

**Culture & Heritage Commission
Board of Commissioners Meeting
November 28, 2023
6:00 PM
Museum of York County**

Person Presiding: Penny Sheppard

Members Present: Penny Sheppard, Ed Stewart, David Duncan, Jeff Lyon, Margaret Parson-Willins, and Annie Laurie Wheat

Members Absent:

Ex Officio Members Present: Katie Rutland and Eddie Lee

Ex Officio Members Absent:

Staff Present: Richard Campbell, Dabney Scholler, Sarah Lewis, and Jillian Bingham

Others: Michelle Totherow

Call to Order

- Penny Sheppard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm
- Penny Sheppard presented the minutes from the October 24th meeting and asked for changes or corrections.
 - No corrections to be made, minutes are accepted as written.

Executive Session

- No need for Executive Session

Calendar Review

- No meeting in December

Reports and Presentations

- Director's Report
 - *Presented by Richard Campbell*
 - Visitation
 - CHM site-wide visitation for the month of October totaled five thousand, two hundred and twenty. The year-to-date total was twenty-five thousand, four hundred and thirty-nine.
 - School Groups
 - For the month of October, school group visitation totaled one thousand, two hundred and sixty. Year-to-date school visitation was at two thousand, eight hundred and seventy-three.
 - Membership
 - Membership has increased by eighty-four memberships with a total revenue of \$6,120. This brings our total year-to-date memberships to four hundred, forty

with a revenue of \$29,625. The CHM overall memberships are at one thousand, three hundred and twenty-three.

o Past Events

- Boo-seum!
 - This annual not-so-scary event took place at the Main Street Children's Museum on October 28th, with one hundred and ninety visitors in attendance.
- Spooky Saturdays
 - This weekly event occurred each Saturday in October at the Museum of York County, with a total visitation of three hundred and eighteen. Visitors learned about spooky science topics and were able to explore the worlds of arachnids, fungi, and parasites.
- Cookies with Santa
 - The Museum of York County hosted the annual members-only event on November 16th. Santa interacted with one hundred and seventy-nine individuals from forty-eight families.
- Chisholm Historical Marker
 - Historian Zach Lemhouse spoke to County Council to promote the dedication of the historical marker on November 16th. CHM Operations installed the marker, while Zach organized and facilitated the dedication ceremony.

o Upcoming Events

- Evergreen & Fruit Door Swag Workshop
 - As a part of the holiday season, guests will attend this workshop on December 2nd at Hightower Hall, where they will learn how to make fresh and festive door decorations.
- Happy Holiday Travels
 - This event will take place on December 2nd and 3rd during the annual ChristmasVille festival in downtown Rock Hill. Themed activities will represent the Vernon Grant featured image, "World's Most Famous Traveler".
- ChristmasVille
 - The Main Street Children's Museum will be hosting visits with Santa, the Very Important Gnome Club, and will serve as the anchor for Santa's Workshop during the ChristmasVille festival.
- Christmas Candlelight Tours Member Exclusive
 - This member exclusive feature will take place on December 8th at Historic Brattonsville. Members will enjoy guided tours, complimentary concessions, and a photo opportunity with Father Christmas.
- Christmas Candlelight Tours
 - The annual Christmas Candlelight Tours will take place this year to Historic Brattonsville on December 9th and 10th. Visitors will enjoy

guided tours and will experience how Christmas was celebrated in the 19th century Carolina Piedmont.

- Festivus: Seinfeld and the Natural World
 - This new, adults-only event will take place at the Museum of York County on December 15th and will give visitors an opportunity to experience the museum through a Seinfeld lens. The press release dropped today.
- Steeped in History
 - Guests will experience the history of the Boston Tea Party, the celebration of its 250th anniversary, as well as some new knowledge of lesser-known Charleston tea parties at Hightower Hall on December 16th.
 - Annie Laurie Wheat asked about the time of the event and Penny Sheppard asked about cost.
 - Richard Campbell said that he would get the information to everyone.
- CHM Project Updates
 - Lowry Family Theatre Repair
 - The RFP for McCelvey Center Theatre repair closed on November 16th and both companies involved attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting and submitted proposals. Procurement provided a link to the bid evaluation form to our evaluation team. Each member of the team will submit score sheets electronically by December 7th and will meet with Purchasing on December 14th to discuss the evaluations. The cost submittals will be opened, final tabulations run, and a final selection made. We will then seek County Council approval to negotiate a contract and later will request Council to approve the contract.
 - Col. Bratton Cabin Preservation Project
 - Midwest Maintenance (MMI) completed all necessary outside work and the painting subcontractor, McNeely Brothers Painting, completed their scope of work. The gutter installation will be next and will take place when the roofers remobilize to install the metal roof on the Homestead House.
 - Homestead House Preservation Project
 - Midwest Maintenance (MMI) completed all necessary outside work. The replacement shutters are being fabricated and painted off-site, and should be delivered and hung by late-December or early January. The final outstanding Change Order was approved by County Council on November 20th. The metal roofing is currently in production and is tentatively scheduled for installation in mid-March. McNeely Brothers Painting completed their scope of work on October 30th. Paint analysis to determine the 1855 paint scheme is currently in progress.

- Watt Cemetery
 - A number of new probable graves were found by John Fisher of South Carolina Department of Archives and History, which brings the number of probable graves up to three hundred and ninety-four. He believes that the number will rise and we are currently trying to secure additional steel needed for the grave markers. Five shovel tests have been completed by staff to evaluate the proposed parking area. Prehistoric artifacts have been recently discovered while planning the parking lot. More shovel tests will be required. Staff have shared these findings with both John Fisher and Jon Leader from SCIAA, which will lead to additional archeological work. A new location for the parking lot may be needed. All of the security equipment has been ordered for this project.
 - Eddie Lee claimed that it could end up being the largest enslaved cemetery in the South Carolina Upstate. He also suggested that we invite County Council to come tour the cemetery so they could understand what we are doing with this project.
 - Richard Campbell agreed that it might not be a bad idea.
 - Penny Sheppard asked about the depth of the shovel tests.
 - Eddie Lee said that they could be significantly deep due to the history of the site.

[Note: A full copy of the Director's Report is attached to these minutes as Addendum A]

Committee Reports

- Collections Committee
 - *Presented by Jillian Bingham*
 - TC-N/A
 - .001- ChristmasVille 2023 rectangular promotional button featuring Vernon Grant's "Santa's Little Buddy"
 - . 002 – ChristmasVille 2023 lapel pin featuring Vernon Grant's "Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"
 - Donor Name: Field Collection
 - L2023.001
 - (16) Original Vernon Grant paintings, c. 1930, from an unpublished book called The Two Elves.
 - All paintings are done in watercolor on paper. 14 of the pages are numbered on the back (1-14) and feature type-written text glued on the paper below the image. The text is presumed to be from the unpublished book.
 - Donor Name: Bromer Booksellers Inc.

- TC395
 - (11) archival items including books, bibles, and photographs belonging to members of the Latta family
 - 96 collections items including samplers, textiles and accessories, silver flatware, tea sets and service, hair wreaths, andirons, a tall case clock, brick, posnet, and castanets
 - 1 Box of Latta Plantation corporate records
 - Donor Name: Mecklenburg Historical Association
- TC401
 - .001-Loom shuttle
 - Donor Name: Kevin Lynch
- TC402
 - (1) c. 1970 quilt made by Ruth Moore, featuring a chevron pattern, light purple and bright orange-pink (salmon) in color
 - Donor Name: Margaret Parson-Willins
- TC403
 - (3) issues of *The Yorkville Enquirer* newspapers:
 - September 7, 1871
 - September 14, 1871
 - October 26, 1871
 - Donor Name: David Balland
- David Duncan made a motion to accept the following items; TC-N/A, L2023.001, TC395, TC401, TC402, and TC403 to the Collection.
 - Ed Stewart seconded the motion.
 - Penny Sheppard called for a vote, vote was taken, and the motion passed.

