

Friends of Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
P.O. Box 234
Trenton, OH 45067

January 25, 2017
OHRAB Final Report

**Transcribing and Providing Public Access
to the Christian Augspurger Estate Packet of 1848**

Project Director: Anne Jantzen, 513-726-5265, jantzeak@fuse.net
Grant Amount: \$2,323.00

Primary Goal of the project:

The Friends of Chrisholm received \$2,323 from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board to make accessible a digital surrogate of the Christian Augspurger estate documents, making them available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That has been accomplished and the over 200 pages of the estate are now accessible online through the cooperation of Midpointe Library System at:

[http://www.midpointedigitalarchives.org/cdm/landingpage/collectio
n/p16488coll11](http://www.midpointedigitalarchives.org/cdm/landingpage/collectio
n/p16488coll11)

In addition, Adam Wanter, Metadata Librarian with Midpointe Library System, has created an EAD Finding Aide. This aide is accessible at:

[http://www.midpointedigitalarchives.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16488coll
12/id/22](http://www.midpointedigitalarchives.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16488coll
12/id/22)

Additional Outcomes:

1. The original Christian Augspurger Estate documents dating from 1848 to 1853, and numbering over 200 sheets of paper, are now housed in archival files and are arranged in chronological order, the same order in

- which they appear online. The original files continue to be housed at the Butler County Records and Archives Center in Hamilton, Ohio, and are available there for viewing and research.
2. Most of the original documents were handwritten and difficult to read. Using grant funds they have now all been transcribed and the transcriptions appear next to the originals in the online edition of the estate. In addition volunteers, Bryant H. Riley and Mimi Muterspaw, who are familiar with the local history content and context of the documents and were somewhat familiar with the spelling of names have meticulously edited the transcriptions.
 3. Three of the documents were handwritten in old-German script. We were able to enlist a volunteer, Anne Schmidt-Lange, to translate these documents from the German. The translations appear alongside the originals in the online edition.
 4. Rebecca Page, Metadata Librarian, created metadata for the newly created digital collection, and Midpointe Library System will continue to host this digital collection.
 5. A print edition of selections from the Christian Augspurger Estate, 1848, with annotations, is in draft form and will be edited, formatted, and printed by early March 2017. This 90-page booklet will serve as a supplement to and a promotional piece for the online edition. It contains, in addition the Sale Bill and a few other significant estate documents, interesting information about the Augspurgers, photos, informative introductions, and annotations on items in the Sale Bill. Copies of this promotional piece will be given to participants in the April 20 Roll-out Event and to attendees of the Augspurger Friends and Family Reunion to be held on June 10, 2017, in celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Coming to America of Christian and Katharina Augspurger.

6. Midpointe Library issued a press release on the OHRAB grant to announce this work-in-progress to the public. A copy of that clipping is in the attachments.
7. Cari Hillman, Public Relations Manager with the Midpointe Library System, is in the process of designing a trifold to generate interest in the records and to direct researchers, the general public, and elementary and secondary students to this rich source of Ohio and regional history. These will be distributed to all libraries in Butler County, including the Miami University libraries. We will also distribute copies to Social Studies teachers in the area, and additional copies will be distributed through the members of the Butler County History Collaborative.
8. The public will be introduced to this project at an event hosted by the Friends of Chrisholm and MidPointe Library System on April 20, 2017, from 5 to 7 at the Trenton Midpointe Library. Participants in the event will receive a free copy of the print edition of Selection from the Estate. Marcus Yoder, who recently completed a Masters Thesis at Yale University on similar, and contemporaneous, Amish estates, has been invited to be a speaker for this Rollout Event. Each participant will receive both a copy of the print edition and a tri-fold that summarizes the collection and gives complete instructions for accessing the online edition.
9. We will develop a survey in the next month to collect feedback from a sampling of the initial users of the online documents. We will also gather feedback from participants in the April 20, 2017, Rollout Event at the Trenton Midpointe Library. We will send a summary of these evaluations to OHRAB by May 2017.

Budget Expenditures:

From OHRAB Grant:

1. Backstage Library Works for transcription of documents	651.00
2. Payment to two volunteers for reviewing and editing	800.00
3. Printing of 300 copies of print edition of Selections	438.00
4. Printing of 2000 copies of the promotional trifold	434.00
Total Expenditures from OHRAB Grant:	\$2,323.00

Matching Cash Contribution from W.E. Smith Grant

1. Creation of annotations to Sale Bill	500.00
2. Printing of 300 copies of print edition of Selections	645.00
Total Expenditures from W.E.Smith Grant	\$1145.00

Contributed Salaries and Wages:

Midpointe Library Staff, 215 hours @ \$40	8,600.00
Mimi Muterspaw, Project Volunteer, 140 hrs. @ 21.40	2856.00
Bryant Riley, Project Volunteer, 140 hrs. @ 21.40	2856.00
Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, Project Volunteer, 10 hrs. @ 21.40	214.00
Anne Schmidt-Lange, Project Volunteer, 10 hrs. @ 21.40	214.00
Marcus Yoder, Project volunteer, 10 hrs. @ 21.40	214.00
Anne Jantzen, Project Director, 215 hours @ 21.40	4601.00
Total Contributed Salaries and Wages:	\$10,955.00

OHRAB expenditure: \$2323.00 + \$12,100.00 Matching Funds = \$12,100.00

Publicity:

Our publicity thus far has been minimal. We have announced the OHRAB grant in our Friends of Chrisholm Newsletter and have shared news about the project at the Butler County History Collaborative Meetings and at our Friends of Chrisholm Annual Fall Meeting.

We will soon revitalize our publicity efforts and start by writing a press release to celebrate the newly digitized document and online resource. This press release will be submitted to the Journal News, Hamilton and Middletown, and the Cincinnati Enquirer. The Newsletters of the MidPointe Library System and the Friends of Chrisholm will also announce this new addition to our sources

of local and regional history. The Rollout Event of April 20, 2017 will be the centerpiece and focus of our publicity efforts and we will use both the promotional trifold and the **Selections from the Christian Augspurger Estate, 1848** to increase awareness of the online edition.

Summary:

We anticipate that public access to this document and its easier readability will spur research on the document by both historians and historians-in-the-making, namely the students in our Butler County schools. In addition, we anticipate that this digital document will become increasingly valuable, as it is linked online to other sources of local and State history, and as teachers develop lesson plans and activities around its use.

In the long term, this document will live as a compelling story of an Amish immigrant and his family, who left behind relatives and comforts in the Old World, in order to secure both freedom of religion and the freedom to own land and prosper as an entrepreneur in the relatively new State of Ohio.

In addition, the completion of this project leaves us with new skills, a strong collaborative relationship with the MidPointe Library System, and the motivation to make additional historic documents associated with the Chrisholm Historic Farmstead accessible to the public.

Attachments:

- Newspaper article about OHRAB Grant
- Friends of Chrisholm Newsletter article about OHRAB Grant
- Title Page from Print Edition of **Selections from the Christian Augspurger Estate, 1848**

To be Sent When Completed:

- Promotional Tri-fold

- Survey Results
- Additional Newspaper Coverage
- Print Edition of **Selections from the Christian Augspurer Estate, 1848**