

Voices from the Vault

Issue 30 July 2019

Drawings & Prints Digitized

More than 4,000 images from the collection Drawings & Prints are now available online. Hundreds of geographical maps, architectural drawings, artistic views, floor plans, elevations, cemetery maps, engineering plans, land surveys, nautical charts, artist's sketchbooks, portraits, and students sketches are included in this collection. This collection offers a unique visual record of Moravian activity in North America since its beginnings in the 1740s.

Most of the items in this collection are related to Moravian work in North America, in Europe, and in other parts of the world. Because of their size and nature the items were housed separate from the other documents and combined into a separate collection. The first time we learn about maps in the Bethlehem archives is in 1754 when Spangenberg, leader of Moravian work in North America, returned from England and brought a "bundle of maps" that

was to be added to the existing map collection in the archives. These maps were for "common use" by members of the congregation. Over the past 265 years, this collection has grown to more than 4,000 items.

During recent months, Jonathan Ennis, digitization assistant at the Moravian Archives, has digitized each item in the collection Drawings & Prints. He provided the items with the appropriate metadata, and linked them to the existing catalog records. Some of the architectural drawings are so large that they do not fit on the scanner. These were scanned in parts and stitched together afterwards.

"The Archives is committed to making collections accessible to the public," stated archivist Paul Peucker. "Digitization is a wonderful way to accomplish this." Many people will find it useful to have online access to the collection of Drawings & Prints. Some people use the

material for their research. Others will enjoy—browsing through the collection.

The images are all available at a resolution of 200 dpi. This is sufficient for studying most of the details. If someone needs a higher resolution, better quality digital files can be ordered from the Archives. All images in the online finding aid are watermarked with the web address of the Moravian Archives.

The online finding aid is a specialized search tool. In order to make it easier for our users to find their way around the online finding aid, we created several instructional videos. The online finding aid can be found in the Research Our Holdings section of our website.



Special points of interest:

- Intern spotlight: Eric Ebner
- New collections searchable online
- MAB Staff contributes to new book
- MAB celebrates Paul's 15th anniversary
- Upcoming events at the Moravian Archives



German Consul General Visits Archives

Consul General of Germany, David Gill, visited the Moravian Archives on April 10 and hosted a reception for people involved with German culture and business in the Lehigh Valley. Gill, who is a Moravian and grew up in Herrnhut, Germany, was interested in hearing about Bethlehem's and Herrnhut's joint application for the UNESCO World Heritage list and to learn more about Bethlehem's German origins. While at the archives, Gill learned about

the annual German Script Course and looked at drawings for the reconstruction of Herrnhut from the 1950s, when American Moravians sent support to rebuild the town that was so heavily destroyed at the end of World War II. He stressed the importance of a good German-American understanding. Gill has been Consul General in New York since 2017. Before that he was Chief of Staff for German President, Joachim Gauck.



Consul General David Gill (l) and archivist Paul Peucker looking at Zinzendorf's nobleman's sword.

Inside this issue:

MAB hires circulation assistant	2
Zinzendorf portrait donated to MAB	3
MAB adopts a new mission statement	4

Intern Spotlight: Eric Ebner



Hello Friends of the Archives, my name is Eric Ebner. I live in Bethlehem, PA, and I am a graduate student at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) studying Museum Studies with a concentration in Digital Curation. I first learned of the Moravian Archives work on digitizing its holdings through Kristen Walsh, Director of Development at Historic Bethlehem. After hearing of MAB's newest project, I was

excited to contact the institution and hear of their current digital curation plan.

Since January 2019 I have been working at the Archives as an intern to fulfill a course requirement towards earning a certificate in digital curation through JHU. Currently, I am working closely with Archives' staff on my final project to create resources that will be a part of the MAB's

digital curation plan. In addition to assisting in crafting a digital curation plan, I have successfully cataloged the congregational records of Port Washington Moravian Church, OH, and I have also assisted in the systemic digitization of the MAB's collection of drawings and prints which are now newly available online through the MAB's website.

Circulation Assistant: Donald Reynolds

Hello, my name is Donald Reynolds and I am currently a junior at Moravian College. I am pursuing a career as a high school history teacher. As I have been on this journey, I have taken a few history classes that provided me with the opportunity to volunteer and get involved at the Moravian Archives. I have been fortunate that my time volunteering has led to

the opportunity to have an internship here and I have gained valuable experience and advice from the staff. I have also recently taken a position as the circulation assistant at the Moravian Archives. This position entails keeping track of items researchers use and take out of the vault, as well as returning them when finished. I also have been working on the

Moravian Roots project by recording baptisms from the First Moravian Church in West Salem, IL. My time at the Moravian Archives has been so valuable and grown my abilities in history. I cannot thank the Moravian Archives enough for giving me this opportunity and I look forward to using my experience in my future as a teacher.



