

2023 Annual Report



The mission of the Society is to connect people to Coastal Georgia's dynamic history through the stories we share and the collections we preserve.

Winter Program Agenda January 14, 2024



Welcome and Call to Order Executive Director's Message Board of Directors Update Rodriguez Service Award George C. Cunningham Award Speaker Introduction **Silent Spring Revolution and Its Connection to Coastal Georgia** Adjourn Mary Schellhorn Sherri Jones Mary Schellhorn Mary Schellhorn Mimi Rogers Mimi Rogers

Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D. Mary Schellhorn

Featured Speaker: Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D. Silent Spring Revolution and Its Connection to Coastal Georgia



Douglas Brinkley, Ph.D., will present a program focused on his latest book, *Silent Spring Revolution*: *John F. Kennedy, Rachel Carson, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, and the Great Environmental Awakening,* with an emphasis on Coastal Georgia's role in the story of the environmental movement. The book chronicles the rise of environmental activism during the 1960s and 1970s. It tells the story of an indomitable generation who worked to save the natural world under the leadership of John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Richard Nixon. Doris Kearns Goodwin praised the book as "not only a majestic work of history; it is an urgent call for our time."

Dr. Brinkley is the Katherine Tsanoff Brown Chair in Humanities and Professor of History at Rice University. He serves as the CNN Presidential Historian and as U.S. Presidential Historian for the New York Historical Society. *The Chicago Tribune* dubbed him "America's New Past Master."

Other books by the award-winning author include American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race and Cronkite. He received the Robert F. Kennedy Book award for The Great Deluge: Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast, a Grammy Award for Presidential Suite: Eight Variations on Freedom, and the Arthur S. Link-Warren F. Kuehl Prize for The Nixon Tapes.

2023 Leadership

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

- Mary Schellhorn, President Duane Harris, Immediate Past President Keith Calhoun, Vice President Jeffrey Molitor, Treasurer Ed Hawie, Secretary Sherri Jones, Executive Director Mimi Rogers, Curator
- Jack Crews Craig Donohue Lucy Glasebrook Cheryl Hargrove Mike Hodges Michelle Johnston Jim Kielt Susan Myers Brenda Nease Jan Payne Janis Rehlaender Bill Stembler

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Mary Burdell Albert Fendig Albert F. Shelander*

* Deceased

STAFF

Sherri Jones, Executive Director Mimi Rogers, Curator Annie Martin, Education Director Allison Dupuis, Director of Public Programming Sheila VanderWood, Director of Development Leigh Ann Stroud, Public Relations Director Eric Oberg, Director of Retail Operations Jessica Aldridge, Events Coordinator Heather Cason, Office Manager

Senior Historian, Buddy Sullivan Consulting Archaeologist, Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D.

MUSEUM STAFF

Robert Aronson Nancy Chastain Linda Culver Jim Henderson Colleen Kazimir Chip Lewis Sally McLean Gail Rivard Kelly Rodgers Duane Shearer Chris Simmons Theresa Spangler Laura Trippe Ainsley Woodward

President's Report

To further our mission to connect people to Coastal Georgia's dynamic history through the stories we share and the collections we preserve, the Historical Society is guided by a five-year Strategic Plan that includes several overarching goals. One of these is to: "Maintain unparalleled standards of excellence in personnel, preservation, presentation, and resource management." An ambitious goal, for sure, but one for which we continually strive and for which we are recognized throughout the region and the state.

Achieving the highest quality in all our endeavors is possible because of the outstanding individuals who staff the Society, which is expertly led by Executive Director Sherri Jones. Our successes, however, also depend upon a wide network of individuals and organizations, which extends beyond our headquarters in the A.W. Jones Heritage Center.

In 2023 more than 100 dedicated volunteers shared their love of history by working over 6,000 hours to support our staff and greet and guide museum visitors. Society members, which now number 850 households, embrace our mission, attend events and lectures, and participate in our field trips. The 211 Keepers of the Light, our leadership donors, provide critical financial support and serve as important ambassadors for the Society. Local businesses and foundations generously sponsor our public programs and student-centered activities.

