

10-1-2018

News - Digital Library of Georgia

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Recommended Citation

Mastrovita, Mandy L. (2018) "News - Digital Library of Georgia," *Georgia Library Quarterly*: Vol. 55 : Iss. 4 , Article 18.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol55/iss4/18>

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Digital Library of Georgia

Digital Library of Georgia Provides Back-to-School Educator Resources for the 2018-2019 School Year

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) welcomed this year's back-to-school season by adding items to its downloadable press kit at bit.ly/dlgpresskit, and by making new educator resources based on the Georgia 8th Grade Social Studies Standards of Excellence (GSE) available at <https://sites.google.com/view/dlg-educator-resources>.

These items include:

- Education-themed social media posts that connect users to items in the DLG
- A quick start guide that supports educators and students in their research of original materials
- A sample slide deck for educators
- A postcard of DLG portals with features available for educators
- Widgets with links to historic images in user regions
- National History Day resources that connect K-12 history researchers to primary source documents in the DLG
- A customized National History Day GALILEO portal, designed to simplify access to primary documents, articles, and more for K-12 history researchers (available via GALILEO affiliated K-12 schools. Contact GALILEO at <https://www.galileo.usg.edu/contact/> for details)
- A frameable poster and printable postcard featuring a Georgia 8th Grade Social Studies Standards of Excellence (GSE) theme, released monthly



Kevin Shirley, professor of history at LaGrange College, and co-coordinator, National History Day Georgia noted: "These materials are precisely what Georgia students need. Giving them the opportunity to examine, study, and analyze primary sources directly aligned to Georgia studies will build skills and empower learning. In the case of National History Day, many of our participating teachers will use these tools and resources as the 'gateway,' introducing their students to research process and the relationship between primary and secondary sources. It is an excellent collection!"

Joy Hatcher, Georgia Department of Education social studies program manager stated: "The Digital Library of Georgia has assembled a wonderfully rich collection of sources that social studies teachers will find helpful in promoting inquiry. Georgia teachers will be thrilled!"

All of these items provide high quality, standards-aligned materials from the DLG that help teachers meet the varying academic interests and needs of their students and support a wide range of topics and time periods. Topics include: relations between the early government and the Native peoples, the arts, public education, the World Wars, civil

rights, economics, and politics from revolution through present. Materials come from museums, archives, libraries, historical societies, and other cultural heritage organizations that have contributed more than 600 collections to the DLG's web site, and all provide insight into the state's diverse population and geography.

Three New Historical Map Collections Now Available from the City of Savannah Municipal Archives

Record Series 3121-007, Engineering Department – General Maps, 1798-1961, no date, https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gsg_edgm, which contains maps from 1798 to 1961 that illustrate Savannah property holdings, as well as land subdivision for city and private development. The maps also record property lines, right-of-ways, water and sewer lines, and street openings. Many maps include the names of property owners.

Record Series 3121-019, Savannah Cadastral Survey – Ward Survey Maps, 1939-1940, https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gsg_scswsm. This collection includes survey maps of Savannah's wards prepared in

1939 and 1940 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as part of the three-year, \$65,000 WPA Savannah Cadastral Survey project. The City of Savannah is laid out in a system of wards, or blocks of land. The Cadastral Survey included all wards within the City's corporate limits at the time. On May 9, 1940, Major H. U.

Wallace, District WPA Engineer, presented Mayor Thomas Gamble with the Ward Survey Maps at City Hall. The survey was originally

intended for use of the local tax assessors, but it has also proved useful for planning public utilities and improvements, determining property lines, and tracing the history of buildings and properties.

Record Series 3121-020, Engineering Department – Major Subdivision Maps, 1871-1972, no date, https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gsg_edmsm, which includes 249 maps of Savannah neighborhoods and subdivisions submitted to the City of Savannah Engineering Department for review and approval. The maps were prepared by a variety of surveyors and engineers, representing the City of Savannah, Chatham County, and private engineering and architectural firms. Many of the maps are copies or tracings submitted to the Engineering Department. Some of the maps include approval information by the city engineer, county engineer, Chatham-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission and/or the mayor and aldermen of the City of Savannah.

These historical maps are a rich resource documenting the development of Savannah's town plan, wards, and neighborhoods through the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Within the

General Maps collection, the City of Savannah Municipal Archives has included a very early 1798 township map that documents the extension of the "Oglethorpe Plan" outside of the town limits to encompass the garden and farm lots. This, along with the progression of maps throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, shows how



Savannah's unique plan was executed and evolved. The maps can be studied by urban planners, historians, and preservationists, and

provide important insight for people making planning decisions today. The City of Savannah Municipal Archives has seen a dramatic increase in researcher interest in Savannah's 20th century development, including citizens and community groups trying to document their neighborhoods, as well as historians researching the loss and preservation of Savannah's infrastructure and built environment and how that fits in to a national context. The inclusion of the mid-20th century Ward Survey Maps provides a valuable point-in-time snapshot of Savannah before the preservation movement began.

