

FROM THE VAULTS

Newsletter of the Georgia Archives



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georgiaarchives.org

Vol. 6, No. 2

October 2021

Online Presentations Available

Due to the pandemic, the Lunch and Learn programs and other events formerly held on-site have been changed to a virtual format for now. Press releases and notifications on our website and Facebook page will provide information on how to access the live Lunch and Learn presentations. These presentations are also uploaded to our YouTube channel which can be watched at your convenience. Type in www.youtube.com, and then Georgia Archives in the search bar. You may subscribe to our channel and receive notifications when new videos are uploaded. Subscription is free.

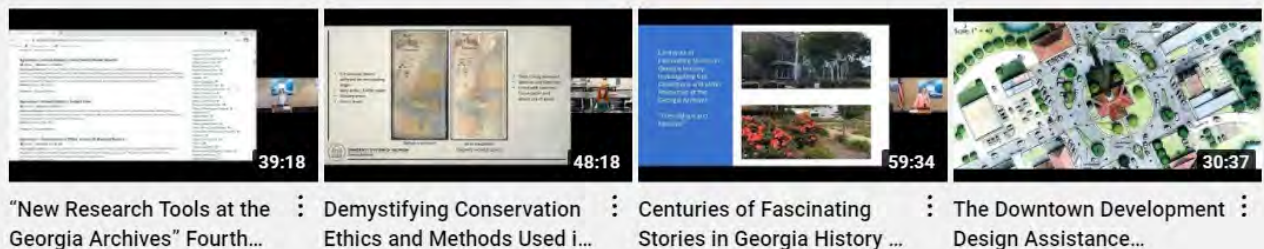
In addition to our Lunch and Learn presentations, other videos are available on our YouTube channel. Are you interested in projects from Conservation? You can find videos from Conservation there.

The addition of our education series Fourth Friday From the Archives, on our YouTube channel, features employees of the Archives presenting on a topic in their area of expertise.

The Archives has six special events each year featuring multiple speakers including: ♦ African American Genealogy Day ♦ History Symposium ♦ Genealogy Picnic ♦ Records Management Day ♦ Archives & Genealogy Day ♦ Holiday Open House

Many people not able to attend our programs in-person or virtually see our YouTube videos as a viable option. Our virtual presentations have the option of typing in questions for the speaker. The benefit of the YouTube videos is that they can be watched at your convenience.

Fourth Friday From the Archives ▶ PLAY ALL



News from Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH)

The popular FOGAH ornament is now on sale (fogah.org). This year's ornament features the E. Howard Astronomical Regulator clock that currently stands in the Governor's Office. This beautiful tall-case clock, ca. 1870, was first used as the standard regulator for the Western and Atlantic Railroad in the 19th century, and by 1917 it became the official timepiece for the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad located at the NC and StL's Hills Park yard office, just south of North Avenue in Atlanta. As such, the clock has been part of the financial and industrial development that the expansion of the railroads brought to Georgia's economic history. Restored in 1998 by the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors Atlanta Chapter 24, the clock has been in the Governor's Office since Governor Zell Miller's last term. Remember that all the proceeds from ornament sales assist programs at the Georgia Archives.

On Friday, September 17, 2021 Kaye Lanning Minchew was this year's speaker for the FOGAH annual meeting. In addition to being the former executive director of the Troup County Historical Society and Archives for more than thirty years and past FOGAH Board Member and President, Kaye recently wrote a book, *Jimmy Carter Citizen of the South*. Using oral histories and more than 215 photographs, Kaye looks at the life of the former president and how the South nurtured him, provided a launching pad for his political career, and supported the various activities of his post-presidency.

All donations made to the Friends of the Georgia Archives are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. You may send a check to the address below or donate online at www.FOGAH.org.

Thank you for your support of FOGAH!

Karin Dalton, President



Friends of Georgia Archives and History Membership Enrollment

Please enroll at the indicated level:

- Individual/\$20
- Family or Organization/\$35
- Ancestry/\$100
- Heritage/\$500
- Legacy/\$1,000

FOGAH is a not-for-profit organization that supports and assists the Georgia Archives in fulfilling its mission. Membership is open to individuals and corporations.

Name _____ Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Email: _____

Return your check to P.O. Box 711, Morrow, Georgia 30261-0711
 For more information on membership or on volunteer opportunities visit www.fogah.org.

Thank you for your donations!

From the State Archivist

Christopher M. Davidson, J.D.

Greetings and welcome to another edition of *From the Vaults*, the newsletter of the Georgia Archives.

