## Update on Archives for November 2024 through March 2025

**Board of Trustees Meeting May 2025**

**Chelle Somsen, State Archivist**

**Digitization Program.**

The Special Projects Program moved out of the Women’s Prison and now all the state archives digitization activities are centralized in one location in the Cultural Heritage Center for the first time.

Two of the staff, Cherri Reed and Sarah Kirchman, continue to be grant/donation funded employees that work on specialized projects. Most recently they completed the digitization of the Doane Robinson Collection. Steve Mayer digitizes government collections and newspapers and performs quality controls on a census data project. There are 72,948 images, 1,288 maps, 17,450.pdfs and 129 MP3 files available in the South Dakota Digital Archives.

**Outreach**

288 people were reached between November 2024 and March 2025 through presentations and consultations by the archives staff.

**Archives Month**

Archives Month will be celebrated during the month of October.

**Personnel**Justin Stauder filled the government archivist position, and he started in January.

**Statistics for November 2024 through March 2025**

The Archives received 63 gifts and transfers totaling 144.55 cubic feet and 249,987.83 MB. Forty-six collections totaling 59 cubic feet, and 376,807.46 MB were processed. Archives staff handled a total of 1,149 reference requests by mail, telephone, or email.

**Library**

Two hundred fifty-seven books were acquired in the reporting period. Most of the books were received from the State Library in March as part of their efforts to eliminate their library book holdings. Forty-eight books were cataloged.

**Electronic Records Program**

The updated contract with Preservica was signed and efforts are underway to move out of ContentDM and into Preservica. The move is expected to be complete by the end of June and the user experience for accessing the South Dakota Digital Archives will be relatively seamless.