

Voices from the Vault

Issue 23

November 2015

New Finding Aids

Now that the renovations of our facility have been completed, we are directing our efforts towards increasing public access to our holdings by arranging and cataloging the collections.

Recently, finding aids for two collections, the Wachovia Papers and the Carl Gottfried Rundt Papers, have been completed. The Wachovia Papers, housed at the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, are now organized and fully cataloged. In 1753 Moravians purchased 98,985 acres in North Carolina and called it *Wachau* or, in English, Wachovia. The name *Wachau* is part of Count Zinzendorf's noble title and refers to an area in Austria where the Zinzendorfs' ancestral estate was located. The Moravians founded several congregations in Wachovia: Bethabara, Bethania, and Salem (now Winston-Salem) as the central town. During the first decades of its existence the elders

in Bethlehem oversaw the activities in Wachovia and the leaders in Wachovia reported to Bethlehem. Therefore, many letters, reports, diaries, memoirs, and financial statements were sent to Bethlehem during the early decades. These documents were kept in the Bethlehem Archives, but not many knew about their existence. During the past few months archivist Paul Peucker has organized the records, comprising 15 boxes or 6.25 linear feet. A new finding aid now provides access to this important material that complements the records at the Moravian Archives of the Southern Province in Winston-Salem.

The Rundt Papers are a much smaller collection (1 box). Carl Gottfried Rundt (1713-64) served in the Prussian Army before he joined the Moravian Church in Herrnhut. In 1751 the church sent him to Pennsylvania where he served as a missionary. Rundt was

a gifted poet and his papers consist of the religious poetry he wrote throughout his life.

Another large record group are the records of the Philadelphia Moravian Church. This church was founded in 1742 as the second-oldest Moravian church in the country. At the time, Philadelphia was one of the most important cities in the American colonies. The congregation often interacted with non-Moravians in this urban environment, and thus many of the records reflect such relationships. The congregation was well organized, as is evidenced by the breadth of records (30+ lin. ft.). Four additional Moravian congregations were established in Philadelphia, but the first Moravian congregation at Philadelphia closed its doors in 1965. Assistant archivist Tom McCullough is organizing the records from Philadelphia.

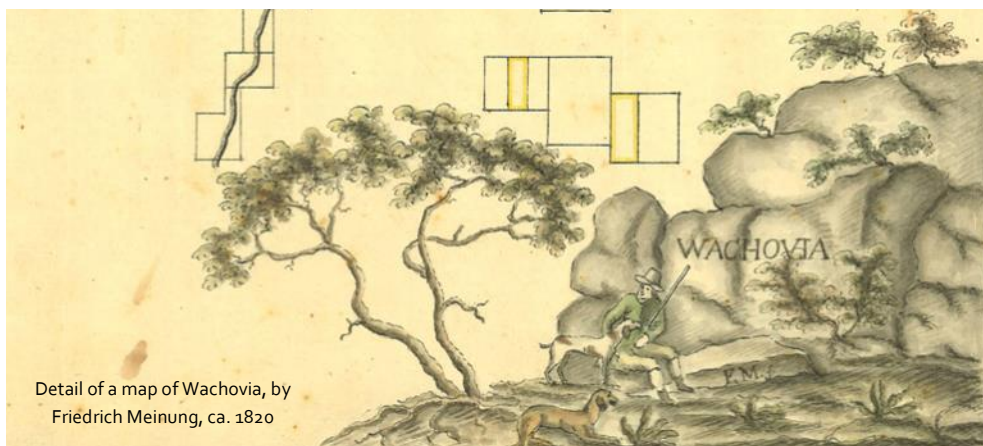
Special points of interest:

- Online Transcription Project
- Exhibit on Polly Heckewelder
- Genealogy Workshop Was Successful
- Dates & Theme for Upcoming Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music



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Detail of a map of Wachovia, by Friedrich Meinung, ca. 1820

A Word from the Archives' President

After all that has happened at the Archives over the past few years to renovate the facility and prepare the Moravian Archives for the next decades of service, one might ask: "now what?" If you have been anywhere near the Archives during the past several months, this question is not difficult to answer. We will continue to act on our mission, to examine our past and analyze the effect of the Moravian Church and its leaders on the present day, to create interest in our shared Moravian heritage, to lecture and teach, to stimulate debate, to be a resource for students and to cooperate with

institutions to our mutual benefit.

All of the activities I listed here are ones I have personally experienced. In the past few months, I have been fortunate to attend Paul Peucker's lecture on his recent book, "A Time of Sifting: Mystical Marriage and the Crisis of Moravian Piety," a presentation by Craig Atwood, "Historical Perspectives on Hus," and "The Lost Village of Christian's Spring," led by Scott Gordon (an Archives Board member) and two Lehigh University students. My motivation to attend these presentations stems from my interest in supporting the programming of the Archives; however, once

I hear and see the presentations, I realize how relevant they are to my faith and understanding.