The Society's growing collection is enriched by donations of primary documents, photographs, and artifacts from a variety of individuals and organizations. Glynn County educators team up with Society historians to develop school tours and materials to enrich students' learning about Coastal Georgia's history. Collaborations with cultural organizations, historical societies, museums, and government agencies throughout the state further expand the reach of our programs. We are also honored that highly regarded authors and historians from across the U.S. travel to Coastal Georgia to present programs to inspire our members, visitors, and students in Glynn County schools. The Society's committed Board of Directors fulfill their governance and fiduciary responsibilities in a myriad of ways as counselors, experts in their respective fields, and advocates. We are truly grateful to Craig Donohue, Mike Hodges, Jan Payne, and Bill Stembler who completed their Board service in December. Joining the Board this year are Brad Danowski, Shannon Gilreath, John Hunter, Steven Kerr, and Susan Lawhorne. They will ensure that the Society's pursuit of excellence, in all areas, remains at the forefront.

In September, we celebrated the achievement of a key Strategic Plan goal: the completion of the \$1.25 million Preservation Campaign. With these designated funds from 258 donors, our historic treasures—the St. Simons Lighthouse and Keepers Dwelling and the East Beach Coast Guard Station/Home Front Museum—will be preserved for generations to come. And, our annual operating budget can be used solely to expand our programs and reach new audiences. Campaign Co-chairs Craig and Elsa Donohue and Lucy and Dick Glasebrook provided invaluable leadership and inspiration throughout the Campaign.

I hope that you will read our 2023 Annual Report to gain a more complete appreciation for all that the Society does to fulfill its mission and the many individuals and organizations that make this happen. It is quite an enterprise!

As President, I am truly grateful for the hundreds of individuals and organizations that help the Historical Society aspire to excellence in all our endeavors.

Kind Regards,

Mary Schellhorn

Light Show Celebrating Successful Preservation Campaign

Winter Program Featuring Jessica Harris, Ph.D.

Executive Director's Report

As Coastal Georgia Historical Society (CGHS) approaches the conclusion of its five-year strategic plan, we stand at a pivotal moment in our history. With your help, we have achieved both organizational stability and robust community support, setting the stage for us to boldly envision our future. Over the past decade, we have explored this region's stories in many ways and continue to be amazed by its centuries-long history and global significance. As we take the next step, we aspire to be the multi-faceted organization that this coastal region deserves as champion, steward, and storyteller.

A key priority is the review of existing programs to assess their impact on our future trajectory. Since its inception in 2012, our Archaeology Lab has been an active partner in academic research, uncovering historical data through archaeological investigations and educating our members and volunteers. Its work has been crucial in bringing to light untold stories, particularly those of under-represented groups. This allows us to broaden our scope beyond the current museum and curatorial focus and study diverse eras and communities integral to Coastal Georgia's history.

Dr. Ray Crook's founding vision for the lab emphasized promoting coastal archaeology and safeguarding local collections. Over the past decade, our lab has, for example, provided essential support to the St. Simons Land Trust at Cannon's Point Preserve and the owners of the Strain building in Darien by coordinating excavations at these significant sites and managing preservation of the archaeological collections. This accessibility to our services enhances the likelihood of undertaking meaningful projects that enrich the study of coastal archaeology. As we plan for the future, an expanded role for the Lab will be a key area of consideration.

2024 marks the fourth year of a critical strategic initiative to digitize our unique collections and launch an online platform, thereby increasing public access. This process has not only expanded accessibility but also allowed us to assess preservation needs and storage conditions, in line with our responsibilities as an American Alliance of Museums accredited institution. Consequently, we plan a professional evaluation of our collection's storage, which will provide recommendations to enhance collections care. Prioritizing funding of this mission-critical project is vital for maintaining excellence across all aspects of the organization.

Additionally, the inventory process has identified gaps in our holdings and will inform implementation of a collection development plan. This plan will guide us as we work toward fulfilling our mission to be a leading center of research on Coastal Georgia history. Maintaining a "best practices" repository and pursuing a program for securing and protecting artifacts is a significant commitment that will greatly benefit our region.

Looking ahead, we face several challenges, including the development of a master plan for the lighthouse campus. Topics for consideration include space limitations at the Heritage Center, the need to refresh and update the Lighthouse Museum's exhibits and interpretation, and how to allocate resources between master plan execution and serving broader, more diverse audiences.

