Case Study: Digitizing Photo Negatives

Mandy Altimus Pond
Archivist
Massillon Museum

Massillon Museum's Photography Collection

- Founded in 1933
- More than 60,000 photographs
- More than 3,000 glass plate negatives
- Approximately 30,000 images digitized
- 40,000 negatives, taken by news photographer Jack Worthington
 - donated in the 1990s by the local newspaper
 The Independent

Massillon Museum Storage

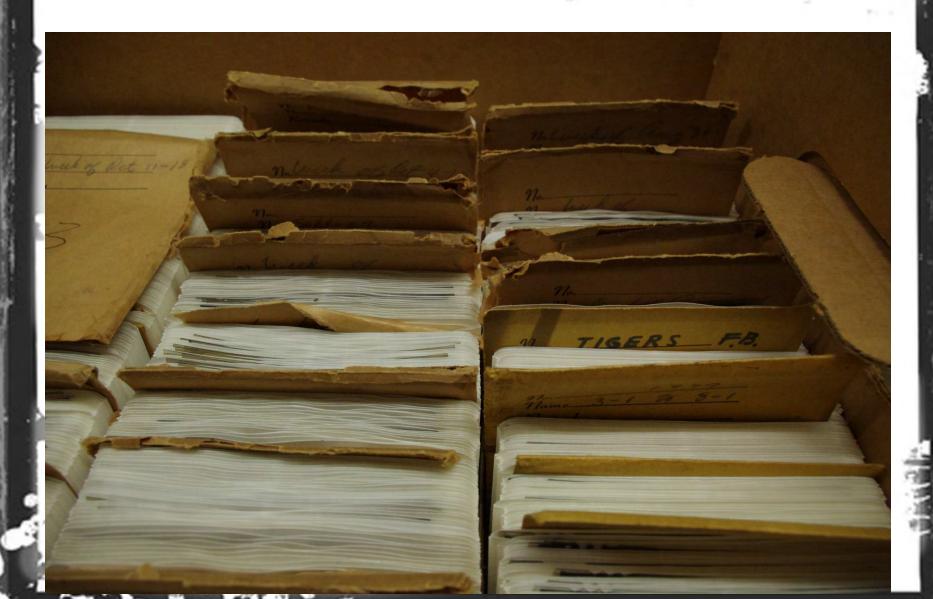
- 2009-2010 collections storage space renovation
- State of the art, award-winning facility



Why Negatives?

- Hidden Collections
- Negatives cannot be displayed on the wall
- Increase access to seldom-seen photographs
- Improve upon storage and digitization of photographs
- Care for emergency situations first
 - Vinegar syndrome
 - Damaged emulsion
- Increased Museum profile = increased requests for photographs

