Shortly after arriving at the Forest History Society, I was able to examine the oldest book in our collections—John Evelyn’s *Sylva*, the first book published by the Royal Society of London, in 1664. I had heard of this book while in graduate school but had never held a physical copy in my hands. As the full title of the book suggests—*A Discourse of Forest-trees, and the Propagation of Timber in His Majesties Dominions*—it is one of the earliest arguments for sustainable forestry. Dedicated to King Charles II, Evelyn pressed his landholding readers to plant trees as an urgent matter for the country’s continued prosperity and security. As an island realm that depended on ships for her economy and naval defenses, England desperately needed more trees—tall conifers for masts and strong oaks to build hulls. But many of her oldest and largest trees had been cut in prior centuries, and wood was continuing to be fed to the country’s seemingly insatiable hearths and kilns at an alarming rate.

It is remarkable to hold this book in my hands today—not only for the timeliness of its message, but also for the sheer fact that I am standing in a library in Durham, North Carolina, 360 years after its pages were first pulled off a printing press in London. Think of the floods, fires, diseases, perilous passages, and reversals of fortune of centuries past. Any book that survives from the seventeenth century to reach us today is a marvel to behold. And our *Sylva* is in good shape—there are blemishes here and there, but the pages feel sturdy, and the text is still crisp.

Safeguarding the documents of history is one of the core values that guide our work at FHS. Forests have played a crucial role in our nation’s history, and it gives me tremendous comfort to know that our books and documents are kept safe in our state-of-the-art building for generations to come. And yet, as much as the historian in me relishes the vast richness and security of our stacks, I also know that preserving the documents of history is only part of our mandate. Just as crucial to our mission is ensuring that these documents are discoverable and accessible to all who wish to use them, because we believe that understanding the past can make us better stewards of our future.

Forests will increasingly play a vital role in the health of our planet, the global economy, and the well-being of the many communities that depend on them. The mission of FHS is, therefore, just as timely today as it was at the organization’s founding almost 80 years ago.

In this report, you will see highlighted the values that guide FHS in its work. The achievements you’ll find described are a testament to the dedication and vision of our board of directors, former President Steve Anderson, our staff, and each of you who make this work possible. I hope you will be as inspired as I am by the successes of the past two years—may they instill in you a sense of possibility and excitement for what lies ahead for the Forest History Society!
Housed in the Alvin J. Huss Archives are the personal and professional papers of some of the most important scientists and practitioners of forestry, as well as corporate, government, and advocacy organizations. Also in our archives are photo collections, films and videos, oral history interview tapes, posters and artwork, and rare books of historical significance. Researchers from around the world visit FHS to gain access to this one-of-a-kind collection. Of the collections we’ve accepted over the past two years, these three illustrate the diversity of sources we strive to preserve:

FOREST PRODUCTS
From Dierks Forests, we received 17 boxes of materials documenting the history of this forest products company and its operations in Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma until its acquisition by Weyerhaeuser Company in 1969.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
The family of Lloyd W. Swift Sr. (1904–2001), a wildlife management expert with the U.S. Forest Service and the World Wildlife Fund, donated more than 20 boxes of files, reports, correspondence, and personal diaries from a seventy-year career.

TROPICAL FORESTRY
Gary Hartshorn (1943–), one of the world’s leading experts in tropical forestry, donated 35 boxes of materials from his work in Central and South America, including records covering fifty years of data on one experimental plot in Costa Rica.

IMAGE DIGITIZATION
The FHS online image database contains more than 40,000 historical images. All are accessible to researchers from anywhere in the world. Scanning and cataloging old photos is highly detailed work requiring precision and delicate handling. Recently, of the thousands of photos that have been processed and uploaded, more than 600 depict the Westvaco Corporation’s operations in South Carolina during the 1940s and 1950s. These paper photos were carefully removed from albums, scanned and cataloged, and returned for preservation.

Some 250 slides from the Duke University School of Forestry Lantern Slide Collection were added, bringing that collection’s total to 550 images. The hand-colored glass images provide an extraordinary visual record of forest management practices in the first half of the twentieth century in the U.S.

“It’s exciting when a researcher finds something new or something they maybe didn’t even know existed when using our collections.”

