

2008

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Rediscovering Dr. Arthur S. Beardsley: a brief introduction to his life and work

“...In the not far distant future the stories of other phases of this legal history may pass from the memory of man and become likewise forgotten.”¹

Dr. Beardsley served as the first director of the University of Washington Law Library from 1922-1944. Over those twenty-two years, he collected 80,000 volumes, making the University of Washington Law Library the tenth largest in the country.² In 1937 he wrote one of the first legal research textbooks. Two years later he started the first law librarianship program at the University of Washington.³ He served as the Vice President of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) from 1937-1938 and as its President from 1939-1940.⁴ Beardsley spent over ten years of his life collecting copious amounts of material on the lawyers and judges of Washington and wrote *The Bench and Bar of Washington: The First Fifty Years (1849-1900)*. Yet, with all these accomplishments, he is a mystery to many in the law school he served⁵ and to the law librarian profession.⁶

¹ Arthur S. Beardsley, *Compiling the Territorial Codes of Washington*, 28 Pac. Northwest Q. 3 (1937).

² Arthur S. Beardsley, *University of Washington Law Library Attains 100,000 Volume Mark*, 37 Law Libr. J. 43, 44, 56 (1944).

³ The University of Washington announced a one-year Bachelor of Arts degree in Law Librarianship noting the admission requirements and the curriculum of the program. *Law Librarianship Course Offered at University of Washington*, 32 Law Libr. J. 430 (1939).

⁴ Besides these appointments, Beardsley served on a number of committees including the Committee for New Members (1925), the Round Table Council on Library Problems (1936), the Executive Committee (1936-1937, 1940-1941), the Special Advisory Committee on Education and Law Librarianship (1940), the Joint Committee on Cooperation Between the Association of American Law Schools and the American Association of Law Libraries (1940-1942), and the Nominating Committee (1943-1944).

⁵ The index to the four-volume oral history of the University of Washington Law School does not list Beardsley's name. Beardsley's work, as the founder of the program and mentor to Marian Gould Gallagher, receives some brief mention in several articles written by individuals associated with the University of Washington's law librarianship program. See Marian G. Gallagher, *The Law Librarianship Course at the University of Washington*, 5 J. Legal Educ. 537 (1952-1953); Penny A. Hazelton, *Library School and Legal Bibliographies*, Legal Reference Services Q., Spring-Summer 1989, at 79; Pegeen Mulhern, *Marian Gould Gallagher's Imprint on Law Librarianship—The Advantage of Casting Bread upon the Waters*, 98 Law Libr. J. 381, 385 (2006).) Laura Goldsmith devoted about a quarter of her forty-page article on the history of the University of Washington's law librarianship program to Beardsley and his work in AALL and at the Law Library. See Laura Goldsmith, *History of the University of Washington Law*

Arthur Sydney Beardsley was born on July 21, 1889 in Aberdeen, Washington to Orville and Matilda Beardsley. He was the oldest of three children having a younger sister, Florence, and a brother, George. Orville and Matilda moved to Washington sometime before the children were born: Orville was born in Illinois in 1855, and Matilda, born Matilda Rundel, was born in England in 1863.⁷

Very little is recorded about Beardsley's childhood. The only mention of it came from a Jessie Young Irvine who, in a letter dated 1947, wrote:

My dear Dr. Arthur Beardsley,

Seems odd to address you as Dr. Beardsley; I remember you so vividly as the little tow-headed boy playing around the house with your little sister Florence; you two children had hair almost as white as cotton.⁸

Librarianship Program, 82 Law Libr. J. 239, 239-251 (1990) [hereinafter Goldsmith, *History*].

⁶ Morris Cohen seems to be one of the few librarians unaffiliated with the University of Washington to recognize Beardsley's work. In 1962, Morris Cohen organized a symposium on educating law librarians. In *Background to Law Library Education*, Cohen recognized Beardsley as one of the early leaders of the profession and acknowledged Beardsley's ideas on the education of future law librarians, including the use of internships or apprenticeships for training librarians. 55 Law Libr. J. 190, 192-193 (1962).

⁷ I acquired this information using the genealogical resources of Ancestry.com, <http://www.ancestry.com>.

⁸ Letter to Beardsley from Jessie Young Irvine regarding Judge Ben Sheeks (June 4, 1947).

Please note: All the letters referred to in this article are located in Special Collections at the University of Washington's Gallagher Law Library. Information on the collection can be found online at <http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/legalhistory.html#bbar>.

While organizing the material for this paper, I used several organization strategies. The letters were particularly difficult for a number of reasons. First, letters were lacking dates or had dates that were illegible. I separated those letters into one file. Second, many of the letters referred to multiple individuals. I did not have time to cross-reference the letters. Instead, I created a separate file, made folders for each year of correspondence, and put the letters in chronological order, in their appropriate folders. Lastly, for those letters that had clear dates and referred to only one person, I organized the letters alphabetically (and chronologically, if there were multiple letters about one person). When I refer to a letter in this paper, if I include information about who the letter is regarding, that letter is located in the alphabetically organized files. Otherwise, the letter can be found in the files organized by year.

In 1916, at the age of 27, he registered with the military.⁹ He noted that his occupation was as a student and that he had no dependents at the time. Beardsley had earned his teaching degree¹⁰ and went to law school at the University of Washington where he published a thesis to earn his LL.B. in 1918. By 1922 he had a wife and a young son named Wallace. He was also the Law Librarian at the University of Washington's Law Library. During his twenty-two years at the University of Washington, he taught classes in legal bibliography, earned both a B.S. in Libraries¹¹ and a Ph.D.,¹² and built a 100,000 volume law library collection. In 1944, Beardsley resigned from his position as Law Librarian at the University of Washington. By 1945 he joined the Domestic Relations department of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of King County, Washington, and worked there until his early death in 1950.

These plain details provide a timeline, but do not tell the story of a life. In this article, I will attempt to give some life to this bare frame and *begin* to tell, in the words of Paul Harvey, "the rest of the story."

This article has been organized into sections and appendices. Section I covers Beardsley's work in building the Law Library collection. The source material for this section comes from Beardsley's own description of the collection building process and transcriptions of interviews with Marian Gould Gallagher and Dean Alfred Harsch from Mary Ann Anderson's *Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library: An Oral History*.¹³ Next, Section II discusses how Beardsley felt about the education of librarians and what Beardsley was like as an educator, a boss, and a friend, as told by transcriptions of interviews of his former students: Marian Gould Gallagher, Betty Wilkins, and William E. Schneider.¹⁴ Section III focuses on Beardsley's work as a historian collecting and preserving the history of the Bench and Bar of Washington. The expansive Bench and Bar project consists of photographs and biographical sketches of the early lawyers and judges of the territory and state of Washington, a vast collection of letters between Beardsley and those he contacted for information, and a forty-two chapter manuscript telling the early history of the Washington Bench and Bar, using primary and secondary

⁹ Goldsmith's article notes that Beardsley did not serve in World War I because of his myopia and worked as a librarian at Camp Lewis, located south of Tacoma, Washington. See Goldsmith, *History* at 246.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Arthur S. Beardsley, *Washington's New Law Building*, Wash. Alumnus, Feb. 1933, at 8.

¹² "Dr. Beardsley was a lawyer and a historian. He obtained an LL.B. in 1918, an M.A. in 1925 and a Ph.D. in History in 1928." In the introduction of Mary Ann Anderson's *Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library: An Oral History* (1988) [hereinafter Anderson, *Oral History*]. Goldsmith wrote that the Ph.D. was in Political Science. See Goldsmith, *History* at 246.

¹³ Anderson, *Oral History*.