Single Brothers' Diary Translation Available

"Friday, May 9: 12 light cavalry men, who had ridden here to greet Lady Washington, stayed here several days, awaiting her arrival. But later word came that she had gone to Philadelphia via Durham Road."

Translated excerpts from the diary of the Bethlehem Single Brothers' Choir, like the one above, are now available online. Excerpted entries span the years 1742-1804. The translator, the

late Mrs. Grethe J. Goodwin, translated excerpts from the original diary volumes in the late 1950s. MAB received these translations in 2010, courtesy of Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites.

Interested researchers can access the typewritten translations by visiting:
www.moravianchurcharchives.org/research/translations/

A Celebration of Dr. Paul Peucker

The first day of March this year marked the 15th anniversary of the leadership of the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem by Dr. Paul Peucker. The Board of Directors, recognizing his many and varied contributions to our organization, voted unanimously to celebrate, congratulate, and thank Dr. Peucker at an event held in the afternoon of April 22, 2019 in the Reading Room of the Archives. One hundred guests were welcomed by the music of the Bethlehem Area Moravian Trombone choir and subsequently presented with tributes offered by Dr. Craig

Atwood, Moravian Theological Seminary; Dr. Scott Gordon, Lehigh University; and Dr. Katharine Faull, Bucknell University. The speakers mentioned an increase in worldwide interest in the Archives by researchers, significant improvements to the physical facility, the introduction of technology, and the digitization of records. Paul was praised for his ability to secure sizeable grants from NEH and other sources. In addition to his administrative duties Paul is recognized as a leading authority and scholar, especially of Moravian History of

the 18th century, and at the same time he was acknowledged for contributing greatly to the scholarship of others. It was noted that Paul is the editor of the highly regarded peer-reviewed *Journal of Moravian History*, which enhances the outreach of the Archives.

As a remembrance, Paul was given a book, hand crafted by Dee Collins, containing guest signatures and a compendium of comments and words of congratulation from attendees and friends both here and around the world. In addition, an announcement

was made of the Board's decision to establish the Dr. Paul M. Peucker Discretionary Fund which has already received contributions and will be available for continued donations in the future.

The event concluded with time for socializing and enjoying refreshments, including Moravian sugar cake.

The Board of Directors, the many associates, and the friends of Dr. Peucker wish him continued success and many more years of superb leadership here at the Moravian Archives.

By Thomas R. Bross, President of the Board of Directors

Zinzendorf Portrait Donated to the Archives



Barbara Wood Borne (l) and Susan Wood (r), descendants of Zinzendorf, holding the portrait of Zinzendorf at the Moravian Archives, Nov. 16, 2018.

In recent years the Painting Collection of the Moravian Archives has been growing steadily through gifts and donations. In November of 2018 we received an especially important oil painting: a portrait of Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1700-1760). Zinzendorf not only founded the Renewed Moravian Church, he organized the Moravian Church in North America and gave Bethlehem its name.

The newly-acquired portrait was handed down among descendants of Zinzendorf and we first heard about its existence when the owners of the painting came to visit the Moravian Archives in December of 2015. When Barbara Wood Borne and her sister Susan Wood came to Bethlehem to donate items from the de Schweinitz family they showed us the portrait of Count Zinzendorf they had in their family. Three years later they came back and donated the portrait to the Archives.

The portrait shows Zinzendorf with rosy cheeks, smiling friendly at the viewer while wearing a brown coat and a dark red bishop's cap. Because of its relatively small size (11 x 7 inches) the portrait has an intimate feel to it.

The painting is unsigned but there are clues about the name of the artist. The Unity Archives in Herrnhut, Germany, owns a similar

portrait that appears to be a copy. On the copy the name of the artist is identified as "Krügelstein." Christian Ludwig Krügelstein (1736-1779) grew up in the Moravian Church and was an apprentice of German-Danish portrait painter Johann Georg Ziesenis (1716-1776). Krügelstein served as a missionary at New Herrnhut on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, from 1776 until his early death on September 28, 1779.

The Moravian Archives holds other items from the Zinzendorf family in its collection: the table silver Zinzendorf and his wife Erdmuth received for their wedding in 1722, Zinzendorf's personal Bible, and a painting showing Zinzendorf as a three-year-old boy together with his parents. These were brought to America by descendants of the Zinzendorfs. Zinzendorf's granddaughter Anna Dorothea Elisabeth von Watteville married Hans Christian Alexander von Schweinitz; many of their descendants served in the Moravian Church in America. Mary de Schweinitz Wood was the mother of the donors of the Zinzendorf portrait. Barbara Wood Borne and Susan Wood claim Count Zinzendorf and his wife Erdmuth as their six times great grandparents.

