

**Culture & Heritage Commission
Board of Commissioners Meeting
April 23, 2024
6:00 PM
Museum of York County**

Person Presiding: Penny Sheppard

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

Members Absent:

Ex Officio Members Present: Katie Rutland and Eddie Lee

Ex Officio Members Absent:

Staff Present: Richard Campbell, Sarah Lewis, Jillian Bingham, and Nicole Snider

Others: Michelle Totherow

Call to Order

- Penny Sheppard called the meeting to order at 6:01PM
- Penny Sheppard presented the minutes from the meeting and asked for changes or corrections.
 - No corrections to be made, minutes are accepted as written.

Calendar Review

- April- Budget Review
- May- Notify Clerk to Council which Commissioners with expiring terms would like to continue serving.
 - Those terms expiring will do so on July 1, 2024.
 - Penny Sheppard and Ed Stewart do not qualify for renewal of terms.

Reports and Presentations

- Director's Report
 - *Presented by Richard Campbell*
 - Visitation
 - CHM site-wide visitation for the month of March totaled six thousand, seven hundred and eighty-five. Visitation compared to the previous year is up 1.7%, which is one hundred and sixteen visitors in attendance.
 - The year-to-date total is at fifty-five thousand, three hundred and twenty-five. Compared to the previous year, visitation has increased 17.9%, which is eight thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight visitors in attendance.
 - School Groups
 - For the month of March, school group visitation totaled one thousand, six hundred and nine. Year-to-date school visitation is at nine thousand, two hundred and fifty-three.

- Membership

- Membership has increased by one hundred and eight with a total revenue of \$8,840. This brings our total year-to-date memberships to one thousand and twenty-nine with a revenue of \$76,975. The CHM overall memberships are at one thousand, three hundred and fifty-two.

- Past Events

Eclipse Prep Day (MYCO)

- The event took place on March 9. John Diana, a MYCO interpreter, and NASA Eclipse Ambassador, provided insights into the upcoming eclipse during this casual gathering.
- John Diana, along with Carole Holmberg, who serves as MYCO's Planetarium Manager, provided extensive eclipse-related information through local and social media outlets.
- On eclipse day, since MYCO was closed, Carole Holmberg and Windy Cole were at the library to aid the public in using the museum's solar telescope for eclipse viewing.
- Carole also led a class titled "Eclipse 101" for children at the library during the event.

Night Hike (MYCO)

- A MYCO program that occurred on March 21 at the Historic Brattonsville trails.
- MYCO Senior Interpreter Angela Purcell led 14 hikers to quiet spots on the trail to hear and see the animals that come out in the evening and learn about their unique adaptations.
- All in attendance were enthusiastic about future Night Hikes, and the HB and MYCO education program managers are working on holding future Night Hike programs.

Great Little Growers (MSCM)

- Great Little Growers took place on March 23.
- Our youngest visitors learned about the importance of gardening, different plants and flowers, and how to care for them.
- Each child decorated a plastic flower pot and planted an edible flower.
- We had 23 in attendance.

Our Wild Waters (MYCO)

- Our Wild Waters was a spring break camp that occurred the week of April 2-5.
- Little adventurers aged 6-12 explored the waters of South Carolina through fun crafts, activities, games, and nature trail walks.

- Campers looked at fish, animals, and plants found in and around our creeks and rivers, talked about conservation and ended the week on a sweet note with an ice cream cone from our new soft serve ice cream machine.
- Participation varied from 7-12 participants daily.

South Carolina Children's Museum Week (MSCM)

- South Carolina Children's Museum Week took place the week of April 9-12.
- This celebration of South Carolina's Children's Museums coincided with a proclamation from the Governor on the importance of Children's Museums in the lives of young South Carolinians.
- The week-long celebration featured coordinated activities that celebrated Children's Museums at each Children's Museum across the state.
- We had 189 in attendance throughout the week.

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- Occurred on April 13 as MSCM's approved Come-See-Me Festival Activity.
- We celebrated all things frogs and spring with games, crafts, books, and more.
- Attendance for the event was 111.
- We are looking at how we might refresh and improve this program going forward.

