

# Annual Report 2019



2019 was an exciting year for the Yolo County Archives and Records Center! Highlights from the year include:

In July we opened our doors at a newly renovated facility, and in September we officially dedicated the Shipley Walters Center for Yolo County Archives and Library Services. The \$2 million renovation will provide better access to our resources and enhance the preservation of the County's history.

Volunteers worked diligently to rehouse our extensive Board of Supervisors collection with funding from an NEH Preservation Assistance grant.

With a generous donation from the Yolo County Women's History Month Committee, the Archives hired an intern to work on an oral history project to be completed in 2020.

Lastly, the Archives received a grant from the Yolo County Technology Innovation Fund to purchase a large-format scanner and an integrated content and digital asset management system.

*Heather Lanctot*  
Archives & Records Center Coordinator

  
YOLO  
COUNTY  
ARCHIVES

# Renovation & Dedication

A **\$2 million renovation** of the Archives & Records Center was completed in July, 2019. This renovation included the creation of a modern climate controlled facility, installation of a pre-action sprinkler system, installation of motorized compact shelving, the addition of ADA compliant Reading and Work Room spaces, an upgraded roof, and installation of new energy efficient windows. Staff also coordinated the relocation of the collection to a secure off-site location during the renovation.



The Archives hosted a dedication ceremony and open house on September 27th, which was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Yolo County Archives. More than 100 guests toured the new facility and enjoyed refreshments and speeches from local dignitaries. The dedication of the facility, which was named for Shipley

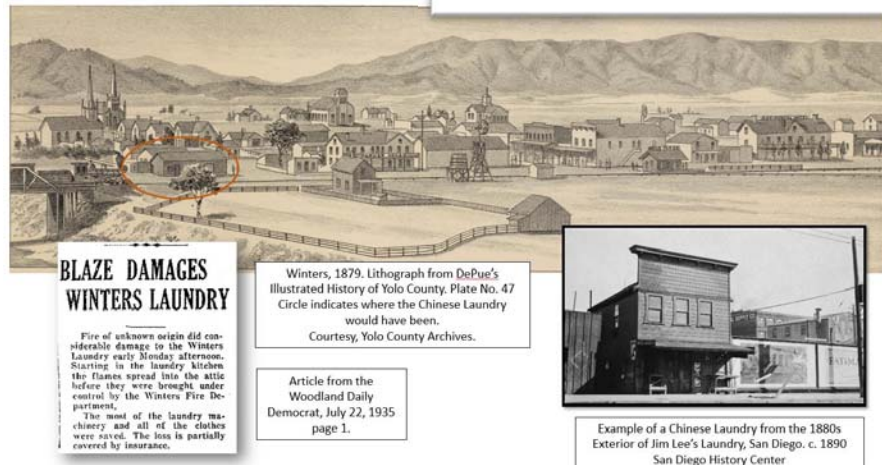


Walters, honored her decades-long commitment to the Yolo County Archives and the preservation of history. Guests included members of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, members of local City Councils, and representatives from Yolo County historic organizations.

# Outreach and Community

On June 20th, Ruby Buentello represented the Archives and made a presentation to the Winters History Mural Class at the Winters Community Library.

Fifteen students reviewed archival photos, city directories, Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and DePue's Illustrated History of Yolo County in preparation for their mural project.



The Archives Crawl took place on October 26th and the Yolo County Archives tabled at the Center for Sacramento History with materials from our collection that illustrated the theme of "Preserving the Struggle: Archives and Activism."

Our table highlighted photographs of protests against Proposition 187 and employee layoffs at the Contadina Factory from our *Daily Democrat* photo collection. We also highlighted information on the struggle to form DQ-University and women's rights. We **spoke to 189 people** throughout the day. We also had two photographs from our collection featured on the promotional materials for the Archives Crawl. We look forward to next year's event on October 3rd.



Archives staff hosted a number of tours of our renovated facility for the public, county staff from various departments, members of the Yolo County Historical Society, the Yolo County Historical Society, and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

We also participated in the following outreach events: we tabled at the Black History and Multicultural Heritage Celebration in Guinda (February), tabled at the Woodland Senior Resource Fair with the Library (May), partnered with the Yolo County Historical Society at the Spring Lake School House at the Yolo County Fair (August), and tabled at the Woodland Stroll Through History (October).



Additionally, the Archives started a collaborative project this year with Lon Springer (V.P. FYCA Board), Charlotte Lucero (volunteer), and students from UCD. The *Historias de Familias* project is collecting records, photographs, interviews, and other materials from Latinx families who arrived in Yolo County prior to 1960. These materials will be donated to the Yolo County Archives so researchers can learn about



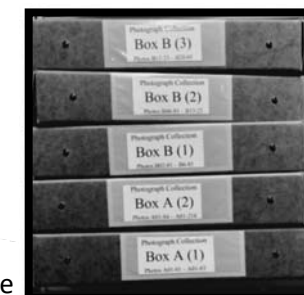
the historical contributions of the Latinx community to the development of Yolo County.

# Collections

During 2019, Archives staff and volunteers processed and preserved a number of collections to make them more accessible to the community.

