

THE ARCHIVAL ADVOCATE

A newsletter from the Columbus State University Archives and Special Collections

Letter from the Director

As many of you know all too well, COVID-19 has made it incredibly difficult to remain connected and engaged this past year. While we strived to remain open during this global pandemic, we know access to our collections was not easy due to distancing and other protocols. We also greatly missed being able to gather in-person for lectures, workshops, and other programming.

Fortunately, with vaccination rates increasing, CSU is now relaxing some of its COVID-19 protocols. While still recommended, appointments are no longer required and general access to the building is open again. Additionally, those who are vaccinated do not need to wear face coverings. We have also returned to our normal operating hours: Monday - Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm and 1:00pm - 5:00pm.

We are currently planning a lecture series in the fall along with other relevant programming. There will be upcoming announcements on this with more information in August. We are all excited to begin hosting events again and look forward to seeing you!

One other element that was affected by COVID-19 limitations was our last newsletter. It was never printed and only sent electronically. We have decided it is important for our friends to have a physical copy, so we are printing the last issue and mailing it along with this one. If it has not arrived yet, it should arrive soon.

- David Owings



CSU ARCHIVES

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Editor:

David Owings



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Archives Awarded Major Capital Investment Grant

The Columbus State University Archives and Special Collections is pleased to announce a major grant award from the Mildred Miller Fort Foundation to support its continued growth and acquisition of historical materials.

The grant will fund the purchase and installation of custom high-density storage infrastructure in the Archives Vault. When completed, this project will approximately double the collection storage capacity of the Archives.

According to David Owings, head of Archives and Special Collections, “expanding the Vault capacity will enable the Archives to continue its mission of collecting and preserving the past for future generations and will ensure the lives and experiences of those who call this area home are preserved.”

This has been a critical need for the Archives as it has been approaching full collecting capacity over the last two years. Owings states that without this increased capacity “families, businesses, civic organizations, and others would be unable to place their documents and other historical materials in the Archives for long-term preservation as part of the historical record. This means that important archival materials will inevitably be discarded or destroyed. Without the archival record providing documentary evidence for the past, scholars would be incapable of telling those stories.”

Thanks to the generous support of this award, the Archives will now be able to continue adding to its collections alongside existing items.



Current Shelving Configuration in the Archives Vault



*Representative Image of New Storage Infrastructure
Image Courtesy of Patterson Pope.*

Newspaper Challenge Grant

In addition to funding new custom storage infrastructure, the Mildred Miller Fort Foundation has also offered a challenge grant for the acquisition of two important local newspaper archives. The Fort Foundation will fund half of the purchase cost and is challenging Columbus State to raise the other half.

One part of the purchase is an electronic database of the *Ledger Enquirer* going back to 1858. This would be available online and fully searchable, allowing researchers to search specific years for specific keywords and view the articles online instead of panning through microfilm reels.

The second part is to purchase the newspaper's historic photograph archive of 100,000+ historic images of the Columbus area dating back to the early 1900s. In addition to the physical photos, we would receive scans of each image as well.

These both represent huge swaths of Columbus history that were previously sold off to private businesses and are currently inaccessible to researchers. The importance and impact of these two archives on the study of local history cannot be overstated.

We hope to achieve this goal by the end of summer. Please consider supporting this initiative to bring these important collections home to Columbus. Your donation is an investment in our history.

Contributions can be made by:

- Online at: Giving.ColumbusState.edu/ArchivesMatch
- Via phone: (706) 507-8987
- Or by check made out to the CSU Foundation mailed to:

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SAMPLE IMAGES FROM THE COLLECTION



New Acquisition of the papers of Dr. William J. Bullock and Cantus Columbus

We are pleased to announce the acquisition of two new collections: the papers of Dr. William J. Bullock and those of Cantus Columbus, the professional chorus he founded. Both collections document the Columbus cultural scene at the turn of the twenty-first century. They showcase the variety and rarity of choral works performed in Columbus as well as the development of the university's music program, the Columbus arts community, and the area's performing arts organizations. They also chronicle the career of the choral director whose work secured the artistic footing of the university's choral program. These materials will be essential for scholars interested in innovative choral programming, analysis of major choral works, choral music in higher education, and the management of nonprofit choral organizations.

The Dr. William J. Bullock Collection. Dr. Bullock's materials include his printed programs and notes, copies of his published works, many of his annotated conductor scores and performance recordings, and the research materials he used in preparing the translation for his bilingual edition of the Brahms Requiem. Also included are folders documenting Dr. Bullock's activities in arts administration and church music, his recognitions and awards, and grants he wrote and received.