¹⁴ *Id.*

source material. Lastly, Section IV, concludes the article with a few final thoughts on Beardsley's character and accomplishments.

Appendix A contains a list of organizations that Beardsley corresponded with from 1937 to 1950, as he assembled the Washington Bench and Bar collection. Though this list is incomplete, it provides the reader with a sense of the scale of Beardsley's correspondence. Appendix B describes the problems the collection presented to a researcher, my research process, the work that is left to be done to complete the telling of Beardsley's story, and why the project should be completed. Finally, Appendix C includes an annotated bibliography of Beardsley's work.

I.

*"If the law be the pedestal upon which the structure of society is builded, then the law library must needs contain these books which deal with all human actions and the relations of Man's contact with his neighbor..."*¹⁵

In 1988, Mary Ann Anderson compiled and edited a work called *Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library: An Oral History*. This work included interviews and selected articles about the Law Library. In the introduction, Anderson wrote a brief paragraph about Beardsley:

Dr. Beardsley came to the law school four years before Dean Condon's death in January 1926, and he [Beardsley] is credited with building the solid collection that is the foundation of the library today... As Law Librarian and Professor of Law, Dr. Beardsley drew upon his background in history for making acquisitions of lasting importance.¹⁶

Though Beardsley had been dead for nearly forty years, many of the interviewees remembered him and his work. Dean Alfred Harsch, who was a law student at the University of Washington from 1925 to 1928, described the library staff and collection:

At the time I entered law school, the law library staff consisted of Arthur Beardsley, Mary Hoard, who was the cataloguer, and three student part-time assistants. I was fortunate in being appointed an assistant my first year, and I served all through my period in the law school under Dr. Beardsley....That was during that period that

¹⁵ Arthur S. Beardsley, The Law School Library—A Library of Research for Lawyer, Layman, and Legislator, Address at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (June 1925), in 18 Law Libr. J. 93 (1925).

¹⁶ Anderson, Oral History.

Arthur was really building that library. The original library had been that of John Condon, his own working library, and that was all they really had until Arthur Beardsley was appointed as the law librarian. At that time he started the program of developing the library. Most of my time, I will admit, was spent in unpacking boxes and putting books on shelves....¹⁷

At that time, acquisitions meant contacting people all over the world to find materials.¹⁸ It also often meant competing with one's colleagues.¹⁹ Marian Gould Gallagher referred to Beardsley as a "dandy librarian" and credited him with building a fine collection that reached out to serve the legal community.

I think he certainly had to be responsible for its [the law library's] quality. ...Beardsley knew what he was doing when he built the

¹⁷ *Id.* at 372-373.

¹⁸ Harsch explained that, when Dean Schweppe agreed to come to the University of Washington, he made it conditional on the receipt of \$100,000 to purchase books for the library. With that money, Beardsley set about acquiring a collection. Harsch described the acquisitions process he witnessed:

I had very, very little contact with that part of him, but I'm sure that he was keeping in touch with every possible source watching for situations where blocks of books might be available. He was dealing with people in London all the time, I know, in order to develop the English series. He was particularly interested in that aspect of it, as well as getting the reporters and the statutes from all the states. This was a period during which there were just many areas in which he was working. But I had no contact with that particular part of it, except that I do know that he was sitting in here pouring over various things. I know that he was writing and contacting. He had contacts with some sources in the Middle west and East that fed him information as to where he might be able to locate certain types of books that he would want.

Id. at 374.

¹⁹ Marian Gould Gallagher, in discussing how Beardsley built the collection, related this anecdote:

He had built the Anglo-American collection, especially on primary authorities, to one of the finest in the United States. He was in competition with the University of Minnesota, where the great librarian named Arthur Pulling was at work building the Minnesota collection, and Beardsley would fume and fuss when Pulling would pick off all the good items of the dealers' catalogues, merely because he got at them first.

Id. at 92.

collection. And he was very service minded. He took in the Bench and Bar from outside. He realized that it was good public relations to help them, and he had sort of an outreach program for the legal profession, for writers and scholars who need to consult the collection.²⁰

Beardsley had a broad conception of how a collection should be developed.²¹ Besides acquiring Anglo-American materials, he also collected Russian, Chinese, and Japanese materials. Gallagher described the Japanese collection Beardsley started:

I don't know how he made connections with the Japanese-American Society, but the Society gave the library a large—at least for that time—collection of Japanese law. And it was modern Japanese law. I mean, it wasn't out of somebody's basement over in Japan....After the war was over, the OSS, getting ready to provide materials for the occupation of Japan, came and took great carloads, it seemed to me like carloads, of our collection to Japan....they borrowed them and returned them after the occupation. But they said that was the most modern collection in the United States, the most up-to-date. It wasn't the largest. And that was all Beardsley's doing, with the help of the Japanese-American Society.²²

With his eyes focused on building the collection and acquiring materials, Beardsley was uninterested in keeping the account books. Gallagher explained how this might have been one of the reasons Beardsley resigned in 1944:

Old books that are reprinted usually run anywhere from \$75 to \$125 apiece, even small books. And this library already has the original in many, many cases. And to find out how much Dr. Beardsley paid—he kept no bookkeeping records—...Beardsley's method of keeping financial records was to take a book when it arrived, open it up, and write inside the front margin where he got it, the date, and how much it cost. [Laugh] So we can look there and it will say, we got this in 1922 and paid \$1.75 for it. Now in reprint it's up to \$125. But he really had a nose for those classics. If it was a good book, it was in the library... When I [Gallagher] was hired as law librarian in 1944, it was partly a result of a major

²⁰ *Id.* at 34-35.

²¹ Arthur S. Beardsley, *University of Washington Law Library Attains 100,000 Volume Mark*, 37 *Law Libr. J.* 43 (1944).

²² Anderson, *Oral History* at 93.

disagreement between [Dean] Falknor and Beardsley. Beardsley—who was a real book collector and who, as I told you already, could spot a classic—felt that the collection was not complete without the official state reports, which at that time, or at least five years later, could have been purchased intact for say \$6,000 or \$7,000. Falknor felt that the National Reporter System was sufficient, and he told Beardsley not to spend the money to get the official state reports. Well, one of the first things Dean Falknor did before I even got my hat off when I came back was to tell me that he persuaded an accounting professor on campus to come over and set up our accounting system. He wanted to know that there would be no overspending, and that meant keeping track of money available.²³

According to Goldsmith's article on the history of the law librarianship program at the University of Washington, Beardsley's son, Wallace, had a different take on his father's departure. Goldsmith wrote that Wallace felt "that his father's resignation as law librarian was encouraged to make room for Marian Gallagher."²⁴ Though the true story might never be known, Beardsley's achievement of building the basis of Law Library collection lives on, as does his vision for training law librarians.

II.

*"...conditions under which law libraries have been operated have changed, and the stress upon the various types of material and the problems of administration have necessarily shifted. Such changes might well justify the rearrangement and change of emphasis..."*²⁵

Beardsley had strong opinions and ideas of what made a good library and a good law librarian. Besides writing articles on the subject of education, he proposed and presented plans for certifying law librarians.²⁶ Gallagher, familiar with these opinions, spoke at length about her association with Beardsley. He had

²³ *Id.* at 33, 47-48. Beardsley tells the story of buying the official state reports in a different way, saying that the faculty were the ones who wanted the new set of reports. Arthur S. Beardsley, *University of Washington Law Library Attains 100,000 Volume Mark*, 37 *Law Libr. J.* 43 (1944).

²⁴ Goldsmith, *History* at 251.

²⁵ Arthur S. Beardsley, *Education for Law Librarianship*, 30 *Bull. Am. Libr. Ass'n*, 168, 177 (1936).