Much of the processing work centered on government documents that were transferred from the Library Collection to the Archives during the renovation. In the past 12 months, **14 collections**, totaling **47 linear feet**, were processed and reshelfed.

Other collections projects during the year included the rehousing of two collections by volunteer Tom Crisp. The photo collection was put into three-ring archival boxes and the Woodland High School Football film collection was put into archival reel-to-reel boxes. With the help of volunteers, we also rehoused approximately 60 boxes of Board of Supervisors materials as part of a **\$6,000 NEH Preservation Assistance Grant**. Library Assistant, Marta Knight, also completed a large digitization project for the Natural Resources and Community Services Departments to help them preserve their records.



# Yolo County Historical Collection

In 2019, Museum Curator, Iulia Bodeanu, made significant progress reviewing the Yolo County Historical Collection (YCHC) and increasing awareness about the collection.

She worked with community volunteers and interns from the Sacramento State Public History Program to review and rehouse 50% of the Yolo County Historical Collection.

Iulia also organized and selected members to serve on the Collections Review Committee. Committee members have various areas of collection expertise. They reviewed and identified 960 items for deaccession in 2019.

YCHC received a **\$5,000 National Endowment for the Humanities grant** to preserve textiles and to purchase environmental monitors and protective UV window film for the long-term preservation of historic items on display at the Gibson House.

Iulia organized one exhibition at the Yolo County Administrator's office showcasing Cache Creek fossils and two exhibits at the Gibson House that highlighted the Gibson and Stephens families.



Additionally, in 2019, Iulia provided history speakers for the Gibson House Knowledge @ Noon monthly lecture series. These speakers included Lynn Gough, who spoke about Tilly Alcartra and Asa Proctor, and Mel Russell, who presented "Food Will Win the War" as part of her research for her WWI "Lest We Forget" project.



## Professional Development

Heather attended a full-day workshop on March 25th titled “Better Sharing Through Metadata: Good Practices for Better Discovery.” This workshop taught about the aggregators, Calisphere, and the Digital Public Library of America. The information gleaned from this workshop will help staff improve the discoverability of our digital collections. Additionally, on October 17th, Heather attended “An Introduction to Oral History” workshop at the Annual Conference of California Historical Societies. This workshop included presentations from the Oral History Center at UC Berkeley and local archivists and historians. There was good information shared about the “nuts-and-bolts” of an oral history program as well as ideas about what to do with oral histories once they are collected.



## Research

This year we hosted **76 research appointments** in our Reading Room and conducted

### Top 10 Collections Used in 2019

| Collection         | 2018 | 2019 |
|--------------------|------|------|
| Photo Collection   | 75   | 65   |
| Obituaries         | 80   | 62   |
| Newspapers.com     | 70   | 43   |
| Ancestry.com       | 28   | 30   |
| Deed Books         | 158  | 27   |
| Civil Court Cases  | 20   | 24   |
| Probate Cases      | 30   | 14   |
| YC Directories     |      | 10   |
| Tax Assessor Rolls | 26   | 9    |
| Censuses           |      | 9    |

**remote research for 131 patrons.** We hosted fewer researchers this year as a result of our renovation closure. Unsurprisingly, the use of most of our collections was reduced this year as a result of our renovation.

### Interesting Research!

Using our Naturalization records we were able to help prove that a patron’s ancestor, Jordao Pereira Ramos, legally changed his name in 1941 to



Name changed by decree of Court from Jordao Pereira Ramos as a part of the naturalization on May 1, 1941.

Dated May 13, 1941.

H. R. Saunders, Clerk,  
By *C. R. Middleton* Deputy.

Jordan Perry Ramos as part of his

naturalization process. Also, using Census data, we helped a class of Woodland Community College students research the ethnic make-up of the County over time.

## Volunteers

Volunteers put in more than **700 hours of service** to help process collections, work on grant-funded projects, create displays and participate in outreach events. Volunteers also assisted with the ongoing NEH grant-funded Board of Supervisors preservation project, and prepared collection metadata for migration into the new collection and digital asset management system. We thank our volunteers for their continued hard work and contributions to the success of our program.

## Friends of the Yolo County Archives

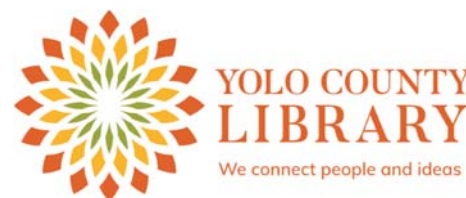
The Archives would like to thank the  
**Friends of the Yolo County Archives**  
for their continued partnership and support!

- Anastasia Panagakos, President
- Lon Springer, Vice President
- Dr. John Jackson, Treasurer
- Ryan Baum, Secretary
- Rob Coman, Communications Director



### Board Members:

Karen Coffee, Marc Faye, Merrily Dupree, Lynda Findley, Pat Shebert, Clarence Van Hook, Claire Phillips, William Phillips



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Public research by **appointment only.**

### HOURS:

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Thursday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.