

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.



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From the **President**

A month at the Filson:

As I write this post-Derby, sixty members of the 2022 Leadership Louisville Class are engaged in an all-day retreat. Over the weekend, 42 people from all over the world were entertained at a private Oaks Day event with cocktails and dinner following a day at the track. Both took place in the magnificent Caperton Hall of the Owsley Brown II History Center. The reviews from our renters are effusive about the beauty, convenience, free parking, excellent catering facilities, and great acoustics of the building. Our campus is beautiful, and our rates are reasonable.

On April 6, we hosted over sixty members of the Decorative Arts Trust from across the nation for tours led by our collections staff followed by a marvelous cocktail party in the Ferguson Mansion. They were here for the Trust's annual five-day Spring Symposium, which this year was devoted to Kentucky arts and material culture. They enjoyed examining some of the Filson's deep portrait, map, architecture, primary source, and genealogical holdings.

On April 19, we hosted the Violins of Hope premiere, featuring the 2019 Louisville Metro tour where local musicians played violins saved from the Holocaust and carefully preserved, at several locations—including

the Filson. Many people were instrumental in making this happen, but Miriam Shapira Ostroff deserves particular praise. Over 100 people attended the premiere preceded by a wonderful reception.

Then on April 26, we sponsored three connected events: a celebration of the 2022 AIA Institute Architecture Award given to the architects of our new Owsley Brown II History Center, Roberto de Leon and Ross Primmer; the opening of our most recent exhibit: *Forgotten Foundations—Louisville's Lost Architecture*, curated by the Filson's Jana Meyer and Danielle Spalenka; and a first-rate presentation by local architect Michael Koch on his notable body of work.

Finally, on May 11 before an audience of over 135 people, former Ambassador to Slovakia Tod Sedgwick engaged in a lively interchange with Board member Sandy Wilson on the crisis in Ukraine.

To paraphrase Chaucer's description of his Oxford clerk, the Filson is a place where all can *gladly learn and gladly teach*. Thanks to each of you for making this possible.



Richard H.C. Clay

President/CEO, The Filson Historical Society

From the **Chair**

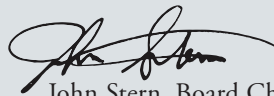
Perhaps you've been wondering how you could be more involved with your Filson. If so, please allow me to offer some suggestions:

- **ATTEND PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**—The Filson puts on a multitude of programs and special events throughout the year, varied in content, accessible in person or via Zoom. The speakers are experts in their field and available for a Q&A afterwards.
- **VIEW EXHIBITS**—Several are available concurrently for your viewing on a rotating basis. They are professionally mounted and offer a variety of interesting subject matter.
- **DONATE TO OUR COLLECTIONS**—Your family or business artifacts might be of interest to others. Before you think otherwise and dispose of them, give us a call or email to let us help you make that decision.
- **VOLUNTEER**—The Filson utilizes volunteers to assist our staff in various capacities. Let us know if you'd like to help us collect, preserve, and share the significant history and culture of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley.

- **SEARCH OUR COLLECTIONS FOR A TOPIC OF INTEREST**—Whether it be your family's genealogy or a subject of interest, our staff is available on-line or in person to fulfill your need.
- **JOIN THE THRUSTON LEGACY CIRCLE**—This honorary society was established in 2015 to recognize those who have included the Filson in their estate planning. Join this growing list of supporters who have a special place in their hearts for the Filson.
- **BRING A FRIEND**—We encourage all of our members to share their love of the Filson with friends and family. With numerous opportunities to attend events or view exhibits, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

All of these are opportunities to better utilize your membership. And by all means, if you're not a member, JOIN! I think you'll be glad you did.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!



John Stern, Board Chair

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1310 S. 3rd St.
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We welcome your feedback
and story ideas.
Phone: (502) 635-5083
www.filsonhistorical.org
info@filsonhistorical.org

OUR MISSION:

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

Recent Acquisitions



Mary and Carolyn Verhoeff Collection

This collection of letters, diaries, photographs, and genealogical materials documents the lives of the Verhoeff sisters, Mary (c.1871/72–1962) and Carolyn (1875–1975). Both women were graduates of Vassar College and were actively involved in the community, notably in the local suffrage movement. Mary was a scholar, geographer, civic leader, and served on the board of the Filson. Carolyn was a teacher, a Kindergarten movement advocate under Patty Smith Hill, an author, and is best known for founding the Kentucky Animal Rescue League (1921). (Historical Acquisitions Fund purchase)



Top Hat Posters

This set of ten posters from circa 1958–1959 document the popular Top Hat Tavern, located in the heart of Louisville's old Walnut Street, a historically Black business district. Top Hat was in operation from about 1938 until 1960, when the nightclub was bought out and closed. The posters feature a wide array of artists including The Rookies, Roger Wanderscheid, Bootie Green, and Carl Van Moon. (Robert Williams Collection, Historical Acquisitions Fund purchase)



Lunsford P. Yandell III Family Photographs

The Lunsford P. Yandell III family photograph collection documents the immediate and extended family of Lunsford Yandell III (1878–1927). Son of Dr. Lunsford Pitts Yandell, Jr. and Louise Elliston Yandell, Lunsford III was the brother of famous Louisville sculptor Enid Bland Yandell (1869–1934), Maude Yandell (1871–1962), and Elsie Yandell Barber (1874–1939). This collection builds upon the Filson's Yandell family archives and helps us better document the life of Lunsford III, including photographs of him as a child, his early life at the non-extant family home and farm in Danville, KY (Huguely House), his sisters Enid and Maude, their parents, and Yandell's wife Elizabeth Hosford and their children. (Donated by David W. Yandell)

Reichart Family Photographs

The photographs in this nine-album collection document the lives of Frank Alfred Korfhage (1918–2009) and Anna Frances Reichart (1921–2001), pre and post World War II. The albums also represent Anna's familial lines including the Reichart, Adame, Odewahn, and Groher families. The family lived in Highland Park and the later in Fern Creek, where Anna became the first librarian of the Fern Creek Library Branch in 1977. (Donated by Mary Korfhage)



AUDITORIUM.
DANIEL QUILP, Sole Proprietor and Manager. JOS. A. SWEENEY, Treasurer.

