Illinois State Archives celebrates Centennial with time capsule

The 2021 celebration of the Illinois State Archives Centennial ended with the creation of a time capsule. The time capsule includes items from each department of the Archives, a copy of the Centennial booklet, a 100th birthday card signed by staff, a facemask and a current staff picture. Each of the items were microfilmed prior to being encapsulated, and the microfilm was included in the time capsule. The time capsule has been sealed and is currently in the Archives Special Vault where it will stay until it is reopened in 50 years.

Illinois State Archives installs new HVAC

LEFT: A new dehumidification unit was installed on the roof of the Margaret Cross Norton Building on the Capitol Complex in Springfield on Nov. 3, 2021. The unit helps to provide environmentally sound heating, venting, humidification levels and air conditioning to the building's multilayered record storage areas.

BELOW: Archives staff members watch the installation of the new HVAC system. From left: Crawford Beaton, Rochelle Joseph, Karen Mizeur, Alisha Brown, Corinne Mayfield, Josh Hackel, Jim Ladd, Eowyn Montgomery, Cathy Popovich, Kristi Lear, Alex Dixon, Bob Boots, Dave Joens and Lori Roberts.
In September, the General Assembly passed a resolution honoring the Archives for its centennial. The resolution’s sponsor, state Representative Tim Butler, presented it to Archives senior staff in December. Pictured from left: Fred Eschenfeldt, Travis Schweitzer, Rochelle Joseph, Bob Boots, Rep. Tim Butler, Dave Joens, Cathy Popovitch, Lori Roberts and Alex Dixon.

The Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) is pleased to announce the 2022 Historical Records Preservation Grant program. Grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded to Illinois historical records repositories with funds provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Grants will be awarded to institutions that demonstrate need, both financially and programmatically, and that show commitment to developing and/or implementing projects that will lead to an enhanced online presence and access to records. These projects may include: creating online finding aids; digitizing records and placing the digital content online; making an inventory of records or properly storing the records with the goal of preparing them for future online access; or placing information about the records on a blog, wiki page or Facebook. Eligible institutions may be public or private. Although any size institution may apply, preference will be given to those institutions with archival holdings of 500 cubic feet or less and/or two or fewer professional staff.

The deadline for submission is March 18. Grant award winners will be announced in June. For more information, application instructions and a list of previous grant funded projects, visit ilsov.gov (click Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board) or call 217-782-3492.

House resolution honors Illinois State Archives Centennial

In September, the General Assembly passed a resolution honoring the Archives for its centennial. The resolution’s sponsor, state Representative Tim Butler, presented it to Archives senior staff in December. Pictured from left: Fred Eschenfeldt, Travis Schweitzer, Rochelle Joseph, Bob Boots, Rep. Tim Butler, Dave Joens, Cathy Popovitch, Lori Roberts and Alex Dixon.

Archives Stacks Work Day

On Oct. 28, 2021, the State Archives conducted its third annual stacks workday. The theme this year was “Archives Olympics” due to the quantity of records that were disposed of and shifted. Archives staff removed 584 cubic feet of deaccessioned records and saved 97 cubic feet of storage space by shifting records in half-filled drawers. Participating in the day and dressed in “Archives Olympics” shirts were: (front row) Cathy Popovitch, Stacey Skeeters, Tim Mottaz, (middle row) Jim Ladd, Crawford Bealon, Kathryn Powell, Eowyn Montgomery, (back row) Rochelle Joseph, Dave Joens, Lori Roberts, Dana Huff and Alex Dixon.
Illinois Supreme Court visits Illinois State Archives

Five of the seven justices of the Illinois Supreme Court toured the Margaret Cross Norton Building in September. The justices and their staff reviewed court records that are stored at the Norton Building and received an update on a joint Illinois State Archives—Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission conservation project to clean, mend and repair more than 6,000 cubic feet of Supreme Court case files from the 1870s to the 1990s.

Doc Helm Project Continues

The Illinois State Archives is nearing completion of a $60,000 NHPRC grant to scan and place photos online from its Doc Helm photo collection. Winfred “Doc” Helm served as the state photographer from the 1940s to the 1990s. Pictured is Bev Helm Renfro, the daughter of Doc Helm, who visited the Illinois State Archives to see the progress staff members have made in digitizing her father’s work.