Negatives Before

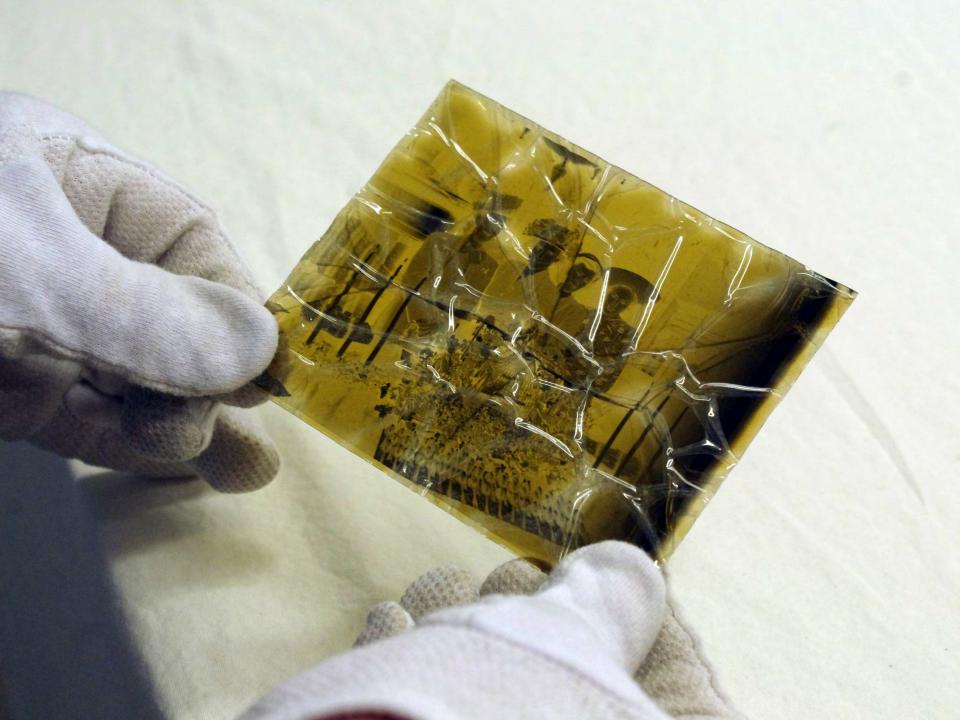




Negatives Before



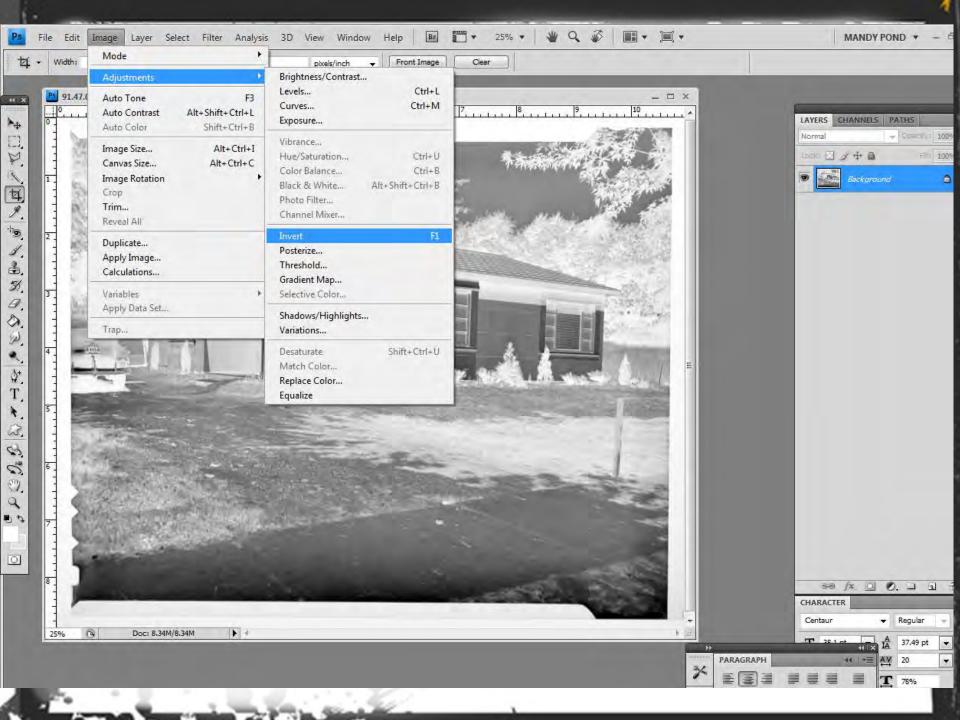


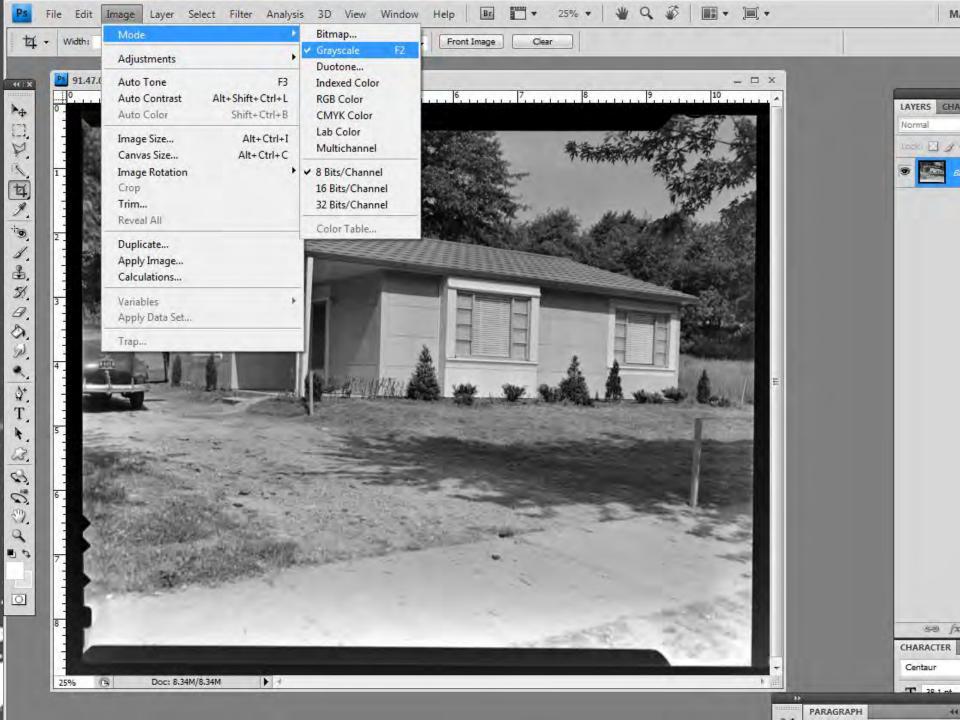


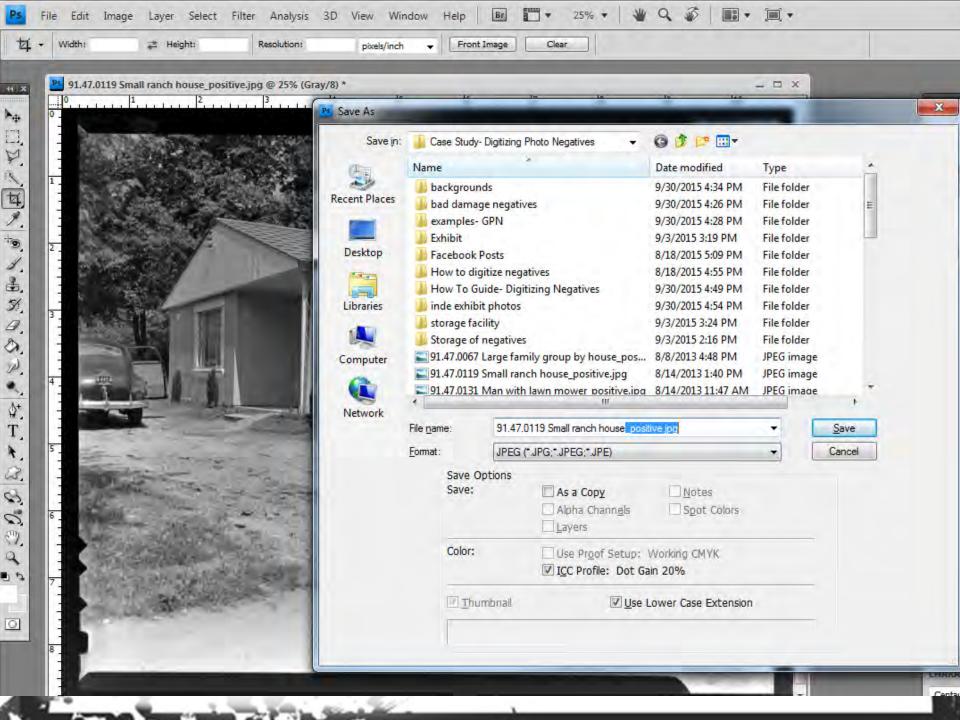
















German Refugee Family Living In Massillon

Through the work of St. Paul's Lutheran church of this city in connection with the Lutheran World Action program of lending die aid to refugees of war-forn Eurothe pean countries, Massillon has be-

