

# *The* Filson

A publication of The Filson Historical Society, a privately-supported historical society  
dedicated to preserving the history of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley Region.



Recent Acquisitions	Browsing in our Archives	Music Under the Trees	2021 Donor Challenge	Hugh Haynie Collection	Baptist Orphans Home Records	Filson Interns	Photo Biennial	Home Tour	Filson Sporting Clay Classic	Staff Profile	The Filsonians
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Filsonians,

Recently, 14 generous individuals and families came together and committed \$150,000 as a challenge for contributions to the Filson's 2021 membership and annual fund. This challenge was made in recognition of the Filson's remarkable achievements in 2020: We revamped our website; expanded our social media presence; presented a wide array of free Zoom programs; added outstanding portraits, letters and manuscripts to the Filson's collection; maintained our current level of staffing; and ended 2020 in the black. We could not have done any of this had it not been for all of you. Thank you.

This current year presents new challenges and opportunities. I hope that you will respond to the \$150,000 challenge by joining the Filson as a new member or increasing your membership level to a higher one; and contributing to the Filson's annual fund with a new gift or at an increased level. You will see more about this in the upcoming pages. We are only as successful as your support and enthusiasm for our mission permits. Your loyalty to the Filson in 2020 was truly meaningful, just as it has always been. We proved to you that we could turn on a dime. We want to do even more in 2021, so please be inspired by this exciting challenge and give generously.

Now for some exciting dates: On August 27 at 5 pm, we will again present Music Under the Trees at Oxmoor Farm, sponsored by Baird. We plan to reopen the building to the public on September 1. On September 24, the Filson's annual House Tour, sponsored by Bluegrass Motorsport, Kentucky Select Properties, Advance Ready Mix, and MCM, returns from its one-year pandemic hiatus. This year, the House Tour will feature the Ferguson Mansion and the Beaux Arts in Louisville with John David Myles, followed by a live cocktail party at the Filson. On October 29, we will sponsor the Filson Sporting Clay Classic event at Southern Indiana's The Sporting Club at the Farm.

Come join us!

All best and thank you,



Richard H.C. Clay

President/CEO, The Filson Historical Society

## FROM THE CHAIR

I know that I'm preaching to the choir but isn't it wonderful to belong to the Filson Historical Society! The range of benefits is extensive, depending on your membership level—from program and member-only event attendance to collection access to dinner with a nationally recognized historian or author (once Covid restrictions are lifted) to the use of a Filson event space for your private function, just to list a few of the perks. Do go to the Filson's website, [filsonhistorical.org](http://filsonhistorical.org) and click on Membership to see a complete listing of all the benefits available. One benefit of which I was not aware is membership in the North American Reciprocal Museum Association (NARM) which enables Boone level members and above free admission to many American, Canadian and Mexican museums. Don't forget your Filson membership card the next time you travel North America!

There are a lot of upcoming events which are further discussed in this issue. All will enable you to join with others to share your appreciation of history and to socialize after a long, Covid-induced absence. To make it easier to put events on your calendar, the Filson now offers AddEvent on our website. This free subscription service will sync Filson events to your digital calendar. To subscribe, visit our website today!

Don't miss the listing of our business partners on the back cover. They contribute significantly to the financial well-being of your organization. This provides a nice segue to how you individually can help grow the Filson. Do read about the \$150,000 Donor Challenge and how you can be involved. The board has enthusiastically endorsed the challenge and the response. It's been said that the essence of living is giving. This also applies to donating your items to our collection so that future generations can appreciate and learn from your family's past.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer,



John Stern, Chairman of the Board

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## The Filson

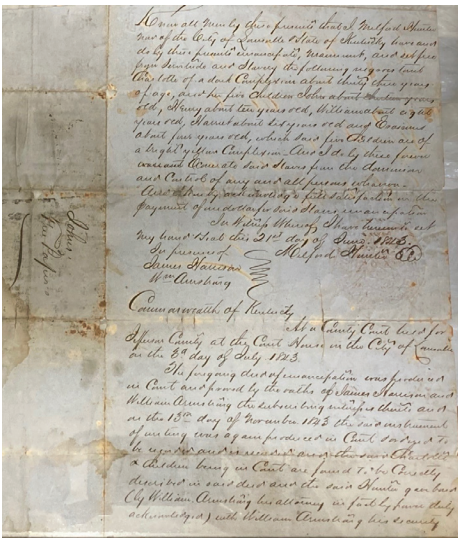
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[info@filsonhistorical.org](mailto:info@filsonhistorical.org)

## OUR MISSION:

To collect, preserve, and  
tell the significant stories  
of Kentucky and Ohio  
Valley history and culture.

# Recent Acquisitions

These are just a few of the collections and items that have been generously donated to the Filson this Spring. Your support allows us to collect, preserve, and share these significant materials!



## Manumission document, circa 1856

Charlotte and her children John, Henry, William, Harriet, and Erasmus were freed in Louisville in 1843 by their enslaver, Milford Hunter. John was thirteen at the time. Thirteen years later, in 1856, he went before the court and received a legal copy of his manumission that he apparently carried with him to prove he was free; the note on the outside of the document reads "John's Free Papers." (Gift of Jill Anderson)

