

THE ARCHIVAL ADVOCATE

A newsletter from the Columbus State University Archives and Special Collections

Historical Photographs of the *Ledger-Enquirer* Newspaper Arrive for the Archives

We are excited to share that the long anticipated *Ledger-Enquirer* photograph archive has finally arrived! The collection consists of over 100,000 images documenting businesses, events, street scenes, and people's daily life in and around Columbus. The collection represents an enormous part of our past that will enrich the study and understanding of Columbus and its history in innumerable ways.

We are excited to bring this collection back home to Columbus and will soon begin the important work to incorporate these photographs into our holdings, address preservation needs, and compile searchable keywords. We will also work on uploading digital images online for people to see all over the world. We hope to have information very soon with more details on how to access these images.



Selection of images from the Ledger-Enquirer Photograph Archive

Preview this Issue:

Ledger-Enquirer Archive ——— New Acquisitions Spotlight ——— Vault Renovations

**ARCHIVES AND
SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS**
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Editor:

David Owings



Letter from the Director: *Saving the Schnell Family Archives*

I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge two legends in Columbus history: Frank and Gail Schnell. Frank served the Columbus Museum as its professional archaeologist for thirty-five years before retiring with Gail to Florida. He was especially interested in Native American archaeology but was also interested in the Chattahoochee River and local industry. In addition to his professional research, he was deeply involved in the community. For example, he served on the Columbus Area Bicentennial Committee, which planned and executed a series of celebrations and events commemorating this occasion. He was also involved in the establishment of the Chattahoochee Promenade and the Archives at Columbus College. Gail was also a trained archaeologist with a passion for Native American and local history and was actively engaged in the community including teaching courses at Columbus College. Sadly, both Schnells have since passed away. Gail passed late last year in November 2021 with Frank preceded her in January 2010.

Both kept an extensive collection of research notes, field reports, object analyses, and industry leading rare books now out of print. It was their wish that their papers be placed in the CSU Archives to benefit public research and scholarship. Knowing this, their son, Greg, reached out to us to begin this process. Working with Greg, and with generous support from the Chattahoochee Indian Heritage Association, we were able to save the Schnell family papers! The collection has since been packed and shipped from Florida and safely delivered to Columbus into the care of the Archives. We are so grateful this amazing collection was saved and hope to have it processed and open for researchers very soon. Special thanks to Greg Schnell, Fred Fussell, John Lupold, Dean Wood, and Douglas C. Purcell, along with the entire Chattahoochee Indian Heritage Association Board, for making this possible!

*David M. Owings
Head of Archives
and Special Collections*



**COLUMBUS
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Featured Highlights

The Archives team recently visited our friends and colleagues at the Chipley Historical Center of Pine Mountain. We learned about their cemetery restoration project at the Bethany Baptist Church where they are working to uncover long lost graves and record their locations in a new database. We also toured their newly renovated facilities and explored their recent exhibit on Horace King.



David Owings and Archives Board Members Sally Gates and Ken Thomas take a moment to pose for a picture at the historic Dinglewood house. Ken has conducted extensive research on the home and was sharing his findings with attendees during a luncheon held there. The Bowers family, who have owned the home for 72 years, recently listed it for sale in search of a new caretaker for this historic property.

Image credit: Doug Roth Photography.

Dr. Frank Brown and Mrs. Mim Hallock were among guests who attended our open house event earlier this spring. They joined over fifty other guests to celebrate the recent renovations in the Vault marking a major milestone in our growth and development.



Vault Renovations Now Complete in the Archives

Last year we received a major grant from the Mildred Miller Fort Foundation to support the growth and expansion of the Archival Vault. It funded the purchase and installation of custom, high-density storage infrastructure to maximize the Vault's existing footprint, approximately doubling the collection storage capacity of the Archives and ensuring room for decades of new acquisitions. It also included specialty art storage systems for large framed art and maps. This will enable the Archives to continue its mission of collecting and preserving the past for future generations and ensure that the lives and experiences of those who call this area home are preserved.