Luciana Spracher, director of the City of Savannah Municipal Archives, noted: "the maps are regularly used by students (K-12 and college), historians, homeowners, citizens/residents, City staff, etc., and online access will surely increase this use and expand our geographical reach to those outside of Savannah who cannot physically come in to City Hall. We've also recently seen an increase in the ways in which people are using historical records, not just for traditional academic works, but for art applications and digital humanities projects. We hope that greater access to our records, and to a younger audience that may not access them through traditional onsite visits, will encourage new interactions with archives and new innovative projects."

Monthly Teacher Reports from African American Rural and City Schools Operating During the 1930s in Laurens County, Georgia Now Available Online

DLG was pleased to announce the availability of the Teacher's Monthly Reports Collection at https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/zhe_tmr. The collection, which belongs to the Oconee Regional Library System, is available online thanks in part to the DLG's 2018 Competitive Digitization grant program, a funding opportunity intended to broaden DLG partner participation for statewide historic digitization projects.

The Teacher's Monthly Reports collection includes monthly teacher reports from African American rural and city schools operating from 1930 to 1939 in Laurens County, Georgia. These monthly reports were created by individual teachers to be submitted to the Laurens County Superintendent. The reports list student names, age, grade, and attendance for the month. Many of these records also show teacher salaries, addresses, and other information. The DLG has digitized 126 folders with reports for 58 schools.

Cristina Hernández Trotter, head of the Reference Department and the Heritage Center of the Oconee Regional Library System described the impact this new collection will have for researchers and genealogists: "family and local historians will be thrilled to have online access to this information. Genealogists will eagerly pore over these pages in search of relatives. Local historians can use these records to paint a more detailed picture of our county's educational system during the 1930s. Because these records contain the home address of some teachers and principals, any scholars interested in the history of the micropolitan nature of Dublin, Georgia will find these primary source documents of interest."

"We are so excited to be able to partner with DLG to make these documents discoverable online," Trotter continued, "This collection will have such a great impact on our community. Scholars interested in the history of education and civil rights in Georgia will be pleased to discover the rich historical information this collection contains."

Groundbreaking Georgia LGBTQ Television Programming Now Available Online

DLG was also pleased to announce the availability of the Mike Maloney Collection of Out TV Atlanta Video Recordings at: <http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/outtv>. The collection, which contains about 240 digitized tapes of raw

footage created in the process of making the show, belongs to Georgia State University Library's Special Collections and Archives. It is available thanks in part to the DLG's 2018 Competitive Digitization grant program, a funding opportunity intended to broaden DLG partner participation for statewide historic digitization projects.

Out TV Atlanta, which ran from 1999-2000, was a half-hour weekly news and entertainment show focused on LGBTQ life that aired in Atlanta and Savannah. The show was supported financially by its creator, Michael B. Maloney, along with his family and friends. As producer of the show, Maloney saw that most press coverage of LGBTQ life involved night clubs and drag queens; he sought to widen media focus on "ordinary" gay people who were firefighters, attorneys, and regular members of the community. Events covered include Governor Roy Barnes's address to the Atlanta Executive Network, a gay professional organization (the first in the state), the first gay pride parade in Savannah, political events, art exhibitions and performances, and much more.

Kathryn Michaelis, digital projects coordinator, Digital Library Services, at Georgia State University noted: "we anticipate that the videos will be of interest to a wide variety of users, including researchers of LGBTQ and Atlanta

history, members of the local and national LGBTQ community, media scholars, gender studies scholars, and the general public. The videos are unique primary sources that vividly document many aspects of LGBTQ life in Atlanta at the turn of the millennium. Once the videos are discoverable, they can be used for teaching, research, and entertainment, and could potentially be used by filmmakers for documentary purposes."

Ryan Roemerman, executive director of the LGBT Institute of the Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, stated: "we believe that Mr. Maloney's groundbreaking work is of immense historic value. As the dawn of the new millennium approached, Mr. Maloney and his reporters were capturing events and preserving the moments that allow us to dig deeper into the cultural and emotional landscape for LGBTQ people at that time. The potential for use, especially amongst Georgia State University students, can provide young LGBTQ people today with a better understanding of a bygone era. These historic video recordings can convey what written words cannot always do, and are sure to be utilized in even greater numbers as time passes on." Roemerman played an important role in facilitating the acquisition of the videos, directing Mr. Maloney to donate to the GSU Library's Gender & Sexuality Collections.