Coming to this country from Austria, where they had lived the past six years, the family at the present is staying in a Sunday school room in the St. Paul's Lutheran church in 2nd st NE.

They are Mr. and Mrs. Janis Rosenberg and their three children, Andreas, 7; Elga, 4; and Gloria, 18

THE ROSENBERGS will stay in the church until a suitable home can be found for them.

The Rosenberg family arrived in Massillon Tuesday morning from New York City. They came to New York from Salzburg, Austria. Before living in Austria, the

Rosenberg family made its home in Latvia. They were forced to flee there, however, because of the Russian aggression. All their property was either stolen or burned,

The boy, Andreas, is attending the Lincoln opportunity school here where he will learn the English language well enough to attend an elementary school.

THE ROSENBERG family is through Christian churches.

The Lutheran rehabilitation pro gram is not to give refugees charity, but rather to give them a chance to make their own way, the Rev. Paul Baumgariner, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran church, said

SERGO HID THAS SILL IN

among the first of several hundred. HERE IS THE ROSENBERG family which is making its home in Massillon as a result of the efforts thousand refugee families who of St. Paul's Lutheran church in connection with the Lutheran World Action program which sends to through the Potsdam agreement the United States refugees of European countries whose homes have been destroyed by war. Left to are being sent to the United States right they are Andreas, 7, the father, Janis Rosenberg, Gloria, 18 months, Elga, 4, and Mrs. Rosenberg.

> Massillon Evening Independent September 22, 1950, page 10









Facebook

MassMu Photo Collection

Updated about 4 months ago 🖟

The Massillon Museum cares for more than 60,000 photographs in its permanent collection. There are many forms including daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes, photographic prints, paper, plastic, and glass plate negatives.





www.facebook.com/massillonmuseum



Massillon Museum

May 14, 2013 @

Gearing up for a summer full of free exhibits, free events, family activities, and fun! We wish our plans including going swimming in these fine outfits. (Unknown men c.1895, Collection of the Massillon Museum, 90.25.80)



8

Like

Comment

A Share

Peggy Hoffman, Julie Jenkins and Sarah Elizabeth Finley like this.

1 share



Massillon Museum

August 6, 2013

This photograph is part of our glass plate negative collection. Unfortunately it is unidentified. Judging by the plates around it, it is from c.1917. Can anyone help identify what church is in construction?





View Insights

Boost Post

chache negative 31.47.0041, conceion of the massion masean.



Like

Comment

Share

Massillon Museum, Deb Altimus, Mark Pitocco, Billy Ludwig and 32 others like this.

Top Comments*

14 shares



Write a comment...





Lynn D. Lehman That is Lincoln Way West, not East.

Like Reply August 28, 2013 at 11:56am

View previous replies



Massillon Museum Ok, my apologies- it is at this street that Lincoln Way East turns into Lincoln Way West. Thank you for the catch.

Like Reply August 28, 2013 at 2:32pm

→ View more replies



David J Felts Visited, shopped and visited the lunch counter many times. Great memories. My brother called it the store with all the "O"s! Like Reply August 28, 2013 at 10:07pm

View 5 more comments

1.2K People Reached 216

Post Clicks



Massillon Museum added 10 new photos to the album; 1950 Thanksgiving Blizzard — with Dodie Winfield.

November 21, 2012 - 1

The Thanksgiving snowstorm of 1950 was the deepest in Ohio's history. Nearly the entire state had over 10 inches and most communities in the eastern half of Ohio measured 20 to 30 inches of snow during this storm. To read more about it, visit the Ohio Historical Society:

http://ww2.ohiohistory.org/.../con.../1950_thanksgivingStorm.htm











Comment.

Share

Massillon Museum, Mary Ann Poling, Margy Vogt, Christine Amikura Herman and 32 others like this.

11 shares



Jim Zorger I was alive, but only 2 (4) Thanks for posting these..... I always like seeing historical pictures.

November 21, 2012 at 10:10 am - Like



Kathryn Kane Barkan Thanks for sharing these...so interesting to see photos of the past!!

Doesn't look like we will be experiencing a Thanksgiving like this in 2012...unless Mother Nature comes up with a BIG surprise!!

November 21, 2012 at 10, 17am, Unlike 03



Anita Newman These pictures look like Bedford Falls (the town in "It's a Wonderful Life"). So very cool - thanks for sharing!

November 21, 2012 at 10:39am - Like



Massillon Museum Glad you are enjoying the photos, everyone! And yes, Kathryn, it was nice that Mother Nature let us off the hook!

November 21, 2012 at 3/34pm - Like 02



Laurie Kupper Baker Love those old pictures, thanks for sharing 💖

November 21, 2012 at 6:14pm - Like



Mary Hilliard Nelson This was in November 1950. My sister was born during this storm...mom had to go to hospital on fire truck!

November 22, 2012 at 10:08pm - Unlike - 01



Write a comment....