As we embark on the next strategic planning process in 2024, engaging a wide range of stakeholders in this visioning process is crucial. We aim to equip the board and Strategic Planning Committee with comprehensive data to inform our decisions and priorities for the next five years and beyond. Your feedback, as a key audience and valued supporter, will be integral to achieving an outstanding outcome. Together, we can ensure that CGHS continues to be a dynamic guardian of Coastal Georgia's rich and diverse history.

Sincerely,

Sherri Jones

Financial Report

(Un-audited)

Operations

Revenues	1,760,419
Transfer from General Support Fund\$	50,000
Expenses (Excluding Depreciation of \$470,114)\$	1,750,683
Net Income from Operations\$	59,736

General Support Fund

Beginning of Year Balance\$		869,283
Transfer to Operating Account\$	i	(50,000)
End of Year Balance**\$; 1	1,028,021

St. Simons Lighthouse Museum Preservation Fund

Beginning of Year Balance\$	453,325
Donations from Preservation Campaign during 2023 [*] \$	266,597
End of Year Balance ^{**} \$	948,298

World War II Home Front Museum Preservation Fund

Beginning of Year Balance \$	285,612
Donations from Preservation Campaign during 2023 [*] \$	445,921
End of Year Balance***\$	944,208

*Donations do not include pledges that have not been received. Funds have been allocated to even out accounts. **Due to the timing of printing this report, the balance is as of November 30, 2023.

Highlights of the Year

The Society's primary services to the community continue to be stewardship of the St. Simons Lighthouse Museum and World War II Home Front Museum; managing access to these important sites; preserving archival and archaeological collections; and providing educational programming and services to a variety of audiences, including school children and our members.

Museum Visitation

General Admission	66,919
Group Tours	96
Participants	1,826
School Tours	37
Participants	2,178

Educational Programming

Attendees at lectures, special tours, and children's programs	3,869	
Events		
Little Light Music		
Concert Series Attendees	5,000	
Number of Event Rentals	48	

Programs, Lectures, and Events

The Society strives to be a center for educational and cultural excellence in our community. We are continuing our efforts to serve wider communities and expand programming to Brunswick.

■ In preparation for the New Year, the Museums and Museum Stores were closed from January 9-13 for maintenance and inventory. During this time, the Keepers Dwelling was thoroughly cleaned, and the wood floors were hand waxed.

■ Society Senior Historian Buddy Sullivan presented his annual fourweek course, **"History of the Golden Isles—and Slightly Beyond,"** on January 17, 24, 31, and February 7. The course attracted 135 participants.

■ Staff members attended a **World War II Heritage Trail** planning meeting January 23-24 at Andersonville National Historic Site. At the meeting, future marketing goals were established including expanding our website and social media presence, as well as publicizing our joint WWII calendars to become the go-to resource for Georgia's WWII stories and experiences.

■ The Society's **Winter Program** was held on January 29 at the St. Simons Presbyterian Church. Jessica Harris, Ph.D. presented the lecture "African/American: Making the Nation's Table." There were 325 members and guests in attendance. Gretchen Negles received the Cunningham Bowl for exemplary volunteer service during the previous year. Jeanne Kaufmann received the Rodriguez Service Award for her exemplary acts of stewardship and service. After the program, a reception was held honoring Dr. Harris at the A. W. Jones Heritage Center featuring hors d'oeuvres inspired by her recipes. All program attendees were invited.

• Oglethorpe Point Elementary School hosted their annual **Georgia History Day program** on February 10. Julya Lizarralde, the Home Front Museum Director, attended the event and presented a program to fifth grade classes about maritime codes and the history of the Coast Guard during World War II. The students used interactive alphabet blocks to decode a message about the Coasties' duties during the war. Along with decoding, they also learned about the NATO phonetic alphabet and why it is still used in the military today.

Mimi Rogers and Julya Lizzaralde presented and participated in Fort
Frederica's African American History Festival on February 18.

■ In celebration of **Black History Month**, the Society held film screenings of two short films produced and directed by acclaimed jazz musician

First Visitors Enjoy New Airship Gallery Touch Table

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Willie Ruff. Screenings of *The Soul of St. Simons Island* and *Tony Williams in Africa* were offered at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center on February 22 and at the College of Coastal Georgia on February 23. Mr. Ruff introduced the films and answered questions. A total of 170 people registered for the screenings.

