



## NMSU Library News Release

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### **Library Awarded \$4,000 to Enhance Research in Durango Microfilm Collection**

The New Mexico State University Library has been awarded \$4,000 by NMSU's Southwest and Border Cultures Institute to identify and acquire secondary research tools to assist scholars performing research in the Library's Durango Microfilm Collection, and to conduct related public programming activities. Principal investigators for the project are Library faculty members Dr. Laurence Creider and Molly Molloy.

The microfilmed archive of primary documents from the Archdiocese of Durango, Mexico, is housed in the Library's Rio Grande Historical Collections. The approximately one million manuscript pages in the microfilmed archive document the ecclesiastical, social, economic and political history of the territory under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese. This colonial territory, known as Nueva Vizcaya, included areas in New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and several northern Mexican states.

While the Library holds some of the works needed to support research use of the Durango Microfilm, much more needs to be identified and acquired. Bibliographic utilities and databases will be consulted to identify specific titles in subject areas such as religion, paleography, history and geography. Materials will be acquired from in-print and out-of-print sources in the U.S., Mexico, Spain and elsewhere. The availability and use of both the Durango collection and the research tools will be promoted to researchers through news releases, articles, a brochure and a colloquium.

Grant awards from the Southwest and Border Cultures Institute, a joint project of NMSU's College of Arts and Sciences, the University Museum and the Library, are made possible by a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This is the first year that awards have been made by the Institute. For more information, please contact Creider at 646-4707.

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