

GEORGIA HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD

2012 AWARDS

AWARD FOR LOCAL HISTORY ADVOCACY



In 2010, the **Atlanta Regional Commission** adopted "Plan 2040: Regional Resource Plan" which has a three-part focus that includes the preservation of significant historical and cultural resources in the 78 cities and counties of the core of the Atlanta region.

Through the Resource Plan, the built environment of the community becomes the archival resource of its history. It identifies the value of non-traditional archival repositories, such as the 180+ National Register eligible archaeological sites or 400+ identified cemeteries in the region. And it tells a story of the development of the region through historical themes and periods of significance documented by 80+ National Register listed historic districts and 350+ individually listed National Register historic sites.

Through its role as advocate and convener, ARC has utilized the Resource Plan to elevate the profile of Regionally Important Resources. In this capacity, ARC has demonstrated advocacy in promoting the identification, protection, preservation and use of the built environment as a historical record. In doing so, ARC has centralized information for use by historians, genealogists, community development professionals, elected officials, and citizens; provided outreach and education on the built environment as a historical resource, and promoted cooperation between agencies, organizations, and institutions for use and preservation of the built environment as a historical record.

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L-R Frank McKenzie, Carolyn Scherm, Betty Jo Parsons

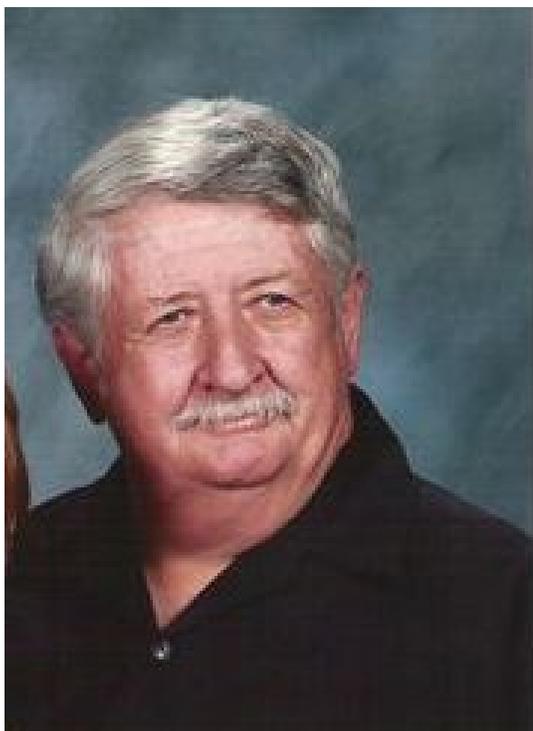
For many years, the West Georgia Library System and the Carroll County Genealogical Society partnership has developed and maintained one of the finest and largest special collections in North Georgia. During a period of 18 months, from mid-2010 through mid-2011 an electronic media team composed of **Frank McKenzie, Carolyn Scherm, and Betty Jo Parsons** devoted untold volunteer hours working with

a consultant to develop a "state of the art" website for the Carroll County Genealogical Society. This site provides visitors with details of the collection to aid in planning research trips. Via the website, Society members have free access to the Society's Quarterly and non-members may purchase individual copies.

The site also includes a huge number of genealogy links across the world; and the blogs and monthly gems are packed full of handy tools and information for the active researcher.

The outstanding efforts of these three individuals will make the work of researchers much easier and more productive.

AWARD FOR LOCAL HISTORY ADVOCACY



Grady Kelley exudes a passion for history, a determination to learn, and a mission to find and honor those who have passed on. He devotes his time, money, and energy to helping researchers look for the burial places of missing ancestors. Recognizing that the existing cemetery book was dated because of numerous changes in the location and names of roads, he set out to create a new, updated resource.

He produced two large bound cemetery books titled *Lost and Found Cemeteries*. They are complete with names, maps, and photographs of cemeteries, and sometimes photographs of those interred. Recognizing that the Upson Archives did not have a comprehensive list of African-American cemeteries, he worked to locate and document these cemeteries in a third volume.