LAST HALF OF WEEK JULY 5, 1897.

The Frederick Bond Co.
MANAGEMENT OF JAS. B. CAMP.

.....THE THREE-ACT COMEDY.....

“A Scrap of Paper.”

PROSPER COURAMOUNT.....Mr. EDWIN HOLT
BARON DE LA GLACIERE.....Mr. MACLYN ARBOCKLE
BRISEMOUCHE (Landed Proprietor and Naturalist) FREDERIC BOND
ANOTOLE (His Ward).....Mr. WM. COURTESAY
BAPTISTE (Servant).....Mr. ADOLPH KLAUBER
FRANCOIS (Servant of Prosper).....Mr. LOUIS BISHOP HALL
LOUISE DE LA GLACIERE.....Miss CAROLINE COOKE
MADAME STANNE DE ROSEVILLE (Her Cousin) Miss MAUD HARLAN
MATHILDE (Sister of Louise).....Miss CLARA HATHAWAY
MADAME ZENOBE (Sister of Brisemouche).....Miss HELENE REIMER
PAULETTE (A Maid).....Miss MAUDE ALLAN

ACT 1st.—Drawing Room in the Baron's Chateau.
ACT 2d.—Room in Brisemouche's Home.
ACT 3d.—A Conservatory attached to Chateau.

MR. LOUIS BISHOP HALL, Stage Manager
Every Performance is given under the personal supervision of Mr. Bond

FAREWELL WEEK—POSITIVELY LAST PERFORMANCES
First Half of Week July 12, **HIS LITTLE GAME.**
Second Half Week Beginning July 15, **THE SCREAMING FURCE.**
THE THREE HATS.

It will pay you to price our stock of Pianos and Organs,
And everything pertaining to MUSIC for the next 60 days.

D. H. BALDWIN & CO., 236 4th Ave.,
MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS.

VISIT
THE AUDITORIUM CAFE
Between Acts and after
the Performance.
HUMLER & NOLAN, Managers.

Bell rings 3 minutes before Curtain.
Refreshments, Etc., served.

Pennsylvania Short Lines,
Louisville to Chicago,
Louisville to Detroit,
Louisville to Petoskey and Mackinaw.

Through Sleeping Cars. C. H. Hagerty, Dis. Pass Agt.

COMPARISON INVITED...
We unhesitatingly assert that
BALDWIN PIANOS
Are now constructed are superior to all other pianos manufactured and absolutely
CONQUER ALL COMPETITORS.
D. H. BALDWIN & Co., 236 Fourth Ave.

The Auditorium Program

Program for July 1897 performances at The Auditorium, located on the south side of Hill Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets, which was built using material from the Southern Exposition buildings. The Auditorium opened in 1889 and closed in 1904 following the 1903 death of its founder and operator William Norton, Jr.—aka Daniel Quilp. (Donated by Nancy Leahy)

FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT AND LOWER TAXES

REPUBLICAN

TICKET

Primary, Sat., August 1st

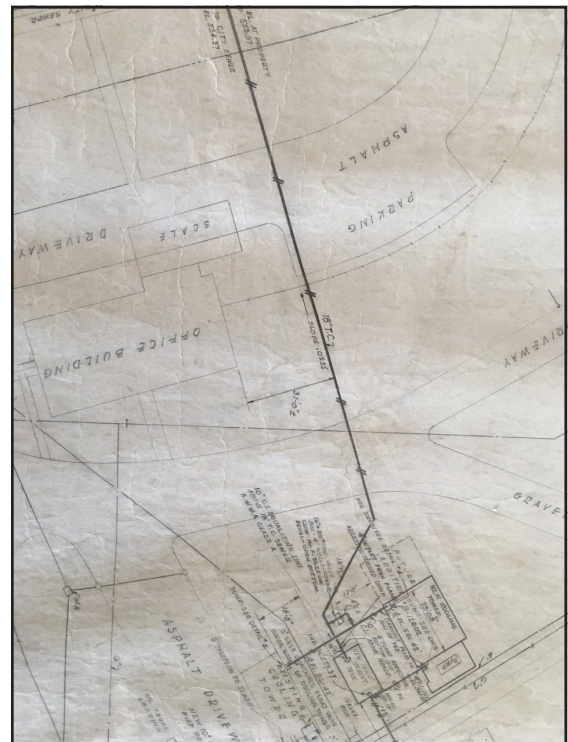
Republican Primary Ticket Broadside

Political broadside touting an anti-administration ticket for the 1931 Republican primary, featuring the Petty-Ryans faction of the Republican Party which was opposed to the administration of Mayor William B. Harrison. The broadside includes primary candidates for the Louisville Board of Alderman and three Jefferson County offices. (Donated by Mary Korfhage)



KYSOC Scrapbooks

Scrapbooks of Jacqueline “Jackie” Whitehouse Smallwood (1945–2018), active member of the Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Society for Crippled Children or KYSOC (now Kentucky Easter Seals). Jackie, who had polio, was an active member of the KYSOC Teen Club. Scrapbooks include identified photographs, newspaper clippings, memorabilia and letters documenting activities of KYSOC, dating circa 1961–1965. (Donated by Robert and Una Goosey and Daniel Thompson)



Buckeye Cotton Oil Company Plans

A set of engineering and equipment plans from the Buckeye Cotton Oil Company, a soybean processing plant on Floyd Street, which was subsequently operated by Ralston Purina. During Ralston Purina’s operation of the plant, a hexane leak from the solvent tank into the sewer system resulted in the 1981 Louisville sewer explosion, which destroyed sections of Old Louisville. (Donated by Marcus Wantland)

Moving South in 1804

BY JAMES J. HOLMBERG

Readers got a wonderful sampling of the rich content of the Shelby-Bruen family collection donated by Sue Clark in Lynn Pohl's article in the spring 2022 issue of *The Filson*. It is a significant addition to the Filson's collection and will be an enduring source of interest to researchers. Its content is so rich, and presents so many different areas of research, that a second highlighting couldn't be resisted.