Volunteer Appreciation Events (CHM)

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- The event featured charcuterie and appreciation gifts, and volunteers were permitted to bring up to five guests each.
- Attendees had the opportunity to tour the museum, explore some unique collections, and enjoy a special presentation on astrophotography by Braxton Townsend, a Planetarium volunteer.
- Overall, 75 volunteers from MYCO, MSCM, and the HC, each of whom has contributed over 25 hours of service, are set to receive an appreciation gift.

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- The annual living history event took place on April 20, centering on children's life, work, and play in the 19th century.
- Staff historic interpreters and costumed volunteers highlight how children were involved in 19th century farm life and trades while involving visitors in engaging and hands-on demonstrations.
- Some of the activities included:
 - Candle-dipping and writing with quill pens

- Historic hearth cooking and butter-churning
 - Woodworking and blacksmithing demonstrations
 - Carding and spinning and historic toys and games
 - Brattonsville site tours
- Upcoming Events

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- The program emphasizes how and why sheep were sheared, with in-depth demonstrations of how wool was turned into textiles for clothing and household goods.
- Each weekend will highlight different steps in the production process, with shearing scheduled for every Saturday.
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- The exhibits will include a variety of artistic interpretations and images that offer a unique view of the decomposition process.

- Artists Meredith Connelly and Mike Hammer are expected to be in attendance, providing an opportunity for members to meet the creators behind the works.

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- Scheduled for June 1, this event marks the start of our summer programming, which complements our summer 2024 exhibitions focused on forests, snails, mushrooms, and fungi.
- This family-friendly day will celebrate the rich diversity of forests and the fascinating plants, animals, and insects that inhabit them.
- Attendees will enjoy interactive activities centered around the trees of the Carolina Piedmont and local wildlife such as squirrels, deer, and foxes, along with the insects that are vital for forest growth.
- Participants will also learn about conservation efforts to preserve forests for future generations.
- The day will be filled with fun activities, including a snail derby, bird bingo, and a chance to construct your own animal habitat, among other engaging experiences.

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- Member Exclusive event occurs on May 11 at Hightower Hall.
- CHM members are invited to join us for tea on the veranda at Hightower Hall and delight in a scrumptious selection of tea sandwiches, blueberry scones with lemon curd and cream, petite desserts, and tea.
- Before teatime, guests can make a fascinator hat using paper flowers, feathers, ribbon, and colorful butterfly decorations.
- After teatime, guests can create a custom tea blend to enjoy at home, stop by one of our photo op locations, take a self-guided tour of Hightower Hall and the grounds, and shop in our all-things-tea pop up shop.
 - Cost is \$40 per member, and space is limited to 48 participants.

○ CHM Project Updates

Ice Age Hall (MYCO)

- In June 2023, staff observed that the wallpaper from the 689 sq. ft. mural in the Ice Age Exhibit was peeling.
- Repair attempts revealed that the adhesive had failed, necessitating new adhesive due to its inability to stick and the presence of splotches on the wall.
- Staff applied a sodium carbonate solution to both the wallpaper and the wall and engaged a company to conduct mold and air quality tests.
- The tests confirmed mold presence, although not black mold or Chaetomium.

