



# STATE OF THE ARCHIVES REPORT

*2025 Recap — Foundations for the Future of the Archives*

# INTRODUCTION

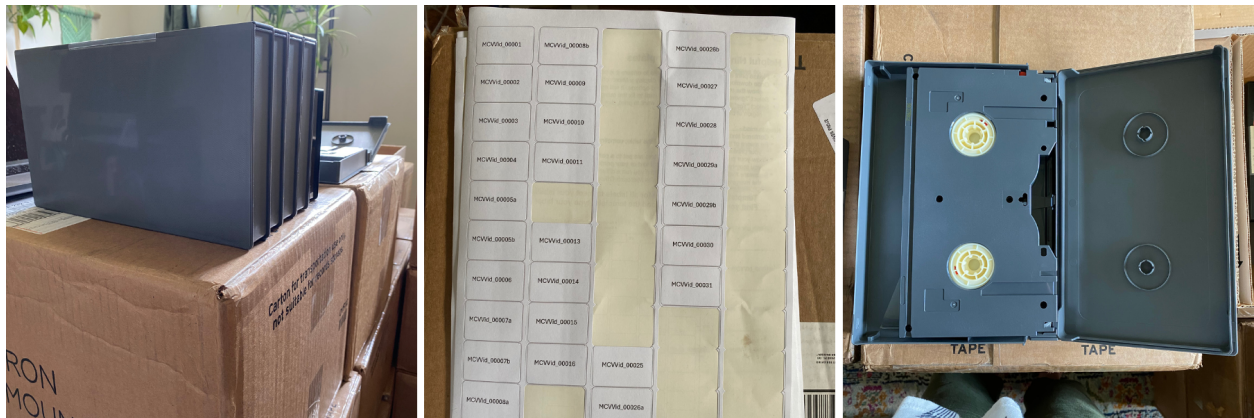
Welcome to TMBAP's "State of the Archives" Report, featuring the progress made in 2025 toward making the Murray Bowen Archives accessible to the world.

We are pleased to report that the following took place in 2025:

1. Processing of the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) Clinical Tapes
2. Partnership With Living Systems Counselling
3. The Schara-Dwyer Archival Research Scholarship Program
4. The 2025 Annual TMBAP Webinar
5. Fundraising
6. TMBAP Board Updates

## 1. PROCESSING OF THE MEDICAL COLLEGE OF VIRGINIA (MCV) CLINICAL TAPES

In 2025, TMBAP began the processing stage of the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) Clinical Tapes Project, made possible in partnership with the Bowen Family. This collection represents approximately one quarter of the entire collection of Dr. Bowen's videotaped recordings from the 1960s to 1980s and includes 232 unique titles spanning 336 tapes, along with a companion notebook of typed and handwritten session summaries.



In 2025, these tapes were relabeled and shipped to Preserve South, an archival video vendor located in Georgia. Preserve South preserved these fragile items and digitized their contents. TMBAP has been working to do quality control on the digitized video and reviewing the materials for key terms so they may be uploaded into the digital library and made searchable.

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These materials document Dr. Bowen’s pioneering application of his theory in live clinical settings and offer an unparalleled opportunity for study. However, due to federal privacy regulations, the tapes cannot be made accessible without extensive transcription and redaction. In 2025, TMBAP took an important step toward addressing this requirement by submitting a grant application to support the responsible preparation of these materials. TMBAP is currently awaiting the funding decision, which, if awarded, would allow this work to move forward in the near future.

TMBAP extends our deepest gratitude to Dr. Bill and Linda Dwyer for their extraordinary generosity, which made this processing possible. Without their gift, the MCV tapes would have remained unprocessed, awaiting the required resources to do so. Their commitment has enabled meaningful progress toward responsible access and long-term preservation.

## **2. PARTNERSHIP WITH LIVING SYSTEMS COUNSELLING**

In 2025, The Murray Bowen Archives Project began a collaborative partnership with Living Systems Counselling to support Season 3 of the Elevator Systems podcast.

Through this partnership, TMBAP provided archival materials and curated quotations drawn directly from the collection to inform and enrich episode topics. This collaboration represents a new use case for the Archives: for the first time, materials from the collection were integrated across the full length of a podcast season, with archival sources cited for nearly every episode. The effort demonstrates how Dr. Bowen’s original writings, correspondence, and recordings can be used to support contemporary teaching and dialogue while remaining grounded in primary sources.

