

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

History of Scanning in ASTR, p.8

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.9

TELLING THE STORY

Archives, Statistics,
and Research (ASTR)
Newsletter - Issue #14



Christmas and Winter 2022-23 Greetings from ASTR!

Warm Christmas greetings from the ASTR team! We hope all of our friends and colleagues around the world that share our passion for Adventist history and data enjoy a wonderful and blessed holiday, one which we as Christians ought to properly cherish. There would be no Seventh-day Adventist history were there not the ever true and meaningful history that inspires our Christian hope, the life, sacrifice, and resurrection of Christ two millenia ago.

As Christ has inspired our gift-giving season, Him being the greatest gift the world can ever know, we at ASTR also wish to participate in inspiring the giving spirit. If you are inclined and able, do note our final page below which shares how you can help support our mission to make our shared stories become part of our collective testimony and witness to our faith.

In this issue of the ASTR Newsletter, we're thrilled to announce that soon there will be a regular new way to learn about what research we're up to lately in ASTR! Our new Adventist News Network (ANN) television programs (to be released twice per month and will be available on the GC Facebook page and SDA Church Youtube channel) will be released, starting in January, 2023.

Our first three episodes have already been filmed, and we trust our readers will enjoy learning more about what we do with full audio and video when they are made

available. We're already planning more of our future episodes, and can't wait to dig deeper into our past and share our work with you.

As a sneak preview, you'll find that our first new ANN ASTR programs will explain more about how we do our work. From explaining more about how our records management process works, to how we collect our contemporary human-subject research data, we'll be sharing a wide variety of content. You'll also regularly get updates from our *Yearbook* and *Annual Statistical Report* team, sharing the latest interesting facts about our worldwide body.

Also, during some of our first episodes, you'll learn more about the history of how some of our teams got started, including our recently released *Seventh-day Adventist Encyclopedia!* Have you wondered about when or why we started collecting statistics? Or what about more in-depth human-subject research? Or how about when we began to digitize our materials? Our staff will explain the history behind these developments, and what we hope to do in the future in these areas.



Behind the scenes, long-time ASTR assistant Jaya Singh

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

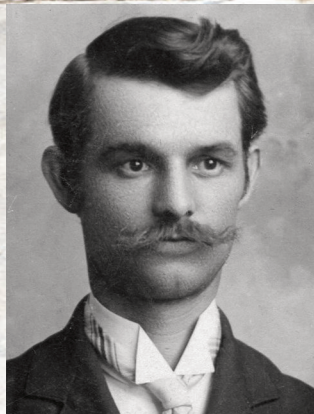
The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research

The Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research is an office of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and is commonly referred to as ASTR. Roles that the office holds include managing the archives and records management program of the General Conference, collecting and publishing crucial organizational information and statistics, supporting the research and analysis needs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's world headquarters, producing the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*, and supporting scholarship and Church researchers around the world.

While the office was established in 1975 as the Office of Archives and Statistics, ASTR is the successor to the Statistical Secretary's Office (or department), which was established in 1904. The Statistical Secretary's work built on previous recordkeeping and statistical collection done by those in the Church's headquarters, though information on how exactly these tasks were done prior to the Church's re-organization in 1901 is relatively thin.

However, we do know that H. Edson Rogers, a thirty-six-year-old who had been clerking at the church's headquarters since 1889, was appointed as the Seventh-day Adventist Church's first Statistical Secretary in 1904, a post which was made permanent the next year.



H. Edson Rogers

Rogers laid the foundation for the work we still do today. He revived the publication of the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* and created the *Annual Statistical Report*, both of which are still published today. Rogers and his team managed the stenographic recording of General Conference Sessions and collected, analyzed, and published statistics. While there wouldn't be a General Conference archivist until 1973, there's evidence that Rogers also had significant oversight of the Church's official records and how they were organized and managed. When moving the amendment to make the

Statistical Secretary position an *ex officio* member of the General Conference Committee at the 1922 General Conference Session, Secretary William A. Spicer affirmed Rogers' work, commenting, "We have but one Statistical Secretary in the denomination."



