

# THE ARCHIVAL ADVOCATE

*A newsletter from the Columbus State University Archives and Special Collections*

## CSU Makes History with Investiture of New President

In the Fall of 2023, Columbus State University welcomed its sixth president, Dr. Stuart Rayfield. As part of our efforts to commemorate this historic moment, the Archives collected greeting cards from students, staff, and community members too. Hundreds participated and wrote heartwarming welcome notes to our new president! Words of encouragement and other uplifting messages filled the cards while others touched on cultural aspects of the university and the current time period, creating a unique capsule in time of this historic moment.

Archival Associate, Jessie Merrell, hand delivered the cards to the president who was taken by surprise and overwhelmed by this unexpected outpouring of greetings by our university and local community. Before presenting the cards to Dr. Rayfield they were digitized and will be digitally preserved as part of the official university records.

*(Continued on page 10)*



*President Rayfield receives her welcome note cards*

### Preview this Issue:

Presidential Investiture ——— Featured Highlights ——— CB&T Corporate Archives

**ARCHIVES AND  
SPECIAL  
COLLECTIONS**
**Inside this issue:**

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**THE ARCHIVAL  
ADVOCATE**

A newsletter from  
the Columbus State  
University Archives  
and Special  
Collections

**Editors:**

David Owings  
Jessie Merrell


**Letter from the Director:**
*Preparing for our 50th Anniversary!*

In the Archives profession we are often living dual lives, both in the past while also looking ahead to the future. We are simultaneously consumed in documenting and preserving the lives of past heroes and events of historical significance while also grappling with what to save from our contemporaneous times so that our current generation will have a history to look back on.

Considering this dual role the Archives serves, it is a bit surreal that the CSU Archives must now look back upon its own history as it has reached a pivotal moment in its own past. Next year, 2025, marks the 50th anniversary of its founding! Established in 1975, it has grown to be a pillar of the community and a state and regional leader in the Archives profession. Its facilities and the caliber of its manuscript collections rival those of many much larger institutions.

My colleagues and I are proud to celebrate the impact the Archives has had on preserving our rich history, supporting all types of scholarly endeavors, and enriching the lives of our students and others throughout the community. With so much to celebrate, we are set to mark the occasion all year long, with not just one reception, but a series of monthly lectures, book signings, exhibits, specialty tours, and so much more.

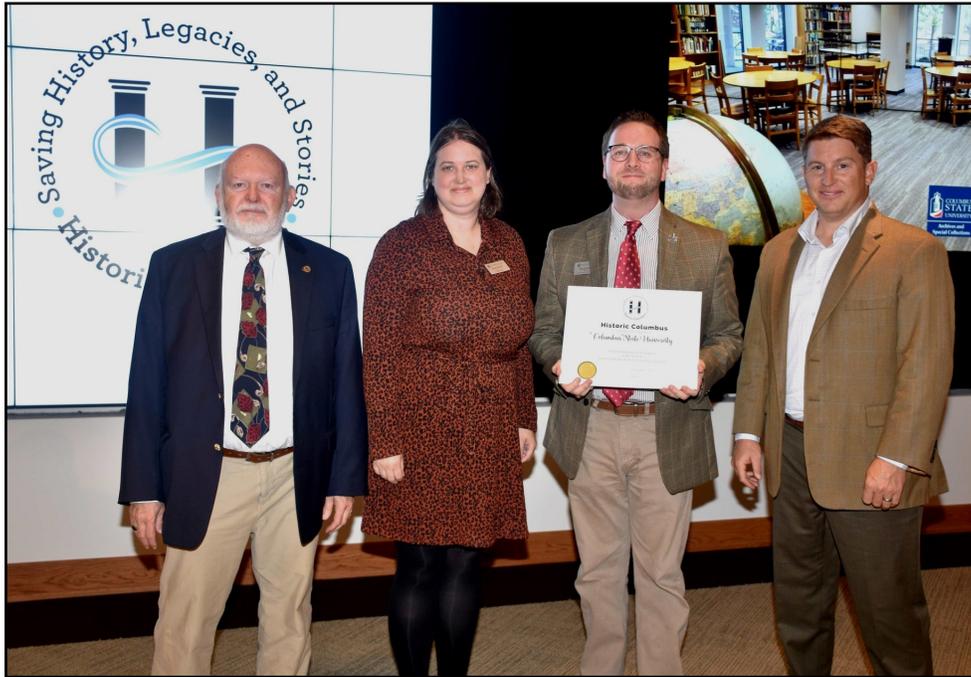
Be on the lookout very soon for a calendar of events so you can celebrate all year long with us! There will also be a flurry of invitations and other promotional materials coming both digitally and through physical mail too. Please start spreading the word, and let's all make 2025 a year that the Archives can remember!