We have had a busy year so far and expect that to continue. Researchers are continuing to increase in number as are the number of programs offered by the Archives. We had over 600 views of our recorded programs on YouTube in October. The most popular three were “Georgia’s Land Lotteries and Native Americans” by Hendry Miller (October 2021), Archives and Genealogy Day 2021 with Allison Hudgins and Tamika Strong (October 2021), and African American Genealogy Day at the Georgia Archives with Tamika Strong and DL Henderson (February 2021). These and other recorded programs can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/c/GeorgiaArchives>.

In the pages ahead you will read about some of our other activities, such as our Conservation Intern Program (thank you FOGAH for your continued support), new patron registration system, new ScanPro Microfilm Scanner (thanks to the Joseph Habersham Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Huguenot Society of Georgia for their donations and work), new collections, staff changes, education services, events, and records management. I would like to especially point out our Fourth Friday from the Archives program, which occurs every other month. The next one is later this month where I will present an update on the Archives, highlighting several exciting programs for next year.

Each October, the Georgia Archives hosts the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council’s (GHRAC) Archives Awards to acknowledge the outstanding work of some of the users of Georgia’s archives and of those who have advocated for improvements in the care of records in Georgia. This year, Tamika Strong, one of our Collections Management Archivists, was awarded a GHRAC Award for Excellence in Documenting Georgia's History along with Derek Mosley and Angela Stanley for the funeral program project they worked on and digitized. Congratulations to Tamika and her colleagues for their achievement! A list of all awards winners as well as information of GHRAC and its programs can be found at <https://www.georgiaarchives.org/ghrac>.

Finally, I would like to welcome our newest employee, John Whitehurst, who comes to us from UGA. John is a Reference Archivist and can be found in Reference helping visitors. Come meet John and the rest of our wonderful reference staff while you research Georgia’s past through the permanent records and books we take pride in preserving.

Thank you for your continued interest and support, and I hope to see you soon.

Christopher M. Davidson



Conservation

By Summer FOGAH Intern Charlotte Starnes

One of the types of materials housed at the Georgia Archives is maps. These maps show an array of different parts of Georgia and its development from the creation of counties and cities to the mapping of rivers, railways, highways, and electrical grids. As a conservation intern, I was given the opportunity to work with some of the maps found in the state collection and to learn about the incredible diversity of materials and processes that were involved in their creation as well as those involved in their conservation.

Of the maps I encountered in this internship, the earliest was of Georgia dated to 1847. It was a lithographic print (which was just becoming popular for printed maps in America at the time) with hand-painted elements outlining the counties. It was also varnished and backed with linen fabric. Another map was of Banks County from 1868, which appeared to be hand-drawn with iron gall ink and treated by a conservator at an earlier date with the cloth linen backing still adhered to the map. Another was a cyanotype, more familiarly known as a blueprint, of Oconee County dated to 1926. Finally, there were two identical maps of the Atkinson County highway system from 1952 that appeared to have been created through more contemporary methods of printing with the dawn of the letterpress and inkjet printing in the 1950s. Equally as contemporary but more menacing was the pressure-sensitive tape slathered on the bottom of the map to “fix” the tears.

With such a diversity of materials, the first step to conserving each map requires careful consideration of the approach to treatment. Sigourney Smuts and Tracey Johnson (Conservator and Assistant Conservator, respectively, for the Georgia Archives) act as teachers but more like guides in developing a natural thought process to analyzing each object: What are we looking at? How is it different? What else do we need to discern before moving forward and how do we do that? What is the first step? And after that?

A blueprint, for example, is made with a process that is more like a photograph, requiring specific chemicals and light exposure as opposed to simple ink printing. Because of this process the treatment options are more limited. Fortunately, the Oconee County blueprint was fairly clean and suffered from only minor tears and losses. The Georgia map from 1847 offered an array of challenges from being varnished to having hand-colored elements that might be water-soluble to a cloth lining and its sheer size at 5 x 4 ½ feet (60 x 54 in.) With a map that has received previous treatment, other complexities are added to the assessment and treatments, as was the case with the 1868 Banks County map. These maps are still used today in the Archives and are preserved and protected for public use. This certainly affects our approach to them as the documents need to remain or be rendered legible.