(L-R) C. L. Rogers, Mertie Wheeler, H. E. Rogers, W.A. Spicer, B. P. Foote, J. K. Macmillan, Roger Altman in 1926

After Rogers retired in 1941, Claude Conard became the next Statistical Secretary and filled the position until 1950. He was succeeded by E. J. Johanson, who only served for two years in the role, and then by Henry W. Klaser, who spent a decade as Statistical Secretary. When Klaser was called to be the secretary-treasurer of the Southwestern Union Conference, the GC Executive Committee asked E. Lee Becker, the auditor of the General Conference, to take on the statistical secretary's duties. Becker presented the statistical report at the 1962 GC Session. After Becker's report, M. V. Campbell remarked, "Some people consider statistics rather dry, but actually they are history, and history is never dry."



(L-R) Claude Conard, E. J. Johanson, and Henry W. Klaser

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

History of Scanning in ASTR, p.8

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.9

The 1962 GC session also officially discontinued the position of statistical secretary, preferring to combine the statistical secretary's duties with that of the auditor. Becker remained in the position and, despite the official discontinuation, was still referred to as the statistical secretary in the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook*. Robert J. Radcliffe, an assistant auditor, succeeded Becker in the dual role in 1964. However, this combined role was short-lived. At the 1966 GC Session, the role of statistical secretary was officially revived and its duties separated from those of the auditor. Radcliffe remained as auditor, while Jesse O. Gibson became the new statistical secretary. It was during Gibson's tenure that the General Conference Archives became officially established.

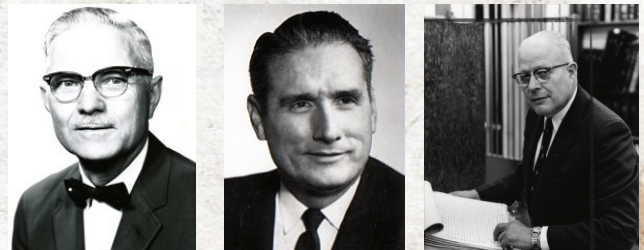
matter of archives and records under present unfavorable circumstances' and minuted that 'The whole subject of General Conference archives and archivists is now under study.'



(L-R) E. Lee Becker, M. V. Campbell, and Robert J. Radcliffe

Church leaders began to seriously consider creating an archives for the denomination after World War II, voting in the spring of 1946 'to recommend that a Department of Archives be established to properly look after our legal documents and obtain copies of all deeds and legal papers from all divisions to be on file here in the General Conference office.' This theoretical consideration grew during the 1950s and 1960s but little to no practical action was taken. General Conference officers saw the preservation of the Church's documentary heritage as essential, but at the time did not see a need for the materials to be openly accessible to scholars engaged in research. But that was soon to change.

Like most administrative decisions at the General Conference, the formal establishment of the Archives in 1973 was a long time in the making. As early as May 1971, the GC administration had begun studying the specific question of whether there should be a proper archives and records management program at the headquarters. The minutes record that they commended the Statistical Department 'for what is being done on the



(L-R) Jesse O. Gibson, David H. Baasch, and Arthur L. White

Four months later, in September 1971, associate secretary David H. Baasch brought an item to the officers asking for further study on the practical aspects of setting up an archives at the headquarters, and such study was assigned to the Special Items Committee. While that committee did its work, Adventist scholars were making strides to promote the study of the Church's history, which by its nature necessitates archives and records management. On December 28, 1972, a group of thirteen Adventist historians in attendance at the meeting of the American Historical Association held their own meeting alongside it; they listened to Arthur L. White, secretary of the Ellen G. White Estate, describe church recordkeeping at the headquarters and relay his "long-standing belief" that "more effective" recordkeeping was needed. At this meeting, the historians voted to form the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Historians (ASDAH) and "endorsed a document urging the General Conference to establish a records management program and archival organization" at the headquarters. The historians also voted to request the General Conference to establish an archives and allow scholars to research in it. Arthur White was a conduit for this request to church leaders, and it's possible that this request plus White's influence is why the General Conference Archives has been open to researchers since its beginning.