Massillon Museum added 2 new photos to the album. Downtown Massillon at Christmas.

December 21, 2012 W





12-31-62



Like





Christine Esperanza, Justin James Ollis, Leslie Heaphy and 19 others like this.

15 shares

View 1 more comment



Jessica Bundy Grimes Love old christmas photos! Makes you all warm

December 14, 2012 at 8:38pm - Unlike - 61



Marilyn DeGeorge Schartiger wonderful pictures (!!) December 6, 2013 at 12:45am - Like



Write a comment...







Massillon Museum added 12 new photos to the album. Happy Halloween, from the Inde Negatives 1947-1950. October 31, 2013 - 44











i Like



Comment.



Bob Ohling, Kari Hansbarger, Rosemary Davenport and 9 others like this.



Write a comment.



369

People Reached

644

Post Clicks

View Insights

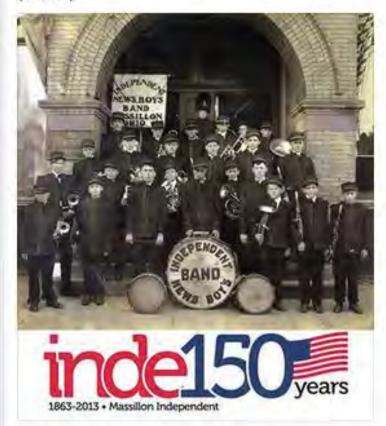
Boost Post



Massillon Museum

May 17, 2013 W

Did you know that 2013 marks the 150th anniversary of the Massillon Independent newspaper? Here are the Independent News Boys Band, c.1911. Collection of the Massillon Museum, Gift of Mrs. Dorothy Bernstein (88.26.2)







Comment



Katie Kirby, Joe Curtis, Jon Crossen and 12 others like this.



Massillon Museum added 6 new photos to the album: Evening Independent press photos.

September 19, 2013 .

1949

Digital positives of the original negatives, gift of the Massillon Independent Collection of the Massillon Museum (91.47)







& Like

Comment



Kari Hansbarger, Rosemary Davenport, David Hayes and 11 others like this.

2 shares



Vrite a comment...

463

People Reached





316

Post Clicks

View Insights

Boost Post



Like

Comment

Share

Mark Pitocco, Erin Meyer, Margy Vogt and 18 others like this.

3 shares



Vrite a comment.

634

People Reached

84

Post Clicks

The Gratitude Train

During WWII, the United States sent more than 700 railroad cars of supplies and food (\$40 million worth) to France and Italy. To express their gratitude, Italy sent sculptures and France sent one railroad car to each of the 49 states and Washington D.C. and Hawaii (not yet a state at the time). The cars were called "Merci Trains" or "Gratitude Trains." The railroad car was filled with gifts, everything from cheeses to dolls, from the citizens of France. Many of those objects are now in the permanent collection of the Ohio Historical Society.

In July 1950, the Ohio car made a day-long stop at the Massillon Museum where 880 people came to visit it. This photo was taken in Massillon by Evening Independent photographer Jack Worthington (91.47.2226).

To read more about the Merci (Gratitude) Train, see links below! http://ohiohistory.wordpress.com/.../whatever-happened-to-oh.../ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merci_Train

Documenting American Prosperity:

Massillon Independent Negatives 1947-1950



Paul Brown Tiger Stadium, as seen from the raffers in the late 1940's (91 47 0244)

After the end of WWII, the United States saw a boom in prosperity as soldiers returned home from the conflict overseas. Men went to college, the generation of Baby Boomers was born, and new housing developments sprawled across Massillon to accommodate the population. Peacetime was cut short, however when the Korean War began in 1950.

The images in this exhibit were taken by Massillon *Independent* photographer, Jack Worthington, who, as a news photographer, captured what the everyday citizen never could.

Through Worthington's lens, viewers can experience a close-up view of many places and events: on the football field or in the rafters of the stadium, on the construction site of bridges, in the office of the Mayor, and in peoples' homes. These priceless images shed light on everyday life in Massillon, interior design, the evolution of fashion across all generations, and major events in Massillon history.

ABOUT THE COLLECTION:

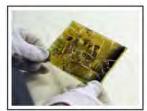
In 1991, the Massillon Independent, under the direction of editor Jim Davis, donated a collection of film negatives taken by news photographers between the years 1947-1989. The collection contains more than 40,000 negatives—only a small selection of which are exhibited here—documenting life and events in Massillon

Longtime Massillon Museum volunteer, John Sparks, carefully placed the photographs in chronological order and gave each an object identification number. The project of cataloguing the negatives began in January of 1992 and was completed in November 1993.

Unfortunately there is not a lot of recorded information for these photographs. It is possible to find some information if these photographs made their way to the pages of an *Independent* newspaper. Not all of the photos taken in this collection were published, making it difficult to identify many of the special events and portraits. If you recognize people, places, or events, let us know!



Costume party, c. 1947 (91.47.0597)



Mark Pitocco holds a damaged acetate negative that shows channeling -or surface shrinkage- in the emulsion.



Motion picture films in the Museum's collection storage facility, properly stored in a freezer which was purchased with funds from the Jane Williams Mahoney Philanthropic Fund,

DIGITIZATION:

Digitized in 2013 by volunteer Mark Pítocco, these negatives now have a life in positive within the archives of the Massillon Museum, where they can be accessible for research and future exhibitions. This exhibit highlights only a fraction of the more than 1,500 negatives Pitocco has digitized to date.

STOPACE

Negatives will last hundreds of years longer if they are taken out of regular temperatures and stored in freezers.