For many people, from pioneer times to the present, Kentucky has been a temporary home. Immigrants to Kentucky in its early years of Euro-American settlement funneled from the East Coast states—primarily Pennsylvania south to North Carolina—into Kentucky, and then might funnel out again, this time emigrating north, south, and west. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana were all popular destinations as those areas opened to settlement. An example of this is the prominent Brown family.

The Browns came from the Valley of Virginia. John Brown (1757–1837) was the first to venture to the Eden of the West. An attorney, John came to Kentucky in 1782 and quickly established himself in his profession and became active in politics. When Kentucky became a state in 1792, he was its first senator to Congress. John stayed in Kentucky, settling in Frankfort and building Liberty Hall, a beautiful historic home that can be visited today. Brother James (1766–1835) followed in 1789 and brother Samuel (1769–1830) in 1797. Other Brown siblings remained in Virginia and settled in Tennessee. Their parents, the Reverend John and Margaret Preston Brown, settled in Kentucky in 1796.

Samuel was not so settled. Perhaps an example of the proverbial grass being greener on the other side of the hill, Samuel resided in locals as varied as New Orleans, Natchez, a farm near Huntsville, Alabama, Philadelphia, and Lexington. He had two tenures as a professor at Transylvania University's medical school and was one of more prominent doctors and scientists of the era.

James wasn't quite so nomadic. He practiced law, served as an officer in the militia, and was appointed Kentucky's first Secretary of State. He married Ann "Nancy" Hart (d. 1830) of the prominent Hart family. She was the daughter of Col. Thomas (1730–1808) and Susanna (1749–1832) Hart. Also seeking greener pastures, James and Nancy moved from Kentucky to Louisiana in 1804 following the United States' purchase from France of what became Orleans Territory (most of the present state of Louisiana) and Upper Louisiana Territory (the bulk of the Louisiana Purchase).



James Brown (1766–1835) by Matthew Harris Jouett. Copy photograph in Filson Historical Society Individuals Photographs [PC2.0068]

They settled in New Orleans and on a plantation in an area known as the German Coast (upstream from New Orleans and on the west bank of the Mississippi River). James' law practice thrived, he served in several government positions, and, like his brother John, was a U. S. Senator. In 1823, he was appointed Minister to France, a post he held until 1829. Upon their return to America, James and Nancy settled in Philadelphia for the rest of their lives.

A small group of letters written by James, Nancy, and their niece Mary "Polly" Pindell (1784–1836) document their move to Louisiana and life there. A river journey down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers wasn't easy. Obstacles, hardships, and accidents were part of the trip; the type of boat traveled in could be a factor in all of these. The Browns' trip apparently was rather routine but was delayed early on by an obstacle—the Falls of the Ohio. Two letters written by Mary and Nancy focus on the obstacle to river travel that the Falls of the Ohio could be and Nancy Brown's very favorable opinion of early Louisville.

First news of the Browns' move south is a letter written by their niece, Mary Pindell. Mary was the daughter of Dr. Richard (1751–1833) and Eliza Hart (1768–1798) Pindell. She resided in Lexington and in 1806 married James Shelby (1784–1848), the oldest son of Governor Isaac and Susannah Hart Shelby (this Susannah was a cousin to Nancy's mother Susanna).

On May 8, 1804, Mary Pindell wrote her grandfather Thomas Hart from Lexington, mentioning the delay her Aunt Nancy

Lexington May 8th 1804

My dear Grandpapa

Doctor Brown arrived here this evening from Louisville; where he left Uncle Brown and Aunt Nancy on Sunday. They were very well & preparing to descend the river in a flat bottom'd boat; owing to the water's being so extremely low that it is impossible for the Ships to pass the falls. John came home on Saturday he is very much pleased with the Vineyard; & has improved more in his french than you could have imagined it possible for him to have done in so

020x39

Mary Pindell to her grandfather Thomas Hart, May 8, 1804, Shelby-Bruen Family Papers [Ms./A/S544e/fl. 2]

Louisville May 15th 1804

My Dear Papa

We have been two weeks in this place waiting anxiously for the rise of the river, that we might proceed on one of the ships that are lying here. The owners of the vessels begin to despair of a fresh sufficient to carry them over the falls, and talk much of unloading and sending off their cargoes in Kentucky boats—I feel myself much disappointed in not being able to go down in one of them.—The day after our arrival we went on board Mr. Berthoud's large ship the *Louisanna*, I felt myself so secure and found so many conveniences that I never had an Idea of finding on board a ship, that I was delighted at the prospect of descending the river in one of them. We have lost all hopes now, and Mr. Brown has purchased a large Kentucky boat; we have got some carpenters at work on her, and are very busily engaged ourselves preparing for our descent.—We have found Louisville a very agreeable Hospitable place.—The inhabitants both in town and Country have been particularly attentive to us.—I think if ever we return to Kentucky to reside, I should give Louisville the

020x39

Nancy Hart Brown to her father Thomas Hart, May 15, 1804, Shelby-Bruen Family Papers [Ms./A/S544/fl. 2]

and Uncle James were experiencing. “Doctor [Samuel] Brown arrived here this evening from Louisville, where he left Uncle Brown and Aunt Nancy on Sunday,” she reported. “They were very well and preparing to descend the river in a flat bottom’d boat; owing to the water’s being so extremely low that it is impossible for the Ships to pass the falls.”¹

Nancy herself picked up the report a week later, writing her father from Louisville on May 15, 1804.

