
RBDB 2008 MEMBER PROJECT GRANT FINAL REPORT

Period Covered: RBDB January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008

Instructions:

This report is required for all RBDB 2008 Member Projects Grants. Fill in the information requested on the bottom of this page. Using your own word processing software, repeat each question below and provide your response. Use this page as the cover, followed by your response pages.

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1. Describe the project's accomplishments in relation to its objectives and its impact on regional resource sharing. List or describe all materials created using grant funds. Include numbers of items digitized or records retrospectively converted or cataloged.
 2. If you were starting this project now, what would you do differently? Please be candid in telling us what worked and what did not work.
 3. Are you planning for activities begun by this project's funding to continue with other funds?
 4. Please provide an analysis of the **quantitative and qualitative evaluation results** in relation to user satisfaction and/or success and/or objectives met. *(Please do not submit copies of individual completed user surveys or forms. We are interested in your summary and analysis of results.)*

**Two copies of the Final Report must be received by WNYLRC no later than
Friday, January 9, 2009.**

One of the copies should include a set of the materials produced with RBDB Member Project Grant funds (publicity, reports, etc.)

Mail the items (2 copies of the report and 1 set of materials) to:

**Sheryl Knab
Western New York Library Resources Council
4455 Genesee Street
P.O. Box 400
Buffalo, NY 14225-0400**

Person preparing report John Edens _____
(Typed or Printed Name) (Signature)

Telephone # (716) XXX-XXXX _____ Date January 9, 2009 _____

Love Canal Images

1. Describe the project's accomplishments in relation to its objectives and its impact on regional resource sharing. List or describe all materials created using grant funds. Include numbers of items digitized or records retrospectively converted or cataloged.

The University at Buffalo Libraries proposed to make approximately 615 slides, photographs, and maps of the Love Canal area available through *Western New York Legacy*. These slides, photographs, and maps were selected from UB's extensive holdings (260 linear feet) related to the history of the Love Canal area, the environmental disaster which occurred there, and subsequent efforts to revitalize the area. The images are of interest to students at all levels who are studying Love Canal, and researchers, scientists, and the general public who want to learn more about the most well-know environmental disaster in U.S. history.

A total of 539 slides, photographic prints, maps, and oversized posters were sent to the contractor (Backstage Library Works) for conversion to digital format (The University at Buffalo converted an additional 73 items). The contractor and the University at Buffalo produced archival TIFF images and JPEG derivatives. Work was completed prior to December 31, 2008. The creation of the basic metadata was also completed before the end of the year. Final review of the metadata and loading of digital files and metadata will take place in February 2009.

2. If you were starting this project now, what would you do differently? Please be candid in telling us what worked and what did not work.

We were extremely pleased with the quality of the work provided by the contractor. Unfortunately, it was not until after the contractor had created the digital files that we learned that had we provided the contractor with a spreadsheet of descriptive metadata the contractor could have added the balance of the metadata and then loaded the collection directly. This realization has resulted in a major revision in how we create digital collections. We will now create metadata prior to the creation of any digital images.

3. Are you planning for activities begun by this project's funding to continue with other funds?

This project provides access to all University at Buffalo's Love Canal images considered appropriate for digital access. A link to the *Western New York Legacy* site will be a permanent part of our website for Love Canal archival and manuscript collections.

4. Please provide an analysis of the quantitative and qualitative evaluation results in relation to user satisfaction and/or success and/or objectives met.

Inasmuch as the images are not as yet available via *Western New York Legacy*, we cannot measure user satisfaction or success. The project did realize the objectives of creating fully-searchable digital versions of a large collection of Love Canal images with corresponding metadata.