

# Voices from the Vault

Issue 28 July 2018

## Grunewald Collection Received

Gustav Grunewald was one of the most significant Moravian painters of the nineteenth century. Trained in Dresden, Germany, by Caspar David Friedrich, he worked as a painter on both sides of the Atlantic throughout his life. In December of last year, the Moravian Archives received four oil paintings, twenty drawings and sketches, and thirteen prints and photos from his personal collection.

Grunewald was born in the German Moravian community of Gnadau in 1805 and came to Bethlehem, PA, in 1831, where he established himself as a landscape and portrait painter.

He also taught at the Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies. In 1867 he returned to Germany where he lived in the Moravian town of Gnadenberg in Silesia until his death in 1878. The Moravian Archives already had several of his paintings and drawings before the recent acquisitions arrived from Germany last December.

Günter Hammer, a Moravian living in Munich, Germany, died in

March of 2017. Hammer was born as a child of Moravian missionaries in Suriname; the Hammer family was also related to the Grunewalds.

In his will Günter Hammer had left some of the Grunewald artwork he owned to the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem. Using a professional art shipping company, the artwork was packed

descendant of a long line of Moravians, had left a sum of money to the Archives that was used to pay for packaging, crating, and shipping the artwork to Bethlehem.

On December 12, 2017, the large crate arrived at the Archives. "The Hammer bequest was beyond our expectations," Peucker said. The crate contained a spectacular

view along the Saucon Creek near Bethlehem, two studies of the Niagara Falls, many pencil drawings and sketches, as well as prints and photographs. "The Hammer bequest comes clearly from the Grunewald family and contains items that were in the

personal possession of the artist." also said by Paul. The prints perhaps served as a source of inspiration to the artist, and he may have used the photographs to paint portraits. Yale University Art Gallery owns a finished oil painting of one of the studies of Niagara Falls that was part of this bequest. The collection may help art historians better understand the working method of Grunewald.



up and transported to Bethlehem, the town where Grunewald had spent thirty-five years of his life and where many of these same items had originated. "Although Hammer had not assigned any funds in his will for transporting the items to the United States," says Moravian archivist Paul Peucker, "we were able to use another bequest we received around the same time to pay for the shipping." George de Schweinitz, like Hammer, a

### Special points of interest:

- Moravian Archives Hires New Processing Archivist
- Digitization of Archives' Holdings
- Exhibit "Moravian Music & Instrument Making"
- New Grants Received from National Endowment for the Humanities and from Council On Library and Information Resources



### Inside this issue:

Kaitlin Trainor	2
Streamlining Digitization	2
Moravian Music & Instrument Making	2
Intern Spotlight	3
New Finding Aids	3
Caribbean History	3
News	4

## Processing Archivist: Kaitlin Trainor



Dear Friends of the Archives,

Greetings from Bethlehem! My name is Kaitlin Trainor and I am the new Processing Archivist at the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem. I began my position as Processing Archivist on January 15, 2018, and am excited for what new challenges and opportunities this position brings.

I hail from Stewartville, NJ, just across the Delaware River from Easton, PA. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Susquehanna University in Selins-

grove, PA in May of 2014 and I pursued a Master's Degree in Library & Information Sciences with a focus in Archival Studies from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, which I completed in January of 2017. I began interning at MAB in March of 2016 and became a part-time member of the staff in July of that same year. It has been a pleasure working for the Moravian Archives and I am very excited to take on this new role.

As full-time Processing Archivist, I will be increasing access to many of the materials which have previously

been unprocessed or semi-processed while also being responsible for new accessions to our collection. I am becoming acquainted with our library through the assistance of Phil Metzger, our cataloging volunteer, to catalog and maintain our ever-growing library collection, and I am the direct contact for our congregational counterparts when records are due to come to the Archives. It has been a great start to a very busy year here at the Archives, and I am looking forward to continue diving into the collections housed inside the vault.

## Streamlining Digitization

People often inquire about our plans to digitize the MAB collections. Well, this long-term project is now underway. In 2017, we received a bequest from former German Script Course participant Nomie Budelier (1939-2016). We subsequently received a generous grant from the R.K. Laros Foundation in early 2018, and these sources have collectively allowed us to procure scanning equipment. Under advisement from colleagues at Lehigh University

and Lafayette College, the MAB purchased an Opus BookEye 4 overhead scanner. To operate the new scanner, the MAB hired Jonathan Ennis as part-time digitization assistant.

