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GEORGIA ARCHIVES 100TH ANNIVERSARY
GOV. NATHAN DEAL TO SPEAK.

Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH) will host an event celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Georgia Archives on Saturday, August 18, beginning at 4:30 pm EST in Morrow.

The celebration will begin at the Georgia Archives lobby, located at 5800 Jonesboro Road, Morrow at 4:30 pm with a reception, tours, and a chance to see the current exhibit on Georgia's earliest land records. Attendees will then move next door to the National Archives at Atlanta, for a program featuring dinner and special speakers.

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal will speak at the event, as will United States Archivist David Ferriero. Other speakers will include Deputy State Archivist Steve Engerrand, Georgia State Senator Valencia Seay, and Dr. Steve Wrigley, Chancellor for the University System of Georgia.

After its founding in 1918, the Georgia Archives occupied a small area in the state capitol. In 1929 it moved to Rhodes Hall on Peachtree Street which housed the state's records until Georgia opened a new Archives and Records Building in 1965. The Archives moved to its current home in Morrow, Georgia adjacent to the National Archives Atlanta and Clayton State University in 2003.

Of the 85,000 cubic feet of records in the Georgia Archives, approximately 70,000 are official state records, 6,000 are local government records, and 9,000 are non-governmental. The Archives also maintains a reference library of 30,000 rolls of microfilm and 23,000 books.

Like most other state archives, the Georgia Archives has records of officials, agencies, state-wide courts, and the General Assembly. The Archives also has many records that are unique to Georgia, including the over 1.5 million original land grants and plats compiled by the office of Surveyor General. These go back to the colonial period and include headright and bounty land grants and plats covering the eastern earliest settled part of Georgia. Georgia's western three-fifths was distributed through a system of land lotteries from 1805 through 1832. Georgia was the only state to distribute its land by a lottery system. In addition, the Georgia Archives has a large collection of historical maps and county maps.

Another unique set of records document the Western and Atlantic Railroad. The Archives has records of the construction, operations, and the major Civil War role of the state-owned railroad from its charter in 1836 to its eventual lease in 1870.

Private collections at the Archives include two major business collections: the Carnegie Estate Records of Cumberland Island that document the ventures of the Carnegies in Georgia for well over a hundred years and Robert and Company, the largest architectural and engineering firm in the South.

Reservations are required and the deadline for purchasing your tickets is August 8. Tickets are \$60 per person.

As the repository for official state government records, the Georgia Archives collects, provides access and preserves the permanently-valuable public records of the State of Georgia. The Georgia Archives also collects and maintains papers of private citizens and organizations which complement the government records collection and are relevant to Georgia's history. For more information about tickets, please visit www.fogah.org.

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