

Volunteers microfilm court records

By **SHELLEY RICHENHORN**
Two years, 2,000 volunteers and 28,000 files later, the first phase of a project to microfilm Wayne

County probate records has been completed.
"Wayne County wanted to microfilm 10 years ago," explained

Mrs. Burns G. Newby of The Genealogical Society. "But they couldn't afford to do it. We offered our services free of charge so the society could include this genealogical area in its records."

Mrs. Newby, of Beverly Hills, explained that documents date back to 1796 when Wayne County included all of Michigan and parts of Canada, Wisconsin, Indiana and Ohio.

The Genealogical Society will make microfilm copies of the records and include them in a world collection stored in subterranean vaults near Salt Lake City, Utah. The original microfilms will stay in the Wayne County Court House and will be open to the public.

The project was undertaken by The Genealogical Society at the request of Leonard Edelman, Wayne County probate registrar. The Genealogical Society is an offshoot of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints. The society has been gathering records from all over the world to help members establish an eternal family bond.

"Michigan is an important genealogical state because many of the original fur trading trails ran through the state bringing settlers from all over," Mrs. Newby said.

MRS. NEWBY became co-chairperson of the project, originally assigned to her husband, because of the immensity of the task. "Being a doctor didn't leave him enough time to contribute as much as he'd like," explained Mrs. Newby.

Practically every day, one of the Newbys would make the 60-mile round trip from their home to the old Wayne County Court House to open cans of files dating back nearly 200 years.

"We've tried to straighten and organize all of the old wills and minor child guardianship records up to the present time," the Newbys said. "It's been a tremendous job."

So far, the Newbys estimate that more than 280,000 index cards have been made. They will become part of a surname cross-reference index.

"Every name, every heir that appears in the file will be on an index card. There are literally hundreds of thousands of names to be indexed," they explained.

Every document indexed will be microfilmed on both sides according to the Newbys. "We expect to have approximately 1,100 rolls of microfilm when we're done."

Once the indexing and microfilming are done, the public will be able to use the reference material. The Newbys estimate the records will be opened in about six months.

ALTHOUGH PROBATE documents have always been available to the public, the Newbys hope the new system will make records accessible more quickly.

"We hope this will make it possible for more people to get the information they need," the Newbys explained.

When the records were opened they were in pretty bad shape, according to the project co-chairpersons. "The files were in the corners, faded and torn and stored in old file cans," they said.

But despite the immensity of the project, the Newbys explained that volunteers from all over the Detroit metropolitan area and Canada came to the old court house to help.

"We received valuable assistance from many including Mrs. Ruth Keith, Mrs. Yvonne Thayer and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mendell."

Even George Romney of Bloomfield Hills, former governor of Michigan and cabinet member of the Richard M. Nixon administration, pitched in, along with his daughters and sons-in-law.

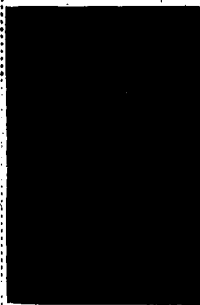
Another notable volunteer was

Mrs. M. Corcoran who left a nursing home each week to do her part. Although the first phase is finished, the Newbys explained more work must still be done to complete the cross-reference index.

"We have already had many, many letters coming in requesting information from the files."

One 11 x 14 picture of your choice with any social engagement order for only \$16. Expires January 31, 1975

Carmel Studio
of Photography
RSI-3397
Wedding—
Full social engagements



DR. BURNS NEWBY



MRS. BURNS NEWBY

Macchus

presents...
Gourmet Dining Without Extravagance



Telegraph at Maple

Business Executives top Dining "100" Award
Featured in Holiday Magazine

Luncheon—Cocktails—Dinners

Traditional cuisine where incomparable food and beverage is served in a quiet, elegant English Hunt Club atmosphere.

Reservations 626-4200



Open daily 11:30 a.m.
Sundays 4 p.m.

Store-wide Sale 30% off

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT —
BEGINNING SATURDAY, JANUARY 4TH
WITH FANTASTIC SAVINGS

"lookin' better"

ORCHARD MALL
Maple and Orchard St. Rd.
831-9222

OPEN 10 AM TO 6 PM DAILY
THURS. & FRI. TO 9 PM
MON. 10-6

ALL SALES FINAL

B Siegel

WOODWARD AT STATE
7 HILE AT LIVERMORE
EASTLAND CENTER
BIRMINGHAM
THE VILLAGE PLAZA
NORTHLAND

Semi-Annual Sale!
Lingerie and Foundations



Famous Make Foundations

Beautiful under fashions from these famous manufacturers Bali... Olga... Youthcraft... Maidenform. From now 'til January 19, 1975

WAS	NOW
Longline & Bandeaux \$5.00 to \$11.00	2.99 to \$2.29
Control Briefs, \$5.00 to \$10.00	3.99 to 7.99
Panty Girdles, 10.00 to 16.00	7.99 to 10.99
Pantliners, 10.00 to 20.00	5.99 to 7.99



Famous Make Lingerie

1/3 OFF & MORE

WAS	NOW
Long & Short Nylon Gowns, 11.00 to 20.00	6.99 to 12.99
Long & Short Brushed Gowns, 10.00 to 20.00	5.99 to 12.99
Petticoats, \$5.00 to \$8.00	2.99 to 4.99
Slips, 12.00 to 15.00	8.99

Good range of colors and sizes

Lingerie and Foundations

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

1/3-1/2 off and more.

on distinctive women's sportswear and tenniswear

It's sale time.
Now, all the names, styles and quality you've been finding so attractive in the Sporthaus look even better. A super sale is just beginning. Join in. We're open Mon. thru Fri. 'til 9. Sat. 'til 6.

Don Thomas Sporthaus

Bloomfield Place, Telegraph at
Maple Road 626-9500
Sawyer Mall, Troy, Big Beaver &
Coolidge Roads 643-0400

You're invited to see our look-alike at Reader Charts.