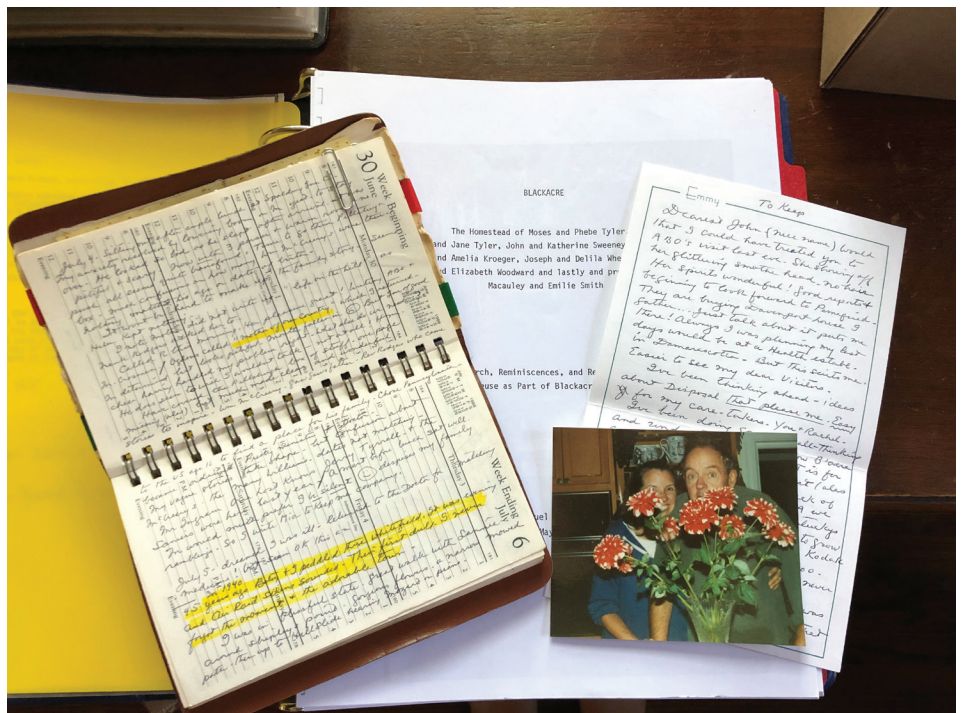


## Eleanor Bingham Miller Photograph Archive

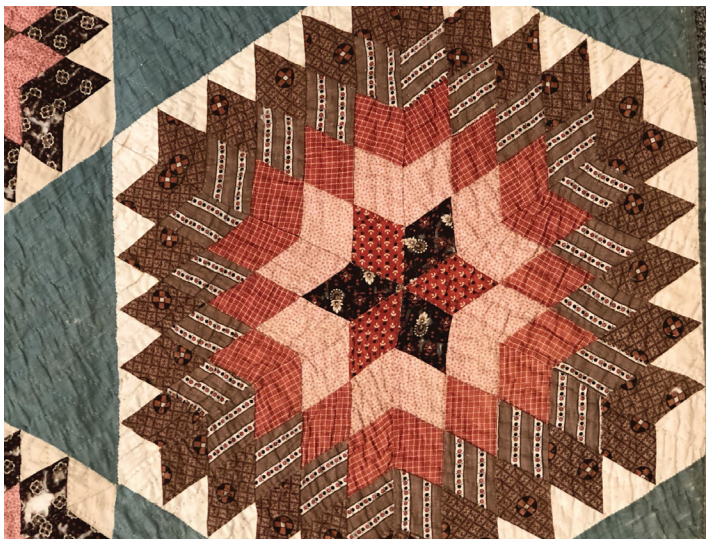
This extensive collection documents the work and life of George Barry Bingham, Mary Clifford Caperton Bingham, and their children Robert Worth Bingham, George "Barry" Bingham, Jr., Sarah "Sallie" Bingham Montagu, Jonathan Worth, and Eleanor Miller. George Barry Bingham, Sr. was the second-generation publisher and editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and the *Louisville Times*. The Bingham family owned a cluster of influential media properties along with the newspapers, including WHAS Radio and Television. This collection complements the Bingham family papers already preserved at the Filson. (Gift of Eleanor Bingham Miller)

## Emilie Strong Smith and Macauley Letchworth Smith Family Papers and Photographs

Letters, reports, photographs, articles and more materials in this collection document the lives and ancestry of the Smiths. Along with family history, the collection provides documentation of conservation and preservation work in Kentucky, including information on Blackacre Conservancy and Locust Grove. (Gift of John S. M. Smith)

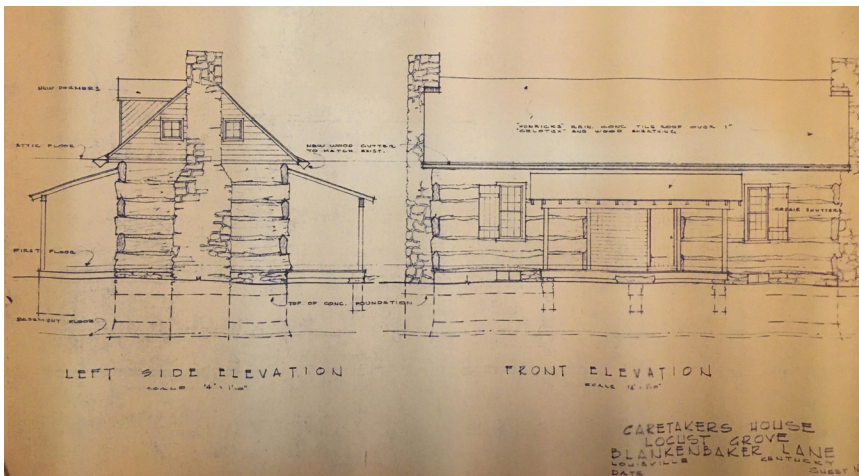






### Quilts, circa 1860s-1870s

Three quilts made by Margaret Elizabeth Owsley (1811-1880), the niece of Governor William Owsley, in Christian County, KY, c. 1860s-1870s. (Gift of Owsley's third-great-granddaughter, Margaret McCormick [2021.4.1-3])



### Architectural drawings of Caretakers House at Locust Grove, circa 1962

Series of drawings, c. 1962, by an unknown architect of the moving and remodeling of a log house to be used as a caretaker house on the property of Locust Grove. The log cabin originated with pioneer settler Richard Terrell, who owned a plantation on the Muddy (north) Fork Beargrass Creek, adjacent to the Croghan property. The house was likely constructed between 1795 and 1797. (Gift of by Leo Klarer)



