



Statement on Harmful Content in Collection Descriptions at the Moravian Archives

The Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, strives to use respectful and accurate language in our finding aids, library catalog records, and associated metadata. We acknowledge that, for a variety of reasons, there are descriptions in our finding aids and catalogs that contain harmful or offensive language.

We are currently reviewing the language used to describe our collections and we will update harmful content in old descriptions as it is discovered. If collection descriptions have been edited a note will be placed in the “description log” field.

Sometimes harmful language is used in the original titles of items in our collection. In cases when such original language needs to be maintained these quotes will be marked with quotation marks.

When creating new descriptions and updating existing ones, we strive to use terms that communities and individuals use(d) to describe themselves. We will also strive to use people-first language.

If you find harmful or offensive language in our catalogs please contact us at info@moravianchurcharchives.org or leave a user comment (possible on the item level of the online finding aid; not possible in the library catalog).

The Moravian Archives collects and preserves records and historical materials of Moravians in North America and makes them available to the public. The Moravian Archives is the official repository of the records of the Moravian Church in America, Northern Province.

Bethlehem, 13 February 2023