*David M. Owings  
Director, Archives and  
Special Collections*



**COLUMBUS  
STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

## Featured Highlights

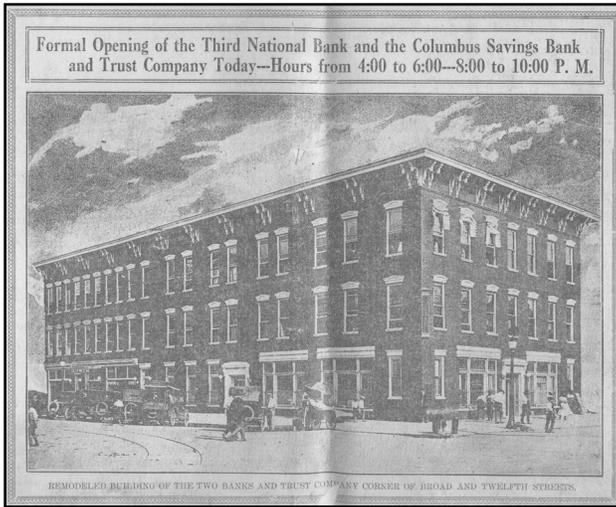


**Preservation Award:** We recently received the award for Outstanding Contributions in the field of Historic Preservation by Historic Columbus. The Archives were among thirteen projects to receive Preservation Awards, including the Carson McCullers Center for Writers and Musicians. Pictured above is Tom Converse, Jessie Merrell, and David Owings of the CSU Archives and Justin Krieg of Historic Columbus.



**New Donation:** Prolific local history author, Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., recently donated all of his research material for his *Fort Benning*, *Images of America* book including his research notes, clippings, correspondence, and original images! Thank you Ken for being a tireless local history scholar and author and for donating your research for the benefit of future generations!

## CB&T Donates Their Corporate Archives



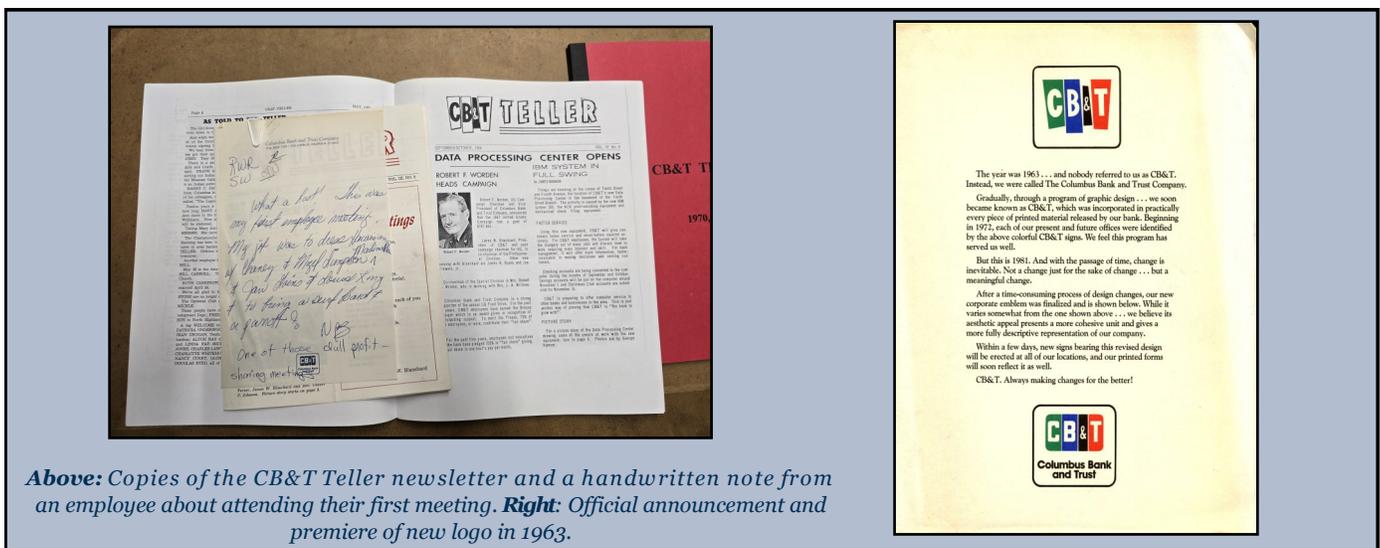
*Announcement of the formal opening of the Third National Bank and the Columbus Savings Bank and Trust Company, The Columbus Enquirer-Sun (August 11, 1921)*