²⁶ Arthur S. Beardsley, *Address at the Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries* (June 1935), in 28 *Law Libr. J.* 81, 223-226 (1935).

been her Legal Bibliography teacher while she was in law school and her boss (she worked as his assistant in the law library).²⁷ When she returned to the law library while going to library school, she said that Beardsley was not happy with all the theory she was being taught and the requirements, such as taking children's librarianship classes.²⁸ Gallagher said that, by establishing the law librarianship course, he cured the defects he saw in library education:

The design was simply that students in law librarianship first have a law degree, then enroll in the really basic librarianship subjects that every librarian has to have, which includes cataloging and acquisitions and administration....And take[s] the specialized courses from him.

This was the birth of the University of Washington's law librarianship program. One of the first graduates, Betty Wilkins, described the experience:

Well, library school was so boring after law school [Laugh] that we welcomed the time we were in the law library, working with law materials. And it was more concrete, we were working with the books we knew, a locale we knew. And it was not hypothetical, it was actual. And, of course, I found Dr. Beardsley a most interesting person. He wasn't particularly fond of women, but I always felt privileged to have worked under him....²⁹

But other students had a rather different experience of Beardsley. A former law student and assistant, William E. Schneider, echoed Wilkins' sentiment that Beardsley was "very interesting" and added that Beardsley had "broad breadth of inquiry into things. He was interested in a lot of things and loved to do research on them and talk about them."³⁰ Schneider also described Beardsley as having a good sense of humor,³¹ though he thought Beardsley was not an inspired teacher,

²⁷ "...I worked as assistant to Beardsley for a year—it was such fun that I—it was great fun, I thought maybe I ought to look into it." Anderson, *Oral History* at 28.

²⁸ *Id.* at 29.

²⁹ *Id.* at 216.

³⁰ *Id.* at 498.

³¹ Schneider described Beardsley as a good friend and tells a story to illustrate another side of Beardsley's character:

When I started law school, I rented a very small one-room apartment on the second floor of a building at 40th and University Way, Collegiate Apartments. The first day as I was moving in, I got acquainted with another young fellow ... by the name of Warren Shattuck,.... I also had the equipment for making a very high caliber brand of home brew. So for three years of law school, Warren and I made seven gallons of home

lacking “a lot of levity” in his teaching and writing. Gallagher, in her description, expounded on Schneider’s sentiment of Beardsley as a teacher and a writer:

...I think he probably wasn’t more concerned with detail than most librarians....He was a scholar in the way he went about his work. I think he didn’t have much imagination. He was the kind of man who couldn’t make anything spritely. ...He would get all the details and just bore everybody to death.³²

Betty Wilkins considered Beardsley “a stern figure, but a good librarian” whose chief interests were “in rare books and in the history of the Washington bench and bar.”³³ Beardsley’s scholarship primarily focused on the history of the laws and legal institutions of Washington and Oregon. The quantity of material Beardsley collected on these topics confirms Wilkins’ observations.

III.

“Peculiar in interest and of tremendous importance to the law library is the collection of framed photographs of the judges and lawyers of Washington prior to 1910. Starting with the lawyers of the Oregon Territory of 1850 and carried forward from that period, the collection now includes over 1,500 photographs. In connection with this project the writer has assembled biographies of several thousand of these early lawyers and has constructed a card index of the lawyers of the territory and state.”³⁴

Beardsley was a scholar and a historian in every sense of the word. He would spend the rest of his life performing historical research on the laws and legal community of Washington. His most complex research involved the Bench

brew a week, which we carefully stored and let age sometimes as long as a month before we’d consume it. Beardsley quickly found out about this and invited himself down. And so for some period, those three years, we had a steady customer, Art Beardsley, who would come down and drink home brew with us and go over the facts of life—the things we ought to know and the things we ought to avoid. It was a very pleasant relationship.

Id.

³² *Id.* at 31.

³³ Goldsmith, *History* at 250-251.

³⁴ Arthur S. Beardsley, *University of Washington Law Library Attains 100,000 Volume Mark*, 37 *Law Libr. J.* 43, 54 (1944).

and Bar project. Wilkins remembered Beardsley spending a great deal of time working on the project:

His correspondence was voluminous to the judges and attorneys, piecing together the history of the Washington Bench and Bar and collecting portraits and pictures in any form...Those pictures were later taken out of the frames and put into files of the various judges and attorneys. But he did spend a great deal of time on that, and he has a manuscript on the history of the Bench and Bar that has never been published.³⁵

Gallagher described the manuscript and the process Beardsley used to complete the work:

His manuscript, which he spent years putting together, features the history of the Washington Bench and Bar up to 1900. It's a series of sketches of pioneer lawyers and judges, most of which were gleaned from writings of the biographers of the Pacific Northwest. He collected photostatic copies of portraits of them. When you consider the fact that he didn't have a Xerox machine, he didn't have any way of making copies of anything except these photostatic items, a method which was too expensive to use on text that went with pictures.

During World War II, there was an assistance mechanism called NYA, the National Youth Administration,³⁶ which subsidized work for students and probably others. I think it must have started before World War II, because most of the ones who were getting assistance were out fighting by the time the war came along. It carried a lot of people through the depression. Maybe they earned 25 cents an hour, maybe 35 cents if they were highly skilled. Those students spent many hours under Dr. Beardsley copying, typing from some of the works on Northwest history—the Bancroft works and a lot of biographies—and those typed copies ended up in what we call our lawyers' files. But basically they were for the Beardsley written manuscript.³⁷

³⁵ Anderson, Oral History at 217.

³⁶ Though no files exist that relate to the NYA Gallagher mentioned, in Beardsley's papers, there was a file about the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) from the 1940s with work orders for clerks and typist under the direction of one of Beardsley's assistants.

³⁷ Anderson, Oral History at 31-32.

The manuscript exists in several drafts; the first was written out long-hand and includes many notes about reworking the contents. In the disintegrating envelopes that held these drafts were scores of pages of notes recopied from books, letters, and articles. These pages must represent the fruits of this subsidized labor and helps to explain how Beardsley had the time to attend to his vast correspondence.³⁸

From the letters Beardsley wrote and collected for the Bench and Bar project, the man and the historian emerge.³⁹ The letters used in writing this article covered the years 1937-1950; only a few letters came from 1937 and 1939 and no letters were found dated from 1944-1946. The majority of the correspondence dates from 1940, 1941, 1948, and 1949. The letters in the early 1940s mention that the project had been going on for quite some time.⁴⁰ One in early 1950 congratulated Beardsley for having completed his manuscript on the history of the Washington Bench and Bar.⁴¹

Beardsley's early letters reveal how he conceived and thought about the Bench and Bar project. He lamented that, though the library had been trying to find data about a number of Washington's early lawyers and judges, most of them have long been forgotten and in their passing, had left little information concerning themselves.⁴² Describing the purpose and scope of the project to a friend, Beardsley wrote:

For some time past we have been engaged in collecting the photographs of the early lawyers and judges of Washington in order to preserve as a memorial and as an inspiration to the young lawyers to come. We feel that now is the time to collect and preserve the early history of our bench and bar, particularly those

³⁸ Charles H. Sheldon and Arthur S. Beardsley, *Frontier Lawyering: the Practice of Law in Territorial Days (excerpt of Arthur S. Beardsley's 'The Bench and Bar of Washington: The First Fifty Years')*, Wash. St. B. News, May 1992, at 39.

