Tour Georgia’s History at the Digital Library of Georgia Through Georgia HomePLACE Projects

Ed Johnson, Georgia HomePLACE Director

Curious about Georgia’s past and want to explore first hand the state’s rich, but incredibly diverse history? Take a look at the many original historic materials from public libraries all around the state now available online at the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) through HomePLACE-supported collaborative digitization projects. Every area of the state has fascinating stories to tell, and online versions of original materials offer intriguing encounters with local history via a first hand approach that no textbook can rival. So let’s take a virtual tour of Georgia’s history with HomePLACE ….

Start on the Atlantic coast where Europeans first encountered the land that was to become Georgia, but here we find important later history too. During World War II, the massive shipyard in Brunswick contributed to the national effort to build cargo ships for convoys to Europe faster than German submarines could sink them. Now you can view historic photographs of those ships and the people that built them, from the collections of the Three Rivers Regional Library System, at DLG in Ships for Victory: J.A. Jones Construction Company and Liberty Ships in Brunswick, Georgia at http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=vsbg. The online collection received favorable comments, including some from descendents of the shipyard workers, in the Brunswick News.

Moving to the Gulf coastal plain area of Georgia, we find the Samuel Hugh Hawkins Diary, January-July, 1877 (http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=hawk) from the Lake Blackshear Regional Library System. This digitized diary provides a remarkable snapshot of Americus at the close of the Reconstruction era, a critical historical period just after the Civil War that greatly influenced the South we know today. Hawkins later built the SAM railroad, which is still famous in that area of Georgia.

Turning to the “fall line,” which separates the coastal plane from the Piedmont, DLG offers historical materials from the major fall line cities of Macon and Augusta. At the Middle Georgia Archives of the Washington Memorial Library in Macon, we can visit The Blues, Black Vaudeville, and the Silver Screen, 1912-1930s: Selections from the Records of Macon’s Douglass Theatre (http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/douglass) for a fascinating look at the history of black entertainment in Georgia. The amazing collection includes very rare materials from the Theatre Owners Booking Association (TOBA), the famous black vaudeville circuit. This online collection has drawn researchers focusing on the history of African American entertainment.
At the “fall line” city of Augusta, we explore *Picturing Augusta: Historic Postcards from the Collection of the East Central Georgia Regional Library* ([http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/picturingaugusta](http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/picturingaugusta)) which provides a glimpse of many aspects of early 20th century Augusta, including unique features such as its historically significant industrial canal and its famous golf courses. Soon after these postcards went online at DLG, several organizations (including the convention and visitor’s bureau as well as a hospital) expressed interest in using the postcard images.

Moving to the Piedmont region, we encounter the amazing story of Georgia’s gold history in “Thar’s Gold in them TharHills”: Gold and Gold Mining in Georgia, 1830s-1940s ([http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=dahl](http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=dahl)) from the Lumpkin County Library of the Chestatee Regional Library System. This unique and dramatic history ranges from the exuberance of the “twenty niners” hoping to strike it rich, through the tragedy of the Cherokee removal, to a second gold rush at the turn of the century – and gold fever still enlivens a healthy heritage tourism in Dahlonega. The online collection has received recognition in the *Scout Report*, a well known source for web site reviews.

The Piedmont is also home to Georgia’s largest and most diverse population, and from the African American community there we have *Community Art in Atlanta, 1977-1987: Jim Alexander’s Photographs of the Neighborhood Arts Center from the Auburn Avenue Research Library* ([http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=anac](http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=anac)). As another aspect of this multi-faceted HomePLACE project, DLG also helped the library bring its finding aids to an online database, and the library staff has reported a subsequent threefold increase in visits to their archives division.