Last year we were fortunate to receive the corporate records of CB&T which document its founding, daily operations, and corporate culture from the 1890s through the early 2000s.

This collection consists of twenty-six boxes arranged by subject and includes photographs, official memos, newspaper clippings, and early financial ledgers of the bank and its activities. The collection provides a snapshot of the growth of Columbus, the activities of its citizens, and the development of technology in the workplace.

Many people do not think of academic or community archives as collecting records from corporations but they can be incredibly insightful and illuminate much about a community, about a physical place, and its overall place in time. This is especially true when considering the amount of time one spends at work and the great impact it has on our friendships, family life, and our daily interactions.

If you are interested in this collection, please visit us. We also have several other corporate archives available including R.C. Cola (MC 204), Eagle & Phenix Mills (MC 13), Aflac (MC159) and many more.



**Above:** Copies of the CB&T Teller newsletter and a handwritten note from an employee about attending their first meeting. **Right:** Official announcement and premiere of new logo in 1963.

1. *CB&T Bank Support on "Team Day" in 2002. Pictured is Sherry Keriard, Janice Barliere, and Laura Prestley*
2. *Mrs. Johnson and her daughter pose with a bank employee, c. 1960s*
3. *CB&T Bank representatives at the Buick Challenge Golf Tournament, 1996*



HAVE YOU  
HEARD?

WE'RE  
TURNING  
50!



# JOIN US NEXT YEAR FOR...

- Lectures
- Exhibits
- Events
- Tours

and more...



## Archive Staff Highlights



**Adam Doskey**

Part-Time Research Assistant

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Doskey\_Adam@columbusstate.edu

Adam Doskey started as part-time assistant in the Archives in February. He brings his love and knowledge of rare books and archives to his job welcoming patrons at the front desk and assisting them with their research.

This spring, his favorite research questions have been about the Columbus musicians Fredye Marshall and Thomas Wiggins, and he even corresponded with a researcher about his own great-great grandmother's gold star mother's pilgrimage to visit her son's grave in France following WWI.

Adam was most recently a Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Rare Book Manuscript Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 2015 to 2021.

From 2013 to 2015, Adam was curator of rare books at Kennesaw State University. He started his career as a rare book cataloger at the University of Illinois in 2006, where he received his masters of library and information science degree in the following year. In his work, he has had the opportunity to do exhibits on such various topics as Cherokee-language printing in Georgia, modern American poetry, and the history of Arctic exploration.

In 2021, Adam moved to Columbus, Georgia, where his wife, Shannon Godlove, has been a professor in the CSU English Department since 2012. In his spare time, Adam enjoys hunting for books in used bookstores and travelling to the UK with Shannon.

### Congratulations Jessie!

Our Archival Associate, Jessie Merrell, received her Masters in Archival Studies this Spring from Clayton State University. She has already put her degree to use by being instrumental in training students in uploading our finding aids into ArchiveSpace. We congratulate her and all of her accomplishments!



## What's New in the Digital Archives

We are always updating our digital archives with new and exciting collections! We have recently uploaded a fully searchable PDF index to the *Ledger-Enquirer* Photograph Collection. This index includes the folder titles, dates, and box and folder numbers. To search, simply use “control + F” keys on your keyboard and type your desired keyword, name, or subject. For example, you can search “sports”, a school’s name, a person, or “traffic.”

