

HISTORY OF CSU IN THE ARKANSAS VALLEY OTERO COUNTY

Alyssa Hancock

Brooke Matthew:
Southeast Area Director, CSU Extension
Jeff Davidson:
Research Lead/Extension Specialist, CSU AVRC
Julee Stephenson:
Senior Director, Marketing, Communications, & External Relations, CSU OEE

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The History of CSU in the Arkansas Valley project was created with the intention of capturing the rich history CSU has had in the Arkansas Valley and its agriculture. The purpose of the project was to find, organize, and showcase historical artifacts related to CSU's involvement in the Arkansas Valley, specifically the Arkansas Valley Research Center, Otero County Extension Office, and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.



INTERNSHIP GOALS

- Goal 1:** Document, sort, and organize historical artifacts from the Arkansas Valley Campus.
- Goal 2:** The intern will interview and document historical experiences, facts, and impact of CSU from past employees and community members in the Arkansas Valley.
- Goal 3:** Identify key artifacts to showcase for the public in the extension meeting room.

HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO YOUR EDUCATION

I am currently in my senior year at CSU studying Agricultural Education. Extension is a form of Ag Education, and the research I did allowed me to learn about the history of extension in the Arkansas Valley and the education and resources it has provided to the community for over 100 years.

WHAT YOU DID

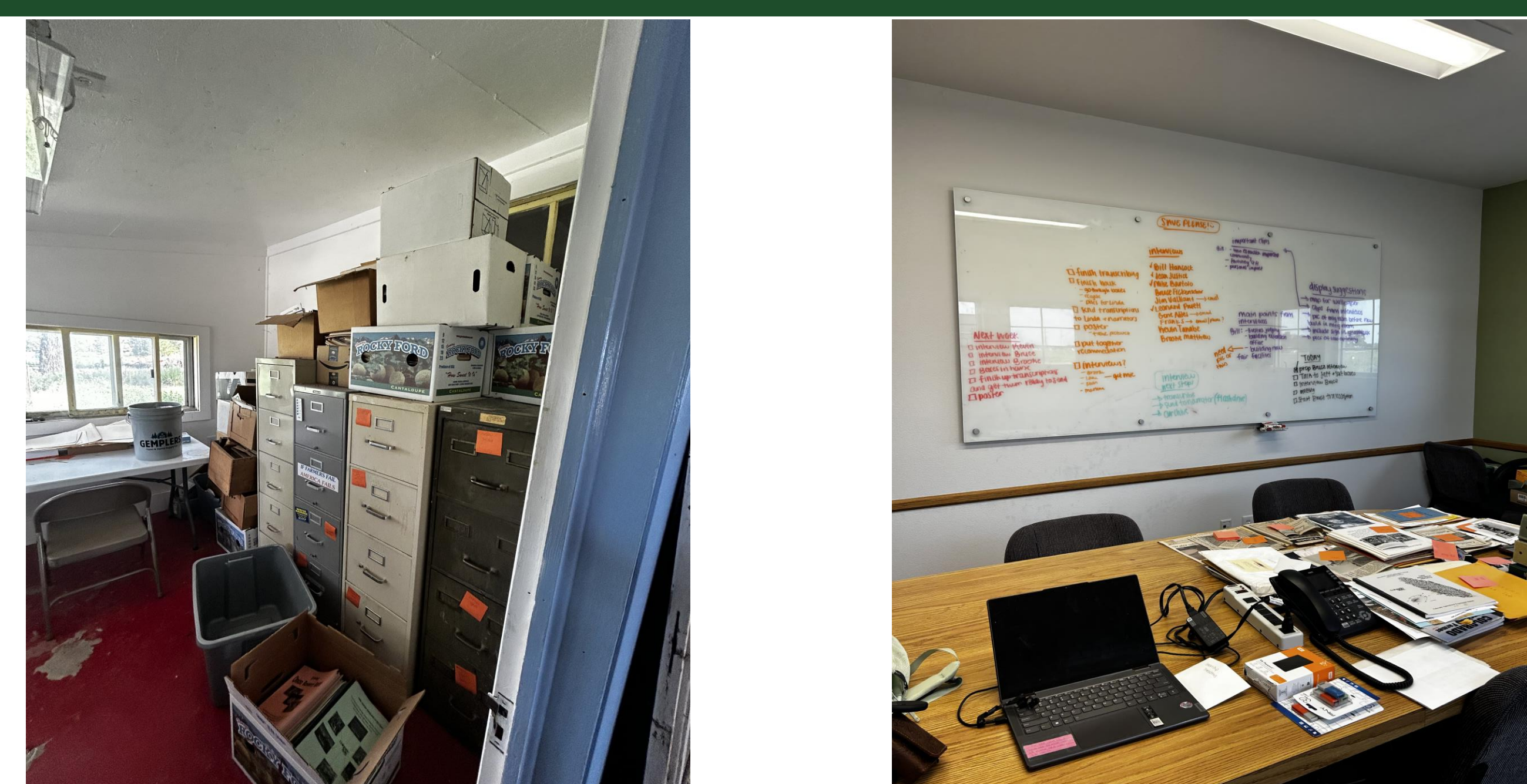
My time in my internship was split between Fort Collins and Rocky Ford. While in Fort Collins, I attended a training that taught me about the archival process so I could properly identify and handle the artifacts I discovered throughout the internship. I also attended a training that taught me about oral histories and how to conduct oral history interviews.

In Rocky Ford, my tasks included a variety of things:

- Sorting through archives at AVRC
- Interviewing former CSU employees
- Transcribing and editing the oral histories
- Collecting photos and other artifacts for display



FIELD WORK



WHAT YOU LEARNED

This internship impacted me greatly. I grew up in the Arkansas Valley, and to be back for a summer researching the history of agriculture personally meant a lot and was very rewarding.

I learned:

- How to properly handle and store archives.
- How to identify historical materials.
- How to communicate and interact with others in a work environment.
- How to conduct and edit oral history interviews.
- How important extension is in local communities and why continued community education is necessary.

FIELD WORK



NEXT STEPS

The next step for this project will be to create a display that will showcase the collection historical artifacts in the Otero County Extension Office.