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## News - Digital Library of Georgia

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

## Digital Library of Georgia

### Bartow History Museum Vertical File Records from 1850 to 1929 Now Freely Available Online

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) is pleased to announce the availability of the Bartow History Museum vertical file record collection at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/barhm\\_bhmvf](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/barhm_bhmvf). The collection, which belongs to the Bartow History Museum, is available online 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.

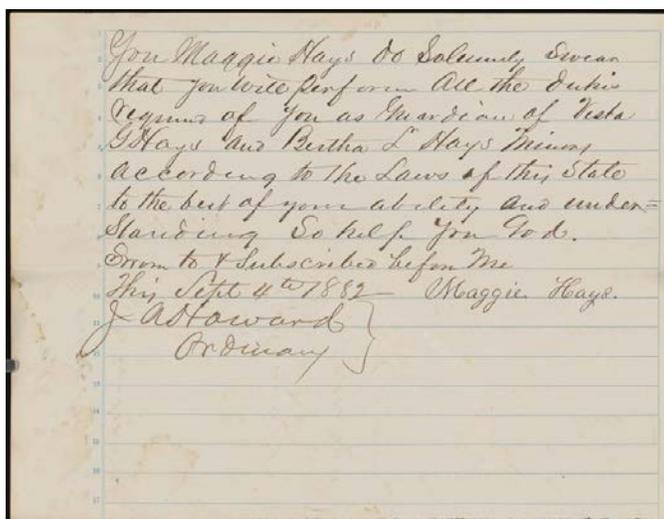
The digital collection consists of a portion of a compilation of county documents that include topics such as guardianship (1850–1929), indentures (1860–1929), lunacy (1866–1929), pauperism (1866–1879), land grants/deeds (1866–1929), and other records. Court officials created the records to document legal proceedings and transactions.

Trey Gaines, the director of the Bartow History Museum, said: “the digitization of these items provides documentation of under-represented subjects, particularly citizens of lower economic standing, from the Civil War through the Great Depression. The movement and financial status of families and individuals that lived and moved in and out of Bartow County are demonstrated through the collection's land, indenture, and guardianship papers. Family dynamics and

cultural or social values can be studied through the lunacy and guardianship records that contain information on how people were diagnosed and labeled, as well as how children were legally handled in cases of custody or guardianship. Some of the indenture records show the plight of children after the Civil War, and some further contain information that speaks to matters of race relations.”

Genealogist Yvonne Mashburn Schmidt noted “this area's rural, agricultural, and yeoman families generally were unconcerned with

creating records themselves...This record collection held by the Archives contains uncommon records such as mercantile and miscellaneous receipts, voter lists, smallpox lists, pauper lists, indentures, and estray records. These county records generally are not available to researchers.



Ancestral names in these records might be found when no other record for the ancestor exists...Historical migration routes and early land grants make Georgia's records especially important. Ancestors from northern and mid-Atlantic states often settled in or passed through Georgia. Some of these and their descendants who settled or stayed for a time participated in Georgia land lotteries. Cass (now Bartow County) was one of the original counties created after Cherokee County's division, and this county's land was part of the 1832 Georgia land lottery. Many of this collection's loose records were created between 1850 and 1880

and include land grants and deeds that may not exist in any other local or state repository. These grants and deeds are original records."

The Bartow History Museum, located at 4 East Church Street in downtown Cartersville, Georgia, documents the history of Northwest Georgia's Bartow County. Visit [bartowhistorymuseum.org/](http://bartowhistorymuseum.org/).

### **DLG Provides Back-to-School Educator Resources for the 2019–2020 School Year**

The DLG welcomed this year's back-to-school season by making new educator resources based on the Georgia third, fourth, and fifth grade Georgia Social Studies Standards of Excellence (GSE) available at [sites.google.com/view/dlg-educator-resources](https://sites.google.com/view/dlg-educator-resources).