In January 1973, the Special Items Committee recommended that a new committee be created to specifically 'give study to the subject of headquarters archives material and the need for an archivist at headquarters', and so the GC Officers appointed an ad hoc Archives-Archivist Committee. In April 1973, this

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

committee presented a report to the 1973 Spring Meeting, recommending for the appointment of an archivist, which the General Conference Committee agreed to. On June 6, 1973, F. Donald Yost was formally called to the position and he took up his new task on July 1, 1973.



(L-R) F. Donald Yost, R. William Cash, and Bert Haloviak

For two years, the General Conference Archives existed on its own, until it could be officially merged with the Statistical Department through an amendment to the GC Constitution. In 1975, the 52nd General Conference Session created the new Office of Archives and Statistics. The director of the new office replaced the statistical secretary in the GC Constitution, and F. Donald Yost, the archivist, was elected to succeed the retiring statistical secretary, Jesse O. Gibson, and became the first Director of Archives and Statistics.

Since that time, the *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook*, *Annual Statistical Report*, general statistical collection, and the Archives have been under one office. However, it continued, like the Statistical Office that preceded it, to be under the GC Secretary and thus, in effect, a part of the GC Secretariat. The Office's next two directors, R. William Cash, who served from 1995 to 1998, and Bert Haloviak, who served from 1998 to 2010, oversaw technological innovation; the "Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook on disc" was introduced in 1998 and in the early 2000s a Yearbook database was developed which became the basis both for the publication of the printed book and of a dedicated website.

At Annual Council 2010, our current director, David Trim, was appointed as director of Archives and Statistics, succeeding Haloviak. In June 2011, after a decision by the three GC executive officers to expand the scope of the Office of Archives and Statistics by adding responsibilities for social-scientific, human-subject research on subjects and entities in the present, it was

formally renamed the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research. This was subsequently formalized by an amendment to the GC Constitution at the sixtieth GC Session in 2015. It was also at the 2015 Session that the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* project was officially launched.



David Trim presenting at the 2015 GC Session

While our Office's title has changed and our responsibilities have expanded, the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research still holds true to the legacy laid down by H. E. Rogers and his successors in the years following 1904. Compiling, analyzing, and publishing statistics; preserving, managing, and facilitating access to records; conducting historical and human-subject research; and organizing the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*—all this and more is done to make sure that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is able to remember its past history, evaluate its present, and plan for its future.

adapted from [ESDA](#) by Ashlee Chism



2022 Archives, Statistics, and Research team

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church

The Adventist Church has always valued data. From the very beginning, it collected and kept statistical records. The denominational *Yearbook* goes back to 1883, and while the *Annual Statistical Report* started only in 1907, yearly statistical reports have been compiled, reported to church leaders, and published in church papers since 1865.

Starting in the 1960s, in addition to gathering statistics, church leaders began using research more often.¹ Seeing benefits from the research, church leaders eventually identified a need for consistent human-subject research for strategic planning and decision-making. Such an approach became a reality in the 21st century. The Adventist Church moved from sporadic use of Adventist research pioneers, such as Monte Sahlin, Roger L. Dudley, and Bailey Gillespie, towards creating an office in the General Conference (GC) with responsibility for a program of research. Initially, this was the Office of Assessment and Program Effectiveness, with Paul Brantley as its director, which from 2007 to 2011 conducted several global qualitative assessment projects. In 2011, this office was merged with the Office of Archives and Statistics, giving its name the third component; it became the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research (ASTR), under David Trim as director.

Since that time, strategic planning and human-subject research has been an additional function in ASTR's operations. This development has opened a new page in Adventist history. The GC began to regularly conduct strategic planning research and evaluation projects on a global scale. In the last decade, tens of thousands of pastors, church leaders, active or former members, young people, and church employees have participated in global research projects. The biggest project that encompassed all divisions was the 2nd Global Church Member Survey (GCMS), with a total sample of 63,756 respondents. You can find its "Meta-Analysis Report" and other research reports [here](#). The 3rd GCMS is going this year in all divisions, and we are looking forward to receiving a new "Meta-Analysis Report" next year. In addition, three other ongoing research studies—Adventist Pastors' Survey, Church Leadership Survey, and Institutional Employees'



Survey—will contribute to strategic planning for the next quinquennium.

