

Annual Report 2021



With new policies and procedures in place, we welcomed back patrons and volunteers. Having people back in the building was exciting and challenging, but ultimately very rewarding. We were able to reconnect with our community!

Archives staff and volunteers continued to be agile and supportive teammates throughout 2021. Even with the uncertainty of COVID, staff and volunteers were able to complete a large preservation grant, implement and launch our very first online database and digital asset management system, complete and get Board of Supervisors approval of a Collections Management Policy, and provide a number of high quality virtual programs.

Additionally, the Museum Curator position was converted from temporary to permanent. This very exciting transition will help to ensure the preservation and community access to the Yolo County Historical Collection.

We were also able to contribute to archival scholarship and raise awareness about the County's diversity through published articles.

Heather Lanctot
Archives & Records Center Coordinator


YOLO
COUNTY
ARCHIVES

Outreach and Community

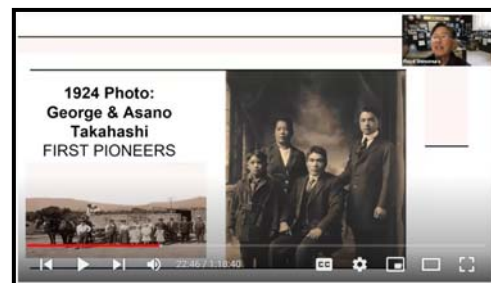
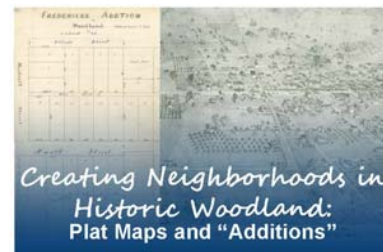
The Archives focused on virtual programs, social media posts, and digitization of collections in response to continued COVID restrictions on in-person gatherings.

The Archives contributed content to the Library's Facebook and Instagram pages for Women's History



Month (March). Many of the posts featured digitized content from California Revealed, including interviews with Supervisors Betsy Marchand (1994) and Twyla Thompson (1999). With support from the Yolo County Women's History Month Committee, the VHS recording of Shipley Walter's "Unsung Heroines of Yolo County" (1992) was digitized and made available on the Library's YouTube page. The Archives also hosted two wonderful Zoom talks by Shirley Dickard (March 24th) and Mel Russell (March 31st). **The talks had 29 attendees and 27 attendees** respectively.

The Archives also hosted a Zoom talk by Jim Lapsley, Chair of the Woodland Stroll Through History. The talk, "Creating Neighborhoods in Historic Woodland: Plat Maps and 'Additions'", discussed the growth of Woodland prior to and after incorporation in 1871. There were **30 attendees**.



We also participated in two events for the Sacramento Archives Crawl. On Oct. 5th Heather participated in a panel discussion with other archivists from the State Library, State Archives, Center for Sacramento History, Sacramento Public Library, Sac. State, and UCD Archives. The panel answered questions from attendees and talked about the archival profession. YCA also hosted a talk on Oct. 8th by Floyd Shimomura and Emily Masuda on the perseverance of the Japanese American Community of Winters. These events were well attended, with **37 attendees at the panel and 41 attendees at the talk**.

All presentations can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3AtS8Od>; <https://bit.ly/3IzjtKM>

In the final few months of the year, the Archives started partnering with the Friends of the Yolo County Archives to feature "Behind the Scenes" posts on Facebook. Isabel Araujo, one of the Board members who also volunteers at the Archives, has taken leadership on the posts. These posts feature volunteers, staff, collections, and projects. They have helped to increase awareness of the collection and the work that we do.

Lastly, Heather also gave a Zoom presentation to the Davis Genealogy Club on Tuesday May 18th where she

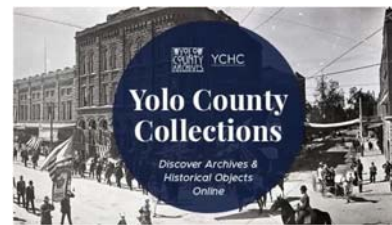


provided information about the resources that are available at the Yolo County Archives, and at County Archives in general, that may be useful to genealogists. There were about **30 attendees** at the talk.



Collections

Staff worked hard to get new Collection Management Policies for the Archives and the Yolo County Historical Collection completed. This policy, approved at the June 8th Board of Supervisors meeting, is critical for good stewardship of both collections.



The first half of the year staff and volunteers worked to complete the implementation of the Yolo County Collections Database. The database, which contains digital reproductions of and information about the historic records and objects from the Yolo County Archives and the Yolo County Historical Collection, launched Oct. 4th. The Archives side of the database currently has over **8,000 digital objects** and **46,000 collection, folder, and item level records**.