- Efforts to identify the moisture source began, involving consultations with multiple HVAC vendors to diagnose the issue and estimate repair costs.
- The investigations into the humidity issue in the Ice Age Hall pointed towards the HVAC units, though there was no consensus among the consulted companies on the exact problem or solution.
- The roof manufacturer and the contractor inspected the roof, finding no leaks but addressing some unrelated issues under warranty.
- After further consultations with Trane, the manufacturer of the HVAC units, we gained a clearer understanding of the installed humidity controls and began adjustments to improve humidity management.
- We discovered that there were three HVAC related issues.
 - The HVAC units are designed with advanced dehumidification features, including sensors that regulate humidity within a specific range; however, these sensors were omitted during installation.
 - The internal settings of each unit, which help maintain proper humidity levels, were incorrectly calibrated.
 - Additionally, when a thermostat failed and was replaced, the pre-programmed settings were improperly adjusted based on vendor recommendations. The mismatched settings between thermostats caused the units to run inefficiently and in conflict, likely worsening the humidity problem. Subsequent adjustments were made to harmonize the thermostat settings, addressing the issue.
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- KCL suggested a scrape test to check the integrity of the primer, revealing that primer easily peeled off in the diorama's moisture-damaged sections.
- The affected drywall was removed and found to have splotches on the back, prompting us to contact the mold remediation company to test for mold and provide further advice.
- In preparation for the remediation, the Exhibits staff coordinated with the Collections department to relocate and protect specimens, discovering carpet beetle larvae on the Caribou mount during the process.
- The mount was enclosed in plastic, and an insecticide was applied throughout the hall.
- The mural wallpaper panels were rolled up and frozen to eliminate mold growth.

Lowry Family Theatre (McC)

- Bennett Preservation Engineering (BPE) has started construction administration activities.
- Midwest Maintenance, Inc. (MMI) has started the submittal process and removing seats in preparation for additional shoring.
- MMI has submitted the necessary paperwork to the City of York for a building permit. On-site activities will resume once the permit has been issued.
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Watt Cemetery (HB)

- **GPR / Mapping** – We have not received the final count, the map, or the project report, and we are working to get a projected date for the GPS marking of the final graves.
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Fluid Preservation Room (MYCO)

- On April 1, York County Council approved our recommendation to accept Catalyst Construction's bid of \$148,335 for the Fluid Preservation Room at MYCO.
- We are currently preparing a draft agreement for legal review by the County Attorney.
- Once the agreement is signed, we will proceed with creating the purchase order and scheduling a pre-construction meeting.

Col. Bratton House Preservation Project (HB)

- Exterior Phase of Work:

- Midwest Maintenance, Inc. (MMI) and their roofing subcontractors will hang gutters on the east elevation of the house once the metal roof is finished at the Homestead House.
- Interior Phase of Work:
 - CHM Preservation Specialist Sara Johnson and preservation volunteers continue to remove the failed skim coat off the circa 1840 plaster.
 - Testing of materials for plaster conservation and repair are in progress.
 - Brattonsville Operations picked up the milled lumber from Koons Sawmill in Laurens, SC and it has been stacked inside the house to allow it to cure and acclimate to the space.

Homestead House Preservation Project (HB)

- Exterior Phase of Work:
 - Midwest Maintenance, Inc. (MMI) remobilized on March 4 and forecasts completing their work by May 13.
 - MMI completed the installation of all the shutters and the rake trim on the Assembly Hall.
 - AllPoint Group, MMI's roofing subcontractor, are installing the built-in gutters and metal roofing panels.
- Interior Phase of Work:
 - CHM Preservation Specialist Sara Johnson has resumed the collection of paint samples for analysis to determine the 1855 paint schemes for the Homestead House.

Shake Roof Replacement on the Work Barn (HB)

- On April 15, York County Council approved the recommendation for Benton Roofing, Inc. to complete the shake roof installations at the Work Barn, the original Outbuilding, and the Smoke House behind Brick House.
 - CHM Preservation is drafting a construction contract and working to get all of the required procurement paperwork complete.

[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
 - TC422
 - (8) Cloth placemats and napkins manufactured in 1954 by Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company for their 25th anniversary.