■ Thanks to the generosity of the **Jack and Anne Clenn Charitable Foundation**, on March 13 and again on October 10, the Society offered local children and their families free admission to the St. Simons Lighthouse and World War II Home Front Museums. While schools were closed for teacher planning days, 555 people visited our museums free of charge on March 13 and 565 visited on October 10. At each location, the children received a scavenger hunt brochure to guide their experience.

■ A **Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon** was held on April 20 to thank our loyal and hardworking volunteers, who contributed over 6,000 hours of service during 2022. Twenty-three volunteers were recognized for working over 100 hours, including four who contributed 200 hours or more.

■ This year, Journeys explored the cultural history and historic preservation of Savannah. Chris Hendricks, Ph.D., presented a program on April 27 titled, "Savannah's Squares: Reflections on Southern Urban Society." Dr. Hendricks discussed how the city's unique geography has shaped the way three centuries of Savannah citizens have lived, worked, played, and interacted with one another. He also illustrated how Savannah's growth and the accompanying changes in fashion and lifestyle have been reflected in the city's landscape. There were 186 registrations.

• On May 10, David Zelski, producer and host of Georgia Public Television's *The Excursion*, visited the **Archaeology Lab** to view and film artifacts recovered during the historic preservation project at the Adam Strain building in Darien, Georgia. Zelski interviewed lab manager Myrna Crook, who described the artifacts and explained how they provided information about the history of the building. ■ On May 12, two exciting additions opened at the World War II Home Front Museum. Funded by a generous grant from the **DeLong-Sweet Family Foundation**, an 86-inch interactive touch table is now part of the Airship Gallery. The animated experience is centered around operating an airship (blimp) during World War II. The STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) animations provide a teaching tool for students, as well as an engaging activity for families and visitors. A significant interactive station has been added to the Legacy Gallery, funded by a grant from the **Terry Thomas Foundation**. Visitors can now enjoy an audiovisual presentation of six personal stories about life in Coastal Georgia after the war.

■ As part of **Archaeology Day at Fort Frederica** on May 13, Myrna Crook presented a program on the relationship between the natural and cultural resources of Coastal Georgia through the centuries and how this interaction is revealed by the archaeological record.

■ The Little Light Music Concert Series opened on May 21 with the Hollywood Band, followed by local band Squirt Gun on June 4. Kenny on the Keys joined the lineup for the first time on July 16. The Sensational Sounds of Motown closed the series on September 3, followed by an encore performance of the light show.

The series entertained 5,000 concertgoers and generated around \$29,000 for the Society. We are grateful to our generous sponsors: Ameris Bank; Brown-Rose Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley; Coastal Greenery; Elegant Island Living; GardnerKeim Coastal Realty; Moore Stephens Tiller; Peach State Staging; and Taylor Odachowski Schmidt and Crossland LLC.

On May 25, author and journalist Dirk Smillie presented the Spring
Program, "Tabloid Trailblazer: Alicia Patterson's Extraordinary Life
in Georgia and New York." The program was held at the St. Simons
Presbyterian Church and was based on his book The Business of Tomorrow:
The Visionary Life of Harry Guggenheim. His talk included the fascinating
story of the partnership between Harry and Alicia Guggenheim. Smillie
is a best-selling author and a former senior writer at Forbes, where he

covered family business dynasties. He also served as chief content officer at Guggenheim Partners.

■ In celebration of the fifth anniversary of the Home Front Museum, the **Chautauqua Lecture Series** was devoted to World War II topics. The lectures delved into the dramatically different wartime experiences in three nations – Britain, the United States, and France. The series also examined one of the most significant and controversial achievements of the war, the development of the atomic bomb, as seen through the eyes of the scientist who headed the project. The lectures were offered both in person at the St. Simons Presbyterian Church and virtually. There were 264 registrations. The Series was generously sponsored by Lokey Asset Management of Raymond James and Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford & Martin, PC.

