



2020 ANNUAL MEETING:

Archiving 100 Years of Change

Stephanie Bricking, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, and William Modrow, Miami University, Educational Programming Co-Chairs

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the scheduled Spring 2020 Annual Meeting of the Society of the Ohio Archivists has been postponed to June 16-17, and moved to an online format. Since the situation unfolded while the Ohio Archivist was in production, we are choosing to publish this issue as originally written. It is our

society's historical record of plans made before this situation occurred. Other events and deadlines may also be impacted so please follow the Society of Ohio Archivists social media channels and visit the conference website for the latest information.

THE SOCIETY OF OHIO Archivists welcomes archivists, librarians, and all those interested, to the **Columbus Metropolitan Main Library** on May 14-15, 2020, for an interesting and engaging annual conference. This year's theme is Archiving 100 years of Change, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. On Friday, May 15th, we have a day packed full of sessions, as well as an award-winning historian as our plenary speaker. For the events on Thursday, May 14th, we have a joint pre-conference workshop with the Academic Library Association of Ohio's Special Collections and Archives Interest Group during the day, and a reception at the Columbus Metropolitan Main Library's Carnegie Gallery in the evening. Be sure to stay up-to-date on the latest details of the meeting by visiting the **conference page** on the SOA website.



Author Kimberly Hamlin, 2020 Plenary Speaker

Plenary Speaker

SOA is thrilled to have **Kimberly Hamlin** as our plenary speaker this year. In her presentation titled, "Finding Sex, Race, and Suffrage in the Archives: What I Found When I Looked

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The President's Message

Dear SOA Members,

I hope this finds you healthy and safe in these trying and unprecedented times. As you may have heard, the 2020 SOA Annual Conference scheduled for May 15 has been cancelled. Council thought it was the right choice in light of the current state of affairs and direction from state and federal public health agencies. In its place, EPC and Leadership are working to move the conference experience online. A virtual annual conference is currently scheduled to take place June 16-17. More details about this event will be shared as they are decided, so keep an eye on SOA's social media and website. SOA and ALAO SCAig's joint workshop "Opening Doors: Outreach with Archives and Special Collections" has been moved online itself and is still scheduled to take place May 14. Registration has been lowered to \$10 for members and non-members alike. Also available is a \$5 student / hardship registration. Description details, along with registration info can be found at www.OhioArchivists.org.



With the 2020 Annual Conference cancelled and a replacement not scheduled until June, Council has voted to waive the bylaws regarding elections and allow membership to vote online. Exact election details are forthcoming, but the election of officers will work in a similar fashion to the SOA Bylaw Revision Vote that took place in November, 2019. In addition to the candidate slate provided, membership will have the ability to write-in candidates. Up for election this year are Vice President/President-Elect, Treasurer, and one council position.

In Council and Leadership news, Stacey Lavender resigned as Council Member in January, accepting a position at the University of Virginia. Additionally, Andrew Harris stepped down as President this past September. I would like to thank them both for their service and wish them the best in their future endeavors. Another "thank you" goes to outgoing Council Member Cate Putirskis and outgoing Treasurer Mark Bloom for all their hard work and dedication to SOA.

In November, a Bylaw Revision Vote took place, creating two bylaw amendments and asking for one bylaw waiver to the size of Council. All three issues passed. Finally, I'd like to welcome Stephanie Shreffler as co-chair of the Awards Committee and Bill Modrow as co-chair of the Educational Planning Committee.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your support and to encourage you to renew your membership if you haven't already. You can renew [online](#) through the Ohio History Connection or download the invoice from the SOA website (www.OhioArchivists.org) and mail with check or money order to the address on the form. If the global pandemic has impacted your finances such that the membership fee is problematic for you, please reach out to Matt Francis, chair of the Membership Committee or any SOA Officer, and we will discuss options for renewal.

Thank you for your time. Stay safe and healthy,

Adam Wantner

SOA President

awanter@midpointelibrary.org

SOA Mission

Founded in 1968, the Society of Ohio Archivists' mission is to improve the state of archives in Ohio by promoting the archival profession and providing professional development and networking opportunities for Ohio's professional and aspiring archivists.

for Helen Hamilton Gardener in the Library of Congress's Manuscript Collections," Hamlin will discuss the archival research she conducted for her new book, *Free Thinker: Sex, Suffrage, and the Extraordinary Life of Helen Hamilton Gardener*. Helen Hamilton Gardener served as the suffragists' lead negotiator in Washington, and *Free Thinker* is the first book to examine in detail how the 19th Amendment got through Congress, drawing on the papers of Woodrow Wilson and his staff, as well as those of various Congressmen.

A regular contributor to the Washington Post, Hamlin's research has also been featured in NPR and CBC radio, vice, qz.com, among other outlets, and she has contributed to several PBS documentaries. Hamlin is currently helping to organize commemorations of the 2020 suffrage centennial, and she serves as historical consultant to the Bearded Lady Project, now on view at the National Museum of Natural History. Hamlin lives in Cincinnati, where she cohosts the Mercantile Library's "Women You Should Know" Book Series and teaches at Miami University in Oxford.

Sessions

This year's meeting has a mixture of topics that will surely provide you with something to think about. In keeping with this year's theme, several sessions tie in with the 19th amendment and change. For our morning sessions, attendees can choose sessions that address issues such as digitizing community collections, working with materials to highlight women's suffrage, preserving oral histories, and how to deal with failure in the archives. After lunch and the SOA business meeting, there will be an afternoon plenary about suffrage in Ohio. The final two sessions will discuss digital preservation and accessibility in the archives. There are also several posters that you will want to check out during the day.

Pre-Conference Workshop

This year's pre-conference workshop focuses on outreach. In collaboration with the Special Collections & Archives interest group (SCAig) of ALAO, the workshop, "Opening Doors: Outreach with Archives and Special Collections," will be held on Thursday, May 14, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Columbus Metropolitan Main Library. After a history of closed doors and limited access, outreach has become essential to getting the public engaged with special collections and archives. This workshop will address the various ways that archivists and special collections librarians can better reach out to our user communities and cultivate new ones. There will be 5 presenters from different types of archives or special collections libraries: academic libraries, government records centers, and local historical societies. They will each discuss their outreach efforts and provide their tips and tricks for improving your outreach efforts, no matter the size of your institution and staff. The registration rate will be \$30 for SOA/ALAO SCAig members; \$35

for non-members; \$20 for students. This includes lunch and is limited to 40 registrants.

Reception

A reception will be held at the **Columbus Metropolitan Main Library's Carnegie Gallery**, on Thursday, May 14, starting at 6:00 pm. Attendees can take in local art, while eating light hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Cost is \$20 per person.

Silent Auction

Each year, SOA offers four **scholarships**, two to current students and two to recent graduates, using funds from our silent auction. The scholarships consist of conference registration (including lunch), a one-year membership to SOA, and a \$100 travel stipend. Last year, thanks to the donors and bidders, we were able to raise over \$400 for the Scholarship Fund. This year, we are putting together another fun group of items, so be sure to bring some cash, your checkbook, or a credit card, so you can help future archivists attend the annual meeting next year.

Conference Website

The **SOA Conference website** is where you will find all of the up-to-date information about the conference, such as hotels in the area, and the full meeting schedule. Be sure to check back often for current information about the meeting!

Registration

Fees for the meeting are tiered and have not increased from last year. The early bird rate will close on April 27, 2020, and will be \$45 for members, \$65 for non-members, \$30 for students; Pre-registration ends May 11, 2020, at \$50/\$70/\$35; and on-site registration at \$60/\$80/\$40. Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Due to catering restrictions, we cannot guarantee lunch for on-site registrants. The reception and the pre-conference workshop registration will also be available on the meeting registration form.