- Donor Name: Katie Rutland
- TC423
 - (12) Yearbooks from the following schools and dates: White Rose Annuals 1944, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1954; Taps (Clemson) 1955; Fort Jackson 1955; The Cardinal (Hickory Grove) 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959. Donation also includes a Brandon Furniture Co. Yard Stick.
 - Donor Name: Libby Childers
- TC426
 - (2) US Army Uniform Jackets, one pair of US Army Uniform pants, and webbed belt belonging to Arthur Wilson Roberts III who served during the 1970's. The military jackets feature patches with great significance to Mr. Robert's service such as the National Defense Service Military Ribbon and an Army Security Agency patch.
 - Donor Name: Bonnie Lemhouse
- Collections Management Policy Revisions
 - Section V.A. Acquisition Policy, second paragraph; inclusion of the word *permanent* to specify which acquisition items should be brought to Commission for approval.
 - Section VI.B. Means of Disposition, item 3: Repatriation; inclusion of *evolving museum ethics and best practices* to allow for other means of repatriation outside of the scope of NAGPRA. Such items will still be brought before Commission for approval of deaccession.
- Ed Stewart made motion to accept the following items: TC422, TC423, TC426 to the Collection.
 - Annie Laurie Wheat seconded the motion.
 - A vote was taken and the motion passed.
- Ed Stewart made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to the Collections Management Policy.
 - Margaret Parson-Willins seconded the motion.
 - A vote was taken and the motion passed.

[Note: Copy of the above Recommendations for Accession and Collections Management Policy Revisions are attached to these minutes as Addendum B]

- Finance Committee
 - *Presented by Ed Stewart*
 - Treasurer's Report
 - 2024-2025 Budget
 - 2024-2025 Organizational Chart
- Ed Stewart made motion to accept and approve the 2024-2025 Budget and Organizational chart.
 - Jeff Lyon seconded the motion.
 - A vote was taken and the motion passed.
- Governance Committee
 - *Presented by David Duncan*
 - Nothing to report.

[Note: Copy of the above 2024-2025 Budget and Organizational Chart are attached to these minutes as Addendum C]

Executive Session

- No Executive Session required.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- None

Commission Member New/Non-agenda Comments

- None

Adjourn

- Penny Sheppard made a motion to adjourn.
 - David Duncan seconded the motion.
 - Penny Sheppard called for a vote, vote was taken, and the motion passed.
 - Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM

Prepared by: Nicole Snider

Submitted by: Ed Stewart, Secretary/Treasurer

Culture and Heritage Museums Director's Report April 23, 2024

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

Visitation – March 2024

- Total visitation: 6,785 (+116 or +1.7%)
 - Museum of York County: 3,512
 - Historic Brattonsville: 1,262
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 1,826
 - Historical Center of York County: 185
- Total year-to-date: 55,325 (+8,398 or +17.9%)
 - Museum of York County: 26,269
 - Historic Brattonsville: 9,772
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 16,818
 - Historical Center of York County: 2,466

School Groups – March 2024

- Total school group visitation: 1,609
 - Museum of York County: 670
 - Historic Brattonsville: 918
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 21
- Total year-to-date: 9,253 students
 - Museum of York County: 4,663
 - Historic Brattonsville: 3,956
 - Main Street Children's Museum: 634

Membership – March 2024

- New memberships: 108
- Membership revenue: 8,840
- Year-to-date memberships: 1,029
- Year-to-date membership revenue: 76,975
- Total Memberships: 1,352

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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

Temporary Custody ID:	Collection Type:	Method of Acquisition:
TC422	History	Gift

Name of Donor:
Katie Rutland

Description of Accession:
.001-.004 - Cloth placemats featuring blue scalloped border and pink roses made by Rock Hill Finishing & Printing Company .005-.008 - Cloth napkins featuring blue scalloped border and pink roses made by Rock Hill Finishing & Printing Company

Overall Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
Will fit in 22.5 x 15.5 box with other like items

Significance/Ownership History	Mission Rating: 5 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)
<p>The donor bought the placemats and napkins at an estate sale. These items were made in 1954 by Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company for their 25th anniversary.</p> <p>The Bleachery was in operation from 1929 until it closed in 1998. Founded in 1889, M. Lowenstein & Sons started as a textile importing business in New York providing cloth to garment manufacturers. In 1929, the company expanded the old Anderson Motor Company facility located at (address) in Rock Hill to build a 12-acre complex called the Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company. Known locally as the Bleachery, the plant bleached, dyed, printed and finished both cotton and synthetic fabrics produced at other mills. By the early 1960s the plant grew from 200,000 square feet to over 2 million on 46-acres. Springs Industries acquired Lowenstein in 1985 and later closed the facility in 1998. Many York County residents worked in the textile industry, including Rock Hill Printing & Finishing. A number of people even relocated to the region to work in the once boom industry.</p> <p>It is important to collect and document items related to the rise and fall of the textile industry in the Carolina Piedmont as it greatly affected the economy of the local and regional area. After 1880, the SC textile industry grew rapidly, stagnated during the Great Depression and prospered after WWII. The industry struggled with foreign competition but saw one last burst of prosperity with the rise of synthetic fibers before its final decline in the 21st century.</p>	