[Note: Copy of the above Recommendations for Accession are attached to these minutes as Addendum B]

- Finance Committee
 - *Presented by Ed Stewart*
 - Everything looks good, we have some funds that have not been moved over yet. We are in good shape.
 - Richard Campbell said that there were some Foundation of the Carolinas funds that have not been applied yet, as well as funds from the State for the Lowry Family Theatre project.
- Governance Committee
 - *Presented by David Duncan*
 - Nothing to report

Old Business

- No old business

New Business

- Discussion regarding the York County Ordinance of having received first reading and seeking to eliminate the “ex-officio” membership to the Culture and Heritage Commission.
 - Richard Campbell reached out to each commissioner about County Council eliminating ex-officio seats from various York County Commissions and Boards. It has been through a first reading.
 - Penny Sheppard would like for each commissioner to email their councilperson, copy her, and she will email County Council to make the case that the Culture and Heritage Commission should be left as is. She would like to attend the next County Council meeting.
 - Ed Stewart explained about at-large and ex-officio seats and why they exist. We are the only board that has ex-officios, as opposed to boards with at-large members.
 - Penny Sheppard stated, that although they do not vote, we gain a lot of valuable information from our ex-officio members.
 - Eddie Lee suggested, as previously mentioned, that we invite County Council to see each Culture and Heritage Museum site, so they can see what we are all about.
 - Richard Campbell stated that the desire was to make all boards uniform. The argument can be made that we are a different board.
- The next reading will take place on Monday, December 4, 2023.

Commission Member New/Non-agenda Comments

Adjourn

- Penny Sheppard made a motion to adjourn.
 - Ed Stewart seconded the motion.
 - Penny Sheppard called for a vote, vote was taken, and the motion passed.
 - Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm

Prepared by: Dabney Scholler

Submitted by: Ed Stewart, Secretary/Treasurer

Culture and Heritage Museums Director's Report November 28, 2023

Mission: to communicate and preserve the natural and cultural histories of the Carolina Piedmont, inspiring a lifetime of learning.

Visitation – October 2023

- Total visitation: 5,220
 - Museum of York County: 1,451
 - Historic Brattonsville: 1,642
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 1,255
 - Historical Center of York County: 872
- Total year-to-date: 25,439
 - Museum of York County: 12,201
 - Historic Brattonsville: 4,460
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 7,650
 - Historical Center of York County: 1,128

School Groups – October 2023

- Total school group visitation: 1,260
 - Museum of York County: 336
 - Historic Brattonsville: 882
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 42
- Year-to-date: 2,873 students
 - Museum of York County: 1,359
 - Historic Brattonsville: 1,162
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 352

Membership – October 2023

- New memberships: 84
- Membership revenue: \$6,120
- Year-to-date memberships: 440
- Year-to-date membership revenue: \$29,625
- Total Memberships: 1,323

Past Events

Boo-seum! (MSCM)

- Main Street Children's Museum's annual not-so-scary Halloween celebration occurred on October 28.
- 190 people attended the event.

Spooky Saturdays (MYCO)

- Occurred every Saturday in October.
- Visitors learned about spooky science topics and were able to explore the worlds of parasites, insects, arachnids, and fungi.
- The total attendance for the month was 318.

Cookies with Santa (MYCO)

- The annual CHM member-only event occurred on November 16 at the Museum of York County.
- Members took photos with Santa, received a special cookie, and treat to enjoy at home.
- The event sold out in 2 ½ hours.
- 179 individuals/48 families attended.

Chisholm Historical Marker (HC)

- Historian Zach Lemhouse spoke to Council on November 16 to promote the marker dedication.
- The CHM Operations team installed the marker and Zach organized and facilitated the marker dedication ceremony.

Upcoming Events

Evergreen & Fruit Door Swag Workshop (HTH)

- Takes place on December 2 from 3:00pm-4:30pm at Hightower Hall.
- Guests will learn how to make fresh evergreen and fruit door decorations using techniques that will ensure a long-lasting display for the holiday season.

Happy Holiday Travels (MSCM)

- Happy Holiday Travels will take place on December 2 & 3 during the ChristmasVille festival.
- This will be CHM's community activity for the festival.
- Admission will be free on these dates as a means of reaching new audiences and making the museum accessible to all.
- Staff have planned activities that represent Christmas around the world to go along with one of the Vernon Grant images featured at this year's festival, "World's Most Famous Traveler."

ChristmasVille (MSCM)

- The Main Street Children's Museum will be hosting Sponsor Visits with Santa and the Very Important Gnome Club.
- We will also be open on Sunday, December 3 to coincide with the full festival.
- MSCM will also serve as the anchor for Santa's Workshop which will invite families to participate in fifteen activities up and down Main Street.

Christmas Candlelight Tours Member Exclusive (HB)

- The new Member Exclusive Christmas Candlelight Tours takes place on Friday, December 8, from 3:00pm- 9:00pm.
- In addition to guided tours, members will enjoy complimentary concessions including, grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato soup, cheese and crackers, popcorn, hot cocoa, and fudge.
- Members can also have their photo taken with Father Christmas and receive a take home Christmas Candlelight keepsake.
- Tickets for the Member Exclusive Tours sold out within a couple of days.

Christmas Candlelight Tours (HB)

- December 9 and 10 from 3:00pm- 9:00pm at Historic Brattonsville
- Billed as an evening of traditional Christmas festivities portraying how people in the Carolina Piedmont celebrated the holiday in the 19th century.
- Twelve tickets remain as of Wednesday, November 22.

Festivus: Seinfeld and the Natural World (MYCO)

- This new, adults-only evening event takes place on December 15 from 6:00pm- 8:00pm, and will provide CHM members, visitors, and fans of the sitcom Seinfeld, an opportunity to experience the museum through a Seinfeld lens.
- Snacks and light appetizers will be provided with beer and wine available for purchase.
- Tickets went on sale November 1 and online pre-registration is required.

Steeped in History (HTH)

- Takes place at Hightower Hall on December 16 and commemorates the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party.
- Guests will learn about the history of the Boston Tea Party and its connection to South Carolina, and the lesser-known Charleston Tea Parties.
- After the presentation, guests will enjoy a colonial tea tasting from Charleston's Oliver Pluff Tea Company, practice tea etiquette, and create a loose-leaf tea blend to enjoy at home.

CHM Project Updates

Lowry Family Theatre Repair (McC)

- The RFP for McCelvey Center Theater repair closed on November 16.
- Both companies that attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting submitted proposals.
- York County Procurement provided a link to the bid evaluation form to our evaluation team.
- Each member of the evaluation team will submit score sheets electronically by December 7.
- The evaluation team will meet with Purchasing on December 14 (tentatively) to discuss the evaluations.
- The cost submittals will be opened, final tabulations run, and a final selection made.
- Once the selection is made, we will seek County Council approval to negotiate a contract.

- Once an agreement has been reached, we will request Council to approve the contract.

Col. Bratton Cabin Preservation Project (HB)

- Midwest Maintenance (MMI) completed all necessary grading, demobilized and removed the construction fencing around the building.
- McNeely Brothers Painting, MMI's painting subcontractor, completed their scope of work.
- Next Steps: Gutter installation on the east elevation of the house.
- This will take place when the roofers remobilize to install the metal roof on the Homestead House.

Homestead House Preservation Project (HB)

- Midwest Maintenance (MMI) completed all necessary grading, demobilized and removed the construction fencing around the building.
- Replacement shutters to match the original are being fabricated and painted off-site.
 - The shutters should be delivered and hung in late-December or early January 2024.
- Final outstanding Change Order for the replacement of trim at the rake on the gable ends of the Assembly Hall was approved by County Council on November 20.
- MMI will work to finish this task when the materials are available.
- Metal roofing materials are in production. On-site installation is still tentatively set for mid-March 2024.
- McNeely Brothers Painting of York, MMI's painting subcontractor, completed their scope of work at the Homestead House on October 30.
- Paint analysis to determine the paint scheme of Harriet Bratton's house in 1855 is in progress.

