

Annual Report 2022



Coming out of the pandemic, the Archives focused on increasing collection access throughout 2022. Some of the ways that we tackled this goal included digital and in-person outreach, processing collections, digitization, and an increased social media presence.

With support from the Friends, three Extra Help Library Assistants were brought on board (through June 2023) to digitize archival indexes and high priority collections. Additionally, volunteers, interns, and staff worked hard to process collections and make those records available for searching on the Axiell database.

Archives staff also hosted one virtual talk, created an exhibit for the County Fair Museum, and tabled at a number of outreach events. It was exciting to be back out in the public and engaging with the community. We were able to share information about our collection and resources and also provided research support to some of the individuals we met.

One of our volunteers, and a member of the Friends Board, created a social media campaign where she featured archival collection, volunteer projects, and behind-the-scenes content once a week. These posts were well received and helped to increase awareness of the Yolo County Archives and the work that we do.

We look forward to 2023 where we will continue our digitization and outreach efforts.

Heather Lanctot

Archives & Records Center Coordinator

 **YOLO** 
COUNTY
ARCHIVES

Outreach and Community

Women's History Month this year involved the creation of displays with Mel Russell, and tabling at the Yolo County Women's History Month Committee's event at the Gibson House Property. The event on March 26th had about **75 attendees**. Mel gave two wonderful talks on Yolo County women and WWI. Displays were available onsite



at the Gibson House, and are still viewable on the Archives' website: yolocountyhistory.com. Additionally, the Archives hosted a talk with Dr. Karen Tait, the former Medical Director of Yolo General Hospital and the Yolo County Jail. **The recorded talk has been viewed over 70 times** and is available here: <https://youtu.be/XMp4f0LU7RY>

The Archives created a semi-permanent exhibit on the Blowers family for the Yolo County Fair Museum. Utilizing collections from the Yolo County Archives and other local repositories, the exhibit covers the agricultural and community contributions of R. B. Blowers and his family from the 1850s to 1939. With reproductions and information from the Yolo County Archives, the Yolo County Historical Collection, the Crocker Art Museum, UC Davis Archives and Special Collections, UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library, and several online resources, the exhibit



provides a well-rounded illustration of the Blowers family and the history of the area prior to it becoming the fairgrounds. Additionally, YCA was honored to work with Jim Lapsley, agricultural historian, and Michelle Trujillo, Library Assistant and videographer, to create supplemental videos for the display that museum visitors could access via QR codes on their phones. **The opening days of the museum saw 600 visitors!** The exhibit can also be viewed online at yolocountyhistory.com.

We also returned to in-person tabling at the Sacramento Archives Crawl. The theme this year was "Acquired Tastes: Food and Agriculture in Regional Collections." Our table featured photos, maps, and blueprints of the Knights Landing Creamery; recipe cards from cookbooks compiled by local groups; information on the Blowers family; and a selection of fruit labels. The recipe cards were a big hit, especially pickle recipes from "Our Mite for the Kitchen." We counted **145 engagements** with visitors.



In addition, Heather spoke at the opening of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier exhibition by Mel Russell at Gallery 625 in October. Archives staff and members of the Friends also tabled at the gallery during the Stroll Through History and Veteran's Day while Mel gave tours. We heard many compliments about the exhibit and the tours from visitors, who were impressed by the amount of information and careful attention to detail that had gone into the project.



Last but not least, Heather gave an extensive tour of the Archives to a group of visitors from Sonoma County, who are working on getting their own archives up and running. The group asked many good questions and took plenty of photos to memorialize their visit.

Collections

In 2022, the Archives processed **50 collections**. Notable completed projects included the processing of the Betsy Marchand Papers (36.5 linear feet) by SJSU intern Nathaniel Guttenberg, the Dietrich Family Collection (15.5 linear feet), the Helen Thomson Papers (4 linear feet), the West Sacramento Land Company Records (8.5 linear feet), and the Town and Country Club Collection (16.5 linear feet). We would like to thank our volunteers and interns for all their processing work. We could not do it without them!



Archives staff and volunteers also began inventorying, processing, and digitizing the Yolo Historical Museum Photo Collection, which was transferred from the Historical Collection in spring. The collection consists of 4000+ photographic prints, negatives, lantern slides, and tintypes. The collection covers a wide range of Yolo County locations, topics, and people, and it has already proven to be a useful resource for researchers.

Thanks to support from the Friends, our extra help staff have been able to scan **over 1500 photos** from this collection as of December. Funding from the Friends has also allowed us to bring on Extra Help Library Assistants to digitize indexes to deeds and Winters and Woodland High School yearbooks in addition to the YHM Photo Collection.

Finally, in May, we finished the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant, which we received as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. In all, this project resulted in **860 files for a total of 104 GB of digital content**. This project included scanning, quality control, and preparation of metadata for ingest into Axiell. Our staff digitized maps, blueprints, naturalization records, indexes, city directories, and more.