The Educational Programming Committee members have been working hard to bring you an amazing conference. Thank you to our committee members: Stephanie Bricking, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County (Co-Chair); Rachael Bussert, Dayton Metro Library; Madeleine Fix, Nationwide Insurance; Brittany Hayes, University of Akron; Betsy Hedler, Ohio History Connection (SOA/OHC Liaison); Collette McDonough, Kettering Foundation; Ashleigh Minor, The Ohio State University; William Modrow, Miami University (Co-Chair); Cate Putirskis, The Ohio State University; Anne Ryckbost, Xavier University.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the EPC co-chairs Stephanie Bricking (Stephanie.Bricking@cincinnati.org) and William Modrow (modrowwm@miamioh.edu) We can't wait to see you in Columbus!

2020 Slate of Candidates

VICE PRESIDENT /
PRESIDENT-ELECT
Sherri Goudy

The following statements were given by the candidates seeking election as officers or council members to the Society of Ohio Archivists in 2020.

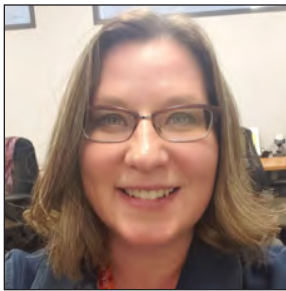
TREASURER
Lisa Rickey

Candidates were asked to answer both questions in one 350-500-word essay.

COUNCIL
Melissa Dalton

- 1) *What skills and experiences can you offer to SOA?*
- 2) *What are some of the most important themes/issues the SOA should address in the next 5-10 years?*

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS



VICE PRESIDENT / PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sherri Goudy

Information Services Librarian, Dayton Metro Library; Independent Archivist/Researcher, Kettering Foundation, Upside TV Paris

I am honored to be nominated to run for Vice President/President Elect of the Society of Ohio Archivists this year. Thank you for your consideration and confidence in my

experience and skills, that I may bring the quality of leadership to this organization that it so deserves.

I have been a member of SOA for over 4 years now. In that time, I have served as a member of the Educational Programming Committee for the first 2 years, and since as a council member and liaison to the Marketing and Communications Committee (formerly known as PIC). Through this, I have helped to plan two annual meetings and assisted with maintaining the website and listserv content. I have also been active with the strategic planning for our organization. I have used this experience to get to know the current leadership and members of SOA and to get to the heart of what it is we can do for one another and the field.

Over the past 15 years, I have had the opportunity to work with organizations across the entire state of Ohio. From the smallest, all volunteer run historical society to large repositories, and everything in between, I have met and worked with the folks who run these sites. They want to do good work and connect with their communities, getting more people in the door and improving memberships too. Many of them do not know how easy it would be to connect and network with organizations such as SOA. I have also realized while working with community archives, that they too can benefit from membership and networking with SOA, while still maintaining their independence to preserve their personal and community records on their own.

I believe it is our responsibility to grow our membership beyond the professionals and recently graduated students who are looking for careers in the field. We must take on a more active role in recruiting students still in college and even younger ones

who have an interest in history. History Day students could be one pool of potential members. I also want to see the mentorship program grow so that the most experienced of our ranks can share in the fostering of a love for archives and our role in the community and beyond. Personally, when I began considering a career as an archivist, I had never heard of that profession before. But the more I learned about how I could incorporate all of my passions: history, community, and social justice advocacy, into one career, I was sold. I think we can offer that kind of mentorship and encouragement to future professionals by sharing our experiences and offering opportunities to work with our organization to find their own unique niche in our world.

Last, I want to make it clear that I believe it is our duty to advocate for the marginalized and underrepresented stories in our communities and throughout the state. As archivists, librarians, and preservers of history, we are in a unique and critical position to be the light in the darkness and the truth in a world plagued by "fake news." We must continue to be active in acknowledging the terrible legacies of inequality in this country. If we do not, it leaves individuals and communities who experienced these legacies wondering when their voices will be heard and when they will see themselves in history. A few years ago, we honored Lae'l Hughes-Watkins for her development and leadership of Project STAND, a collaborative effort to bring together academic and community archives to document student activism in historically marginalized communities. We have already taken the position that we support this kind of work, and I want to see us do more.

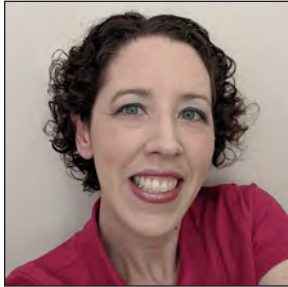
Thank you for your consideration, and the honor of being nominated. I look forward to continuing to serve SOA and being a part of making our organization stronger moving forward.

Previous Positions: *Researcher and Writer, Children's Historical Publishing; Local History Service Member, Ohio*

(continued on page 4)

History Service Corps, Ohio History Connection; Processing Archivist, Kettering Foundation; Processing Archivist, Wright State University

Education: *Master of Humanities, Wright State University, 2007; Certificate in Records Management and Archival Administration, Wright State University, 2007; Bachelor of Music/Music History and Literature, Wright State University, 2003*



TREASURER

Lisa Rickey

Archivist / Collections Manager, Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries

I am honored to have been nominated to serve as the next treasurer of SOA. I believe that my existing skills and previous experiences will enable me to

perform the duties of this office with efficiency and accuracy. I have been a full-time archivist for over 11 years, and for the past nearly 4 years, I have been a collections manager and processing co-manager for Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries.

Consequently, these responsibilities have provided me with ample opportunities to practice project management, including the considerations of cost, schedule, and quality; space management and locations tracking; as well as “people” and communication skills, with donors, co-workers, students, and volunteers, as we work together to accomplish various projects and goals.

I’ve always been drawn to detail-oriented activities. In my personal life, I have long been a finance and income tax nerd. In short, if you can estimate it, calculate it, put it into a spreadsheet, and make it into a chart or graph, I’m there.

In addition to my relevant skills and work experience, I also have prior experience serving as an officer or committee member in multiple professional archival associations. These positions have included: SOA Council (2012-2014), SOA Public Information Committee; SAA Host Committee (Cleveland, 2015); MAC Program Committee (Lexington, 2015); and Miami Valley Archives Roundtable (MVAR) Chair (2012-2015).

With regard to the question of important themes or issues that SOA should address in the next few years, one particular idea sprang to mind while thinking of the financial aspects of our profession: training opportunities. As the “big” national and regional conferences and training opportunities (workshops etc.) tend to occur in geographically far-away locations and therefore can be cost-prohibitive, one of the many important services provided by SOA is affordable, quality educational programming. But can we do more to help make opportunities available? Could SOA perhaps facilitate webinars or virtual conferences, whether by offering these ourselves or by subsidizing members’ costs to attend existing ones? Could we explore reciprocity partnerships

Professional Associations: *Society of Ohio Archivists, Member 2016-Present, Council Member, 2018-2020; Miami Valley Archives Roundtable (MVAR), 2016-Present; Ohio Local History Alliance, 2016-2018, 2020-Present; Dayton Woman’s Club, 2018-Present; Auglaize County Historical Society, 2019-Present; Logan County History Center, 2019-Present; NAACP, Dayton Chapter 2019-Present*

with nearby archival organizations for reduced conference rates on both sides?

A second idea came after reviewing the recent SOA minutes. I was surprised to learn that we have so few student members (6, per Sept. 24, 2019, SOA Council minutes). The student membership fee is only \$5/year, and several Ohio institutions have archival training programs. Perhaps we could take measures to understand the reason(s) for our low student membership numbers, then use that information to explore new ways to attract student members.

I give all due respect to the hard work of the Council and the committees, and neither of the above ideas is intended as a criticism. But I look forward to the opportunity to help explore these ideas, if SOA Council sees fit to do so. And, if elected treasurer, I promise to maintain thorough and accurate financial records for our organization, and to provide Council with timely information as to the state of its finances.