Mr. Kelley continues to research cemeteries for patrons who call, email or visit the Thomaston-Upson Archives. In addition, he also works with Assistant Archivist Claude Burgess to place his "found" cemeteries and headstones on www.findagrave.com so that the information will be easily available to all. Mr. Kelley is an outstanding advocate for the preservation of local history.

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In 2006, *Georgia's Old Capital Museum Society* opened the museum on the ground floor of the Old State Capitol in the center of the *Georgia Military College* campus, as well as the *Brown- Stetson-Sanford House Museum*, located in the historic district of Milledgeville. During the intervening years, staff and volunteers at these two venues have delighted in sharing Milledgeville's history with over 50,000 visitors. From Chipmunk Tours with Ollie the Old Capital Chipmunk to delight the

younger set to student tours to enhance classroom learning to tours filled with colorful anecdotes from local history to engage college students and adults, the museum has something for everyone.

The two museums in *Georgia's* antebellum capital sponsor events throughout the year including *Artifact Identification Day* and the opening of the *Brown-Stetson-Sanford House* by volunteer re-enactors to share the *Stetson* family's history and the *Confederate Army* service of *Will Stetson* with 5th graders.

Georgia's Old Capital Museum is an outstanding advocate for the preservation and promotion of *Georgia's* history.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCHIVAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT BY A LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR HISTORICAL REPOSITORY



The Cobb County School District initiated a project to preserve the permanent records of their past students through digitization and microfilm formats and through a Student Information database. Digitization assists with retrieval of the records and microfilm meets the requirements for permanency.

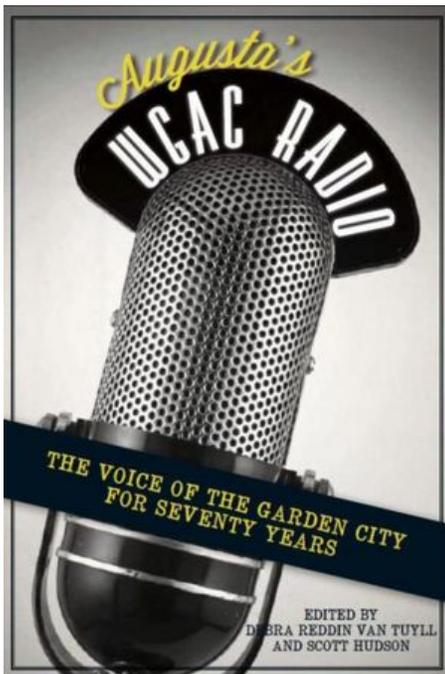
This is especially important for the school which annually receives approximately 12,000 student records in their original paper format. During the past ten years, they accumulated over 2,000 cartons. Working with a third party, the Records Center has systematically had these records digitized and the images transferred to microfilm. This will also free up space in the records center after completion of quality assurance. The new system will provide fast, efficient access to the records and, meet disaster preparedness needs since the images are also housed on multiple servers.

The Student Information System will allow access to transcripts that may still be housed at a school and allow the center to provide transcripts.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DOCUMENTING GEORGIA'S HISTORY



Augusta's WGAC Radio has been broadcasting for over 70 years. In the fall 2011 Journalism History class at Augusta State University, eighteen students researched the history of Augusta Georgia's second oldest radio station and its impact on the community. They used a variety of primary sources including interviews with current and former WGAC employees, families of former employees, and citizens who have listened to the station for much of their lives. Privately owned records such as letters, memorabilia, and news clippings related to the station's history were combined with news, editorial, and advertising content from the Augusta Chronicle related to

WGAC and the history of radio in America.