The ASTR Research and Evaluation team also supervised evaluations of the mission-effectiveness of several major church ministries and organizations, including *Adventist Review* and *Adventist World* magazines, Hope Channel, Adventist World Radio, and SunPlus. It also developed a [Mission-Effectiveness Evaluation handbook and manual](#) for use by other church organizations in conducting evaluations, which include a Biblical foundation and philosophy of evaluation and step-by-step guidelines for evaluating church ministries and organizations, including undertaking research.

It would not be possible to accomplish these global assignments without the professional expertise of Adventist researchers with whom ASTR contracts for research projects. However, a worldwide network of Adventist researchers was missing. Research teams in different divisions functioned separately, each on their own basis, connected to respective educational institutions but without reference to other professionals with similar research interests. In 2012, ASTR conducted the first conference of Adventist social science researchers, which laid the foundation for the creation of the international Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association (AHSRA). Its official organization took place at the [2013 Nurture & Retention Summit](#) (also organized by ASTR), and since that time it has conducted annual meetings. (You can read more about the history of AHSRA and its conferences in this [article](#).)² The next AHSRA hybrid meeting will take place in Nairobi, Kenya,

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

History of Scanning in ASTR, p.8

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.9

on May 25-27, 2023. For more information visit <http://www.ahsra.net>.

ASTR has sought to share research data with church leaders, pastors, researchers, and lay members. For that reason, it created the [Adventist Research website](#), which is part of the suite of [ASTR websites](#). In May 2016, the Research and Evaluation team started publishing bi-monthly research newsletters/blogs to inform about recent research projects and their findings. The range of our topics is extensive. You can read all our published blogs [here](#). The blogs are available in English, and additionally, many of them are in German, Portuguese, Spanish, French, and Telugu versions. If you would like to regularly receive the ASTR Research Newsletter with a summary of the new blog and links to different language versions, please visit our [Newsletter page](#) and sign up for it.

We will be happy to receive your feedback on our blogs, research-related questions, or any suggestions. You can reach us at research@gc.adventist.org.

We believe that our data can help build the Seventh-day-Adventist Church into a beautiful "spiritual house" that consists of "living stones" and can strengthen its ministries, to the glory of Jesus Christ (1Peter 2:5, NIV).

Galina Stele

¹Michael L. Ryan, "Forward: Adventist Research and Strategic Planning" in *A Fresh Look at Denominational Research: Role, Impact, & Scope* ed. by Petr Cincala (Berrien Springs, MI: Institute of Church Ministry, Andrews University, 2018), 5.

²Galina Stele and David Trim, "ASTR, AHSRA, and New Horizons for Human-Subject Research," *Ibid*, 53-62.

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists

The Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists (ESDA) is one of the recent resources produced by ASTR.

What is the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists?

The Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists (ESDA) is a global church project and the Seventh-day Adventist Church's first online reference work. It was released July 1, 2020 and can be accessed freely on the internet at encyclopedia.adventist.org. This incredibly valuable resource currently contains more than 4,000 articles on Adventist history, crucial events and themes, people, organizations, and institutions, over 11,000 photographs, and a growing collection of videos. This free online resource will be periodically updated and expanded. ESDA draws on the expertise of over 1,500 authors and editors worldwide, reflecting the many cultures and ethnicities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The ESDA is a great tool, not only for those seeking to learn more about the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, its institutions, organizations, teachings, mission, and the people who were connected with it all, but also for those looking to witness to others. It provides reliable and well-documented information.

ESDA Development

At its 2015 Spring Meeting, the General Conference Executive Committee approved a sizeable budget for the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* and initiated the project, based on proposals drawn up by ASTR. At the 2015 Annual Council, Dr. David Trim, Director of ASTR, was appointed Editor and Dr. Benjamin Baker Managing Editor; to oversee the project, an Editorial Board was established, chaired by Dr. Artur Stele, a General Conference general vice president. In the spring of 2018, Dr. Dragoslava Santrac took over as Managing Editor and in December 2019, extra funding was approved by the General Conference Administrative Committee. In the summer of 2022, Audrey Andersson, a General Conference general vice president, took over as the ESDA Editorial Board Chair.