Previous Positions: *Archivist for Digital Initiatives & Outreach, Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries (Dayton, Ohio), 2012-2016; Reference Librarian (Archives emphasis), Local History Room, Magazines & Special Collections, Dayton Metro Library (Dayton, Ohio), 2008-2012; Local History Associate, Greene County Room, Greene County Public Library (Xenia, Ohio), 2006-2008*

Education: *M.L.I.S., Wayne State University, 2011; M.A. History (Public History), Wright State University, 2008; B.S., Information Technology, DeVry University, 2006; B.A., History & Latin, Wright State University, 2005; Digital Archives Specialist certified, Society of American Archivists, 2015*

Professional Associations: *Miami Valley Archives Roundtable, 2008-Present, Chair, 2012-2015; RAAC representative, 2013-2015; Society of Ohio Archivists, 2007-Present, News editor, Ohio Archivist, 2012-2015, Council, 2012-2014, Public Information Committee, 2012-2015; Society of American Archivists, 2007-Present, Host Committee, Annual Conference (Cleveland), 2015; Midwest Archives Conference, 2012-2017, Program Committee, Annual Conference (Lexington), 2015.*

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COUNCIL

Melissa Dalton

Public Outreach Coordinator, Greene County Records Center & Archives

Since entering the public history field over a decade ago, I have sought out opportunities to expand my knowledge and understanding of archives, libraries, and museums.

I've worked (and volunteered) in museums and archives throughout the Dayton region, and have held a variety of positions. Each position has afforded me the opportunity to gain valuable experience, and learn to work with diverse populations and materials.

Something that was impressed upon me early in my career was the importance of maintaining memberships with professional organizations. Not only have I maintained memberships, but I have attended a wide range of professional meetings throughout my career, in the fields of anthropology, museums, and archives. I have presented at regional and national conferences, and in 2018, joined the SOA Advocacy and Outreach Committee, becoming a co-chair in 2019.

I believe my diverse experience in the fields of archaeology, history, and public history will allow me to bring a multifaceted perspective to SOA Council. It is through collaboration and cooperation of many disciplines that we expand our knowledge and understanding of different peoples, places, and cultures, and it is through this realization that we can better serve our communities.

With a strong membership base, SOA has the opportunity to expand outreach and engagement programs by working with schools, universities, libraries, and other cultural institutions in Ohio. I have a passion for working with the public and I believe that everyone, without prejudice, should have access to information. As the Public Outreach Coordinator for the Greene County Archives, I see the impact outreach has on local communities. School children, teachers, and the community at large all have an opportunity to learn about their collective history through the use of primary sources, allowing them to connect with the past in a unique and engaging manner. Additionally, community engagement and public outreach promote information literacy, which is an ever-increasing need in the current environment.

All people have the right to knowledge and information, and it is through institutions like libraries, archives, and museums, that these ideals are fulfilled. Our cultural institutions are the key to opening minds and empowering members of its community, and SOA is uniquely positioned to help fulfill those needs. We have members throughout Ohio, and I would like to see SOA take the lead in promoting and furthering outreach and community engagement opportunities.

By creating greater opportunities for outreach and engagement, we also are advocating for our field. The more engaged we are with our communities, the more support we garner. This not only helps the individual institution, but also provides further evidence that we can present to our members of Congress regarding the importance of archives and other cultural institutions.

Previous Positions: *Education Assistant, Carillon Park, Dayton History, 2015-2017; Fellow (Processing Archivist), History Office, Air Force Research Laboratory, 2012-2016; Intern/Museum Curator, Collections Division, National Museum of the United States Air Force, 2010-2011; Field Supervisor/ Collections Consultant, Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, Dayton Society of Natural History, 2007, 2009-2011*

Education: *M.S., Library and Information Science, Kent State University, in progress (projected completion – Spring/ Summer 2021); M.A., History with a concentration in Public History, Wright State University, 2010; B.A., Anthropology, Ohio University, 2003*

Professional Associations: *Society of Ohio Archivists (SOA), 2012-Present, Advocacy & Outreach Committee Member, 2018-Present, Co-Chair, 2019-Present; Society of American Archivists (SAA), 2010-Present; National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA), 2018-Present; County Archivists & Records Managers Association (CARMA), 2018-Present; Miami Valley Archives Roundtable (MVAR), 2010-Present; Midwest Archives Conference (MAC), 2009-2015; American Alliance of Museums (AAM), 2009-2017*

SOA/OLHA JOINT MEETING, OCTOBER 4 & 5, 2019

Recap: Local History is America's History

Stephanie Bricking,

Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, and

William Modrow, Miami University Educational Programming Co-Chairs

THE 2019 OHIO LOCAL History Alliance annual meeting took place on October 4 & 5, 2019, at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Dublin, Ohio, and served as the Society of Ohio Archivists' fall meeting. The first day of the conference featured a full-day of SOA track sessions, covering topics such as building a diverse and inclusive repository, locating local manumission records, moving archives, understanding privacy and copyright, and records management.

The conference also included several special events for attendees. A pre-conference workshop on Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) was taught by Tyler Swinney of the Cincinnati Museum Center. Both Friday and Saturday included special luncheons: Nekole Alligood of the Delaware Nation gave the keynote address titled, "Indians in the Attic and Basement" on Friday; the Outstanding Achievement Awards Luncheon was held on Saturday. For more information about the meeting, visit the [SOA 2019 Annual Meeting website](#) or check out [tweets from the meeting compiled on Wakelet](#).

SOA would like to extend a huge thank you to the presenters and volunteers that took part in the joint meeting, the Educational Programming Committee for putting together an exciting slate of sessions, the moderators who assisted with the sessions and contributed to this article, and to the Ohio Local History Alliance for continuing to allow SOA to partner with them every fall. Be on the lookout in the fall issue of the Ohio Archivist for information about the next SOA/OLHA meeting.



Gino Pasi and Lori Harris, University of Cincinnati

SESSION 1:

"Where Were You the Last 200 Years?": Building a Diverse and Inclusive Repository for Underrepresented Communities

Presenters: Lori Harris & Gino Pasi, University of Cincinnati

Session synopsis: Stacey Lavender, University of Virginia

The first SOA-track presentation of the conference was given by Gino Pasi and Lori Harris, both from the University of Cincinnati. Their talk discussed efforts made at the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions over the last few years to create an archive of African American Medical and Health Professions. They discussed concrete steps taken, including changes in collecting policies like expanding the kinds of health careers

being documented, and events and outreach activities that helped create and strengthen relationships with the community and identify potential donors. One such event was the 2017 Cecil Striker annual lecture, which was titled "African American Physicians in Cincinnati: Past, Present, and Future." There was a strong focus on the importance of developing a sense of trust with the communities whose history you seek to collect. Building a more inclusive historical record takes time and persistence.

SESSION 2:

Locating Local Manumission Records: Antebellum Ohio, the Journey North

Presenters: Robin Heise, Greene County Records Center and Archives; Amy (Brickey) Czubak, Montgomery County Archives

Session synopsis: William Modrow, Miami University

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A full room of attendees were presented with an informative presentation on the search for Local Manumission Records (also known as Freedom papers) among the County archives in Ohio. The presenters discussed how, in 1804, the State of Ohio enacted the Ohio Black Codes, which mandated that free Black and Mulatto individuals register with their local court to gain freedom papers, also called Manumission papers. This registration process required providing emancipation papers or witnesses in order to corroborate a person's "free" status and a guaranteed surety of five hundred dollars for the African American's good behavior.

The presenters discussed the NHPRC grant application process that funded the beginning project to locate these records. Then how they approached locating the records by contacting various County records offices. They also showed the importance of the information in the records. Also, of interest, and a great promotional plug for project experience - how working as (one of two) a graduate assistant the wonderful hands-on opportunity the experience provided. The sessions' presenters discussed additional support from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board that allowed them to hire summer fellows to help locate and document Manumission papers for Black men and women from five Southwestern Ohio counties.