Watt Cemetery (HB)

- John Fisher with the South Carolina Department of Archives and History found a number of new probable graves that are located in Grid 1.
- The current number of probable graves now stands at 394.
- Mr. Fisher believes that the number will rise.
- We are trying to secure the additional steel needed for the growing number of grave markers.
- Staff have completed five of seven planned shovel tests to evaluate the proposed parking area for anything of archaeological significance.
- Preliminary results from those tests suggest that it may be a prehistoric site based on two consecutive positive shovel tests containing prehistoric artifacts.
- We have the final two shovel tests scheduled, however each positive shovel test requires additional shovel tests be conducted at closer intervals in each direction.
- At least six additional shovel tests are now required.
- Staff has discussed the findings with John Fisher and Jon Leader from SCIAA, and this will lead to additional archaeological work or the need to choose a new location for the parking area.
- All of the required security equipment has been ordered for the project.



RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

| Temporary Custody ID: | Collection Type: | Method of Acquisition: |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| N/A | Art | Field Collection |

Name of Donor:
Field Collection

Description of Accession:
.001 – ChristmasVille 2023 rectangular promotional button featuring Vernon Grant’s “Santa’s Little Buddy”
.002 – ChristmasVille 2023 lapel pin featuring Vernon Grant’s “Mommy Kissing Santa Claus”

Overall Condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
Button: 1.75” x 2.75”
Lapel pin: 1.75” x 1.25”
Both items will fit in an already existing box with other ChristmasVille items

Significance/Ownership History Mission Rating: 5 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)
Both items presented in the Recommendation for Accession were acquired by CHM Director of Collections, Jillian Bingham, at the 2023 ChristmasVille Kick-off Breakfast held at the Powerhouse Food Hall in Rock Hill (378 Technology Center Way) on November 8, 2023. The two images used are CHM-owned Vernon Grant original paintings titled “Santa’s Little Buddy” (2006.017.236) and “Mommy Kissing Santa Claus” (2006.017.058). Both images are being used throughout ChristmasVille 2023 imagery.

ChristmasVille started in 2006 as a way for the City of Rock Hill to attract tourism to downtown during the holiday season. Since the inception of the festival, through a license agreement between the ChristmasVille Board and CHM, Vernon Grant’s Christmas and Santa Claus images have been used to create promotional, commemorative, and sellable materials for the festival. Over the years, various ChristmasVille related items have been added to the collection, including the annual buttons and lapel pins.

Vernon Grant (VG) was an American illustrator and commercial artist throughout most of the 20th century. Famous for creating Snap! Crackle! and Pop! gnomes for Kellogg’s Rice Krispies cereal, his artwork was seen on a number of magazine covers, magazine advertisements, food packaging, and children’s toy packaging. After moving to Rock Hill in 1947, Grant became involved in the local community serving as the Director of the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce and then Director of the Housing Authority of Rock Hill in the late 1950s and early 1960s. During this time, he created a number of paintings and advertisements for local businesses. His artwork is also the inspiration for two Rock Hill annual events, ChristmasVille and Come-See-Me, as well as CHM’s Main Street Children’s Museum. VG’s personal collection of his artwork was on loan to MYCO as early as 1974. In 2006, two of his children donated most of the large collection to CHM, forming the Vernon Grant Collection.

Potential Uses: Research Exhibition Loan

Both items can be used for research, exhibition, or loan on topics related to Vernon Grant, Rock Hill, ChristmasVille Festival, or Christmas in general.

Restrictions:

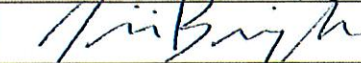
None

Unusual Costs:

None


Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

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|---|-----------|
|  DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS | 11/8/2023 |
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Executive Director Recommends (Signature):


Date:

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|  | 11/8/2023 |
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Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

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|  | 11/29/2023 |
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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

| Temporary Custody ID: | Collection Type: | Method of Acquisition: |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| L2023.001 | Art | Purchase |

Name of Donor:
Bromer Booksellers, Inc.

Description of Accession:
16 original Vernon Grant paintings, c. 1930, from an unpublished book called *The Two Elves*. All paintings are done in watercolor on paper. 14 of the pages are numbered on the back (1-14) and feature type-written text glued on the paper below the image. The text is presumed to be from the unpublished book.

Overall Condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
All paintings are 14.5" x 18.75" and are stored in plastic sleeves measuring 16.5" x 22.5". Will fit on a shelf in Art Storage in the art portfolio and sleeves that they were shipped to CHM in by the seller/dealer.

Significance/Ownership History Mission Rating: 5 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)
All 16 images are previously undocumented and unpublished paintings attributed to Vernon Grant. The paintings are not signed but upon close inspection, staff feel confident that they are in fact by VG. When compared to other paintings by Grant already in CHM's collection, there are a number of similarities that are shown through some photos on pages 7-10 of this document. Some of the identifying features include: the characters' fingers, ears, and face; the style of hats worn by the elves; presence of light pencil marks under the paint; and the presence of watermarks in the darker/thicker painted areas.

All 16 images were purchased from a Boston, MA bookdealer who had previously purchased them from another dealer in 2017. The seller attempted to request additional provenance information from the original dealer but too much time had passed for them to remember any of the specifics about the set of paintings.

Vernon Grant (VG) was an American illustrator and commercial artist throughout most of the 20th century. Famous for creating Snap! Crackle! and Pop! gnomes for Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal, his artwork was seen on a number of magazine covers, magazine advertisements, food packaging, and children's toy packaging. After moving to Rock Hill in 1947, Grant became involved in the local community serving as the Director of the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce and then Director of the Housing Authority of Rock Hill in the late 1950s and early 1960s. During this time, he created a number of paintings and advertisements for local businesses. His artwork is also the inspiration for two Rock Hill annual events, ChristmasVille and Come-See-Me, as well as CHM's Main Street Children's Museum. VG's personal collection of his artwork was on loan to MYCO as early as 1974. In 2006, two of his children donated most of the large collection to CHM, forming the Vernon Grant Collection.

Potential Uses: Research Exhibition Loan

All paintings can be used for research, exhibition, or loan on anything related to Vernon Grant. These specific images provide an interesting research opportunity to analyze VG's early work and compare to his later works. The c. 1930 date suggests that they were done prior to or during his time working with Kellogg's which was when he honed in his style as it relates to gnomes.

Restrictions:

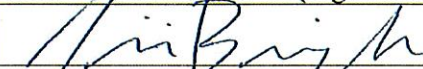
None

Unusual Costs:

None

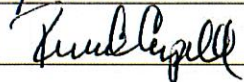
Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

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|  DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS | 11/2/2023 |
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Executive Director Recommends (Signature):


Date:

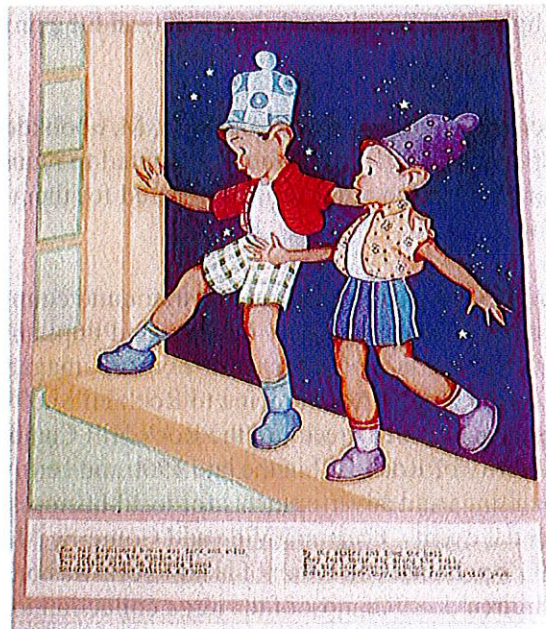
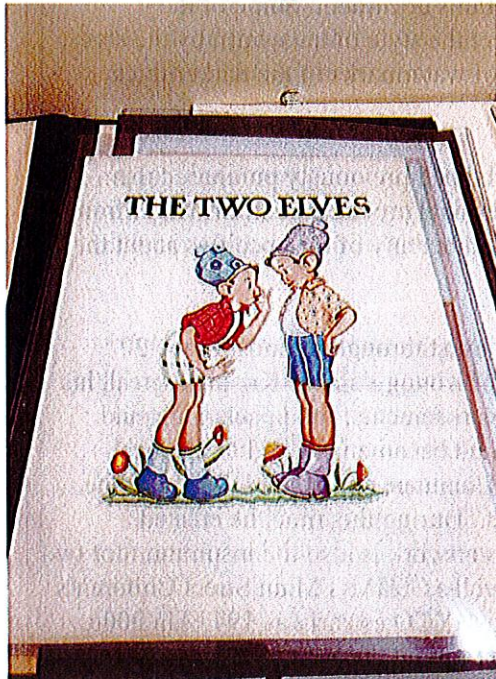
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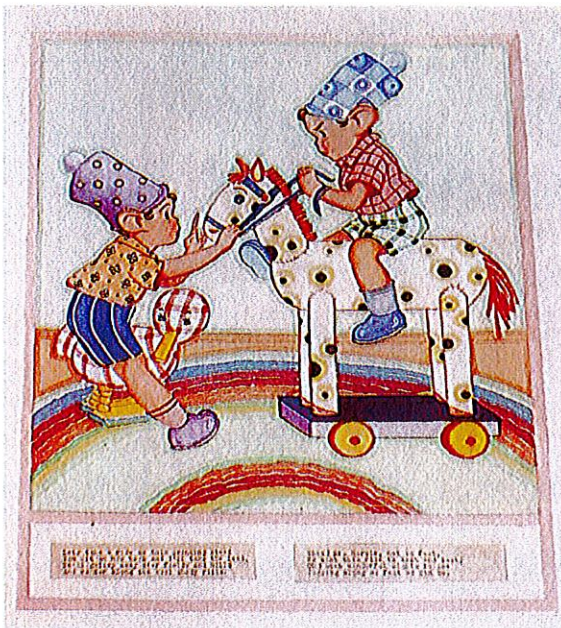
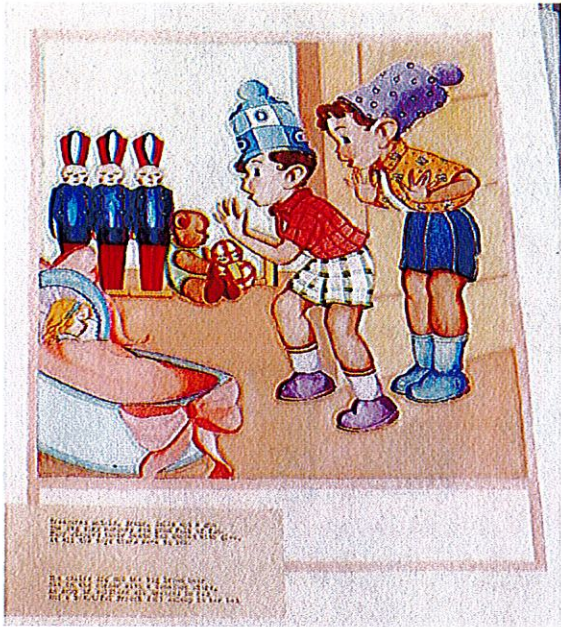
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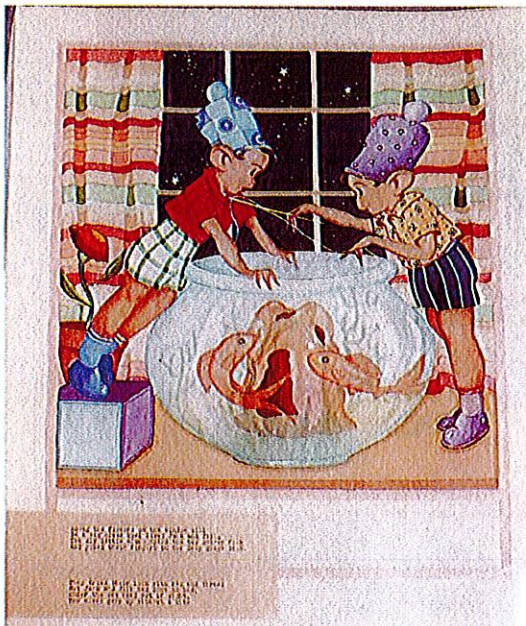
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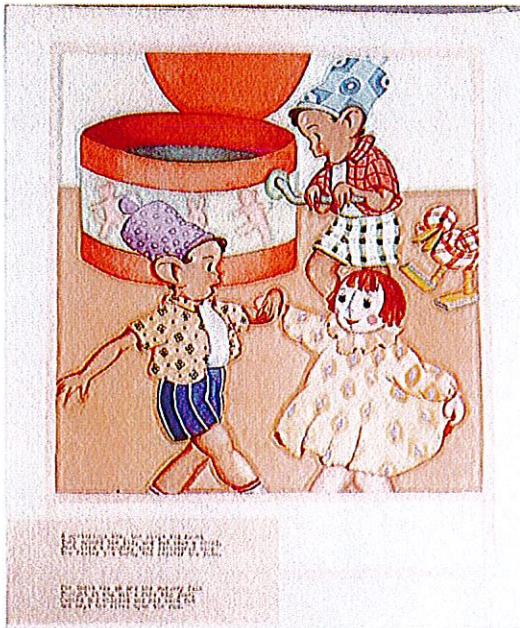
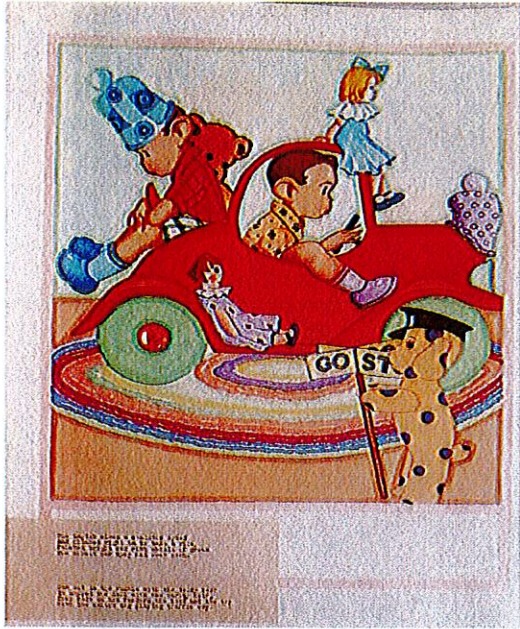
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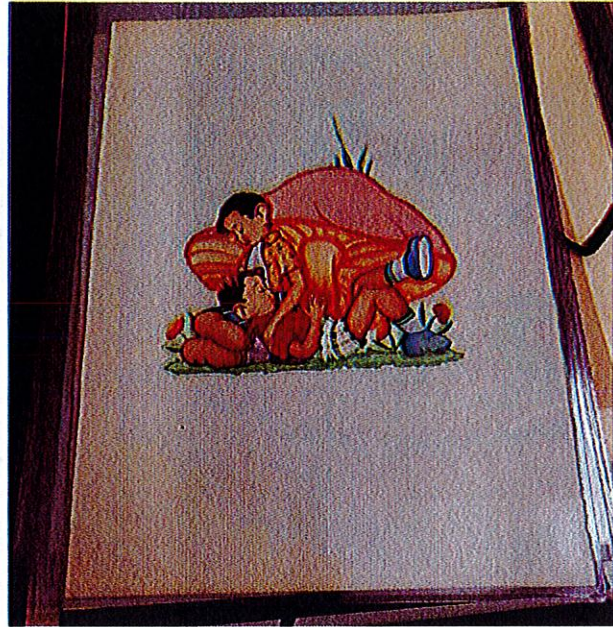
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Comparison Photos



Example of VG gnome/elf ears (2006.017.149)