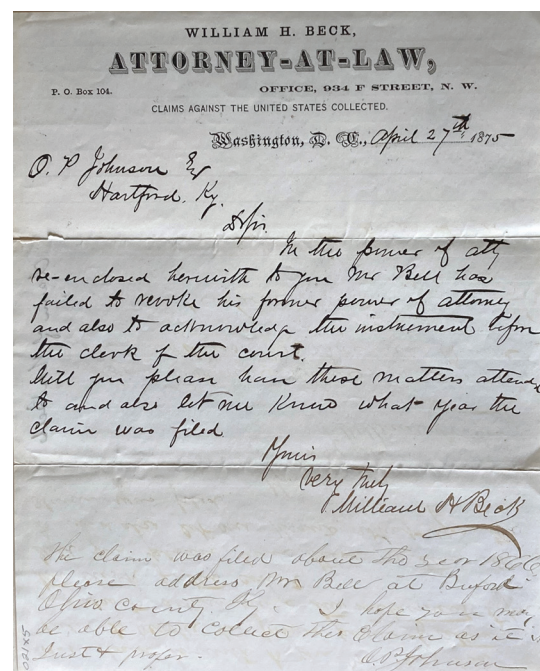
### Loevenhart's clothing store records and photographs, circa 1900-1995

One box of materials documenting the history of Loevenhart's clothing store and its owners, the Loevenhart and Grossman families of Louisville. (Gift of Kenneth Grossman)



### World War II Overcoat, circa 1941-1945

World War II Armory Division (Ft. Knox) overcoat worn by Sergeant Horace G. Stivers of Louisville, who crossed the Rhine near the City of Worms in 1945. (Gift of Stivers' nephew, Randall Thomas [2021.3.1])



### Letter regarding reparations claim, 1875

William H. Beck to O. P. Johnson of Hartford, KY, regarding Johnson's Civil War reparations claim against the federal government, April 27, 1875. (Gift of Vickey Hypes)



# Conserving Louisville Legion History

BY HEATHER POTTER | CURATOR OF PHOTOGRAPHS & PRINTS

In the summer of 2018, while working on a reorganization project in the stacks, curator Jim Holmberg and I unearthed a large, rolled object on a top shelf. Not knowing what this object could be, we carefully loaded it onto a cart and took it down to the reading room, where it could be safely unrolled. What we discovered was a mounted panoramic photograph comprised of six separate albumen sliver prints. This oversized photograph measured 27¾ inches high and 108 inches wide—that's 9 feet long! After careful examination, Jim realized that this photograph was once framed and on display back when the Filson was located on Breckinridge Street. At one point, a previous photo curator decided to unframe the image, probably so it would take up less space. It was then rolled up and

placed on a shelf in the stacks, not to be touched again until almost 30 years later.

This one-of-a-kind group portrait depicts the Louisville Legion, one of the most active volunteer militia companies in the country during the nineteenth century, before its members departed for the 1889 Washington Centennial in New York City.

## The Louisville Legion's History of Service

Now a part of the Kentucky National Guard, the Louisville Legion boasts a legacy of over 180 years of military service to the state government of Kentucky. The regiment was chartered in 1839 by the Kentucky State Legislature and provided its service members with prestige, social mobility, and a chance to continue their forefathers' legacies through military service.

The Legion has served many functions over its long history; it has been a volunteer regiment in wars abroad, a home guard service, and a source of military pageantry. As the United States grew from a fledgling country to a global superpower, so too did the role of the Louisville Legion grow and change.

After service in the Mexican and Civil Wars (Union side), the Louisville Legion was re-organized by former Confederate cavalryman John Breckinridge Castleman in 1875. Under Col. Castleman's command, the Legion was often called on by the governor to suppress riots, lynch mobs, labor strikes, and mountain feuds in the 1880s and 1890s. The Legion's successful state militia service and participation in drill competitions earned it a spot in the Washington Centennial Parade.



Close-up view of the Louisville Legion photograph.



Heather Potter, curator of photos, poses with the Louisville Legion in the Special Collections reading room after finding the photo in the stacks.

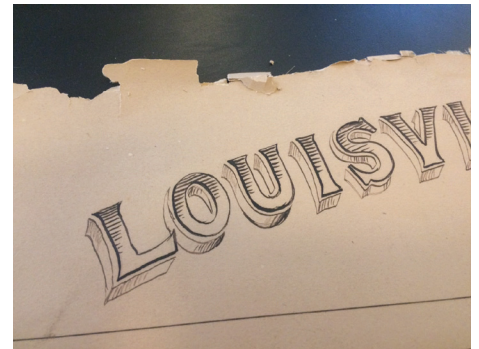




Close-up of the Legion posing in uniform.



Close-up view of the crumbling mount that is needing repaired.



## Snapshot of a Historic Moment

The Washington Centennial was a celebration of the 100th Anniversary of George Washington's presidential inauguration, which was held in the then-capitol of the United States, New York City. Planned by the New York Historical Society, the three-day event was not only a commemoration of the inauguration, but also a show of the progress and power the United States had gained over the last century. Over a million people were expected to attend the festivities, which culminated in a large parade through downtown New York. Every state in the union sent a representation to march in the parade and attend the festivities. Several states, including Kentucky, sent militias to represent their populace. According to the Louisville Legion's self-published history, this event featured over 60,000 militiamen from across the country.

The night before departing for New York to be led by Governor Buckner in the Centennial Parade, the Legion participated in a review by the mayor of Louisville, Charles D. Jacob. We believe that this photograph of the Louisville Legion was taken the night of the mayor's review, April 28, 1889, in a huge vacant lot at Brook and Breckinridge that was often used for circus performances, according to a *Courier-Journal* article about the event.