The presenters noted the importance of the information in the Manumission Papers, these recorded names, detailed physical descriptions, where they originally lived, and the names of their former owners. Most often, manumission records and freedom papers were the first records to document these individuals' journey from property to personhood. Noting, that during this period, Ohio's counties had no standard practice for the preservation of these "Free Negro Registers."

During the research process the presenters and others working on the project had to get creative and persuasive with their approaches to finding the records. The presenters related that they

asked for archivists to not just search their "catalogs," but actually access the actual materials and found the archive contained the Manumission records!

Stating that these records could have been recorded anywhere and there was no consistency among counties so there is no way to anticipate where these records might be found. Being thorough throughout the process, the project workers found information in the following records:

- *Recorder's Deed records*
- *Common Pleas Court records*
- *Probate Court records*
- *Township records*
- *Justice of the Peace records*
- *Gemological Societies*

The goal of the project was to locate the Manumission Records, the presenters are looking at projects to identify/process and hopefully digitize these vital records.

SESSION 3:

Moving Archives: Experiences from Two Repositories

Presenters: Christine Engels, Anne Kling, James DaMico, and Scott Gampfer, Cincinnati Museum Center; William Modrow, Miami University

Session synopsis: Amy Rohmiller, University of Dayton

William Modrow from Miami University and Christine Engels, Anne Kling, James DaMico, and Scott Gampfer from the Cincinnati Museum Center presented two different case studies of moving their respective collections into new and improved spaces. Modrow told how Miami's Special Collections & University Archives moved from several separate locations into one space on the third floor of King Library on campus. The Museum Center team explained their round trip move during the building's recent renovations - all of their archival collections first had to be moved off-site during the renovation and then back into the newly renovated space.

Both Modrow and the team from the Cincinnati Museum Center emphasized

the importance of advance planning when faced with a major collections move. For both institutions, planning was a complex process that included planning for the safety and security of collections, making sure the environment of their new spaces was suitable, making sure collections would fit on the allotted shelf space, including room for growth, and using the opportunity of the move to inventory and identify issues with their collections.

All the presenters gave practical tips for others who may be faced with major collections moves. Modrow emphasized the importance of including everything you might need (including often overlooked things like data ports and phone lines) in the Program of Requirements document given to the contractors because if it's not in the document, the contractors will not do it. He also underscored the importance of serving as an advocate for your collections. Everyone else involved with the project most likely does not know about archives, but you do, and you need to make sure the collections and the space are taken care of appropriately. Finally, Modrow highlighted the importance of asking for things on your wishlist - a move is the perfect opportunity to ask, and if you don't ask you won't get.

Anne Kling emphasized in her presentation that you don't need fancy tools to space plan during a move. She used Excel, Word, paper, and architectural drawings to calculate shelf space. She also explained the importance of sequencing a move and making sure that destination rooms are ready for their collections. James DaMico talked about the importance of making sure collections are stored in such a way that they are organized and safe to move. Finally Christine Engels shared ways to communicate the move to patrons and donors, including creating a clear statement everyone on staff knows and understands, knowing what services and collections you can offer, not giving an exact reopening date, and most importantly the importance of being honest. Most people are understanding of the challenges you're going through.

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From left to right, Pari Swift, Nathan Owens, Robin Heise, and Tina Ratcliff.

SESSION 4:

Navigating Complex Issues in Modern Archival Collections: Privacy and Copyright

Presenters: Virginia Dressler and Cindy Kristof, Kent State University Libraries

Session synopsis: Lily Birkhimer, Ohio History Connection

Over the past couple of years, KSU Libraries has undertaken a large digitization initiative, with help from grant funding, to capture and share materials from its May 4th Collection. With the modern nature of this event, new workflows had to be developed in order to deal with issues of copyright and other privacy considerations as they arose. In this informative and timely session,

Dressler and Kristof discussed the steps in this workflow, which include a privacy review looking at Personal Identifying Information (PII) and determining how its presence impacts access to records; a copyright review, employing a standard set of questions to see where fair use doctrine can be employed and where licenses or other permissions may be required; and a holistic look at the relationships documented in the collection, which can inform where additional permission-seeking or other decisions need to happen. They discussed how and when these steps were incorporated into the overall digitization process, and provided further resources through their slides and handouts for attendees to explore.

SESSION 5:

Ask a Records Manager

Presenters: Robin Heise, Greene County Records Center and Archives; Nathan Owens, Office of Ohio Attorney General; Tina Ratcliff, Montgomery County Records Center & Archives; Pari Swift, The Ohio State University

Session synopsis: Janet Carleton, Ohio University

This question and answer session featured a panel of records managers from a variety of institutions ready to discuss appraisal, retention and description; file management; policy and procedure development; and any other records management issues that came up. Pari Swift began the session with a quick overview of records management and provided a **handout**. The lively discussion that followed included electronic records management and preservation, vital records, and legal issues.

Archives Month Poster

This year's theme for the annual Society of Ohio Archivists' October Archives Month poster is the centennial commemoration of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed and protected women's constitutional right to vote. We will feature photographs, documents, or other graphical materials that connect the stories of local women and supportive men who fought for the right to vote, and continued the fight for ALL women after the passage of the amendment. This will highlight interesting and thought-provoking items from Ohio collections connected to the Suffrage Centennial.

SOA members will have the opportunity to vote on their favorite submitted entries between Monday, April 9, 2020 - Friday, May 1, 2020.

We look forward to your participation!

*Society of Ohio Archivists Advocacy and Outreach
Archives Month Poster Committee*

LOCATING LOCAL MANUMISSION RECORDS:

Antebellum Ohio, the Journey North

Amy Brickey Czubak, Records Center Specialist, Montgomery County Records Center and Archives

WHAT COMES TO MIND when you think of the word “freedom”? Financial freedom, perhaps? Or America, the land of the free? What would your mind turn to when you heard the word “freedom” in the early 1800s? Freedom was a word that haunted the minds of many enslaved People of Color in the Southern United States who only wanted that – freedom. When the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 was passed, only the states in New England, and Pennsylvania, were free states. After the passing of the ordinance, however, six new states, which included Ohio, were created and declared to be free states.

Although Ohio was a free state, this only meant that slaves could not be bought or sold within the state. It also meant that enslaved people were not automatically set free upon entering Ohio. Slave owners visiting the state with slaves were still welcome to come

the case of George Washington McQuerry, whose habeas corpus papers (Fig. 1) are kept at the Montgomery County Records Center & Archives and whose story appears on the Ohio History Connection’s website.¹

Some Southerners who held people in bondage, however, freed their slaves either outright or upon death through their wills. Upon being freed they were given emancipation papers which they had to carry. The Ohio Black Codes, enacted in 1804, mandated that free Black and Mulatto individuals, even those born free, had to register with their local court to gain freedom papers, or, manumission papers. To be granted these papers the individual either had to produce the emancipation papers from the person who had formerly enslaved them, or prove they were born free. At first, Black men and women could purchase manumission papers for only fifty dollars per person. Soon, though, the price rose to five-hundred dollars per person. Not only was the price per person outrageous, but a Black person would also have to bring two White people to court with them to verify their good character and attest that they would not be a burden to the county in which they were registering.

