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Editor

Carolyn Friedrich

Associate Editor

Lara Szypszak

Advertising Editor

Jill Tominosky

Caucus News Editor

Anna Juliar

Contact the editorial team at
maa@marac.info

The Mid-Atlantic Archivist (MAA) ISSN 0738-9396 is the quarterly newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC). MARAC membership includes interested individuals who live and work in Delaware, the District of Columbia, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. MARAC seeks to promote the professional welfare of its members; to effect cooperation among individuals concerned with the documentation of the human experience; to enhance the exchange of information among colleagues working in the immediate regional area; to improve the professional competence of archivists, curators of textual, audio-visual and related special research collections, and records managers; and to encourage professional involvement of those actively engaged in the acquisition, preservation, bibliographic control and use of all types of historical research materials.

Individual annual membership dues are \$60. The dues year runs from July 1 through June 30. Membership is not open to institutions, but institutions may purchase subscriptions to MAA at \$60 per year.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

MARAC Dickinson College, P.O. Box 1773,
Carlisle, PA 17013

Phone: (717) 713-9973

Email: maa@marac.info

Online: www.marac.info/membership

Deadlines are March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1.

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On the Cover

[Advertisement for Star toboggans, showing people sledding at night]. Phoenix Litho. Co., c. 1887. Color lithograph. Popular Graphic Arts, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/94508300/>.

To the Right

Learning to ski, Quebec. Bain News Service, ca. 1915 - ca. 1920. Glass negative. George Grantham Bain Collection, Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2014711083/>.

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From the Chair

ALI ZAWOYSKI

Hi Folks,

Welcome to the Winter 2025 *Mid-Atlantic Archivist*! By the time you read this, we'll be starting a new calendar year, full of possibility and plenty of exciting MARAC events. Before we look ahead, though, here are some updates from last Fall you may have missed:

Huge congratulations to everyone who contributed to the Fall 2024 Virtual Conference, [Renaissance and Renewal](#), which drew 512 registrants and was our highest-grossing virtual conference to date! Thank you to our Virtual Arrangements and Program Committees and all our presenters for expertly navigating Zoom Events and assembling such an engaging line-up. Weren't able to attend? View [Poster Presentations](#) and [Virtual Tours](#) via MARAC's YouTube channel, and plan to join us in the future!

Next, I'm very pleased to announce that the Steering Committee officially approved the Ronald L. Becker Award, which will be offered for the first time this spring. This is an annual award of \$1500 aimed at supporting new professionals within the MARAC region, named in honor of one of MARAC's founding members, Ron Becker of New Jersey. This groundbreaking award is the result of months of dedicated effort from past New Jersey Caucus Representative Tara Maharjan, Awards Committee Chair Kira Dietz, and the Awards and Scholarship Committees. Thank you all for your commitment to honoring Ron and lifting up our newest colleagues, and special thanks to our generous donors for making it possible! Look for a call for applicants in the first quarter of this year and visit the [Becker Award webpage](#) for more details. Want to help? Donations can be made via your membership renewal form or the [MARAC Donation form](#) by selecting "Archival Education Fund" and specifying the Becker Award in the additional instructions.

While you are perusing the MARAC Awards webpages, don't forget to submit your nominations for the [Distinguished Service Award](#) by January 31st! This award honors a MARAC member who has made significant contributions to the furtherance of MARAC and the archival profession, and we look forward to celebrating their efforts at the Spring Conference. Questions? Contact Distinguished Service Award Chair Jessica Webster at the website linked above.

After forty-two years of advocacy, I'm sad to share that the National Coalition for History (NCH) ceased operations with Executive Director Lee White's retirement in December 2024. I'd like to recognize the following MARAC representatives to NCH for supporting this influential organization over the last four decades: Greg Kimball, Maxine Lurie, Peter Wosh, Jeff Flannery, Allison Oswald, Mitch Toda, and Jan Zastrow. Thank

you for your efforts and thank you to MARAC Historian Lauren Brown for preserving our own history! In the wake of this closure, Chair-Elect Zach Hottel is leading an ad hoc committee to investigate new advocacy opportunities for MARAC, so that we can continue to champion our members' needs and strengthen the profession as an organization. I look forward to hearing their recommendations and sharing them with you in the coming months!

In addition to the Ad Hoc Advocacy Committee, the Ad Hoc Disaster Relief Committee is also working to support our colleagues by clarifying MARAC's Disaster Relief Fund procedures. Although hurricane season is behind us, disasters are not tied to the calendar. MARAC has a dedicated fund available to help regional institutions in need. I encourage you to bookmark the [Disaster Relief Fund Guidelines](#) as part of your emergency preparedness plan, and contact MARAC Administrator Sara Predmore at administrator@marac.info if you are interested in applying.

If you have financial experience and would like to help MARAC fundraise for important initiatives like the Disaster Relief Fund, future advocacy work, and the Ronald L. Becker Award, we are actively seeking a Development Coordinator to lead these efforts! For more information, please contact Treasurer Amy Fitch at aftitch@rockarch.org. Thank you for considering—MARAC is truly fortunate to have so many knowledgeable and compassionate members.

Looking ahead, January is set to feature our second Caucus Conversation, hosted by the DC Caucus and the Education Committee. Watch your email and the [Webinars & Workshops webpage](#) for more information! Last September's inaugural Conversation, "Moving Your Collections," co-hosted by the Delaware Caucus, drew 60 attendees so we are hoping for another great turnout!

Preparations for our Spring Conference, "Harrisburg: Crossroads and Bridges in Archival Practice," are well underway, and hotel reservations are now available at the [conference webpage](#). Look for a full program and registration in February, and I'll see you in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, this May 1st through 3rd!



Thanks for reading, and for all that you do for MARAC!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ali Zawoyksi". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ali Zawoyksi
Chair, 2024-2025

MARAC SPRING 2025 CONFERENCE HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



The Local Arrangements and Program Committees are excited to welcome you all to the capital city of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for MARAC's Spring 2025 conference from May 1–3, 2025! Our theme, *Crossroads and Bridges in Archival Practice*, reflects not only Harrisburg's history as an important industrial city, but also the diversity of institutions, practice, theory, and perspectives in the archival profession itself.

The conference is hosted at the Hilton Harrisburg, conveniently located in the middle of downtown Harrisburg, just one block away from the State Capitol building. The Hilton is a short walk to popular attractions like Strawberry Market, the Midtown Scholar Bookstore, and Broad Street Market. There is also an on-site parking garage for those driving to Harrisburg. The Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts will host

MARAC's traditional Friday reception. This innovative space contains hands-on STEM exhibits, a gaming studio, and a 700 seat performance theater. Not only is it centrally located in Harrisburg's downtown—it is next door to the Hilton!

Harrisburg has a rich history as a crossroads location. As early as 3000 BCE, Native Americans recognized its strategic

location, making it a significant resting place and a nexus for trade routes connecting the Delaware, Ohio, Potomac, and Upper Susquehanna rivers. The first Europeans arrived and colonized the area in 1719, establishing Harrisburg as a town in 1785. The city's strategic location on the Susquehanna River played a crucial role in its development. It became an important transportation hub, with the Pennsylvania Canal and the Pennsylvania Railroad further boosting its growth. Beyond its industrial significance, Harrisburg has held a pivotal place in American political history. Today, Harrisburg stands as the capital of Pennsylvania, a testament to its enduring historical and political importance.

The topics selected by the Programming Committee are evidence of the diversity in our archival institutions and the communities they represent. Get ready to learn about AI in the archives, navigating the emotional impact of working with personal histories, managing large-scale digitization projects, and more! Our Thursday workshops include teaching with primary sources and creating sustainable oral history projects. David Schoff, the interim director of the Pennsylvania State Archives, will be giving our Friday morning plenary lecture, and Dr. John Haddad, professor of American Studies at Penn State Harrisburg, will be our luncheon speaker. Dr. Haddad will discuss

the legacy of Hershey Park, one of Central Pennsylvania's largest—and most popular—tourist attractions.

The Local Arrangements Committee has put together an exciting list of tours for attendees, including a walking tour of downtown Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania State Capitol, the Pennsylvania National Fire Museum, Fort Hunter, Zeroday Brewery, and the new Pennsylvania State Archives building. If you are unable to attend any of the scheduled tours, there are plenty of cultural and outdoor activities in Harrisburg or the greater Central Pennsylvania region. (If you're looking for a sweet time, nearby Hershey Park will be celebrating its opening weekend!)

The Local Arrangements and Program Committees are looking forward to seeing you in Harrisburg in May! Hotel reservations at the Hilton Harrisburg can be made now at the MARAC rate for \$169/night. Conference registration will open in February. For all things Harrisburg Spring 2025, see the conference website: www.marac.info/spring-2025-conference.