³⁹ While I did not yet attempt to list or to count the number of letters or individuals that Beardsley contacted, I wanted to provide an idea of his undertaking. (From the box of letters I have gone through and the files I looked at in the Bench and Bar files at the Gallagher Law Library, I would guess that number of letters would be in the thousands and the number of individual correspondents would range in the middle hundreds.) See Appendix A.

⁴⁰ Letter to the Spokesman Review from Beardsley regarding Judge George Turner (September 4, 1940).

⁴¹ Letter to Beardsley from Hobart Coffey regarding Matthew T. Curry (January 23, 1950).

⁴² Letter to Mr. O. Middlekauf from Beardsley regarding J. Fred Yates (March 4, 1941).

which relate to the early territorial lawyers and those who came to Washington shortly after statehood.⁴³

He typed the following form paragraph in a large number of letters to describe the project and to request materials, inserting the appropriate name or names of those he wanted information about:

For some time past we have been working upon a collection of photographs and biographies of the outstanding lawyers and judge of Washington who lived during territorial days and early days of statehood. We know that Judge Robertson played a very important part in this early history. It is our plan and hope to reconstruct the early history of the bench and bar through photographs and to preserve the memory of these pioneers at the bar for the benefit of the lawyers who are yet to come. It is a big task and may take a long time to accomplish. However, we have met with splendid success and have already accumulated a number of photographs of very interesting people.⁴⁴

His requests succeeded. In early 1941, Beardsley reported in one of his letters that the frames photographs in the collection numbered four hundred and thirty while the file of biographical sketches numbered “several times that many.”⁴⁵ Less than two years later, the collection of framed photographs had grown to six-hundred fifty.⁴⁶ This success seems even more remarkable because most of these items were donated to the library. Beardsley was a very flattering and cordial writer who waited to the end of his letters to make his request. Usually he just asked for a framed photograph of a particular size.⁴⁷ In other cases, he explained the goal of the project and asked others to suggest solutions.⁴⁸ But, Beardsley always invited

⁴³ Letter to W. Stevens Tucker from Beardsley (April 23, 1941).

⁴⁴ Letter to W.C. Bickford from Beardsley regarding F.C. Robertson (July 15, 1941).

⁴⁵ Letter to William H. Smiley from Beardsley (January 12, 1941).

⁴⁶ Letter to William B. Ritchie from Beardsley (November 19, 1942).

⁴⁷ Letter to Mrs. Charles Newman from Beardsley (November 30, 1940):

Could you supply us with some biographical data concerning Charles A. Riddle and a photograph of him? If you would care to frame the photograph for us, we would be pleased to hang it in our attorney’s room along with the photographs of the other early lawyers of Washington. If that event, may we suggest that the most desirable size would be 8 x 10 inches.

⁴⁸ Letter to N.C. Richards regarding a photograph of James Reavis from Beardsley (September 17, 1940):

people to come and visit the collection at the Law Library and sometimes added that the receipt of the photographs would be publicly acknowledged in the quarterly issue of the Law Library Bulletin.⁴⁹

Besides photographs and biographical sketches⁵⁰ of the early Bench and Bar, Beardsley also requested the writings of Washington lawyers as part of the historical collection he was building for the library. He described the kind of material the library wanted to add:

...We are pleased to have it for our collection of books by Washington lawyers. This collection, I might state, now consists of over five hundred items, including books, monographs, papers, etc. written by Washington lawyers. The collection is not confined to legal writings but to anything which represents the literary efforts on the part of the bar, excluding, of course, briefs and pleadings.⁵¹

Beardsley's requests generated a variety of responses. Many of those he requested information from were appreciative of the attention being paid to them or their relatives.⁵² A few were also self-deprecating.⁵³ But, the most frequent responses he received were suggestions of other people or other organizations he should contact (often including names and contact details)⁵⁴ and offers to help

I might state that if it comes to the worst, I can have a copy made from the photographs hanging in the Temple of Justice; but since our plan to obtain photographs of the judges of the territory and state courts is rather ambitious one, I am endeavoring to cut down on expense wherever I can. I trust you may be able to offer me some suggestions.

⁴⁹ Letter to Don M. Tunstall from Beardsley regarding R.E. Tunstall (May 22, 1941).

⁵⁰ He often asked people to write articles about themselves or their relatives for his history. *See* letter to Beardsley from Lew C. Jesseph regarding Judge Jesseph (October 29, 1949). These sketches or articles, if they were written within the body of a letter, were periodically cut out and paste into Beardsley's compiled notes. *See* letter to Beardsley from Cyrus Happy regarding Willard W. Hindman (September 11, 1948); Letter to Beardsley from Marguerita Roth regarding Mr. Roth (February 14, 1948). Other times, the information from the letters was retyped.

⁵¹ Letter to William P. Totten from Beardsley (November 22, 1940).

⁵² Letter to Beardsley from Paul Wood regarding his father (November 22, 1949): "Our thanks and compliments on and thanks for the splendid and worthwhile job you are doing. Your efforts will be long remembered and appreciated."

⁵³ F.A. Latcham wrote: "There has been nothing outstanding in my life, except hard work. There is not much that you can say about me, but I appreciate your courtesies just the same." Letter to Beardsley from F.A. Latcham (October 1, 1949).

⁵⁴ Letter to Beardsley from Edwin L. Harding regarding Jesse Arthur (September 7, 1948); Letter to Beardsley from Harvey F. Davis regarding John D. Atkinson (June 3, 1948)

him by writing letters,⁵⁵ visiting certain people to gather information,⁵⁶ or searching court houses and family records.⁵⁷ Beardsley also delegated responsibility to and asked favors of others to find lists of attorneys from different counties or to locate specific books to find dates.⁵⁸

(referring Beardsley to the Bureau of Federal Statistics); Letter to Beardsley from H.J. Gielens regarding Harry Blackburn (August 30, 1949); Letter to Beardsley from John R. White regarding Andrew J. Cain (July 12, 1948) (giving advice about other organizations to contact); Letter to Beardsley from Bernice H. Van Aver regarding J.H. Cannon (July 15, 1948); Letter to Beardsley from Robert H. Shaffer regarding Alfred Craven (October 18, 1948); Letter to Beardsley from Charles B. Goldenborough regarding H.A. Goldenborough (June 15, 1942) (suggesting that Beardsley contact the Navy Department in Washington); Letter to Beardsley from Charles and Avis Sparks regarding John G. Sparks (December 15, 1941) (suggesting that Beardsley might want to contact Frank Crowe of Walla Walla about the Bridge Brothers); Letter to Beardsley from Abbie Nyland regarding William H. Thacker (December 30, 1948) (suggesting that Beardsley should contact Thacker's daughter); Letter to Beardsley from Ethel Yakey Kiernan regarding Judge Yakey (May 3, 1948) (suggesting that Beardsley to write the Los Angeles Bar Association).

One of Beardsley's unofficial assistants even gave advice to him on how to request information from a source and what to write (and what to leave out) in the attorney's biography. *See* Letter to Beardsley from Corwin P. Shank regarding Winfield Smith (December 8, 1949).

Sometimes, Beardsley's project was helped along through cases of serendipity. In a letter to Beardsley from Ronald T. Strong regarding J.C. Strong (February 13, 1941, where Strong suggested contacting Elizabeth Bethel, Strong's niece, who worked with the U.S. Archives Department on a project dealing with the Washington Territory.

⁵⁵ Copy of letter from Judge E.V. Kuykendall to an undertaker regarding Charles Baldwin (December 4, 1948); Copy of letter to W.G. Reed from I. Reed Ingham regarding Thomas M. Reed, Jr. (June 11, 1947).