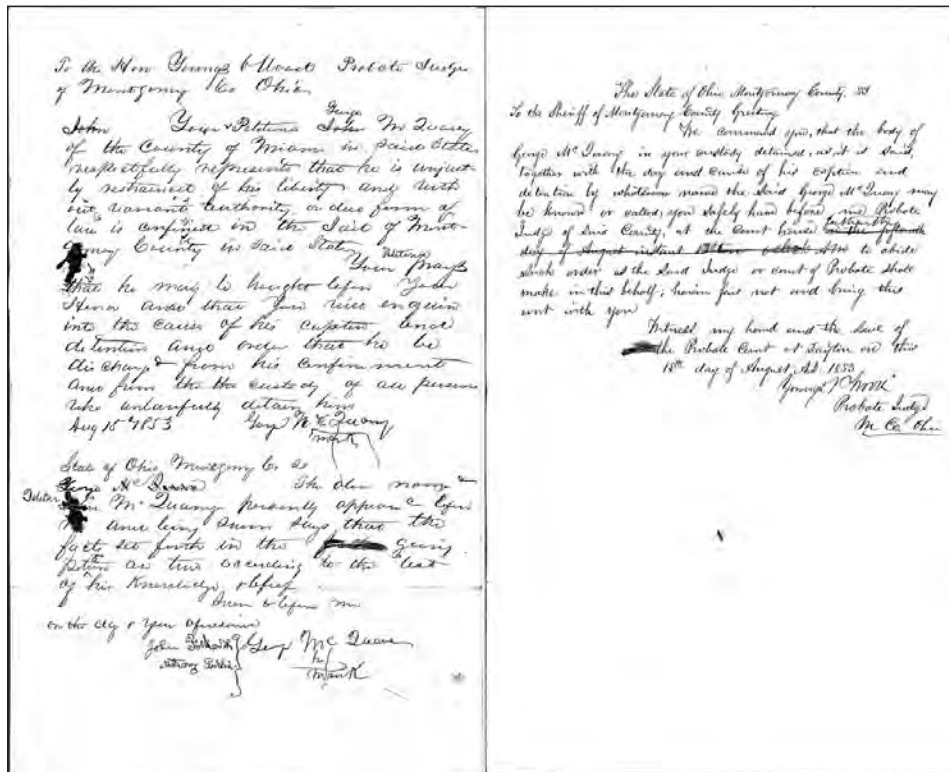


Fig. 1: Habeas corpus papers for George W. McQuerry, Montgomery County, 1853.

and go as they pleased, and if someone escaped from their bondage, slavers and U.S. Marshalls could retrieve their run-aways with little, to no, interruption from the courts. Such was

Thanks to a grant from the National Historic Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), I was able to perform summer research in 2018 for the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB). The goal of the project was to locate and document manumission records, emancipation records, and freedom papers for Black men and women from eleven southwestern Ohio counties. These men and women were people who either managed to escape slavery in the South and raise enough money to pay for their freedom and settle in Ohio, who were released amiably from their chains of bondage and relocated to Ohio after their emancipation, or who were born free either in, or later moved to, Ohio.

I studied five counties in the survey: Champaign, Clark, Greene, Logan, and Montgomery. The records of 38 free Blacks were found in Champaign County.

1 George Washington McQuerry article, http://ohiohistorycentral.org/w/George_W._McQuerry.

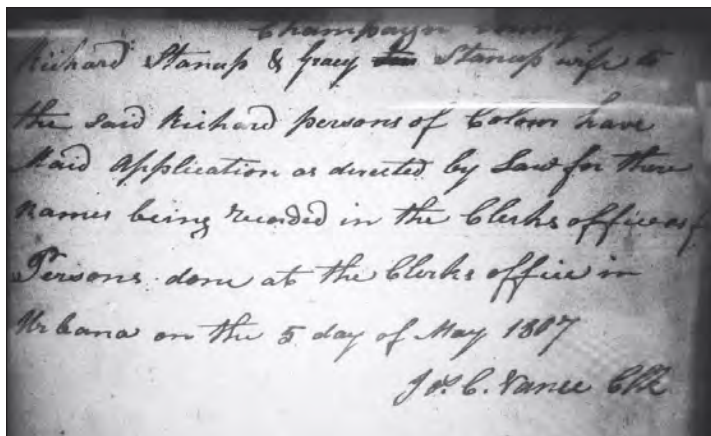


Fig. 2: Emancipation for Richard Stanhope (Stanup) and wife, Gracy, Champaign County, 1807.

Of those, 16 free people had been emancipated from the will and last testament of Abraham Vanmeter of Hardy County, Virginia, now West Virginia, on November 15, 1850. The record of their emancipation was found in a deed record at the Champaign County Recorder's Office. Nineteen more names, dating from 1807 to 1823, were scrawled onto the pages of the Clerk of Court minute books at the Champaign County's Court of Common Pleas. A significant name located in the minute books (Fig. 2) was that of Richard Stanhope (or Stanup). Stanhope was a valet during the Revolutionary War and the Chief of Servants to George Washington at Mount Vernon.

The Clark County Heritage Center in Springfield, Ohio, holds two beautiful manumission documents. One is from a man named William Wilson who freed a total of five enslaved people from Kenton County, Kentucky on two separate occasions: June 10, 1859 and November 29, 1860. The other document comes from a woman named Polly Bell who emancipated 22 enslaved people from Augusta County, Virginia on November 5, 1849.

The Greene County Records Center and Archives has a wonderful collection of archival materials including an original Negro and Mulatto Registry from the Greene County Clerk of Courts that holds the names of 125 individuals and their families that came to settle in Greene County. Interestingly, the majority of people registered by the Clerk of Courts were from Virginia with a few coming from North and South Carolina. In addition to the manumission book, the Greene County Archives has 59 more names in their deed records.

The Wright State University Libraries in Greene County, Ohio, houses the original, and incredibly preserved, Logan County Free Negro and Mulatto Registry in their Special Collections, which contains the names of 163 individuals who came from Virginia and North Carolina to live out their days as free individuals. Large numbers of enslaved people were released from George C. Mendenhall, John Newlin, George C. Dromgood, and Alexander Irwin. Newlin and Mendenhall emancipated the largest amount of people, 42 and 28 respectively.

The names of only 14 free People of Color have been preserved in the Montgomery County Records Center and Archives. The original book has been lost, but a photocopy exists. Sadly, the book is titled, Stray Book A. No 1 & Record of Free Negroes Montgomery Common Pleas. Although the names only span from 1804 to 1805, they include both individuals and families. Many of the names are attached to Colonel Robert Patterson, and it appears many of the free Black men and women attached to Colonel Patterson had been indentured to him and were entering their names as free persons of color upon the end of their indenture.

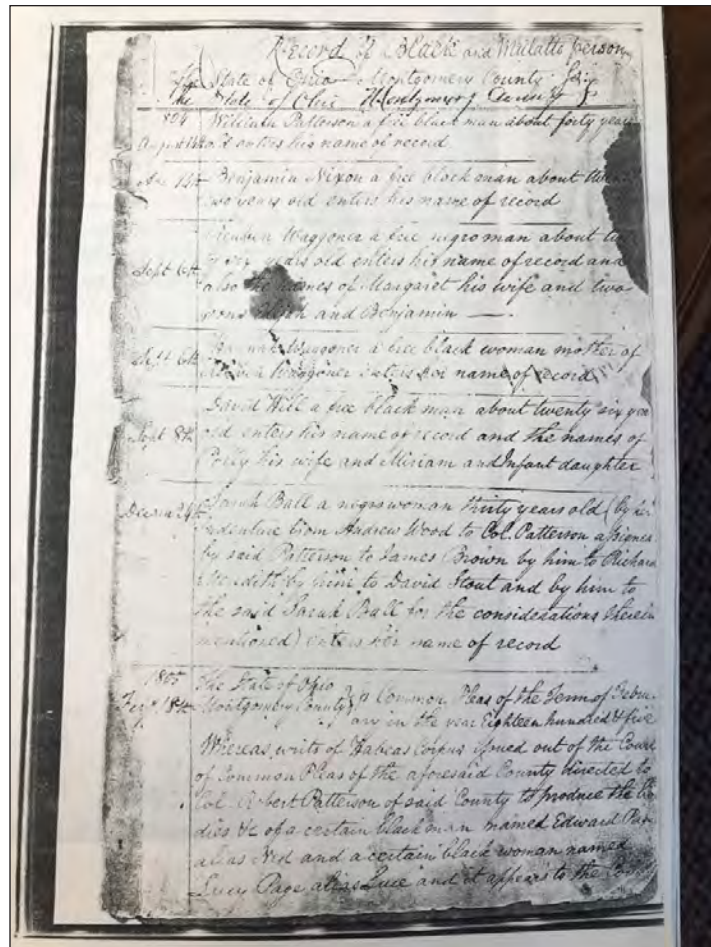


Fig. 3: Image of Montgomery County's manumission copy

I had recorded a total of 427 names found in the five counties surveyed by the end of the OHRAB fellowship. Some of them had been freed directly from the plantation, others had been set free through wills and deeds, while others still had been born free, but had to register their names regardless. While the fellowship had ended, my research did not. A part of the original proposal from OHRAB to the NHPRC included a story map using ArcGIS online software. I had some experience making them as an undergrad, so I made one for this survey.² With the success of the story map, I was asked to create another using census data from 1850 and 1860 of my original five counties, plus Auglaize, Darke,