ONLINE EXHIBIT:

For additional images, visit our website: massillonmuseum.org/virtual-exhibits





'One Shot' Worthington's daughter visits exhibit

Daughter of Former Inde photographer, Jack "One Shot" Worthington, visits Massillon Museum exhibit featuring dad's photos.































Independent Kevin Whitlock

Carol Worthington-Murphy delights in telling stories about the photographs of her father, former Independent





















WAR REFUGEES PLAN NEW HOME IN MASSILLON

Sisters Reunited After 17 Years



IN THE ABOVE PHOTOGRAPH, a Massillon couple is shown welcoming relatives who have spent the past two and a half years in a displaced persons camp in Munich, Germany. From left to right are Stephan Kovacsiss of 628 Pennock ave SW, shaking hands with his brother in law, Oliver Butter of Yugostavia, while Mrs. Butter is embraced by her sister, Mrs. Kovacsiss, whom she had not seen for 17

By ISABELLE McCORMICK | train at the Pennsylvania railroad brother in-law and sister, Mr. and

Two displaced persons, a Yugo- station.

been living in the American zone as the result of World War II are ents of five children. of Germany during the past two Oliver Butter, 46, and his wife, and a half years, found the wel- Angela Kasunic Butter, 30. Their coming arms of Massillon relatives benefactors, with whom they exoutstretched to them this morn-pect to make their home, at least ing when they alighted from a for the present, are Mrs. Butter's

Mrs. Stephan Kovacsiss of 628 slav husband and wife who have The couple who became refugees Pennock ave SW, who are the par-

> THE SISTERS, who had not seen each other for 17 years, wept

> > (See SISTERS-Page 10)

Evening Independent August 23, 1949

Sisters.

(Continued from Page One)

as they were reunited and Butter, who was meeting his wife's sister and brother-in-law for the first time, beamed with happiness at the thought of taking up a new life

Much has taken place in the lives of the sisters since Mrs. Butter, then a girl of 13, bade goodbye to Mrs. Kovacsiss, then Anna Kasunic, 17, who had been invited by her aunt, Mrs. Peter Turkal of 1120 13th st SE, to come to America to further her education,

Mrs. Kovacsiss studied at Mount Marie academy and, instead of returning to her home in Yugoslavia, was married two years after her arrival here. Her husband who also is of Yugoslav extraction, is a native of Massillon. At the age of four years, his mother, Mrs. Marv Kovacsiss took him to her nauve Yugoslavia where he remained the til 1927 when he returned to America. His mother, however, remained in Yugoslavia.

MR. AND MRS. BUTTER were taken prisoners by the German army while en route from their home in Zagreb to Nove Sad, Butut ter's home town, in neutral Yugo-y ks slavia, in 1945. They were transported to Italy where they remained almost two years before being moved to a displaced persons camp at in Munich, Germany, from which 00 they recently were released.

While in Italy, Mrs. Butter gave birth to a baby but it lived only

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While in Italy, Mrs. Butter gave birth to a baby but it lived only a short time. Mr. and Mrs. Butter also became the parents of a child while living in Yugoslavia. The child, however, died in infanc

Although life was more of pleasant in their camp in Germany, Mr. and Mrs. Butter, who speak no English, relayed the information through Mrs. Kovacsiss that Germany is a pretty good place for the Germans to live but persons from other countries feel just like what they are-foreigners.

Six women, they said, occupy a room in large government buildings and the men are housed similarly in other buildings. The men work during the day and the women assist with work at the buildings. They have separate living and sleeping quarters but meet in a common dining room for dinner in the evenings.

WHE a ham in prep fast to Kovacs claimed had se explain camps ratione pensed preferi in the Mrs. cult to

her hu Ameri born. droppi dence ly arr welcon for a one of welcor langua and K dining

reside Butt ian, Cr slav i sillon. tend 5





10th Annual Washington High School Football Frolic

Jack Worthington (1921-2009)

10th Annual Washington High School Football Frolic May 14, 1948

The Football Frolic dance was created to honor athletes at Washington High School, and traditionally held in the fall. The football captain and his date were crowned King and Queen. Charlie Fisk and his orchestra entertained guests from 8:30 to midnight.

Gift of the Evening Independent (91.47.3285)





















Visit these galleries online:

massillonmuseum.org/virtual-exhibits

 massillonmuseum.org/gallery/documentingamerican-prosperity-massillon-independentnegatives-1947-1950

Here's a hint:

YOU CAN DO IT TOO!

Stay True to You

- Do what you can with the resources you have
 - Budget/grants/corporate sponsor
 - Staff or volunteer time
 - Access to equipment/technology
- Will you have time to fully document these images?
 - Condition reporting
 - Accessioning/inventory
 - Enter into collections database
 - Post online

What collections do I chose first?

- Which items are accessed most frequently?
- Which items do researchers request?
- Which items are in the worst shape?
 - Do they smell like vinegar?
 - Poor conditions? Might as well rehouse them while you're here!
- What is most important to your collection? To your city or township?

What is the end goal?