Jonathan is a Bethlehem native and holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Drexel University. In one day's time, all (roughly 500 pages) of the Papers of Bishop David Nitschmann were scanned by Jonathan. Be sure to check out the digitized collection in

our online finding aid! We are excited to enter into this new phase of digitization with the expertise of Jonathan and to make more digital content available to our patrons.

Is there a collection, a book, or an individual file you would like digitized? The archives is now equipped to take on digitization orders. For inquiries, contact assistant archivist Thomas McCullough at [tom@moravianchurcharchives.org](mailto:tom@moravianchurcharchives.org).



## New Exhibit: *Moravian Music & Instrument Making*



The Moravian Archives, in cooperation with the Moravian Music Foundation, is pleased to present a new exhibition in the gallery space of the Moravian Archives. "Sing, O Ye Heavens: Moravian Music & Instrument Making" highlights the role Moravian composers and instrument makers had in crafting the Moravian musical tradition we know and continue to cherish.

The exhibit features a 1763 cello made by Bethlehem Moravian instrument maker and composer John

Antes and considered oldest known cello made in America. In addition, this exhibit features a number of early Moravian musical compositions, organ pipes made by David Tannenberg in 1776, various other musical instruments, and presents the rich tradition of Moravian music and music culture from the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

"Sing, O Ye Heavens: Moravian Music & Instrument Making" will be on display through May 31, 2019.



## Intern Spotlight

During the spring 2018 semester, we were fortunate to work with a pair of archives interns from Moravian College. Sarah-Marie Holena and Megan Deaven were exceptional in their cataloging endeavors, processing close to a dozen different collections, many referenced in an article regarding newly searchable collections. Sarah and Megan also shadowed MAB archivists at different times and completed a series of readings on archival science and Moravian history. The work of interns often goes unrecognized, and we would like to thank Sarah and Megan, not only for their hard work but also for their friendly demeanor and eagerness to learn more about archives and the Moravians. We are grateful for our continued partnership with the Moravian College History Department and the opportunity to share archival science and librarianship with students of all ages and disciplines.



Intern Megan Deaven (Moravian College '19) stands with all the collections she processed during her internship at MAB.

## New Finding Aids

In addition to hiring new Processing Archivist, Kaitlin Trainor, MAB also had two Moravian College students, Megan Deaven and Sarah-Marie Holena, and Moravian Academy senior, Abigail Ward, working through previously uncataloged materials which are now accessible through our online catalog. These collections include:

- Board of Foreign Mission (BFM)
- Provincial Board of Church Extension (PBCE)
- Rossmere Moravian Mission (MC Rossmere)
- Records of Bethany Moravian Congregation (MC York Bethany)
- Metropolitan Moravian Fellowship of New York (MMFNY)
- Papers of Ruth Henry Clewell (PP CRH)
- Papers of William Parsons (PP PW)
- Frederick William Wantzel papers (PP WFW)
- Collection of Photographs from Labrador (PhotLab)
- Midland Beach Moravian Church (MC MB)
- New Dorp Beach Moravian Church (MC NDB)
- New Dorp Italian Moravian Church (MC NDI)
- Trinity Moravian Church, Staten Island, NY (MC Trinity NY)
- Pauline Wolle Borhek Papers (PP BPW)
- Robert H. Brennecke Papers (PP BRH)
- Henry Funk Papers (PP Funk)
- Joseph A. Rice Papers (PP RJA)
- Papers of Arthur David Thaeler (PP TAD)
- Photographs from California (PhotColl CA)
- Photographs from Oklahoma (PhotColl OK)
- Photographs from North Dakota (PhotColl ND)
- Photographs from North Carolina (PhotColl NC)
- Morning Star Moravian Church (MC Morningstar PA)
- Coopersburg Moravian Church (MC Coopersburg)
- Records of the Lititz Warden (LitWard)
- Lititz Single Brothers (LitSB)
- Lititz Single Sisters (LitSS)
- Lititz Congregation (LitCong)
- Donegal Moravian Church (MC Donegal)

## Conserving and Digitizing Caribbean History

During the period of the Transatlantic slave trade, an estimated 75,000 individuals were forcibly brought to the Danish colonies of St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas (today's U.S. Virgin Islands). Information about thousands of these individuals is soon to be conserved and digitized thanks to recently received grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). Roughly 10,000 baptisms, marriages, and deaths are accounted for within a single Moravian church register from Friedenthal, St. Croix, 1744-1832. Paging through this register, one can begin

to reconstruct the lives of Caribbean Moravians. For example, on August 19, 1762, an infant son was born to Moravians named Magdalena and Josuah. At that time, Magdalena was enslaved to the sugar plantation owner Jacob Lindberg (1745-1791) in Christiansted, and the father of the child was enslaved to a sugar plantation called La Grande Princesse, two miles west-northwest of Christiansted. Their child was baptized with the name "Jacob" by Moravian pastor Johann Georg Hantsch on September 19, 1762. Jacob entered full membership of Friedenthal Moravian Church in St. Croix on August 29,