IMAGE CREDIT, OPPOSITE: Skyline showing Susquehanna River and Bridges, circa 1930s–1950s. Postcard. Image courtesy of the private collection of the Earhart family, Bristol, TN.



a Conversation

WITH KATHLEEN O'NEILL

Senior Archives Specialist in the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress



KATHLEEN O'NEILL is a senior archives specialist in the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress. Agency leaders point to Kathleen as a forerunner in transforming the Library of Congress' ability to acquire and manage born-digital manuscript materials. An inspiration and a role model, we are delighted to share Kathleen's interview with MAA readers.

HI KATHLEEN. COULD YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT WHAT YOU DO IN THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS?

Hello! I am a senior archives specialist in the Manuscript Division's Preparation Section at the Library of Congress, which is responsible for appraising, processing, and describing the division's holdings of personal papers and organizational records. In 2008, I received my MLIS from CUNY's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at Queens College. At that time, there were no classes in digital forensics or born-digital preservation. The single digital class I took was digital imaging. When I was hired in 2009, I fully expected to be focused on processing paper materials. The division had just begun developing workflows for born-digital material, so I was assigned to work part-time on metadata requirements for the division's first born-digital workflow, implemented in 2012.

As born-digital holdings grew, I transitioned to processing born-digital collections full-time, expanding the initial ingest workflow to include technical processing, appraisal, description, and access to born-digital files for both staff and researchers.

Lately, my work has shifted from processing collections to overseeing the born-digital workflow from acquisition to access. My job involves a lot of problem-solving, troubleshooting technical issues, writing documentation,

and training staff. We spend significant time researching and identifying the right tools to handle the full range of file formats and media formats in the division's collections.

WHAT PROFESSIONAL OR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES PREPARED YOU TO WORK WITH DIGITAL COLLECTIONS?

In the late 1980s, I supported myself as a "word processor" at several major banks. Computer technology was rapidly evolving. I began working with a word processing program called Microm using 8" floppy drives and daisy wheel printers. Next came the first version of WordPerfect. Then the institution I worked for was selected to be a beta tester for Microsoft Word for Windows; image products like CorelDRAW followed. Having to quickly master progressively complex software programs in a short period gave me confidence in my ability to "figure it out" and get comfortable with repeatedly being a novice. At the core, I am a professional novice.

After graduating from Franklin & Marshall College, I pursued acting in New York City. Three aspects of acting that correlate to archival processing are research, storytelling, and imagination.

Actors and archivists are both concerned with context. Just like an archivist beginning a processing project, actors begin work by conducting a deep dive into the historical era, location, customs, and language of the play and their character. Once processing is complete, like an archivist moving on to a new collection, an actor moves on to a new role.

There is a strong storytelling component in archival description. What is the story the collection materials can tell? What is the narrative arc or scope of the collection? How do specific materials fit in with the whole of the collection?

Finally, imagination. An actor must be able to view the world from someone else's perspective. That ability is also crucial for an archivist, particularly when it comes to description and building workflows. When writing finding aids, I intentionally tried to step outside my perspective, imagining how various users might encounter the description in a finding aid. Similarly, when constructing a new workflow, I walk through it many times in my head, imagining various outcomes and obstacles. My vivid imagination has saved me time and frustration.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU HAVE FACED IN THIS RAPIDLY EVOLVING FIELD OF WORK?

There's an unending amount of work to do and so much to know! File formats, software and hardware, best practices for acquisition, emulation, and providing access—you could spend your entire career trying to be an expert at any one of those. I've long ago made peace with the fact there's no possible way to be an expert on all aspects of digital preservation. I am fortunate to work in a large organization where I rely on my colleagues for their expertise and experience. I can't stress enough the importance of developing a network of colleagues (both within and without your organization).

The necessary tools and skills change every few years, reflecting changes in content, formats, and technology. The first born-digital material we processed contained simple text files with little to no hierarchies. The computer was employed more as a typewriter with the printout as the primary object. Shortly thereafter we saw a shift to digital files unique to the computer—databases, email, etc. Then we saw a change around the year 2000, when some new collections shifted from being primarily paper to mostly born-digital. Now we are encountering an exponential increase in collection size in both bytes and file counts. Acquiring collections in cloud storage or other internet-based platforms is extremely challenging in terms of permissions, metadata, duplication, transfer method, and collection size.

I love the constant problem-solving, discovery, and research. There's so much to do that if I'm stymied in one area, there's always another aspect of the workflow that can be improved, always some area of knowledge I can expand, another pathway to improve our tools.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR PEOPLE INTERESTED IN GETTING INTO DIGITAL ARCHIVAL WORK? ARE THERE SOME SPECIFIC SKILLS YOU FEEL ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR THIS WORK?

Reality is the job market is extremely competitive. Even as an entry-level applicant, you need to demonstrate both grounding in archival principles as well as practical experience. That means internships and volunteering to show that experience. While in my MLIS program, I had a part-time job at my local Town Archive in Huntington, NY. That experience was crucial to my understanding of how archival theory works in practice.

Not everyone has the time or can afford to take on an internship or volunteer. If you are in a degree program, select classes that provide both theoretical and practical experience or result in a final project that can demonstrate skills and experience. Take advantage of open-source tools available online and work with them on your own time. The Digital Preservation Coalition has a great, free, online digital preservation class called [Novice to Know-how](#).

Rather than name a specific tool or coding language, I recommend focusing on deeply understanding the purpose and steps of a born-digital curation workflow. Tools change over time. Organizations have differing resources and constraints. There are many ways to accomplish the same goal.

I would encourage everyone to be proud of whatever work experience you possess. Spent your summers waiting tables? Congratulations! You have excellent customer service experience and know how to work in a team under pressure. Worked as an actor? Congratulations! You have experience researching and looking at the world through another's perspective. Digitized collection material? Congratulations! You know how to apply uniform standards to a range of materials. Remember, employers are looking at stacks of résumés, make it easier on them by explicitly making the connections between your experience and the job qualifications.

Finally, if you want to be a processing archivist you need strong writing skills and the ability to organize information in a way that is user-friendly. Your résumé will be the first clue to an employer that you have those skills.

OUR MEMBERS ARE OFTEN EAGER FOR ADVICE FROM MENTORS AND LEADERS; DO YOU HAVE SOME LIFE AND/OR CAREER ADVICE FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, MAYBE IN TERMS OF COMBATTING IMPOSTER-SYNDROME, OR BALANCING LIFE AND WORK?

I don't worry about being an expert in all aspects of born-digital preservation. I don't even consider myself an "expert" in born-digital preservation at the Library of Congress, but I have confidence in my deep knowledge of processing and preserving born-digital materials in the Manuscript Division. My superpower is my ability to move forward when I am uncertain, to persist, and to know when to reach out for assistance.

Despite 15 years giving presentations, I still struggle with public speaking. It's a curious anxiety for a former actor! My best suggestion is to try to be kind to yourself and try to reframe your anxiety. Rather than consider yourself an imposter, why not consider yourself to be a professional novice? A professional novice brings both experience and a fresh perspective.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?

The preservationists and conservators at the Library inspire me. They seem to accept that people are working from the knowledge base available at the time and that preservation actions may have to be redone or repaired when new knowledge and techniques become available. Then they get to work. I do my best to use this same mindset in my work—I conscientiously operate with the knowledge base and experience available to me and try to proceed with a novice's curiosity and humility.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FOOD AT CONFERENCES: PART TWO

MARY K. MANNIX, MEETINGS COORDINATOR

ALL MARAC MEETINGS HAVE A VARIETY OF PUBLIC FOOD FUNCTIONS. THESE ARE, MOST COMMONLY, A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, TWO OR THREE “BREAKS,” A RECEPTION, A LUNCHEON, AND A BUSINESS BREAKFAST¹.

The latter two functions are paid for separately by attendees, while the others are included “with the price of admission.” That is one of the reasons that MARAC tries to meet the dietary needs of as many attendees as possible. The organization wants everyone to have as pleasant an experience as possible, and to feel included.

Pulling together a menu for a conference is like working a puzzle with many pieces. Pieces that sometimes don’t easily connect.

If you have not read a conference “print program” from soup to nuts (food pun intended) each meeting is created by two committees—the Program Committee (PC) and the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC)². Food is the responsibility of the LAC. A handful of members from the Meetings Coordinating Committee (MCC), who have special areas of expertise, also play a pivotal role.

Most LACs have Food and Reception Subcommittees, volunteers who do the surprisingly stressful work of creating menus that are appealing, inclusive, and within budget. At times, a LAC Co-Chair (or a committee member) may take on the task if they happen to have catering experience. Understanding that world can be very valuable in evaluating menus, servings, and



expectations. For example, we’ve learned that when ordering any type of buffet to order for only 75% of those expected to be present. This helps prevent waste, and so MARAC doesn’t pay for uneaten food. We also ask the caterer to stagger the amount of food on the table over time. Sometimes this works, sometimes it doesn’t. And, yes, if you arrive at the reception a half hour before its end, the pickings may be slim.

