

# **The Hancock County Library Historic Room Collection and Maintenance Policy**

## **Statement of Purpose**

The Hancock County Library Historic Room is where local history and genealogy materials are housed. The Hancock County Library collects and organizes materials for the purpose of research covering the Sparta and Hancock areas, neighboring counties, Azalea Regional Library System, Georgia History, and general genealogy reference.

## **Acquisitions/Collection Development**

### **Selections Criteria**

Materials suitable for the Hancock County Library Historic Room collection must have relevance to the City of Sparta, Hancock County, neighboring counties, Azalea Regional Library System, Georgia History, or general genealogy reference material.

### **Acquisitions**

Materials will be collected through purchase, gift, or trade from individuals, businesses, and institutions. The Member Library Manager or Regional Library Director reserves the right to refer or reject gift or trade materials of questionable value to the collection.

The Hancock County Library acquires local history and genealogy materials based on cost, space, demand, and relevance to the local area. Member Library local history collections focus on materials useful for general interest; they are not considered to be archival in scope. The Hancock County Library Historic Room does not serve as a repository of genealogical materials that do not fall within the selections criteria scope.

### **Donations**

All donations and gifts will be evaluated using the same criteria as materials selected for purchase. The Hancock County Library will accept donations and gifts for the Hancock County Library Historic Room with the understanding that it may use them in accordance with its policies and dispose of them as it sees fit.

City of Sparta and Hancock County family histories, records, and local yearbooks must be made by donation, in a typed, bound, or digitized format, and no public funds are to be used to acquire such material/s.

## **Collection Maintenance**

In general, the Hancock County Library Historic Room follows the practices outlined in the URRLS *Collection Development Policy*.

Hancock County Library Historic Room resources are weeded from the collection based on the following variables: content, condition, no longer part of the scope, or lack of patron demand which limits future use. With the removal of an item from its collection, the Hancock County Library will do its utmost to secure a new home for the weeded material/s, ensure that such material/s are available via other sources such as Interlibrary Loan, the PINES system, or online databases, and reserves the right to sell discarded resources to benefit the Hancock County Library Historic Room or to otherwise dispose of items no longer suitable for its collections.

## **Access**

The Hancock County Library Historic Room is open to the public and accessible during normal library business hours. A PINES card is not required to use the Hancock County Library Historic Room. Patrons are allowed to bring laptop computers, tablet computers, and personal scanners into the Hancock County Library Historic Room. Items are not permitted to be removed or borrowed. Approval to loan/borrow material/s from other Member Libraries within the Azalea Regional Library System may be granted by the Regional Library Director.

If material/s belonging to the Hancock County Library Historic Room cannot be located in either the Hancock County Library Historic Room or the Hancock County Library building, the Hancock County Library Manager, Hancock County Library staff, Regional Library Director, nor Regional Library staff may be held responsible for missing, damaged, weeded, or misplaced material/s.