“We have been two weeks in this place waiting anxiously for the use of the river, that we might proceed on one of the ships that are lying here. The owners of the vessels begin to despair of a fresh sufficient to carry them over the falls, And talk much of unloading and sending off their cargoes in Kentucky boats²—I feel myself much disappointed in not being able to go down in one of them,—The day after our arrival we went on board Mr. Berthoud’s³ large ship the *Louisanna*, I felt myself so secure and found so many conveniences that I never had an Idea of finding on board a ship, that I was delighted at the prospect of descending the

river in one of them. We have lost all hopes now, and Mr. Brown has purchased a large Kentucky boat; we have got some carpenters at work on her, and are very busily engaged ourselves preparing for our descent.”

As disappointed and “busily engaged” as they were, the Browns still had time to take in the town and socialize. Continuing her letter, Nancy reported, “we have found Louisville a very agreeable Hospitable place—The inhabitants both in town and Country have been particularly attentive to us—I think if ever we return to Kentucky to reside I should give Louisville the preference to any other part of Kentucky I have seen—The situation is so beautiful and so convenient for trade that I think it must become a place of more importance than any other in the state.” Nancy certainly was prescient in predicting Louisville would become the major city in Kentucky.

Letters like these and so many others in the Filson’s collection truly allow researchers to learn more about life all those years ago.

The Falls of the Ohio, actually more a rapids, has a fall of approximately twenty-six feet

over two miles. It was the most significant obstacle to navigation on the Ohio in the pre-locks and dam period. It apparently was a rather dry spring in 1804 that the river level was already so low that ships couldn’t pass through the Falls. In writing “ships,” Mary really meant ships-seagoing vessels that would be built upstream and sailed down the Ohio and Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico and beyond.

Kentucky boats were flatboats intended for temporary use.² They could be disassembled once they reached their destination and the lumber used for other purposes or sold.

James Berthoud (1750–1819) was a French expatriate who fled the French Revolution and for America.³ He was employed as a clerk by Louis Tarascon and involved in the ship building business and trade in Pittsburgh and later in Louisville and Shippingport. The sea-going ship *Louisanna* that Mary mentions was the 300-ton *Louisiana* built in Pittsburgh and launched in 1803. *History of The Ohio Falls Cities and Their Counties*, vol. 1, L. A. Williams & Co., 1882, p. 488a.

Music Under the Trees featuring The Crashers



Live at Oxmoor Farm
Friday Aug. 26 | 6:30 pm

Sponsored by:



For more information and to purchase tickets, visit filsonhistorical.org

Barrier-free Membership

- Free family membership for those on government assistance
- We invite everyone to join the Filson to share in our history
- Cost should not be a barrier to access the Filson and our resources

FILSON FOR ALL



The Filson Historical Society



Call 502-635-5083 or email kate@filsonhistorical.org to learn more and join.

*Filson members and their guests are cordially invited to the
28th Annual House Tour*

Distinctive Dwellings

Sunday, September 25, 2022

1:00-6:00 p.m.

Cocktail Party immediately following the conclusion of the Tour

The Filson's annual House Tour celebrates the distinct beauty of Louisville homes. Each home is carefully selected by the House Tour committee, chaired by Anita Streeter, and is located in and around Louisville, Kentucky. Each year, the house notes are researched and written by John David Myles, who has written and lectured on

architecture in addition to being an attorney and former circuit judge. The tour is greatly enhanced by having different styles of homes, from grander examples to those located in neighborhoods, downtown, along the river and in the country. Houses are geographically clustered to minimize travel time.

The 28th Annual House Tour is generously sponsored by



28th Annual House Tour

Distinctive Dwellings

Sunday, September 25, 2022

Ticket price:

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT: \$135 through August 1

REGULAR PRICE: \$150 each

To register, please visit us online at

www.filsonhistorical.org/events/upcoming-events

or call (502) 635-5083.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

The Filson provides a dedicated team of approximately 50 volunteers to act as hosts in the homes on the House Tour. Volunteer duties include only allowing House Tour participants into the homes and monitoring respectful tour participant behavior. Volunteers may sign up for one of two shifts (1:00–3:00 pm or 3:00–6:00 pm) and are invited to tour the homes on the House Tour during their off shift. If you would be interested in volunteering for the House Tour, please contact Emma Bryan at emmabryan@filsonhistorical.org. Volunteers receive a free individual level membership and invitations to volunteer appreciation events.

Filson Fridays 2022

Friday, July 8, 12:00–1:00 pm (EDT)
The Filson Historical Society, 1310 S. 3rd St.
Free for members, \$15 for non-members

Friday, July 15, 12:00–1:00 pm (EDT)
The Filson Historical Society, 1310 S. 3rd St.
Free for members, \$15 for non-members

In the Fine Print

The History of Gay Press in Kentucky

Emma Johansen

This lecture is sponsored by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

The fight for gay and trans equality soared in the twentieth century, and much of that organizing depended on LGBTQ newspapers and publications that circulated in and around Kentucky. The foundation for the LGBTQ rights movement in Kentucky can be revealed between the lines of the *Courier Journal*, the *Free Press of Louisville*, and Kentucky's first LGBTQ newspaper: *The Letter*. These papers connected queer people from New York, San Francisco, and everywhere in between, putting them in conversation with one another throughout the 1960s and into the 2000s. Join Collections Assistant Emma Johansen in learning about these powerful publishers and discussing the future of LGBTQ organizing in the age of digital journalism and storytelling.