New items include:

- A frameable poster and printable postcard featuring Georgia third, fourth, and fifth grade GSE themes, released monthly
- "Link lists" to DLG and Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) resources, organized by Georgia third, fourth, and fifth grade GSE themes and topics

These new items accompany our existing resources:

- A quick-start guide that supports educators and students in their research of original materials
- A sample slide deck for educators
- A guide on using DLG materials
- A postcard of DLG portals with features available for educators
- 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 [galileo.usg.edu/contact/](http://galileo.usg.edu/contact/) for details)

In a joint statement, Joy Hatcher, social studies program manager, and JoAnn Wood, social studies program specialist, both with the Georgia Department of Education, said "the primary sources from GALILEO and DLG provide Georgia's teachers with a wealth of excellent teaching materials. It is clear that they are working diligently to see that sources are teacher-friendly and aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence. We are fortunate to have such a collection and experts determined to make them usable."

These items provide high-quality, standards-aligned materials that help teachers meet the diverse academic interests and needs of students.

Topics include:

- Early Native American cultures
- European exploration in North America
- British colonial America
- The American Revolution
- The creation of the Constitution
- American westward expansion
- The abolitionist and suffrage movements
- The Civil War and Reconstruction
- The turn of the 20th century
- American involvement in World War I and World War II
- The Great Depression and New Deal
- The Cold War
- Historical developments between 1950–1975
- Important events from 1975–2001

Materials come from museums, archives, libraries, historical societies, and other cultural heritage organizations that have contributed more than 800 collections to DLG's website, and

all provide insight into the state's diverse population and geography.

### **Fulton County Superintendent's Annual Reports now Available Online**

The Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) is pleased to announce the availability of superintendent's annual reports for the Fulton County, Georgia school system at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/fcs\\_superintendents](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/fcs_superintendents). These resources have been made available online 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.

These annual reports were submitted by local, public school districts to the State School Superintendent's Office as part of their operations to receive accreditation and funding, and contain demographic information pertaining to the growth of the school system located in and around Atlanta between the years 1929 and 1977. Data was collected on both African American and white schools and was expressed using the "dual school system" terminology of "colored" and "white." The reports also contain material related to school employees, building materials and valuations, as well as transportation and supply costs. A small portion of this collection includes reports from Milton and Campbell counties just before they merged with Fulton County.

Michael Santrock, the archives and collections specialist at Fulton County Schools Archives noted: "information gathered from school

systems have a great potential to illuminate the history of a place...from learning and teaching to voting and playing, they are institutions that reflect the social and cultural milieus of the districts they reside within. The Superintendent's Annual Reports of Fulton County Schools document this story by offering a look at the growth of metro Atlanta throughout some very crucial decades of the 20th century. The oldest portion of this collection provides evidence of a largely rural and segregated district during the Great

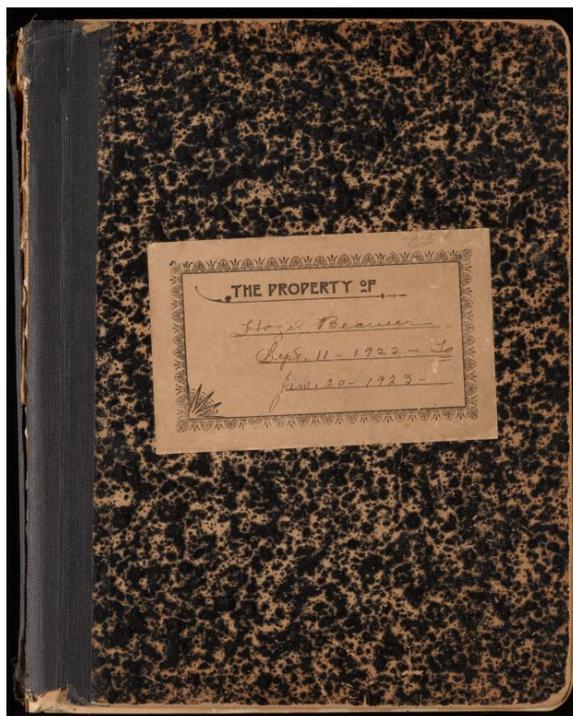
Depression, while the latter portion is a culmination of the movement to integrate the schools after the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision of 1954—a process that lasted 17 years. In this respect, the reports help to clarify one of the defining issues of the Civil Rights Movement."