Most of the damage to these maps was not as extensive as some other maps that pass through the lab and are treated by Tracey and Sigourney. As an intern, these provided perfect introductions and endless opportunities to learn the specific challenges within different types of materiality, different levels of aging, and even previous treatments. Another important takeaway, however, was engaging with the question of why we conserve certain items; what is their purpose or meaning to us as a collective and how will this influence our approaches to conservation? Working with just these four different kinds of maps in our internship, we were also able to approach some of the philosophical and ethical factors that face conservators every day during their treatments, which is vital to an aspiring conservator.



Top left: 1868 Banks County map before treatment; Top right: 1926 Oconee County map after treatment; Bottom left: detail of 1847 Georgia state map before treatment; Bottom right: 1952 Atkinson County map after treatment.

Top half of an 1847 Georgia state map before treatment.

Reference Services

New Patron Registration system: The Patron Portal

On May 18, the Georgia Archives reopened the Reference and Microfilm Libraries without appointments. Please note that we have updated our research hours. **We are open Tuesday through Saturday, 9am – noon and 1pm – 4pm.** Check our website and Facebook page for any updates to our hours.

You may have noticed that our Finding Aids look a little different. We are using a new system called ArchivesSpace, which many other repositories use. You can view a demonstration of how to use the Finding Aids on our YouTube Page, “New Research Tools at the Georgia Archives.” The Finding Aids provide a listing of the original government records in our holdings. You can view these records onsite at the Georgia Archives. If you know which records you would like to view and when you will be visiting, you can call us at 678-364-3710 or write to us using the Ask an Archivist web form and ask us to pull the records ahead of your visit. You can access Ask an Archivist by visiting www.GeorgiaArchives.org, go to “Research,” and then “Research Services.”

Some recent additions to our Search Room resources:

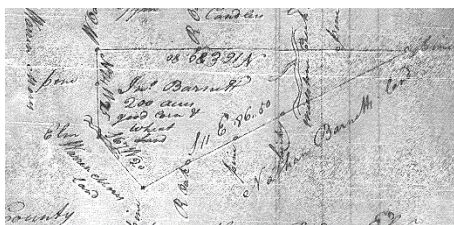
Atlanta Newspaper microfilm collection:

- Atlanta Journal*, 1883-2001
- Atlanta Constitution*, 1868-2001
- Atlanta Journal Constitution*, 2001-2013

We also have a searchable online database for the *Atlanta Constitution* 1868-1984, available on-site from the Search Room computers.

ScanPro Microfilm Scanner

This new microfilm scanner has easy-to-use software that can correct an image of the most under or overexposed, scratched, or damaged microfilm to make it more legible. You can save images to a personal flash drive for free, or make prints for .30 cents per page. Many thanks to the Joseph Habersham Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Huguenot Society of Georgia, for their generous gifts to make this purchase possible.



Left image without the scanner, middle image using the ScanPro. Notice how much clearer the middle image is using the ScanPro. Far right, the ScanPro Microfilm Scanner.

Collections Management Section

The Georgia Archives Collections Management section has had an eventful 2021 so far. The section receives incoming records from state agencies and also helps in provide assistance to researchers using Georgia Archives' collections.

We have accepted transfer of permanent records from several agencies in 2021, including the Georgia General Assembly, Department of Community Affairs, and MARTA. Among the many series received are Downtown Development Design Assistance Materials, Record Group 066-09-036. These records document the Georgia Main Street Program's work with communities throughout the state. The program aids cities in revitalizing downtown areas and preserving historic structures. Included in these files are colorized designs, local histories, and photographs from cities that worked with the Main Street Program. For more information, search "downtown development" in the Finding Aids @ Georgia Archives and select the first result. Additionally, we continue to process, re-house, and describe new and existing collections.

In staff news, Archivist Caroline Crowell, and Student Assistant Afi Avogah have taken employment positions elsewhere and we wish them the best of luck in their new positions. Archivist Tamika Strong has moved from Reference Services to Collections Management. Archives Assistant Kersten Toebben has joined our staff full-time

If you are interested in any government records series or privately donated manuscript collections held at the Georgia Archives, you can contact us by submitting a question to our Ask an Archivist form, calling us at 678-364-3710.



Blairsville Streetscape. RG 66-9-36, RCB-69921, Georgia Archives

Education Section

Homeschool Georgia History Class

The Georgia Archives is currently offering free Georgia history classes at the Archives for grades 8 and up. Siblings in grades 6 and 7 can attend if accompanied by an adult. The classes are held on the first Thursday of the month from 10:00 a.m. until noon in the downstairs classroom, room 114, with a break for lunch and then from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The class is a combination of lecture, PowerPoint, discussion, videos, examination of facsimiles of documents housed at the Georgia Archives and a visit to the Original Documents Reading Area (ODRA) to view original material.

