‘This Could Take a While’

OhioDIG Meeting
March 31, 2014

http://digital.lib.MiamiOH.edu/postcards

Marcus Ladd
Special Collections Librarian
Collection Overview

Donors
- Charles Shields (1986)
- Clyde Bowden (2001)
- Charles Murphy (?)

Storage
- Estimated 480,000 cards in total
- About 300,000 from Bowden
- Sorting done by the donors

Previous Work
- Interest by professors
- Applied for grant to catalog
**Timeline:** 2 months

**Resources:**
1. Epson flatbed scanner
2. CONTENTdm Project Client
3. 1 part-time student (10 hours/week)

**Goals:**
1. Establish workflow
2. Create demo collection
3. Determine viability of project

**Results:**
1. ~500 postcards online
2. Workflow streamlined
3. Yes it’s viable BUT...
Welcome to the Bowden Postcard Collection Online! This is a continually growing resource and new postcards are added multiple times a week.

Follow Us! 📨 ⬆️

http://digital.lib.MiamiOH.edu/postcards
The ‘Guidelines’ document lists which fields are hidden - some, like ‘Digitized by’ are purely administrative. Others, like ‘Recipient’s Address’ may be used for future projects. Note that ‘Recipient’s Name’ is to help complete the ‘Address’ field which is sometimes incomplete or hard to read - I have no plans to ever include this as part of the public site.
# Early Lessons

## Quality Control

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>00010135_003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caption (front)</td>
<td>Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caption (back)</td>
<td>Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Message      | None.
| Subject      | Education, Buildings |
| Location     | Ohio-Ada |
| Language     | English |
| Date Printed | 1929-09-08 |
| Postage      | Yes |
| Publisher    | Ohio Northern University Libraries |
| Copyright    | This item is made available by the Ohio Northern University Libraries |
| Collection Name | Brown Postcard Collection Online |

## Adaptability

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Two Steps Forward, One Step Back

Rescanning

Metadata Revisions

Caption (front)  AshtabuLA0, Ohio
Communication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Problems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parlors</td>
<td>Some of the message is unclear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawing rooms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fireplaces</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Expectations

Experience
After joining the Flickr Commons, monthly views of the CONTENTdm collection increased by ~25% ...  
...to 1,600 page views in a month.

Our Flickr account sees ~20,000 views a day.
Looking Ahead

Crowd-Sourcing?

Mapping

Memories of Oxford
Questions?

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