The Fulton County Schools Archives preserves and maintains a wide range of historic materials such as board minutes, school yearbooks, and audiovisual recordings

while serving the public as a repository for these historical collections. Visit [fulton.schools.org/archives](http://fulton.schools.org/archives).

### **Thomasville History Center's Cutler Collection Now Freely Available Online**

The Cutler Collection is now available at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/tchs\\_cutcol](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/tchs_cutcol). These resources belong to the Thomasville History Center and have been made available online 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.

The digitized items from this collection consist primarily of diaries, letters, and family papers dating from 1800–1980 belonging to Hazel Beamer Cutler, a dancer on Broadway who performed in the Ziegfeld Follies in the 1920s, and who resided in Thomasville, Georgia throughout much of her life. Included in the materials is genealogical research on the Quarterman and Baker families, pioneers of South Georgia; correspondence with visual artists Dora Wheeler Keith and Ben Ali Haggin, III, and Vermont banker Henry Miles Cutler. There is also some information about Candace Wheeler, founder of the American Decorative Arts movement.

These materials are useful to researchers looking into the history of American illustrator, portrait artist, and muralist Dora Wheeler Keith (1856–1940), who was Hazel Beamer Cutler's guardian in New York City; and portrait painter and stage designer Ben Ali Haggin, III (1882–1951). Some materials in the collection refer to Candace Wheeler (1827–1923), Dora Wheeler Keith's mother, who founded the Society of Decorative Arts in 1877 and was associated with the Colonial Revival, Aesthetic Movement, and the Arts and Crafts Movement throughout her long career. The Thomasville Baker and Beamer families developed a friendship with the New York Wheelers and Keiths while the Wheelers vacationed in Thomasville, Georgia during the Resort Era of 1875–1905. These items will shed light into the early 20th century happenings within the field of decorative arts as well as the artistic work of Ben Ali Haggin, III and Dora Wheeler Keith. The Georgia-related materials on the Quarterman, Baker, Mallard, and Schaffer families collected by Hazel Beamer Cutler's aunt, Sallie Baker (1862–1953), a Thomasville, Georgia educator, will be useful to genealogists. Hazel Beamer Cutler's diaries provide a rich history of life in New York City and Thomasville, Georgia during the 1920s.

Anne McCudden, executive director of the Thomasville History Center, noted: "having these items digitized will allow our staff and outside researchers to more fully engage with the collection. Currently, we only have a cursory knowledge of the content. Being able to access the collection (specifically the diaries) will allow interested parties to see into the daily life of Hazel Beamer [Cutler] while she was living in New York City in the early 1920s...This collection also documents her time spent with Ben Ali Haggin III, who was from a prominent Kentucky family of artists and authors."

The Thomasville History Center is a non-profit community organization dedicated to ensuring that the appreciation of Thomasville's unique history remains an intrinsic and unbroken thread connecting the past and future through settings that advance the town's story. The History Center is supported by approximately 300 personal and business members, hosts approximately 3,000 visitors each year, and engages another 2,000 through community outreach. Nearly 20% of the Thomasville History Center's audience are students and teachers. Visit the Thomasville History Center at [thomasvillehistory.org/](http://thomasvillehistory.org/).

### **Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) Awards Six Competitive Digitization Service Grants to Georgia Cultural Heritage Institutions Across the State**

Six institutions are recipients of the fifth set of service grants awarded in a program intended to broaden partner participation in the DLG. The DLG solicited proposals for historic digitization projects in a statewide call, and applicants submitted proposals for projects with a cost of up to \$7,500. The projects will be administered by DLG staff who will perform digitization and descriptive services on textual (not including newspapers), graphic, and audio-visual materials. This subgranting program was presented the 2018 Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development by a State

Institution by the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (GHRAC).