The series began on Thursday, **August 17**, featuring best-selling author **Donald L. Miller, Ph.D**. His lecture, "Over There: The British Home Front during World War II," explored the impact of the war throughout Britain, especially those areas in close proximity to U.S. military bases.

The following Thursday, **August 24**, historian **Robert M. Citino, Ph.D.**, examined the U.S. home front in the lecture "Cradle of Victory: The American South in World War II." Dr. Citino described the key role played by the South in Allies' victory over the Axis alliance.

After skipping the Thursday before Labor Day, the series continued with the return to Coastal Georgia of humanities scholar **Clay Jenkinson** on **September 7**. Mr. Jenkinson presented a dramatic portrayal of physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, director of the Los Alamos Laboratory, site of the development of the atomic bomb. He also presented a program for middle and high school students at Frederica Academy the following day.

The closing lecture on **September 14** focused on France and the crucial role women played in resisting Nazi occupation. **Lynne Olson** presented "The Forgotten Women of the French Resistance." Olson drew from her books, *Madame Fourcade's Secret War* and *Empress of the*

Nile to explore this often-overlooked contribution.

• Over Labor Day weekend, the Society celebrated the **completion of the Preservation Campaign** with an encore performance of the dazzling light show that was created to celebrate the 150th birthday of the Lighthouse in 2022. The show was presented to the public on August 31, September 2, 3, and 4, attracting thousands of residents and visitors.

■ The **Brunswick Lecture Series** was held at the Brunswick-Glynn County Library, October 3, 10, 17, and 24. There were 175 people registered and the series was presented jointly by the Society and the Friends of the Brunswick-Glynn County Library.

The first lecture on **October 3** featured the Society's Senior Historian **Buddy Sullivan**. Sullivan covered the history of Brunswick from the colonial settlement of Georgia to the 20th century, concentrating on the city's development as a commercial center and seaport.

Director of Public Programming **Allison Dupuis** presented "Railroads to Rest Stops: Travel and Tourism In Brunswick from the 1890s to the 1960s" on **October 10**.

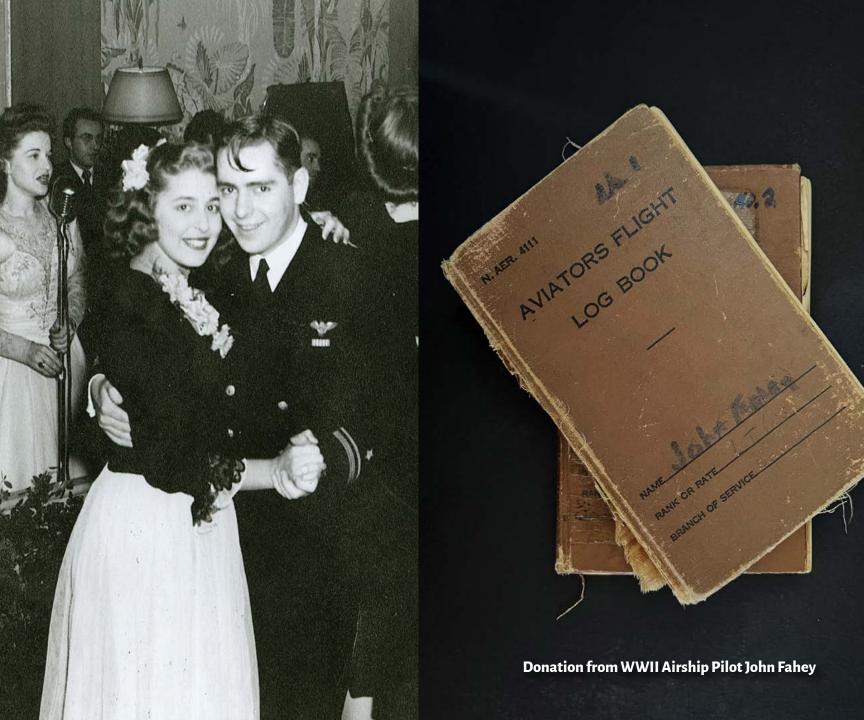
Hector Montford, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History at the College of Coastal Georgia, presented "The Risley School: Creating Community in a Segregated City" on **October 17**.

The series concluded with writer **Keith Propst** on **October 24** with a lecture titled, "Gray Shadows Over Wolfpacks: NAS Glynco and the Naval Airship Program."