Emma Johansen earned their B.A. in History at the University of Louisville, where they specialized in LGBTQ and public history and graduated *summa cum laude*. This fall, they'll be pursuing two master's degrees in History and Library Science at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis as a University Fellow.



NAGPRA

The Significance of Repatriation

Kelly Hyberger

This lecture is sponsored by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

In 1990, Congress passed legislation that provided a pathway for the repatriation of certain Native American human remains and cultural items back to descendant communities. This legislation, known as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), signaled a fundamental shift in the ethics of museum collecting practice. Thirty years after the passage of this important human rights legislation, many institutions are taking yet another look at NAGPRA and the colonial legacy of objects tucked away on our storage shelves. Join Native American Collections Specialist Kelly Hyberger to learn more about the NAGPRA process, what repatriation means for Indigenous communities, and how the Filson is working towards restorative justice around Indigenous collections.

Kelly Hyberger joined the Filson staff in January 2022 and brings over twelve years of museum collections management experience. Kelly's work has centered around decolonizing museum practice and the repatriation of Indigenous cultural heritage items. She earned master's degrees in History and Teaching from the University of Louisville.

Filson Fridays are generously sponsored by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.
All Filson Friday programs will be offered in person and virtually. Zoom information will be provided upon registration for each event in the series.

Dinsmore

Friday, July 29, 12:00–1:00 pm (EDT)

The Filson Historical Society, 1310 S. 3rd St.

Free for members, \$15 for non-members

Friday, August 5, 12:00–1:00 pm (EDT)

The Filson Historical Society, 1310 S. 3rd St.

Free for members, \$15 for non-members

Digitizing Your Family Treasures

Danielle Spalenka

This lecture is sponsored by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

Are you interested in digitizing family materials but are not sure where to start? There's more to consider than just having the right equipment on hand. Join Danielle Spalenka, the Digital Initiatives and Preservation Archivist at the Filson, for a lunch hour discussion on starting your own digitization project. Danielle will cover the most common types of family materials, namely letters to photographs, and will provide factors to consider from selection, file names, and storage options.

Danielle Spalenka has been with the Filson since 2019. She oversees the day-to-day digitization projects, manages workflows, and oversees grant-funded digitization projects. She provides vision and leadership to the Filson's overall digital collections and preservation strategy. Prior to joining the Filson staff in April 2019, Ms. Spalenka held the role of Preservation Specialist at the Northeast Document Conservation Center, served as the Project Director for the Digital POWRR Project, and Curator of Manuscripts at the Northern Illinois University Regional History Center. She holds a BA in history from Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, IN) and a MA-LIS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Women in the First American West

Maureen Lane

This lecture is sponsored by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

What do the Filson's collections reveal about the women who lived in the First American West? Maureen Lane, Curator of Museum Collections will share some of the manuscripts and artifacts that document the lives of women who colonized Kentucky. As part of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, the Filson is reimagining a 2002 project originally funded by the Library of Congress. No longer accessible, *The First American West: The Ohio River Valley, 1750–1820* digitized historical material including maps, books, manuscripts, and artifacts which documented the lives of entrepreneurs, landowners, women, Indigenous, and the enslaved from the Colonial to Early Republic. The reboot of the project will include additional documents and artifacts not included in the previous iteration and will feature material representing previously excluded groups. The project will be publicly accessible online.

Maureen Lane has an M.A. in American Studies with a focus on American Art and Material Cultural from Penn State University. She also has an M.A. in Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins University. Her interests include women's history, American textiles, and American art. She is inventorying, researching, and cataloging the Filson's museum collection and working toward making the museum collection accessible online. She is part of the First American West project team.

This program is presented through the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities and its Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan Initiative. With this support, the Filson will present a series of public programs and launch *Resurrecting the First American West*, a digital exhibit on the diverse Ohio Valley frontier.



Miniature portraits of Ann Rogers Clark Gwathmey (1755–1822) and her daughter-in-law Ann Buchanan Booth Gwathmey (1788–1862)

Filson Fridays are generously sponsored by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

All Filson Friday programs will be offered in person and virtually. Zoom information will be provided upon registration for each event in the series.

Dinsmore

Meet the Filson's Community History Fellows

This Filson is pleased to introduce the inaugural cohort of our new Community History Fellows Program (CHFP). Supported by a start-up grant from Louisville's Jewish Heritage Fund (JHF), the Community History Fellows Program is being developed and co-led by Abby Glogower, Curator of Jewish Collections, Patrick Lewis, Director of Collections and Research, and Emma Bryan, Community Engagement Specialist. This 6-month program unites community researchers and history advocates from diverse backgrounds and different parts of Louisville to learn together and produce history-oriented projects of enduring value for their home communities. Fellows earn a stipend

for their participation in the program. "Outreach matters," says Abby Glogower. "Institutions like the Filson thrive and grow when we bring people into the acts of documenting and learning history. But this is partnership work, and we must invest in help from community leaders who are committed to stewarding and interpreting history."

Since April 2022, the Community History Fellows have been meeting at the Filson for weekly sessions exploring methods in public history, archival documentation and research, and audience engagement. Through readings, discussion, and guest visits with curators, archivists, and scholars, fellows are prepared to spend the summer working on individual

culminating projects. Projects ranging from oral history interviews, to publications, and exhibits will serve as "celebrations of learning," that foster individual and community knowledge. "These fellows get back to the core identity of the Filson in 1884: engaged Louisville citizens gathering to research and share their community's story," says the Filson's Patrick Lewis. "But they recast that vision by bringing a wider range of perspectives and identities to the table." Emma Bryan adds, "This program marks an intentional and important shift for our organization toward a more complete fulfillment of our mission. History is participatory, collaborative, and community-driven; these fellows put those principles into action."