The photograph isn't only significant for its unique size and subject matter. The shot captures an important but often overlooked moment in local military history, between the Civil War and the Louisville Legion's most famous service, the Spanish-American

War in 1898. In subtle ways, an image taken during this period helps us understand the still ongoing process of reconciliation after the Civil War. Louisville played a major part in the cultural, economic, and political processes of post-Civil War reconciliation with events such as the Southern Exposition and national veteran reunions for both sides. This image provides an opportunity to explore the complex intersections of the New South and the Old South at the peak of Louisville's national prominence.

## Bringing the Legion Back to Life

As soon as we rediscovered the photograph and realized its historical significance, it became clear that the image was in serious need of conservation. The mount was old and fragile, and the sheer size of the photograph made it difficult to work with and susceptible to even more damage. While the Filson does have designated funds for conservation projects, a project of this magnitude was going to be extremely expensive and time-consuming.

Our first step in the project was to secure funding to have the item assessed by a photograph conservator. In library and archives, the term "preservation" is used as an umbrella term for activities that reduce or prevent damage to extend the life expectancy of a collection, such as proper storage and minimal handling of frail items. "Conservation," on the other hand, refers more specifically to the physical treatment of individual damaged items. Conservation work should always be done by a trained professional.

In the winter of 2019, Laura Moeller of Strange Stock Art Conservation, based in Covington, Kentucky, visited the Filson to do a comprehensive assessment of the 9-foot-long mounted photograph. Moeller determined that the image needed to be cleaned and repaired. This would include repairing large tears in the mount, reattaching several of the six photographs, cleaning the surface of the overall object, and using local humidity treatment on areas that had bowed over time. Unfortunately, we couldn't act on her advice right away. Due to the high cost of the project and the onset of the pandemic, the Louisville Legion panorama sat untouched on top of our Library Vertical Files cabinet throughout 2020.

Luckily, that's not where the story ends. Thanks to a generous donation and our development team's hard work, we were finally able to greenlight the photograph's conservation in the fall of 2020. In March 2021, the Louisville Legion photograph was re-housed for shipping and transported to Covington, where it will remain at the conservation lab through early summer undergoing needed repairs and cleaning. Once the photograph has been restored to its former glory, a custom storage unit will be constructed so it can be safely stored for another 100 years. It will also be digitized and made available online for future scholarly research.

To learn more about the project, check out our Facebook page for a short video series documenting the conservation project!



# THE CRASHERS



## FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

**Gates open at 5:00, Music begins at 6:00**

**Oxmoor Farm, 720 Oxmoor Ave.**

**Advance Tickets: Filson Members \$15/Non-members \$18**

**Day-of: \$20 for all**

**Children 12 and under are FREE**

**Tickets available online at [filson.simplivetix.com](https://www.filson.simplivetix.com)**

**Join us for an outdoor, socially-distanced evening of Rock and Roll at the beautiful Oxmoor Farms Estate. The Filson Historical Society's annual concert is a one of a kind event! Attendees bring their own picnics and enjoy an evening under the trees while rocking out with the Crashers, a fun, energetic, wildly popular local band. The Filson will monitor and follow current CDC guidelines at the time of the event.**



# The Filson Historical Society 2021 Donor Challenge

**The Filson Historical Society is pleased to announce a \$150,000 Donor Challenge.**

Thank you to our community and board leaders who have donated to inspire others to increase their giving.

**William Alden, Edith Bingham, Emily Bingham and Stephen Reily, Richard Clay, Jim Haynes, Robert Kulp, Anne Ogden, Bud Orr, John Stern, Lindy B. Street, Carl Thomas, Marianne Welch, Ann and Darrell Wells, and Orme Wilson**

During these times, the importance of the Filson Historical Society has never been greater. Members of our community, including students, teachers, and scholars, are turning to the Filson to provide important historical context. A larger audience than ever before is accessing information and learning online through our *Bringing History Home* resources and virtual lectures.

**We need your help!** Your gift ensures the Filson can continue to preserve our history and provide invaluable, historically relevant, and uplifting historical and educational content to our community.

To participate in the 2021 Donor Challenge, new or increased gifts should fit the following criteria:

- First-time donations to the Annual Fund
- Increases in Annual Fund giving (based on 2020 giving)
- Stock gifts to the Annual Fund or membership (applies to new or increased gift based on 2020 giving)
- New memberships
- Membership upgrades (example: Increasing your Boone Family level \$120 membership to an Audubon level \$250 membership)

Pledges to any of the above may be made in a lump sum or in installments throughout the year with pledges paid in full by Dec. 31, 2021.

**Filson Historical Society** lead contributors' gifts must be made by July 23, 2021 to be recognized as participating in the 2021 Donor Challenge campaign. Those that contribute to the Challenge will be recognized in the Fall 2021 *The Filson* news magazine.

**Thank you for helping the Filson Historical Society meet this Challenge. Funds raised support our mission to collect, preserve, and tell the significant stories of Kentucky and Ohio Valley history.**

Please contact Brenna Cundiff, Director of Development, at 502.634.7108 or [brenna@filsonhistorical.org](mailto:brenna@filsonhistorical.org) with any questions or to confirm your participation in the Challenge.







# Hugh Haynie

*Renowned Editorial Cartoonist*

The Filson received a wonderful and important Christmas present in December 2020. H. Smith and Anne Haynie donated a significant collection of Hugh Haynie material to the Filson. Comprised of some 500 original editorial cartoons, correspondence, photographs, research files, and other material, the collection further documents the life and work of this renowned editorial cartoonist.