 On October 14, Myrna Crook and Janis Rodriguez represented our Archaeology Lab at the St. Simons Land Trust's Family Day at Guale
Preserve. Through a variety of hands-on activities, visitors of all ages learned about Native American shell middens, pottery making, and foodways, as well as pirate activity along our coast. Myrna and Janis also used a display case of pottery sherds to show how coastal people decorated their pots thousands of years ago.

Chautauqua Speaker Clay Jenkinson at Frederica Academy

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■ Annie Martin and Allison Dupuis presented a Veteran's Day program at Burroughs-Molette Elementary on November 10. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students learned the flag semaphore alphabet and tested their classmates' knowledge by spelling words for others to decode.

• On November 13, a **Volunteer Social** was held at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center. The well-attended event gave the volunteers an opportunity to meet our newest staff members, Annie Martin and Allison Dupuis, and to spend time with other volunteers. Annie and Allison welcomed and thanked them for their dedicated service.

The Museum Store's **Holiday Open House**, held on November 4, was well attended. A member preview event took place the day before.

■ The **Fall Program** was held November 16 at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center. Sheffield Hale, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Atlanta History Center, presented a screening and discussion of "Monument: The Untold Story of Stone Mountain." The half-hour documentary, created by the Atlanta History Center, explores the controversial past and present of the carving on Stone Mountain. The program was offered in person and virtually. There were 200 people registered.

■ Throughout the year, the Society presented the "History Highlights" article each month in *Elegant Island Living* magazine. Produced by Mimi Rogers and Allison Dupuis, these articles explored a variety of local history topics and featured photographs and artifacts from our collection.

Collections

The following items were donated to the Society during 2023:

2023.001	Souvenir plate, ceramic, with image "Fort Oglethorpe, St. Simon's Island, Ga."
	Donor: Jay Kaufman
2023.002	Typed manuscript of <i>The Beloved</i> <i>Invader</i> by Eugenia Price, given to Mary Gould Everett by the author.
	Donor: Barbara Everett Knysz
2023.003	Paintings, textiles, musical instruments, clay pot, mask, baskets and other woven items, and 35 mm slides associated with the Coastal Georgia Historical Society exhibit "Transatlantic Linkage: The Gullah/Geechee- Sierra Leone Connection."
	Donor: Linda Orr King
2023.004	WWII U.S. Army Aircraft Warning Service observer armband worn by Sarah Cornelia Leavy.
	Donors: Jan Leavy Bone, C.H. Leavy IV, and Vance Leavy
2023.005	Photograph: Flower Show on Courthouse Grounds, May 1931.
	Donor: Jan Leavy Bone
2023.006	Documents associated with ownership of Little St. Simons Island: Land grants, 1773 and 1802, and land grant seals (3); surveys, 1772 and 1802; Purchase of Titles, 1794; maps, 1797 and 1908; and a newspaper clipping from <i>Brunswick Journal</i> , 1908. Donor: Little St. Simons Island LLC

