

OHRAB Grant End of Year 2014 Report  
January 29, 2015

**Institution:** Canal Fulton Public Library

**Project Title:** Preservation of Canal Fulton Local History Photographs

**Project Director:**

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**Project Summary:** The Canal Fulton Public Library (CFPL) grant for the Preservation of Canal Fulton Local History Photographs helped fund the purchase of preservation materials for the conservation of local history materials, primarily photographs. The CFPL project goal was to identify, preserve, and provide access to historical records in Canal Fulton, Ohio. Funds were used primarily for the purchase of archival supplies for the preservation of library and local history photographs.

**Results:**

- *Summary of expenses:* All of the supplies were ordered, received, and paid for. We ran out of some supplies, such as photo corners, which delayed implementation. The library spent additional funds so the project could continue. Total expenses were \$1,879.25.
- Transferring the local history photos into a photo file and into protective sleeves was a time consuming process, in order to preserve order/provenance. This part of the project is about 50 percent complete.
- Transferring the 23 library history photo/scrap albums into the photo archive albums is about 75 percent complete.
- *Was the project completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>?* All of the supplies funded by the grant were ordered and delivered well before the end of the year. The actual work of conserving the photos will continue until the supplies are all used. The work of conserving the photos was delayed because of a lack of storage space (for both the supplies and the collections), while a finding aid was developed, and when some of the supplies were used up and we had to order more before we could continue.
- *Was there any publicity on the project?* I reported to several community groups, such as the Canal Fulton and Lawrence Township "Talk About Potential" (TAP) Committee, and the Canal Fulton Heritage Society, that we had a SNAP grant to help preserve the library's local history collection. It was also included on the front page of the CFPL August newsletter.

- *Was there any increased interest in the collections from researchers? Yes:*
  - a. The library's local history reference questions increased from a total of 80 in 2013 to 99 in 2014.
  - b. I consulted with Mark Cozy, Canal Fulton City Manager, regarding preservation of municipal records. The city currently keeps its oldest records locked in a safe, and they are rarely used. He felt that time and resources would be better spent partnering and addressing archival needs at the Canal Fulton Heritage Society. Although the city isn't currently interested in partnering, awareness of the SNAP grant and the library's resources were increased.
  - c. I started attending Canal Fulton Heritage Society monthly meetings in April, and updated them on the library's archive project. I was appointed to the Heritage Society Board of Trustees in December, and will chair the Museums Committee in 2015, which oversees their archives. The Heritage Society Board of Trustees is interested in applying for a SNAP grant for archive conservation, organization, and/or digitization.
  - d. While at a CF Heritage Society lunch meeting, I informed Daniel Rice, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition, about our SNAP grant.

