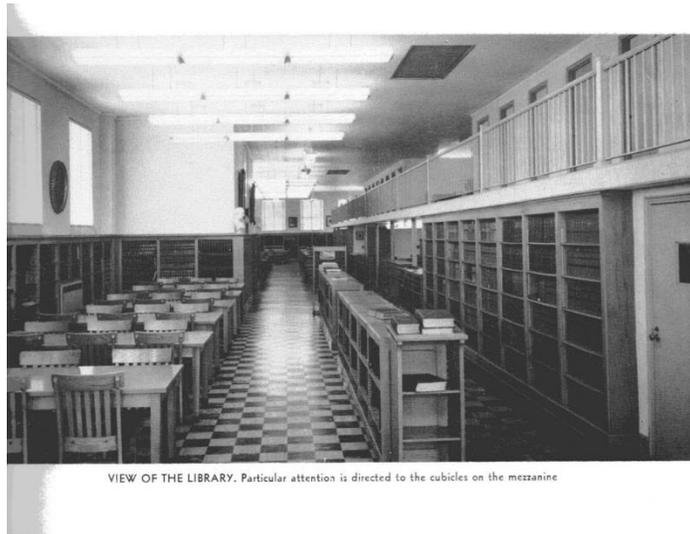
Said to be the best appointed law school building in America.

The library's holdings in 1950 included the *Federal Supplement*. In 1951, 13 volumes of the *New Oxford Encyclopedia* were donated to the law library and in 1952 the library acquired the *Chancery Reports of the State of New York*. In 1953, air conditioning was installed in the law library, which now contained 40,000 volumes, including 103 legal periodicals. In 1958, Miss Leverette noted

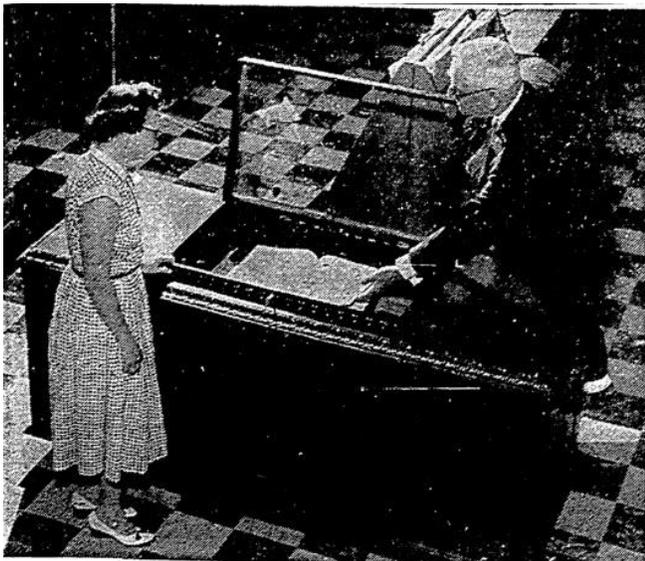
the need for the library to acquire South Carolina Bar's *Transactions of the Annual Meeting*.



VIEW OF WESTERN HALF OF LIBRARY



VIEW OF THE LIBRARY. Particular attention is directed to the cubicles on the mezzanine



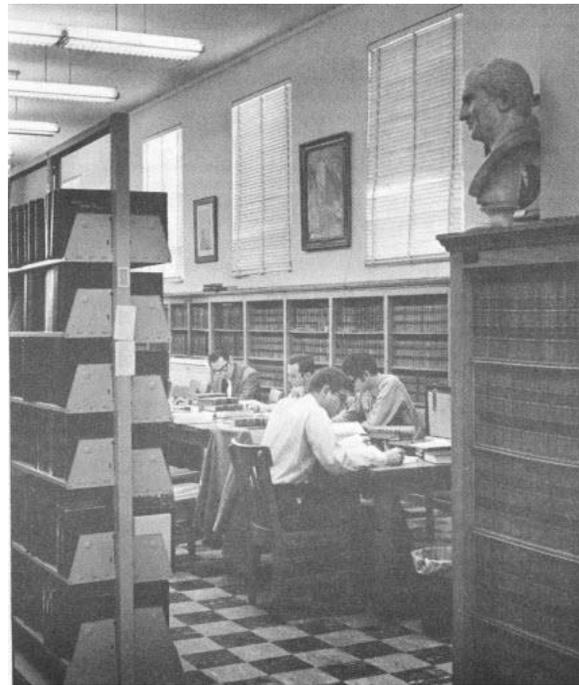
LEGAL SHRINE: Miss Sarah Leverette, librarian, and Dr. Samuel L. Prince, dean, display the Memorial Repository at the University of South Carolina. Pages of the book will bear inscriptions attesting to the personal qualities and professional accomplishments of South Carolina's ablest lawyers. (USC photo—McGrail)

