

4-1-2019

## News - Digital Library of Georgia

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### Recommended Citation

Mastrovita, M. L. (2019). News - Digital Library of Georgia. *Georgia Library Quarterly*, 56(2). Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol56/iss2/13>

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*People, Libraries  
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

## Digital Library of Georgia

### Pre-Civil War Georgia Newspapers Now Freely Available Online

As part of a \$14,495 grant from the R.J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation, the Digital Library of Georgia

(DLG) digitized approximately 53,930 pages of Georgia newspaper titles published prior to 1861 from microfilm

held by the Georgia Newspaper Project (<http://www.libs.uga.edu/gnp/>). The project created full-text searchable versions of the newspapers and presented them online for free in its Georgia Historic Newspapers database at <http://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu> in accordance with technical guidelines developed by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress for the National Digital Newspaper Program (see <https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>). The Georgia Historic Newspapers database utilizes the Library of Congress's open source tool, Chronicling America, for the online delivery of the full-text newspapers. Users will be able to search the database for geographic, corporate, family, and personal names.

DLG digitized 138 pre-Civil War titles from the following Georgia cities: Albany, Americus, Athens, Atlanta, Augusta, Auraria, Calhoun, Carrollton, Cartersville, Cassville, Clarkesville, Columbus, Covington, Cuthbert, Darien, Forsyth, Ft. Hawkins, Greensboro, Griffin, Hamilton, Louisville, Lumpkin, Macon, Madison, Mount Zion, Newnan, Oglethorpe, Penfield, Petersburg, Rome, Savannah, Sparta, Thomaston, Thomasville, Warrenton, and Washington.



## Digital Library of Georgia

Sharing Georgia's History & Culture Online

Vivian Price Saffold, chairman of the R.J. Taylor, Jr. Advisory Committee, stated: "Since 1971 genealogy researchers have depended on publications funded by grants from the R.J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation. The Foundation has funded the printing of thousands of books in traditional format. More recently the addition

of digital projects, such as the Digital Library of Georgia's newspaper project, have made possible free online access to

tens of thousands of Georgia newspaper pages that previously were difficult to research. The DLG project is a great example of the kind of grant request the Foundation is proud to fund. Georgia newspapers are a valuable resource. On the technical side, the online newspaper images are sharp and clear, and the functionality of the indexing is excellent."

### Athens, Georgia Crime Dockets from 1902 to 1907 Now Freely Available Online

The DLG is pleased to announce the availability of the City of Athens Police/Mayor's Court Records collection at [https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/arl\\_capmcr](https://dlg.usg.edu/collection/arl_capmcr). The collection, which belongs to the Athens-Clarke County Library Heritage Room, is made available thanks in part to the DLG's Competitive Digitization grant program, a funding opportunity intended to broaden DLG partner participation for statewide historic digitization projects.

"We appreciate the opportunity to work with DLG to make these documents more accessible to everyone," said Athens Regional Library System Executive Director Valerie Bell. "These dockets provide a valuable glimpse into Athens' past, and they tell some fascinating stories of our city's day-to-day life."

The digital collection consists of eight bound dockets dating from 1902 to 1907, and includes about 5,760 individual arrest cases in Athens, Georgia. Entries generally include a case number, the defendant's name, the code violated, the date and location of the arrest, the date papers were served, the arresting officer's name, a list of witnesses, and the dispensation of the case.

The digitization of these items makes them more widely available to researchers of economics, criminology, political science, urban development, law, sociology, history, geography, and genealogy. Because the location of arrests was included in these records, researchers are given a true picture of the city of Athens in the early 20th century. These dockets can also be cross-referenced with resources already available online, such as newspapers, city directories, and historic maps, opening many new opportunities to delve into Athens' past.

Ashley Shull, Archives and Special Collections

Coordinator at the Athens-Clarke County Heritage Room noted: "ultimately the Police/Mayor's Court Dockets of the City of Athens reflect the cultural, political, social, geographic, and economic diversity of our community. Each simple entry contains a wealth of information, all arising from one interaction with law enforcement, giving the researcher a more complete impression of the historical city of Athens."