We are happy to share that these renovations are now complete! We are featuring a few images of both the previous infrastructure and the new high-density custom solution. Please come by for a tour one day, we would love to show you the new Vault in person! You can find us on the ground floor of the main campus Schwob Memorial Library.



Images showing the Vault prior to renovations. Each row needed its own separate access aisle limiting the overall storage capacity.





Images showing the new custom high-density moveable shelving. Each row slides on rails to compact, maximizing space. This means only one open access aisle is needed.

New Acquisition Spotlight: *Observer*, an Audubon Society Newsletter

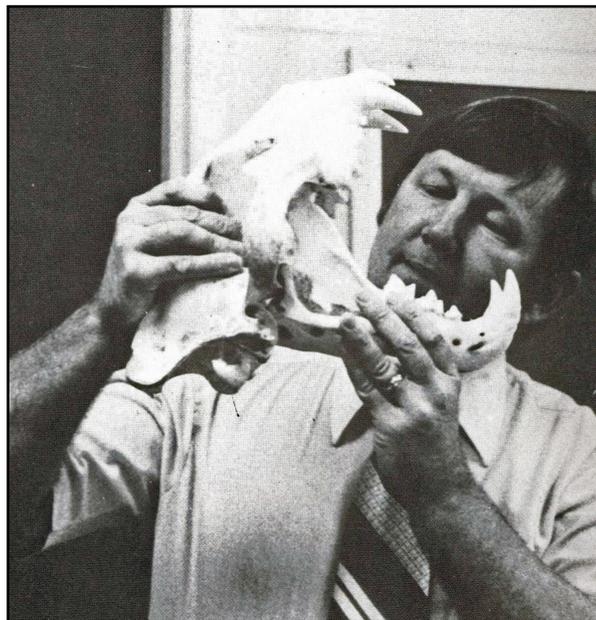
The *Observer* Audubon Newsletter Collection has been recently digitized and made available online. The newsletter was the brainchild of Benjamin Sanford Pate, Jr., known as Sam to his friends. Sam Pate was born in Ashford, Alabama where he fell in love with the natural world and the great outdoors. He attended one year of medical school but quickly realized medicine was not his path. He moved to Columbus, Georgia where he taught school for fifty-one years, thirty-five of which were at Brookstone School. He served as Chair of Environmental Studies at Brookstone and organized programs featuring live birds and reptiles including one where a large condor flew over the football field while students sat below.

In 1976, Sam Pate, along with Steve Butler, Dr. George Stanton, and L.A. Wells worked to save the fledgling local chapter of the Audubon Society. Pate agreed to serve as president for the first two years. He brought in unique and engaging speakers and programs which held attendance above one hundred. One such event was the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count in Columbus and another bird count event at the Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge.

As president of the organization, Sam Pate developed the *Observer* as a way to share news and events of the Audubon Society as well as keep its members informed on environmental issues, fun animal facts, and to encourage readers to enjoy the outdoors. Pate served as its editor, writer, and creator for over forty years before his death in August 2019.

Thanks to his wife, Nan Pate, we have original copies of the *Observer* in our collection. Mrs. Pate also provided digitized copies which can be accessed in our Digital Archives online at:

digitalarchives.columbusstate.edu/collections/show/59





November
Observer 1976

SAM PATE, PRESIDENT and EDITOR
Box 157 Fortson, Ga. 31808
Telephone
Audubon Society Answering Svc.No.
1-404-327-0321

Schedule

November 7, Sunday, - Red Cross Bldg. 2:30 P.M.
Program on the Bartram Trail. Mrs. Sam (Ann) Slinger will present a very interesting summary of William Bartram's travels through our area. Bartram traveled over 900 miles in Georgia 200 years ago. The trail is being marked and may some day become a National Scenic Trail

November 14 - Field trip to Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge, Alabama. Mike is field trip chairman. He will be on the dikes near the river after 2 P.M. Geese, ducks, hawks and a lot more.

December 7 - Program and field trip at The Lodge in Camp Callaway - Boy Scout Camp. Dr. A.L. McLendon's The Night Sky. 7:30 P.M.