TMBAP also developed an online reference section that links directly to the original archival materials behind the archival materials referenced in each episode. This resource enables audiences to move from podcast discussion to firsthand engagement with the archival record.

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## **Elevator Systems Podcast**

15 Podcasts, last posted December 2025

The archival materials of Dr. Murray Bowen are featured in Season 3 of Living Systems Counselling's Elevator Systems podcast.

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TMBAP's companion resource page can be found at:

<https://murraybowenarchives.org/category/elevator-systems-podcast/>

Living Systems Counselling's podcast page is available at:

<https://livingsystems.ca/resources/elevator-systems-podcast/>

This partnership continues into 2026, and we are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate in expanding thoughtful access to the archives while supporting new educational applications of Bowen theory.

## **3. THE SCHARA-DWYER ARCHIVAL RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

### ***3A. 2025 Scholarship Research Presentation***

In September 2025, Ms. Nailin Morera presented the findings of her six-month research project during a live TMBAP webinar, marking the culmination of her work as the inaugural 2025 Schara-Dwyer Archival Research Scholarship recipient.

Ms. Morera's research explored how Bowen's natural systems theory, though not originally developed to address domestic violence, offers a meaningful framework for understanding the emotional and relational patterns within families affected by abuse. Drawing from archival clinical materials, her work demonstrated how systems thinking can inform ongoing therapeutic inquiry and intervention. We were pleased to share her thoughtful scholarship with clinicians, researchers, students, and members of the broader Bowen community.

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We extend our sincere gratitude to Nailin for her engagement and participation and to Dr. Carrie Collier for her mentorship of Ms. Morera throughout the scholarship period. Her steady guidance and engagement were instrumental in supporting this work.

### ***3B. Scholarship Program Expansion***

The 2026 Schara-Dwyer Archival Research Scholarship applicant pool presented an exciting opportunity for TMBAP: due to the number of excellent candidates and the increase in funding received towards the scholarship program in 2025, we are pleased to announce that rather than one recipient, three have been selected.

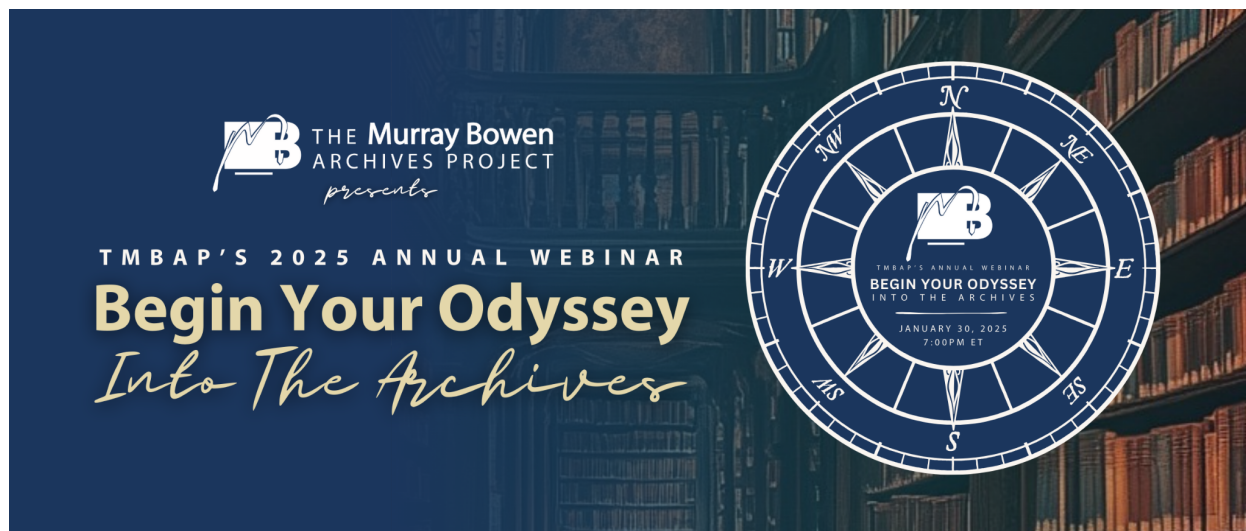
The 2026 Schara-Dwyer Archival Research Scholarship recipients are:

- **Gabrielle Alatraste, M.S., RMHCI, Ph.D. Candidate**
- **Samantha Stokesberry, M.A., LPC, NCC, Ph.D. Candidate**
- **Elizabeth Taylor, B.S., Ph.D. Student**

This year's recipients will be supported by a mentoring group including Dr. Joanne Bowen, Dr. Ashley Mader, and Dr. Elizabeth Malone. We are grateful for their willingness to invest their time and expertise in guiding this next cohort of scholars. A virtual presentation of their research is planned for later this year.