In 1958, the South Carolina Bar and the School of Law created a hall of fame for South Carolina lawyers called **Memory Hold the Door**, to celebrate the professional virtues that both entities wanted to encourage. The law library was chosen to house the memorial chest, in which the book containing the biographies of those lawyers who had been inducted was to be displayed. A

special meeting of the South Carolina Bar was held at the law school on December 10, 1960, to unveil the memorial book and the chest.

The Memory Hold the Door display in the library of Petigru II.

Photo from The State, 6/21/1959



Dean **Robert M. Figg**, who had become dean in 1959, noted the need for a new law school building early in his tenure. Enrollment had grown from 173 students, in 1960, to 496 in 1970. Dean Figg and his colleagues at the law school lobbied for a new facility to replace the overcrowded Petigru College II. Also at issue was the fact that the law library was still under the control of the University library. The ABA required that law school libraries be autonomous and continued control by an outside library jeopardized the accreditation of the law school. This issue, plus the need for an additional trained librarian and an expanded collection to serve the rapidly increasing student body, was noted in several recommendations to the university administration from 1959 to 1963.



THE FACULTY

FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

FRANK K. SLAAN, Associate Professor of Law
 A.B. and LL.B., South Carolina, 1942 and 1945; general practice, 1945-1950; practice instructor, School of Law, University of South Carolina, 1953-1955; Associate Professor since January 1955; Member, National Council Bar, South Carolina Bar, and American Bar Association; American Law Institute; International Association of Insurance Counsel.

SARAH ELIZABETH LEVERETTE, Law Librarian and Lecturer in Bibliography
 A.A., Auburn College, 1935; A.B. and LL.B., South Carolina, 1938 and 1941; Law Library Administration, Columbia University, 1941; admitted to practice in South Carolina, 1941; Legal Department, South Carolina Department of Labor, 1941-1945; general practice, 1947; Law Librarian, School of Law, University of South Carolina, since 1949; Member, South Carolina Bar Association.

FRANK M.C. FERGUSON, Jr., Dean and Professor of Law
 A.B., College of Charleston, legal education, Columbia University Law School, 1929-1932; general practice, Charleston, S.C., 1932-1939; Special Circuit Judge, 1937; member, South Carolina General Assembly, 1933-1941; Attorney, South Federal Circuit of South Carolina, 1934-1947; member, Charleston Bar, South Carolina Bar and American Bar Association; Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States; American Law Institute; Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers.

EMERY L. FOLK, III, Associate Professor of Law
 A.B., Virginia College, 1935; A.B. and LL.B., South Carolina, 1938 and 1941; Law Library Administration, Columbia University, 1941; admitted to practice in South Carolina, 1941; Legal Department, South Carolina Department of Labor, 1941-1945; general practice, 1947; Law Librarian, School of Law, University of South Carolina, since 1949; Member, South Carolina Bar Association.

Faculty photo from 1961, showing Sarah Leverette, Librarian and Lecturer in Bibliography.

On April 23, 1970, the South Carolina General Assembly passed an act providing \$5,900,000 for a new law school building. At a ceremony held on October 16, 1971, former Dean Figg, Dean **Robert W. Foster**, and University of South Carolina President Thomas Jones officially broke ground at the new law school construction site.



Construction Begins

"Ground Broken At New Law Center Site"