The recipients and their projects include:

*Columbia Theological Seminary (Decatur, GA)*

Digitization of the Joseph R. Wilson papers, late 1800s (containing the sermons of Joseph Ruggles Wilson, the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Augusta from 1858–1870); John Newton Waddel papers, 1821–1881 (materials belonging to John Newton Waddel (1812–1885) and his father Moses Waddel (1770–1840), both Georgia Presbyterian ministers and educators); and the Presbyterian Church in the US Presbytery of Hopewell minutes, 1797–1866 (minutes from Georgia's first Presbytery belonging to the Presbyterian Church from the period following the Revolutionary War through the Civil War).

*Dougherty County Public Library (Albany, GA)*

Digitization of city directories for Albany, Georgia, dating from 1922–1949.

*Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum (Atlanta, GA)*

Description of archival documents that highlight notable events and accomplishments during Jimmy Carter's presidential administration from 1977–1981 that include the Camp David Accords (1978), the hostage crisis in Iran (1979–1981), the Panama Canal Treaties (1977–1978), the president's daily diary (1977–1981), presidential directives (1977–1981), presidential review memoranda (1977–1979), and legislation towards the progression of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

*National Civil War Naval Museum (Columbus, GA)*

Digitization of a ledger from the James H. Warner Collection containing correspondence from Warner, commander and superintendent

of the Confederate States Naval Iron Works (sometimes referred to as the Columbus Iron Works), which operated from 1862–1865. The ledger also includes entries as late as 1866 as Warner worked with the United States Navy in turning over naval equipment to the United States government.

*University of Georgia Map and Government Information Library (Athens, GA)*

Digitization of Sanborn fire insurance maps produced in 1923 for 21 Georgia towns and cities in 17 counties.

*Valdosta State University Archives and Special Collections (Valdosta, GA)*

Digitization of Georgia deeds and plats representing Southeastern and South Georgia counties (including Camden, Glynn, Wayne, Brantley, Ware, and Worth counties) dating from the 1700s–1899.

Preference in the selection process was given to proposals from institutions that had not yet collaborated with the DLG. Dougherty County Public Library and the National Civil War Naval Museum are both new partners for the DLG. Sheila McAlister, director of the Digital Library of Georgia noted: "since the start of DLG's subgranting program in 2016, we've funded 26 projects and added 10 new partners. Documenting the entire state, the collections illuminate the lives of Georgia's African-American, LGBTQ, and Asian-American communities, as well as the state's educational, political, cultural, and industrial past."

**Berry College's *Southern Highlander* Now Freely Available Online**

The DLG has recently digitized 3,124 pages from Berry College's *Southern Highlander* covering the period of 1907 to 1942. The *Southern Highlander*, the official magazine of and published by the Berry Schools in Mount Berry, Georgia, documents the early history of the

schools founded by philanthropist Martha Berry in 1902 to serve the rural poor. The magazine also details social conditions and the importance of community-based education.

The *Southern Highlander* is a unique publication that raised money while promoting the mission of the Berry Schools worldwide. The *Southern Highlander* offers firsthand knowledge of social and historical topics of the day, including agriculture, the influenza epidemic of 1918, World War I, educational philosophy, and religious work on campus and in North Georgia.

The digitization of the *Southern Highlander* will provide access to some of the oldest and most frequently requested Berry Schools materials, a boon for scholars, students, historians, alumni, and community members interested in studying the rich, early history and cultural heritage of the Berry Schools, Martha Berry, and early 20th century culture and history in rural, North Georgia.

“While the *Southern Highlander* is rich in history, it is also an excellent representation of Berry’s focus on a comprehensive education of the head, heart, and hands,” said Jessica Hornbuckle, digital initiatives librarian; “working with the Digital Library of Georgia to digitize the *Southern Highlander* is the perfect opportunity to share Berry’s oldest publication and the school’s legacy beyond the campus gates.”

The digitized materials are available at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/gbc\\_berry-193](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gbc_berry-193).

The Berry College Archives was established in 1986 and serves as the primary repository for materials pertaining to the Berry Schools, Berry College, and founder, Martha Berry. The principal purpose of the archives is to appraise, collect, preserve, maintain, and make accessible records of historical value. In addition, the archives seeks to educate its constituents about its holdings, policies, and procedures through outreach and instructional activities.