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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 2024

ANNUAL ARCHIVES & GENEALOGY DAY 2024

Archives & Genealogy Day will be held at the Georgia Archives on Saturday, October 12, 2024. This event offers two tracks and is sponsored by the Georgia Archives and Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH). Doors will open at 8:30 am.

Track 1 – “Beginning Basics of Genealogy Workshop” 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Registration Required)

“Beginning Basics of Genealogy Workshop” by Laura Carter. This day-long session is designed to introduce participants to the basic principles and methodology of genealogy and family history research. Time will be spent on understanding the basics of genealogy principles and methodologies and the importance of source citations and document analysis. Participants will gain hands-on experience, enhancing their genealogy skills in the process. Note: All participants are required to have a FamilySearch.org account prior to attending.

Prior registration is required for Track 1. Deadline for registration is October 9, 2024. There is a \$20 registration fee for this track. To register, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/mrrzezpe> and complete the form. Because space is limited, please notify us of cancellations so that we may give your space to another. To cancel, please call 678-364-3710.

Refund Policy: Refunds will not be issued for any attendee who does not attend the workshop and fails to cancel their registration by the Cancellation Deadline of October 10, 2024.

Track 2 – “Genealogy Resources” 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Registration Not Required)

This track is free and does not require registration. The following sessions are offered after the welcome and introduction at 9:15 am.

Session 1 - 9:30 am to 10:30 am *United in Research: Historical and Genealogical Societies Showcase*

This special session features presentations from esteemed historical and genealogical organizations, including the Georgia Genealogical Society (GGS), Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH), and the Cobb County Genealogical Society (CCGS). Discover the unique benefits of joining these societies; learn about their valuable resources and find out how they can enhance your genealogical research. This session is a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow enthusiasts and deepen your understanding of the vibrant genealogical community.

Session 2 - 10:45 am to 12:00 pm *Exploring Religious Archives for Genealogy Part I*

Featuring Daniel Williams, the Head of Archives, Special Collections, and Digital Initiatives at Mercer University's Jack Tarver Library, and Michael Robertson, Public Services Archivist at Columbia Theological Seminary's C. Benton Kline, Jr. Special Collections and Archives.

Daniel Williams will present "A Needle in a Haystack? Finding Your Ancestors in Baptist Records." Baptist records may well contain useful information about your ancestors but finding them in page after page of business meeting minutes is not always an easy process. This presentation will guide you through some of the unique challenges Baptist records pose for genealogists and provide tips that will help you persevere in your search.

Michael Robertson will present "Presbyterian Church Records as Genealogy Resources." Church records may not be the first sources to leap to mind for many genealogical researchers, but the information within can supplement public records in useful ways. Drawing on church registers and meeting minutes held by Columbia Theological Seminary, this presentation will demonstrate how these documents can be used to help piece together genealogies and can be especially helpful for finding ancestors who were enslaved.

Session 3 - 1:15 pm to 2:30 pm *Exploring Religious Archives for Genealogy Part II*

Featuring Kayley Rapp, Archivist at the Breman Museum, and Emily Corbin, Reference Archivist at Emory University's Pitts Theology Library.

Kayley Rapp will present "Lessons from Religious Records." The Breman's archives holds countless collections from Jewish temples, synagogues, and other religious organizations. But what do these records entail? And how can they and other collections like them be used for genealogical research? Join this presentation to learn how religious records can provide unique insights into your family's history.

Emily Corbin will present "Genealogical Research at Pitts Theology Library Special Collections." This presentation will offer an overview of the materials housed in the Pitts Theology Library Special Collections, with a focus on resources valuable to genealogical researchers, particularly church histories. Attendees will learn how to navigate their library catalog, explore finding aids, and access materials for in-person research. Additionally, Emily will cover their digitization services and how to make use of them. By the end of this session, participants will have a solid understanding of the collections and the tools needed to confidently conduct research at Pitts Theology Library Special Collections.

Session 4 from 2:45 pm to 3:45 pm *Exploring Religious Archives for Genealogy Part III*

Featuring Rev. Dr. W. Becket Soule, Emeritus Professor of Canon Law at Saint Paul University and pastor of Saint Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church.

Rev. Dr. Becket Soule will present "Using Catholic Records and Archives." Sacramental records of the Roman Catholic Church are an exceptionally valuable resource for genealogy because of the amount of detail they tend to include, regarding both families and personal events, and because of their long extent – starting with the Council of Trent in the mid sixteenth century. These records can also be frustratingly unavailable, depending on who their gatekeeper is. Take a closer look at the records and archival practices of the Catholic Church throughout the world, including what resources are available, where they can be found, and what one is likely to discover.

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Lunch will not be provided at this event. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own lunch or to dine out at any of Morrow's nearby restaurant locations. (A list will be provided on the day of the event.) Refreshments are sponsored by the Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH.org). Donations to FOGAH are encouraged.

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The Georgia Archives is a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and identifies, collects, manages, preserves, provides access to, and publicizes records and information of Georgia and its people and assists state and local government agencies with their records management. This work is done within the framework of the USG's mission to create a more highly educated Georgia.

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