Mercer, Miami, Preble, and Shelby Counties.³ This map was used to trace the birth locations and freedom journeys of Ohio's People of Color who were entered on the census.

The results of the census survey showed startling differences in the number of African Americans living within all eleven counties versus the amount of freedom, emancipation, or manumission records that were found. For example, Greene County had a total of 184 manumission records. However, the census revealed that Greene County had the highest population of free People of Color: 647 in 1850, rising to 1,470 in 1860. If we were to go by freedom papers alone, one would have assumed that there were only 184 free Blacks living in all of Greene County. The census survey also revealed counties with rapidly shrinking populations. Auglaize County had a population of 88 free Blacks in 1850, but that number was reduced to only 54 individuals in 1860 – 65% of the population had moved away from Auglaize County within ten years. One factor in this exodus might have been due to several anti-Black ordinances filed within the county circa 1840-1850. One such ordinance stated, “Resolved: That the Blacks of this county be and are hereby respectfully requested to leave the county on or before the first day of March, 1847, and in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with this request, we pledge to remove them ourselves, peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must.”⁴ As interesting as the census decline is, perhaps more interesting is that there were no manumission, emancipation, or freedom records found in Auglaize County.

Another interesting component of the census data was the birthplace of individuals. While most were from Ohio, Virginia came in as a close second. Records showed a wide variety of

birthplaces, including, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, Iowa, Mississippi, Canada, Haiti, England, and France. Overall, Greene County had the widest array of birthplaces, likely due to having such a large population of free People of Color.

Although my fellowship ended in 2018, Robin Heise, former SOA President and current OHRAB member, and I have participated in many speaking engagements concerning the manumissions records search. Last year we gave talks to the Clerk of Courts Association, OHRAB, County Archivists and Records Managers Association (CARMA), and the Ohio Local History Alliance (OLHA). This year, we will be speaking in Cleveland to the African American Genealogical Society. Along with speaking engagements, I am still collecting emancipation and manumission records when I find them at Montgomery County. I recently found an emancipation record in a deed book for a man named Samuel Ward, Jr. and passed it on to Robin so it could be documented.⁵

OHRAB has received another grant to facilitate an additional summer fellowship which will concentrate on new counties. These records are incredibly important documents as they help tell the lives and stories of early African Americans in this country and the struggles they faced both in the South and the North.

Amy Brickey Czubak is a Records Center Specialist at the Montgomery County Records Center and Archives and was a 2018 Summer Fellow for the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB). She holds a B.A. in Anthropology from Wright State University (2017) and an M.A. in Public History from Wright State University (2019).

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3 Census data story map, <https://arcg.is/14j8fj0>

4 Rowe, Jill E., “Mixing It Up: Early African American Settlements in Northwest Ohio,” *Journal of Black Studies*, 39, no. 6 (2009): 933.

5 Samuel Ward, Jr. emancipation record, <https://www.mcoho.org/departments/RecordsCenter/Certificate%20of%20Emancipation%20for%20Samuel%20Ward,%20Jr.jpeg>.

One Attempt to Create a Digital Library from Scratch

John Dewees, Supervisor Digitization Services, Toledo Lucas County Public Library

WHEN APPROACHING ANY ENDEAVOR it is common practice to lean into existing strengths, so when starting a new position in a new library, I set out to do this with my intrepid team members at the Local History and Genealogy department of the Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL). Our Special Collections Librarian, Ed Hill, had been championing a particular (and massive) subset of our archival collections: architectural drawings and documentation. Over the years TLCPL has accessioned drawings, photographs and supporting documentation, and it has been Ed's goal to successfully leverage these materials in whatever way possible. As the new digitization librarian, I worked with him to develop a means whereby the collection can continue to be processed, organized and ultimately end up online.

The scope of these architectural collections is extensive: thousands of photographs, tens of thousands of sheets of architectural drawings, and hundreds of thousands of pages of supporting documentation. With few exceptions, these materials have been donated to the library; in some cases a donation may be a single commission for a house, and in others the collections have come in as corporate archives donated wholesale, the largest of which has been the Bauer, Stark, and Lashbrook Collection that came to the library over a series of accessions and over a number of years. All the architectural collections are either the work of Toledo-area architects or commissions depicting Toledo-area buildings. While the Bauer, Stark, and Lashbrook Collection is the single largest, and accounting for over 120 years of history, other prominent Toledo architects are also featured in the collection including Carl C. Britsch, Alfred A. Hahn, George B. Rheinfrank, Harry W. Wachter, and David L. Stine, who operated individually or as part of a larger firm over the course of their careers. The comprehensiveness of each firm's collection varies considerably.

Due to the scope of the Bauer, Stark, and Lashbrook Collection in particular, in-depth processing has not yet been possible, and inventories in the form of spreadsheets have been created for the various architects and firms to collect metadata about the individual commissions. A first effort in continuing to process this collection has been to consolidate all of the inventories into a single union list, to allow reference librarians to more easily determine if we can assist patrons in their queries about specific addresses and to ensure that all collections are being described consistently. Currently the bulk of the architectural collections are housed in off-site storage and are retrieved monthly in response to library or patron needs. As materials are pulled, their contents are double-checked against the union inventory to ensure accuracy, and boxes that contain unidentified materials are researched and added to the inventory.

This workflow of pulling materials provides an excellent opportunity to digitize them, and in nearly all cases a portion of every commission is digitized and added to our repository, even if only an exterior elevation or floor plan. The drawings themselves are prioritized, and the supporting documentation, such as construction parameters, contracts, invoices, etc., are only if of high interest. To supplement the architectural drawings, contemporary photographs are taken of the building (if extant) by library staff and included in the digital version of the commission in the repository.



Architecture of Northwest Ohio landing page.

Providing Access

The digital library has two primary platforms that are used to power this resource. The access solution is built in Omeka, entitled "**The Architecture of Northwest Ohio**" (ANWO), that creates an interface custom built to navigate the commissions, while adding additional data. The repository solution is CONTENTdm, through Ohio's state-wide digital library **Ohio Memory**, which acts as storage for the digital surrogates and the complete metadata record for individual commissions. Representative images from a commission are uploaded to Omeka, with links back to the full record in CONTENTdm. Creating the interface in Omeka was a highly

iterative process as different aspects of this project have progressed at different rates and continues to change over time—creating an interface that scaled well continues to provide an interesting challenge.

For instance, books on architecture drawn from our rare book collection are scanned as a supplementary resource to the exhibit. In mid-2019, there was only a handful of digitized monographs, and they could easily be displayed on the homepage for the exhibit, however as other resources such as scrapbooks and manuscript material have been digitized, all these resources have been broken off into their own area as a supplementary reference library to the core collection.