Potential Uses: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Loan
These items are good for research, exhibition, and loan on topics related to history of the Bleachery, York County's textile industry, decorative home goods, and table settings and service.

Restrictions:

None

Unusual Costs:

None

Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

// *J. J. Bright* DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS

4/11/2024

Executive Director Recommends (Signature):

Date:

Richard Caprell

4/16/2024

Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

Richard Caprell

4/24/2024



RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

Temporary Custody ID:	Collection Type:	Method of Acquisition:
TC423	Archives and History	Donation

Name of Donor:
Libby Childers

Description of Accession:
<p>White Rose Annuals: 1944, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1954</p> <p>Taps (Clemson) 1955</p> <p>Fort Jackson Yearbook 1955</p> <p>The Cardinal (Hickory Grove) 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959</p> <p>Brandon Furniture Co. Yard Stick</p>

Overall Condition: ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection
12 annuals will fit on shelf with rare books and yard stick will fit onto a shelf

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

The yearbooks belonged to the donor's father (Mason Smith), mother (Blanche Howell Smith), and paternal aunt (Margaret Smith Brandon).

Mason Gilbert Smith (1936-2019) was the son of Jesse S. Smith and Nora Frick Smith. He attended York High School, graduating in 1954. He went on to attend Clemson for one year before joining the Army. In 1960 he married Blanche Howell and they had two children. In addition to serving in the military, Smith also worked at the FCX (Farmers' Cooperative Exchange) store in York and Celanese. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in York.

Blanche Elizabeth Howell Smith (1940-2017) was born in Hickory Grove and was the daughter of William Charles Howell and Wilma Blanche Bratton Howell. She attended Hickory Grove High School and graduated in 1959. While a student, she also worked as a bus driver for the school. After graduating she worked for Celanese.

Margaret Smith Brandon (1928-2006) was the daughter of Jesse S. Smith and Nora Frick Smith and attended York High School. In 1951 she married Thomas L. Brandon—though they later divorced—and they had one daughter together. She worked in the twisting department of Celanese and was a member of the First Baptist Church in York.

The Brandon Furniture Co. opened at 42 Congress St, in York in March 15th of 1956. Another store for Brandon Furniture Co opened on E. Madison St in York in September 18th 1958. The stores were owned by William "Bill" David Brandon and his wife Doris Farris Brandon. The stores went out of business March 29th 1980.

William "Bill" Brandon (1922-2012) was born in York to Isaac Lonnie Brandon and Lillian Robinson Brandon. Bill was a WWII veteran who landed on Utah Beach in Normandy of the 6th day of invasion of June 12th 1944. He was in the 64th Airdrome Squadron, operating air fields throughout Europe. In addition to furniture stores he also operated privatized ABC Stores in South Carolina for over 30 years. He retired in 1985.

Doris Farris Brandon (1924-2006) was born in York to Ben F. Farris and Sudie Stewart Farris. In addition to being a co-owner and manager of Brandon Furniture Company she also worked for Southern Bell as a switchboard operator. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the First Baptist Church in York and Boone.

It is interesting to note that in 1959 a color ad for the Brandon Furniture Co. opening would be in a Newspaper Advertising Executives Association Chicago exhibit.

Potential Uses: ☒ Research ☒ Exhibition ☐ Loan

The annuals include photos and information about students, faculty, clubs, events, sports, curriculum, and advertisements that help researchers interested in school history, local businesses, and family history.