- Preserve the digital files and the original negatives
- Exhibit online, exhibit in gallery, both?
- Think about your digital space capacity
 - Can you scan high resolution images in mass quantities?
 - Do you need high resolution print files for an exhibit or for publication
 - Medium size for reference and web use

Digital Cameras

- Higher megapixels=better quality
- Point and shoot cheap cameras do not let you adjust exposure and flash like DSLR cameras do
- Point and shoot usually have lower megapixels
- May get a grant to offset the cost
- Add a camera to a wishlist in your newsletter.
 Someone may sponsor your equipment!
- http://www.bhphotovideo.com/

Fujifilm FinePix S4500 Digital Camera (Black)

















Price: \$149.00



Free Shipping (USA)

In Stock

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When Purchased Together With This Item

Copystand/Tripod



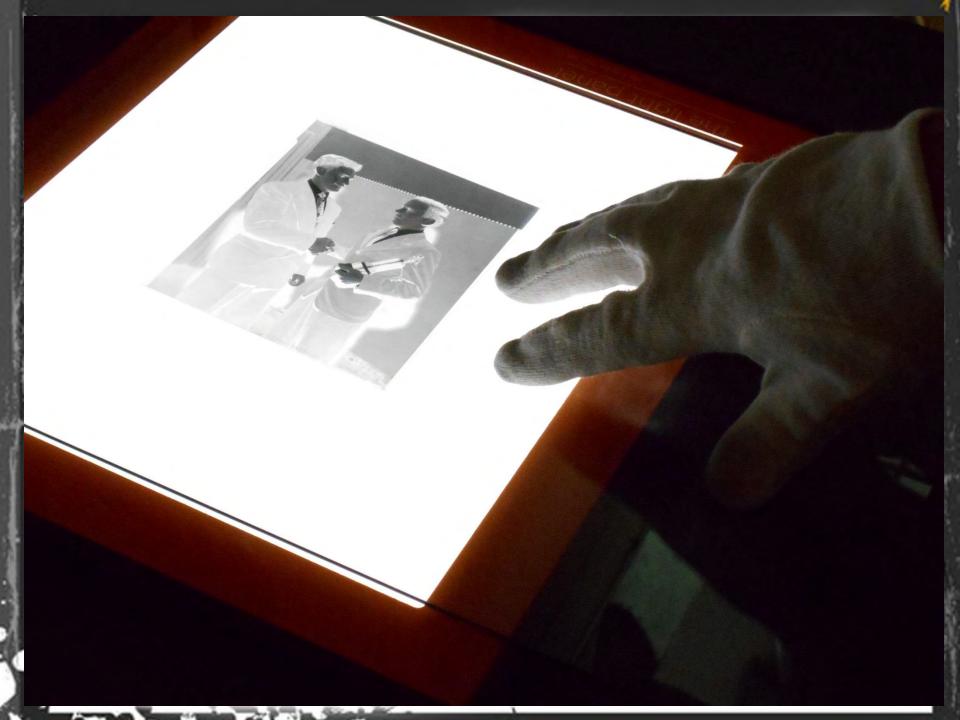
B&H Photo- just stand \$58

Digitize with camera and copystand









What do I do with my digital files?

- Naming and sorting your data
- Backup your data
- Add to a collections database
- Allow researchers to safely use them in-house
- Share them online

Naming & Sorting Data

- Develop a system for standardized file naming.
- Make sure staff and interns are informed of these rules.
- For MassMu, we use the accession # and a description. This allows us to sort by number, and search by keyword later.
- We save a high resolution TIF for a digital original for printing purposes.
- We also save a lower resolution JPG for preview or web purposes.

Backup Data

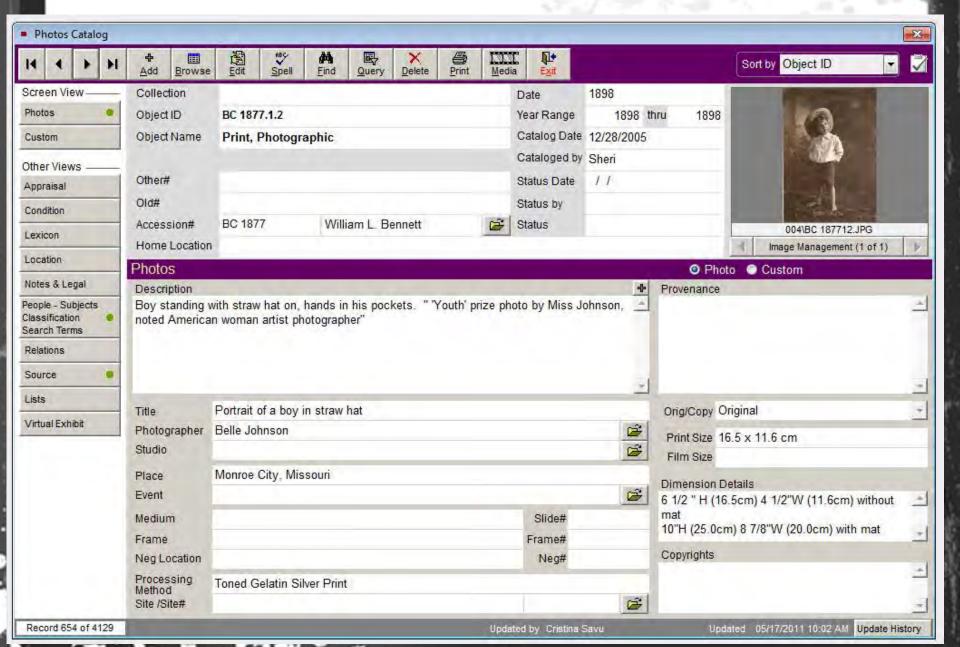
- Hard drives
 - \$100 for 1 TB drive
 - Purchase two, one offsite for emergency
- Offsite storage
 - Example: Carbonite Online Cloud storage
- Capacity vs. cost
- Possible to get grant funding

External Hard Drive

- 1 TB drive, \$79-100
- 2 TB drive, \$150-200

- May consider purchasing 2:
 - One for onsite backup
 - One to take offsite and a secure location in case of emergency
 - Be sure it goes home with trustworthy people!