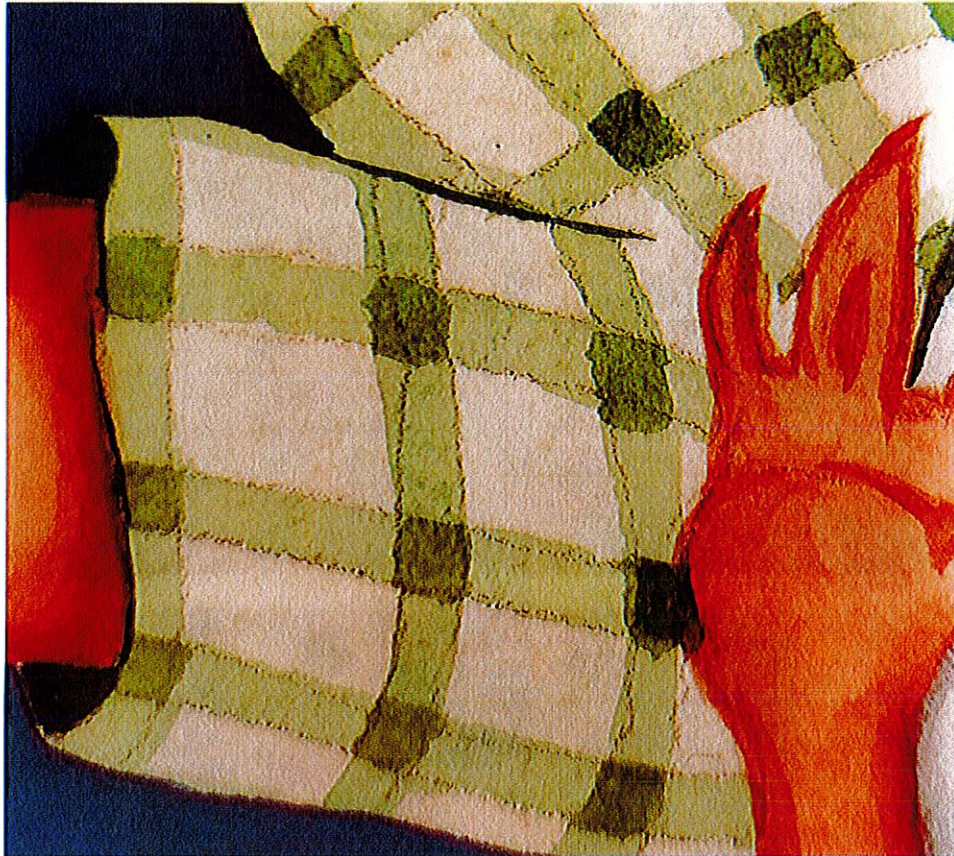
Example of "simple" VG face (2006.017.155), common in his early work, including early Rice Krispies



Example of VG fingers (2006.017.038)



Example of hat style used by VG throughout early work, especially his children's books like *Mother Goose*, *Flibbity Jibbit*, and *Tinker Tim the Toymaker*



Example of faint pencil marks under painted areas/patterns. Also, example of VG's use of patterns and plaids to create interesting clothes for his characters (2006.017.039)

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Temporary Custody ID: | Collection Type: | Method of Acquisition: |
| TC395 | History & Archives | Institutional Transfer |

Name of Donor:
 Mecklenburg Historical Association (MHA)

Description of Accession:

- 11 archival items including books, bibles, and photographs belonging to members of the Latta family
- 96 collections items including samplers, textiles and accessories, silver flatware, tea sets and service, hair wreaths, andirons, a tall case clock, brick, posnet, and castanets
- 1 Box of Latta Plantation corporate records

***Complete itemized inventory included on pages 5-10*

Overall Condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection

Items vary in size; the tall case clock being the largest at over 7 feet tall. All items will be stored in already existing boxes of like items. The tea set will be stored in 2-3 archival boxes, to ensure the set is housed together.

Significance/Ownership History Mission Rating: 5-4 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)

All items belonged to Latta family members, and their descendants, and were previously in the collection of Historic Latta Plantation, a historic site located in Mecklenburg County, NC. Historic Latta Plantation permanently closed to the public in June 2020 following controversy surrounding its 2020 Juneteenth programming. The historic site first opened its doors in 1975 following an agreement between Mecklenburg County and Latta Place Inc, the managing non-profit organization of Historic Latta Plantation. Per the agreement, Plate Place Inc. would maintain and operate the historic site as a place of visitation and study by scholars, historians, and the general public. In February 2022, the historic site officially changed its name from Historic Latta Plantation to Latta Place, to coincide with the name of the managing non-profit.

Historically, the Latta Plantation was built by James Latta (1755-1837). James immigrated from Northern Ireland to North Carolina in 1785 to assist his father in building his estate in Rowan County, NC. James was a prominent merchant and farmer, traveling often to Philadelphia to buy and sell merchandise. Following the death of James’ wife, Elizabeth Latta in c. 1792, two of their sons William and Robert joined their father in North Carolina. Robert Latta (1783-1852) established himself as a prominent merchant, like his father, and ended up settling in Yorkville, SC, where he worked with York’s Master Builder, Thomas B. Hoover, to build a large Federal style home in the mid-1820s, which still stands today at 7 South Congress Street, across from the York County Courthouse. Robert married Jane Allison (c.1785 – 1819) in 1806. Their familial descendants lived in the house for over 100 years. A number of Latta family members are buried in York’s Rose Hill Cemetery.

Prior to this transfer, CHM had a small selection of Latta family items, including portraits of William Albert Latta (1809-1865), Son of Robert and Jane Latta of Yorkville, and his first wife Camilla Catherine Torrence Latta (1816-1851). Together, William and Camilla had 7 children. It is important to note that some of the items included in this transfer did not belong to family members of Yorkville's Robert Latta but rather other family members such as brothers/sisters and nieces/nephews.

Potential Uses: X Research X Exhibition X Loan

Given the strong local provenance connected to most of the items, all items can be used for research, exhibition, or loan on a wide range of topics, including but not limited to, the Latta family, Carolina Piedmont elite families, clocks, nineteenth century home goods, samplers and school girl art, and nineteenth century clothing

Restrictions:

None

Unusual Costs:

None

Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

Jim Bright DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS

Executive Director Recommends (Signature):

Date:

Richard Campbell 11/8/2023

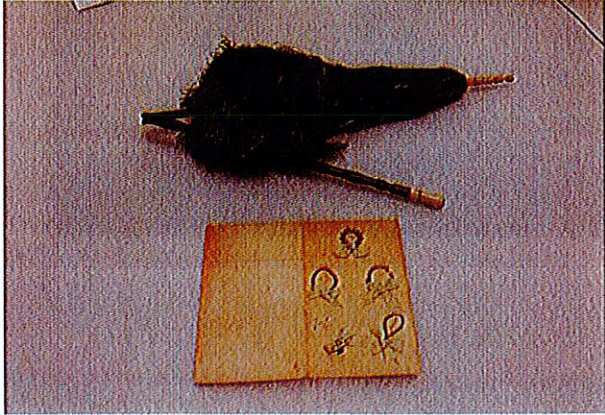
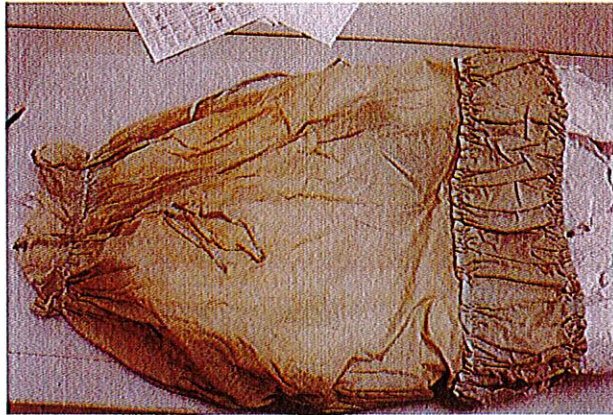
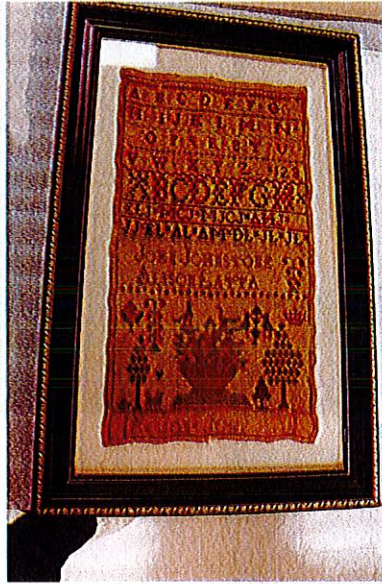
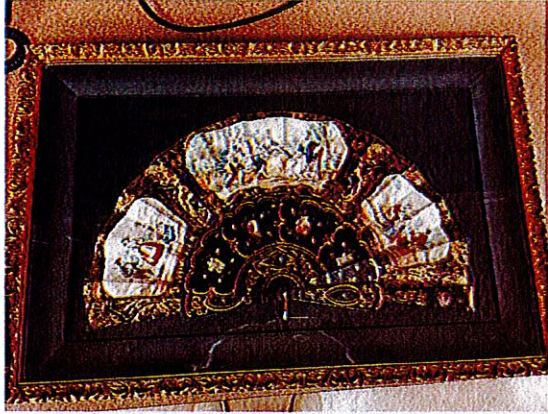
Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