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

History of Scanning in ASTR, p.8

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.9



Why a new Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists?

Almost twenty-five years after the second revised edition of the old *SDA Encyclopedia*, and nearly sixty years after the publication of the first edition, the Seventh-day Adventist Church needs a new reference work: one that accurately depicts the Adventist Church of the twenty-first century, reflects its tremendous growth of the last half century, its shifts in global membership, and the development of Adventist theology and historical scholarship in the last thirty years. The online *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* provides its readers with easy opportunities to download articles and allows the reader to share the content digitally on Internet platforms like Facebook and Twitter, or by email. All these possibilities of the digital age are now available online at our fingertips and invite an interactive engagement of the *ESDA* by its readers.

How is this new Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists different from the Encyclopedia produced in 1996?

The new *ESDA* is much larger in scope than the *SDA Encyclopedia* and is revolutionary as a digital reference work. Every article is carefully researched and can be continually updated. Unlike its predecessor, articles are also peer-reviewed by other Adventist experts in the field before they are accepted and made available to the public. The *Encyclopedia* now also includes historical data from world regions that previously could not be

included in the *SDA Encyclopedia*. While the authors of the earlier editions definitely tried to include an international worldwide perspective, many articles were written from a North American perspective. The new *ESDA* draws on the expertise of hundreds of Adventist authors worldwide and the editorial team comprising more than 50 editorial staff from the Adventist Church's 13 world divisions, the Middle East and North Africa Union, the Ellen G. White Estate, and the Biblical Research Institute. The *ESDA* team is guided by the *ESDA* Main Office at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Silver Spring, MD, U.S.A., and is composed of the editor, managing editor, and office assistant. You can find information about the editorial team [here](#) and about the authors [here](#).

The advantage of having worldwide contributions and a global involvement is that assistant editors in each Division of the World Church were able to identify authors with local (and expert) knowledge. They have been able to collect materials from their local churches, such as letters and diaries. They have also recorded oral traditions and conducted interviews with surviving relatives or people who experienced key historical events. Much of this information would probably not have survived were it not for the purpose of the *ESDA* to keep a memory of these things for future generations.

ESDA Goals

The *ESDA* has several important goals and objectives:

- Supply reliable and authoritative information on Adventist history, crucial events and themes, organizations, entities, institutions, and people.
- Strengthen Adventist identity and unity in a fast-growing worldwide movement, heightening awareness of our distinctive doctrinal framework and prophetic beliefs.
- Provide a reference work for those new to the Adventist faith, as well as for those not of the Adventist faith, to learn about as many aspects of Adventism as possible.
- Illustrate the role of the Adventist church's organization in fulfilling its mission.
- Highlight the missional challenges still remaining in order to "reach the world" and inspire the reader to learn from the dedication and sacrifice of those who have gone before us.
- Reflect the global nature of the worldwide Seventh-

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

History of Scanning in ASTR, p.8

Remember to help us Tell the Story! p.9

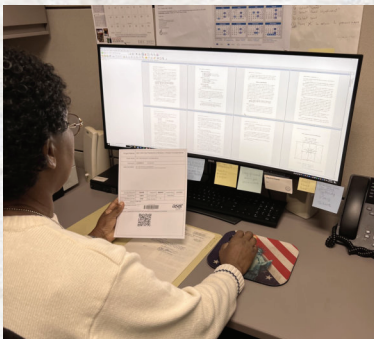
day Adventist Church today, both in subject matter and in the team of writers and editors who contribute.

The ESDA is already proving to be an invaluable resource, not only for doing research on Adventist history, but also for preparing devotionals, sermons, mission stories, youth and children's programs, study materials for classes, prayer meetings, and other events. The many pictures and videos help users visualize the people and places that the entries explore and bring a personal touch to the historical information. In addition to basic search by article titles and key word(s), the advanced search options on the ESDA website allow readers to browse articles by church division, category, and language (Portuguese, Spanish, Russian, and Korean). More languages and translated articles will be added as they become available. All ESDA articles are signed and include reference notes and sources.