Born in Reedsville, Virginia, on February 6, 1927, Haynie served in the U. S. Coast Guard during World War II and the Korean War, graduated from the College of William and Mary, and worked at newspapers in Virginia, Georgia, and North Carolina before being hired by *The Courier-Journal* in 1958. For almost the next forty years, Haynie's pen, intelligence, and wit produced thousands of editorial cartoons regarding local, state, national, and international affairs. The winner of numerous awards, Haynie documented events, controversies, and history. A survey of his cartoons makes it clear that the adage "the more things change – the more they stay the same" and that history repeats itself are true. This brilliant observer of life, politics, and society passed away on November 26, 1999, but his visual commentary on them live on.



1. Hugh Haynie working on an editorial cartoon for *The Courier-Journal*, photo undated.
2. Debate over Civil Rights legislation shortly before President Kennedy's assassination was a topic of Haynie's October 30, 1963, editorial cartoon.
3. Haynie's focus on Civil Rights was local in his April 20, 1967, cartoon, lampooning Mayor Kenneth Schmied regarding Civil Rights and fair housing in Louisville.
4. U. S. involvement in Asia, especially during the Vietnam War, often was a focus of Haynie's. His February 27, 1968, cartoon likened that involvement to being stuck in a spider web.
5. Haynie's April 14, 1994, cartoon focused on gun control; still debated almost thirty years later.



# Digitization of the Baptist Orphans Home Records

BY DANIELLE SPALENKA | ASSOCIATE CURATOR OF DIGITAL PROJECTS

In March 2020, the Filson received funds from the Kentucky Genealogical Society to digitize and make available the records of the Baptist Orphans Home Collection (Mss BJ B222). The Kentucky Genealogical Society launched their digitization grant program, to encourage and inspire the digitization of rare records of genealogical nature and make them more widely available. We were very honored to be recipients for this inaugural grant program.

The Louisville Baptist Orphan's Home (also known as the Home for Helpless Children) is a unique set of genealogical records held at the Special Collections Department at The Filson Historical Society. The records largely consist of correspondence (1873-1910) to Mary A. Hollingsworth, matron, and others about the placement of orphan children, the occasional return of the same to the home, recommendations for foster parents, descriptions of children, medical treatment, and accomplishments. The records are a frequently used collection by family historians and genealogists trying to fill holes within their research. The records include a finding aid and a name index, which has been instrumental in using the records. Patrons use the name index to look up potential ancestors. However, the name index was only cataloged at the folder level. If a patron discovered a potential name, they would have to search through the entire folder. Having the records identified from

the name index digitized and fully available online will make the materials more accessible. Each piece of correspondence that is part of the name index has been identified and digitized, which means potential users no longer must go through each folder to find the right letter. The digitization of the materials also means that patrons are no longer required to be onsite to access the materials. The Filson has been closed to the public since March 2020 because of the pandemic, and having these materials online gives instant access to users across the commonwealth and the country who may not be able to come in person.

The Baptist Orphans Home was the first Baptist orphanage in the United States and is the oldest continuously operating children's home in the south. The home was founded to address the needs of a community left orphaned and impoverished by the Civil War. The home was established in 1869 in Louisville, Kentucky by the Ladies Aid Society of Walnut Street Baptist Church. By 1888, over 500 children had been admitted to the orphanage. Roughly half of the children were eventually adopted into families. Although the home initially sought to care for children left destitute or orphaned by the Civil War, its mission in later years included many other children in need. By its centennial anniversary in 1969, the home had cared for an estimated 8,000 children. In 1947, the charter was amended, and the name of

the home changed to Spring Meadows Children's Home. In 1950, the home moved to Middletown, where it became a refuge for abused and troubled children.

Funding from the grant allowed us to hire Emma Johansen, an undergraduate student in the History Department at the University of Louisville, to identify, select, and digitize the collection. She uploaded the materials and associated metadata to our content management system, Omeka, and the materials are now publicly available and keyword searchable. She provided enhanced descriptive metadata to enrich and supplement the name index and used the tagging feature in Omeka to help potential users find the names in the scanned letters. Emma went above and beyond in this project, and the success of this project is all thanks to her dedication, passion, and attention to detail.

The digitized materials are fully searchable and can be accessed via The Filson Historical Society's digital collection page <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/collections/show/60>. The finding aid and name index for the physical materials can be found on the Filson Historical Society's website <https://filsonhistorical.org/>

We certainly hope you take time to explore the materials from this amazing resource, and to visit our digital collections page as we continue to put more collections online!



# LOUISVILLE BAPTIST ORPHANS' HOME.

KIND FRIEND:

The Home desires to find *homes* for its children with *those only* where they will be treated humanely and affectionately, as one of the family, and receive proper moral training and schooling. This the Home seeks to accomplish by having its children adopted by and apprenticed to persons of good moral character, coming properly indorsed. The Home only places its children out in one of two ways, that is, by adoption or apprenticeship. (See Acts of Kentucky, 1869, vol. 1, page 108.) The adoption-bond must be signed by both husband and wife, and acknowledged as a deed, and the child when thus adopted bears all the legal relations to them as if the child had been born unto them.

The apprentice bond is only signed by the head of the family, and must be acknowledged the same as a deed, and the party binds himself "that he will treat said child humanely, and in all respects as if said child had been born unto him, save and except that he does not obligate himself that said child shall inherit a child's portion of his estate."

The Home does not place any of its children out as servants. The Home endeavors at all times to see that parties live up to their agreement, and that the children are controlled, raised and schooled.

The Home will furnish the proper blanks. All applications should be sent to Bro. W. E. Norton, Chairman of Committee on Binding-out, 413 West Jefferson Street, Louisville, Ky.

*W. E. Norton*

## TO THE DEACONS OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT

DEAR BRETHREN: The Home has a number of lovely little boys and girls. May we not ask you if there are any of your married membership who have no children, and whose home would be a good place for them, to suggest to them the propriety of adopting one of the Home's children; or if any of your membership have only boys or girls, to suggest to them that they adopt a boy or girl? We think by an effort on the part of the Deacons of our churches all of the children will be rapidly adopted, and good homes will be found for other children of the Home with parties who will treat them as their own.

