From The Director...

The Conference on Local History (4 April) was well attended (130 attendees) by history professionals, directors, administrators, librarians, genealogists and students. Plans are currently being made to again sponsor one for April 1986. Should any readers have suggestions for topics, please forward these to me here at the CAC. Thanks for your support.

University Archives

Attention BGSU Faculty and Staff The University Archives has been the recipient of many autographed faculty publications during this past academic year. These donations are appreciated, and result in an ever-increasing, in size and usage. Faculty/Staff Publications Collection.

In addition to these published works, the CAC also is interested in receiving the private papers of faculty and staff, including manuscript drafts of published works, and files documenting University and other professional activities. These collections, added to our Special Collections holdings, reflect the academic and professional strengths of this institution which proves most helpful to students, faculty/staff, and off-campus patrons.

Rare Books

Processing of the Stranahan Poetry Collection is almost complete and the entire collection should be available for public use by 1 June. Poets represented include a wide range of predominantly nineteenth and twentieth century names from Robert Louis Stevenson and Robert Browning to Edna St. Vincent Millay, John Masefield, and Edwin Arlington Robinson.

The CAC extends special thanks to Dr. James Harner, BGSU English Department for his recent gift to the Rare Books Collection: John Dryden’s Threnodias Augustalis: A Funeral Pindarique Poem Sacred to the Happy memory of King Charles II. London: printed for Jacob Tonson, 1685.

Historic Preservation

Diana D. Moran recently was hired as Northwest Regional Coordinator for the Ohio Historic Preservation Office located at the CAC. She received her MS in Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University in 1981, and has worked for a Regional Planning Commission in Flint, MI, and as an independent consultant in Ann Arbor.

The Regional Office coordinates preservation activities with local preservation organizations, neighborhood groups, historical societies, governmental agencies and others interested in the preservation of the built environment in northwest Ohio.

Photographs wanted: The photographs of children at play illustrating this issue represent only a few of the images in our collections. During the selection process for pictures on this topic, for both the Chronicle and the display in our reading-room, it was noted that the strengths of our holdings lie in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. If future historians and researchers are to obtain a well-rounded view of our society, we must expand our holdings of mid and late 20th century views.

If you have photographs, tintypes, glass plate negatives, or daguerrotypes pertaining to our collecting areas, the CAC will exchange on a one-to-one basis a 5 x 7 black and white print for the privilege of copying the same with the CAC retaining the copy negative. While we would prefer more archivally stable black and white images, color photographs also will be evaluated for our collections. All copy prints would be made in black and white. Our range of interests is as broad as the range of daily life in Northwest Ohio: agricultural activities, recreation and leisure, family life, work-place scenes, general views of city, town and farm life, and significant individual portraits showing costume, customs or noted people.

Reference

Fred Zarges on toy horse with long rifle
Matilda Staib Parks collection
Preservation

Photograph Albums Each of us has good intentions of putting all our loose photographs together in an album...some day. Here are some important things to keep in mind as you set about making your dream album a reality. Every photo raises these questions in the viewer’s mind: Who, What, Where, When, and Why? Be sure to keep all the pertinent information with each photo in the album. Always keep all the pertinent information with each photo in the album. After years of loose photos torn brown and loose, it may also stain your photos. Most scrapbook albums use a poor quality paper that soon deteriorates. Another hazard of mounting photos in scrapbooks is the common use of non-archival adhesives. Scotch and double-stick tapes, rubber cement, and many types of glue are acidic and can damage photos over time. Archival mounting corners and pH-neutral glue sticks are good alternatives to these damaging adhesives.

Some albums feature plastic pockets backed by white or black paper. This support paper is often of poor quality. Another potential hazard exists when these albums are stored in areas where temperature and humidity are high: photos can stick to the plastic. Plastic enclosures made of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) are unsuitable for archival storage. This plastic is not chemically stable and will cause deterioration. Enclosures should be made of polyester (Dupont Mylar D or ICI Melinex #516), polypropylene, triacetate, or acetate. These materials are chemically stable and pH-neutral.

The CAC recommends use of archival quality photographic albums such as those available from archival supply companies. If you would like to receive a list of these suppliers, send a stamped-addressed envelope to the CAC, attention Regina Lemaster.

Local Government Records

County Auditors’ Records At various times county auditors have been required to keep records regarding the military service of county residents. A wealth of local history information can be found in these records.

Civil War Era Records During the Civil War the Auditor kept two records which may contain important information about Union service. Civil War Bounty Records contain a list of volunteers’ names filed with the auditor for payment of the county bounty. This list includes the volunteer’s name, company enlisted, age, names of dependents, date of enrollment, sworn statements and an abstract of county payments. Commutation Records concern those men drafted for service in the Union Army. It contains a list of conscripts, township of residence, and amount of commutation paid.

Militia Roll This is a list of males subject to conscription (the draft). The list included all male residents and listed name, age, and place of residence.

Enumeration of Soldiers & Sailors This is an alphabetical list by political subdivisions and then by the names of soldiers and sailors. Included in this record are the names of the living veterans of the Mexican, Civil War, Spanish-American and Philippine insurrection, their branch of service, war, company, regiment, battery, vessel, rank, and address.

Indigent Soldier Burial Record If a researcher has been unable to locate the burial of a veteran or a surviving spouse of a veteran in the post-Civil War era, the Auditor has a record known as the Indigent Soldier Burial Record. This record contains the name of the deceased, last residence, rank, date of death, burial costs, place and date of burial.
Center for Archival Collections Staff

Paul D. Yon, Director
Ann M. Bowers, Assistant Director/University Archivist
Diane V. Gagel, Local Government Records Specialist
Linda Kidd, Secretary
Regina K. Lemaster, Conservator
Marilyn I. Levinson, Cataloger
Diana D. Moran, Regional Historic Preservation Coordinator
Judith A. Robins, Reference Archivist/Newsletter Editor
Nancy G. Steen, Rare Books Librarian

Visitation hours at the CAC

Please Note  From May 13 through August 16 the CAC will observe its public access summer hours. The CAC will be open 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Friday. No evening or weekend hours will be observed until September 8th.

These hours are subject to change in accordance with the schedule of the Jerome Library.