⁵⁶ In a letter to Beardsley from Elizabeth C. Yates (July 28, 1941), Yates says that she went to see someone who had practiced in Vancouver and provided a long list of names of judges and lawyers that Beardsley should add to his notes and information about people who might be able to tell something about each of the names on the list. Another correspondent, Chloe Sutton, wrote that her "inquiries among the oldtimers roused such interest that several other names and addresses were forthcoming." *See* letter to Beardsley from Chloe Sutton (August 7, 1941).

⁵⁷ Letter to Beardsley from F.A. Latcham regarding John D. Fletcher (July 24, 1947).

⁵⁸ Others were asked to find dates and looked at books. *See* Letter to Beardsley from Bertil E. Johnson regarding Alexander Campbell (February 3, 1950); Letter to Beardsley from Pacific Northwestern Quarterly (December 12, 1941) (noting that the librarian was enclosing a list of lawyers "drawn from the D.A.R. transcript of the federal censuses of 1850 (for Clark and Lewis Counties, Oregon Territory) and 1860 (for Washington Territory)"); Letter to Beardsley from W.C. Brown regarding the lawyers of Ferry County and Okanogan County (June 4, 1947) (presenting an one and a half page list from memory of names, jobs, dates of jobs or appointments, and when they died).

Beardsley was not afraid to contact his friends for help. In his letters, we glimpse a bit of Beardsley's humor behind the formal, kindly correspondent. At the end of a letter to a former student, Beardsley wrote:

Your friend, Mr. King, has finally been dropped from the law school for the reason that he has finally completed his law course. He is now preparing for the bar, but with his long experience before bars, it ought not be very difficult to pass this one.

Others wrote to him in an equally teasing fashion.⁵⁹

Strangers opened up to him as they fulfilled his request and told Beardsley the stories of their families.⁶⁰ Sometimes Beardsley's correspondents shared extremely painful and revealing things about themselves.⁶¹ One of his regular

⁵⁹ See postcard to Beardsley from Don G. Abel regarding Ellis Barnes (November 3, 1944):

Dear Art:

Still no further dope on Ellis Barnes as far as finding a picture....

Am still as fit as a fiddle and so is the wife. My only regret us that trout fishing is over for the season. Will write a letter later. Don

See letter to Beardsley from Bernard G. Lonctot (June 25, 1947):

Will say again, as you probably recall, that I was the leading light and the well known legal bibliography as taught by that leading professor Arthur S. Beardsley, and I am sure that he knows nothing but good about me, and will probably hang my picture with those of your most honored attorneys.

See letter to Beardsley from James R. Hammack (October 5, 1948): "Arthur, it's a hard life. Think I would rather work at the law library under a man name of Beardsley even though he was a tyrant to work for."

⁶⁰ In a response to a letter asking for information about Leander Jay Sharpe Turney, his grandson George wrote:

My grandfather was sometimes absent from home for weeks at a time, while my grandmother faithfully cared for the family whether he had left any funds or not. She was quiet, patient and practical, and a real Christian. She had little schooling but was very practical and sensible. She was a descendant of Carter Braxton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, or of the Constitution....

Letter to Beardsley from George J. Turney (November 9, 1942).

⁶¹ At the end of a letter about his father's life, G.W. Spalding wrote:

correspondents expressed her worry that her son was overwhelmed by the accomplishments of his ancestors and careless with the old books and papers he had inherited. Beardsley wrote to show his understanding and to comfort her with a story of his experience.⁶²

Beardsley must have understood some of the pain and disappointment these writers shared with him. In his life, he left the Law Library he designed and saw built.⁶³ And, because of the bylaws of the American Association of Law Libraries in place during the 1940s, when Beardsley resigned from being a law librarian, he was no longer eligible for full membership.⁶⁴ Lastly, his manuscript

I am sorry that I cannot give you a more complete outline, than the above, but use you own talent in the re construction of same.

I happen to be one of those boys that felt so sorry for his father, that he was so Old Fashioned, so I left home at an early date to go out and do things in a big way. An education, was too slow for me.

Had I know what I left behind, Im sure you would agree that I have paid in full the neglect and heart aches that I must have caused him. These few lines in closing, so you may understand the brevety in the answers to your questions. [Original spelling and grammar preserved]

Letter to Beardsley from G.W. Spalding (February 17, 1948).

⁶² See Letter from Beardsley to Mrs. E.S. West regarding Mr. Snively (January 31, 1941):

It is quite true that in most families the children possess different qualities and characteristics. I have observed this in connection with my historical research, and find that in every family there is some who enjoy preserving the historical materials relating to family history, etc., and that there are others in the family who seemingly do not seem to be vitally interested in it. This is not any particular fault of the individual, but because of their general make-up. However, unfortunately it frequently happens that ones, who are not interested in materials of such nature, come into possession of them with the result that much of the material which would be of value is destroyed. I recall that this was the case in a number of instances.

⁶³ Not only do I refer to the collection of materials, but also the physical space. He planned the library facilities for the new law school building. In 1933, the Law School moved from Commerce Hall to the old Condon Hall. Anderson, Oral History at 500 (Schneider's interview).

⁶⁴ Letter to Beardsley from Hobart Coffey regarding Joseph Morris Kincaid (December 8, 1948):

You ask about the Law Library Association. I am in the unfortunate position of being president this year, and I feel just as you do about your present job.

Several people in the Association have written me about your connection with the Association. I know very little about what has happened in the past, but my guess is that when you retired from your

was never published; it, and the vast amount of material he collected about the Bench and Bar, sit in Special Collections, little known to the world outside of the Gallagher Law Library.⁶⁵

IV.

“The law school library of today, more than ever before, must be more than a mere collection of laws and cases, it is impressed with a greater privilege, but at the same time it is charged with a greater responsibility. To meet this it must in turn specialize within its already limited field, which becomes specialization within specialization. The direction of its growth also must not be a mere fancy of its librarian but must be based upon some study of the peculiar local and community needs and conditions.”⁶⁶

library position in Washington you ceased to be eligible for active membership. At about that time someone did a lot of tinkering with the constitution, and as it stands right now you would be eligible only for associate membership. There is a movement on foot to revise membership provisions of the constitution again. Proposed amendments would make it possible for us to elect you to life membership. Some time ago I wrote to Miss Newman and several others that I thought that ought to be done in view of your long connection with our Association and your many invaluable services to the law library profession. At the present time life membership seems to be confined to those who have retired and are merely twiddling their thumbs. Such a provision is altogether silly.

I need not tell you that I was pleased to learn that you still have an interest in the Association and that you do not want to be dropped out completely. As I told you before, several people have written me about this matter, which indicates that our members do not want to keep you on the outside.

⁶⁵Discussing the Bench and Bar project, Gallagher, speaking about how the collection was handled during her thirty-seven years at the Law Library:

...But it's a really monumental work just to gather all that information together.

...And, in fact, we've kept those original copies [of the manuscript] in the lawyer's file. We've kept them [the lawyers' files] up to date as much as we could with any news of lawyers or judges. But, of course, we haven't devoted the extra help to it.

Anderson, Oral History at 32.

⁶⁶ Arthur S. Beardsley, The Law School Library—A Library of Research for Lawyer, Layman, and Legislator, Address at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (June 1925), in 18 Law Libr. J. 93, 95 (1925).

In a number of ways, Beardsley was a contradiction: a stilted teacher and a forward-thinking educator, an idealist who spoke in lofty terms about the law and a pragmatist about the library. But, without contradiction, Beardsley was a committed historian and a true Washingtonian. As can be seen by his works listed in the following bibliography and in the Bench and Bar project discussed above, most of his scholarly work was committed to preserving the Washington's historical legal record and the memory of people who created that record. Beardsley found his place and made a mark, even if, until now, we did not recognize the maker of that mark.