Richard Campbell 11/29/2023







Archives:

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|---------------|--|--------------------|------------------|
| TC395, RG-291 | Book: <i>Young's Poetry</i> , Vol. 2 | 1988.09.02 | 001.02 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Bible belonging to Jane M. Reid | N/A | 001.06 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Book: Nancy Latta's Psalm and Hymn book | 1998.099 | 001.11 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Book: <i>Morning of Joy</i> | 1988.119 | 001.16 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Memorandum of family birthdates, written by Robert Latta | 1988.121 | 001.17 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Jane Latta's Gingercake recipe | 1988.104 | 001.29 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Photograph of J.K. Latta | 1988.139 | 001.30 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Book: <i>Principles of English Grammar</i> by Peter Bullions, 1852; Signed by Nannie Houston | 1988.10.8 | 001.31 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Bible belonging to Robert and Eliza Dilworth Latta | 1988.111.08 | 001.32 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Copy of Nancy Latta's silhouette, framed | N/A | 001.47 |
| TC395, RG-291 | Photograph Album, Cecelia Johnson | 1988.111.09 | N/A |
| TC395, RG-291 | Box of corporate files from Historic Latta Plantation, including old collection inventories and receipts, and the original 1975 agreement between Latta Place and Mecklenburg County | N/A | N/A |

Collections:

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|--------------|---|--------------------|------------------|
| TC395.001 | Wooden castanet, belonging to Latta granddaughters (1 of 2) | 1988.102.01 | 001.13 |
| TC395.002 | Wooden castanet, belonging to Latta granddaughters (2 of 2) | 1988.102.02 | 001.13 |
| TC395.003A-B | Wire oval-shaped eyeglasses (A) with case (B), belonging to Jane Latta | 1988.110 | 001.54 |
| TC395.004 | Wire oval-shaped eyeglasses, no provenance | N/A | N/A |
| TC395.005 | Gold wedding ring (A) in velvet lined jewelry box (B), passed down through multiple Latta generations | 1988.215 | 001.46 |
| TC395.006 | New Hall Factory porcelain teacup with with gold, blue, and green scrolled floral design, belonging to Jane Knox Latta (1 of 2) | 1988.106.01 | 001.09 |
| TC395.007 | New Hall Factory porcelain teacup with with gold, blue, and green scrolled floral design, belonging to Jane Knox Latta (2 of 2) | 1988.106.02 | 007.09 |
| TC395.008 | Silver teaspoon with "J L" monogram on handle, belonging to Jane Latta | 1988.109 | 001.18 |
| TC395.009 | Silver punch/soup spoon with "J L" monogram on handle, belonging to Jane Latta | 1988.127 | 001.19 |

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|-------------|--|--------------------|------------------|
| TC395.010 | Silver four-tined fork made by Warrin with "R E L" monogram on back of handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (1 of 3) | 1988.150 | 001.20 |
| TC395.011 | Silver four-tined fork made by Warrin with "R E L" monogram on back of handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (2 of 3) | 1988.150 | 001.20 |
| TC395.012 | Silver four-tined fork made by Warrin with "R E L" monogram on back of handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (3 of 3) | 1988.150 | 001.20 |
| TC395.013 | Silver four-tined fork made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.150 | 001.20 A |
| TC395.014 | Silver four-tined fork made by Warrin with double-struck design on front and back of fork with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.111.06 | 001.20 B |
| TC395.015 | Silver four-tined fork made by Warrin with double-struck design on front and back of fork | 1988.111.07 | 001.20 B |
| TC395.016 | Silver teaspoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (1 of 4) | 1988.150.02.1 | 001.21 |
| TC395.017 | Silver teaspoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (2 of 4) | 1988.150.02.2 | 001.21 |
| TC395.018 | Silver teaspoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (3 of 4) | 1988.150.02.3 | 001.21 |
| TC395.019 | Silver teaspoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (4 of 4) | 1988.150.02.4 | 001.21 |
| TC395.020 | Silver serving spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.111.02 | 001.21 A |
| TC395.021 | Silver dessert spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.111.03 | 001.21 A |
| TC395.022 | Silver teaspoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.111.04 | 001.21 A |

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|-------------|---|--------------------|------------------|
| TC395.023 | Silver condiment spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.111.05 | 001.21 A |
| TC395.024 | Silver dessert spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with double struck pattern on front and back of spoon and "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (1 of 4) | 1988.150.03.1 | 001.22 |
| TC395.025 | Silver dessert spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with double struck pattern on front and back of spoon and "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (2 of 4) | 1988.150.03.2 | 001.22 |
| TC395.026 | Silver dessert spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with double struck pattern on front and back of spoon and "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (3 of 4) | 1988.150.03.3 | 001.22 |
| TC395.027 | Silver dessert spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with double struck pattern on front and back of spoon and "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta (4 of 4) | 1988.150.03.4 | 001.22 |
| TC395.028 | Silver teaspoon marked "English Sterling" (1 of 2) | L1988.009.01 | 001.22 A |
| TC395.029 | Silver teaspoon marked "English Sterling" (2 of 2) | L1988.009.01 | 001.22 A |
| TC395.030 | Silver sugar tongs | N/A | 001.22 B |
| TC395.031 | Silver butter knife made by Bailey & Co with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.150.04 | 001.23 |
| TC395.032 | Silver sauce ladle made by Bailey & Co with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | 1988.150.05 | 001.24 |
| TC395.033 | Silver buffet serving spoon made by Fletcher & Gardiner with "R E L" monogramed on handle, belonging to Robert and Eliza Latta | N/A | 001.24 A |
| TC395.034 | Green silk parasol, c. 1830 | 1988.098.01 | 001.07 A |
| TC395.035 | c. 1828 empire style day dress made of a sheer green-blue fabric with striped "print" throughout. Dark blue silk trim and decoration throughout. Belonging to Nancy Latta Reid. Fragile to handle | 1988.097 | 001.07 |
| TC395.036 | c. 1828 petticoat, light blue in color, with cinched ruffled at bottom. Belonging to Nancy Latta Reid. Goes with day dress | 1988.097 | 001.07 |

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| TC395.037 | Hand painted (gouache) and gilded fan with three lithograph scenes; Framed in gilded, velvet lined frame; French 1840-1864; Belonging to Jane Latta | 1988.008 | 001.01 |
| TC395.038 | Small cast iron posnet with three short feet, belonging to Jane Latta. 1780-1800 | 1988.098.07 | 001.28 |
| TC395.039 | Set of four braided hair wreaths made from hair of the daughters and stepdaughter of Major Rufus Reid. Tacked to paper with brown thread and light blue silk ribbon. | 1988.116 | 001.45 |
| TC395.040 | Framed sampler made by Jane Elizabeth Latta in 1822, age 8 | N/A | 001.33 |
| TC395.041 | Framed sampler featuring the names of Alison Latta and John Johnstone, 1825-1850 | 1988.062.02 | 001.42 |
| TC395.042 | Original brick from the Mecklenburg County Latta Plantation parlor hearth, c. 1800; features a diamond imprint on one side | 1988.124 | 001.12 |
| TC395.043 | Porcelain teapot featuring a pink floral pattern and gold trim, belonging to Nancy Latta, c. 1825 | 1988.101.01 | 001.08 |
| TC395.044 | Porcelain tea cup featuring a pink floral pattern and gold trim, belonging to Nancy Latta, c. 1825 | 1988.101.02 | 001.08 A |
| TC395.045 | Porcelain saucer featuring a pink floral pattern and gold trim, belonging to Nancy Latta, c. 1825 | 1988.101.03 | 001.08 B |
| TC395.046 | Crystal wine glass with round pedestal, belonging to Robert Latta | N/A | 001.52 |
| TC395.047A-B | Coffeepot (A) with lid (B), white porcelain with gold trim | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.048 | Teapot (A) with lid (B), white porcelain with gold trim (1 of 2) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.049 | Teapot (A) with lid (B), white porcelain with gold trim (2 of 2) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.050 | Creamer/pitcher, white porcelain with gold trim | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.051 | broth bowl, white porcelain with gold trim (1 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.052 | broth bowl, white porcelain with gold trim (2 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.053 | broth bowl, white porcelain with gold trim (3 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.054 | broth bowl, white porcelain with gold trim (4 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.055 | broth bowl, white porcelain with gold trim (5 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.056 | broth bowl, white porcelain with gold trim (6 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.057 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (1 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.058 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (2 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.059 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (3 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.060 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (4 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| TC395.061 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (5 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.062 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (6 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.063 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (7 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.064 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (8 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.065 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (9 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.066 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (10 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.067 | tea cup, white porcelain with gold trim (11 of 11) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.068 | 5.25" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (1 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.069 | 5.25" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (2 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.070 | 5.25" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (3 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.071 | 5.25" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (4 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.072 | 5.25" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (5 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.073 | 5.25" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (6 of 6) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.074 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (1 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.075 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (2 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.076 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (3 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.077 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (4 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.078 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (5 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.079 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (6 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.080 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (7 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.081 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (8 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.082 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (9 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.083 | 6.5" diameter saucer, white porcelain with gold trim (10 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |

| CHM Temp. # | Object Name/Description | Latta Plantation # | Catawba Survey # |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| TC395.084 | 7.5" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.085 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (1 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.086 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (2 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.087 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (3 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.088 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (4 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.089 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (5 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.090 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (6 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.091 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (7 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.092 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (8 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.093 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (9 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.094 | 6.75" diameter plate, white porcelain with gold trim (10 of 10) | 2019.01 | 001.26 |
| TC395.095A-B | Pair of Federal style brass andirons, c. 1800, belonging to James Latta | 1988.021.01 | 001.38 |
| TC395.096 | Tall Case Clock (1815-1837), made by Seth Thomas, belonging to James Latta | N/A | 001.34 |

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

| Temporary Custody ID: | Collection Type: | Method of Acquisition: |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| TC401 | History | Gift |

Name of Donor:
 Kevin Lynch

Description of Accession:
 .001-Loom shuttle

Overall Condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
 Will fit in a small box with like items

Significance/Ownership History Mission Rating: (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)

The donor bought the shuttle at an estate sale in Laurens, SC in 1983. On the shuttle, written in pencil, it reads "S.F.S July 9, 1910". We do not know what the initials stand for. The addition of this shuttle helps document the textile industry in another Carolina Piedmont county and would be one of a select few items with documented history from Laurens County.

A shuttle is a tool designed to neatly and compactly store a holder that carries the tread of the weft yarn while weaving with a loom. Shuttles are thrown/passed back and forth through the shed, between the yarn threads of the warp in order to weave in the weft. The particular shuttle is called a boat shuttle which is often used with table and floor looms. A boat shuttle works by winding yarn onto a bobbin or quill and then inserted into the shuttle. This process allows the yarn to wind off quickly while weaving. Shuttles like this would have been used with larger barn looms, like the one we have in the education collection on display at Historic Brattonsville in the Smith Cabin.

Like other Carolina Piedmont counties, Laurens County has a number of textile and manufacturing companies setup shop during Reconstruction. Laurens Cotton Mill was founded in 1895 and Watts Mill in 1902. Along with textiles companies, glass and railroad companies were also in Laurens. These industries were a major source of employment in the area.

Potential Uses: Research Exhibition Loan

The shuttle can be used for research, exhibition, or loan on various topics such as: textiles, weaving, the textile industry, looms, everyday life in Laurens County/Caroline Piedmont.

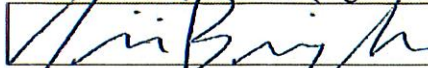
Restrictions:
 None

Unusual Costs:

None

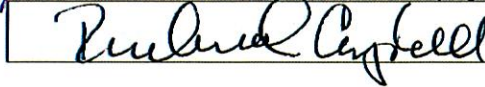
Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

| | |
|--|-----------|
|  DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS | 11/2/2023 |
|--|-----------|

Executive Director Recommends (Signature):


Date:

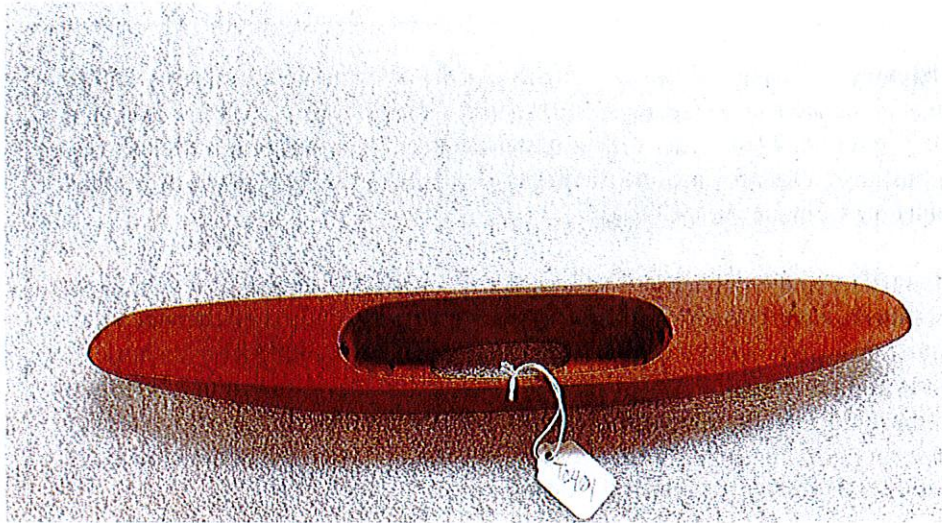
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|  | 11/8/2023 |
|---|-----------|

Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

| | |
|---|------------|
|  | 11/29/2023 |
|---|------------|



RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

| Temporary Custody ID: | Collection Type: | Method of Acquisition: |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| TC402 | History | Gift |

Name of Donor:
Margaret Parson-Willins

Description of Accession:
.001 - c. 1970 quilt made by Ruth Moore, featuring a chevron pattern, light purple and bright orange-pink (salmon) in color

Overall Condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
The quilt can be rolled and stored in the textile closet with other high provenance quilts.

Significance/Ownership History **Mission Rating:** 5 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)

The donor, a Culture and Heritage Commissioner, was given the quilt by Ruth Smith Moore’s niece, with the direction for the donor to donate the quilt to a museum.

Ruth Smith Moore (1906-2007) was born to Bratton enslaved descendants, John and Agnes Bratton Smith, at Historic Brattonsville when the property was being used for sharecropping. Her parents ran a farm in Bethesda, SC. Ruth married Ira Moore and had one child, Gloria Roddy. During World War II, Ruth worked at the Charlotte shell factory. Ruth and her husband owned a farm in McConnells. They also owned and operated a general store for African Americans on U.S. 321. Ruth was an avid quilter and even demonstrated quilting at Historic Brattonsville events and programs. People drove long distances in order to see and purchase her quilts. Ruth was a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church from an early age. She served on the Missionary Ministry and was a member of the Hymn Choir. At the time of her passing, she was the oldest member at the church at the age of 101. She was buried at Mount Zion cemetery.

The quilt is hand sewn and machine made with the quilting being unfinished. The fabric choices for the quilt indicate it was made in the late 1960s-1970s.

Though CHM has about 100 quilts in its permanent collection, most of them are part of the Sifford Textile Collection (1991.024) with all of the quilts being tied to the Smith-Sifford Family. The recommended quilt will add nicely to the overall quilt collection with it being made a modern quilt from the mid-twentieth century but also one that was made by an African American quilter.



Potential Uses: Research Exhibition Loan

The quilt is a great candidate for loan, research, and exhibition on themes related to quilt making, African American artistry, and life in York County.