December 18 - Christmas Bird Count - Eufaula.

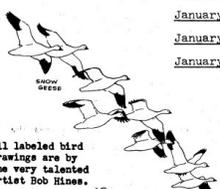
December 19 - Christmas Bird Count - Columbus.

January 1 - Callaway Christmas Bird Count

January 2 - Audubon Film at Columbus College

January 9 - Regular Meeting - Film "The American Bald Eagle."

Help



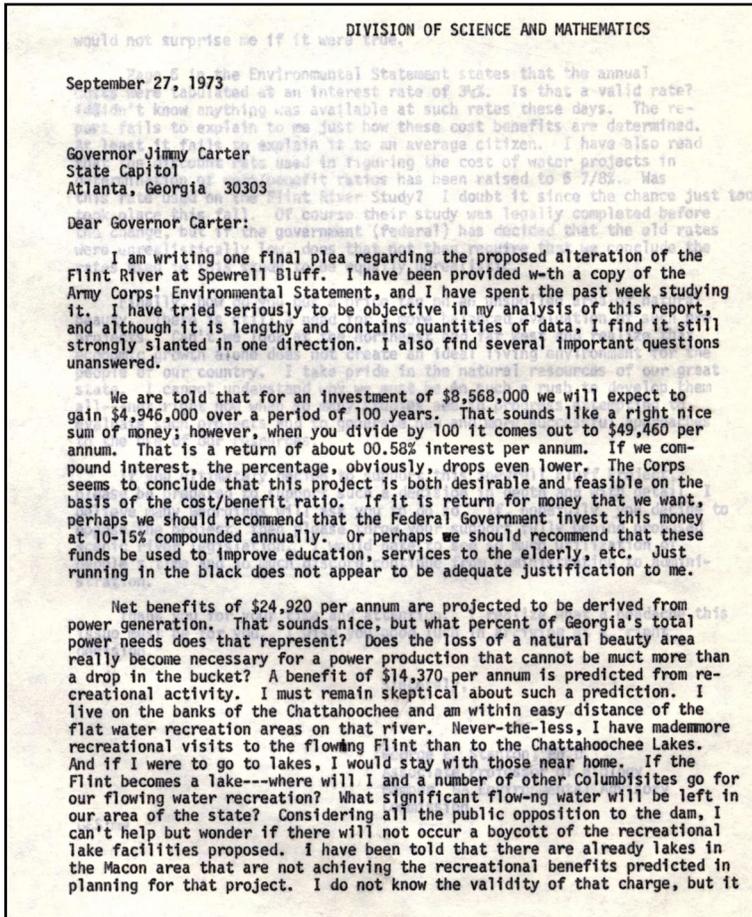
All labeled bird drawings are by the very talented artist Bob Hines.

Your Membership Benefits — And How To Use Them

Above: Sam Pate examines a skeletal jaw.

Below: Cover page of the November 1976 edition of the Observer.

“Found in the Archives” Spotlight



Saving the Flint

A letter written from Dr. George Stanton to then Governor of Georgia, Jimmy Carter, regarding a proposed dam at Spewrell Bluff located on the Flint River in Upson County.

The letter was written by Columbus College Biology professor, Dr. George Stanton, who founded Oxbow Meadows and championed environmental conservancy throughout his career in Columbus. Governor Carter ultimately blocked the project and the Flint River is now one of 40 rivers in the United States unimpeded for 200 miles.

From the George Stanton Collection, MC 307.

Rare Book Corner

Antiquitatum Romanarum Inscriptionum et Monumentorum quae Romae in Saxis et Marmoribus Visuntur

Antiquities of Roman Inscriptions and Monuments: Seen in Rome in Stone and Marble is one of the oldest books in the collection dating from 1602. Written by Jean-Jacques Boissard, it documents ancient roman art and culture through their monuments.

Donated by Nora Garrard.





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Columbus State University
Columbus, GA 31907

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 Chattahoochee Valley area. Our annual giving program, funded by donor 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.

For more information contact:

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