Overview
In 1959 the University of Alabama received a donation of eighty-three acres of land upon which to construct permanent buildings. The city of Huntsville and Madison County governments then contributed $250,000 each toward the construction of Morton Hall, the first building on the campus. Later, additional acreage was purchased by these governing bodies to insure orderly growth of a unified campus. The Research Institute Building, provided by the State of Alabama, was completed in 1964. The UAH Art department was established the following year.

I am currently working on “The First Ten Years” which is a documentary on the first ten years of the UAH Art Program. The documentary will help preserve the early history of UAH that has been overlooked. I am currently working on scanning old photos from when the art program began, given to us by the former students of the program and some of the children of those affiliated with the program. I am planning on interviewing former students, children of students, and teachers who have passed down stories of how everything was started so that this information can be preserved.

Impact
This research allowed me to utilize the skills I have learned to archive and organize videos, newspaper clippings and other forms of media loaned to us for archival purposes and future use in a documentary. Through this research I learned that without the UAH Art Department, and the students and faculty from the early years, Lowe Mill and the Huntsville Art League wouldn抰 have gotten the support they needed to grow and Huntsville’s art scene would not have had the opportunity to grow in to what it is today.

Goals
• Document the stories of the students and teachers who started the UAH Art program.
• Archive old photographs, videos, newspaper clippings, and other documents for use in future research.
• Learn the scanning and archival software needed for the project.
• Organization of Different Forms Of Media (Negatives, Prints, Video, Audio)

Outcomes
The Art professors and students of the UAH Art department were an integral part of bringing art into our community. The stories will provide information on the beginnings of the culture of the visual arts in our university and in Huntsville. These stories are also an important part of our local history.

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