From the western boundary of Georgia’s Piedmont, Troup County Archives provided the *Cyrus F. Jenkins Civil War Diary, 1861-1862* ([http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=jenk](http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=jenk)) from the Lumpkin County Library of the Troup County Archives provides the *Cyrus F. Jenkins Civil War Diary, 1861-1862* ([http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=jenk](http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=jenk)) from the Lumpkin County Library of the

Chestatee Regional Library System. This unique and dramatic history ranges from the exuberance of the “twenty niners” hoping to strike it rich, through the tragedy of the Cherokee removal, to a second gold rush at the turn of the century – and gold fever still enlivens a healthy heritage tourism in Dahlonega. The online collection has received recognition in the *Scout Report*, a well known source for web site reviews.

Over 26 million searches were conducted and over 13 million articles were viewed in GALILEO during Fiscal Year 2006.
One afternoon, while sitting at the reference desk
A patron approaches looking perplexed.
An error they say, has ruined my day.
I can’t seem to log into GALILEO.

An error you respond! Oh, what does it say.
Are there numbers? Are there codes?
What is displayed?

Much to your fear, you find it’s the case
That an error message appears, not a database.
You think to yourself, “Who can I call?”
You stare at the clock—it’s half past five after all.

Although GALILEO is always available
To help when in need,
The answers are available online to help you succeed.

You notice the Help link at the top of the page
And point your cursor without a delay.
Before your eyes many options abound,
Answers to questions and directions are found.

After reading through some FAQs you get to work
deleting cookies and cache and checking the network.

With your handywork finished, it is now time to check.
Did I fix the problem or is the computer now a wreck?

With your fingers and toes crossed
You go back to GALILEO.
It works and your patron is one happy fellow.

So remember this tale and help avoid any terror
GALILEO FAQs are there to help with any error!

GALILEO Help information, including searchable FAQs, can be located by clicking on “help” within the GALILEO banner frame. For your convenience, here is a direct URL http://www.usg.edu/galileo/help/.
Several new Georgia HomePLACE collaborative digitization projects are currently underway, so the following additional historical materials and enhanced capabilities are scheduled to go online at the Digital Library of Georgia by late September 2006:

- **For Our Mutual Benefit: The Athens Woman’s Club and Social Reform, 1912-1919** (Collaborative digitization project with the Athens Regional Library System);
- Cherokee land lottery deeds, to be added to *Southeastern Native American Documents, 1730-1842* (Collaborative digitization project with the LaFayette-Walker County Public Library of the Cherokee Regional Library and the Walker County Historical Society);
- Georgia marble history videos (Collaborative movie digitization project with the Pickens County Library of the Sequoyah Public Library System and the Marble Valley Historical Society); and
- Enhanced search capability for the nearly 5000 detailed historic maps in *Sanborn Insurance Maps for Georgia Towns and Cities, 1884-1922.*

### Summer Reading For Adults: Vacation Destinations  
—from NoveList Notes

Many of us will never get a chance to go to all of the places that we want. In some cases, we can only visit a place by reading about it—Ancient Rome, for example. NoveList uses over 36,000 subject headings to describe the books contained in its database, so a “Describe a Plot” search can help you find the books that will take you to where you want to go. Just combine your favorite destination with your favorite genre (e.g., “mystery Chicago,” or “love stories France”) to get a list of books that will transport you to your dream location.

For more adult summer reading ideas, see the following Annotated Book Lists (use Article and List Search to find them fast): *Beach Reads* by Joyce Saricks; *Beach Thrills* by Michael B. Gannon; and *Reading Summer* by Katherine Bradley Johnson.

More articles like this can be found in NoveList Notes. You can subscribe to NoveList Notes, an e-mail newsletter, from within NoveList. The GALILEO Express Link to NoveList is [http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zknl](http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zknl).