Past Perfect



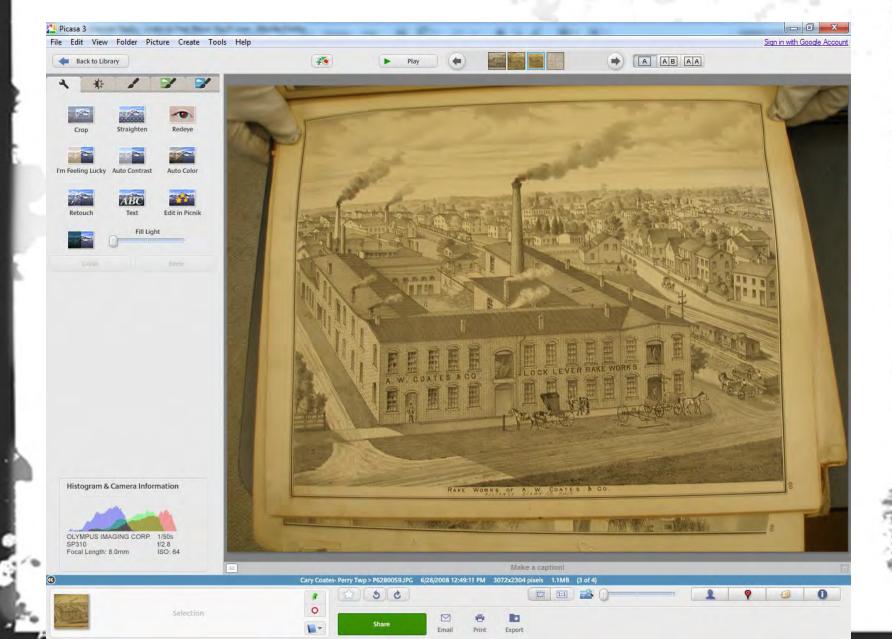
Past Perfect



Collections Database Options

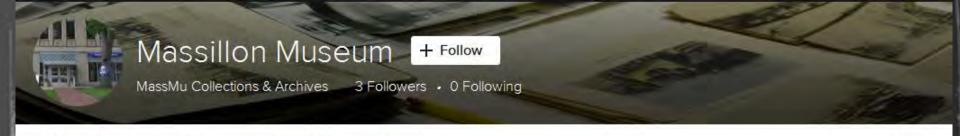
- Picasa 3
 - Photo sorting and editing
 - With online storage
 - Can tag faces
 - FREE!

Picasa 3



Share Them online

- Fears about people using your images
 - Watermark your images
 - Make sure they are low resolution so that others will not reprint your images
- Where to share them safely?
 - Picasa (google)
 - Flickr
 - Your own website
 - History Pin



Photostream

Albums

Favorites

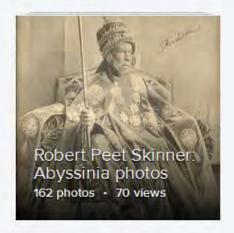
Groups

More ▼

















https://www.flickr.com/photos/massmuarchives/albums



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FEATURED:

Flood of 1913



March 2013 marks the centennial of one of the great floods in Massillon, Ohio. It marked the end of the Ohio & Erie canal that ran through downtown Massillon, caused damage to homes and businesses across the city. Because of the availability and popularity of photography at the time, the flood of 1913 is one of the most well-documented events in Massillon history. Enjoy more than 120 photos from the Massillon Museum's permanent collection.



Let it Snow!
Winter Photographs from the Permanent Collection
Click here to view these photographs.

Faces

Faces of Rural America: Henry Clay Fleming & Belle Johnson

The staff of the Massillon Museum completed research about two of its photography collections: photographs by Belle Johnson of Monroe City, Missouri and Henry Clay Fleming of Ravenswood, West Virginia. If you would like to see these two collections in their entirety, please visit our project site: Faces of Rural America Website.



62.145.2CaptDennisKenny.jpg (1)