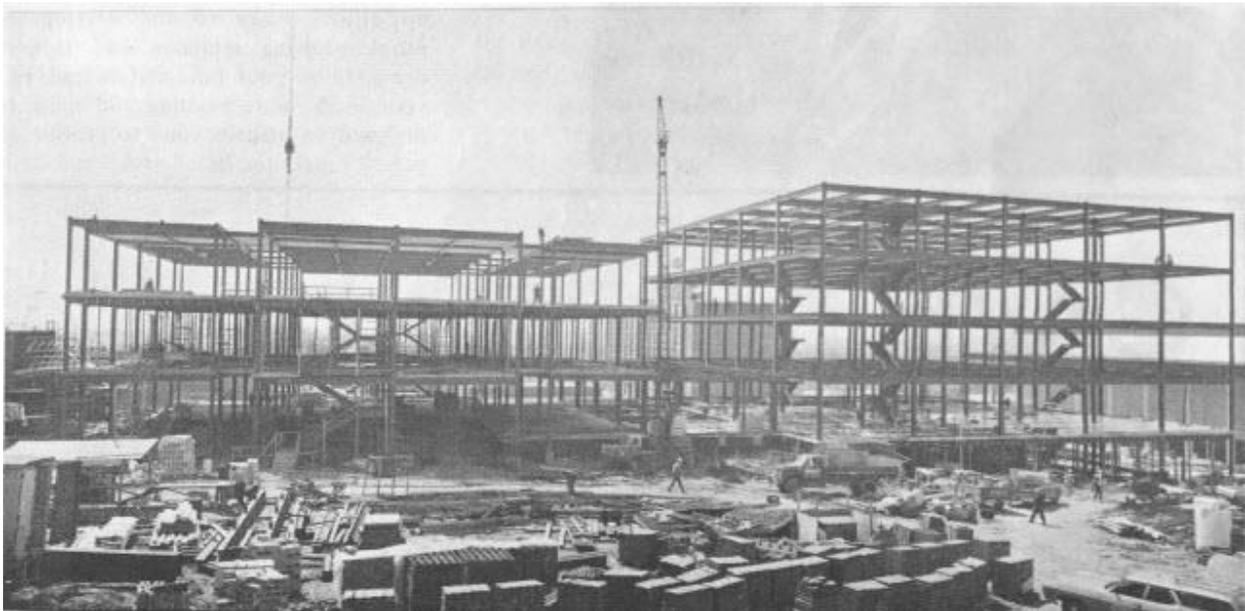
Attacking their task with relish, University educators (L-R) former Dean Robert M.C. Figg, his successor Dean Robert W. Foster and President Thomas Jones officially break ground at the new law school site. The ceremony, held October 16th, initiated construction on the block bordered by Main, Devine, Green and Assembly Streets. The 160,000 square-foot facility will be composed of three elements. The first element, a one-story auditorium building containing three large lecture rooms, is scheduled to be completed by next July. The other elements, a classroom-office building and a library center, are to be completed in 1973.

The 1970 self-study of the law school reported a library staff of two professional librarians and one clerk. The collection consisted of 61,364 volumes in the law library and 25,000 in "inaccessible storage." The law library annual budget was still prepared by the Director of Libraries as part of the University general library budget. It was noted that 90% of the law library budget was for serials and upkeep. The total library budget for 1968-69 was \$49,717.00.

Miss Leverette resigned as Law Librarian in January of 1972, upon her appointment by Governor John C. West to the South Carolina Industrial Commission.



Jon S. Schultz was hired as Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law in 1972. During the planning for the new law school, the administration announced that the new law library would be named the Coleman Karesh Law Library, in honor of a beloved long-time faculty member.^{xxi}





Arising from the red clay at the corner of Main and Devine Streets is the enormous new Law Center. The superstructure is almost in place and gives the illusion of dwarfing the Coliseum and the Sheraton Hotel. Occupancy of the building should be completed by September 1973.



University of South Carolina Law Center (1974-2017)

The University of South Carolina Law Center was dedicated on May 4, 1974.

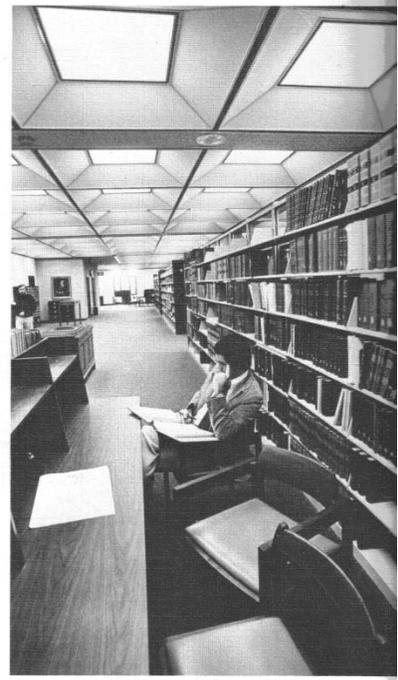
Lewis F. Powell, Jr., Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, was the featured speaker. The new law library, with an area of 79,464 square feet, was billed as the “fastest growing law library in the country.” Three hundred individual study carrels for law students, small conference rooms, a typing room, and a large conference room occupied parts of the second, third, and fourth floors.

