



**GEORGIA
ARCHIVES**

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GEORGIA ARCHIVES PRESENTS

American Indian Heritage Symposium 2026

Beyond the Founding Story: Indigenous Histories, Archives, and Memory

The Georgia Archives will host its annual American Indian Heritage Symposium on Friday, November 13, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This year's theme, *Beyond the Founding Story: Indigenous Histories, Archives, and Memory*, invites attendees to explore Native American history beyond familiar accounts of America's founding. Through presentations on Indigenous archives, cultural preservation, and historical representation, the symposium will examine how Native histories have been recorded, interpreted, and shared, both by Native communities and by those writing about them. The symposium's opening presentation will also serve as the Georgia Archives' November Lunch & Learn program.

This program is free and open to the public. No registration is required. The event is sponsored by the Georgia Archives and Friends of Georgia Archives and History ([FOGAH](#)).

Symposium Schedule

12:00 p.m. | Since Time Immemorial: Navigating Culture, Memory, and Collaboration with the Miccosukee Archives *(November Lunch & Learn)*

Presented by Hannah Jancosko, Director of Archives, Libraries, & Museums, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, and Desiree Billie, Archivist, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

In 2022, the Miccosukee Tribe established its first official archives, creating new opportunities to preserve and share its history from the Tribe's own perspective. Hannah Jancosko and Desiree Billie will discuss Miccosukee history and culture, the work of the Tribe's Archives Department, and the challenges of balancing public access with the protection of traditional knowledge and cultural practices. They will also explore how Native and non-Native institutions can work together to preserve and interpret Indigenous histories.

1:15 p.m. | Printing Native Americans and “the West” in Early American Almanacs

Presented by Matthew J. Sparacio, Professor, Georgia State University

Almanacs were once among the most widely used publications in early America, offering everything from calendars and weather predictions to historical accounts and practical advice. But these everyday publications also helped shape how colonists understood Native Americans and westward expansion. Matthew J. Sparacio will examine how eighteenth-century almanacs often portrayed Native peoples as belonging to the past or as obstacles to colonial settlement. He will also explore how Native American nations later used their own printed almanacs to challenge these narratives and assert their sovereignty.

2:30 p.m. | TBD

Presenter and presentation details to be announced.

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. The Archives also 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.