Are you thinking about donating a painting or other material to the Moravian Archives? Let us know and we'd love to talk to you!

Caribbean Archives Reader



Decolonizing the Caribbean Record: An Archives Reader can be ordered online at www.litwinbooks.com.

In November 2018, a chapter written by Paul Peucker and Thomas McCullough, was published in *Decolonizing the Caribbean Record: An Archives Reader*, edited by Jeannette A. Bastian, John A. Aarons, and Stanley H. Griffin. The featured chapter, titled "Records of the Moravian Church in the Caribbean," sheds light on denominational archives and their value to Caribbean studies and the humanities in general. This article coincides with current MAB grant projects funded by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), which both focus on digitization and preservation of the Eastern West Indies Collection at the MAB.

Recently Organized Collections

Newly processed collections which can now be accessed through our online finding aid include:

- Unionville Moravian Church, Unionville, MI (MC Unionville)
- Gustav Conradi Photos (Phot CGA)
- Bahnsen Family Photographs (Phot Bahnsen)
- Port Washington Moravian Church, Port Washington, OH (MC Port Washington)
- Allen Walser Sr. Photographs (PhotWA)
- Washington Moravian Fellowship (MF Washington)
- Charles H. Rominger Papers (PP RCH)
- Greenland Papers (MissGrnl)
- Bethesda Moravian Church, Bashaw Twp., MN (MC Bethesda)
- Zoar Moravian Church, Laketown Twp., MN (MC Zoar)
- Pipersville Moravian Church, Pipersville, WI (MC Pipersville)
- Faith Moravian Church, Washington, DC (MC Faith)
- First Moravian Church at Riverside, Riverside, NJ (MC Riverside)

Although extensive, our online finding aid is only a snapshot of what is maintained in the archives vault. Are you looking for something that is not yet available through our online finding aid? Drop us a line at: info@moravianchurcharchives.org

Newsletter from the Moravian Archives, Bethlehem PA

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Upcoming Events

"Madness in Herrnhut: Johann Siegmund Krüger and His Role in the Division of Herrnhut, 1726/27"

Lecture by Paul Peucker

July 16, 2019, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Moravian Archives

Moravian Archives Annual Summer Soiree

August 27, 2019 5:00 pm

Saturday Hours at Moravian Archives

September 14, 2019

December 7, 2019

March 14, 2020

May 16, 2020

Research Family in Pennsylvania Workshop by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Deciphering German Church Records course taught by Thomas McCullough

August 1, 2019, 2:45-3:45 pm at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Register at www.hsp.org

German-English Advent Singstunde

December 3, 2019, 7:00 pm

In the Old Chapel on the campus of Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, PA

German Script Course 2020

June 1-12, 2020

Registration now open at www.moravianchurcharchives.org/events

Seventh Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music

October 8-10, 2020

MAB will be closed the following dates:

July 4 – Independence Day

September 2 – Labor Day

For more information, please visit: www.moravianchurcharchives.org

News and Announcements

MAB ADOPTS NEW MISSION STATEMENT

In December of 2018 the Board of Directors approved a new mission statement in order to better reflect the various activities of the Moravian Archives:

"The Moravian Archives collects and preserves records and historical materials of Moravians in North America and makes them available to the public. It is the official repository of the records of the Moravian Church in America, Northern Province. The Archives fulfills its mission through archival processing, research services, education, publications, and public programming."

ARCHIVING ANTIGUA

Sixty-seven digitized volumes from Moravian congregations in Antigua are now available through the Digital Library of the Caribbean (www.dloc.org). These volumes are among one hundred items from the MAB's EWI Collection that have been digitized at the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia, PA. This ongoing project is supported by a grant from the prestigious Council on Library and Information Resources.

MAB ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Did you know MAB is on social media? MAB Staff often shares

information through social media that is not featured in Voices from the Vault. These posts often include quick updates from the archives, interesting finds from the vault, and new accessions into the collection. If you are active on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter, search Moravian Archives, Bethlehem and give us a follow. Not on social media? MAB also sends out email updates to subscribe: visit our website at the very bottom and click "join our newsletter."

VERNON H. NELSON GRANTS

The Moravian Archives was able to award three Vernon Nelson Research Grants this spring.

This year's awardees are:

- **Brendan Collins Jordan**, *New York University*: "Divine Interventions: Churches and Disaster Ecologies in Nicaragua's Twentieth Century"
 - **Shelby Balik**, *Metropolitan State University of Denver*: "Church in the City: Life in the First Moravian Church of New York during the Eighteenth Century"
 - **Jared Burkholder**, *Grace College*: "North American Moravians on the Evangelical Landscape"
- See our website for information and the deadline for next year's applications.