The people working on the hotel food offerings and the reception menu have several constraints. The largest, by far, is cost. The LAC subcommittees supply numbers based on the hotel’s menus to craft the budget for approval by MARAC’s Finance Committee and Steering Committee. Hotel food is clearly expensive. Just look at what we must charge attendees for the luncheon and the business breakfast! At the 2023

1 Workshops at conferences also have snack breaks. Depending on the hotel costs, there may be some form of meal or snack at the Steering Committee meeting. This is not paid for out of the conference budget.

2 For an online conference, substitute the LAC with the Virtual Arrangements Committee (VAC). The VAC does not need to worry about food, of course.

Saratoga Springs Conference, the Friday luncheon cost \$37, and the Saturday business breakfast cost \$29. The luncheon at Gettysburg in 2021 was \$30 and the business breakfast was \$25.

The price MARAC charges its attendees is not inflated. There have even been times in the past when it has been slightly subsidized by a dollar or two. Remember that hotels are for-profit businesses, and food is one way that they make money. I like to compare hotel food prices to the cost of popcorn at a movie theater. The “high” food costs listed on the menus also don’t include the taxes and service charges that will be added to the final bill.

The next constraint is the hotel’s menu itself. Sometimes the chef is willing to be creative if the LAC has a particular vision in mind, and sometimes there’s just no working outside of the menu, or, at least no *affordable* way to work outside the menu.

When constructing the menu, whether it be the continental breakfast or the reception, the committees try to create as varied a culinary experience as possible. Attempts are made to see that everyone’s dietary needs are met. Sometimes we are more successful than others, but it’s usually not for lack of trying.

The lunch at the MARAC Spring 2024 Philadelphia Symposium illustrates how a meal comes together. While the Symposium was an unusual situation, the one-day event at an expensive hotel in an expensive city provides a good example of the methodology used by many LAC committees.

To begin, the hotel’s catering menu was studied and much time was spent weighing options. What could the hotel readily supply and at what cost? Were there meal packages that were cheaper than creating a meal à la carte? Would a buffet work better logistically and be less expensive than a plated meal? This hotel knew that we had a tight budget and stated very early on that they were willing to work with us to bring costs down. Not every hotel will do that.

Considering the standard dietary choices of our members, the “Healthy Lunch” meal package was chosen. It had the most options for vegetarians, vegans, and people who needed gluten free. The “Healthy Lunch” would normally cost \$55 per head, the most expensive of the buffet lunch choices. The hotel offered a reduced price of \$32–\$35 depending on how much we were paying for the day’s beverage service. There was some give and take on both our parts. This impacted the options we were able to present to attendees, ruling out more expensive food choices such as sea bass, a roasted root vegetable and quinoa salad, and angel food cake. We also supplied the chef with the dietary needs as presented by individuals when they registered.

MARAC is concerned that everyone’s dietary needs and desires are met at conferences. We don’t want people to leave a break or reception feeling that there was not something

tasty for them. This is also one reason that we attempt to describe the luncheon options in as much detail as possible on the registration form. And, to quote a past treasurer, while the reception is not dinner we don’t want attendees to leave famished. Fortunately, more hotels are now willing to identify food allergens at the table. Since 2016, we have asked attendees to indicate any special food needs or allergies when they register. This information is used when making selections, and we supply the hotel or reception caterer with a breakdown of needs, as we did in Philadelphia. They also do not want people to leave an event disappointed or ill.

Food is only one part of a conference, but it does play an important role in the planning, financing, and execution of a meeting. It adds to the ambiance and overall experience. There are no secrets as to how meetings come together—the Meetings Manual that documents how to “make a meeting” was constructed over many years and is accessible on the [MARAC website](#). We want all members to understand the process and to contribute their thoughts and ideas on how to do it better. So please make your concerns known, and please consider serving on a Local Arrangements or Program Committee to get hands-on insight and a fun experience. I have always found helping to pull together a MARAC meeting to be a joy. I have known many Local Arrangements and Program Committees and they have all wanted to create the best possible experience for attendees, including not having anyone go away hungry.

The graphic features the ACA logo (Academy of Certified Archivists) in a circular seal at the top left. The background is a photograph of a long aisle in a warehouse or library, filled with tall metal shelving units packed with boxes. A yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text: "CERTIFICATION MATTERS", "It provides a competitive edge", "It strengthens the profession", and "It recognizes professional achievement and commitment". At the bottom of the graphic is another yellow rectangular box with the text: "THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED ARCHIVISTS", "www.certifiedarchivists.org", "2025 Examination Information: For more information about the Certified Archivist Examination, go to the ACA website: https://certifiedarchivists.org/2025-exam-info", and "Contact us: 1400 L Street NW LBBY 3 #34141 Washington, DC 20005".

IN Memoriam

DANNA BELL

— BY SHARMILA BHATIA



Danna Bell, MARAC Chair from 2009–2011, died after a short illness in November 2024. Danna joined MARAC in 1985 and throughout her membership was a committed and active member. Danna was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in 2017. In my nomination letter, I noted

that she served as a mentor and role model to many archivists. She was generous with her time and gave support, guidance, and encouragement to archivists—especially those entering the profession. Friends have described her as warm, kind, compassionate, humorous, passionate about archives, and a wonderful friend. She was a leader and brought vision and innovation to MARAC. Adjectives are not enough to capture Danna’s spirit.

I was very fortunate to serve alongside Danna on several occasions. We served together on the Steering Committee, in elected and non-elected positions, and co-chaired two program committees: the Silver Spring 2008 Fall Meeting and the recent College Park/50th Anniversary Meeting in Fall 2022. Danna’s service to MARAC is extensive. She served as a member and chaired or co-chaired many committees, including the Education Committee, the Custer Award Committee, and the Awards Committee; and was Parliamentarian from 2017 to 2019. Through her numerous conference presentations and workshops for MARAC and the Society of American Archivists (SAA), she provided continuing education for archivists regionally and

nationally. Danna was also very active in SAA, serving on its Council from 2001–2004 and as President from 2013–2014. In 2008, she was named Fellow, the highest honor in our profession.

Danna was with the Library of Congress for 19 years and provided reference support for the Library’s teacher programs. For many years, she also served as a judge for National History Day, passionately encouraging students to use primary sources for their projects.

Danna was one of my dearest friends. We shared hotel rooms at MARAC and SAA conferences, loved knitting, visited fiber festivals and yarn shops, celebrated milestones, and shared many meals together. She will be missed greatly by her family, friends, and colleagues.



Danna Bell speaking at ARCHIVES★RECORDS: Ensuring Access in 2014.



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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



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THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

SINCE 2006, MARAC HAS GIVEN DESERVING MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (DSA). The DSA Committee is now seeking nominations for our next deserving MARAC member!

The Distinguished Service Award is given to a MARAC member who has made significant contributions to the furtherance of MARAC and the archival profession.

Significant contributions to MARAC can include the following:

- Service as an officer, caucus representative, committee member, or chair
- Frequent session or workshop instruction

Significant contributions to the archival profession can include the following:

- Service as an officer, board member, or committee member of national or international archival organization(s)
- Book or journal publications in the field of archives
- Professor or workshop presenter
- Service on a State or Local Historical Society Advisory Board
- Application review for granting agencies

Note: Service to MARAC is more heavily weighted by the DSA Committee than service to the profession as a whole.

Nominations must include the following:

- DSA Nomination form, [available online](#).
- Nominee's current resume or curriculum vitae, or an acceptable alternative like a LinkedIn page or webpage
- A detailed letter from the nominator of the nominee's qualifications for the award
- A second letter of support for the nominee's qualifications
- The DSA Committee strongly recommends providing multiple letters of support for the nominee

Please submit nominations or questions to the DSA Committee chair, Jessica Webster, (jessicawagnerwebster@gmail.com) by January 31, 2025.

For additional information please see the [DSA website](#).

FINDING AIDS AWARD

FINDING AIDS ARE ESSENTIAL TOOLS OF THE ARCHIVIST TRADE, and we celebrate our colleagues' achievements with the production of these documents that assist our researchers in discovery and our institutions in the management of materials under our stewardship. The Finding Aids Award is given yearly to recognize outstanding achievement in the preparation of finding aids by institutions within the MARAC region. Nominated finding aids must be first made available to the public during the year in which they are nominated. Reprocessed collections with significant revisions related to reparative description or complete reprocessing of legacy collections are also eligible.

Submissions should be sent via email to the Co-Chairs of the Finding Aids Award Committee. They should include the URL and a 1–2 page nomination letter (not to exceed 500 words) that addresses the finding aid's exceptional qualities, and/or discusses elements not readily apparent from examination of the finding aid itself. In order to submit finding aids for completely reprocessed collections, the nomination letter should also include a description about the reprocessing rationale and a description of changes made if a previous iteration of the finding aid cannot be linked to or attached.

Nominations for the MARAC Finding Aids Award are due by January 31, 2025.