Beardsley accomplished a great many things during his twenty-two years as a law librarian. He cared and thought about the role of libraries in their communities and the training and education of the professional law librarian. Morris Cohen placed Beardsley with the early leaders in the profession like Fredrick C. Hicks, Miles O. Price, and William R. Roalfe.⁶⁷ Arthur S. Beardsley deserves to be remembered among these esteemed names.

⁶⁷ Morris Cohen, *Background to Law Library Education*, 55 *Law Libr. J.* 190, 192 (1962).

Appendix A

Beardsley collected a vast number of letters from 1937 to 1950 as he worked on the history of the Washington Bench and Bar and developed the Law Library's collection of photographs, biographies, and items written by Washington lawyers. Over the course of my research, I made note of the organizations that answered his request to retrieve information he was looking for. This is not an exhaustive list because there are still a great many letters to be looked at. The following is meant to give a sense of the scope of his work.

The American Legion
Bellingham Public Library
California State Library
Central Washington College of Education
Chehalis Free Public Library in Washington
City of Bellingham
City of Portland Department of Public Safety
City of Tacoma Department of Public Health
City of Waitsburg
Corning Library
Department of Health, City of Los Angeles
Department of Library and Archives, Phoenix
Eastern Washington State Historical Society
El Katif Temple—Masonic Temple
The Elks Magazine
Everett Public Library
Federal Works Agency, WPA of Oregon
Florida Historical Society
Goldendale Free Public Library
Grays Harbor County Rural Library District
Idaho State Law Library
Indiana State Library
Indianapolis Public Library
Jefferson County Clerk
LaGrande Public Library, Oregon
The Library of Congress
M.W. Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Washington (Masonic Temple in Tacoma)
Maine State Bar Association and Maine State Library
Maryland Historical Society
The National Archives in Washington, D.C.
Nevada State Historical Society
Office of Prosecuting Attorney in Bellingham
Office of Prosecuting Attorney, Skagit County
Office of Prosecuting Attorney, Snohomish County
Office of Prosecuting Attorney, Whitcom County

Ohio State Archaeological Society and Historical Society
Okanogan Independent
Oregon Historical Society
Oregon State Bar
Oregon State Board of Health
Oregon Supreme Court
Oregon-Washington Pythian Home
Pacific Northern Quarterly
Pierce County Law Library
The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington
The Post-Intelligencer
Public Library, Colorado Springs, Colorado
Redmond Oregon Public Library
Ritzville Public Library
Seattle Public
The Seattle Times
Sierra County Free Library
The Spokesman Review
Sprague Public Library
State Bar of California
State College of Washington, the Library
State of Colorado Department of Education
State of New Jersey Department of Education
State of Washington Department of Health, Division of Central Administration
State of Washington State Library
Superior Court for the State of Washington, Lincoln County
Superior Court for the State of Washington, Colville
Superior Court for the State of Washington, Walla Walla County
Superior Court of Cowlitz, Klickitat, and Skamania Counties
The Supreme Court of Washington
Tacoma Public Library
Treasury Department
U.S. Department of the Interior
The University Club in Spokane
Law Library at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
University of Washington Library
Vancouver Public Library
Walla Walla Public Library
Washington State Historical Society
Western Reserve University
Whitman College Library
Wyoming State Library and State Historical Department
The Yakima Daily Republic

APPENDIX B

“There is a danger of making our library a museum for ancient and rare specimens. Rarity in itself is a poor basis for choice; and antiquity is equally as bad. Yet both are well worth considering if the other element of actual usefulness be present. We must keep our law libraries alive but in order to do so, we, ourselves, must be alive and energetic, working in the present but looking to the future.”⁶⁸

Conducting this type of archival research takes substantially more time, energy, and allergy medicine than I originally thought possible. Beardsley’s manuscript, multiple drafts of various writing, letters, and collections of miscellaneous papers were contained within a number of boxes.

When I started digging into the large box of disorganized letters, I thought I might be able to write this article without first putting order to the materials. That, I found, was impossible. Even after spending countless hours organizing the letters, I was not able to make of them what I wanted to—a complete set of letters on every individual named in the correspondence. Many of the letters talk about multiple individuals. I considered several organizational options. One, the letter could be put into a folder filed under the name of the person who seemed to be the focus of the letter, and I could walk away (this was the filing system used in the Bench and Bar files in the cabinets in Special Collections at the Gallagher Law Library). Two, I could file it under the name of the person who seemed to be the focus of the letter and write a short note to add to each file of the others named in the letter, noting the file location of the original letter. Three, I could make a copy or copies of the letter and place it in the folders of every person named in the letter (this would, of course, lead to a huge space problem because many of the letters discussed multiple people). Four, the letter could be filed in a separate part of the collection for multiple names. Then, I could file them by the first name on the letter and make note of the original letter in each alphabetical location of the others named in the letter. Or, I could file the letters chronologically (which would not help me build a complete set of letters about each individual). Of course, that does not address the problem of finding letters by the correspondent’s name. I did not file anything by the correspondent’s name. But, I know, from all the letters I read, that many of the writers were regular correspondents who Beardsley called on to answer questions. It would be interesting to see how the correspondence unfolded over the course of years.

And this above paragraph only deals with the problems I encountered in a single banker-sized box. In Special Collections, the Law Library has four large file cabinets, representing about sixty linear feet of Bench and Bar material. While some of the items in those file cabinets were collected after Beardsley’s

⁶⁸ Arthur S. Beardsley, The Law School Library—A Library of Research for Lawyer, Layman, and Legislator, Address at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (June 1925), in 18 Law Libr. J. 93, 95 (1925).

resignation, most of the collection is made up of items Beardsley and his assistants acquired. In a serendipitous turn of events, one of the assignments for the law librarianship interns at Gallagher this year was working on going through the Bench and Bar files. Our job was to re-label the files, to confirm that the material in the files corresponded with the person named on the file, and to create item records in the catalog, so that patrons could search the Bench and Bar collection. I spent about forty hours working on this assignment and, at first, tried to note the files where I saw letters to or from Beardsley. Not only did this slow up my work, it was not systematic because I was not always the one checking the contents of the files.

This part of the project deserves more time and attention. I read each letter in the box that I organized and found gems of clues about Beardsley's life, work, family, and personality. I salivate when I think about all the stories waiting for me in the untouched files in Special Collections. To make this project complete, I need to spend time with the entire collection. Besides reading through the material, I need to cross reference the collection. Also, I would also like to make separate files for his correspondents to be able to see how or if the tone of the letters changed over the course of time.

Besides not being able to read through all the material, I was not able to find or to contact people who might have known Beardsley or known of him. I feel that this was a great disservice to this initial telling of Beardsley's story. I have little experience trying to find information on someone who has been dead for over fifty-five years, but, by going through the lists of people Beardsley worked with at the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney or who worked for him while they were in law school, I might be able to find some information. Also, finding Judge Donald McDonald, who assisted Beardsley in writing *The Bench and Bar of Washington: The First Fifty Years (1849-1900)*, or McDonald's family, who might have stories to tell or papers to share, would be a great benefit.