This Spring our intern, Andi Williams, digitized several boxes of the Royal Crown Cola Collection and uploaded them to our digital archives. You can now see photographs, receipts, letters, and other corporate history right from home!

To view the digitized items visit:  
<https://digitalarchives.columbusstate.edu/>

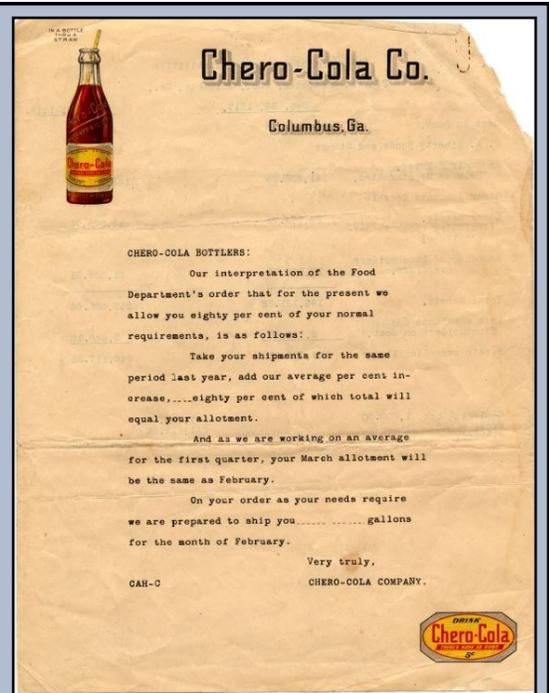
Title	Year (Begin)	Year (End)	Date expression	Container	Box #	File type (label)	File #
A and P Grocery Store	1958	1987	1958-1987	Box	1	Folder	1
Aaron, Billy (Mrs. Hank Aaron)	1983	1985	1983-1985	Box	1	Folder	2
Aaron, Tommy	1960	1971	1960-1971	Box	1	Folder	3
Abernathy, Reverend Ralph David	1986	1986	1986	Box	1	Folder	4
Abney, J. D.	1954	1954	1954	Box	1	Folder	5
Accidents: Boats	1980	1991	1980-1991	Box	1	Folder	6
Accidents: School Buses	1989	1991	1989-1991	Box	1	Folder	7
Adair, Chief Clyde	1967	1967	1967	Box	1	Folder	8
Adams, Carl	1978	1978	1978	Box	1	Folder	9
Adams, Charles	1972	1989	1972-1989	Box	1	Folder	10
Adams, Curtis	1969	1969	1969	Box	1	Folder	11
Adams, George	1973	1989	1973	Box	1	Folder	12
Adams, Joe	1992	1992	1992	Box	1	Folder	13
Adams, Sheriff John	1984	1984	1984	Box	1	Folder	14
Adams, Thomas Edward	1954	1970	1954-1970	Box	1	Folder	15
Adding Machine from 1912	1961	1961	1961	Box	1	Folder	16
Adkins, William Stanley	1986	1986	1986	Box	1	Folder	17
Affleck, George	1982	1982	1982	Box	1	Folder	18
African American Heritage Festival	1991	1991	1991	Box	1	Folder	19
Agee, Larry	1965	1965	1965	Box	1	Folder	20
Agnew, Spiro	1968	1972	1968-1972	Box	1	Folder	21
AIDS	1988	1988	1988	Box	1	Folder	22
Air Pollution	1966	1974	1966-1974	Box	1	Folder	23
Air Shows	1975	1985	1975-1985	Box	1	Folder	24
Airplane Crash	1966	1974	1966-1974	Box	1	Folder	25
Airplanes	1963	1990	1963-1990	Box	1	Folder	26
Airport Thruway	1977	1985	1977-1985	Box	1	Folder	27
Akers, Elizabeth Mizell	1977	1990	1977-1990	Box	1	Folder	28
Akin, Ray	1984	1985	1984-1985	Box	1	Folder	29
Al Saud Al Kabir, Prince Abdullah	1984	1984	1984	Box	1	Folder	30
Al-Kazzi, Leatitia	1993	1993	1993	Box	1	Folder	31
Alabama (General)	1968	1991	1968-1991	Box	1	Folder	32
Alabama Ethics Commission	1989	1989	1989	Box	1	Folder	33
Alabama Highways	1961	1990	1961-1990	Box	1	Folder	34
Alabama Kraft Paper Plant	1984	1984	1984	Box	1	Folder	35
Alabama Legislature	1959	1991	1959-1991	Box	1	Folder	36

Screenshot of the *Ledger-Enquirer* Index which is fully searchable online.