David R. Grinnell, Senior Co-Chair: grinnell@pitt.edu
Amy Poe, Junior Co-Chair: amyb.poe@gmail.com

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



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PREHISTORY^{to} DIGITAL HISTORY

IN A SUMMER INTERNSHIP

By Amy Lucadamo, College Archivist, Special Collections and College Archives, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College

DAVID R. JOHNSON, GETTYSBURG COLLEGE, CLASS OF 1972, GREW UP IN EAST PETERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA. HE WAS INTERESTED IN LOCAL HISTORY AND WAS ALREADY A COLLECTOR WHEN HE WENT TO COLLEGE.

Although Johnson was a physics major, he spent weekends hunting for arrowheads¹ around Adams County. He occasionally brought friends to tramp along creek beds and through farm fields (with permission). Drawing from his science background, Johnson kept a notebook to document his finds. He filled it with comments on the day's weather, searching location, and conditions. He drew maps of the intersections of local roads

detailed with streams and fields, and alongside, he sketched his significant finds true to size. He used detailed shading and noted their mineral makeup. Johnson found well over 200 shaped stone tools and various projectile points.

He continued to search the local area while teaching physics at Gettysburg High School. Later, at Selinsgrove High School, he searched along Penn's Creek and on the Isle of Que. Then he stopped, but his interest in regional and local history remained. He researched genealogy and Fraktur at the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society. Eventually, he became the

¹ Johnson used "arrowheads" to describe his collection. At the recommendation of Professors Benjamin Luley and Kirby Farah, both archeologists, we updated the terminology to "stone artifacts" to describe his collection since the collection includes a variety of shaped stones used for different purposes.



William Vorosmarti, Riley Yorke, and Maddie Ulman, Class of 2026, show their website to Robin Wagner, Dean of Musselman Library, July 2, 2024. Photo courtesy of Special Collections and College Archives.



Riley Yorke, Class of 2026, and William Vorosmarti, Class of 2025, matching stone artifacts to sketches in the collector's notes, June 10, 2024. Photo courtesy of Special Collections and College Archives.

president of the East Petersburg Historical Society. Johnson earned a master's degree from the University of Delaware and ran their physics laboratory until he retired in 2015.

Though he did not add to his arrowhead collection after the 1980s, he preserved it. He stored his artifacts in paper bags, cigar and jewelry boxes, and even a multi-tiered dental instrument case with cotton-lined drawers. When he died in late 2022, Johnson wanted his collection donated to his alma mater. His niece and brother delivered the stone artifacts to the Special Collections and College Archives at Musselman Library in April 2024.

Special Collections and College Archives does not actively collect ethnographic material. The repository holds a few legacy items from the College's ill-fated museum.² One or

² The Linnaean Association was founded by students and faculty at Pennsylvania College in 1844. They managed a collection of minerals, ancient coins, fossils, shells, and small ethnographic pieces like a fishing hook, for example. Many items were donated by alumni. Special Collections and College Archives holds the records of the Linnaean Association which include catalogues of their collections and correspondence with donors. A finding aid for MS-010: Papers of the Linnaean Association is available: <https://archives.gettysburg.edu/repositories/4/resources/17>.

two others have been donated or willed by alumni, but the archive's specialties lie elsewhere. We looked through the boxes, examined Johnson's notes, and spoke with his family. We acknowledged and reflected on the responsibilities of preserving this collection. We proceeded with caution.

At Gettysburg College, creation of a land acknowledgment statement started in 2016 with the Students for Indigenous Awareness Club. The statement, revised for 2024 reads: Gettysburg College recognizes the connections Indigenous Peoples have to this land and acknowledges the impact of settler colonialism. We will honor Indigenous pasts and presents to ensure vibrant futures. We commit to deepen our relationships with the land and the human and other relatives with whom it is shared.

The authors of the statement included students, faculty, and staff. They consulted with local Native community partners. The committee studied written records and archeological evidence that pre-dates European colonization. Their process revealed difficulties connecting prehistoric evidence with any modern Native American people.³

Johnson was meticulous in keeping records about his "arrowheads," but he did not know who made them. Aware of the research by our Land Acknowledgement Committee, we did not presume to identify the cultures that shaped these stones. But we have not given up on providing what context we can for the stone artifacts.

Riley Yorke, Class of 2026 and Diane Werley Smith '73 Summer Intern, initially saw Johnson's collection as "daunting," but felt ready to take on an ambitious project. She said, "The physical dentist's box in which the collection was housed was intriguing, but I was most interested in this collection because it aligns with my studies in archaeology." Riley was one of four interns working in Special Collections and College Archives in the summer of 2024. Each summer, interns learn archival theory and practice, book conservation, digitization, and cataloging, and also receive an introduction to the Digital Humanities. Rising senior William Vorosmarti, our Robert '44 and Esther Kenyon Fortenbaugh '46 Intern, decided to join Riley to work on the Johnson collection.

Before processing, we discussed challenges that might arise due to our collective inexperience with this type of collection. I perused housing options. Riley and William created a processing plan. William described how challenging prioritizing was

³ "Indigenous Pasts and Presents," Land Acknowledgement Statement, accessed November 15, 2024, <https://www.gettysburg.edu/offices/diversity-inclusion/land-acknowledgement-statement/>.

IMAGE CREDIT, OPPOSITE PAGE: William Vorosmarti, Riley Yorke, and Maddie Ulman pose with their website, July 2, 2024. Photo courtesy of Special Collections and College Archives.



because of the volume of artifacts and “massive amount of information. We had hundreds of artifacts collected over a ten-year period from many different sites.” They focused on those from Adams County and came up with a solution for sorting the stone artifacts using Johnson’s notes. They photocopied the notes and matched the artifacts with his sketches. Over two days, this method, and the occasional note scrawled on a bag or box, allowed them to identify about 200 individual stone artifacts. These include projectile points, arrowheads, axe heads, and a grinding stone. Riley emphasized the value of knowing where the artifacts were found, “having concrete(ish) locations to point to when people ask about certain sites is really valuable for future interpretive work with this collection. When contextualizing these artifacts in precise areas, we can explore factors of this collection not considered by Johnson fifty years ago.”

Matching the stones to the sketches in Johnson’s notes allowed us to respect his original order. Johnson divided his collection geographically. Notations of the location and date when the stones were found are included in the finding aid. We used divided artifact trays, placing the identified stones in a single layer. The photocopied sketches of stones were placed at the bottom of the trays. Each identified stone artifact has a specific location in a tray alongside other stones found in the same location on the same day.

As Riley and William worked on identification, I contacted geologist and professor Sarah Principato. She confirmed that Johnson’s identification of stone types was correct. We also consulted Professors Benjamin Luley and Kirby Farah, both archeologists. They lead students on annual digs on campus.

Luley teaches a course titled “The Archaeology of Pennsylvania: From the First Nations to Modern Times.” Using Johnson’s notes and advice from faculty, Riley and William completed a finding aid. But they wanted to make the collection more discoverable. All four of our summer interns worked with Digital Initiatives Librarian, R.C. Miessler, to make that happen.

The resulting website, [David R. Johnson ’72 Stone Artifact Collection](#), uses WordPress, ArcGIS Story Maps, and photos of the stone artifacts to explain the collection and display highlights. Visitors can browse images of the collection alongside Johnson’s notes and explore a map of Adams County with the locations of the finds marked and linked to Johnson’s sketched maps. The students collaborated to photograph the stone artifacts, annotate the map, write a biography of Johnson, and explain his collecting. They focused on the locations where the artifacts were found, as did Johnson. They also note their inability to add further context about the creators of the artifacts. While working on the website, Brian C. Pohanka Intern, Maddie Ulman, Class of 2026, enjoyed putting academic theory into practice. She reflected, “figuring out how to make the website understandable and accessible for users, as well as trying to decide what language to use in our descriptions of the artifacts was reminiscent of work that I had done and discussed in a public history class.” We hope that by sharing the collection online and with Gettysburg faculty and students, we will continue to add layers of context to the artifacts.

IMAGE CREDIT: Identifying stone artifacts in MS-325: David R. Johnson ’76 Arrowhead Collection, June 10, 2024. Photo courtesy of Special Collections and College Archives.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE UPDATE

MARAC's Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee was established in 2018 to facilitate, sponsor, and promote diversity and inclusiveness within MARAC and the archival profession at large.

Soon after its establishment, the committee developed the Diversity and Inclusion Session Scholarship to encourage sessions focused on topics of inclusion, diversity, and social justice at MARAC meetings. To date, the committee has awarded seven session scholarships:

- “Using Community Collecting Projects and Partnerships to Increase the Diversity of Archival Holdings” Gettysburg, Fall 2021
- “If You Build it Alone, Few Will Come: Lessons Learned from Community Archives Advocacy” Harrisonburg, Spring 2022
- “Case Studies in Reparative Description Projects” College Park, Fall 2022
- “The Black History and Visual Culture collection at Penn State University Libraries” Virtual Spring 2023
- “Affordable and Easy Universal Design in Archival Instruction” Philadelphia, Spring 2024
- “Editing Wikipedia, Advancing DEI: Spotlighting Newark History in Rutgers Archives” Philadelphia, Spring 2024
- “Propping the Doors Open: Collaboration and Access Between Tribal Communities and Non-Native Institutions” Virtual, Fall 2024

When founded, the scholarship required presenters to self-select into eligibility for the award; this year the committee has decided to remove that requirement and will evaluate all accepted conference sessions.