The work of students - Daniel Barber, Abigail Blankenship, Catherine Collingsworth, Karl Frazier, John-Michael Garner, Armani Grant, Kristin Hawkins, Ron Hickerson, Travis Highfield, Stephanie Hill, Jillian Hobday, Lauren Kellems, David Lee, Tiffannie Meador, Chelsea Mathews, Rashad O'Conner, Jacquelyn Pabon, and JoBen Rivera-Thompson, combined with the editing by Scott Hudson, a reporter for WGAC, and Debbie van Tuyl, Professor of Communications at Augusta State University, resulted in the publication of the book *Augusta's WGAC Radio: The Voice of the Garden City for Seventy Years*.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DOCUMENTING GEORGIA'S HISTORY



L-R Truman Woo, Raymond Rufo, Kathryn Rufo, Travis Tom, Benny Tam

Members of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, **Kathy Rufo, Raymond Rufo, Truman Woo, Travis Tom, and Benny Tam** collaborated on a project which collected 26 oral histories recounting the Chinese-American experience in Augusta, Georgia. This was the first oral history initiative by the community organization, and copies of the recordings were donated to the Augusta Public Library for public access and use. The project received funding from the Georgia Humanities Council.

Focusing on the more senior members of the Chinese-American community, interviewees recounted what life was like for Chinese in Augusta in the 1950's, their experiences in school and civic life, the businesses and social structure of Augusta in which Chinese Americans owned and operated businesses, and reflected on the Augusta riot of 1970 which affected a number of their businesses. A DVD was made of each digital recording along with related pictures. This oral history project is an outstanding example of capturing and preserving Georgia's history.

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The Civil Rights Movement was a national movement that changed the face of the nation. Often the story is told from the national perspective, but filmmaker **Hodges Usry** produced a 20-minute documentary on a little known group of civil rights protesters hailing from Paine College (circa 1960) called The Steering Committee.

In his film, Mr. Usry shows the work and commitment that needed to happen at the local level, town by town, to effect change. The film outlines civil rights demonstrations that brought Augusta Georgia closer to the ideal "that all men are created equal." In the film you meet six heroes who changed one corner of Georgia and recognize that the most inspiring heroes are ordinary people. The Steering Committee can give each Georgian that experience of history and heroes.

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Henry Howard Smith, Robert M. Craig

The preservation of architectural records is essential to our understanding of the intentions, design process, and significance of the architect and the architect-designed built environment. For over half a century, **Henry Howard Smith** has been steward of the office records of architect Francis Palmer Smith and the firm of Pringle and Smith. Recently he established the Francis Palmer Smith collection at the Georgia Tech Archives. The collection includes architectural drawings, period

photographic records of the firm's buildings, F. P. Smith's scrapbooks, teaching notes, and other materials which document over 50 years of Georgia's architectural history.

Robert M. Craig, author of *The Architecture of Francis Palmer Smith, Atlanta's Scholar Architect*, used this archival material and materials from numerous other archives in his work. Mr. Craig has also visited and photographed hundreds of Smith buildings throughout the state and southeast. Mr. Smith has also written over 30 essays on Georgia architects for the *New Georgia Encyclopedia*.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Craig have devoted their time and expertise to ensuring that the architectural history of Georgia is preserved.

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH USING THE HOLDINGS OF AN ARCHIVES



Videographer **Michael L. Jordan** produced a documentary, *Savannah in the Civil War, 1861-1865*, which premiered on April 12, 2012 at the National Park Service's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Pulaski.

Mr. Jordan's work allows numerous Savannahians of the era to tell, with images, documents, and quotations drawn from dozens of local, regional, and national archival repositories, their personal stories of the war as they experienced it. Many of these individuals literally come to life as their words are spoken by historians. This production compellingly retells a familiar story to a new audience in a way that personalizes and broadens their understanding of this significant period in our state's and our nation's history.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH USING THE HOLDINGS OF AN ARCHIVES



George Winston Martin's recent book, "I Will Give Them One More Shot," Ramsey's 1st Georgia Regiment Georgia Volunteers, traces the exploits of the first regiment of infantry organized by the state of Georgia for Confederate service from its formation in Macon to its mustering out in March 1862. During the first year of the war, the regiment traveled from Macon to Pensacola, Richmond, western Virginia, and the Shenandoah Valley. In all, 1331 men served with the regiment.