1779. Ethnologists may be interested to learn that Jacob identified as being of "Criol" descent. At some point during his life, he became a free man and thereafter lived with "Mar [ia] Elis[abeth], mul [atto]," presumably in her home on Kongens Tværgade ("King's Cross Street") in Christiansted. Jacob died at age 37 on April 10, 1800, and was buried in the Moravian God's Acre near Christiansted.





## Newsletter from the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem PA

Moravian Archives  
41 W. Locust Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Phone: 610.866.3255  
e-mail: [info@moravianchurcharchives.org](mailto:info@moravianchurcharchives.org)  
[www.moravianchurcharchives.org](http://www.moravianchurcharchives.org)

affiliated with the Moravian Historical Society  
[www.moravianhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.moravianhistoricalsociety.org) | 610.759.5070

### Board of Directors

Thomas Bross, President  
Diane Shaw, Vice-President  
Alice Mosebach, Secretary  
Karl H. Butz, Treasurer  
Katherine Faulf  
Scott Gordon  
Kevin Kelleher  
Michael A. Long  
Rose Nehring  
David S. Parker  
Ralph G. Schwarz (emeritus)  
Marian Shatto  
Donald Squair

## Upcoming Events

### New: German Script Refresher Course

July 23-27, 2018

### Book Launch: "The Letters of Mary Penry"

September 11, 2018, 5:00 pm—7:00 pm, at the Moravian Archives  
Book signing by author Scott Paul Gordon

### Annual Soirée

September 25, 2018, 5:00 pm, at the Moravian Archives

### Saturday Hours

September 22, 2018  
December 1, 2018  
March 30, 2019  
May 18, 2019

### Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music

October 11-13, 2018  
[www.moravianconferences.org](http://www.moravianconferences.org)

### German-English Advent Singstunde

December 4, 2018, 7:00 pm  
In the Old Chapel on the campus of Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, PA

### German Script Course 2019

June 3 - 14, 2019

For more details, visit [www.moravianchurcharchives.org](http://www.moravianchurcharchives.org)

## News and Announcements

### Moravian Roots Update

In 2017 alone, MAB volunteers donated over 1,500 hours in support of the Moravian Roots indexing project. As of May 30, 2018, roughly 38,029 entries from church registers have been fully indexed. We intend to launch this interface for public searching later in 2018.

### Vernon H. Nelson Grants

The Moravian Archives was able to award two Vernon Nelson Research Grants this spring. This year's awardees are:

\* Shelby Balik, Metropolitan State University of Denver: "Dying Well: Moravian Testimonies from Eighteenth-Century New York City"  
\* John Scott, Mercer University: "Moravian Records of Georgia and the Colonial Experience of John Brownfield"

The scholarship fund was established in 2011 by relatives of former Moravian Archivist Rev. Vernon H. Nelson. This is the second year that research grants were awarded. A total of eight applications was received. The deadline for the next round of research grants is February 28, 2019. For more information, see our website.

### Website & The Moravian History Store

[www.moravianchurcharchives.org](http://www.moravianchurcharchives.org) is getting a facelift! The staff has been working with JTaylor Design to update and streamline our website. Our new website will provide easier access to our most frequently visited content and pages. In addition we are excited to be bringing our gift shop online! Items will be available online through the Moravian History Store.

### Journal of Moravian History vol 18.1

The newest issue of the Journal of Moravian History is hot off the presses! Copies are available for purchase at the archives and online through our website.

### New Accessions at MAB

- photograph of interior of the Moravian Church in Königsfeld, Germany, ca. 1890
- records of the Board of World Mission (1949-2000)
- sketch book of Edmund de Schweinitz, ca. 1845
- Ebersdorf Bible, published by Zinzendorf in 1727
- "Geschichts-Erzählung," history of early Herrnhut by Zinzendorf, 1749
- view of Holy Trinity Moravian Church in Philadelphia (heliotype), 1879
- records from Gen. William Doster (1837-1919)
- autograph album from a student at the Moravian Seminary for Girls, 1850s
- records from Morning Star Moravian Church, Coopersburg, PA
- scrapbook of Karl de Schweinitz (1887-1975) and several objects from the Schweinitz family
- notebook and tintypes from Oscar Agthe
- Board of World Mission (1949-2010)