The committee planned and executed MARAC's first symposium in Philadelphia, PA in Spring 2024. The D&I Committee hosted this one-day meeting on April 8, 2024. It featured eight lightning talks surrounding topics of diversity, equity, and inclusion and a half-day training by [Right to Be](#), on Bystander Intervention and Conflict De-Escalation in the Workplace. A second, supplemental training occurred on April 26, 2024, on “Resilience: This Moment and Beyond.”

In addition to the work highlighted above, members of the D&I Committee advise conference planning committees on issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion to ensure that MARAC members' needs and concerns are being addressed at meetings. The committee has also sponsored off-conference workshops and webinars and is responsible for MARAC's [diversity and inclusion resource list](#).

The D&I Committee is committed to ensuring the diverse needs of MARAC's members are represented and that all feel welcomed. The committee welcomes new ideas and suggestions to better serve our members, please [contact the chair](#) with any concerns.





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What's in Your Collection?

DISCOVERING HISTORY THROUGH RECIPES

DELAWARE PUBLIC ARCHIVES

THE PUBLIC SERVICES STAFF AT THE DELAWARE PUBLIC ARCHIVES CREATED A UNIQUE DISPLAY TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON SOME LESSER-KNOWN TREASURES WITHIN THE STATE'S HOLDINGS.

Rather than highlighting typical archival records, the display featured an unexpected topic for state archives: recipes! With the holiday season approaching, staff anticipated visitors would appreciate seeing family recipes, sparking memories of cooking traditions shared across generations. This project also provided a valuable opportunity to show the public how to navigate archival collections at the Delaware Public Archives to find other historical gems.

Within the collections, Archives staff found an assortment of handwritten recipes, not only for food but also for medicinal remedies, plaster, dye, and ink. These recipes offer a glimpse into their authors' personal lives and everyday routines,

most of whom were Delaware residents. These individuals carefully recorded, used, and often shared their recipes within their communities. Some recipes were used for community fundraisers held throughout Delaware, while others were part of collections of family papers donated to the Archives. The variety of recipes staff found illustrate how communities preserved and shared their culinary knowledge and personal heritage.

A selection of the recipes was displayed at the Delaware Public Archives, inviting visitors and staff alike to explore them and gain insights into different historical and cultural contexts. The recipes come from amateur bakers and chefs of various time periods and cultural backgrounds, allowing visitors to explore primary source documents, historical contexts, and even connections to math and science. The evolution of cooking methods—from open hearths and cast-iron stoves to modern electric ovens—was a point of great interest, as were the



DOVER CAKE: *Contributed by Jeannie Coleman, 1886²*

Dover Cake was a popular “fancy cake” in the early 19th century, flavored with vanilla and aromatic spices. The combination of rosewater and nutmeg was popular in the 1700s and into the 1800s. Ms. Jeannie Coleman’s recipe was likely baked in a cast-iron stove with a tube cake pan—a method she noted with the words “Stove Damper.” Dover Cake is a heavy, dense cake, similar to pound cake, and the tube cake pan helps with even and faster baking.

FUDGE: *Contributed by Cecelia Coursey³*

Ms. Cecelia Coursey, a member of the Nanticoke Indian Tribe, contributed her fudge recipe to *Yesterday’s Treasures*, a collaborative project to preserve and share cultural heritage. The recipe, along with her recorded memories, represents a fond link to family traditions and cherished community customs. Like others in the project, Coursey’s contribution highlights stories of heritage preserved within food traditions.

APPLE PIE: *Contributed by Claude Stewart⁴*

In 1951, the Delaware Apple Commission organized a promotional event featuring a parachute drop of apples over Wilmington, complete with baking contest entry forms. Mrs. Claude Stewart’s apple pie recipe won first place in the contest, and she was invited to appear on the “Esther Alderman Show” on WDEL TV. This recipe not only delighted pie lovers, but also promoted Delaware’s apple industry.

These recipes and others the Archives included symbolize community and Delaware agriculture.

To deepen their understanding of these records, the Public Services Manager prepared each dish, making slight adjustments for modern equipment where necessary. Since the original recipes lacked precise instructions for temperature and time, these factors were estimated—much like the original recipe writers would have done. Delaware Public Archives staff were able to experience the flavors and techniques that inspired these recipes’ preservation firsthand, and the exercise underscored why these recipes were recorded: they are truly delicious!

The Delaware Public Archives holds a wealth of resources, much like other cultural heritage institutions. This display is just one example of how collections can be used creatively to expand programming and engage audiences in meaningful ways. After all, who wouldn’t love a slice of award-winning pie?

IMAGE CREDIT, TOP TO BOTTOM:
Jumbles, December 2021. Image courtesy of Edward McWilliams.
Apple Pie, December 2021. Image courtesy of Edward McWilliams.



highlights of Native American heritage and women’s history. Early recipes, which lacked temperature settings or baking times, reflect the learned art of gauging heat from the fire and baking time by sight and feel. To illustrate this, an 18th-century recipe for Jumbles, a popular treat from that period, was included in the display. Other notable recipes from the exhibit included:

JUMBLES: *Attributed to Emily and Mary Martin, circa 1900¹*

Jumbles are cookie-like pastries that have been popular for centuries. The recipe has been changed and adapted over time. In the 1700s, the dough was rolled between the fingers to form rings. Jumbles were quite popular in the 1800s. The Martin family’s recipe uses the basic ingredients with options for additions like raisins, nuts, coconut, or chocolate pieces.

1 9200-R15-000, Small Manuscript Collections, Robbins - Martin Papers
 2 9050-010-002, Delaware Agricultural Museum Collection, Personal Records, Coleman Papers

3 9270-000-004, General Reference Collections, Pamphlet Collection
 4 1380-014-009, Department of Agriculture, Delaware State Apple Commission, Scrapbook

Book Review

THE REMAKING OF ARCHIVAL VALUES

BY VICTORIA HOYLE

“EVIDENTIALITY IS HAUNTED BY A GENEALOGY OF HIERARCHY AND INEQUITY.” —VICTORIA HOYLE

REVIEWED BY: DEBORAH SMITH, MLIS

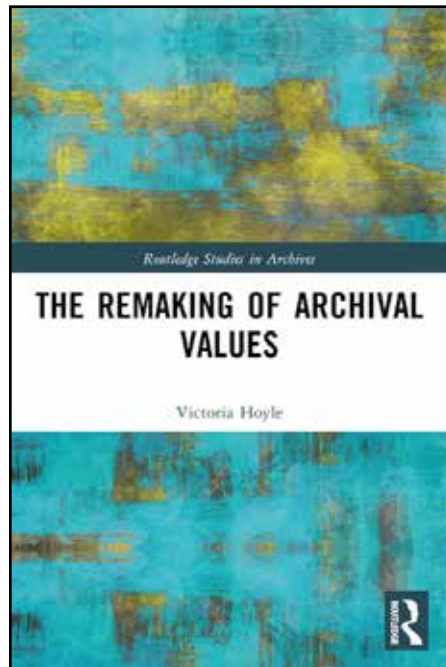
Encompassing six of the original 13 American colonies, MARAC members work at repositories where the country's early history interweaves with our practitioner's fabric. A colonial past influences our shared belief system—how we think about and care for the documents across our respective repositories. One of the best books about archives today hails from across the pond, illuminating how our shared values help or hinder our practice.

The Remaking of Archival Values is part of the Routledge Studies in Archives series (Routledge being one of the largest publishers of academic books and journals). Given the title, I was curious if the book might argue against much of the current focus on this continent in areas like reparative description, representation, and outreach. Quite the opposite: Hoyle places that work in a broader and richer context.

A former city archivist, Hoyle directs the Institute for the Public Understanding of the Past at the University of York, England. The walled city of York becomes an apt metaphor as Hoyle trains her eye on the gatekeepers of history. Having worked primarily in academic and government archives, it was Hoyle's work with community groups that challenged her to reflect on the self-preservation behaviors that isolate history's custodians in pretense to preservation. I found Hoyle's examination of implicit bias particularly relevant in regard to the outsized influence that government and academic institutions have on cultural heritage terminology, discourse, and practice.

