

NDNP Awardee Interim Performance Report
(September 1, 2011– February 29, 2012)

NEH Award Number: PJ-50039-08

NDNP State: Ohio

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INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT NARRATIVE

1. *Describe any changes that you have made or that you anticipate making in the project work plan or methodology from the award proposal submitted to the competition.*

Several changes have been made to the overall work plan since the last report.

- “Using Chronicling America” Podcast Series was released starting in January 2012, rather than November 2011.
- The first four batches of monthly deliverables (ariel, borachio, cobweb, desdemona) needed to be reprocessed due to production errors on our digitization vendor’s side, delaying the delivery of these batches to the Library of Congress (LC) from September 2011 to January 2012. For more information, please see section 4.
- Work on the Non-NDNP News Archives Survey began in February 2012.

The postponement in the release of the podcasts resulted from a series of staff changes that delayed final editing and completion of the videos. All podcasts will be made available by the end of March 2012.

We have developed a work plan and goals for the Non-NDNP Newspaper Archives Survey deliverable. National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio (NDNP-OH) staff members will systematically search for digital newspaper archives by splitting the state into 10 geographic regions and completing the survey one region at a time. We are using the suggestions on the Awardee Wiki to begin our searches and adding more resources as we delve deeper into the project.

The methodology of the project as it relates to microfilm preparation, quality control processes and general workflow procedures remains the same.

2. *Please describe any selection or film acquisition/evaluation activities during the performance period.*

Pre- and post-duplication microfilm assessment, including density readings and full collation, has been performed on the following papers:

Title	LCCNs	# of Rolls
Ashtabula Telegraph (series)	sn83035216, sn88078580, sn88078581	7
Cincinnati Daily Press (series)	sn88077413, sn84028745, sn85025750	4
Dayton Daily Empire (series)	sn85026002, sn88077244	5
Jeffersonian Democrat	sn84028083	2
Hancock Jeffersonian (series)	sn85042591, sn85026034	5
Tiffin Tribune (series)	sn85026279, sn87076793, sn87076794	6
Stark County Democrat	sn84028490	9

McArthur Democrat	sn87075163	2
Vinton Record	sn85038222	2
Democratic Enquirer (series)	sn86079037, sn87075167	2

Pre-duplication assessment has also been performed on the following paper:

Title	LCCNs	# of Rolls
Daily Ohio Statesman	sn84028645	12

During historical sketch research of these papers, the following additional title for digitization was revealed. This paper will fill in a gap in the Cincinnati Daily Press series.

- Cincinnati Penny Press, sn85025750

3. *Describe any specific award activities that have taken place between collaborating institutions in your state.*

The advisory board convened on October 11, 2011 to discuss the status of the project and the grant proposal for the 2012 award year. In addition, advisory board members discussed potential outreach opportunities and tools that can be created by NDNP-OH staff to help advisory board members promote the project.

Using matching funds, NDNP-OH staff designed and produced a poster to promote Ohio newspaper and Chronicling America. Several copies of the poster were sent to each advisory board for distribution in their communities. NDNP-OH staff have also distributed the poster to attendees at conferences and workshops provided by NDNP-OH or other OHS staff.

NDNP-OH staff has continued its partnership with local universities to create an internship program for current and future library science students. One intern, a recent graduate of the Kent State University School of Library and Information Science, completed a 200-hour internship from September to November 2011, assisting with collation and digital object quality review. In January, NDNP-OH staff interviewed candidates and selected an intern who will complete 200 hours from February to June 2012. This candidate is a current undergraduate student of the Ohio State University and plans to pursue a master's degree in library and information science. She will assist with metadata collection, collation, digital object quality review and the non-NDNP news archives survey. This program has helped those interested in working in the library field gain additional skills and practical work experience in digitization and digital preservation. It has also allowed NDNP-OH to continue to meet its production goals on time or ahead of schedule.