The Coleman Karesh Law Library contained 113,428 volumes and had room to grow to more than 250,000 volumes. The library had moved from a small library to a medium-large library in the space of a few years. By 1975, the library owned a significant collection of material in microform, along with the necessary equipment to access the information stored in those media. Mr. Schultz was actively investigating computerized legal research options that were beginning to be available from companies such as Mead Data Central and Information Dynamics Corporation.

With the expanded facility came an expanded library staff. In 1975, the library employed four professional librarians and eight para-professionals.



When Jon Schultz resigned as Law Librarian to become the Law Librarian at the University of Houston School of Law, Robin Mills, who was Assistant Law Librarian, was appointed Acting Law Librarian. In 1976, she became the seventh Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law.





Main Floor 1977

On July 1, 1978, full administrative control of the law library was transferred from the University Library to the School of Law. Up until then, the Law Library had been considered a division of the main University Library, with its budget prepared and administered from outside. The ABA required that accredited law schools have autonomous libraries and had been raising this issue with the School of Law for several decades. Formal separation put these questions to rest. The changes were more structural than substantive and relations between the Law Library and Thomas Cooper, the main university library, remained cordial and mutually beneficial. The law library subscribed for the first time to LEXIS, a computerized legal research database, accessed through a dedicated terminal. At the time, it was the only LEXIS terminal in the state of South Carolina.

By 1980, the law library employed thirteen people; five professional librarians, three of whom also had law degrees, and eight clerical staff members. The library joined SOLINET (Southeastern Library Network) and

began using a SOLINET terminal for computer assisted cataloging of new materials. Dean [Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.](#) announced plans to develop a South Carolina Legal History Collection. The 1983 construction of the S.C. Legal History Room reduced the shelving space and student seating in the law library somewhat. That same year, law school needs in other areas (Admissions, secretarial centers, and Moot Court teams) resulted in the loss of eight small study rooms and two typing rooms, reducing the total library space.

In 1983, Robin Mills resigned as Law Librarian to become the Associate Dean and Director of the Hugh F. McMillan Law Library at Emory University School of Law. Joseph Russell Cross was appointed as Interim Law Librarian.



Joseph Cross, reference librarian, demonstrates the LEXIS computer for Sharon Roberts. Students and faculty use the computer to search case law for research projects.

In 1984, Bruce Johnson was hired as Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law. The law library contained approximately 270,000 volumes. Also in 1984, Dean Lightsey's dream was realized when the South Carolina Legal History Room was opened on the first floor of the law library.



Joseph Trott (left) and Mrs. W.F.E. Cabaniss (next to Dean Lightsey) watch as Mrs. James B. Holderman cuts the ribbon, officially opening the S.C. Legal History Collection. Trott and Mrs. Cabaniss are descendants of featured attorneys Nicholas Trott and Daniel S. Henderson respectively.

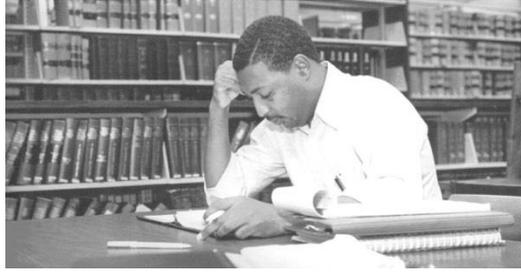
The inaugural exhibit focused on eight lawyers chosen to represent the state's legal history: **Nicholas Trott**, **Charles Pinckney**, **John Rutledge**, **John C. Calhoun**, **James L. Petigru**, **Daniel S. Henderson**, **John Gary Evans**, and **James F. Byrnes**. More than 3,000 people visited the inaugural exhibit. Since that time, the S.C. Legal History Room has held exhibits celebrating, among other things,

the early practice of law in South Carolina, the development of legal encyclopedias, the South Carolina signers of the Constitution, James F. Byrnes' term as U.S. Secretary of State, and the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta.