Hoyle's 2018 dissertation, "Who Do Archives Think They Are? Archives, Community and Value in the Heritage City," is the

obvious impetus for her book. But other research interests make her a particularly thoughtful and nuanced writer. Hoyle has studied the emotional history of face transplants, as well as memory and identity in adults and children. This work raises essential questions—what happens when an individual loses their memory, or reconstructs it? What happens to societies and cultures when they cannot agree on communal memory? Who are the memory keepers, and why? Hoyle's work invites us to examine the bigger questions that define our collective values.



The Remaking of Archival Values is structured across six chapters. Hoyle eloquently starts by showing how the archival paradigm is rooted in the empirical and judicial logic of the Western nation state, developed in Europe in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As Hoyle notes, “value is conceived to flow from the archive into the world (8)” where “the value judgments of experts...have been normalised to appear self-evident (34).”

Written for an academic audience, some of the language can be dry, especially at the beginning. Acronyms for various organizational groups also pepper the text; a lengthy list of abbreviations at the start of the book helps the reader to make sense of who is who, and who funds what.

I found chapter 3, “The Affective Alternative,” and chapter 4, “Authorised Archival Discourse in Action,” particularly compelling. In these sections, Hoyle focuses her critical lens on her own archival and community work. She invites readers to critically examine how we perform our work as archivists, and ferrets out the sometimes subtle but alarming dissonances between our values and our practices.

Hoyle is particularly persuasive in highlighting the “discursive

tendencies” that lead archivists to view the materials we preserve as unsuited for use until we process them. We prefer to think of this as adding value and to frame our work as providing tender loving care. But maybe we are just highly trained members of an elite club. This is partly Hoyle’s point. Qualifications and coded vocabulary have become a mechanism to “embed, reproduce, and circulate” authorized values.

Hoyle also has much to say about how archivists construct democratic narratives around their work, while noting that archives can still remain “under the systematic control of ‘qualified’ practitioners (131).” In the chapter “Managing Discourse in Practice,” Hoyle examines the York Gateway to History project and how funding impacts our industry. She points out the tensions that arise from the fact that most institutional funding favors institutions working with communities, and not communities working on their own.

The danger is that partnerships and projects then reinforce implicit viewpoints and archivists’ own imposed social order. The dissonance comes when archivists stubbornly adhere to a self-reinforcing narrative of adding trained, professional expertise to communities, who perceive their own value as both pre-existing and outside of the Archive writ capital ‘A’.

Previous reviews have criticized the book’s focus on York and, more broadly, England, which seems both unreasonable and even provincial. Hoyle has much to say about how archivists perceive themselves as promoting democracy. If democracy, like history, is made locally, then we might be better served to curb-check a lens of American exceptionalism. Read Jason Stanley, Tim Snyder, and Hannah Arendt—and add *The Remaking of Archival Values* to your list.



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► DELAWARE

UPDATES FROM THE DELAWARE PUBLIC ARCHIVES

On June 18, the Delaware Public Archives proudly hosted Governor John Carney and Lieutenant Governor Bethany Hall-Long, alongside lawmakers and advocates, for the signing of a proclamation declaring June 2024 as LGBTQI+ Pride Month. The state also unveiled its first digital queer history resource, “[We Have Always Been Here](#),” created in partnership with the Government Information Center and the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. This project shares some of the rich and diverse stories of LGBTQ+ Delawareans throughout history, utilizing records from the Delaware Public Archives and other repositories. The signed proclamation, itself an archival record, is now stored at the Archives, preserving this moment for future generations.

In August, the Archives launched the [Delaware Public Archives Portal](#), a new content management system powered by Lucidea’s ArchivEra, designed to revolutionize public access to its collections. The journey began in early 2019, leading to the selection of ArchivEra in January 2021, with an internal launch in September 2022. Through the dedicated efforts of the Delaware Public Archives’ staff, more than 1.5 million record descriptions are now available, compared to the previous 463,000 on its website. With this centralized, web-based Portal, staff efficiency and public accessibility have greatly improved. [Learn more](#) and visit [the Portal](#) to search its holdings!



From right, Lieutenant Governor Bethany Hall-Long, Delaware Public Archives Director Stephen Marz, and Governor John Carney pose with the proclamation in observance of LGBTQI+ Pride Month. June 20, 2024. Photograph courtesy of Delaware Public Archives.

The Delaware Public Archives also launched a new webpage in October dedicated to its holdings related to Delaware 250. The page will serve as a central resource, featuring a growing collection of digitized historical materials, blog posts, lesson plans, and updates on upcoming events. As the page evolves, it will continue showcasing the Archives’ valuable holdings, providing deeper insights into Delaware’s role in the nation’s founding and history. The Delaware Public Archives looks forward to sharing these rich resources with everyone as part of this significant commemoration. Please visit the [DE250 Resources](#) page to explore.

• CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

Diane E. Bockrath

(302) 658-2400 ext. 328

dbockrath@hagley.org

► DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

• CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

Jason Speck

(202) 243-3953

jspeck@hillwoodmuseum.org

► MARYLAND

• CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

Jen Gathings

(301) 314-1296

jgeidson08@gmail.com

► NEW JERSEY

ERIC SCHWARZ HONORED WITH INNOVATION AWARD

Eric Schwarz was honored with the 2024 Innovation Award from the Special Libraries Association’s Transportation Community, for his work on a memorial project for the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). In 2000, the department dedicated an employee memorial in a courtyard at its headquarters, featuring a brick wall with a plaque for each of the 32 employees of the NJDOT (or its predecessor, the New Jersey State Highway Department), who were known to have been killed in a work-related accident. In the intervening years, four names were added to the wall, the most recent death occurring in 2010. In 2023, Eric found the names of five men who had sacrificed their lives in an employee newspaper

called *The Highway*, published from 1942 to 1950. He pieced together the stories of these men using accounts from *The Highway*, supplemented by research using the New Jersey State Library's newspaper databases and draft registration cards from a military records database.

Eric presented these stories as the keynote speaker of NJDOT's 23rd Annual Remembrance Ceremony, where the names were added to the memorial wall. From 2023 to 2024, Eric found the names of 25 additional employees killed on the job from 1922 to 1965, through additional research online and in person at the New Jersey State Archives. These names were added to the memorial wall at the annual ceremony in 2024, bringing the current total to 66 names.

UPDATES FROM THE NEW JERSEY STATE ARCHIVES

In January 2025, the New Jersey State Archives will transfer approximately 200 boxes of birth, marriage, and death certificates from the Office of Vital Statistics and Registry (OVSR, in the Department of Health) out of the State Records Center to the State Archives facility. This adds birth records for 1924, marriage records for 1941-1950, and death records for 1941-1950 to the State Archives' legally accessioned holdings. It is the third major phase in a series of planned transfers agreed to by Archives and OVSR several years ago. Archives staff will begin processing online requests for copies and certifications of these records in January. For marriage and death certificates, this is a 10-year "jump" in what is available at the Archives versus the OVSR (as compared to the 1-year increment for births).

The New Jersey State Archives is pleased to announce the launch of its digital repository for born digital records. This interface, which uses Preservica, can be viewed here: <https://njsagc.access.preservica.com/portal>. The State Archives is the State of New Jersey's official research center for public records of enduring historical value. This website will enable easy browsing of collections from any location. To learn more about the New Jersey State Archives' Electronic Record Program, you can check out their presentation on the [MARAC YouTube](#).

RUTGERS SCUA ACQUIRES THE LAWRENCE AND YOLANDA PERROTTA CORRESPONDENCE COLLECTION

Rutgers Special Collections and University Archives recently acquired the Lawrence and Yolanda Perrotta Correspondence collection. This contains correspondence between Lawrence Perotta, his wife Yolanda, and siblings during World War II. Located in Nutley, NJ, the correspondence describes war effort and local happenings while Lawrence was deployed to fight in the war. Lt. Perrotta served in the Army after graduating from NYU with an accounting degree. He was honorably discharged in 1941. On December 7, his brother drove to Fort Meade, MD, to bring him home, but the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor

changed Perrotta's post-service plans. He immediately turned around and re-enlisted. He was deployed to Germany, where he took part in the battle of Lunderdorff bridge in March 1945, a pivotal moment for the allied forces that allowed them to move more than 150,000 men and artillery towards Berlin where Hitler had already retreated to a bunker. Perrotta was injured and relocated to England where he had several surgeries before returning to the US. He earned a purple heart and a bronze star. He lived the rest of his life in Nutley, NJ, with his wife and three daughters. He passed away in 2015.

SAVE THE DATE

The Princeton Preservation Group will be hosting a virtual presentation by conservator Maria Julia Costa on February 11, 2025 at 7 pm EST, on removing the emulsions from deteriorated acetate sheet negatives in order to facilitate high quality digital copying. Please register at the [PPG website](#).

Join the NJ Caucus for a hybrid meeting, available both in-person and virtually, on March 28th at 1:30 pm at the [Warren Township Branch](#) of the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey. The meeting will include a talk by Mally Becker, a local NJ author whose Revolutionary War Mystery Series was inspired by a collection of documents at the Morristown National Historical Park.

• CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

Diane Biunno
(973) 353-3803
diane.biunno@gmail.com

► NEW YORK

GENOCIDE IN RWANDA: LIEUTENANT-GENERAL ROMÉO A. DALLAIRE PAPERS ADDED TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY (USMA) LIBRARY, ARCHIVES, AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The United States Military Academy (USMA) Library at West Point, in collaboration with the Stewart and Lynda Resnick Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, recently completed a project to process a gift of the professional papers, books, and recordings of Canadian Lieutenant-General Roméo A. Dallaire. Dallaire was the Force Commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) — a doomed peacekeeping mission during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda which took more than 800,000 lives in three months. The Lieutenant-General Roméo A. Dallaire Papers illustrate the impact of character and leadership on decision-making in this crisis, and chronicle events leading up to, during, and after the mission. They are a significant new resource for researchers and students of genocide, illuminating the complexity of international political, military, and humanitarian responses to atrocities, how UN operations work, and how colonialism contributed to this genocide.

On September 12 and 13, 2024, coinciding with both the opening of the archive and the 30th anniversary of the genocide, the USMA Library and the Resnick Center hosted a symposium with the participation of scholars, peacekeepers, and survivors. The event featured *Grappling in the Gray: Peacekeeping and Genocide in Rwanda*, an exhibition of materials from the Dallaire Papers paired with UNAMIR artifacts loaned by the Canadian War Museum. [Materials are accessible for research and instruction through the library catalog, an ArchivesSpace finding aid, an Omeka exhibit, and a LibGuide.](#) A top-ranked liberal arts and engineering college focused on character and leadership development with Diversity and Inclusion among its three mission priorities, the United States Military Academy—with 4,400 cadets—enrolls students of diverse backgrounds from every state and territory in the nation, and welcomes students from six continents.

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES SECURE GRANT FOR ARCLIGHT INTEGRATION PROJECT

The University at Albany Libraries, in partnership with the [Empire State Library Network](#) (ESLN), is thrilled to announce the receipt of a \$249,996 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This significant funding, provided through the National Leadership Grants for Libraries program, will support the [Arclight Integration Project](#), an initiative aimed at transforming access to the digital and physical archival collections by incorporating digital objects into archival finding aids.

The Arclight Integration Project will transform how researchers and students interact with archival materials by developing a unified system for discovering and accessing both physical and digital collections. Incorporating digital objects and archival description in one system will also enable archivists to fully apply archival methods—such as extensible processing—to digital materials for the first time, while also facilitating the use of existing description for processed collections for on-demand or user-driven digitization.

Combining description and digital objects in the same system raises new questions regarding how archivists should manage digital objects. This project will also facilitate a collaborative effort among archival practitioners to develop new specifications for integrating digital and physical archival materials. This work will ground future system design in archivists' firsthand experience working with digitized and born-digital materials.

This funding will not only enhance local access to archival materials, but will also work to better incorporate digital objects into state-level access portals, including [EmpireADC](#) (New York) and [Connecticut Archives Online](#) (Connecticut).

This integration will support access to unique collections held in small archives throughout both states.

- **CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE**
Melissa McMullen
(518) 437-3933
mmcmullen@albany.edu

► PENNSYLVANIA

BRANDYWINE MUSEUM OF ART LAUNCHES FIRST FINDING AID DATABASE

The Walter & Leonore Annenberg Research Center of the Brandywine Museum of Art is pleased to announce its first instance of ArchivesSpace for archival collections and finding aids. The Annenberg Research Center includes unique resources related to a variety of American art and artists, with special emphasis on illustration, the Wyeth family, and the Brandywine School. The Research Center's Archives and Special Collections contains materials such as manuscripts, photographs, scrapbooks, and audiovisual materials pertaining to these subjects and also preserves rare, illustrated books and periodicals that provide evidence of the historical record of illustrators' published works. Additionally, the Research Center maintains the Museum's Institutional Archives, which contain inactive institutional records and are accessible to internal users only.

This is the first time that Brandywine has published its finding aids online, which include collections that are publicly accessible to researchers by appointment. This is a "work in progress," so [keep an eye on the site](#) as it continues to upload legacy finding aids, processes the backlog, and adds new acquisitions. Additionally, Brandywine launched its first library catalog this past summer, which contains a variety of printed materials, including the aforementioned rare books from Special Collections. This is another space to watch as Brandywine continues working towards its goal of making its collections more discoverable!

For more information, please contact Research Center Manager Lillian Kinney at lkinney@brandywine.org.

ARCHIVE OF THE LATE JAZZ PIANIST ACQUIRED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH LIBRARY SYSTEM

The University of Pittsburgh Library System is pleased to announce the acquisition of the archive of jazz pianist and Pittsburgh native Ahmad Jamal. A composer and virtuoso of jazz piano, Jamal was cited as a significant influence by none other than jazz legend Miles Davis. Jamal, who began playing piano at age three, attended Westinghouse High School and played piano in the "K-Dets," one of the first high school jazz

orchestras in the country.

His big break came in 1958 when his album *At the Pershing* became a surprising smash hit, selling a million copies and staying on the Billboard charts for 108 weeks. His performance of the 1930s jazz standard “Poinciana” on the album has become the definitive recording of the song. The success of the album propelled his career, making his trio one of the most popular jazz acts of the 1950s and 1960s.

While Jamal continued to record and tour the world throughout the latter part of the twentieth century, he never forgot his hometown. In 1989, he released an album called *Pittsburgh*, which he described as “a tribute to my beloved hometown.” Jamal’s music took on a curious revival in the 1990s and the 2000s when his performances were sampled hundreds of times by hip hop artists, including The Game, De La Soul, Nas, Jay-Z, and Common. Jamal released his last album, the solo and duo album *Ballades*, in 2019.

Jamal earned the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master award (1994) and won a Lifetime Achievement Grammy (2017) for his contributions to music history. He passed away on April 16, 2023.

The collection contains hundreds of manuscript scores and compositions in Jamal’s hand, photographs, posters and publicity material, honorary degrees, audio recordings, notebooks, correspondence, scrapbooks, news clippings, and awards, including his NEA Jazz Master.

- **CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE**
Isaac Alexander
ijalexander105@gmail.com

► VIRGINIA



George C. Marshall Papers

DIGITIZATION PROJECT AT THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL FOUNDATION

In fall 2022, the George C. Marshall Foundation in Lexington, Virginia, began a digitization initiative unprecedented for an archive of its size. By 2033, the scanning and

metadata tagging of its flagship George C. Marshall Papers will be complete. “The digitization of the Marshall Papers on an item level is a huge project for our small organization,” said Melissa Davis, Director of Library and Archives. “It’s an unusual project as well, with military historians employing their expertise to create metadata, using a custom-designed controlled vocabulary.”

Today, the digitization of the first portion of the George C. Marshall Papers, covering his career between 1938–45, nears completion. Backstage Library Works of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, will pick up the remaining 200 boxes for scanning before the new year. These papers will remain in Backstage’s stewardship for much of 2025, with regular electronic deliveries of newly digitized portions of the collection sent to the Marshall Foundation. This will allow for efficient metadata creation and remote access for researchers while the project is still underway.

To learn more about the George C. Marshall Foundation digitization project and to access its digital collections, email librarian@marshallfoundation.org or visit their website at www.marshallfoundation.org.

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES LAUNCHES ITS ONLINE REPOSITORY

Shenandoah University is excited to announce the launch of its first ever digital archive at su.hykucommons.org. The archive will feature a variety of materials, including yearbooks, photographs, and student newspapers. Check back often for more content.

UPDATES FROM THE TRUBAN ARCHIVES, SHENANDOAH COUNTY LIBRARY

Representatives from 14 archives and historic organizations gathered on October 9, 2024 for the annual Shenandoah Valley Archives Fair. This event, held in Harrisonburg, Virginia, is an opportunity for archives professionals and the public to meet and discuss collections, research, and the field in general. Over 100 members of the public attended the event.

The Shenandoah County Truban Archives has also welcomed the [Shenandoah Valley Equality Collection](#) to its holdings. This digital collection documents the history of this important regional LGBTQ organization from 2012 to 2022.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY ACQUIRES THE JOEL SNYDER AUDIO DESCRIPTION ARCHIVE

The Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) at George Mason University has recently acquired the Joel Snyder audio description archive, a 75 linear foot collection created and collected by Joel Snyder, a leader and innovator in the field of

audio description. The collection documents Snyder's domestic and international travels in service of audio description education, his teaching workshops, and decades worth of scripts—including some of the earliest broadcasted audio description work—as well as records from his company, Audio Description Associates. Processing is underway by project archivist Annie Waddell. SCRC anticipates the collection will be available for access and research in the Fall of 2025.