Above: Golf fans at the Columbus Country Club checking the score board.

Right: Letter from the Chero-Cola Co. to bottling distributors in 1918.

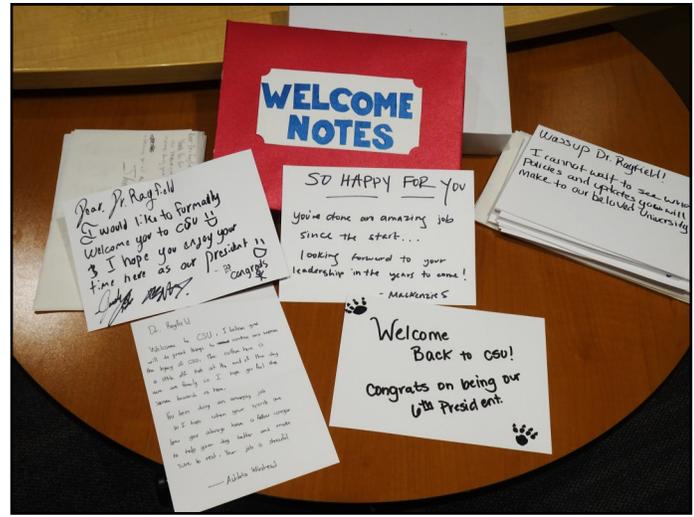


## Celebrating Presidential Investiture *(continued from page 1)*

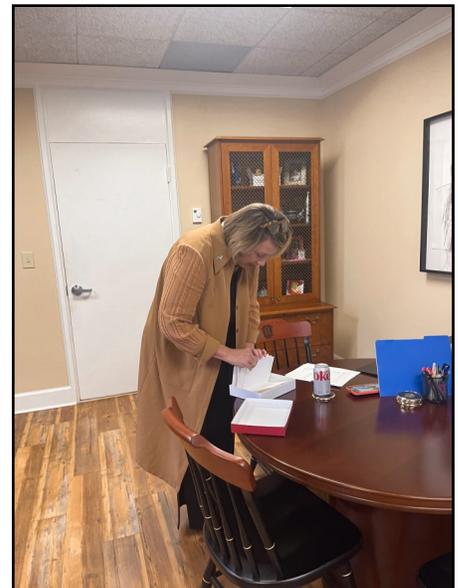
Archives staff also hosted a leadership forum and panel discussion where panelists reflected upon the university's leadership and what it means to be a "leader," the impact of leadership on both the university and the community, and the importance of institutional values. The panelists also provided insights into the relevance of a presidential investiture and what to expect during the investiture ceremony.

Moderated by our very own Jessie Merrell, the panelists included several noteworthy leaders at Columbus State including:

- Shana Young, Assistant Vice President of Leadership and Executive Director of The Leadership Institute
- Lauren Cantrell, Chair of Staff Council
- Nancy Marino, Senior Executive Assistant to the President
- Dr. Alicia Bryan, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Faculty Affairs and Academic Innovation
- Jennifer Joyner, Assistant Vice President for Alumni Engagement and Special Events.



*A few of the welcome cards presented to the President*



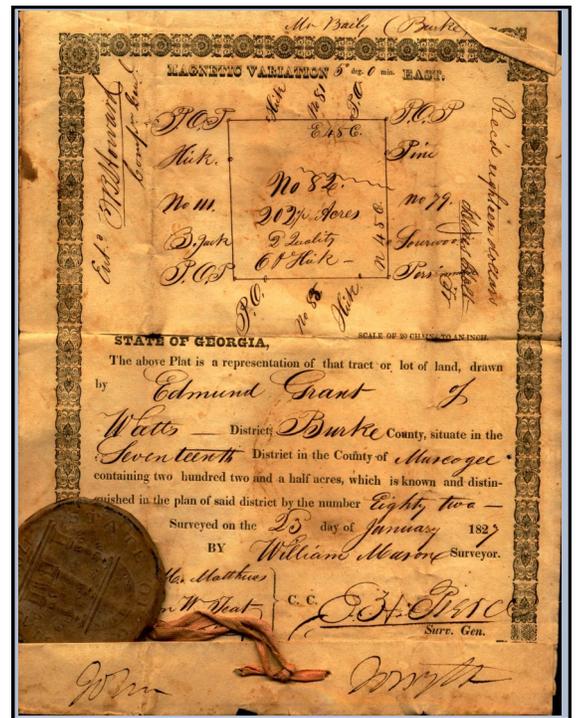
*Welcome notes presented to Dr. Rayfield by Archivist, Jessie Merrell.*