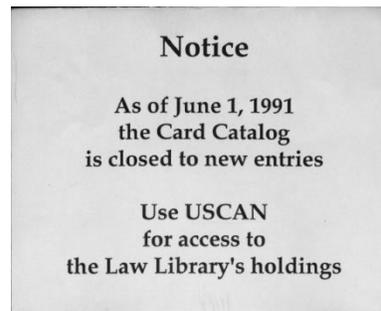


Dean John E. Montgomery stated in 1987 that “[t]he Coleman Karesh Law Library is our most important physical asset... Unfortunately, we cannot do the job we need to do with the resources we have.”^{xxii} He called for the development of an endowment to support the library.

The law library constructed a student computer lab in 1988, providing 14 Zenith computers loaded with word processing, spreadsheet, and database management software. The computers were each equipped with a modem to enable librarians to give group instruction on WESTLAW and LEXIS. A dot matrix printer was provided for student use.



A card catalog provided access to the holdings of the law library through the end of the 1980s. The University Libraries transitioned to an online catalog (USCAN) in 1990 and 1991 and the law library holdings were included. In 1991, Bruce Johnson resigned to become the director of the Michael E. Moritz Law Library at the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.



In 1992, Marsha L. Baum was hired as Director of the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law. In 1995, the law school launched its first website,^{xxiii} created and maintained by the law library.

University of South Carolina School of Law
COLEMAN KARESH LAW LIBRARY

[GPS Access](#)

[\[Reference Desk\]](#) | [\[Catalog\]](#) | [\[Reserve Room\]](#) | [\[Microforms Guide\]](#)

- [Portrait \(41K\) and Biography of Coleman Kareth.](#)
- [Guide to the Coleman Kareth Law Library.](#)
(Welcome to the Law Library. Our staff is here to assist you during *hours of operation*. There are certain *rules* to follow as you *locate books and services*, etc.)
- [Electronic Legal Information Reference Desk](#)
(Internet sources for South Carolina, Federal, State and Topical law, and quick access to other useful sources on information.)
- [Library Catalogs and Databases:](#)
 - [USCANWeb](#), University of South Carolina Online Catalog via the World Wide Web
functional, but still under development.
 - [Guide to USCAN](#)
 - [USCAN Databases](#) **UPDATED OCTOBER 2000**
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 - [Discus](#) [Infotrac Searchbank](#) (includes LEGALTRAC)
 - [Indexmaster](#) **ADDED OCTOBER 2000** (Limited to terminals in the Law Library)
 - [CIS Congressional Compass](#) Website for CIS, for online federal legislative history. (Limited to terminals in the Law School)
 - [Historline](#) Full text of legal journals **ADDED NOVEMBER 2000**
- [Guide to Microforms Collection](#)
(Identify and locate materials held in microformat in the Coleman Kareth Law Library)
- [Newspapers and Wire Services.](#)
(A selection of Local, Regional, National and International Newspapers and Wire Services)
- [Locating Materials and Services in the Coleman Kareth Law Library.](#) ([Title-by-title](#) or [Floor-by-floor](#))

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In 1996, the student computer lab was expanded and renovated. The labs could accommodate 18 students each and were used for formal online legal research instruction, in addition to meeting the word processing needs of the students.



Marsha Baum resigned in 1997 to become the Director of the Law Library at the University of New Mexico School of Law. Joseph Russell Cross was tapped to



serve a second time as Interim Director of the Law Library.

Stephen D. Hinckley became Associate Dean for Library and Information Technology in July of 1998. The expanded title and duties were an acknowledgement of the increased importance of computers in the study and practice of law. By 1998, Dean Montgomery had announced plans to raise funds for a new law school building.

The first major revision of the law library website occurred in 2005-06.

University of South Carolina
South Carolina's Flagship University

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL OF LAW

EVENTS DIRECTORY MAP VIP GIVE TODAY

Admissions
Current Students
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Faculty & Staff
Legal Community

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Academic Programs
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Career Services
Conferences & Symposia
Events, Publications & Media Relations
Information Technology
Journals & Publications
Law Library
Meet the Faculty
Pro Bono Program
Registrar
Student Affairs
ABA 509 Consumer

Coleman Karesh Law Library

Library Services

- About the Library
- Services to Faculty
- Services to Students
- Services to the Public
- Services to the Legal Community

Legal Research

- Law Library Catalog
- Law Library Electronic Resources
- Law Library E-Journals
- Law Library Research Guides
- University Library Electronic Resources
- University Library E-Journals

Law Library News

- *The Addendum*: Coleman Karesh Law Library's newsletter
- Cocky Law Blawg
- Recent Acquisitions

Library Resources

- Location of Books & Collections
- Special Collections
- Study Rooms
- Staff Directory

In 2006, Steve Hinckley resigned to become Director of the Law Library at the newly created law school at Penn State University.