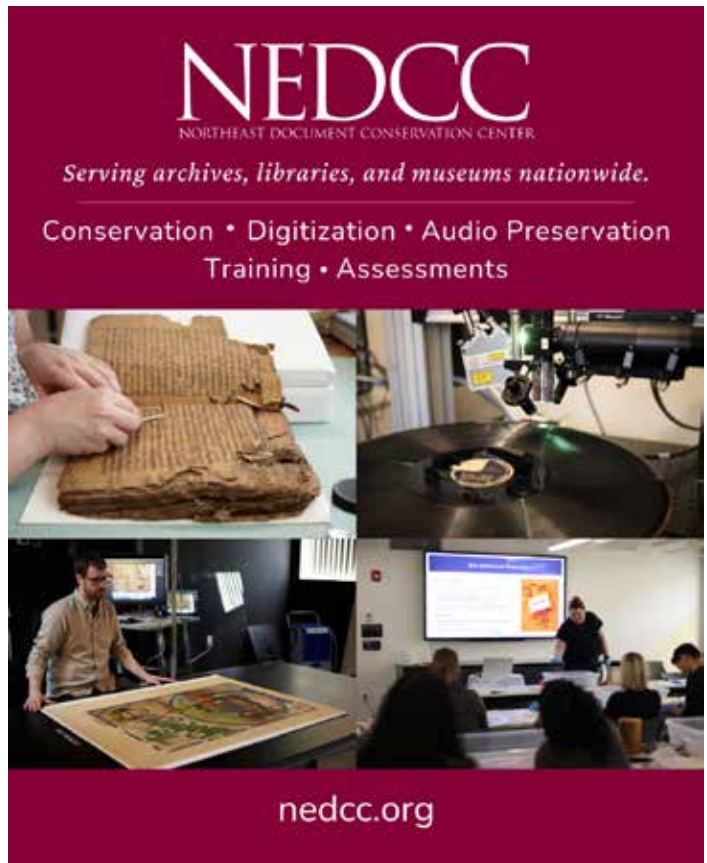
• CAUCUS REPRESENTATIVE

Steven Bookman
(757) 683-5910
sbookman@odu.edu

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The image features a maroon header with the NEDCC logo and tagline. Below the header are three photographs: a person working on an old manuscript, a close-up of a microscope, and a person in a classroom setting. The website URL 'nedcc.org' is displayed at the bottom of the image area.



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The advertisement features a large, stylized background image of a keyboard. The text is arranged in a clear, bold layout, with the company name and logo prominently displayed at the bottom right.

New Members

September 2024

Zoe Adams University of Maryland
Myka Carroll Context Collaborative LLC
Jana Considine University of Maryland
Alex Hilton Self-Employed
Richard Kearney Bergen County Historical Society
Alison Matthews University of South Florida
Madeleine Poche Simmons University
Benjamin Pollock University of Maryland
Paul-Newell Reaves Dominican University
Melanie Reed Shippensburg University
Debra Skripkunis Pennwest Global
Julia Tyson East Hampton Library
Julia Wiker Mennonite Life
Shallis Worthy Rochester Public Library

October 2024

Karen Beal West Virginia University
Eszter Brogyanyi Eötvös Loránd University Faculty
of Humanities
Bee Cannon Salt River Project
Layne Carpenter James Madison University
Christopher Celauro Johns Hopkins University
Kristi Chase Northampton Township Archives
Roger Christman Library of Virginia
Karen Clausen-Brown Institute for Advanced Study
Marie Corrado Carnegie Museums
Eirva (Eirini Vasiliki) Diamessis Cornell University Library
Tracy Grimm West Virginia University Libraries
Deanna Johnson Louisiana State University
Deidre Johnson Freelance
Miles Lawlor Library of Congress
Chloe Lucchesi-Malone Friends Historical Library
Maria Mazzenga The Catholic University of America
Blyth McManus National Park Service
Harrison Miller Simmons University

Anna Morris Salt River Project
Markus Most National Archives
Paige Neal Library of Virginia
Irene Park University of Maryland
Ana Ramirez Luhrs Lafayette College
Eric Schwarz New Jersey Department of Transportation
Natalia Simoni Catholic University of America
Daniela Torres Romo University of Maryland, College Park
Annie Waddell George Mason University
Lauren White University of Maryland
Holly Wilson Temple University SCRC
Courtney Wirt The University of Olivet
Kalei Woodford Virginia Tech

November 2024

Erin Anderson University of Pittsburgh
Amee Beckner Amee Beckner
Isabel Blooston University of Maryland
Kristin Hamilton University of Maryland
Stephanie Harry DAWSON
Kaitlyn Lacey University of Pittsburgh
Bebe Leistyna Dumbarton Oaks/Folger Shakespeare Library
Elizabeth Lerner Old Dominion University
Jorge Matos Hostos Community College-
City University of New York
Sharon McCollins Southern Bible Institute & College
Alona Norwood University of Maryland Special Collection
Addison Patrick University of Virginia School of Law - Library
Allison Schoenauer Student
Kathleen Stamos Unemployed
Jada Twitty Library of Congress Music Division

Treasurer's Report

FISCAL YEAR 2025 • 1ST QUARTER • JULY 1–SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% Budget</u>
INCOME							
Membership Dues	\$46,500.00	\$26,499.00				\$26,499.00	57%
Conference Registration	\$51,500.00	\$1,500.00				\$1,500.00	3%
Conference Vendors	\$13,000.00	\$2,000.00				\$2,000.00	15%
Conference Sponsorship	\$5,000.00	\$950.00				\$950.00	19%
Publication Advertising	\$1,500.00	\$360.00				\$360.00	24%
Publication Sales	\$400.00	\$90.00				\$90.00	23%
VA Caucus Event	\$500.00	\$25.00				\$25.00	5%
Off-Meeting Workshops	\$7,000.00	\$850.00				\$850.00	12%
Bank Interest	\$1,300.00	\$683.72				\$683.72	53%
Investment Interest	\$2,000.00	\$3,151.20				\$3,151.20	158%
Gifts to Operations	\$800.00	\$306.00				\$306.00	38%
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Total Income	\$129,500.00	\$36,414.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,414.92	28%
EXPENSES							
Administrator	\$22,000.00	\$5,059.01				\$5,059.01	23%
Web Services	\$9,125.00	\$8,357.92				\$8,357.92	92%
Archivist	\$1,000.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Accountant	\$3,300.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Advocacy	\$1,800.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Insurance Policy	\$1,800.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Phone	\$600.00	\$150.58				\$150.58	25%
Postage	\$300.00	\$14.10				\$14.10	5%
Office Supplies	\$125.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Food	\$3,100.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Travel	\$650.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Equipment	\$750.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Printing and Design	\$3,600.00	\$327.86				\$327.86	9%
Conference	\$68,150.00	\$5,305.63				\$5,305.63	8%
Lodging	\$900.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Honoraria	\$3,000.00	\$500.00				\$500.00	17%
Awards and Prizes	\$1,900.00	\$67.25				\$67.25	4%
VA Caucus Event	\$500.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Banking Fees	\$6,400.00	\$1,698.19				\$1,698.19	27%
Investments	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$0.00				\$0.00	0%
Total Expenses	\$129,500.00	\$21,480.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,480.54	17%
Net Income or (Loss)		\$14,934.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,934.38	
Account Balances							
				<u>Opening</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Closing</u>
PNC Checking	\$89,889.11		Operating	\$0.00	\$36,414.92	(\$21,480.54)	\$14,934.38
PNC Savings	\$78,726.71		Restricted	\$135,259.13	\$3,617.00	\$0.00	\$138,876.13
Vanguard Bonds	\$92,777.80		Reserve	\$45,325.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$45,325.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$261,393.62</u>		Surplus	\$62,258.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,258.11
			Totals	\$242,842.24	\$40,031.92	(\$21,480.54)	\$261,393.62
Summary - First Quarter FY 2025							
		Opening Balance	\$242,842.24				
		Total Income	\$40,031.92				
		<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>(\$21,480.54)</u>				
		Closing Balance	\$261,393.62				
Restricted Funds							
				<u>Opening</u>	<u>New Gifts</u>	<u>Spending</u>	<u>Closing</u>
PNC Savings	\$46,098.33		Disaster Assist.	\$20,433.00	\$364.00	\$0.00	\$20,797.00
Vanguard Bonds	\$92,777.80		Education	\$101,061.51	\$1,856.00	\$0.00	\$102,917.51
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$138,876.13</u>		Graduate Schol	\$8,923.62	\$1,362.00	\$0.00	\$10,285.62
			Finch Award	\$4,841.00	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$4,876.00
			<u>Total</u>	<u>\$135,259.13</u>	<u>\$3,617.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$138,876.13</u>



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Wintertime. Kingsley Association, ca. 1900-1928.
Photographic print. Kingsley Association Records,
Archives & Special Collections, University of Pittsburgh
Library System, [https://digital.library.pitt.edu/islandora/
object/pitt%3A705.0255.KA](https://digital.library.pitt.edu/islandora/object/pitt%3A705.0255.KA).



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