Dr. Bullock is retired from a 52-year career in the arts. For thirty-three years, from 1968, he served the college music department as professor, choral conductor and administrator, retiring in 2001 as professor emeritus from Columbus State University's Schwob School of Music. Previously he held similar positions at the University of Southern Mississippi and Tarrant County College (Fort Worth). Dr. Bullock also organized and conducted the Columbus Civic Chorale (1982–1999), conducted musical theater productions (notably at the Springer Opera House), and helped manage Columbus' newly opened RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, first as development director, then as executive director (2009–2015). His degrees (BME, MM and Ph.D.) are from Florida State University.

The Cantus Columbus Collection. The Cantus Columbus materials include the annotated full score, instrumental parts, and chorus scores for each of the chorus' concerts, recordings of the concerts, printed programs with notes, and miscellaneous promotional and rehearsal documents. Many of the scores are original or rare arrangements. Some are settings with small instrumental ensembles of unfamiliar works. Others include string quartets in versions of songs from the Great American Songbook. Documents detailing the formation and history of the nonprofit organization also are included.

For twenty years (2000–2020) Cantus Columbus presented concerts under Dr. Bullock's leadership. Assisted by various soloists and diverse instrumental ensembles, the chorus presented a series of well-received annual Christmas concerts modeled on a format popularized by famed conductor Robert Shaw. The chorus also presented several spring concerts featuring a variety of literature, most notably a series of arrangements of songs by the five founders of the Great American Songbook (Jerome Kern, Rodgers & Hart, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and George & Ira Gershwin).

Featured Collection: The Diary of Pleasant Phillips

Pleasant Phillips was a farmer and physician in Russell County, Alabama in the mid-1800s. He recorded events in his journal covering the years 1844 through 1852. This is an extensive diary at nearly 300 pages filled with local area insights. Entries include activities relating to farming, the weather, and other daily events. It also includes a collection of remedies for maladies for both humans and animals.

Phillips was born in 1787 or 1788 in North Carolina, the child of Abram Philips and Cynthia Lanier. Pleasant married Elizabeth Barnett (1792-1869) on May 4, 1819 in Rockingham, North Carolina. The 1850 census lists two children living with them, John Martin Philips and Mary. The North American Family Histories adds two more children; Abram C. Phillips and Emeline Melissa Phillips. The 1860 census lists his post office as Lamington and the agricultural census tells us that Philips had 500 acres of improved land, 632 acres of unimproved and values the farm at \$7,700.