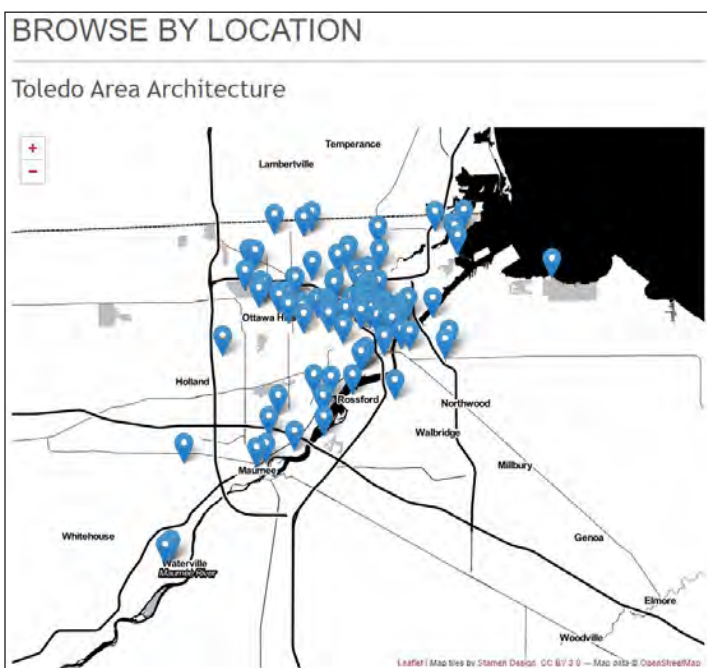
Creating ANWO has allowed us to contextualize the collection in a way that is challenging in a repository environment, as well as enrich the collection with additional data to aid researchers. Creating the union inventory of architectural commissions was the first step in providing more control of the collection. This inventory includes information on what architect or firm created the commission, who requested the project and how large the commission is, the location of the building and other assorted information. A secondary project has been to create a comprehensive list of architects and firms working in Toledo from the late 19th century to the present by transcribing entries in city directories into a spreadsheet, and this has been an indispensable resource for creating useful supplemental data. When an architect or firm is added to ANWO for the first time, this Toledo architects list is consulted, and an account of exactly how long the architect worked in Toledo is created, along with information on what firms they were part of.

ANWO provides three primary means of interrogating the content: geospatially, by the designing architect/firm, and by the style of the building. If a patron is only looking for an address, a straightforward search in Ohio Memory will turn up that

information. However, if a patron is looking to investigate what we have in a neighborhood, or easily wants information on a specific firm or all the Colonial Revival buildings in the area, the repository can provide this information, but in a far less user-friendly fashion. The Geolocation plugin for Omeka is an easy and highly customizable means to create an excellent geospatial interface and visualization for our collections, and we have two maps currently, one for Toledo/Lucas County, and one for the larger region currently incorporating Ohio and Michigan. To explore the work of individual firms, we first create pages for cities and then populate each of these pages with the firms that were based there. Each firm's page then has a list of all digitized commissions we have for them. In the future we hope to further enrich these firm's pages with additional information to create a more robust history of their work.

This interface also makes our digital collection development easier, as we want to create a highly diverse set of architectural collections. To do this we look to digitize architectural drawings of buildings in neighborhoods of underrepresented communities, those from underrepresented backgrounds in the field of architecture, geographically diverse buildings around all corners of the county, diverse styles and purposes of buildings, and by scanning from different time periods.

A larger initiative at TLCPL is to create published open data sets. On a monthly basis, all metadata from CONTENTdm is downloaded as standard Dublin Core XML and uploaded to a publicly available Dropbox folder that is accessible through GitHub and licensed under a GNU General Public License. While the architectural collections metadata is only one sub-set of the larger mass of data, this allows it to be freely provided to the public for mining and use in GIS or digital humanities projects. Where possible we also enrich this metadata with GPS coordinates and ISO 8601 date fields to make the material as accessible as possible.

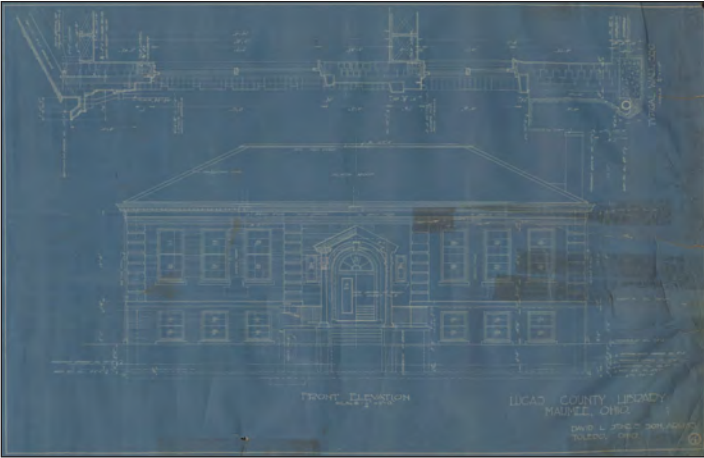


Architecture of Northwest Ohio landing page.

Next Steps

Development of this project is ongoing and a number of future enhancements are planned. Ideally the union inventory of architectural materials will be exposed to the public through the library website and provide the basis for a dataset that can be searched and combined with a webform that will allow a simple and straightforward means of requesting drawings in our collection that can be easily delivered through Dropbox. This massive dataset could also be combined with existing open data initiatives and distributed in a coded and machine-readable format.

The architectural collections do not exist in isolation from our other digitized materials and integrating these resources together has been a recent goal. A custom federated search engine that leverages the CONTENTdm and Internet Archive APIs, combined with a custom solution for our digital exhibits in Omeka, has been implemented that allows all our digitized resources to be searched together. As all our digitized resources reside in Ohio Memory, among dozens of other collections from other libraries, archives, and museums, this provides a means of



Maumee Library exterior elevation, 1916.

isolating our content for search and combining it with our other access solutions. Thus, when searching an address, you will see any instances in our primary CONTENTdm collection (which includes our digitized architectural materials, as well as the bulk of our photo collections), as well as any instances it appears in our collection of county auditor's images, our newspapers collection, or our community driven photo collection. In the same spirit of implementing new means for researchers to interact with our digital materials, another project has been to develop a geospatial map interface for all our digitized collections (not just architecture), allowing any record with GPS coordinates to be mapped and browsed. This allows researchers to see the full scope of our collections on a map, surfacing disparate resources that happen to have geographic proximity.

A blank slate project like this can be truly exhilarating as there is no shortage of directions that can be taken. ANWO changes and progresses significantly on a month to month basis and I look forward to seeing where it will take me as we craft more robust versions of it in the future.

Acknowledgements

I'd like to thank the dedication and teamwork of Ed Hill (Special Collections Librarian, and curator for architectural collections), Kristel Schetter (Clerk III, who is instrumental in processing, describing, and digitizing materials), Andy Lechlak (Digital Strategist, who is responsible for creating the federated search and geospatial search tools), as well as Gayle Martinez and Christina Gaydos (Supervisor Cataloging Services and Cataloger respectively, who are essential to enriching and proofing our metadata). Their tireless work has been absolutely key to the continued realization of this project.

