Cleveland State University

Bits, Bytes, & Books

http://www.ulib.csuohio.edu/

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Issue 2

University Library’s Development Newsletter

Cleveland Memory Website Debut

For a fascinating look at Cleveland’s past, visit Cleveland State University Library’s Cleveland Memory Project on the web at www.clevelandmemory.org. Here you will find thousands of historical images of the Greater Cleveland area as well as the complete contents of numerous written histories of the Northern Ohio region, its industries, and its people.

While Cleveland Memory’s major attraction is images from Professor Walter Leedy’s magnificent postcard collection, users can also find thousands of interesting photographs ranging from Eliot Ness, Garrett Morgan, Jesse Owens, to Higbee’s Christmas windows, the Hulett ore unloaders, the Cleveland Indians, and Sam Sheppard.

Want to learn more about the bridges of Cleveland or Cleveland’s Irish-American community? We have it. Want to read the online autobiographies of Louis Seltzer and Carl Stokes, Ed D’Alessandro’s memories of growing up in Big Italy, John Stark Bellamy’s e-book on executions in Cuyahoga County, or an account of the Hough Riots? All of these and more are available in the Cleveland Memory Project.

The images and text used on this site are mostly taken from historical materials held in the Library’s Special Collections, such as the Cleveland Press Collection’s photo library of 500,000 images, the Watson Bridge Book Collection of 900 images of bridges around the world, and the Union Terminal Collection of 6,000 construction images of the Terminal Tower complex. The scanning of the images and books is the work of the Library’s Digital Production Unit and the design of the Cleveland Memory web page reflects the creativity of the Library’s Systems Division.

Preserving Sacred Landmarks

The Center for Sacred Landmarks is an entity within Cleveland State University’s Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs. The Center’s mission is to provide research, service, and education concerning Northeast Ohio’s sacred places, particularly its houses of worship. Its main focus is the City of Cleveland, its urban neighborhoods, and inner-ring suburbs. The Center has four primary activities:

• Researching and documenting the architectural and aesthetic features of Cleveland’s religious structures.
• Providing guidance or referrals to religious institutions that wish to preserve or renovate their archival materials and artworks, including their stained glass windows.
• Researching and documenting the human and social services engaged in by religious institutions.
• Researching and documenting the role that various religious institutions and their members have played in the history of Cleveland.

Partnership

The Sacred Landmarks Partnership of Northeast Ohio was formally established in June 2000 to pursue these goals on a regional basis. In addition to Cleveland State University, this partnership includes Kent State University, Youngstown State University, the University of Akron, and Lorain County Community College.

Principal Activities

A major strength of the Center and the Partnership is the close working relationship with university libraries. Since preserving archival materials and artworks is a central purpose of the Center, a Sacred Landmarks Archive has been created and is maintained in partnership with the Cleveland State University Library. This archive served as an example for the creation of Sacred Landmarks Archives on partnering campuses. These archives are currently being networked and made publicly accessible on the Internet.

The Center for Sacred Landmarks introduced a monograph series in the spring of 1999. Thus far, the series has included titles on the Burnham stained glass windows at Trinity Cathedral, stone photographs of Cleveland area sacred landmarks has now been accepted for publication by Kent State University Press.

The Partnership held a regional Sacred Landmarks Conference on April 19, 2001 at the Cleveland State University Library and on April 20, 2001 at the Levin College of Urban Affairs. This Conference also provided the opportunity to make the first annual Foster Armstrong Award presentation, named for the late contributor to sacred landmarks work in the region. In conjunction with the Sacred Landmarks Conference, an exhibit of photos by Plain Dealer photographer Mike Levy entitled “Urban Landscapes: Sacred and Transient” was held in the Thomas Campbell Gallery at the Levin College and in the CSU Library Special Collections room. After the exhibit closed, it moved to the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown for a two-month showing. It is presently at the Massillon Museum until June 2002 and is booked to be on exhibit in the Stocker Center Gallery at Lorain County Community College in December. A book featuring Mike Levy’s photographs of Cleveland area sacred landmarks has now been accepted for publication by Kent State University Press.

Together with other sacred places, houses of worship reflect what is probably the most appealing feature of this region: its remarkable diversity of people and cultures. For more information about the Center for Sacred Landmarks, visit http://urban.csuohio.edu/research/sacredlandmarks.htm.
Ben Shouse Donates Art Book Collection

Ben Shouse, a long-time member of the Friends of the Library, has donated his entire collection of valued art books to the Cleveland State University Library. There are approximately 700 titles that feature master artists, exhibition catalogs, and surveys of art history. Those exhibition catalogs highlighting Cleveland artists will become part of the Special Collections library. Mr. Shouse, pictured here in his home with CSU Library Director, Glenda Thornton, also donated his vast collection of audio albums, many of which pertain to theme songs of various labor unions.

Mr. Shouse, a union organizer for over 50 years, was president and business manager of Upholsterers and Allied Workers Union. He is most noted for establishing the United Labor Agency’s Cultural Arts and Education Committee, which built the bridge between organized labor and the arts. His efforts provided access to the fine and performing arts for the working class citizens of Cleveland. Plaques and awards from numerous art agencies and social service organizations fill the walls in Mr. Shouse’s home. These institutions have recognized and honored his lifelong endeavor to make art and culture accessible for everyone.