Meet the **Fellows:**



Alayna **Altman**

*Visual Artist and Jewish Outdoor Food and Environmental Education director,
Trager Family Jewish Community Center*

I am a member of many communities—environmentalists, artists, my family, and friends. However, in this fellowship I feel I most represent the Jewish community, which is both multifaceted and deeply connected. As diverse as we are in ritual and affiliation, we have a unique bond. This internal tension is one of the many reasons I feel drawn to archival work and my goal is to merge archival research with my artistic practice. Drawing from old photographs and textbooks has always excited me. It is my way to give new life to something lost. I am interested in exploring a topic related to the intersections of land usage and Jewish communities. One of my favorite lessons to teach in the garden is seed saving. By saving the seeds of the past, we create an heirloom collection that can be passed down from generation to generation. It is an amazing process for the kids to plant a seed they harvested themselves. They can see firsthand how the past affects the future. My hope is that my project can be an extension of this work by creating a visual heirloom trove of Louisville's past.



Cheri Bryant Hamilton

Long-time Chickasaw Neighborhood Resident, former Alderman and Metro Councilwoman, Member of the Chickasaw Book Committee

I have been involved in my community, public service, and electoral politics since participating in the Open Housing movement as a teenager. That experience shaped my values, educational goals, and career path through employment with Jefferson County Public Schools Adult Education, and state and local government. I enjoy reading, music, family, travel, genealogy, writing, and working to preserve and educate about the importance of history, particular the contributions of women and Kentucky’s African American trailblazers. The Chickasaw Book Committee is producing an enlightening historical coffee table book about the impressive and perhaps unknown history of the people, places, organizations, institutions, events, and activities that built and sustained generations of African American middle and working-class families in the Chickasaw Neighborhood during the 1940s-1970s. Our book will serve as a source of pride, a teaching tool, and a community education reference about the history, resilience, values, unity, and accomplishments of the Chickasaw Neighborhood. Our neighborhood is a place where people who fought on many levels to break through barriers, combat racism, and dismantle discriminatory policies, practices, and laws in Louisville before and during integration.

Jonathan Lippman

Writer, Editor, Board Member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun

I am a partner, a son, a friend, a writer, and an explorer of the human condition. I stand grateful for this unique opportunity to pursue storytelling in a community of likeminded novice historians. I am thrilled with our shared enthusiasm for discovery, reflection, and action. The relationship between the Black and Jewish communities in the US is an abiding source of concern for me. I am troubled that



Taylor Ryan

Founder and Executive Director of Change Today Change Tomorrow

these two historically marginalized groups whose lives were once so enmeshed are today parted by such diametric material outcomes. My greatest ambition would be to reinvigorate the forces that once bound us. The site of my research is Congregation Adath Jeshurun (AJ), one of Louisville’s most enduring Jewish institutions. I will be studying AJ’s participation in Black-centered pushes for social justice, taking as bookends the 1960s civil rights era and the more-recent movement for Black Lives. AJ’s motto is “Open hearts, open minds.” I hope that creating an opportunity to consider how we have honored or fallen short of these words will guide us to more fully accomplishing our vision.

I am a Kentuckian, born and raised in Paducah, and currently living in Louisville. My organization, founded in 2019, provides barrier-free access to the community through food justice, educational services, and public health initiatives. Through this fellowship I hope to gain new knowledge of Louisville’s history; specifically, as it pertains to Black-led community service. I hope to highlight Black folks’ work in a way that brings empowerment, authenticity, and enlightenment to Louisville families. I will be working on a recipe book project titled, *The Proof in*



the Pudding. This collection will gather the recipes, photos, and stories of West Louisville residents past and present. Black folks and our food history should be transcribed, acknowledged, and uplifted. We want to share families' histories by collecting and publishing these narratives in a recipe book that our stakeholders will appreciate, and that we can sell to help sustain our food justice initiatives. Sharpening my historical knowledge will help me to establish trust and maintain relationships with the folks we serve at Change Today, Change Tomorrow. I am also looking forward to all the fellowship has to offer in terms of networking, collaborating, and creating lasting change in Kentucky.



Talesha Wilson

Founder, Diversity at the Table, Director of Community Engagement and Human Resources at Change Today Change Tomorrow

I am a community organizer and content creator from the West End Louisville with a passion for social and political change for all Black people, specifically Black women, femmes, and Transgender and gender non-conforming people. In this fellowship I hope to gain a clearer understanding of Louisville history and feel more connected to my city. I also expect to learn about some hard truths that many white people in power have failed to tell and the impacts of those realities on Black peoples' lives. My organization creates conversations in and between the communities I serve and where I exist: at the intersections of West End, Black, Woman, Poor/Working class, and Queer/Lesbian. In this fellowship I'm working on a project focusing on the many forms of Black love. This history is difficult to find, for many reasons it is hard to locate love letters between Black enslaved people or between individuals who were forbidden from loving one another. But we need to build this history. Black love is revolutionary and now more than ever, Black people need to be able to love themselves and each other out loud. With this project, I hope to give a space where Black people aren't always on guard from this racist world, a place where they know that we are allowed gentle and soft love, even—and especially—if we only get it from one another.