We anticipate the next scholarship application cycle will open in Fall 2026 as we continue fostering research grounded in the Murray Bowen Archives.

## **4. THE 2025 ANNUAL TMBAP WEBINAR**



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TMBAP’s annual webinar, “Begin Your Odyssey Into the Archives,” took place on January 30, 2025, and was well attended, with 122 registrants. The program offered an overview of opportunities for engaging with the archives, including potential new research pathways, and highlighted resources available for research and study. Presentations were given by Catherine Rakow and Dr. Carrie Collier. We are grateful for their time, insight, and contributions to this event. The recording of this webinar is available to watch through [TMBAP’s website](#).

## 5. FUNDRAISING

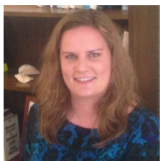
TMBAP raised \$163, 880 in 2025. This work is sustained by those who believe in the long-term value of preserving Dr. Bowen’s archives. We are grateful for your commitment in carrying this effort forward.

As a small nonprofit, each year of support allows us to continue processing the archives, offering scholarships, expanding programming, and maintaining accessibility to these materials. Every contribution, of any size, meaningfully advances this work.

If you have not yet made a gift in 2026, we invite you to consider doing so. You can learn more or make a contribution at <https://murraybowenarchives.org/donate>.

## 6. TMBAP BOARD UPDATES

### THE MURRAY BOWEN ARCHIVES PROJECT BOARD



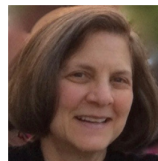
**Elizabeth (Libby) Malone, Ph.D.**  
*Interim President; Secretary; Director*



**Kent E. Webb, LCSW**  
*Vice President; Director*



**William K. Dwyer, M.D., F.A.C.S.**  
*Treasurer; Director*



**Judy Ball, M.Ed.**  
*Director, 2015–Present; President 2016–2024*



**Joanne Bowen, Ph.D.**  
*Director, 2008–Present; President 2008–2016*



**Teresa Karns Edmondson, MEd, LPC**  
*Director*



**Priscilla J. Friesen, LICSW**  
*Director; Vice President, 2016–2020*



**Edward J. Henley, MDiv.**  
*Director*



**Jill Oldham**  
*Director*



**Andrea M. Schara, LCSWA**  
*Director*

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At the conclusion of 2025, Amie Post stepped off the Board after four years of dedicated service to The Murray Bowen Archives Project. We are grateful for her contributions and commitment to the Archives during her tenure.

After a year-long hiatus, Judy Ball returned to the Board in 2025 as a Director. We are pleased to welcome her back and grateful for her continued leadership within the organization.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Dr. Libby Malone for her year of service as Acting President. Under her leadership, TMBAP continued to move forward with focus and stability, fostering the progress reflected throughout this report. Her thoughtful guidance and commitment to the mission have been deeply valued.

## **CONCLUSION**

2025 was a year of steady progress for The Murray Bowen Archives Project. Foundational work began on the Medical College of Virginia Clinical Tapes, new collaborations extended the reach of the Archives into contemporary formats, and the Schara-Dwyer Archival Research Scholarship fostered direct engagement with Dr. Bowen's original materials. The Archives moved closer to broader accessibility through webinars, partnerships, and ongoing processing efforts.

This progress is made possible by a small but deeply committed community of donors, board members, mentors, and colleagues who recognize the long-term value of preserving and sharing these materials. We remain grateful for the care, expertise, and confidence that sustain this work.

In 2026, processing of the MCV Tapes will continue, scholarship recipients will undertake new research to be shared later this year, and TMBAP will continue developing the systems and relationships necessary to make the archives responsibly available to future generations.

The work of an archive is cumulative by nature. Each year's effort builds upon the last. With your continued interest and support, Dr. Bowen's legacy remains not only preserved, but actively engaged as a resource for study, reflection, and application in the years ahead.

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