Collections continued

2023.007	Books (2): Sapelo Voices: Historical Anthropology and the Oral Traditions of Gullah-Geechee Communities on	2015.006	Souvenir plate, ceramic, with image "Oglethorpe Hotel, Brunswick, Georgia."	
	Sapelo Island, Georgia. Donors: Gretchen and Michael Negles		Board of Directors Minutes Book, First National Bank of Brunswick,	
2023.008	Book: The Beginnings: Wesley Memorial Garden and Wesley United Methodist Church at Frederica		Sept. 4, 1945 - Dec. 12, 1968, including photograph of the board, January 1964.	
	from 1986 to March 1990.		Donor: Merry Tipton	
Donor: Wesley Church at Frederica		Education (Collection	
2023.009	Aviators Flight Log Books (2) of John A. Fahey, 1943-1949 and	Booklets	World War II ration books and related material	
	1949-1953.		Donors: Jim and Julie Vaughn	
	Donor: Cdr. John A. Fahey, USN (Ret.)	Research Li	ibrary	
2023.010	Correspondence, postcards, and other documents related to the W.N. Gramling house, St. Simons Island, Georgia.	Book	Undisclosed Stories Discovered: Honoring the World War II Military Journey of Lt. Joseph Ward Bearss, USNR by Mark G. Bearss	
	Donor: Helen B. Irvine		Donor: Mark G. Bearss	
2023.011	Copying book of correspondence, The National Bank of Brunswick,	Books	Collection of books (9) on American and British brass and pewter.	
	1894-95.		Donor: Jeannine Falino	
	Donor: Truist Bank			
2023.012	Book: The Carnegies and Cumberland Island by Nancy Carnegie Rockefeller.	Books	Notes from Lowcountry Georgia: History, Ecology & Perspective; Child-Life on the Tidewater; Environmental Influences on Life and Labor in McIntosh County, Georgia; Low Country Historian:	
	Donor: Lucy Foster Flight		A Collective Omnibus; 'Old Tabby': The Ashantilly	
Additions to Existing Collections 2014.010 Jacket pocket patch (1): "Sea Island Seniors," Sea Island Golf Club. Photographs (3): St. Simons Island boarding house.			Legacy of Thomas Spalding and William G. Haynes, Jr.; Postbellum Sapelo Island: The Reconstruction	
			Journal of Archibald Carlisle McKinley by Buddy Sullivan.	
	-		Donor: Buddy Sullivan	
	Donors: Janis and Cesar Rodriguez			

Archaeology Laboratory

As the Archaeology Laboratory concludes its 11th year, the facility continues to promote coastal archaeology and carry out the vision of the late Ray Crook, Ph.D., to preserve local collections in a local repository. The lab serves as an important resource for researchers and the general public. Society member and volunteer Myrna Crook has managed the day-to-day operations of the lab according to professional standards and assisted numerous researchers. Our consulting archaeologist, Lindsey Cochran, Ph.D., has generously provided professional guidance throughout the year. Dr. Cochran is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at East Tennessee State University (ETSU) and Director of the ETSU Valleybrook Archaeological Laboratories. Mimi Rogers continued to serve as chairman of the History Task Force for Cannon's Point Preserve. Myrna has been assisted by both volunteers and donors, who have given invaluable support to the lab. The Society is especially thankful for the generous donation received from Wyck DeLong, a member and Lab volunteer. Over the past 11 years, more than 60 collections have been curated, comprising tens of thousands of artifacts.

Activities during the year included:

Curating artifacts collections according to best practices, monitoring environmental conditions in collections storage, and maintaining an updated database.

Monitoring the digging of a waterline trench by Glynn County on the St. Simons Lighthouse property.

■ Supervising an in-depth, month-long internship for ETSU graduate Jennifer Stout, who participated in Dr. Cochran's field school in 2022 and hopes to write her master's thesis on a Coastal Georgia topic. Assisting with Dr. Cochran's ETSU field school at Cannon's Point, June 10-16, which included processing artifacts and training students in lab procedures. The artifacts are stored at the lab as part of our memorandum of understanding with St. Simons Land Trust.

Continuing to receive, process, and research artifacts from the Adam Strain Building in Darien, Georgia. The three-year restoration of the 19th century tabby building is nearing completion, and artifacts found onsite are being stored at the lab.

 Participating in filming of the lab for an episode of *The Excursion* with David Zelski featuring the restoration of the Adam Strain Building and archaeological findings from the site. The segment is now available on YouTube.

- Monitoring ground disturbance at Cannon's Point Preserve, which generated a new collection of artifacts.
- Processing metal artifacts from the Strain Building and other collections, which includes electrolysis to remove oxidation.
- Continuing to process the Marianna Kuntz Archaeological Collection donated by Kappy Revels and to prepare a comprehensive comparative display of artifacts from this area for use by archaeologists and students.

- Providing research assistance and information to a number of community partners, including St. Simons Land Trust, Fort Frederica, Cassina Garden Club, and Ashantilly.
- Participating in St. Simons Land Trust's Family Day at Guale
 Preserve and two Fort Frederica archaeology events.
- Assisting scholars with research and reviewing papers and articles on archaeology; making site visits to several properties at the request of owners to provide information on archaeology; and providing tours of the lab to visiting archaeologists and interested groups and individuals.