Restrictions:

None

Unusual Costs:

None

Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

Trish Bright DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS

11/8/2023

Executive Director Recommends (Signature):

Date:

Richard Campbell

11/8/2023

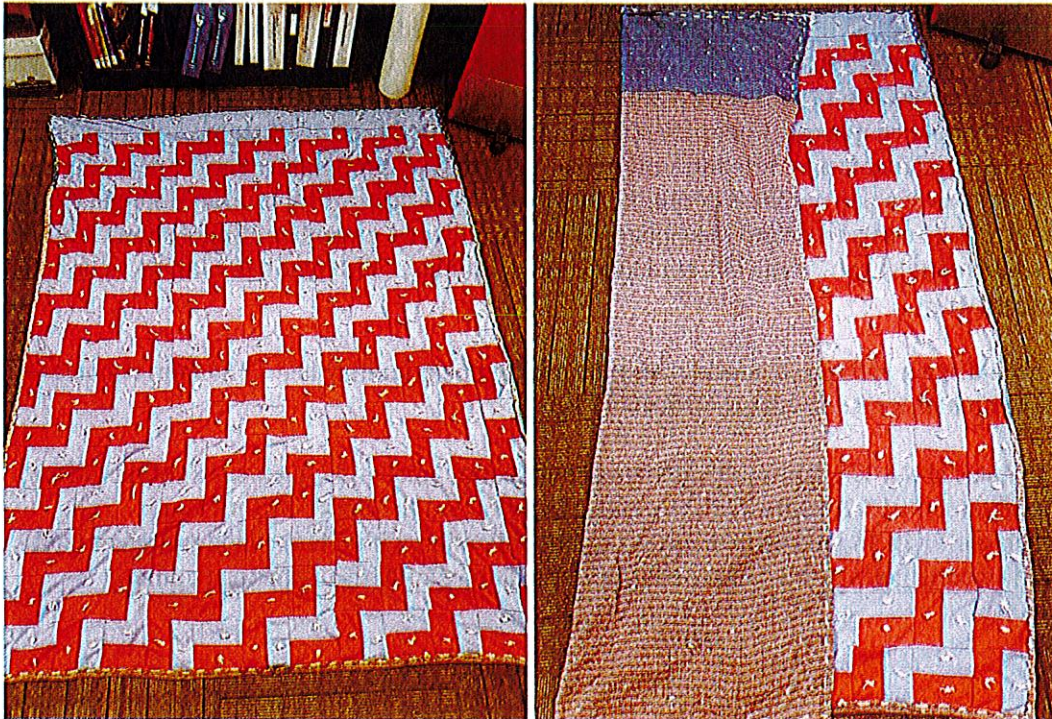
Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

Richard Campbell

11/29/2023



RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

| Temporary Custody ID: | Collection Type: | Method of Acquisition: |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| TC403 | Archives | Donation |

Name of Donor:
David Balland

Description of Accession:
3 issues of *The Yorkville Enquirer* newspapers:
September 7, 1871
September 14, 1871
October 26, 1871

Overall Condition: Excellent Good Fair Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
Will fit into existing newspaper collection.

Significance/Ownership History Mission Rating: 5 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)

The donor, David Balland, lives just outside York. He purchased the newspapers over 20 years ago from a friend.

Lewis Mason Grist (1831-1903) was the son of John Ellis Grist (1807-1870) and Elizabeth “Betsey” Lawrence Grist (1810-1875). He was born in Spartanburg County but his father moved the family to Yorkville in 1833. Lewis learned the printer’s trade from his father, who had worked for the *Pendleton Messenger* newspaper. In the 1840s, his father started a number of short-lived newspapers, including the *Yorkville Journal of the Times*, *Yorkville Compiler*, and *Farmers’ Miscellany*. In 1851, John Grist sold the *Farmers’ Miscellany* to his son, **Lewis Mason Grist**, who renamed it the *Yorkville Miscellany*. On January 4, 1855, Lewis Grist launched an entirely new paper, the *Yorkville Enquirer*. Lewis M. Grist married **Francis Vienna Vise Grist** (1833-1902) of Spartanburg County, in Oxford, Alabama on July 2, 1854. They had 7 sons and 4 daughters. During the civil war, L.M. Grist was part of Company A, of the 12th South Carolina volunteers. He was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain and wounded in the second battle of Manassas. He was active in the Associate Reform church in Yorkville for over 30 years, 20 or so years as a ruling elder. He is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery with his wife.

In the 1890s, Lewis Grist turned over control of the *Yorkville Enquirer* to his sons Lewis George, Wood Davidson, Oliver Ellis, Albert Mason and Reginald M. Grist. Under Wood Davidson Grist’s leadership, the *Enquirer* successfully transitioned from a weekly to a semiweekly paper and increased its circulation. In 1943, the Grist family sold the *Enquirer*, having conducted it as a family business through several generations. In 2006, the *Yorkville Enquirer* was merged with the *Clover Herald* and became the *Enquirer-Herald*, which ceased publication in 2015. The last issue of the *Yorkville Enquirer* appeared on March 16, 2006.

Library of Congress: Chronicling America

<https://www.loc.gov/item/sn84026925/#:~:text=On%20January%204%2C%201855%2C%20Lewis,se%20ved%20as%20editors%20and%20proprietors.>

Provided By: University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

About Yorkville Enquirer (Yorkville, S.C.) 1855-2006

For over 150 years, the *Yorkville Enquirer* served the communities of Hickory Grove, McConnells, Sharon, Smyrna, and Yorkville (present-day York), located in York County, South Carolina. Through much of its existence, the *Enquirer* was edited and published by the Grist family, so much so that the family and the newspaper were nearly synonymous in the minds of Yorkville residents. **John E. Grist**, the family patriarch, had previously worked for the *Pendleton Messenger* before relocating to Yorkville. In the 1840s, he started a number of short-lived newspapers, including the *Yorkville Journal of the Times*, *Yorkville Compiler*, and *Farmers' Miscellany*. In 1851, John Grist sold the *Farmers' Miscellany* to his son, **Lewis Mason Grist**, who renamed it the *Yorkville Miscellany*.

On January 4, 1855, Lewis Grist launched an entirely new paper, the *Yorkville Enquirer*, "an independent journal for the promotion of the political, social, agricultural, and commercial interests of the South." John L. Miller and Samuel Wickliffe Melton served as editors and proprietors. The accolades came quickly flowing. On May 9, 1855, the editor of the *Edgefield Advertiser* wrote, "The pains you bestow upon your admirable sheet, brother editors, should not only command commendation, but should draw into your fold a host of paying subscribers."

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Lewis Grist turned over the management of the *Enquirer* to his father John Grist and enlisted in the Confederate States Army. During the war, the *Enquirer* only suspended publication twice, in spite of paper shortages. In the years following the war's end, York County became ground zero in an undeclared war of racial terror on African Americans. In 1871, the members of the local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan were deemed responsible for having committed at least ten murders and approximately 600 assaults on Black residents, provoking President Ulysses S. Grant to place Yorkville under martial law. Lewis Grist appears to have distrusted the Klan and the Union Leagues (formed to bolster support for the Republican Party) in equal measure. On April 13, 1871, he approvingly quoted a recommendation from the *Charleston Daily Republican* that, "Let us have done with these secret organizations... Let us now openly grapple with our difficulties, and the very fact that our efforts are open, will cause many of those difficulties to vanish."

In the 1890s, Lewis Grist turned over control of the *Yorkville Enquirer* to his sons Lewis George, Wood Davidson, Oliver Ellis, Albert Mason and Reginald M. Grist. Under Wood Davidson Grist's leadership, the *Enquirer* successfully transitioned from a weekly to a semiweekly paper and increased its circulation. In 1943, the Grist family sold the *Enquirer*, having conducted it as a family business through several generations. In 2006, the *Yorkville Enquirer* was merged with the *Clover Herald* and became the *Enquirer-Herald*. The last issue of the *Yorkville Enquirer* appeared on March 16, 2006.

Potential Uses: Research Exhibition Loan

These papers highlight people, places, businesses, and events in York County which can be helpful for researchers.

Restrictions:

None

Unusual Costs:

None

Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

Nancy Sambets Director of Archives | 11-8-2023

Executive Director Recommends (Signature):

Date:

Richard Caspell | 11/8/2023

Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

Richard Caspell | 11/29/2023