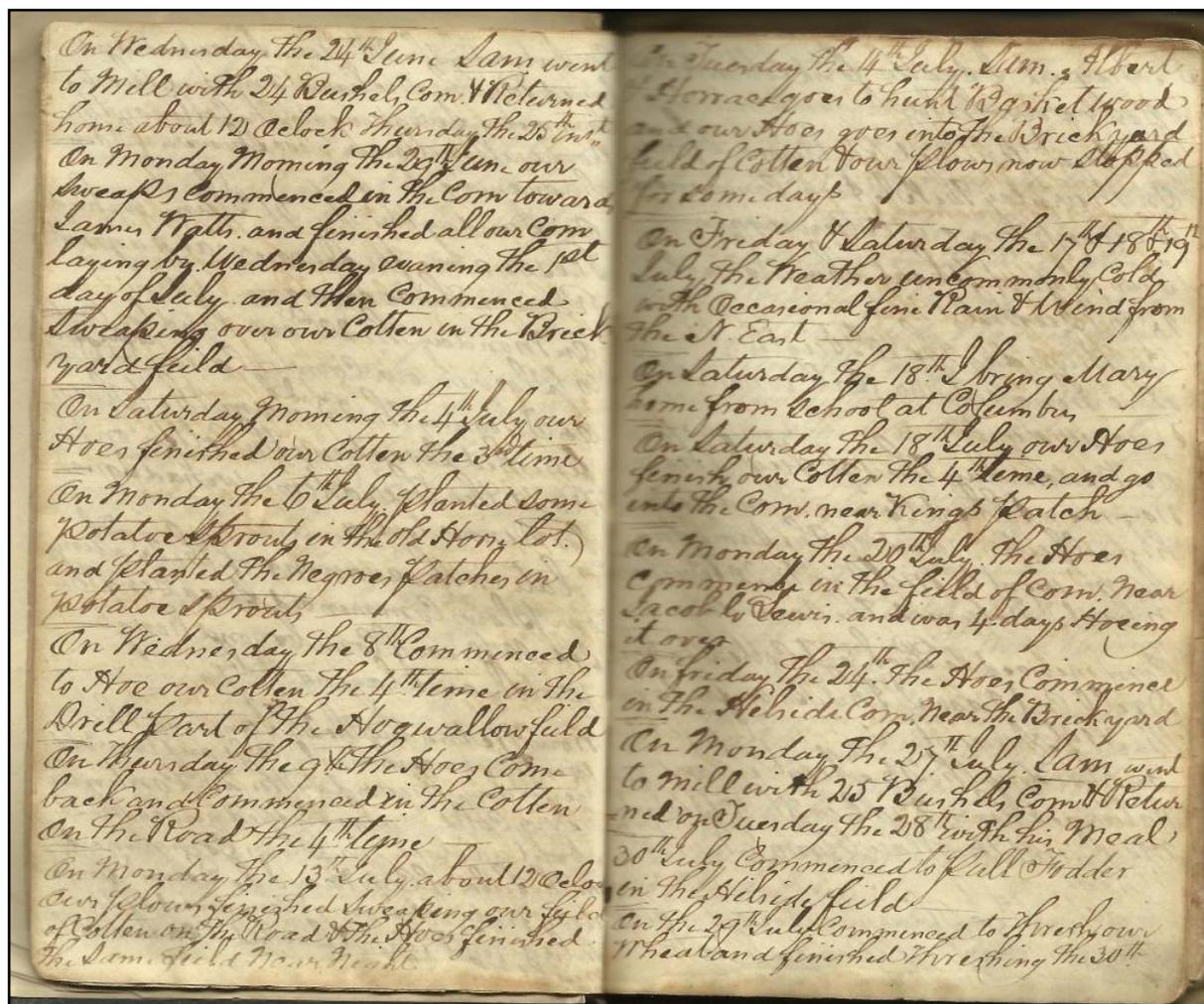


Image from the Pleasant Phillips Diary

Archives Staff Highlights

As always, the staff in the Archives have been staying busy. Here are a few highlights featuring what we have been up to outside of our normal workday.

- Both David Owings and Jessie Merrell served as judges for National History Day
- Jessie attended the Georgia Association of Museum's Conference in Statesboro
- David attended the Society of Georgia Archivists Conference and the Georgia Association of Historians Conference
- David gave a workshop on "Preserving Your Family History" in Pine Mountain sponsored by the Chipley Historical Society and the Georgia Humanities Council. David also recently gave a Columbus history talk to the residents at Covenant Woods.
- Tom Converse was interviewed by Nick Norwood, director of the Carson McCullers Center for Writers and Musicians, for his weekly "We of Me" podcast. The interview can be found online at: <https://anchor.fm/nick-norwood>
- The Archives was nominated for the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council's Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development. Winners will be announced in October.
- Roger Harris assisted the Archives by processing the papers of Harry C. Jackson. In addition to service during World War II, Jackson was an attorney, civic leader, a presence in the local business community, and an elected official. His political career included tenure in the Georgia state senate from the 16th District (1961–1973), a term as mayor of Columbus (1979–1982), and a bid in 1974 for Governor of Georgia.
- We have two new interns for the summer! Chase Funk will be assisting with the reprocessing of the Congressional Records of Jack Brinkley Collection and Katherine Samuelson will be assisting with the implementation of our new Collection Management Program: ArchivesSpace.

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Please consider following our Facebook page where we feature new acquisitions, highlight items from current collections, share future event details, and much more.

Find us at: www.facebook.com/CSUArchivesandSpecialCollections

“Found in the Archives” Spotlight



Dr. Roland Bird Daniel, born December 7, 1866, is best known for his service as school board superintendent from 1909 to 1937. In addition to his activities in school administration, he was active in the Rotary Club, published a bulletin on vocational education, served as Chairman of the Food Rationing Board during World War II, and served as chair of the Committee on Education for the development of Columbus College (now Columbus State University).

This photo shows R. B. Daniel, third from left, walking the Atlantic City boardwalk during a convention in 1935.

Rare Book Corner

Histoire de S. Lovys IX Du Nom Roy de France.

This history details the reign of King Louis IX including both of his crusades to the East and his death and canonization. Louis IX ruled France from 1226-1270. It was written by his contemporary, Jean de Joinville who traveled with him. This particular volume was printed in 1668 and features several engravings. The full-page title engraving seen here is a portrait of Louis IX.





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BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR THE ARCHIVES

The Advocates for the Archives (AFTA) supports the Archives and Special Collections in its mission to document and preserve the history and culture of Columbus and the broader Chattahoochee Valley area. Our annual giving program, funded by member contributions, provides us with critical support for ensuring our collections are preserved for future generations including sending documents to specialized conservation labs for treatment when needed.

Everyone is invited to become an advocate by contributing to the annual giving program. Please consider joining; your donation is an investment in history. The Archives also welcomes physical donations of research materials. If you have, or know of, materials which relate to the history of Columbus or the surrounding area, please contact us. All contributions are tax deductible.

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To make an online contribution to the CSU Archives visit: archives.columbusstate.edu/giving