Once you have logged in, simply click on the Readers’ Advisory tab and select NoveList Notes. You can then click on “here” within the opening paragraph to subscribe. For summer reading and other book suggestions for younger readers, try NoveList K-8. The GALILEO Express Link is [http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zkne](http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=zkne).
Britannica Rolls Out New Public Library Interface

Public library users now see an Encyclopædia Britannica home page designed specifically with their research needs in mind. Britannica Online Reference Center includes the full Encyclopædia Britannica, which contains over 75,000 articles, including over 23,000 biographies. Articles include an interactive table of contents, page numbers, and section headings to help orient users within each article. Through this public library gateway, users can also access the following useful resources:

- World Data Analyst Online, a resource that includes country snapshots, a country comparison tool, and Ranked Statistics; an Internet directory; and a world atlas

Younger public library patrons can choose Britannica Kids, which allows users to search Britannica Elementary Encyclopedia or Compton’s by Britannica, which is geared to middle-school students. Like other Britannica encyclopedias, Britannica Kids includes engaging video, animation, and audio clips. Other great features include:

- Help on research papers, book reviews, and other homework assignments;
- Biography Browse;
- Discover America, statistics and summary information for each state;
- Workspace for organizing research projects Learning Materials, interactive exercises, and study guides; and
- Many other features found in the Britannica Online School Edition resources

Britannica Facts

Authors of Britannica articles include Sir Walter Scott, Prince Pyotr Kropotkin, Sigmund Freud, Albert Einstein, Marie Curie, Leon Trotsky, Harry Houdini, and W.E.B. Du Bois.

The first edition of the Britannica was a three volume set completed in 1771; it quickly sold out.

The China article is the longest in Encyclopedia Britannica Online at 300 pages. Make sure your patrons know they can print by page in addition to by article!

Many activities and exercises in Learning Materials in the student encyclopedias are mapped to QCC standards, and staff at Britannica are working on revising to Georgia Performance Standards!

Double-click on any word in an encyclopedia article – or even an article from one of the magazines offered – and a pop-up window will give the Merriam-Webster definition of the word. Click on the speaker icon to hear the word pronounced.
GALILEO Conference Appearances

GALILEO/GOLD Conference, August 4, 2006
Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens

The Classic Center, Athens

Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, October 6-7, 2006
Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah

Georgia Council for Social Studies Annual Conference, October 19-20, 2006
The Classic Center, Athens

USG Annual Computing Conference, October 25-27, 2006
4-H Conference Center, Rock Eagle

Georgia Educational Technology Conference, November 15-17, 2006
Georgia International Convention Center, College Park

Meet the GALILEO Staff - Matthew Hannum

One of the Digital Library of Georgia’s most valuable assets is the Georgia Government Publications. GGP is a collection of over 26,000 publications of agencies within the Georgia state government, covering 1994 to the present. Materials include annual reports, budget documents, periodicals, maps, posters, and videos.

One of the people who keep GGP up and running is Matthew Hannum. Matt hails from Evanston, Illinois but has been in Athens since his undergraduate days at UGA. A Journalism and Mass Communications graduate, Matt began his career with the Digital Library of Georgia in 1997. In his spare time, Matt likes to read and write and basically, well, sleep. His dream job—he’d love to get paid to write fiction!

His favorite thing about working with GGP and the DLG is the people with who he works and the atmosphere in which they do their thing. What’s the best thing about Georgia Government Publications? According to Matt, “Promoting Freedom of Information.”

Matt Hannum and friend at work at GGP

In the 2006 USG Student Information Technology Survey of most critical online academic resources, full text electronic databases and library resources were ranked third, only after course schedule and course syllabus.
The futuristic theme of this year’s GOLD/GALILEO Users Group Conference is “Library Collaboration: Creating and Strengthening Digital Communities.” The conference will take place August 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens.

The annual one-day event draws librarians, paraprofessionals, and technical staff from academic libraries, public libraries, schools, technical colleges, and special libraries throughout Georgia and the Southeast.

The goal of the conference is to provide a forum for continuing education and professional development related to the use of Georgia’s interlibrary lending and resource sharing network, GOLD, and the statewide virtual library, GALILEO. The conference will showcase new collaborative trends in library resources and highlight current partnerships.