Applications for a second cohort of fellows (to begin April 2023) will open in the fall of 2022. Curious about the Community History Fellows Program? Please contact Abby Glogower at AbbyGlogower@filsonhistorical.org



Ed White

Founder and Past Director, River City Drum Corps, Board member of the Portland Museum

In my retirement I can pursue connecting to my roots and researching the African American presence in Portland. My family traces our Portland roots back to the early 1900s during a time when Jim Crow was alive and well and the neighborhood was segregated by race and economics. These circumstances caused people to be mean and hateful to each other and this hate was passed down to the Black Community with large doses of slurs and territorial defense—everyone had a place and be sure you know where it is! But the strength of the African American community in Portland was the foundation that empowered its families to live and prosper. At the turn of the last century African American families in Portland numbered in the hundreds, but now most of us have moved on and abandoned the neighborhood. I want to collect the stories, photographs, and genealogies from the handful of elders who are still with us and share them as a homecoming for their descendants through a community exhibit at the Portland Museum. The process has rekindled memories and energies that remind me of days sitting listening to elders talk and it is also empowering members of younger generations to find interest in Portland's African American history and heritage.

Interns



Anslé "CJ" Combs

Digital Exhibits Intern from Commonwealth Center, University of Louisville

We had the pleasure of having Anslé "CJ" Combs as a digital collections intern for the Spring 2022. CJ is finishing up his final semester in May 2022 as a Fine Arts major with a focus on print making at the University of Louisville. He was interested in exploring different career options in the arts, and jumped right into some exciting exhibits at the Filson. The first part of his internship involved finalizing the Filson's latest exhibit *Forgotten Foundations: Louisville's Lost Architecture*. CJ put together our online exhibit while also helping with the physical installation. He helped move objects and fixed some lighting issues and put together a great digital supplement to the physical exhibit. You can visit the digital exhibit here <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/exhibits/show/forgotten-foundations>

The second part of CJ's internship involved creating a digital exhibit for the recently acquired Helen Humes collection. The collection consists of papers, photographs, and prints documenting Humes' life and career as a jazz and blues singer. Born and raised in Louisville, she performed locally before joining the Count Basie Band in 1938. With a career that lasted decades, she traveled all over the world performing at festivals and with some of the biggest names in jazz. CJ assisted in the initial research of her collection and collected biographical information. He identified and digitized photos and papers, created the outline and theme, and wrote the section panels and labels for the digital exhibit. His research was supported the creation of the pop-up exhibit that opened with the Jazz at the Filson event on May 22, 2022. You can see the Helen Humes's digital exhibit by visiting <https://filsonhistorical.omeka.net/exhibits/show/helen-humes>



Jade Wiglesworth

Art History Major, University of Louisville

I'm Jade Wiglesworth, a freshman at the University of Louisville. I'm an art history major with plans of going into curatorial study. My Filson internship focused on assisting with the Indigenous collections inventory. During my internship I cataloged a collection of Indigenous projectile points in the Filson's PastPerfect database. I also cataloged and photographed baskets and moccasins. This work helps make objects more accessible. Even though I worked more in the field of anthropology than art history during my internship here at the Filson, the lessons I learned were invaluable. In addition to learning cataloging procedures, I gained an understanding of how the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) provides a process for museums to repatriate Native American human remains and certain cultural items. My experience learning how to properly care for museum objects will be important in my future career opportunities.



THE FILSON SPORTING CLAY CLASSIC

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2022

The Sporting Club at the Farm

4939 River Road, New Albany, IN 47150



The beautiful Sporting Club at the Farm offers 15 sporting clay stations that challenge and intrigue shooters of all levels. Participants receive safety orientation, golf cart, complimentary breakfast, lunch, snacks, drinks, a swag bag, and ammunition.



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For more information, visit filsonhistorical.org/classic. Proceeds will benefit the Filson Historical Society (501c3)



Our mission: To collect, preserve, and share the significant stories of Kentucky and Ohio Valley history and culture.



Staff Profile

Emma Johansen *(they/them)*

Jamie Evans: Emma, tell us a little bit about yourself.

Emma Johansen: Well, I graduated with my bachelor's in history from the University of Louisville. I've always been a big history person. I was a very avid reader and I've always loved stories and storytelling. Once I became a history major in college, I realized that stories don't just have to be fiction, that oftentimes the real world is often stranger than fiction. For my undergraduate work, I focused on public history: museums, archives, and libraries. I also studied queer history and LGBT social movements. I did several projects relating to Kentucky queer history and LGBT history in the south. I also worked a lot on the Highlander Folk Center. The Highlander Folk School was a civil rights school in Tennessee that taught Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, a ton of iconic civil rights leaders. It was interesting to me to learn about the politics of social justice movements and how we can learn from previous movements, tactics, and kind of honor them and their trailblazing ways to keep on fighting the good fight. In the fall, I will continue on to IU-PUI for graduate work.

JE: Do you think you will continue that vein of research in your graduate work?

EJ: I think so. Queer history is a burgeoning field, but it's a niche. Even though it's small right now, I know it's going to get absolutely massive, following the trajectory of Black history, Pan African studies, or women's history. Once you get a lot of institutional professors and academics studying these topics, then we can form our own

departments or committees and conferences, and a lot of those shifts are already happening. I'm really interested in kind of paving the way for that, which doesn't mean that I'm creating the field. It's more so that it's small right now, but I know I'd love to be part of making it bigger.

JE: What originally brought you to the Filson?

EJ: I was a Commonwealth Society or Commonwealth Center for Humanities and Society intern in spring 2020. I helped digitize the sheet music collection and was working on an online exhibit until COVID hit. I really latched onto the culture here at the Filson. It is just a lovely place to work. After that internship, Danielle [Spalenka] wanted me back for another internship that was funded by the Kentucky Genealogical Society. This time, I worked with the Baptist Orphan Home Records, fully digitizing the whole collection, and putting it online. Danielle put my name in the ring for another Kentucky Genealogical Society grant to digitize the Bullitt family papers and find evidence of enslaved people within one of the largest manuscript collections that we have. I started that internship in March 2021 and in May 2021, I was offered the Collections Assistant position under Heather Potter in the photographs department. So, I worked both of those roles for some time. There were a lot of moving parts and a lot of hats that I was wearing, but I am enthusiastic about working here and I love doing it.