EBEN LEHMAN, FHS ARCHIVIST

Since our founding in 1946, the library and archives have been central to the Forest History Society’s mission. The library holds more than 12,000 books and annually receives more than 200 books and periodicals, with more coming in every day, to add to the collection. Our manuscript and image collections, which are protected in our controlled archive, shed light on a wide range of subjects, such as the American conservation and environmental movements, the profession of forestry, and the use of forests and related natural resources throughout the world. The library and archives staff ensure that our holdings are available to everyone interested in the history of the relationship between people and forests and other natural resources.

One way we share materials is through our digital exhibits on the FHS website, where you will find a diversity of themes and voices. Our latest, “Reclaiming Maxville: The Legacy of African Americans in a Lumber Town,” explores the history of a multiracial lumber town in Oregon that disappeared in 1945. And thanks to support from the Mills Davis Foundation, FHS curated this online exhibit working with Yolanda Hester and Elizabeth Flowers of Frameworks and Narratives LLC, and the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center.

All digital exhibits, including “Division and Restoration: A Brief History of Forestry on the Quinault Indian Reservation” and “The Oberlaender Trust and American Forestry”—both created by interns—can be found at www.foresthistory.org/digital-exhibits.

As of July 2023, our searchable, online library databases list:

- 40,576 images
- 18,425 books
- 27,671 articles
- 3,605 dissertations and theses

“Every day I learn something new about forest history through the treasure trove of resources we have right here in our library.”

LAUREN BISSONETTE, FHS LIBRARIAN
Research Fellows

The Forest History Society offers three fellowships to support researchers.

Early-career scholars can receive the **ALFRED D. BELL JR. TRAVEL GRANT** to help defray travel and lodging expenses for those using our library and archive.

**Andrew Bell**, a postdoctoral student at Centre d’Histoire, Science Po, Paris, conducted research on postwar seeding programs as well as the role of forestry in the First World War and its aftermath on an international scale.

**Thomas Kaye**, a PhD student at the University of Birmingham (UK), used the Forests in Fiction collection to conduct research on forests and forestry in modern and contemporary American literature.

**Nate Otjen**, a postdoctoral research associate at the High Meadows Environmental Institute, Princeton University, researched how draft animals were used in the extraction of longleaf pine for logging and turpentining industries in the U.S. South around the turn of the twentieth century.

**Jason Newton**, a history professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, explored an early-twentieth-century debate on “technical” versus “practical” forestry training in the professional literature of the era.

**Donald Davis**, an independent historian and part-time research scholar at Harvard Forest, worked on his book featuring the biographies of ten ancient trees, including the oldest living bald cypress in eastern North America and the individuals who studied them.

**Ruth Anna Stolk**, Smithsonian Conservation Commons, Washington, DC, researched the Progressive Era forest conservation movement and the key figures of the early days of American professional forestry, including her own grandfather, to compare their values and practices with those of the present.

**Samuel Hawksford White**, a postgraduate researcher in American studies at the University of Hull, UK, examined the photographic representation of flooding and drought in scientific journals to compare forestry and land engineering in the 1920s.

**FHS VISITING RESEARCHERS OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS**

Gary Blank, North Carolina State University
Kelly Kay, University of California, Los Angeles
Owen Hyman, University of Mississippi
Augustine Sedgewick, journalist and author
Cheryle Franceschi, filmmaker, Por Eco Productions
Theo Mitchell, Princeton University
Linda Ferko, U.S. Forest Service
Julie-Francoise Tolliver, University of Oklahoma
Sophie Fitzmaurice, University of California, Berkeley
Tom Oden-Schilling, National University of Singapore
Kayla Stan, University of Southern Mississippi

Researchers come from all over the world to use the Society’s extensive library collection and unique archival holdings, which include rare photos, artworks, films, and interview recordings. Over the past two years, FHS welcomed eleven other researchers to Durham. Their topics represent a diverse range of study, from industrial timberland ownership to African American life under segregation in the forests of the Deep South, and in materials, from photos and film footage of women in forest conservation to blueprints of fire towers. The library staff also answers queries and requests from those unable to travel to Durham.

**The Walter J. Rosenberry Fellowship** supports the doctoral research of a student attending a university in North America.

- **2022**: Sophie Fitzmaurice, “Wood and the Making of Modern Communications: Telegraph Infrastructure in the U.S. Empire, c. 1846–1910.”
- **2023**: George Andrei, “Conflicts over Scientific-Bureaucratic Forestry as a Major Force Shaping Life and Forest Use in Rural Romania.”

**The F. K. Weyerhaeuser Fellowship** provides funding to Duke University graduate students pursuing research in environmental history with a focus on forests.