The Heritage Room maintains a physical collection of 97 volumes of the court records,

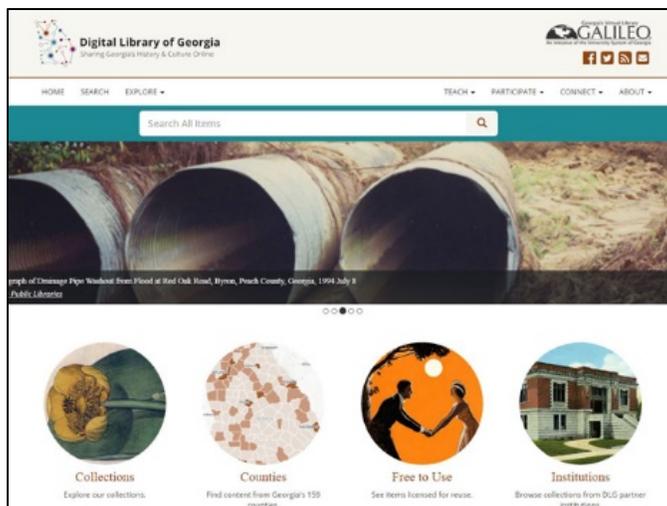
which are available to view by request at the library.

**Digitized Recordings of the Radio Program *Southwind: The New Sounds of the Old Confederacy* Now Available.**

In conjunction with the Atlanta History Center, 150 recordings of the radio program *Southwind: The New Sounds of the Old Confederacy* are now available at <http://cdm17222.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p17222coll4>. These resources are also available online thanks in part to the DLG's Competitive Digitization grant program.

Atlanta journalist Boyd Lewis conceived, created, produced, and hosted *Southwind*, a

half-hour radio program of features and documentaries on the people, issues, and events of the South. The program aired on WABE FM in Atlanta between November 14, 1980 and January 29, 1987. The collection contains 150 out of the 177 editions that were recorded. Each of the *Southwind* programs consisted



of one to three segments that featured original reporting either by Mr. Lewis or his colleagues in public radio throughout the Southeast. Many of the segments focused on contemporary events that Mr. Lewis placed in historical context, while other segments were retrospectives of past events that featured the voices of the participants. The segments touched upon a broad range of topics relating to the history of Atlanta and the American South in the mid- to late 20th century, including the Civil Rights Movement, African American history, city and regional economic and cultural development in the Southeast, business and

labor history, Atlanta theater, folk life, literature, and political history. As such, they are a potentially valuable primary source of scholarly and journalistic inquiry.

*Southwind* included feature interviews with historical figures such as the authors Erskine Caldwell and Paul Hemphill, educator Benjamin E. Mays, and former President Jimmy Carter. The program also featured commentaries by authors Pearl Cleage and Toni Cade Bambara, and a 1986 recording of author James Dickey reading selections of his poetry. Many episodes included features about the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. These segments included audio excerpts from many of King's colleagues, including the Reverend Joseph Lowery and C. T. Vivian. Other features included an assessment of Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young's first 100 days in office; a segment on threats to the renewal of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; a profile on civil rights activist Heman

Sweatt; a feature on the 1986 Fifth District congressional race between John Lewis and Julian Bond; a story about Atlanta churches offering sanctuaries to immigrants fleeing political turmoil in Latin American countries; a piece on North Carolina's Greensboro Massacre in 1978, in which Klansmen killed five demonstrators; a feature about the Atlanta Crackers and Atlanta Black Crackers baseball teams; and several stories about the series of kidnappings and murders that took place in Atlanta in the late 1970s and early 1980s, known as the "Atlanta Child Murders."

Joseph Crespino, Jimmy Carter Professor in the history department at Emory University noted that these digitized resources are "an invaluable resource for researchers and students of the modern history of Atlanta and the South, as well as the history and legacy of the modern civil rights movement."