Naming Opportunities at the University Library

Corporations, foundations, alumni, and individuals have an opportunity to invest in the future of Cleveland by investing in the Cleveland State University Library. Your naming gift to the Library can help create a better research facility that will help Cleveland State University students achieve their academic goals and become productive citizens of the community. Naming opportunities include Adaptive Technology Lab, Atrium (Student Lounge/Reading/Study Area), Current Periodicals Reading Room, electronic classrooms, Library Computer Learning Center, MultiMedia Center, Reference Room, Special Collections, University Library Web Site, and the University Library.

A naming gift to the Cleveland State University Foundation is a tax-deductible charitable donation. A variety of gift options are available including cash gifts, publicly traded stocks, bequests, and life-income gift plans. To explore these options, contact the University Library at (216) 875-9734 or through email at develop@staff.ulib.csuohio.edu.

Black History Month Celebration

Former United States Representative Louis Stokes was guest of honor at Cleveland State University’s Black History Month event, which was held in the Special Collections room of the University Library on February 19, 2002. Congressman Stokes helped mark the launching of the Library’s e-book version of Carl B. Stokes’ autobiography, *Promises of Power*, by giving a powerful speech about the life of his brother. Cordell Stokes, son of the former Mayor, Regennia Williams, Assistant Professor in the CSU Department of History, and Louis Brownlowe, CSU Assistant Vice President for Community Relations were also part of the program. Glenda Thornton, Director of the Library, served as master of ceremonies. The digital version of *Promises of Power* can be found at [http://www.clevelandmemory.org/ebooks/stokes/](http://www.clevelandmemory.org/ebooks/stokes/).

The Carl B. Stokes exhibit, a collage of over 20 color and black-and-white photographs of the life and administration of Carl B. Stokes, is on display at Cleveland State University Library’s Special Collections gallery until June 2002. The exhibit’s opening was also part of Black History Month Celebration. For more information, call (216) 687-2449.
From the University Library Director

The Cleveland State University Library endeavors to be a valuable resource to aid and promote the teaching, learning, and research of Cleveland State University’s faculty and students. A major component of this endeavor is the preservation of the area’s rich cultural resources, which establishes a firm partnership between the University Library and the Cleveland community. In recognition of this partnership, the University Library’s Sarah Ruth Watson Endowment sponsored the 7th Historic Bridges Conference, which was held at the Sheraton City Centre Hotel this past September. This Conference brought individuals from around the globe to visit Cleveland, to tour her historic bridges, and to further the mission to value and preserve the world’s historic bridges.

In this issue of Bits, Bytes, and Books, we highlight another partnership in cultural preservation—that of sacred landmarks. Last April, the University Library joined with The Sacred Landmarks Partnership of Northeast Ohio to host the Sacred Landmarks Conference. One highlight of the Conference for the Library was the privilege to host a portion of the photographic exhibit, “Urban Landscapes: Sacred and Transient” by Mike Levy, award winning Plain Dealer photographer.

Other articles in this issue describe additional partnerships that further the University Library’s efforts to preserve Cleveland’s cultural richness for future scholars, both at the University and in the community. I urge you to consider how your contribution might further this partnership. Unique collections of materials, shared cultural preservation interests, or financial support are all welcome. I look forward to discussing additional possibilities with interested parties and in continuing the work to preserve and promote Cleveland’s cultural riches.

University Library Projects

Library donors can provide funding for various projects including:

- Establishing a new library endowment
- Purchasing artwork for display in the Library
- Digitizing cultural resources for instruction
- Building the endowment for materials in Great Lakes Industrial History
- Purchasing additional furnishings and equipment for the Library

Support the University Library

Help us preserve the unique history of Cleveland.

Mail this form with your donation to:
Cleveland State University Foundation, Cleveland State University,
Mather Mansion, Room 204, 2605 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-2403

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Library as Place

Friends of the University Library Co-Sponsor CSU Faculty/Staff Luncheon

Glenda Thornton, University Library Director, and P. Jeffrey Ford, President of the Friends of the Library, welcomed CSU faculty and staff, as well as several library directors from Northeast Ohio, who gathered for a luncheon in the Library. The guest speaker was Deanna Marcum, president of the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), who discussed the concept of “Library as Place.” CLIR’s mission is to identify the critical issues that affect the welfare and prospects of libraries and archives and the constituencies they serve, convene individuals and organizations in the best position to engage these issues and respond to them, and encourage institutions to work collaboratively to achieve and manage change.

This interactive session was co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and CSU’s Auxiliary Services. It was held on the afternoon of Monday, March 25th in the southeast corner of the first floor of the Library where Current Periodicals will soon be housed, to illustrate ever-changing library spaces. Dr. Marcum discussed the evolving role of libraries and how this change affects the library as place and how library space can change to support new ways of teaching and help create a collaborative learning environment for students, faculty, and librarians.

About the Speaker

Dr. Marcum has enjoyed a varied career, most recently as the Director of Public Service and Collection Management at the Library of Congress. Before that she was the Dean of the School of Library and Information Science at The Catholic University of America. From 1980 to 1989, she was first a program officer and then vice president of the Council on Library Resources. For more information about CLIR, visit http://www.clir.org.

Join the Friends

The Friends of the Cleveland State University Library welcome new members. The Friends build support for the Library and recognition of the University and Northeast Ohio. It also encourages bequests and gifts of materials, equipment, and money to promote the growth and excellence of the Library in the coming years. Friends activities include special programs focusing on books, authors, or related topics, author lectures, Scholars & Artists Receptions, and book sales.

Learn more about the Friends of the Library by visiting http://html.ulib.csuohio.edu/friends/.

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