We began in August with Colonial Georgia and will end in May 2022 with Post-War Georgia.

University Orientations

This fall semester, professors and their classes are visiting the Archives. We have given several orientations, tours, and research of the original records, to students. To schedule an orientation, please email Penny Cliff at Penelope.cliff@usg.edu.

Educators Tab

The Georgia Archives is pleased to announce the addition of an “Educators” tab to our website facilitating targeted online research for educators, students, or for anyone interested in Georgia history. Located on the Georgia Archives’ website under this tab are “[Educational Resources](#),” “[National History Day](#)” information, and “[Professional Development and Workshops](#).”

Under “[Educational Resources](#),” teachers and students can view documents from the Georgia Archives’ digital collections which can be used with the Georgia Studies Standards of Excellence, Eighth Grade, Historical Understandings. Other examples may be found by searching the [Virtual Vault](#).

Digital images for documents are available for the following topics of Georgia history: Colonial Period in Georgia History, American Revolutionary Era, Westward Expansion/Native Americans (1789-1840), the Civil War in Georgia, Reconstruction, New South Era, World War I through the Great Depression, Georgia in World War II, Civil Rights Movement, and Georgia Developments Since the Late 20th Century.

Genealogy Picnic

On Saturday, June 5, the Georgia Archives and the Georgia Genealogical Society co-hosted a Virtual Genealogy Picnic. Deputy Director Kayla Barrett talked about “What’s New in Georgia Archives Online Resources.” The keynote speaker was professional genealogist Thomas MacEntee, who gave a presentation on “The 1950 U.S. Census: Are You Ready?” The presentation was followed by break-out room panels featuring Learn More About GGS, Learn More About IGHR, Ask an Archivist, Learn More About the Census, and What’s At the Georgia Archives.

Juneteenth Workshop

Recently, the Georgia Archives hosted a Juneteenth Genealogy Workshop. Having been originally delayed from July, the workshop is a culmination of a partnership with the City of Morrow and the Archives thanks to Councilwoman Dorothy Dean. The City of Morrow hosted its first annual Juneteenth celebration and invited the Archives to serve as a vendor. The day of the event was a flurry of activity as various vendors and organizations came together. The event was a success, showcasing the creative talents of local vendors, and featuring an informational booth about medical issues facing the community. Food trucks and food vendors provided a mouthwatering feast of foods ranging from Italian ice to smoked turkey legs and there was even a car show.

The original goal was to offer a genealogy class onsite of the festival but due to the nature of the event, it was decided that it would be best to invite those who signed up at the Georgia Archives booth to the Archives so that they could not only learn from the workshop but also get an opportunity to do some hands on research. Though many of those who originally registered could not attend, those who did had a wonderful time. The attendees asked thought-provoking questions and the discussions were beneficial to all. We hope to have another session soon as a follow up to the first one.

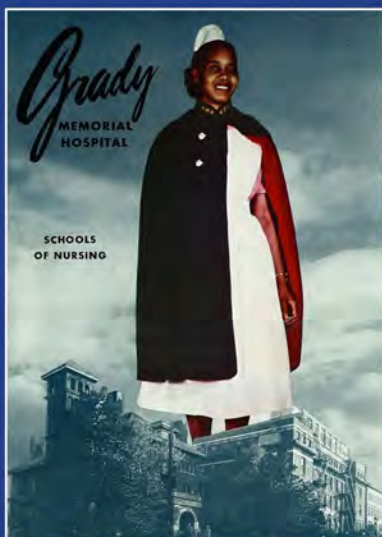


Reference Archivist Tamika Strong teaches the Juneteenth Genealogy Workshop

Georgia Archives Month: Oct. 2021

A Salute to Medicine

A celebration of the medical profession and the archives that document the field



Grady Memorial Hospital Schools of Nursing publication, ca. 1940s-1950s.



Clayton State dental hygiene students earn clinical hours serving patients at the free dental clinic on campus.



Saint Joseph Infirmary, staffed by Sisters of Mercy.



Dr. Leila Denmark with an infant patient at the Baby Clinic of the Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia.



First aid bandages drawn by Lilliemae Greatheart, Nov. 18, 1921.

   @GAArchivesMonth

Learn more about Georgia Archives Month: bit.ly/GAArchivesMonth

UL: L1984-47_008, Grady Hospital School of Nursing records, Southern Labor Archives, Special Collections & Archives, Georgia State University Library.