Enriching the Digital Library

One advantage to using a tool like Omeka as an access layer for a repository like CONTENTdm is that you can take certain slices of content from the repository that are useful in the given digital library without wading through irrelevant content. One example of this is the "Research Resources" page of ANWO where non-core materials are presented for continued research in addition to the architectural commissions. Thus far we've added:

- A list of how the different architectural firms described have changed over time, gaining and losing named partners, or acting as solitary actors
- Links to digitized scrapbooks and vertical files of newspaper clippings on Toledo buildings and architects
- Scrapbooks loaned to us from the Toledo Firefighters Museum that document the history of the firehouses in the city
- Monographs from our rare book collection
- Select manuscript material detailing the sale of land and assets for a significant Toledo manufacturer
- A key taken from a commission providing information on typical symbols used in architecture and engineering drawings in 1921
- Links to photograph collections in our digital holdings with extensive architectural images
- Resources from outside our library such as links to historic district commission websites, Sanborn Fire Insurance maps from the Ohio Web Library, and books digitized by institutions like the State Library of Ohio

Individual Member News

Amy Czubak has revamped the **Montgomery County Records Center & Archives webpage**. In addition to the public records request form, she has also added a house history research guide, some cool images, and more links. Check it out!

Collette McDonough, Archivist and Library Manager for the **Charles F. Kettering Foundation** in Dayton, will be joining the **Midwest Archives Conference's** Presidents' Award Committee representing Ohio starting in May.

Jackie Perkins has been interning with the **Charles F.**

Kettering Foundation Archive. She is helping to process parts of the Foundation's early materials, which were recently returned from The Hoover Institution.

Michelle Smith was promoted to Archdiocesan Archivist for the **Archdiocese of Cincinnati** in February, while **Alexis Horst** has recently accepted the position of Assistant Archivist. Alexis comes to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati from the **Mary R. Schiff Library & Archives** at the **Cincinnati Art Museum**. We are both looking forward to kicking off a year of bicentennial celebrations in the Archdiocese this June.

Institutional Member News

On October 3, 2019 the **MidPointe Library System** added the Armco Publications collection to the **MidPointe Digital Archives**. The collection currently consists of over 300+ Armco produced publications including the full run of Armco Bulletins (1914-1931) and various Arm-Co-Operators (1929-1935, 1953, 1957 to 1960, 1961 to 1963). The materials detail the activities and going-ons of Armco, a large steel company that originated out of Middletown, Ohio but had plants in Zanesville, Columbus, Ashland (KY), and Butler (PA), among several other places. The materials are rich with history about Armco itself and are a great source of genealogy research for those who may have had family who worked for Armco. Table Of Contents exist for all of the Armco Bulletins and about half of the Arm-Co-Operators for quick viewing. Additionally, the entire collection is full text searchable thanks to OCR. The collection in its entirety can be [viewed here](#).

The **Ohio Digital Network Outreach Working Group** has released a collection of eight **Primary Source Sets**, available freely to all educators and researchers. Contributed by libraries and archives across Ohio, these resources cover a wide span of Ohio and American history, from African American Ohioans in the Arts to Industry in Ohio and Women's Suffrage and the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Each Set also contains a guide for educators that includes discussion questions, classroom activities, and further resources on the topic. The items in each resource set will link users to our resources in the **Digital Public Library of America**, where they can find over 200,000 items from Ohio institutions, and over 36 million items from institutions across the United States – all free to access!

If you'd like to contribute to future collections, contact us at info@ohiodigitalnetwork.org

Students working on projects for **Ohio History Day** now have a new award opportunity! The Advanced Digital Researcher award from OPLIN will award \$125 each in both the Junior and Senior Divisions for projects that utilize resources either from the Ohio Web Library and/or **Ohio Digital Network collections in DPLA**.

We are excited to see this year's contest entries designed with the 2020 History Day theme in mind – 'Breaking Barriers in History'.

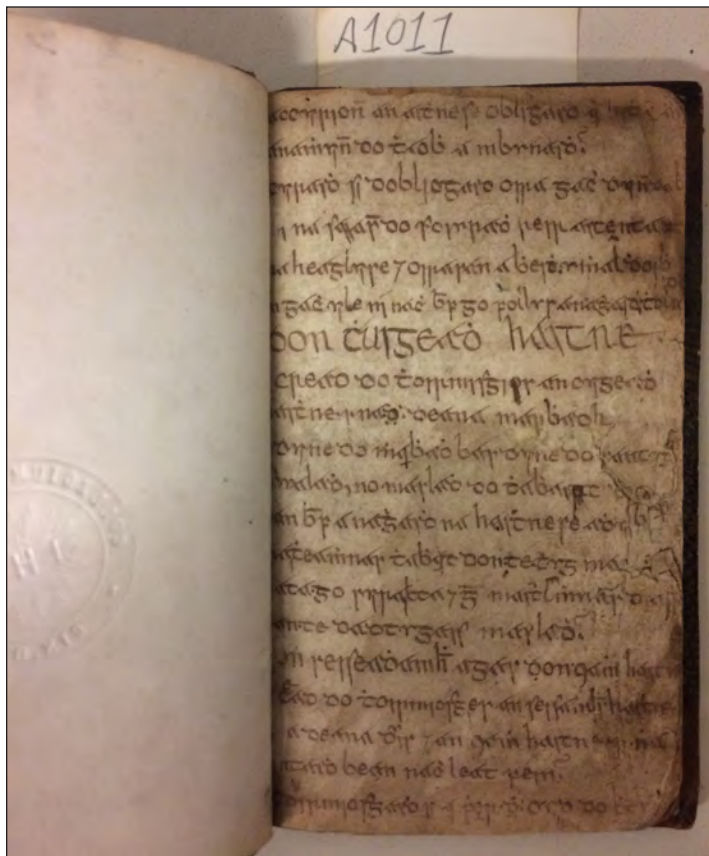
More information about Ohio History Day events and contests can be found through the **Ohio History Connection**.

The **Ohio History Connection** and **State Library of Ohio** are thrilled to announce that **Ohio Memory** is celebrating 20 years in 2020! Thanks so much to our nearly 400 contributors; current and former staff; federal, state and local funders; users; and champions across the state who have helped make Ohio Memory the amazing resource it is today. Ohio Memory is a collaborative program of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. Ohio History Connection is located at 800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211.



Antiphonal from Ohio Wesleyan University, part of the Peripheral Manuscripts project.

Several Ohio institutions, including **College of Wooster**, **Bowling Green State University**, **Ohio Wesleyan University**, **University of Dayton**, and **Xavier University** are collaborating partners on a three-year grant for **The Peripheral Manuscripts Project: Digitizing Medieval Manuscript Collections** in the Midwest. The grant, awarded by the **Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR)**, will create a digital repository and catalog of medieval manuscripts across Midwestern collections. Led by Indiana University, the consortium of 22 Midwestern institutions will contribute 78 codices (books) and 406 medieval manuscript



Manuscript from Xavier University, part of the Peripheral Manuscripts project.

fragments. The project officially begins June 1, 2020 and those interested can learn more by following the project twitter [@peripheralms](#) or by viewing the [project website](#).

The Peace Resource Center at Wilmington College (PRC) is home to the **Barbara Reynolds Memorial Archives**, a collection regarding the human experience of nuclear war and the nuclear disarmament movement. In August 2019, the PRC drew international attention for repatriating a wooden cross in its collection to the **Urakami Cathedral** in Nagasaki, Japan. The 3'x1.5' cross, which had survived the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, had been donated to the PRC in 1982 by WWII veteran, Walter G. Hooke, who had located it while stationed in Nagasaki following Japan's 1945 surrender. In fall 2019, the PRC was a proud recipient of an NEH Preservation Assistance Grant that will be utilized to carry out environmental monitoring of the collection as well as to purchase new powder-coated steel shelving for its monographs collection. In spring and summer 2020, in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the PRC is partnering with Wilmington College Assistant Professor of Music and Concert Pianist, Brianna Matzke in the latest of her "Response Project." The "Response Project" will ask artists representing genres ranging from music and two-dimensional art to filmmaking and poetry to respond to something they experience while visiting the PRC's Barbara Reynolds Memorial Archives. The works created will be performed and exhibited in conjunction with the **30th Annual Westheimer Peace Symposium**, October 1-2, 2020, which will focus on "Peace and the Nature of War" through the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and 75 subsequent years of nuclear threat.



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