Restrictions:

none

Unusual Costs:

None

Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

Nancy Lamberto Director of Archives 4-11-2024

Executive Director Recommends (Signature):

Date:

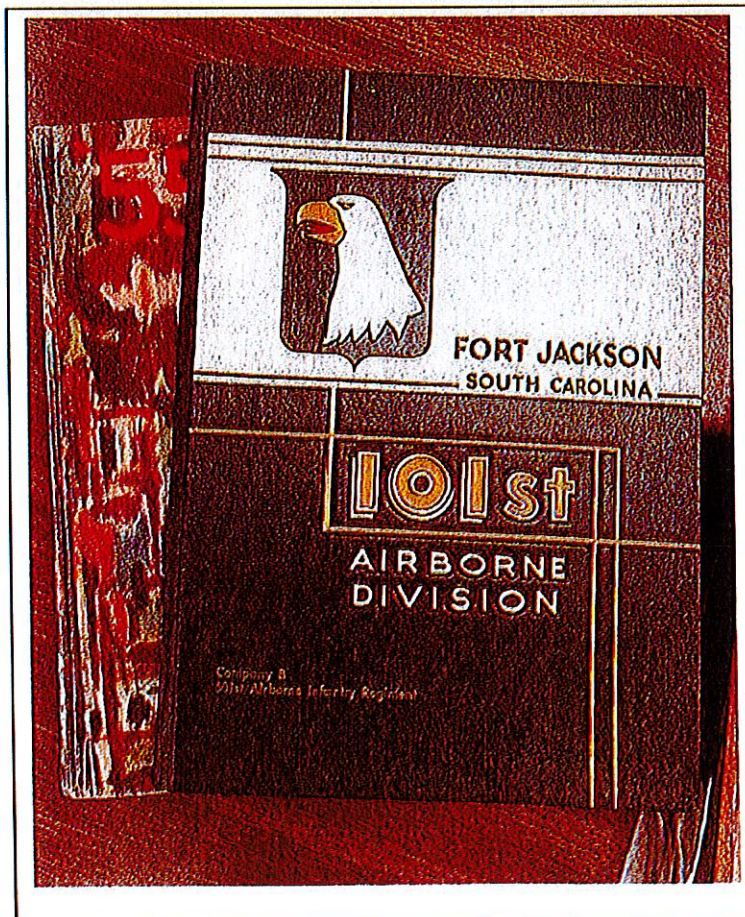
Richard Gayball 4/14/2024

Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

Richard Gayball 4/24/2024



RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCESSION

Temporary Custody ID:	Collection Type:	Method of Acquisition:
TC426	History	Gift

Name of Donor:
Bonnie Lernhouse

Description of Accession:
.001 - US Army Uniform jacket .002 - US Army Uniform jacket .003 - US Army Uniform Pants .004 - Black webbed belt

Overall Condition: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

General/Comparable Size of Collection

Coats and pant will fit on a mobile clothes rack or in a box with other military uniforms.
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Significance/Ownership History Mission Rating: 4 (Scale of 1 – 5; 5 matches mission 100%)

The Army uniform belonged to the donor's older brother, Arthur "Bob" Wilson Roberts III (1948-2019). Arthur was born in to a military family in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1948 to Arthur Wilson Roberts Jr. (1921-1991), who served in the US Navy as a Chief Commissary Steward and Navy Recruiter, and Macy Kearns Roberts (1921-1987). Arthur Jr. and Macy Kearns were married in 1943 and had a total of five children: Susan (1944-present), Glenn (c. 1946-present), Janet (1947-present), Arthur "Bob" (1948-2019), and Bonnie (1957-present). Macy was a home maker as well as a nurse at the Winthrop College infirmary. The family moved several times, being stationed in Hawaii, California, and several cities in South Carolina, including Rock Hill on two different occasions. Arthur Jr. briefly worked as a Naval Recruiter in Rock Hill in the early 1950s before being relocated to Morocco, Africa for two years. Following his station in Morocco, the family came back to Rock Hill because they liked it so much with Arthur and Macy remaining in Rock Hill until their passing.