- **2023**: Arthur Braswell, “Building the Forever Fort: Militarization and Race in South Carolina since 1937.”

**“The Forest History Society offers an extensive trove of research materials that promise to be invaluable to my PhD thesis. As a UK-based researcher, the opportunity to study in an American context specific to my research is a rare opportunity and a privilege. I found some amazing material that will prove vital to the thesis, and it was a real pleasure to work in the beautiful Carl Weyerhaeuser Library.”**

**Thomas Kaye, Doctoral Researcher, University of Birmingham, UK**
Publications

FHS has been sharing forest history for nearly 80 years through a variety of outlets, from books and journals to a blog, digital exhibits, documentary films, and social media. It all began with our first book, Forests for the Future: The Story of Sustained Yield Forestry, published in 1941. In the coming year, we’ll publish three more: two entries in our Issues Series and our eleventh book about the U.S. Forest Service. Society supporters receive subscriptions to our annual magazine, Forest History Today, and the quarterly journal Environmental History, copublished with the American Society for Environmental History. Partnering with ASEH and the University of Chicago Press enables us to distribute the world’s leading scholarly journal on the subject to nearly 5,500 libraries and research institutions worldwide. A recent issue of Environmental History included a forum of six articles that explored new directions in the field of forest history. Forest History Today provides general readers with informative and engaging articles about forest history around the world, generously illustrated with historical images frequently drawn from our own archives. Recent articles looked at the global exploitation of rosewood, the use of homing pigeons as a firefighting communication tool, and the long history of Christian monks’ embrace of forest management. In keeping with our belief in making scholarship widely available, the magazine is made accessible online to all six months after members receive their print copies at www.foorthistory.org/FHT.

“Forest History Today is truly outstanding! It isn’t often that I read any publication from cover to cover, but every page of this edition told interesting and fascinating stories. I did read it from cover to cover!”

Our programming provides knowledgeable people in various fields an opportunity to share their perspectives about the value of our forests. Two of our most popular programs are the monthly webinar series, “Conversations in Forest History,” hosted by historian Jamie Lewis, and the annual Lynn W. Day Lecture in Forest and Conservation History. Webinars have featured a range of experts—including leaders from industry, historians, and artists—on topics like the history and future of forest carbon markets, the many applications of forest-based cellulose in everyday products, why foresters founded The Wilderness Society, the challenges faced by minority landowners across generations, and the underrecognized role of women in creating a land ethic. Held each autumn, the Lynn W. Day Lecture is given by recognized scholars or leaders in natural resources who are shaping our understanding of human history and environmental change. This is a collaborative effort between FHS and Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment and the university’s Department of History. The most recent lecture featured Terry Baker, CEO of the Society of American Foresters, who shared personal experiences to illuminate the dynamic intersections of people, policy, and climate and their implications for the future of our nation’s forests. Afterward, Terry (right) also presented Jamie Lewis (left) with the SAF’s 2023 W. D. Hagenstein Communicator Award. All presentations are available on our YouTube channel. FHS offers Continuing Forestry Education credits for all presentations.

Since 2021, our webinars have gotten more than 7,000 views on YouTube.

Each webinar averages 250 attendees.

“Beautifully done and well facilitated, as always! Thank you for continuing to bring excellent scholarship to the public.”

WEBINAR ATTENDEE
### For the year ended June 30, 2022

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Net Assets</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets without Donor Restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets with Donor Restrictions</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,218,632</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Change in Net Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets—Beginning of Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets—End of Year</td>
<td>$14,416,802</td>
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#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$849,153</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledges Receivable, Long term</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land, Building, and Equipment (net)</td>
<td>$5,877,864</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,218,632</strong></td>
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### For the year ended June 30, 2023

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>Administration</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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*Audited financial statements and IRS Form 990 are available at www.foresthistory.org or by phone (919) 682-9319.*

*Excludes depreciation*
Thank you for generously supporting the Forest History Society!