JE: I can tell! I think our members will love that you are so excited about being here and the work that you've been doing for the Filson. Could you tell me about who Emma is outside of the Filson?

EJ: Outside of the Filson I love to embroider, I play guitar. I wood whittle. I have tons of little hobbies that I just do. I love visiting my partner in Cincinnati and hanging out with my family. I come from a strong Italian American background. That was kind of what first got me into history: how important lineage and my ancestors were and how important it was to kind of be a part of this long line of people that fought so that way it would be easier for people in the future, for their descendants. And I think that translated well into the way that I see social justice movements. It's kind of the same thing. It's like a family of people that are fighting for the people that come after them, which I think is very honorable.

JE: If you could tell our members one thing, what would it be?

EJ: I think that it would be that your stories matter and other people's stories matter. History and stories in general, whether fiction or nonfiction, are about building empathy, understanding each other, and forging connections with one other. A lot of ways in which people have been disadvantaged and oppressed and limited in society based on superficial things like race or gender or sexuality boil down to the past. Instead, we can focus on who we are as people and connect with each other based on who we are as core individuals. History is a tool that can help us do that.

In Memoriam

Ronald R. Van Stockum

The Filson lost a true stalwart on April 24, with the passing of Brigadier General Ronald R. Van Stockum, USMC (retired). General Van Stockum, best known as Van, passed away quietly at the family farm Allen Dale in Shelby County, at the age of 105.

General Van Stockum led a full and productive life. He was born on July 8, 1916, in Cambridgeshire, England, one week after his father Sergeant Reginald Bareham was killed in the Battle of the Somme. His mother Florence brought him to the United States in 1920 to visit a friend. That friend was his stepfather to be, Anton Van Stockum, whom his mother had met during the war. It wasn't until years later, during a school check, that Van learned he was an undocumented alien. He somehow had been overlooked by officials when he and his mother entered the U. S. and not noted in records. The oversight was rectified and his education proceeded successfully through the University of Washington, where he graduated in 1937 as the ROTC honor graduate and accepted a second lieutenant's commission in the United States Marine Corps.

Van served early in the war on the USS Wasp as commander of the Marine detachment when it sailed two missions into the Mediterranean to deliver planes to the RAF on Malta. He then served in three campaigns – Bougainville, Guam, and Iwo Jima – in the Pacific. Rising in rank to lieutenant colonel and commanding troops in combat, Van had many a harrowing tale to tell of the hardships, close calls, and tragedies he experienced during the war. One loss he long regretted was the destruction of the only photo he had of himself in actual combat. He sent it to his mother, and she was so distressed by his situation she threw it away.

Following the war, Van served in various positions, rising in rank until earning his general's star in 1962. He retired from the Marine Corps in 1967 as a brigadier general with numerous awards and commendations.

In 1970 his wife Susanne's hereditary farm Allen Dale, in Shelby County, Kentucky, became the family home. Not ready for a quiet life on the farm, Van spent eleven years as Associate Dean for Administration at the University of Louisville School of Medicine and as Assistant to the University President. In addition to involvement

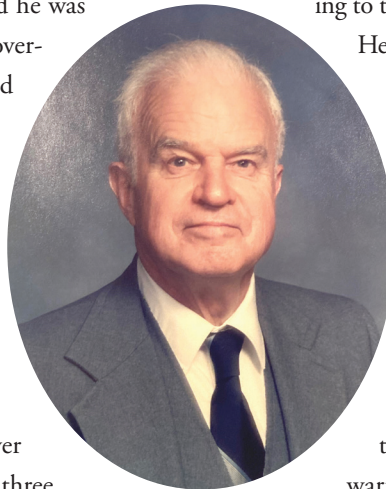
in civic and military organizations, he took an interest in history and researched the history of Allen Dale farm and his wife's family. The result was journal articles and his first book, *Kentucky and the Bourbons: The Story of Allen Dale Farm*. Other books followed, including *Squire Boone and Nicholas Meriwether: Kentucky Pioneers*, *Remembrances of World Wars*, and others. From 2007 until not long before his passing, Van penned the column "History Researched and Recalled" in the Shelbyville *Sentinel-News*.

Van's interest in history brought him into contact with the Filson. He was an active member, attending lectures, giving lectures, contributing to the Filson's quarterly journal, and conducting research.

He served on the Filson's board of directors from 1984 to 1993, including as board president in 1987, and as interim director from June 1992 to March 1993. The Ronald Van Stockum Papers and Photograph Collection and his wife Susanne's de Charette family papers in the collection were donated by him.

General Van Stockum is fondly recalled by current and former staff. His leadership, dedication, and mentorship all have been boons to the Filson and its success. Retired executive director Mark Wetherington remembers Van as a "stalwart leader and supporter," who "loved history and researched and wrote about a wide range of topics... Visiting in his study at his home was like a trip to his family archive." Judy Miller, retired deputy director, also fondly remembers him. "Van was the quintessential gentleman. He was a wonderful communicator who cared about people and touched many lives. He worked hard for the good of the Filson." Curator Jim Holmberg remembers Van being one of the first people he met when he joined the staff of the Filson forty years ago. "The General's devotion to duty and work ethic was an inspiration. His counsel was excellent, the organization of his papers when donated outstanding, and visits and conversation in person, on the phone, and via email with him cherished."

General Van Stockum is survived by his three children Michele, Reggie, and Charles, six grandchildren, and six great grandchildren. They and the many people he touched in his long eventful life will miss him dearly. Another member of the Greatest Generation has left us.



The Filsonians

February–May 2022



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.

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