More Authors are Needed

Adventist authors from all walks of life, who have expertise on a given subject, not only scholars of history and theology, are welcome to contribute to the ESDA. Everyone has the potential opportunity to make a significant contribution to the understanding of our Church in an honest, open, and thorough way. Readers who are interested in helping may browse the list of unfinished article titles at <https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/unfinished-articles> or contact the ESDA main office at encyclopedia@gc.adventist.org. They should also consult the author guidelines and other useful materials at: <https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/author-materials>. Help in this immense undertaking would be appreciated and the ESDA team are grateful for any support that would make this resource even better.

Dragoslava Santrac and David Trim



One of ASTR's master scanners, Rosette Kibuuka

History of Scanning in ASTR

Under the direction of director Bert Haloviak and staff member Jonathan Brauer, the Archives and Statistics (AST) team began scanning documents in the early 2000s. The end goal was to make holdings in the General Conference Archives available online. Brauer designed the original online archives website, and the first items published on that site were General Conference (GC) Session Bulletins, statistical documents, and GC Executive Committee minutes. The team's next big project was to scan the *Review and Herald* and *Signs of the Times*. These periodicals were all scanned using an old black and white scanner. Upon joining the department in 2005, Joshua Marcoe attended a trade show and identified a new color scanner, which was able to scan multiple sizes and shapes of paper, which the department acquired. Most of the new material scanned was published in the Periodicals and Books sections of the online [archives website](#).

After AST became ASTR in 2011, the focus of the scanning projects shifted toward scanning for ease of use for internal research or for the preservation of materials, although some materials have also been published to the online archives. The scanning team began digitizing in-house business documents such as minutes, scholarly papers, photos, books, and working documents from various GC Departments.

In 2015, Kenrie Hylton joined ASTR; during his tenure in the department, the scanning process was largely streamlined and a system was implemented which integrated various systems used for records management, reduced duplications of efforts, and enhanced document retrieval. In 2020, Kenrie was succeeded by Elizabeth Henry.

Today, the team is made up of four scanning technicians under a dedicated manager, who have scanned over 13,000 documents just since January 2022. That is over 576 GB of data!

Elizabeth Henry

Featured Articles:

Christmas and Winter 2022 Greetings from ASTR!, p.1

History of the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research, p.2

The Importance of Research and Evaluation in the Adventist Church, p.5

The New Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, p.6

As always, remember to help us Tell the Story!

As a reminder, our purpose here at ASTR is to tell the Adventist story. We want to inform and inspire church members toward a renewed commitment to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church by sharing our history.

You can help us to tell the story in two ways:

First, help us to preserve the story: your stories and the Church's story! Letters and other documents, memoirs, photographs, tape recordings, audio and video cassettes, films, and historic books and magazines: all enable us to recover the story of how, in the words of Ellen White, "the Lord has led us . . . in our past history" and of how God has worked in the lives of individual church members. They are the raw materials from which Adventist history can be researched by scholars and without which parts of that history will be lost. So please, [contact us](#) about sending your family's documents, photographs, and other historic materials to us so that they can be preserved and used to help the great Second Advent Movement fulfill its prophetic mission.

Second, help us to conserve and to share the story—to pass it on to the next generation. Historic Adventist photographs and movies allow us to connect with our past in a way nothing else can, because we look into the eyes of those who sacrificed to make this Church. We want to digitize those precious resources, scanning them electronically so they can be accessed by everyone. We especially want to connect with young people. By digitizing photos and movies, we can help them to understand "the way the Lord has led us and His teaching in our past history"—we can help them to connect with our pioneers and be inspired to service.

Haven't received your Newsletter? Sign up [HERE](#). For previous issues visit our [website](#).



Your gift of at least \$25 could:

- Digitize 100 feet of film = five minutes viewing time, or
- Conserve, digitize, and publicize one historic Adventist photograph from our collection of thousands, or
- Contribute to our continuing effort to preserve and digitize rare Adventist books, pamphlets, and magazines

Two ways to Donate:

- 1) Mail your remittance to:
GC Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research
12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD
20904
- 2) Donate Online by visiting:
www.adventistarchives.org/tellthestory
and click the "Donate" link.