INDIVIDUALS

$500 to $999

Luther Redsell
Steve Burak
Gene Cartledge

$250 to $499

Douglas M. Turner
John Charles Walker
Dale L. Wierman

$100 to $249

Rick middleton* and Ellen middleton
John W. Korb
Bob Izlar*
A. J. Huss Jr.
Kenneth L. Fisher

$50 to $99

Char Miller*
Ann Klumb
Alex R. Ingraham
Steve Hicks*
Neal Ewald*
Scott and Julie Ernest

$25 to $49

Terry S. Collins
($500 to $999)
Lynn* and Patrick Wilson
Rick Weyerhaeuser*
Charles A. Weyerhaeuser
Charles L. VanOver*
Paul Sutter*
Ruth Anna Stolk*
Clark W. Seely*
Frederick* W. and Cathy Don Motanic*
Brooks* and Elizabeth Mendell
Michael McFetridge
Douglas W. MacCleery*
Christine Johnson in honor of John T. Karakash

$10,000 to $24,999

Robert M. Weyerhaeuser
Frank A. Dottori*
Vivian W. Day*
($10,000 to $24,999)
Ned* and Beverly Phares
Charles M. Tarver*

$5,000 to $9,999

John P. and Patricia S. Case
Stanley B. Day Jr.
William L. Driscoll
Gary and Lynnette Horn
Lucy Rosenberry Jones*
L. Michael* and Karen Kelly
Thomas E. McMillan Jr.
Ellie J. Phares
Anonymous

$2,500 to $4,999

A. J. Hays Jr.
Bob Iler*
Brent* and Charlotte Keefer
John W. Korb
Kathleen McGallard
Rick and Ellen R. Middleton
Richard* and Rita Porterfield
Jonathan* and Shari Prather
Eugene* and Robin* R. Scott Walker
Matthew Williams*
F. Christian Johnson in memory of George M. Zinckh Jr.

President's Circle ($25,000 and above)

Ludwig Braseth
Jim Carter
Karen L. Federer
William H. Green Jr.
Virginia Harrison
Dudley R. Harrel
John T. Karakash
Thomas Keck Kirk
Christine Johnson in honor of John Matol*
Douglas W. MacCleery
Michael McFetridge
Brooke* and Elizabeth Mendell
Don Motani*
Frederick* W. and Cathy Piascik
Tom and Laura Rasmussen
Clark W. Sechly
John Stanturf
Bonn Starka*
Harold* Peter* Stein*
Burl Anna Studt
Paul Satter*
Tom* Templet*
Marshall* and Maritha* Thomas Rick*Tickoom
Charles L. VanOver*
Charles A. Weyerhaeuser
Nancy Weyerhaeuser
Lynn* and Patrick Wilson

Benefactor Circle

$10,000 to $24,999

Ludwig Braseth
Jim Carter
Karen L. Federer
William H. Green Jr.
Virginia Harrison
Dudley R. Harrel
John T. Karakash
Thomas Keck Kirk
Christine Johnson in honor of John Matol*
Douglas W. MacCleery
Michael McFettridge
Brooke* and Elizabeth Mendell
Don Motani*
Frederick* W. and Cathy Piascik
Tom and Laura Rasmussen
Clark W. Sechly
John Stanturf
Bonn Starka*
Harold* Peter* Stein*
Burl Anna Studt
Paul Satter*
Tom* Templet*
Marshall* and Maritha* Thomas Rick*Tickoom
Charles L. VanOver*
Charles A. Weyerhaeuser
Nancy Weyerhaeuser
Lynn* and Patrick Wilson

$5,000 to $9,999

Robert A. Bannard
Hayo D. Brown Jr.
Mason Carter
Sally C. Collins
Sam Cook*
Walter L. Cook Jr.
Scott and Julie Emerson
Neal Favard*
Steve Hocking
Joseph H. Hughes
Charles Huppach
Alex E. Ingham
Scott R. Jones
Abigail Kimbell
Ann Klumb
John W. Langdale Jr.
Russ Lee*
John W. Maza Jr.
Max and Toni McClure
John P. McMahon*
Clar Miller*

Weyerhaeuser Foundation

Thank you for generously supporting the Forest History Society!
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October 2023–October 2024

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Dan Christensen, Co-Vice-Chair, Hancock Natural Resources (ret.)
Bob Izlar, Immediate Past Chair, Warnell School of Forestry (ret.)
Jon Prather, Co-Vice-Chair, Perella Weinberg Partners
Suzanne Cuthbert, Treasurer, Weyerhaeuser Company
Tania Munz, Secretary, Forest History Society

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Nicolette L. Cagle, Duke University Nicholas School of the Environment
Ned Childs, New England Coalition
Vicki Christiansen, USDA Forest Service (ret.)
Sam Cook, NC State University College of Natural Resources
Lynne Heasley, Western Michigan University
Brent Keefer, American Forest Management Inc.
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