Volunteers & Interns

We are so grateful for our volunteers and the **990 hours of service** they provided this year (17 more hours than 2021). We were fortunate to bring on two new volunteers: Jim Hanney and Nathaniel Guttenberg. Jim previously volunteered for the STARS program at the Sheriff's Office, and Nathaniel is studying Library Science at SJSU. We also lost two volunteers: Isabel Araujo and Eliana Carter, who joined the Archives in 2020. In those two years, they processed collections, worked on grants, and made social media posts. Thank you, Isabel and Eliana!



Yolo County Historical Collection

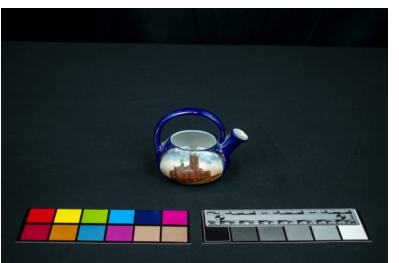
For the Spring 2022 exhibition, "Side-By-Side," we featured historic ceramics alongside contemporary ceramics at the Gibson House. Programming included a Salon Series with ceramic artist Linda Fitz Gibbon, and addressed themes of feminism, domesticity, and motherhood in the sculptural interpretation and inspiration of antique pottery forms.



"Stitched Together" was the Fall 2022 exhibition, highlighting quilts from the Historical Collection and the stories of the people who made them. In addition, two hands-on quilting workshops were held at the Woodland Public Library with master quilter Sherry Werum. The quilts will be on display at the Gibson House and Gallery 625 until February 3, 2023.

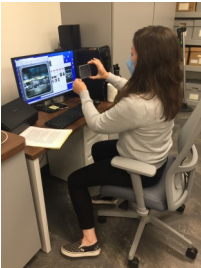
The Archives and Historical Collection worked together to develop a Statement on Potentially Harmful Content. The purpose of this statement is to inform collections users that some materials in our collections may reflect outdated, biased, and offensive views that are part of the historical record. It also explains the process in which materials are described by library staff, archivists, and curators, and provides the public with avenues to report harmful descriptive language in collection records. The statement may be viewed at <https://yolocountylibrary.org/yolo-county-archives-and-historical-collection-statement-on-potentially-harmful-content/>.

Lastly, Sacramento State intern Harvey Jones made great progress photographing items from the Historical Collection. After post-processing is complete, these images will supplement collection records online via our Axiell database. Thank you Harvey for all your hard work!

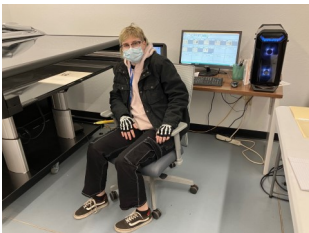


Personnel

Our Extra Help Library Assistants, **Adrienne Fortini** and **Michelle Trujillo**, began the year by finishing up the CalHum grant. Thanks to support from the Friends, we were able to bring them back in summer to digitize the



Yolo Historical Museum Photo Collection and Indexes to Deeds. Adrienne left in the fall to take another position, but we were pleased to bring on a new Extra Help Library Assistant, **Mars Goulas**, who is studying Anthropology at Cosumnes River College. Mars is digitizing Winters and Woodland High School yearbooks. Welcome, Mars!



Research

This year, we hosted **80 research appointments** in our Reading Room (including repeat visitors) and conducted **remote research for another 156 patrons**. Our total number of patrons was 223 (29 more than 2021).

Top 10 Collections Used in 2022		
<i>*purple text = not top 10 in 2021</i>		
Collection	2021	2022
Deed Books	149	180
Photo Collection	132	142
Tax Assessor Rolls	39	127
City & County Directories	69	75
Newspapers.com	47	63
Ancestry.com	27	63
Obituaries	39	54
Probate	12	52
Official Records	29	43
Assessor's Maps	5	30

Research Highlight!

Shirley DicKard, the great-granddaughter of Emily Hoppin (farmer, suffragist, and temperance leader), came and did research at the Archives and Historical Collection to gather materials for a biography that she is writing about this extraordinary woman. Shirley looked through probate, newspapers, voter registrations, and more. We



look forward to reading the finished book!

Professional Development

Rachel attended a webinar by the Grants Manager for Wisconsin Library Services, where she learned about the different techniques and legal considerations when digitizing yearbooks. At the end of July, Heather completed her term as the Chair of the Public Library Archives and Special Collections Section of SAA. As part of the annual meeting, the section hosted lightning talks from representatives of different repositories, who spoke about their work to increase the diversity of, and equitable access to, archival collections.

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!

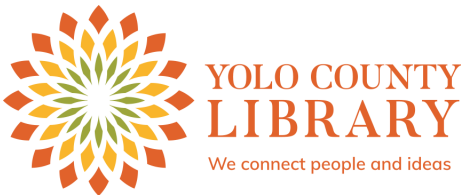
- Anastasia Panagakos, President
- Claire Phillips, Vice President
- Dr. John Jackson, Treasurer
- Ryan Baum, Secretary
- Rob Coman, Communications Director



Board Members:

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

Cover Photo: Woodland City Park, 1920. L32-002. Acc. #2020-014.



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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.