LL: Saint Joseph Hospital Photograph Collection, Office of Archives and Records, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta, GA.
UR: Box 12, Folder 11, Clayton State Audiovisual Photograph Collection, Clayton State University Library Archives and Special Collections, Clayton State University Library, Morrow, GA

CR: Atlanta History Photograph Collection, VIS 170, Kenan Research Center at the Atlanta History Center.

LR: Record Series 1121-115, Lilliemae Greatheart Howard family papers, Item 1121-115-0002_006-0001. City of Savannah Municipal Archives.

 **sga**
SOCIETY OF
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ARCHIVISTS

October was American Archives Month and Georgia Archives Month. Visit your Georgia Archives and explore its many collections.

2021 Theme: A Salute to Medicine: A celebration of the medical profession and the archives that document the field. Image courtesy of Society of Georgia Archivist

Staff updates

New Reference Archivist

The Georgia Archives is pleased to announce that John Whitehurst has been hired as a Reference Archivist. John was born in Macon and raised in Griffin, Georgia. After graduating high school, he completed his bachelor's degree in Idaho and returned to Georgia to earn a master's degree in history from Georgia State University. During that time, he also worked for the National Archives at Atlanta. In 2012, John moved south to attend Florida State University where he earned a Ph.D. in history in 2019. While working towards his doctorate, John taught history courses at Gordon State College, worked at the Covington Library in Newton County, and worked for the University of Georgia as an agricultural researcher. Currently, he is working on a Master of Library and Information Science at Valdosta State University.



Archives and Genealogy Day

Archives and Genealogy Day (AGD) was held virtually on Saturday, October 9, 2021. It is a free annual event hosted by the Georgia Archives and Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH).

“Lemons to Genealogy Lemonade: Researching During the Pandemic Tips and Tricks” was presented by Georgia Archives Archivist Tamika Strong. In this presentation, Tamika discussed research strategies, resources, and research tips that can be utilized during this time of uncertainty.

“Georgia County Records” was presented by Georgia Archives Archivist Allison Hudgins. In this presentation, Allison explained Georgia’s historical county courts, some of the types of records each court handled, and how these records can aid family history research.

AGD 2021 can be viewed on the Georgia Archives YouTube channel. Go to YouTube at www.youtube.com and type in Georgia Archives on the search bar. You may watch AGD and many other programs.

State Records Center

April State Records Committee Meeting

The State Records Committee met April 27, 2021 and approved new or revised records retention schedules for the Department of Banking and Finance; a Department of Community Affairs, the Office of Insurance and Fire Safety, the Governor's Office, Jekyll Island Authority, and the Department of Transportation. The Committee's next meeting is October 20, 2021.

Records Management

Christine Garrett, Manager of Records Management, presented "Quick a Disaster is Coming! Where are Your Records?" for Records Management Day. The presentation focused on disaster planning for household records and included discussions on disasters likely to threaten records in Georgia as well as the records that households should focus on saving. Records are not always included in disaster planning, despite the loss of specific types of records hampering the response and recovery from a disaster. The presentation is available on the Georgia Archives YouTube Channel or at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2T0O7Fuv0w&t=23s>

Electronic Records Day – October 10

October 10 was Electronic Records Day: a day dedicated to raising awareness of the need to protect electronic records for long-term access, usage, and authenticity. Threats to electronic records include media degradation, technological obsolescence, and cybercrime. As the world becomes increasingly dependent on electronic records, the need to protect them is growing. Individuals need to ensure that their personal records remain accessible, usable, authentic, and secure. Migration is key to avoiding information loss by both media degradation and technological obsolescence by moving records to newer media before the current ones begin to degrade and affect the records. Migration also helps prevent loss of access to and usability of records due to the software or hardware that they are in no longer being compatible with current versions. When migrating records, be sure to check that all the records migrated and that no issues occurred that could potentially affect the records authenticity, usability, and access.

With the rise in cybercrime, it is critical that individuals do everything they can to protect their records. Unplug routers when not using the internet and keep routers away from windows where people could look inside and find information to access the router. Ensure that your router is private. Do not click on links from any unknown sources and be leery of ones that appear to be legitimate links, including ads on social media sites and virus protection popups. Use passwords that are not based on information about yourself that can be easily obtained. Do not use the same passwords for multiple accounts, but do change passwords on a regular basis.

Remember, when it comes to protecting your electronic records and information from various threats being proactive and vigilant is key.