Michael A. Long, President



Michael Long

How to Search our Catalogs: the Library

In *Voices from the Vault*, we are launching a new series aimed at helping our patrons become better acquainted with accessing collections here at the Moravian Archives. Our inaugural piece addresses how to search our library collections. Users must visit our home page at: www.moravianchurcharchives.org. Once at our home page, users must scroll to the bottom of the page, where a bright orange bar is visible. On this orange bar, there are three options; users must select "SEARCH LIBRARY," which redirects them to our online public access catalog (OPAC).

Once at our OPAC, a search box with a magnifying glass is visible at the center of the webpage. Users may execute different searches, such as the title or author of the book. By clicking on "details" additional information on the book, including former owners and additional copies, will be displayed. Searching individual library collections, like the William Gunn Malin Collection and Congregational Library (*Gemeinbibliothek*), is also possible; users may simply enter "Malin" or "CongLib" into this search box to access such collections. Before requesting materials

during a research visit, it is important to record the call number of a book you wish to see. The search "Emmaus," for example, offers thirty search results. For those who wish to read *A 1976 Visit to Colonial Emmaus*, the call number (Eab 41) may be found to the left of the title and publication information.

Our WebOPAC allows you to create lists ("bookbags") that can be emailed or printed. Our WebOPAC currently contains over 15,200 titles; more titles are added daily.

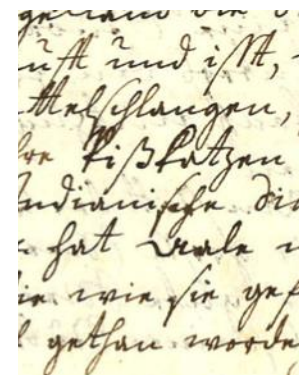


Online Transcription Project

The Moravian Archives is proud to announce the launch of an open source transcription project through the use of Juxta Editions, a professional editing suite for the creation of digital scholarly editions. A subscription to this service has been made possible through the generous support of Friends of the Archives. Photographs of original manuscripts from our collections

have been uploaded to this site, in a platform which allows individuals worldwide to transcribe, edit, and annotate each manuscript. Because many documents are written in German script, we encourage our former German script students and others who are familiar with German and English paleography to contribute to this project. A great feature of Juxta Editions is the abil-

ity to "mark up" transcriptions, which highlights places, people, and dates that appear in each manuscript. Users may also note where deletions, underlining, or additions have been made by the author or a previous editor of a manuscript. Those interested in helping with this project may contact the assistant archivist at: tom@moravianchurcharchives.org.



Current and Upcoming Exhibits

Our current exhibit, "Jan Hus: Life, Teaching, Memory" is drawing many visitors to the Moravian Archives. In addition to guests from Wisconsin, Winston-Salem, NC, and Washington DC, we welcomed international visitors from Germany, the Czech Republic, Denmark, and Tanzania. This exhibit, which examines the life and work of Jan Hus and shows valuable copies of his work from the collections of the Moravian Archives, will continue through the end of February 2016.

In addition to the Hus exhibit, we will show a small exhibit on the life of one of Bethlehem's remarkable

women, Johanna Maria "Polly" Heckewelder (1781-1868). Polly was the daughter of missionary couple John and Sarah Heckewelder. When she was a child, Native American women gave her a doll. Throughout her life, Polly kept the doll as a cherished possession.

After her death, the Ladies' Sewing Society in Bethlehem began making dolls that they named after Polly Heckewelder. Our exhibit, "Polly and Her Doll," is a parallel exhibit to the exhibit "All Dolled Up: Polly and Her Sisters" at the Moravian Museum of Bethlehem. "Polly and Her Doll" will be on display from

November 16, 2015, until the end of February 2016.

On April 2, 2016, it will be exactly 275 years that the property deed for the original 500 acres of Bethlehem was signed by Henry Antes. For this occasion the original deed will be shown to the public during a special one-day exhibit. Because of its value and fragility, the original deed will only be displayed for one day. This exhibit will be a unique opportunity to see the document that lay the foundation for the modern city of Bethlehem as well as for a permanent Moravian presence in North America.



Polly Heckewelder

Genealogy Workshop

Our first genealogy workshop at the Archives in October 2015 was a great success. In the newly-renovated reading room of the Archives, assistant archivist Tom McCullough taught participants how to locate and use church registers, membership catalogs, diaries,

memoirs, and a variety of other resources that are integral to family research. Attendees got their hands dirty using original materials and reproduction copies of items in the Archives' collection. Because of the positive feedback received thus far, we have scheduled a second genealogy

workshop on Friday April 8, 2016. For those interested in discovering more about your Moravian ancestors, this is the workshop to attend! You can register online on our website (under "events"). Registration fee (including materials): \$60.00.