Please report to me any destitute orphans of Baptist parentage within your knowledge. Direct answer to W. E. Norton, 413 West Jefferson Street.

Louisville, Ky. Oct 9 1894

Mrs Mary Roberts Walton  
 Dr H H Roberts of Paris 12 - writes  
 Miss Hollingsworth - There you want a boy 10  
 or 12 years old, Miss H. wrote for you  
 Benjamin Messer Born Dec 21/83. Ben is a  
 kindly well grown fair looking & bright  
 & we believe he has the material in him to  
 make a good & useful citizen. With your  
 wisdom & experience & Christian heart,  
 we hope he will be a source of  
 joy to you - May God grant it is  
 our prayer. I enclose two apprentice bonds good  
 before your County Clerk Sign & keep one for your own guide  
 & send the other to me and a \$2 - to pay his way &  
 we will send him to you by rail. May God bless you  
 & your household, & help us to help the helpless.  
 Respectfully Yrs W. E. Weller

87 x 12

"Letter to Mrs. Mary Roberts from W. L. Weller of the Baptist Orphans Home, October 9th, 1894. Weller writes to Ms. Mary Roberts regarding her son, Dr. H. H. Roberts, and his letter requesting a boy to adopt for her. She specified a boy between 10 and 12 years old, and Mary Hollingsworth selected Benjamin Messer, born 21 Dec 1883. Baptist Orphans Home Records, 1871-1910. The Filson Historical Society, Mss BJ B222/06."



# Interns



Chelsea **Giovacchino**

Jewish Collections Intern from Commonwealth Center, U of L

My name is Chelsea Giovacchino. I'm a student at the University of Louisville pursuing my master's degree in Comparative Humanities with a focus on religion and contemporary culture. When I'm not doing schoolwork or research I love to hike, garden, read, play D&D, and play video games. I also work at the Kentucky Humane Society and have a cat son named Tucker and a bearded dragon named J'Mon. The goal of my internship project, "Mapping Jewish Louisville", has been to create a geographical representation of Jewish businesses, organizations, and places of worship in our local city. This will ideally become a resource that both academics and the public can use to investigate local Jewish History and provide a small, tangible window through which we can explore phenomena of migration, cultural shifts, and urbanization and modernization. So far, the project has spanned 1860–1910, but I will be continuing to work on it with the Filson through the summer!

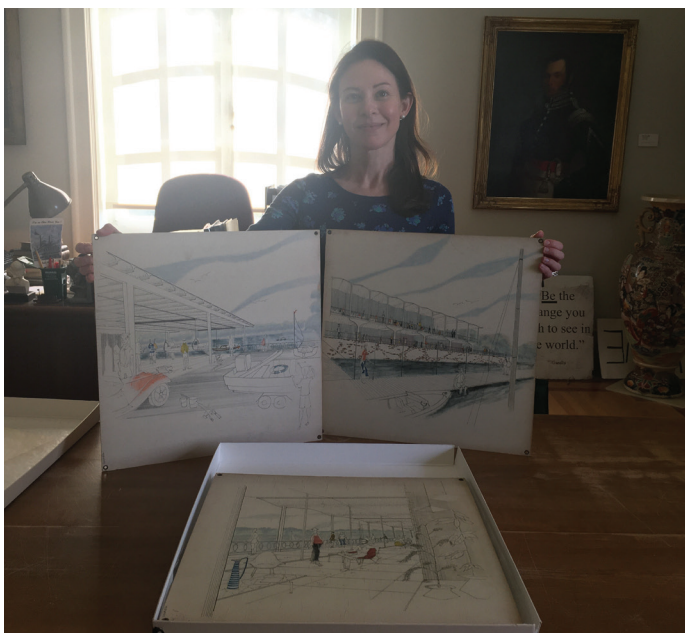


Alanna **Parham**

Digital Collections Intern from Commonwealth Center, U of L

Alanna Parham is an Arts Administration major at the University of Louisville and worked with Danielle Spalenka on two digital projects during the Spring 2021 semester. The first part of the internship involved digitizing the Stow Family Photograph Collection. This small photographic collection documents the family of Uzziel Hayward Stow (1809–1890) and Catharine Manser Stow (1811–1899) of Switzerland County, Indiana. The Stows were farmers who by the 1850s were entering upon prosperity, due in part to the sheer industriousness of Uzziel Stow, and his pursuit of "improvement" in agricultural practice and technology. Images include a mix of 19th century photographic formats, cabinet cards, Carte-de-visite, and four cased ambrotypes. The collection can be found here <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/collections/show/70>

Her second project involved some creativity and celebration. Alanna chose to create an online exhibit featuring holiday and celebration menus from the Filson's Menu Collection (Mss M549). She identified and selected items that followed the theme of celebration, whether it was the menu from a wedding ceremony or featuring the Christmas Day dinner at the Galt House from 1874. This online exhibit is a fun way to interact with some of the gems from the Filson's Menu Collection. Be sure to see all the interesting menus Alanna chose to feature by visiting <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/exhibits/show/celebration-menu-collection>



## Dona Daugherty

Masters of Historic Preservation student, University of Kentucky  
*American Institute of Architects, Central Kentucky Chapter fellow*

As a Master's of Historic Preservation student at the University of Kentucky, my involvement with the Filson Historical Society has given me firsthand experience with archival management. Specifically, I am assisting Jana Meyer, Associate Curator of Collections, with the architectural records, learning the accession and cataloging process, as the AIA-CKC fellow. In doing so, I have had the luxury of becoming more acquainted with Louisville and the many architects who contributed their talent to enriching the city throughout its history. I love seeing the early drawings and sketches and how they are modified throughout the design process, and, if still extant, visiting them to see the reality of the final design and any later alterations. Some of the most fascinating works are often those that were never built. As I currently work with the Jasper Ward collection, I am continuously impressed with Ward's ambitious designs, especially those that never materialized, such as his proposal to turn the historic Big Four Bridge into a multi-use neighborhood, similar to Ponte Vecchio in Italy. Although his plans were never realized, Ward's interest in the bridge likely saved it from demolition, and, today, the bridge is enjoyed by numerous pedestrians and bicyclists. In addition to my cataloging responsibilities, I have had the opportunity to be part of a collaborative effort, contributing research, for the upcoming *Forgotten Foundations* exhibit, which will focus on downtown Louisville's rise, decline, and revitalization through the lens of its historic architecture. I look forward to seeing this exciting exhibit come to fruition.