In researching this regimental history, Mr. Martin extensively mined the records and private papers at the Georgia Archives including those of Lavender Ray. He also conducted research at numerous national, regional, and local archival repositories.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH USING THE HOLDINGS OF AN ARCHIVES



Barry Sheehy



Cindy Wallace



Vaughnette Goode-Walker

In *Savannah: Brokers, Bankers, and Bay Lane: Inside the Slave Trade* (volume 2 of *Civil War Savannah*), the authors, **Barry Sheehy** and **Cindy Wallace** with **Vaughnette Goode-Walker**, examined the economics of late antebellum slavery in the port city. They consulted photographs, receipts of slave sales and slave bills of sale, newspaper advertisements for runaway slaves, letters, diaries, legislation, court records, and slave insurance policies. The authors wrote about the business routines of the slave trade, documenting it through the lives of brokers, bankers, slaves, free persons of color, plantation owners, and many others. Their narrative and images were drawn from national and regional repositories as well as extensive work in numerous Savannah area collections.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE EDUCATIONAL USE OF HISTORICAL RECORDS

The **Georgia Historical Society**, in collaboration with Georgia Public Broadcasting, created *Today in Georgia History*, a multi-platform daily history initiative that educates, entertains, and enriches the lives of Georgians. Through the combination of daily, ninety-second spots on GBP television and GPB radio, as well as a project website targeting Georgia students and teachers, *Today in Georgia History* invites its audience to explore the diverse people, places, events, and movements in Georgia History. The project also creates access to online educational resources that may be used by Georgia teachers and students.

Drawing on its own collections and over 250 different sources, the Georgia Historical Society used primary source material - photographs, maps, manuscripts, portraits, etc. to highlight the rich archival resources relevant to Georgia's history.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE EDUCATIONAL USE OF HISTORICAL RECORDS



After being trained in the use of Document Based Question (DBQ) in the United States History Classroom, **Christopher Holcomb** instantly understood the value of this strategy for his classroom. Eager to implement document based learning in his classroom, he was dismayed to find few DBQ's available for *Georgia Studies* curriculum and determined to change this.

DBQ's changed how he teaches and how the students relate. Rather than the traditional classroom lecture, he uses primary documents to engage their attention and help them learn. For example, through reading campaign material, stump speeches, analyzing political cartoons, articles from *Time* magazine, and interviews with the family of Eugene Talmadge, students put together a picture of the governor and his impact on the state of *Georgia*.

In addition to the impact on his own classroom, Mr. Holcomb is willing to share his work with others. As a participant in a *Teaching American History Grant*, his lessons are being shared on the grant website and are available to teachers throughout the state. His work has changed the way *Georgia Studies* is being taught in his school and throughout the state.

USING HISTORICAL RECORDS - GRADUATE LEVEL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT RESEARCH

Ashton G. Ellett's graduate seminar paper, "Not Another Little Rock: Massive Resistance, Desegregation, and the Athens White Business Establishment, 1960-61" explores the prominent role of the Athens white business establishment during the Georgia school crisis of 1960 and the desegregation of the University of Georgia the following year. Drawing on extensive manuscript and archival sources, he demonstrates that these influential white business and civic leaders played a crucial role in preserving access to quality public schools, maintaining law and order when riots threatened social order, and safeguarding the city's coveted progressive, business-friendly image during a period of tremendous sociopolitical upheaval.

Mr. Ellett used publicly held papers in the state archives and other archival facilities as well as locating relevant papers still in private hands for this work

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT RESEARCH USING HISTORICAL RECORDS - UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

For her senior thesis at Kennesaw State University **Angela D. Tooley** wrote *Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, the Lost Cause, and African-Americans in the Atlanta Campaign: An Analysis of Historical Interpretation, 1935-2012*, which explores the changing historical interpretation of the park.

Through most of its history, the Park's past was described in terms of the Lost Cause, in which the Civil War was a conflict over state's rights and slavery was not recognized as a factor. In recent interpretation, the role of slavery and African Americans in the Civil War has been included. Ms. Tooley's paper explores the history of interpretative efforts, the factors that influenced it, and its progression to include all who played a role in its history.

Today, staff recognize the contributions of all of the slaves, freedmen, teamsters, nurses, soldiers, and civilians who helped give the battlefield park its present-day cultural significance.