With some digging I was able to construct some of his family tree. Wallace, Beardsley's only child, died in 1991 of leukemia without having any children. Beardsley's daughter-in-law, Natasha, is 95 years old as of this writing. In a letter to Beardsley from Jessie Young Irvine, I discovered that Beardsley had a sister named Florence. Other than that letter and a census record filled out by Orville Beardsley, I have found no other mention of her. Beardsley's brother George was easier to find out about. He was a judge in Pasco, Washington and, after a seemingly short illness, died in 1948.⁶⁹ He might have left a widow and

⁶⁹ In a letter to Beardsley from Orville B. Olson (July 17, 1948):

Sorry to hear that you saw fit to pass up the metropolis of this part of the country on your tour as I really would have enjoyed an opportunity to visit with you. But I know that George (your brother) has been quite ill. Only now is he beginning to partially resume his duties, and that at home. I certainly hope that everything turns out for the best so far as he is concerned as he is quite well liked in this locality.

two children. I have not followed up and tried to find George's children, but I think this search would be valuable. If these nieces and nephews had inherited their uncle's love of history, all the better. This genealogical research is an example of the multiple clues or paths the biographer must follow in pursuit of their story. However, as I am sure Beardsley could have told me, following all possible paths would mean that your journey never ends.

Beardsley's story contains vast areas for exploration, without even mentioning his mammoth manuscript. The Bench and Bar project, beyond its value to Beardsley's story, should be known to the larger legal and librarianship community for a number of reasons. First, the project sheds light on the pioneer days of the state of Washington. Since all of those who remember the pioneers are now gone, this project preserves the stories of those who knew them and, in some cases, from the pioneers themselves. Also, through the letters, we are allowed a glimpse into the 1930s and 1940s. In Beardsley's collected correspondence and papers, we see and hear a time that is quickly passing from living memory. Lastly, Beardsley's original purpose for the Bench and Bar project, to preserve history and to be an inspiration to future lawyers, still holds true today.

The collection is unique and contains historical information unavailable anywhere else. As Professor Hazelton questioned in one of my meetings with her: is the future of libraries in their unique collections more than in their duplication of commonly collected materials? I think that law libraries should look at their collections and archives with the fresh eyes of an explorer. I do not think of the word "archive" as equivalent to "irrelevant." I think of an archive in the same spirit that Beardsley did, not as just a storage facility of things we are afraid to get rid of, but as a living place where we choose to preserve selected, precious material for future use.

However, on November 11, 1948, a brief notice of his death ran in the Ritzville Journal-Times.

Appendix C

Annotated Bibliography⁷⁰

Addresses

Arthur S. Beardsley, The Law School Library—A Library of Research for Lawyer, Layman, and Legislator, Address at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (June 1925), in 18 Law Libr. J. 93 (1925).

In his presentation to the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries, Beardsley suggests that a law library must be aware of the collections of near by libraries so that collections are not duplicated and must have a strong vision for the collection and the patrons its serves.

---, Opportunities for Regional Law Library Service, Address at the Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (June 25, 1935), noted without description in 12 Dicta, 1934-1935, at 179.

Articles

Arthur S. Beardsley, *Code Making in Early Oregon*. 27 Pac. Northwest Q. 3 (1936). (reprinted in 23 Or. L. Rev. 22 (1943-1944).

This article tells the history of the making of the first laws of Oregon from 1841 to 1874. The work includes a consecutive listing of the territorial and state statutes of Oregon until 1940.

---, *The Codes and Code Makers of Washington, 1889-1937*, 30 Pac. Northwest Q. 3 (1939).

In this article, Beardsley presents the history of the code commission and code making efforts in Washington after it gained statehood in 1889. The work includes a bibliography of the codes and revisions from 1889 to 1937.

⁷⁰ This annotated bibliography is nearly complete. I was not able to access Beardsley's B.S./Masters or Ph.D. theses, and was, therefore, unable to annotate those items. Additionally, while I found a reference to a work by Beardsley called "Some Phases of Law Library Administration," I was not able to locate this title. Lastly, the Gallagher Law Library collection includes a number of items that look like they were written in-house during the 1920s and 1930s but lack a known author. While Beardsley would be a likely author, because I could not confirm the authorship, I did not include these items in this bibliography. With these noted exceptions, this bibliography is complete.

---, *Compiling the Territorial Codes of Washington*, 28 Pac. Northwest Q. 3 (1937).

This article, the first in Beardsley series of four articles for “The Pacific Northwest Quarterly” on the early legal history of Washington, tells the story of the making of the codes of Washington from 1854 to 1884. The work includes a short bibliography of the early codes up to 1884.

---, *Early Efforts to Locate the Capital of Washington Territory*, 32 Pac. Northwest Q. 239 (1941).

Beardsley relates the history and controversy of the location of the capital of Washington during the 1850s and 1860s.

Arthur S. Beardsley and Donald A. McDonald, *The Courts and Early Bar of Washington Territory*, 17 Wash. L. Rev. & St. B.J. 57 (1942).

Beardsley and McDonald briefly recount the history of the thirty-one years of territorial justice in Washington and, through various stories and facts, show “the human side of the courts.”

Arthur S. Beardsley, *Desiderata Pertaining to Selected Legal Materials in Washington*, 18 Wash. L. Rev. & St. B. J. 51 (1943).

Beardsley describes the history of a number of significant or special Washington legal publications. The article is organized into nineteen subject areas such as the Constitutional Convention Proceedings and Sources of State Session Laws.

---, *Education for Law Librarianship*, 30 Bull. Am. Libr. Ass’n, 168 (1936).

Beardsley discusses the education of future law librarians to serve the changes in legal education and to meet emerging professional responsibility standards for librarians. He suggests the type of training that is needed and suggests a curriculum.

Charles H. Sheldon and Arthur S. Beardsley, *Frontier Lawyering: the Practice of Law in Territorial Days (excerpt of Arthur S. Beardsley’s ‘The Bench and Bar of Washington: The First Fifty Years’)*, Wash. St. B. News, May 1992, at 39.

This short article is an edited excerpt from Beardsley’s 2,428 page manuscript. Professor Sheldon briefly tells the history of the Bench and Bar collection from its beginnings as a project under the WPA in the 1930s.

Arthur S. Beardsley, *Interesting History of Pioneer Times Reviewed by Professor at University; First Trial Was Held in 1849*, Daily J. Com. 50th Anniversary Edition (Seattle), 1943, at 10.

Beardsley briefly discusses the early history of the Washington Bar and the first lawyers who practiced in Washington.

---, *Later Attempts to Relocate the Capital of Washington*, 32 Pac. Northwest Q. 401 (1941).

In this article, Beardsley discusses the reemergence of the controversy of the capital's location in 1878, when the growth of population and industry reopened the possibility of statehood.

---, *Law Books and Law Publishers*, 28 Law Libr. J. 51 (1935)

Beardsley discusses whether or not the publishers and consumers of legal information will learn lessons from the Depression and apply them to encourage or strangle the growth of libraries.

---, *University of Washington Law Library Attains 100,000 Volume Mark*, 37 Law Libr. J. 43 (1944).

Beardsley reflects of the effort of adding 80,000 volumes to the collection over the course of twenty-one years and questions whether the objectives of the collection had been reached. He tells of the history and state of the collection up to the time he took over in 1922 and the story of buying books for the collection. Also, he writes about the composition of the collection.

---, *Washington's New Law Building*, Wash. Alumnus, Feb. 1933, at 8.

Beardsley briefly describes layout and furnishing of the recently constructed Washington Law School building.

Bibliographies

Arthur S. Beardsley, *Bibliography of Selected Materials relating to the Law of Community Property*, 14 Wash. L. Rev. & St. B. J. 126 (1939).

Beardsley compiled a list of books, periodicals, annotations, and unpublished these from the University of Washington Law Library on Community Property. He included general information on community property and also organized items by subject.

Arthur S. Beardsley and Oscar C. Orman, *Bibliography of Selected Materials relating to the legislation of the New Deal* (1935).