Duncan E. Alford was hired as Associate Dean for the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law in 2007. The role of information technology had expanded to such an extent that its functions were separated from

the law library and a new department was created. A suite with new offices for the IT Department was created adjacent to the computer labs.

In 2007, individual offices for the reference librarians were carved out of the library space on the Assembly Street side of the first floor. These offices replaced cramped cubicles that had been constructed in the old copy room. The copy room then became the law library conference room.



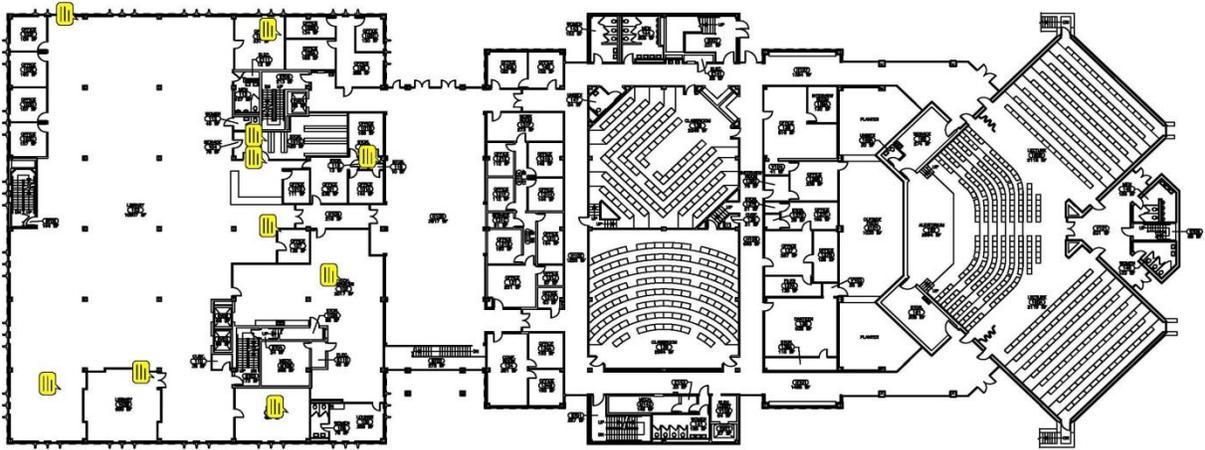
In 2012, two major renovations occurred in the law library. The two computer labs were refurbished with new paint, carpet and furniture and made more

functional with the addition of adjustable lighting, shades on the windows and overhead projectors for easier use as instructional spaces.



Also, the technical services area received a makeover. New carpet was installed, the walls and cabinets were repainted, and transparent DIRT walls were installed to create private offices for the librarians.