62.145.2CaptDennisKenny.jpg

"62.145.2CaptDennisKenny.jpg (1)" by













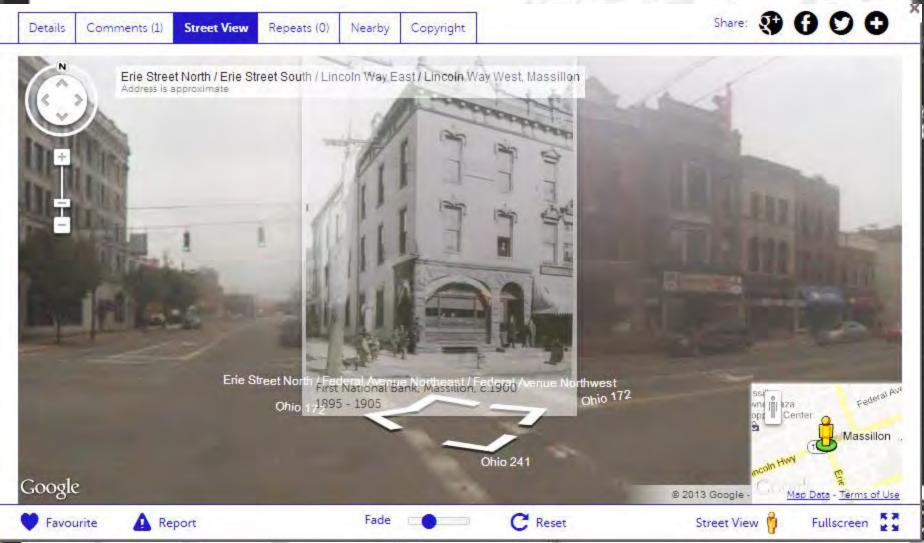




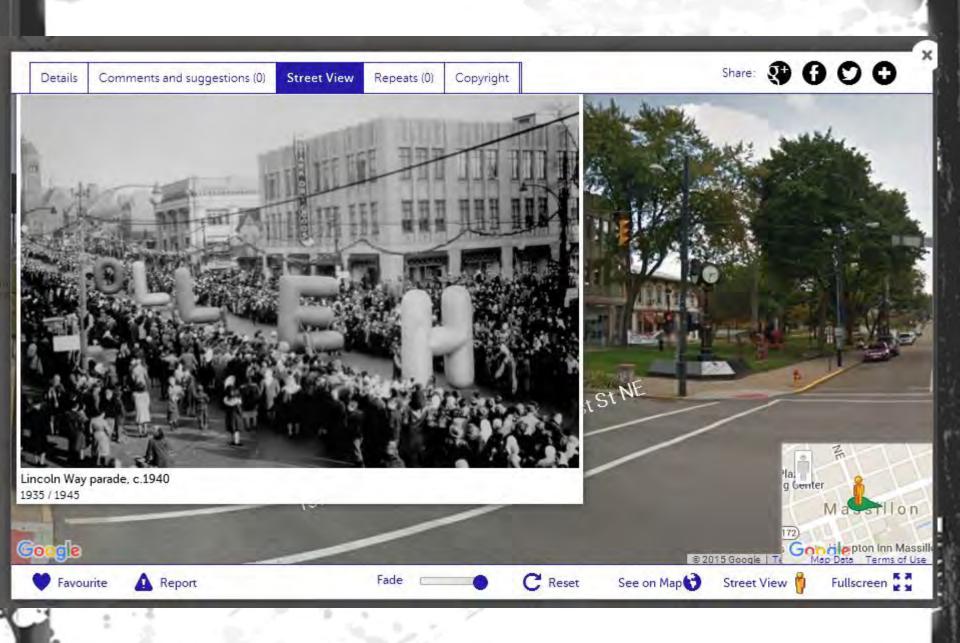




HistoryPin.com



Massillon Museum History Pin page: http://www.historypin.com/channels/view/12106042/







MASSILLON MUSEUM

WHERE ART & HISTORY COME TOGETHER

121 LINCOLN WAY EAST | MASSILLON, OHIO 44646 | 330.833.4061 | WWW.MASSILLONMUSEUM.ORG



Massillon Museum

The Massillon Museum is an art and history museum founded in 1933. With more than 60,000 images in the collection, we hold a large group of images relating to the history of Massillon, Ohio, founded in 1826, and its predecessor Kendal, Ohio, founded in 1812.

Find out more at: www.massillonmuseum.org

Find us on Facebook

Profile Details

Profile views: 6614 Pins: 143 Tours: 0 Collections: 5

Become a Fan









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Boston Store, 1912 130 Erie Street South, Massillon, OH 44646 USA Views: 73



1950s Parade, downtown Massillon 1952 - 1958 1-37 1st Street Southeast Massillon, OH 44646, USA



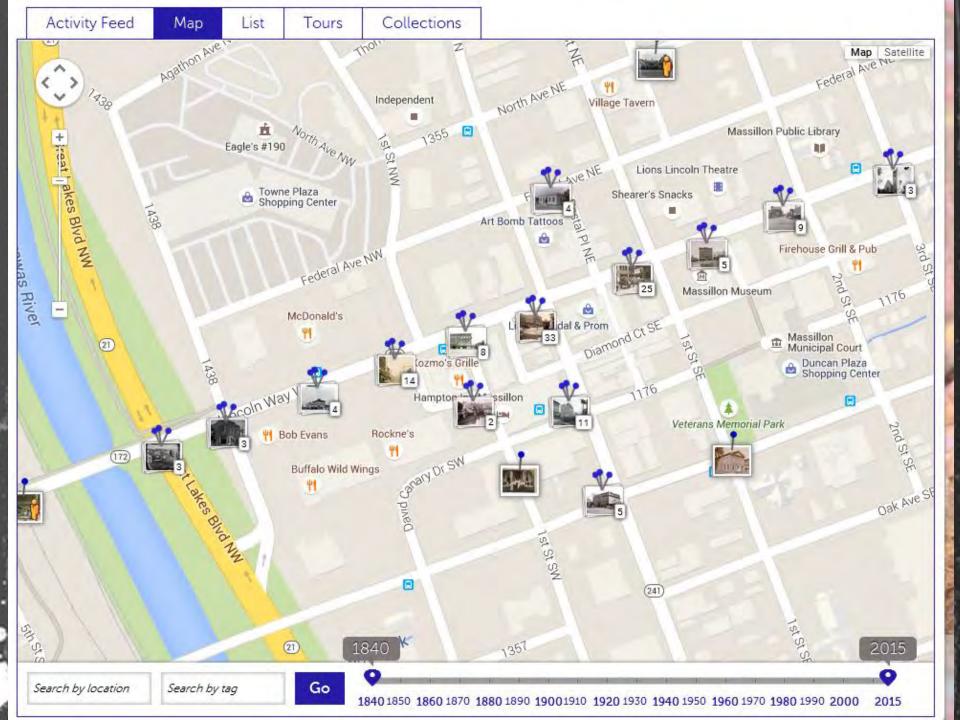
Harsh Block at Lincoln Way West and Erie Street, 1908 34-98 Lincoln Highway, Massillon, OH 44647, USA



Beehive Block, downtown Massillon c.1920s 1923 - 1927 1-39 Ohio 241, Massillon, OH 44646, USA Views: 46



Zip's Hamburgers, 1973 117-149 Lincoln Highway Massillon, OH 44647, USA Views: 49



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