This one-hundred eleven page bibliography of selected materials includes "the leading materials which deal directly or indirectly with the various laws of the New deal, their background, philosophy, purpose, and constitutionality." The bibliography includes legal and non-legal materials.

Arthur S. Beardsley and Marian Gould Gallagher, *Bibliography on the Law of Real Property* (1938).

Collection of monographs on Real Property, organized into sections by history materials, items of general information, and subject specific books.

Items in this twenty-page work are listed alphabetically by author with each section.

Books

Arthur S. Beardsley, *assisted by* Donald McDonald, The Bench and Bar of Washington: The First Fifty Years (1849-1900) (1949) (unpublished manuscript, on file at the University of Washington's Gallagher Law Library).

Beardsley's 2,428 page manuscript covers fifty years in which the Washington judicial system came into being. He tells the story by weaving together sketches of people, court records and newspaper articles, and first-person descriptions of the places and events that shaped life in the territory and early statehood of Washington.

Arthur S. Beardsley, Legal Bibliography and the Use of Law Books (1937).

Beardsley prepared this book as a small legal research treatise for reference and classroom use. It includes descriptions of the books and provides exercises that require students to use the books to solve the problems. The appendices contain state and territorial reports; English, Scottish, Irish, and Canadian reports; and abbreviations.

Arthur S. Beardsley and Oscar C. Orman, Legal Bibliography and the Use of Law Books (2d ed. 1947).

This revised edition of Beardsley's textbook on legal research includes additions in the subjects of annotations, legislation, and administrative legal research.

Arthur S. Beardsley, Study of the Code of 1881 in its relation to present day codes (1939).

This book provides descriptions of the 1881 Code sections and cross-referenced tables of the code sections and where those sections were noted in the various versions of the Hill, Huntley, McLaughlin, Ballinger, Remington, and Pierce volumes. Beardsley notes that Dean Condon compiled much of the work.

Book Reviews

Arthur S. Beardsley, Book Review, 1 Wash. L. Rev. 79 (1925-1926) (reviewing Roger W. Cooley's *Brief-Making and the Use of Law Books* (4th ed. 1924)).

Beardsley recognizes the book as an important tool for instruction and research. He discusses the design of the book and its benefits.

Arthur S. Beardsley, Book Review, 1 Wash. L. Rev. 79 (1925-1926) (reviewing Roger W. Cooley's *Brief-Making and the Use of Law Books* (5th ed. 1926)).

Beardsley reviews the new edition of Cooley's book and notes that it has been improved on by being more compact and by receiving better editorial work in certain sections. He suggests improving the book for classroom instruction by adding exercises to give students hands-on experience with legal materials.

Arthur S. Beardsley, Book Review, 25 Colum. L. Rev. 123 (1925) (reviewing Fredrick C. Hicks' *Materials and Methods of Legal Research* (1923)).

Beardsley favorably reviews Hicks' book on legal research, discussing its structure and usefulness in teaching legal bibliography, helping the law librarian with classification and cataloging, and providing a bibliographic manual for students and lawyers.

---, Book Review, 30 Law Libr. J 517 (1937) (reviewing Miles O. Price's *Syllabus for the Study of Law Library Administration* (1937)).

Beardsley briefly discusses the current interests of the law library community in general with emphasis on the need for professional training of law librarians. After setting up the context of the manual being reviewed, he points out the manual's purpose, strengths, and how it can be improved in the future for teaching law library administration.

Other

Arthur S. Beardsley and Heman D. Hunt, Code of laws relating to the University (1940).

Beardsley and Hunt compiled the code of laws relating to the University of Washington from the first legislation affecting the University in 1911. The aim of the work was to "include all the existing laws, proviso of the enabling act and provisions of the Constitution relating to the University down to the present day." The compilers noted irregularities in repealing methods and included the legislative history of sections in the form of notes about prior and amended laws.

Arthur S. Beardsley, *Notes to Constitution of the state of Washington* (1939).

The title pages note that the volume contained a section written by Beardsley about the sources of the Washington Constitution. This thirty-three page appendix of the thin book includes historical notes on the Washington constitutional convention, a comparative listing of sections from other state constitutions, and a summary of articles.

---, *Notes to Constitution of the state of Washington* (2d ed. 1941).

The same as the above listing.

---, Notes to Constitution of the state of Washington (3d ed. 1943).

The same as the above listing.

---, Preface and Notes to Constitution of the state of Washington (4th ed. 1951).

The content changed minimally from the 1939 edition. But, in this case, the “historical notes” were put in the front under “preface.” The rest of the material was left at the back.

General laws of Washington Territory Enacted by the Legislative Assembly in the Year 1881 as Found in the Code of Washington (Code of 1881) Regular and Extra Session (Olympia, 1942).

This 3-volume work is a verbatim “transcription of the original rolls [of the 1881 legislative session] in the office of the Secretary of State by the W.P.A. under the direction of Mark Wight...and Dr. Arthur S. Beardsley...” Beardsley explains the history of how the general laws were compiled and how some important information contained only in these rolls, were never printed. The work includes margin notes that reference the enacted laws in the Code of 1881 and a finding aid that lists the Code sections and the associated pages and Session Laws.

Arthur S. Beardsley, Members of the legislature of the territory of Washington, and other territorial officers, 1854-1887 (1937).

Beardsley compiled a list of members of the legislature from February 27, 1854 to December 5, 1887. This list includes the names of the officers, the committees and committee members, and the counties of each member. The work includes an index of names with associated date and location information.

---, Notes on the Sources of the Constitution of the state of Washington, 1889-1939 (1939).

This work seems to be the basis of the summary of articles Beardsley wrote for the “notes” section published in Constitution of the state of Washington.

Reports

Recompilation Committee, Report of Recompilation Code Committee, created by Chapter 149, Laws of 1941 (January 1, 1943).

The Recompilation Code Committee, consisting of Beardsley, Alfred J. Schweppe, and Mark H. Wright, submitted a four-page report outlining the job of the committee, the work the committee undertook, and their recommendations.

Teaching Aids

Arthur S. Beardsley, Assignments to accompany the use of Legal Bibliography and the use of Law Books (1940).

Based on the success of his textbook and the request for additional practice exercises, Beardsley created this volume of about one hundred new and revised assignments to assist in courses on legal bibliography.

Arthur S. Beardsley and Oscar C. Orman, Assignments to accompany the use of Legal Bibliography and the use of Law Books (2d ed. 1948).

The second edition of the Assignment manual includes revised exercises and revised topic headings from the original work.

Arthur S. Beardsley, Manual of Answers to accompany *Legal Bibliography and the Use of Law Books* (1938).

This instructor manual provides the answers to the exercises Beardsley created in his textbook “Legal Bibliography and the Use of Law Books.”

---, Solutions to the Assignments to accompany *Legal Bibliography and the Use of Law Books* (1940).

Beardsley wrote this book as an accompaniment to his new “Assignments” textbook listed above. This book gives a complete list of answers to the new and revised assignments for a course in legal bibliography.

Thesis

Arthur S. Beardsley, The development of a federal budgetary practice (1925) (unpublished Masters thesis, University of Washington) (on file at the University of Washington).

---, The Fundamental Tax Law of the State of Washington as Embodied in the Constitution and Interpreted by the Courts (1918) (unpublished LL.B. thesis, University of Washington) (on file and accessible through the catalog at the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library).

In his fifty-eight page thesis, Beardsley briefly presents the purpose of taxation before taking on a lengthy discussion the origin and development, through legislation and court decisions, of tax law in Washington.

---, An Introduction to the study of legal bibliography and research: a laboratory method (1928) (unpublished Ph.D. thesis, University of Washington) (on file at the University of Texas).