This year’s keynote speaker is Dr. J. Richard Madaus, Executive Director of the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) in Tallahassee, Fla. Dr. Madaus plans to share his forward-thinking vision for libraries and the consortia that serve them. He believes that libraries will not only survive but, through collaboration, will flourish in this age of rapidly changing technology, popular culture, and its tech-savvy youth. Three sets of concurrent sessions, plus a GALILEO database training showcase, are planned for the conference. These will feature 10 presentations on dynamic Georgia libraries using creative collaborations; emerging technologies; and highly adaptive communication styles, tools, and trends to meet the multi-faceted needs of information seekers.

Libraries are destined to do more than just provide physical access to books, magazines, and electronic resources. Someday they will be the core virtual enablers for the digital and ever-growing information communities they serve. This year’s conference theme not only recognizes, but celebrates this transformation.

Registration materials and hotel information is available soon at www.georgialibraries.org/lib/gold.html or by calling 1-800-884-1381.
Timely Topic: Thunderstorms

At this time of year, the occurrence of thunderstorms sparks curiosity about how storms are formed, why they happen mostly in spring and summer, and how to avoid a lightning strike. GALILEO databases offer articles, images, and experiments on the subject.

Encyclopaedia Britannica has made available a resource that can be accessed without the user even logging in to GALILEO. Selected directly from Encyclopaedia Britannica, eight colorful illustrations and animations explain the structure of thunderstorms, the number and intensity of tornadoes in the United States, lightning rod protection systems, and patterns of lightning flashes worldwide.

Try it now! www.school.eb.com/thunderstorms_tornadoes (Log in to GALILEO to search many other Britannica articles on weather.)

AccessScience from McGraw-Hill includes articles on thunderstorms, lightning, thunder, and other weather phenomenon. Illustrations include the structure of a thundercloud in the “Storm Electricity” article and the four types of lightning in the “Lightning” article. AccessScience is available through GALILEO to public libraries, technical colleges, USG institutions, and some other academic libraries.

SIRS Discoverer includes activities relating to thunderstorms and other weather topics, including how to make a jarful of rain, make a kite, and make a tornado in a bottle. SIRS Discoverer is available to K-12 schools and public libraries.

Search for more images of storms in EBSCO databases and SIRS Discoverer.

Possible keywords: thunderstorm, thunder, lightning, tracking storms, cloud electrification.
GALILEO Databases for FY07

While there continue to be many more electronic resources that would benefit GALILEO users, the funding for GALILEO budgets from each of the GALILEO essentially remains flat, allowing only for increases in the subscription costs. While there have been some changes in the database menus—for example, replacing Books in Print with Book Index with Reviews—no new databases have been funded by USG, GPLS, DOE, DTAE, GPALS, or AMPALS since FY2003 when DOE received additional funding to get SIRS Researcher, Encyclopedia Britannica, and GALE Kids InfoBits.

Public Libraries will have access to Heritage Quest for FY07, thanks to cost sharing among the public libraries themselves.

Through volume purchasing, GALILEO helped save Georgia academic libraries over $100,000 in providing electronic resources beyond their GALILEO offerings for FY07.

In order to have funds to add resources, GALILEO librarians and users must make sure that funders understand GALILEO’s value.

Cost of information

Tim McGraw’s Greatest Hits Volume 2 through Amazon .............................................. $9.76
Sunday New York Times .................................................................................................. $5.00
One USG student’s annual access to GALILEO ........................................................... $9.50
Cell phone pay-as-you-go through Verizon ................................................................. 99¢ a day /10¢ per minute
Telephone number from directory information ............................................................ $1.25 per number
Cable TV package ........................................................................................................ $59.99 per month
Britannica Online/Merriam Webster ................................................................. $84.95 per year for family subscription
Britannica Online/MerriamWebster through GALILEO ............................................ 1¢ per citizen
Average cost of a book at Athens Regional Library (2005). $51.19 (median) per unit
Average cost of a children’s/young adult book (2005) ................................................. $20.52
One public K-12 student’s annual access to GALILEO .............................................. 93¢
One song downloaded from iTunes .............................................................................. 99¢