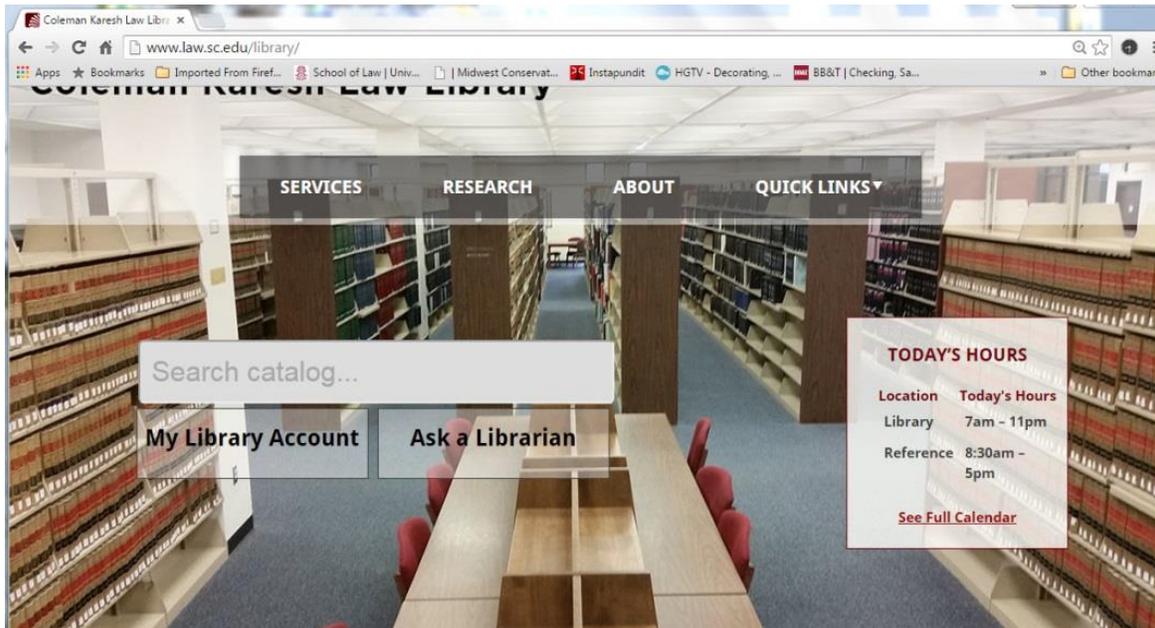


FIRST FLOOR PLAN - 085

DATE: 19FEB08

FIELD VERIFY DRAWING

In 2015, twenty years after the first law school website was created and 10 years after the last major redesign, the Coleman Karesh Law Library unveiled the most recent version of its website.



Law Library (2017-present)

To provide the flexibility of instructional space needed for modern legal education, in 2015 the School of Law began constructing its sixth academic home, a new law school building on the north side of campus, occupying a block bounded by Gervais, Pickens, Senate, and Bull Streets. The law library houses an extensive collection of print and electronic resources and features collaborative study spaces, incorporating modern technology that reflects the current study habits of law students. The majority of the print collection is in compact shelving.

On May 8, 2017, the move to the new library began and on May 25, the library re-opened to the public.



Main Lobby of the Law Library



Circulation Desk



Reference Desk and 1st floor stacks



Compact shelving in basement



Study tables on the second floor



The Coleman Karesh Reading Room

Law Library holdings over time:

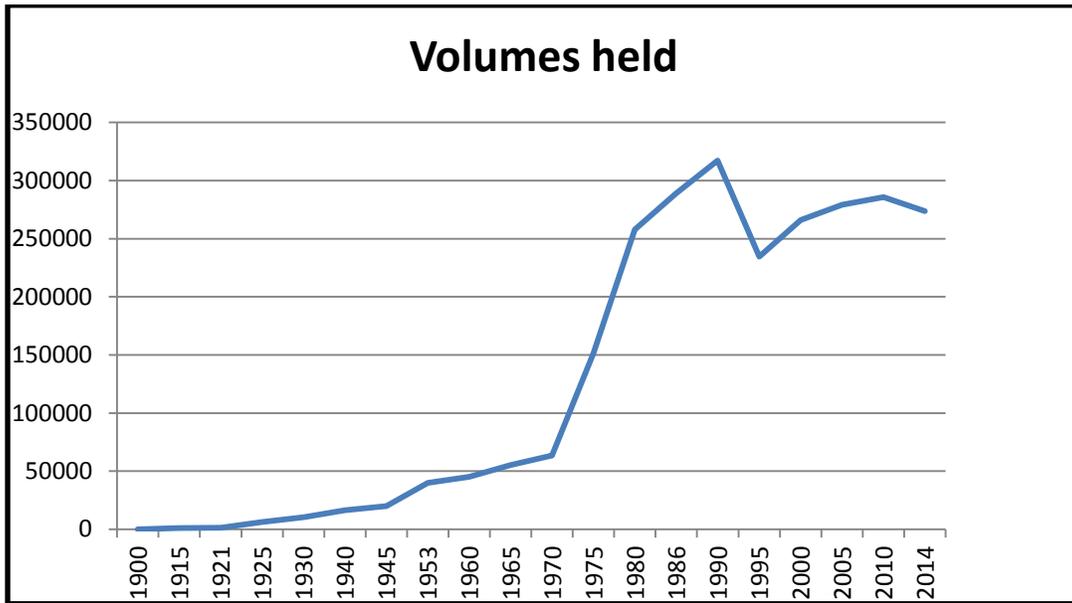
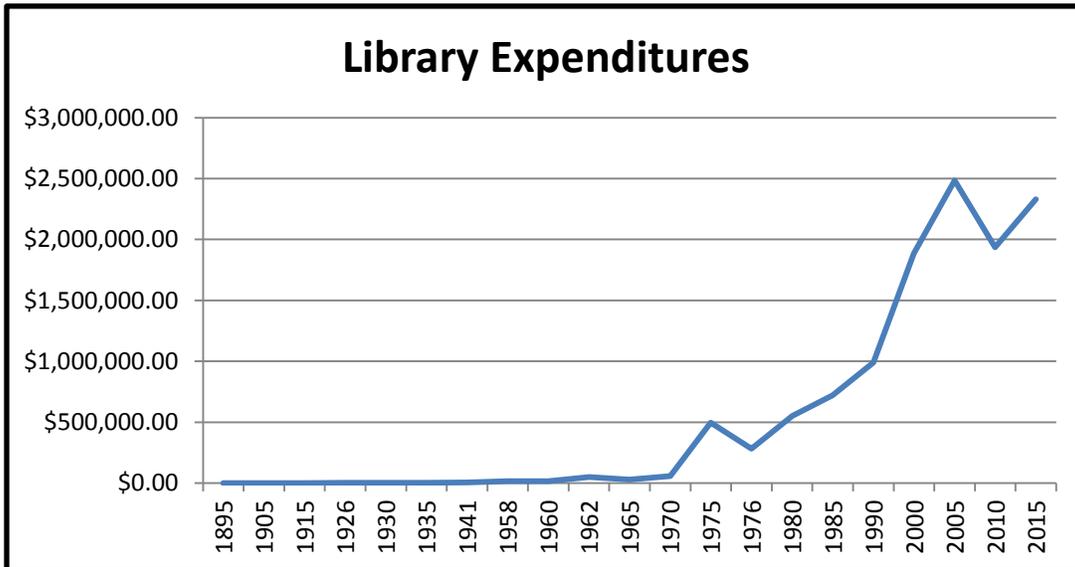