Arthur "Bob" Roberts III joined the Army c. 1970. The donor is still trying to track down Bob's service records, though they do know he was stationed in Boston Massachusetts as a coder in the 1960s/1970s for two years where he earned the National Defense Service Military Ribbon which is featured on one of the jackets. The ribbon is given to those in honorable active service as a member of the Armed Forces. On Jacket also features an Army Security Agency patch, depicting the claw of a griffin clutching two lightning bolts. The griffin symbolizes vigilance while the lightning bolts signify communication and speed. The black feathers allude to the covert nature of intelligence gathering while blue is the color for intelligence units. It was organized in March 1941 as the Army Cryptographic School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and moved to Fort Devens, Massachusetts, on April 15 1951 where it became the Army Security Agency School. This patch was given out from March 1962 until the late 1970s.

Like, his father, Bob moved around a lot. He graduated from Baptist College in Charleston, SC in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and went on to be a manager at grocery stores Bi-Lo and Harris Teeter. Bob moved back to Rock Hill in the early 1990s, following the passing of his father, moving into his parent's house, where he lived until his passing in 2019. He was a member of Cornerstone United Methodist Church, the Rock Hill Men's Club, the Elk Lodge #1318, and the American Legion Post 34. He was buried in Laurelwood Cemetery in Rock Hill in June 2019.

Potential Uses: ☒ Research ☒ Exhibition ☒ Loan

The strong provenance on the items makes them all perfect candidates for research, exhibition, and/or loan on topics related to the U.S. military/veterans, York County residents in the military, and the Vietnam War.

Restrictions:


None

Unusual Costs:

None

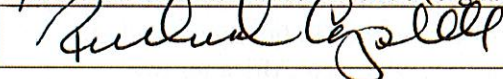
Staff Recommendation (Signature & Title):

Date:

 J. B. BRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS	4/12/2024
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Executive Director Recommends (Signature):

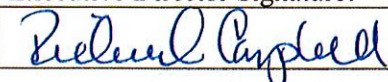
Date:

	4/16/2024
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Approved by the Culture and Heritage Commission on:

Executive Director Signature:

Date:

	4/24/2024
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Proposed edits to Collections Management Policy

February 8, 2024

Proposed edit to Section V.A. Acquisition Policy, second paragraph (page 6):

Members of CHM's Collections Task Force may submit recommendations for the accessioning of objects into the permanent collection to the Commission for consideration. Recommendations should also be sent to the Collections Committee for review, when feasible, so that they may advise the staff or Commission on any possible concerns. The Executive Director or Collections Committee Chairperson will recommend potential permanent accessions to the Commission for final approval.

Reasoning for proposed edit:

The addition of "permanent" in the section is to make clear that only permanent collection acquisitions get presented to the Collections Committee and Commission for approval. "Permanent" is included in the first sentence of this paragraph but is missing from the last. Education acquisitions do not get have the same acquisition policies. If all three bodies would like to see education acquisitions as well, then the number of recommendations they see each month would more than double.

Proposed edit to Section VI.B. Means of Disposition, item 3: Repatriation (page 13):

3. *Repatriation – In accordance with NAGPRA and evolving museum ethics and best practices, objects of religious or cultural sensitivity will be repatriated to the appropriate indigenous population or affiliated organization. See Appendix III Applicable Legal Regulations*

Reasoning for proposed edit:

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) is specific to Native American artifacts. Museum ethics and best practices are evolving, calling for museums to repatriation, or return, African art and items that were taken during colonization. CHM has over 1700 African Ethnographic items in the permanent collection that no longer fit the mission. CHM's Institutional Plan calls for Collections and Archives staff to deaccession non-mission related items. Adding the proposed text would allow staff to deaccession and transfer/repatriate other, non-Native American religious and cultural materials while adhering to the evolving ethics and best practices. Specifically, the added text would allow Collections Staff to reach out to museums throughout Africa, to see if they would like to accept the transfer of any African Ethnographic items. It is important to note that any transfer would first go before the Collections Committee and Commission for approval like all other deaccessions and transfers.

Proposed Culture & Heritage Museums Organizational Chart
FY 2024 - 2025
56.1 Full Time Equivalents