4. *Describe specifically your progress in conversion and/or vendor selection (attach documentation as desired).*

Batch Name	# of Reels sent to Vendor	# of Images Received	Status
Ariel (ver. 2)	13	7593	at LC
Borachio	16	10518	on Chronicling America
Cobweb	13	11270	at LC
Desdemona	18	9651	at LC
Edgar	12	8044	on Chronicling America
Feste	15	8937	on Chronicling America
Guildenstern	10	8104	at LC

Horatio	7	8141	at LC
Iago	11	8613	in-process (post digitization) at OHS
Jaques	9	7972	in-process (post-digitization) at OHS
TOTAL	124	88843	

Batch Kent is currently in-process at iArchives, and Batch Lysander is undergoing pre-digitization metadata collection and collation at OHS.

5. *Do you have any questions or comments regarding the use of the tools provided by LC (Digital Viewer Validation)?*

We do not have any questions or comments regarding the DVV at this time, but will contact LC if we do.

6. *Provide an update on your planned schedule for delivery of digital assets for the award, including samples, to the NDNP repository. Include anticipated number of files to be delivered and planned means of delivery or transfer. (Keep in mind the delivery deadlines noted in the Cooperative Agreement Document, but also take into consideration your own resources and workflow plans. LC requests that you plan to deliver new data monthly, with one batch per hard drive. Batches that have been submitted and require rework should be shipped to LC as soon as fixes are complete (send more than one hard drive at a time, if needed).)*

Monthly processing of deliverables began on schedule in February 2011, and monthly shipments of digitized content to LC began in June 2011. Due to processing errors on our digitization vendor's side, the first four batches (Ariel, Borachio, Cobweb and Desdemona) were recalled from LC in September 2011. Since November 2011, new batches have been sent to LC approximately every four weeks. Batch rework was sent to LC as it was completed and we have been able to return to our schedule of shipping one batch per month to LC.

An updated batch schedule is provided below to show when batch rework was complete for the first four batches.

Batch Name	Paper Titles	Approximate Image Count	Anticipated or Actual Date Sent to LC
Ariel (version 2)	Anti-Slavery Bugle Conservative (series) Western Reserve Chronicle (series)	8000	January 2012
Borachio (version 2)	Highland Weekly News Urbana Union Xenia Sentinel	10000	December 2011
Cobweb (version 2)	Perrysburg Journal (series) Fremont Journal (series)	11000	January 2012
Desdemona	Cleveland Leader (series)	10000	January 2012
Edgar	Gallipolis Journal Holmes County Farmer Holmes County Republican (series)	8000	November 2011

Feste	Belmont Chronicle (series)	9000	December 2011
Guildenstern	Ashtabula Telegraph (series) Cincinnati Daily Press (series)	8000	January 2012
Horatio	Jeffersonian Democrat Dayton Daily Empire (series)	8000	February 2012
Iago	Hancock Jeffersonian (series) Tiffin Tribune (series)	9000	March 2012
Jaques	Stark County Democrat	7000	April 2012
Kent	McArthur Democrat Vinton Record Democratic Enquirer McArthur Enquirer	6000	May 2012
Lysander	Ohio Statesman	10000	June 2012

7. *State briefly the status of any other digitized newspaper activities in your or collaborating partners' institutions (non-NDNP-funded).*

NDNP-OH staff will continue working with the Amherst Public Library to digitize the Amherst News-Times to the NDNP technical specifications. The fourth phase of this project will cover issues published in 2010 and 2011 and will begin in April 2012. This content will join the over 16,000 pages that are already available on Ohio Memory. This collection can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/amherstnewstimes/>

In November 2011, NDNP-OH staff began collaborating with a private individual and the Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County to launch a newspaper digitization project that would make available Civil War era issues of the Mount Vernon Democratic Banner and the Mount Vernon Republican on Ohio Memory. The Community Foundation of Mount Vernon & Knox County and the Ariel Foundation awarded the Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County funding for this small digitization project in February 2012. Production on the project, which will consist of digitizing four reels to the NDNP technical specifications, will begin in April 2012.

In addition, NDNP-OH staff continues to be in contact with other institutions, including public libraries and historical societies, around the state to provide advice to them regarding their potential newspaper digitization projects. The Ohio Historical Society's participation in NDNP has positioned us a resource for smaller institutions that would like to have their local newspaper digitized and online.