## Abby Briney

Photograph Collections Intern from Commonwealth Center, U of L

I am Abby Briney, and I am a senior at the University of Louisville, studying art history and French. Following graduation this May, I will be starting graduate school at UofL in the critical and curatorial studies program, with the hope of becoming a curator in the future. This semester, I have had the awesome opportunity to help the Filson curate their online exhibit for the Louisville Photo Biennial. This project looks at the life and work of Paul Gunter, a late 19th and early 20th century photographer from Louisville. Gunter, both a successful portrait photographer and a prolific hobbyist photographer, has been incredibly interesting to learn about; his work has revealed to me a curious man with a strong love for his community.

I have had the pleasure of working specifically with his art photography, examining it in the context of early photographic styles and the communities developed around photography at the time. This internship has allowed me to learn more about the curation process from research and writing, to image selection, to the end product of an online exhibit. Though research and writing have been exciting, my favorite part of this process has been handling Gunter's original photograph albums with his landscape photos, new experiments in photography, and portraits of family and friends. It is obvious, since Gunter took the time to develop and bind these photos in albums, that these were valuable to him; I think you can sense that value when you study his work. This internship has been really fulfilling and has confirmed both my enjoyment of curation and my interest in becoming a curator in the future. I've learned so much about the curation and exhibition process, in addition to the investigative attitude that is required to become a curator; I know that this will help me throughout graduate school and beyond.



# 2021 Photo Biennial Exhibit

The Filson Historical Society is once again participating in the 2021 Louisville Photo Biennial with debut of our online exhibit “Paul Günter: Studio Portraiture to Art Photography.” This exhibit will tell the story of the career and life of commercial and art photographer Paul Günter (1856-1936). Paul Günter’s work documents his career, family life, and changing community through commercial and art photography focused on the German Immigrant and African American communities, as well as the historic landscape of the Ohio River Valley at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when Kentucky was evolving from an agrarian to a modern industrial society. Coming from a family of photographers, Paul Günter immigrated from Hanover, Germany in hopes of opening his own photographic studio. Initially, Günter worked with local photographer Daniel Stuber prior to opening his own studio. Günter’s work documents three major aspects of his career and life as photographer: Studio photography, work he created to make a living. Artistic imagery, views taken around Louisville and Southern Indiana focusing on his interest in the natural world which include images of wooded terrains, running water and landscapes. In addition to his studio photography and landscapes, Günter also captured scenes of African American life, in Louisville, which are just as significant for both their artistic and historic interest. And lastly, Günter’s own family life as subject material that document’s Günter’s family in both Louisville and Hanover, Germany.

Because of continued restrictions from COVID-19, this exhibit will be an online only exhibit launching June 2021. Events and programming surrounding the exhibit will be virtual, so please visit our website and check the Newsmagazine calendar for more information on events and programming.



“Photo of Paul and Hannah Günter, 1921. Paul Günter Photograph collection, Filson Historical Society, 000PC21.3.



“Landscape photos of trees swaying in the wind. An excellent example of his art photography. Paul Günter Photograph collection, Filson Historical Society. 000PC21.4

**To learn more about Günter and to view the exhibit, visit  
<https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/exhibits/show/gunter-photography>**

You are cordially invited to the 27th Annual House Tour  
featuring the Historic Old Louisville Ferguson Mansion

# *Distinctive Dwellings*

**Thursday, September 23, 2021 | 5:00–8:00 p.m.**

**Virtual lecture 6:30–7:30 p.m.**

**In-Person Mansion Tour, Rare Whisky Toast, Lecture, Food and Drink: \$150**

**Virtual Lecture only: Free for members, \$15 for non-members**

The in-person 27th Annual House Tour will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a comprehensive tour of the Filson Historical Society campus, the historic Old Louisville Ferguson Mansion. This tour, led by Filson staff, will feature A Child's World and Women at Work exhibits as well as items from our collection unique to this event. Participants will enjoy a rare whisky toast, followed by Filson lecturer, John David Myles, who will give a history of the Ferguson Mansion, and explore other work by its architects Dodd & Cobb and their associates

in Louisville and California. He will also place the mansion within the context of other Louisville landmarks of the Beaux Arts era such as Rostrevor, the former First Christian Church on Fourth Street, and the Police Court building behind Metro Hall. Participants will also have the opportunity to ask questions at the conclusion of the lecture. The in-person event will also include food and drink. A virtual option will be available for those wanting to view the lecture only. In-person seating is limited, so early registration is recommended.