<https://yc-ais.axiellhosting.com/>

Watch an Intro. to the database: <https://bit.ly/34ari1y>
Learn how to perform a simple search: <https://bit.ly/3KTMVUK>

Archives staff and volunteers also worked diligently on two grants. The NEH Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions was completed in summer. This grant allowed us to purchase archival boxes and folders to process **633 boxes** of Board of Supervisors' materials. The grant resulted in not only a better preserved collection, but also **27,626 folder & item level records** added to Axiell.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES



In September Archives staff started scanning collections for the CA Humanities Relief Grant, with funding from the NEH American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. We were **awarded \$22,500** to pay for staff time to scan, and upload to Axiell, indexes, maps, blueprints, naturalization records, and photographs. The grant will be completed in May of 2022.

Volunteers



We are so grateful for our volunteers and the **973 hours of service** they provided this year (14 more hours than 2020).

We continued to work on remote and onsite projects throughout 2021.

Volunteers contributed to collections processing, grant projects, data entry into the new database, and collection

inventories. Our volunteers are integral to the success of the Archives. Thank you volunteers!



Yolo County Historical Collection

The Museum Curator completed the review of the collection and closed out the NEH preservation assistance grant, which provided storage supports for quilts and paintings. We were excited that the Museum Curator position was made permanent and a 5-year plan was created to guide collections management and outreach. View the plan here: <https://bit.ly/35dRRrq>



The Spring 2021 exhibition, "Healing Histories," focused on Yolo County's medical history and how herbal remedies have been utilized across time and cultures. The signage in the East and West Parlors and the Kitchen of the Gibson House was also updated to better interpret the items in the collection and highlight the story of the Gibson Family.

We continued our monthly Zoom presentations and Collections Revealed videos. These presentations included the Life and Stories of Emily Hoppin with Shirley Dickard, Honoring the Unknown Soldier with Mel Russell, Re-Indigenizing Native American Culture with Diana Almendariz, and Gold Rush Medicine with Dr. Bob LaPerriere. The seven social media videos highlighted children's toys, medicine in Yolo County, Victorian cosmetic practices, crazy quilts, the Hotel Julian sign, artwork of the Blowers family, and Spreckles Sugar Company. These talks and videos can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3FUxLe8>; <https://bit.ly/3KFp8ro>



Lastly, physical and digital Shared History Kits with lesson packets, books, and historic objects were launched. They are designed to engage students with resources from the YCHC and YCA. The themes are Victorian Dress and Etiquette, Native American History and Culture, and Agriculture.

Personnel



Ruby Buentello, our Library Assistant since September of 2018, accepted a full-time Librarian position at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library and sadly left the Archives in June of 2021.

Thankfully, **Rachel Poutasse** joined the team in October. She earned her BA at Scripps College and

her MLIS at UCLA. Before coming to the Archives, Rachel worked at California Botanic Garden in Claremont and had internships at repositories in California and Arizona. **Adrienne Fortini** and **Michelle Trujillo** came onboard as Extra Help Library Assistants to help complete the NEH grant, and digitization for the CalHum grant and LAFCO. The Archives is thankful for such wonderful and dedicated staff members who helps to preserve and make the history of the County more accessible!



Research

Top 10 Collections Used in 2021

Collection	2020	2021
Deed Books	39	149
Photo Collection	63	132
Tax Assessment Lists	12	122
City & County Directories	11	69
Newspapers.com	30	47
Tax Assessor Rolls	36	39
Obituaries	91	39
Official Records	25	29
Ancestry.com	11	27
Larkey Coll. (#10-19)	7	25

Our Reading Room was closed to patrons until April 13th due to COVID-19. Even though the number of in-person researchers was more than 2020, we still had low numbers due to COVID. This year we hosted approximately **66 research appointments** in our Reading Room and conducted **remote research for another 118 patrons**. Our total number of patrons was 194 (46 more than 2020).

Research Highlight!

We helped a patron find information about a relative by utilizing

ancestry.com, newspapers and prison registers from our collection. This relative had been arrested twice in Yolo County for parole violations and was returned to San Quentin.



Professional Development



Heather published two articles this year: "[Little Big Stories: Case Studies in Diversifying the Archival Record through Community Oral Histories](#)" in the Journal of Western Archives and an article for a special edition of the Daily Democrat for the [150th Anniversary of the city's incorporation](#), celebrating Woodland's diversity.

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!

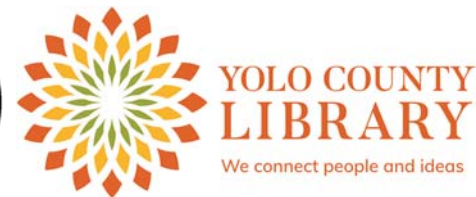
- Anastasia Panagakos, President
- Claire Phillips, Vice President
- Dr. John Jackson, Treasurer
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- Rob Coman, Communications Director



Board Members:

Karen Coffee, Marc Faye, Merrily DuPree, Lynda Findley, Diane Adams, Clarence Van Hook, William Phillips, Danica Magana, Isabel Araujo, Eliana Carter

Cover Photo: Book 3 Bureau of Reclamation -T8N_R2E_Sec 17 thru 20.



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Public research by **appointment**.

HOURS:

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

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