## “Found in the Archives” Spotlight

### Deed of Land to Edmunt Grant in the 17th District of Muscogee County, #82 dated January 25, 1827.

Edmunt Grant of Burke County, drew this lot as part of the Georgia Land Lottery held in 1827 following the removal of the Indigenous tribes of the western portion of the state. Each lot was parceled into 202 1/2 acres and sold for \$18.00 per lot. The recipient did not have a choice of which parcel they received which led to many land exchanges or sales. The quality of land was also not a guarantee and many found their new lots were located in marshes or consisted of un-farmable land.

This document can be found in the Bussey Family Collection, MC 455.



## Rare Book Corner

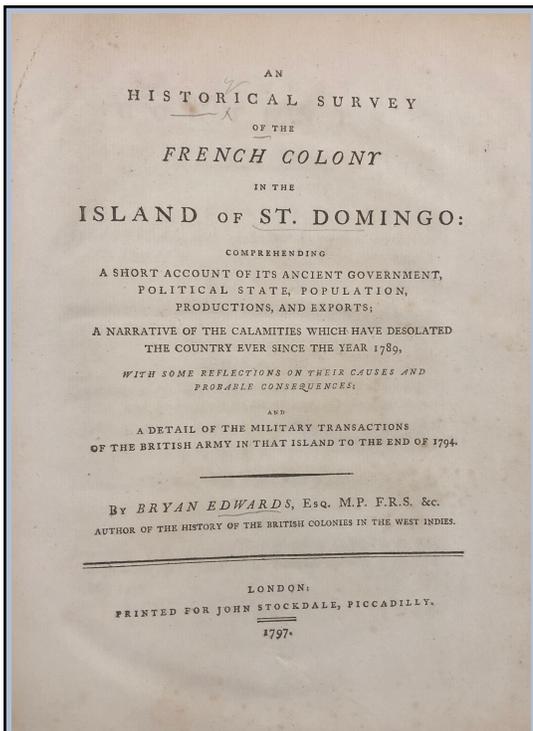
### Bryan Edwards (1743-1800). *An Historical Survey of the French Colony in the Island of St. Domingo.*

London: Printed for John Stockdale, 1797. (Call Number: F1923 .E26 1797)

This late eighteenth-century book about Haiti, is a contemporary description of the events which would lead to the independence of Haiti in 1804, including the revolution of 1791 led by Toussaint Louverture. It recounts how the British Army invaded in 1793 and tried to reinstate slavery there. Written by Bryan Edwards, a Jamaican plantation owner and British anti-abolitionist politician, it is an important primary resource for understanding Great Britain's role in slavery in the Caribbean, in the years preceding its ban of the slave trade in 1807 and the abolition of slavery in 1833.

Our copy had a famous owner, the former British Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone (1809-1898). Gladstone was a new Member of Parliament at the time when slavery was abolished in 1833 and went on to become Prime Minister of Great Britain for four terms between 1868 and 1894. In 1894, Gladstone donated his personal library and funds to create Gladstone's Library, a library in North Wales which researchers can still use today and even stay the night in its guest accommodations.

Our copy belonged to local businessman and avid traveler Benjamin Hurt Hardaway, Jr. (1891-1963) and his wife Louise (1893-1977).





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 Columbus, GA 31907

## BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR THE ARCHIVES

The Advocates for the Archives (AFTA) supports the Archives 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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To make an online contribution to the Archives visit: [archives.columbusstate.edu/giving](http://archives.columbusstate.edu/giving)

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