Volunteers

Since the Society's founding, volunteers have worked diligently to bring our mission to life for visitors and members. Our success is due to the dedication, commitment, love of history, and support demonstrated by these faithful stewards. We extend our appreciation to these individuals who continue to devote their time and talent to the work of the Society serving as museum docents, tour guides, archives registrars and researchers, event volunteers, administrative volunteers, archaeology volunteers, and members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Lighthouse crew.

Donna Ainger **Ralph Ainger** Phil Allison Philip Alston Richard Altman + Stanley Altman* Kim Anchors Michael Autenrieth Larry Bacon + Susan Bacon Pam Balsley + Linda Bartleson **lim Barnett** Scott Baynes Robert Bland **Kerry Blind** Chris Bone + Rene Boven + Les Breen + Becky Bridges + Suzi Carson Nancy Chastain + Lindsey Cochran Jeff Cole

Doug Cranford Melanie Cranford George Cressman Myrna Crook + + Jim DeLong + Nancy DeLong Wyck DeLong + Pat Dick Fric Dierks Bob Douglas Judy Douglas Leslie Dow Peggy Edwards Paula Galland Sally Gilfillan + Linda Gilsrud Maggie Glennon + **Jovce Gromade** Jerry Hardiman + Brett Harrell Duane Harris Joann Harris Susan Hartman Deborah Hoffman

Leah Hopkins Grace Hopper Karen Huff **Billie Huggins*** Marti leffers + Nancy Jenkins + Robert lenkins* Kendra Johnson Valerie Kehoe Patrick Kelley + + David Kerstetter Miriam Lancaster Dan Lane lim Lane Mark Lawrence + Bill Lueckel Chip Lewis John Lindgren Tom Luckstone Ted Madai Joel Maddox Patty Mallicote Marie Meranda Paula Monthofer

Claudia Mullis Don Myers Gretchen Negles + + Walter Ogelsby Linda Olsen Leann Pask Jan Payne Judy Plympton Sybil Ralston Gail Rivard **Cesar Rodriguez** Janis Rodriguez + + Sandra Sanders Salllie Sasser **Becky Schanding** Doug Schanding Tish Searcy Mark Semmelmaver Sara Sheffield Bob Shell + Mary Shell + Dave Smith L.J. Singer Buddy Sullivan

Anne Thigpen Evelyn Ting Merry Tipton Kathy Towles Pat Valz Donn Vecchie-Campbell John Versaggi Pam Versaggi Al Wessel † Connie Worley Frank Worley

+ Volunteered over 100 hours during previous year

+ + Volunteered over 200 hours during previous year

* Deceased



Preservation Campaign

In October 2022, the Society launched a Preservation Campaign to raise \$1.25 million for the preservation of the historic buildings that comprise the St. Simons Lighthouse Museum and the World War II Home Front Museum. These funds, paired with resources already designated for this purpose, create a dedicated fund of \$2 million, the amount required to guarantee the permanent care of both sites. Generous gifts from the following individuals, organizations, businesses, and foundations completed the campaign in just one year, on Labor Day 2023.

\$100,000 and above

Elsa and Craig Donohue Lucy and Dick Glasebrook The Estate of Miranda and Stephen Hires

\$75,000 to \$99,999 Mike and Dave Fox

\$50,000 to \$74,999

The Evergreen Foundation Jeanne Kaufmann and Roger Ryan The John N. Goddard Foundation

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Susie and Roy Dorrance III John Dunham and Jane Beadles Nancy and Lewis Glenn Jack and Anne Glenn Charitable Foundation Sally and Bill Jones III Karen and Mark Koulogeorge Dana and Jim Manning Betty and Jack Moore Katherine and Bob Penn Brenda and Larry Thompson

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Anonymous Vicki and Jim Bell Jennie and Mark Bishof Rene and Peter Boven Linda and Jav Buchert Coastal Barrier Island Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. **Philip Berolzheimer** Eugenia Price/Joyce Blackburn Charitable Fund. Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation Georgia Ports Authority Georgia Power Foundation Carol and Duane Harris Linda and Tom Heagy Diana and Bruce Jacobs Debbie and Steve Kerr Scott and Gail Ledbetter Martha Martin The Jim & Lynn Moroney **Family Foundation** Susan and Don Myers Brenda E. Nease

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