Professional development scholarships available to Illinois archivists

The ISHRAB is offering professional development scholarships to Illinois archivists and archival volunteers to attend an archival workshop/seminar of their choice in Illinois (or an online professional archival development course). Awards are available for up to $200 per applicant, per fiscal year and may be used toward the cost of registration, housing and/or travel to the event. It is a reimbursable award. Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come basis until the funding is exhausted. Complete information and an application form can be found at ilsos.gov (click on Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois Historical Records Advisory Board).

If you have any questions, please contact:
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This archival educational opportunity is funded by a State Board Programming grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

ISAAB/ISHRAB member appointments

Secretary of State Jesse White recently appointed Jessica C. Harris, vice chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, to the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board/Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board. She replaces Cecilia Salvatore of Dominican University. At its October 2021 meeting, the board reelected Julie Wroblewski to serve as board chair and Peggy Glowacki to serve as vice chair. For a complete listing of ISAAB/ISHRAB members and their contact information, visit ilsos.gov (Departments, Illinois State Archives, Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board).
2021 Accessions of the Illinois State Archives

Department of Agriculture
Director’s Office
Directors’ Files, 1999-2003; 0.1 cu. ft.

Division of Architecture and Engineering
State Building Floor Plans, ca. 1954; 0.1 cu. ft.

State Board of Elections
Election Operations Division
Third and Independent Parties
Nominating Petitions, 2020; 2 cu. ft.
Legislative Division
Congressional and Legislative District Maps, 2002, 2012; 0.1 cu. ft.

General Assembly
Bills, Resolutions, and Related General Assembly Records, 1997 (90th biennium); January 11, 2017-January 13, 2021 (100th and 101st bienniums); 182.5 cu. ft.

Governor
Citizens’ Assistance
Bruce V. Rauner Correspondence from Federal Officials Files, 2015-2017; 1 cu. ft.
Legal Counsel
Legislative Affairs
Patrick Quinn Deputy Chief of Staff’s Administrative and Report Files, compiled 2009-2014; 4.25 cu. ft.
Patrick Quinn Office of Legislative Affairs Issues and Administrative Files, compiled ca. 2011-2013, 2017-2019; 0.5 cu. ft.
Patrick Quinn Staff Bill Analyses Files, 2012-2013; 0.5 cu. ft.

Personnel (Boards and Commissions)
Patrick Quinn Boards and Commissions Appointments and Operations Files, compiled 2009-2014; 3.6 cu. ft.

Program and Policy Staff
Patrick Quinn Federal Stimulus Implementation Meeting Files (American Reinvestment and Recovery Act), Mar. 2, 2009-July 13, 2009; 0.15 cu. ft.

Department of Human Rights
Legal Division (Liaison Unit)

Human Rights Commission
General Counsel

Department of Labor
Administrative Division (Legislative Office)
Correspondence, 1971, 1990-2018; 34 cu. ft.

Illinois Labor Relations Board
Board Clerk

Military and Naval Department
144th Illinois Infantry Regiment, Company B
(Transferred by the Madison County Historical Society)
Administrative Files on Civil War Companies and Regiments (Papers of Patrick Joseph Melling), 1864-1865, 1868, 1871; 0.25 cu. ft.

Department of Public Health
Administrative Hearing Review Division
Nursing Home Involuntary Transfer and Discharge Final Orders, 2015-2017; 5 cu. ft.

Secretary of State
Index Department
Deeds to State-Owned Real Estate, October 2020-December 2020, March 2021-April 2021, June 2021, August 2021-September 2021; 0.6 cu. ft.
Executive Section. Executive Files, 2017; 0.75 cu. ft.
Files on Land Purchases for Road Development, 2018-2019; 1 cu. ft.
State Agency Workforce Demographic Reports, July 1, 2005-June 30, 2013; 1 cu. ft.
State and Federal Redistricting Files, 2021; 0.01 cu. ft. and 32 GB.

il sos.gov

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