Figure 1 Figures between 1975 and 1990 include microforms

Law library expenditures over time:



ⁱ Loosely based on the timelines here: <http://www.libsci.sc.edu/histories/academic/lawlibraryusc/lawmain.htm>, and here: http://www.law.sc.edu/history/time_line.shtml

* Associate Director for Library Administration, with assistance from Michael Mounter, PhD., Sarah Leverette, and Joseph R. Cross.

ⁱⁱ 1899 GARNET & BLACK YEARBOOK 27.

ⁱⁱⁱ Daniel Walker Hollis, *College to University*, 2 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA 274 (1956).

^{iv} *Catalog of the library of the South Carolina College*, 1849.

^v 37 BULLETIN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA 86 (1914).

^{vi} *Id.* at 89.

^{vii} 79 BULLETIN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA 106 (1919).

^{viii} Hollis, *supra* note *iii*.

^{ix} *Id.*

^x *Id.* at 275.

^{xi} *Id.* at 276.

^{xii} American Association of Law Schools, REPORT ON INSPECTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA LAW SCHOOL (Sept. 11, 1936).

^{xiii} Ophelia Strickland, *A Short History of the School of Law of the University of South Carolina*, 1 SELDEN SOCIETY YEARBOOK 35 (1937).

^{xiv} A.A.L.S. Report, *supra* note ix.

^{xv} 1937 S.C. Acts 117.

^{xvi} Memorial to Mary Ophelia Strickland, [33 Law Lib. J. 24](#) (1940).

^{xvii} These were publications of the Selden Society of London, as opposed to the Selden Society Yearbook, the publication of the School of Law.

^{xviii} Current Comments, [35 Law Lib. J. 507](#) (1942).

^{xix} The law library, therefore, is part of a distinguished lineage. Miles O. Price followed Frederick Hicks as law librarian at Columbia University. Meira G. Pimsleur, *Miles O. Price, Law Librarian, Columbia University*, [62 L. Lib. J. 5](#) (1969). Frederick Hicks was one of the founding fathers of law librarianship in the United States. See, Stacy Etheredge, *Frederick C. Hicks: The Dean of Law Librarians*, [98 Law Lib. J. 349](#) (2006).

^{xx} *The Law School*, VIII YEAR BOOK OF THE SELDEN SOCIETY 41 (April 1947).

^{xxi} David H. Means, Comment, *Coleman Karesh*, 26 S.C. L. REV. 385 (1974).

^{xxii} VII *Carolina Lawyer* 25 (1987).

^{xxiii} *Law School Establishes World Wide Web Site*, 7 S.C. BAR NEWS 6 (1995-96).