



Modern Times



2021

Our Archives Holds Treasures

Museum Hours

Saturday and Sunday
1 - 3

Services Provided

We are continuing to provide research assistance through correspondence via email, snail mail, our website and phone calls. All in person appointments will follow Covid-19 protocol for the safety of everyone

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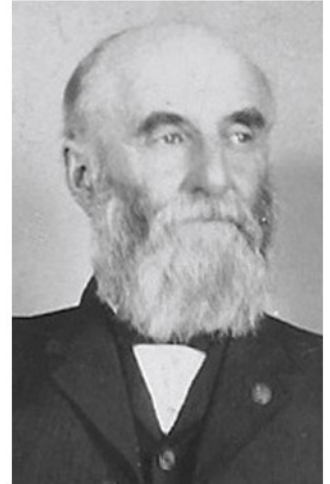
Collections Manager

Cynthia Cort

Volunteer Coordinator

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The Granville Historical Society's Archives holds a vast array of historical paper documents, and in several cases they consist of letters of historic significance written by local individuals. A well-known example is a collection of the letters mailed between Dr. Edwin Sinnet of Granville, who was also a Civil War surgeon, and his wife Sarah Sinnet, during the war. They are the basis for one of the eight books in the Society's Pocket History series. Titled "By Means of Ink and Paper – The Civil War Correspondence of Edwin & Sarah Sinnet," it featured 58 letters between the two and was compiled by the late Maggie Brooks, a longtime Publications Committee member with the Society. A more recent series of letters, also involving the Civil War, are letters between Granville area native Thomas E. Hayes, a soldier in the Civil War who spent nearly five months in the Camp Sumpter prison for Union soldiers at Andersonville, Ga., following capture at North Mountain in Martinsburg, Va., in July 1864.



Thomas E. Hayes

Letters in this collection are between Hayes and his parents, Elihu P. and Mercy Hayes, residents of what is now Granview Road south of Granville, as well as between Elihu Hayes and military officials and even President Lincoln — the latter representing his effort to seek Lincoln's and the military's assistance in rescuing his son and his cohorts.

The 21 letters include one very short communication from Thomas dated July 3, 1864, alerting his parents to the fact that he had been captured.

The letters were loaned to Granville Historical Society member and local historian Kevin Bennett by the Michael Whitehead family, descendants of Thomas Hayes, and were digitized for the Society archives.

Thomas Hayes' story is related by his granddaughter, Delia Hayes Whitehead, in an account published in *The Historical Times* of Spring 1991, available on the Society's website granville-history.org.

The Society welcomes similar collections of correspondence involving Granville figures throughout the history of our community that help tell the Granville story. Contact Archivist Theresa Overholser (ghsarchives@gmail.com) at the Robinson Research Center behind the Granville Historical Society Museum downtown.



Open for Business and for Smelling

We are happy to announce the opening of the 2021 season! This Saturday the museum opens from 1 - 3 and will continue each Saturday and Sunday through July.

If you are in town this weekend, please stop in for a visit, or at least drop by and smell the amazing Granville Rose that is currently in full bloom.

As you are checking things out, please note that we have begun some much needed maintenance in our garden area. The fence is getting a new coat of paint and the perennials are being thinned out for a new fresher look. Throughout the summer you may see more changes as we continue working on the garden.