Journal of Moravian History: subscribe now

The *Journal of Moravian History* publishes first-rate articles on the history of the Moravians, written by historians from around the world.

In 2006 the Moravian Archives and the Moravian Historical Society together launched the *Journal of Moravian History* (JMh). JMh quickly became successful; this fall the 19th issue will be mailed to subscribers. Before an article is published in JMh, it is given a thorough process of anonymous peer review whereby other scholars in the field scrutinize the article and make suggestions to improve the content. The members of the editorial board also review each article before it gets published. In 2012, Pennsylvania State Univer-

sity Press took over the publication of JMh. The editorial board is still entirely responsible for the content, but copyediting, printing, and marketing are now the responsibilities of Penn State Press. The cooperation with Penn State Press has increased the exposure of our journal. Every issue and each article are now also available in digital format; academic search engines provide access to JMh.

When we began the cooperation with Penn State Press we were able to lower the subscription rate considerably; an annual individual subscription currently costs \$34.00 per year. A digital subscription is even cheaper.

Subscriptions to JMh are handled through Johns Hopkins University Press. All questions regarding subscriptions, renewals, delivery, etc. must be addressed to Johns Hopkins University Press. You may click the link on our website, or you can call at 1-800-548-1784.

A subscription to the *Journal of Moravian History* makes an excellent gift for anyone interested in religious history or the Moravians.



Newsletter from the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem PA

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Upcoming Events

Also see: www.moravianchurcharchives.org/programs/upcoming-events/

The Secret Life of a Heretic's Coat: Jan Hus and the Modern Pilgrimage of a "Medieval Relic"

November 17, 2015, 7:00 pm
Lecture by Thomas Fudge

German-English Advent Singstunde

December 1, 2015, 7:00 pm
in the Old Chapel on the campus of Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, PA.

Christmas in Nazareth

December 12, 2015, 11:00—6:00pm
Enjoy tours, children's activities, live music, and more. Tickets benefit the Moravian Historical Society.
for more information and reservations, call 610-759-5070

Presentation of the restored Grunewald paintings

February 2, 2016, 5:00 pm (snow date: February 9)

Bethlehem's Original 1741 Deed

April 2, 2016, 9:00 am—4:00 pm
One-day exhibit at the Moravian Archives

Genealogy Workshop

April 8, 2016, 9:00—1:00 pm
Registration fee \$60.00; call 610.866.3255 to reserve

German Script Course

June 1-14, 2016
Registration on our website
The reading room is closed to the public during the course

News and Announcements

Lost Village of Christian's Spring

During the summer of 2015 a group of Lehigh University students studied records relating to the Moravian community of Christiansbrunn or Christian's Spring, located southwest of Nazareth (see previous newsletter). These students have now created a website where they present the results of their work:

christiansbrunn.web.lehigh.edu
The website, a work in progress, is a central resource for research on this Moravian settlement.

German President

During his official visit to the United States in October 2015, German President Joachim Gauck visited Philadelphia and spoke at the University of Pennsylvania. Moravian archivist Paul Peucker was invited

to attend the lecture. During his lecture Gauck highlighted the importance of German immigrants to the development of Pennsylvania and the United States. He especially mentioned the immigration of German Protestant groups such as the Schwenkfelders, the Dunkers, the Mennonites, and also the Moravians. Although Gauck had to admit that he did not know what all these groups stood for, he is quite familiar with the Moravians. The head of Gauck's office, Secretary of State David Gill, is a Moravian who grew up in Herrnhut. Gill had worked with Gauck before Gauck became president in 2012.

1,000 Likes on Facebook

We are rapidly approaching 1,000 followers on our Facebook account. Facebook is a free social network-

ing website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and videos, and keep in touch with friends, family, and colleagues. The Moravian Archives uses Facebook to publicize events, courses, workshops, and new discoveries from our collections. If you are a Facebook user, please be sure to "Like" us to stay informed of events and happenings at the Moravian Archives. You can find our page by entering "Moravian Archives Bethlehem" in the search box. Help us reach 1,000!

Bethlehem's 275th Anniversary

Special items celebrating the 275th anniversary of Moravian Bethlehem are available in our (web)shop: car magnets (\$7.50) and Christmas tree ornaments (\$9.95). Both items display the anniversary logo.

5th Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music

The theme of next year's history and music conference will be "Moravians, Friends, and Strangers" and the conference will take place on the campus of Moravian College from October 27-30, 2016. A call for papers will be announced on our website in December 2015.