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2012 AWARDS

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT RESEARCH USING HISTORICAL RECORDS - GRADES 9 - 12



Marissa Gamboa's National History Day project is a documentary on the Coca Cola Corporation entitled "Coke Is It! Marissa used resources from the Georgia Room of the Cobb County Central Library and the Atlanta History Center as well as the online resources from the Coca-Cola Archives. She reviewed Coca-Cola papers, microfilm of the Atlanta Journal, and the John S. Pemberton papers. In her project Miss Gamboa credits Coca-Cola with becoming one of the first multinational conglomerates with offices, plants, and bottling facilities all over the world.

During her research, Marissa found how this local refreshing beverage has impacted the entire world in economics, technology, advertising, packaging, and permeating the American way of life.

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AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT RESEARCH USING HISTORICAL RECORDS - GRADES 6-8



Thomas Dorminy's 2012 National History Day exhibit "Oak Ridge, TN: Life in the Secret City" focuses on Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the site of the Manhattan Project. Tommy used a number of primary sources from the National Archives in addition to the papers of the Manhattan Project. He contacted the local historical society in Oak Ridge and identified other materials and oral histories. One significant collection was the photographs and films made by Ed Westcott, who was

hired by the government to document life and work at Oak Ridge. This is ironic since it was a "secret city" with the lives of the workers and their families tightly regulated in order to avoid espionage or leaks of information about the development of materials for atomic bombs.

Tommy's exhibit explores this irony and also celebrates the life and work of the Oak Ridge community members. Tommy's exhibit is a testimony to the importance of archives which have preserved and made those photographs, films, and other materials available for his research and learning.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



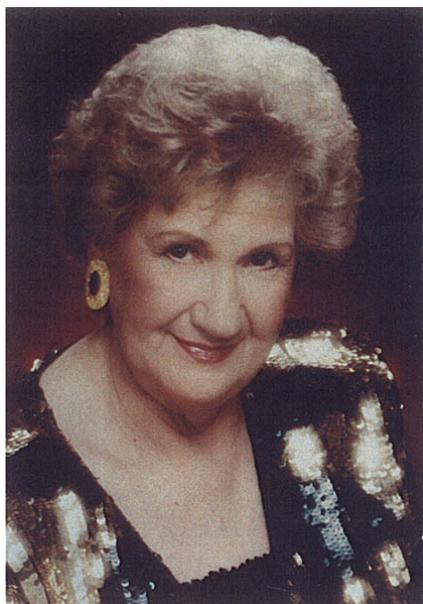
David W. Carmicheal became Georgia Archives Director in 2000. He came to Georgia from Westchester County, New York where he had directed the archives and records program for 16 years.

During his tenure at the Georgia Archives, Mr. Carmicheal championed excellence in reference service and oversaw a number of initiatives including construction of the archives building in Morrow and the development of the Virtual Vault which now has almost 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ million images.

He has been a national leader in archives and records management because of the breadth of his vision, his hard work, and his leadership ability. Mr. Carmicheal served as President of the Council of State Archivists (CoSA) in 2005-2006. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, he led a disaster assessment team that reported on the impact of the hurricane on records and was instrumental in sharing the lessons learned with records keepers across the United States.

Mr. Carmicheal has also contributed to the archival profession by writing books on archival methodology and disaster planning. Under his leadership, the Georgia Archives participated in grants that resulted in better conditions for records throughout the state. He continues to work on behalf of Georgia's history and the archival profession.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



For her work in supporting genealogical research, GHRAB presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to **Freda Reid Turner**. Mrs. Turner was born in Troup County and moved to Henry County in 1983. She began abstracting information for genealogical research in 1990 when she became a member of the Genealogical Society of Henry/Clayton Counties and the Pace Society of America. Her books contain information on Henry, Greene, and Campbell Counties as well as four books on her Pace Ancestry.

Ms. Turner has compiled, abstracted, and published over 15 books of genealogical information including, *20th Century Henry County, Greene County, Georgia Wills, 1786-1877; Henry County, Georgia Marriage Records, 1851-1900; and Henry County Obituaries, 1990-1995*. She continues her interest in the preservation of public records and encourages others to publish to help ensure that these records are available for research.