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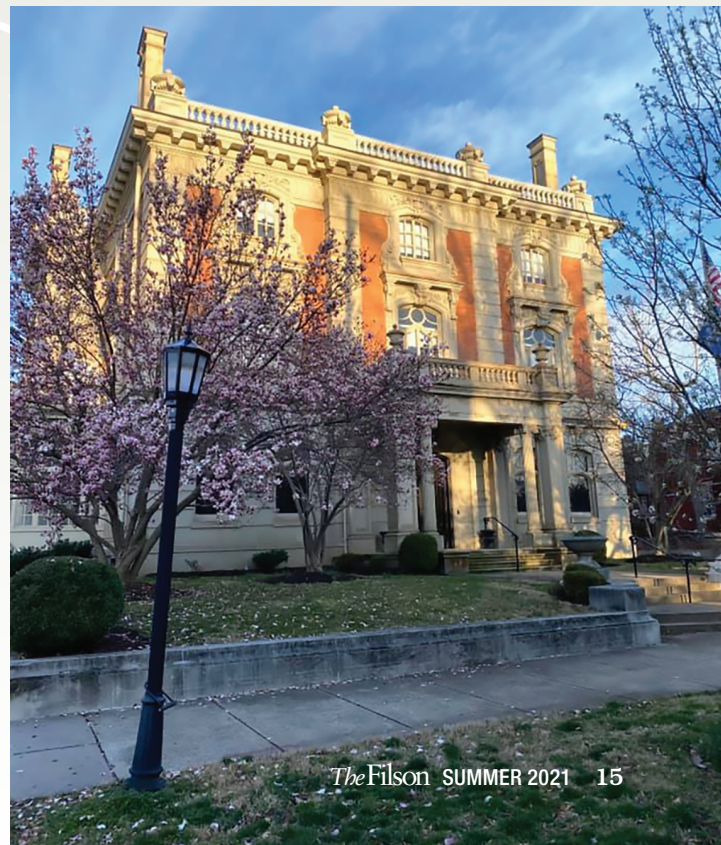
## *Distinctive Dwellings*

**Thursday, September 23, 2021**

**In-person tickets are \$150 each**  
*(processing fees included)*

**Virtual Option (Lecture ONLY):**  
**Free for Filson members/\$15 for non-members**

**Register online for either option:**  
**[filson.simplertix.com](https://filson.simplertix.com)**





# THE FILSON

## SPORTING CLAY CLASSIC



### WHERE

**The Sporting Club at the Farm**

4939 River Road, New Albany, IN 47150

### ABOUT THIS EVENT

Join us for a great morning of networking and clay shooting at Southern Indiana's premier The Sporting Club at the Farm.

\*Due to limited supply, shooters will need to provide their own 20 gauge ammunition.

**This event is sold out, but you can join the wait list!**

For more information and to register, visit [filsonhistorical.org/classic](http://filsonhistorical.org/classic)  
Proceeds will benefit the Filson Historical Society (501c3)

### WHEN

**FRIDAY,  
OCTOBER 29, 2021**

CHECK IN: 8:30 AM

SAFETY CHECK: 8:55 AM

START: 9:05 AM

LUNCH & AWARDS: 11:30 AM

### COST

**\$300 Individual**

**\$1,000 Team of four**

Each participant will receive:  
15 station clay shoot; Safety orientation; Complimentary coffee, water, and snacks; Swag bag including event t-shirt; 12 or 20\* gauge ammunition; Catered lunch and drinks.

Staff Profile Interview with

# Kate Wanke

Membership and Grants Manager



**Jamie Evans:** Tell us a little bit about your path to the Filson. Where did you go to school, what are your degrees in, and where did you work prior?

**Kate Wanke:** I was born in Kansas City, Missouri and moved out this way to obtain my undergraduate degree at the University of Evansville in Archaeology. I then went to the University of Louisville to get my Master's degree in Critical and Curatorial Studies. Prior to the Filson, I worked at the Howard Steamboat Museum and for the Frazier History Museum.

---

**JE:** What is your job at the Filson?

**KW:** I am the Membership and Grants Manager for the Filson and have been here for four years.

---

**JE:** How did your work at the Howard Steamboat Museum and the Frazier prepare you for your transition to the Filson?

**KW:** Before I came to the Filson I worked in several positions in the collections and curatorial departments managing the museum collections and helping with exhibition development and installation. I believe this previous work provides me the unique perspective I need to relate to other departments across the organization and understand their viewpoints and challenges when coordinating grant projects and funding opportunities.

---

**JE:** What do you like about working for the Filson?

**KW:** Honestly, it's the people I work with and interact with daily who share their love for history with me. From our community, members, and staff, everyone brings a unique perspective to the organization.

---

**JE:** What is one thing you want our members to know about your job?

**KW:** I think when people hear development they immediately think fundraising and asking others for financial assistance, but in reality, the heart of what we do is storytelling. When I sit down to write a grant narrative or new membership ask, the thing that attracts people and grabs their attention is not the raw data or numbers, but the stories linking

people with the artifacts and collections. The support from the community over the past 137 years comes from a belief in our mission and the work we do to preserve these stories.

---

**JE:** If you had to pick, what is your favorite part of history to study and why?

**KW:** One of my favorite time periods to study is Colonial American history from 1607–1774. The encounters between Native Americans and European settlers and how these relationships shaped both cultures.

---

**JE:** Tell us a little bit about your interests outside of the Filson.

**KW:** Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family. Our two young kids, Emma and August, keep us busy most of the time! I also really enjoy experiencing new foods, traveling, home renovation projects, and reading when I can find some down time.

---

**JE:** What has been your favorite place to explore in your travels and why?

**KW:** In 2006, I had the opportunity to visit New Zealand and Australia with my family. Both countries were incredible experiences and I hope to continue to travel with my own family. The natural beauty of New Zealand and the culture and lifestyle of the people there is something I very much enjoyed.



Filsonian listing reflects membership gifts received February 25, 2021–April 30, 2021

# The Filsonians

## February 2021–April 2021



The Thruston Legacy Circle is an honorary society established in 2015 to recognize those who have followed the example of R. C. Ballard Thruston by including the Filson in their estate plans. Since our founding in 1884, the Filson has been privately supported and planned giving is an ideal way to continue that tradition of private support.

If you have made a planned gift to the Filson and have not so advised us, we thank you and ask that you let us know so we can welcome you to the TLC. If you have not made a planned gift but would like more information about doing so, please call our Development Department at (502) 634-7108 or email Brenna Cundiff at [brenna@filsonhistorical.org](mailto:brenna@filsonhistorical.org).

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