8. *Please provide copies of or URLs for any public presentations or publications on topics related to your participation in NDNP (or describe future plans for such).*

Since the last report, NDNP-OH staff members have made the following presentations:

- 2011 Great Lakes Regional National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference (September 27). Staff presented an overview of NDNP and demonstrated how to use Chronicling America. This session was attended by 24 educators from inside and outside of Ohio. A copy of the presentation is available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/7lntykd>

- 2011 Midwest CONTENTdm Users Group (October 14-15). Staff participated in the panel discussion, “Large Text Projects with CONTENTdm – Newspapers and Playbills,” speaking about the Ohio Historical Society’s efforts to include NDNP-specification content in a CONTENTdm-hosted environment and discussed with interested colleagues the technical aspects, including successes and challenges, of the project. A copy of the presentation is available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/7axnuvd>
- 2011 Ohio Library Council Convention and Expo (October 26). Staff presented an overview of NDNP and demonstrated how to use Chronicling America, including advanced search techniques. This session was attended by 30 librarians and staff from public and special libraries all over Ohio. A copy of the presentation is available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/6oqvoap>
- 2011 Ohio History Service Corps (AmeriCorps) Training Webinar (December 29). Staff presented an overview of NDNP and demonstrated how to use Chronicling America using search examples relevant to Civil War research. A copy of the presentation is available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/7bvkoj2>

Upcoming presentations include:

- 2012 Ohio Library Council Chapter Conferences – Southwest (March 28), North (April 26), Central/Southeast (May 3). Staff will provide an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program and demonstrate how to access Ohio’s newspapers for library staff.
- 2012 Academic Library Association of Ohio Technical, Electronic and Digital Services Interest Group Spring Workshop (May 11). Staff will provide an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program, its technical specifications and Chronicling America.
- OHIONET Webinar (May 30). Staff will provide an overview of the National Digital Newspaper program and demonstrate how to use Chronicling America.
- Ohio Historical Society Workshop: Newspaper Research for Genealogists (July 14). Staff will present a short segment on how to use and find Chronicling America and other digital newspaper resources.

These presentations are opportunities to reach new audiences from different regions of the state as well as from different types of libraries, from public to special to academic. This will not only make more people aware of this project and Chronicling America, but allow people to have a greater understanding of newspaper digitization projects as a whole.

Using matching funds, NDNP-OH staff, in collaboration with the Ohio Historical Society’s Education and Outreach Division, developed and presented a webinar aimed toward educators and History Day coordinators. This program highlighted how Chronicling America could be used for History Day and other research by focusing search examples on topics relevant for the 2012 History Day theme: Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History. The webinar was held from 6:30 to 7:30pm on September 13, 2011 and was well-attended. A recording of the webinar is available here: <http://tinyurl.com/7lmg2s4>. Links to the materials distributed to webinar attendees are available from the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/index.php?title=Webinars>. These materials include an About NDNP-OH Handout (<http://tinyurl.com/74kwuev>), a Guide to Using Chronicling America Handout (<http://tinyurl.com/7erlgt0>) and presentation slides (<http://tinyurl.com/7swv5r8>).

Work on the “Using Chronicling America” Podcast Series continued as OHS Multimedia Services and NDNP-OH staff finalized audio and graphics for the recordings. Three of the 11 podcasts were made available on the Ohio Historical Society’s YouTube Channel (www.youtube.com/ohiohistory) in January:

- Podcast 2: What is Chronicling America? (<http://youtu.be/Bvg73KAyTDA>)

- Podcast 10: Overcoming Historical Language Barriers and Learning Alternatives to Controlled Vocabulary (http://youtu.be/L_SBG7RLQIs)
- Podcast 11: Understanding Keyword Searching (<http://youtu.be/Dhf8Sx0ap-Q>)

Podcasts 10 and 11 focus on advanced search tips to help users understand why the results they want do not always show up the way they are expecting. The remaining eight podcasts will be released in late March and cover the basics of searching the website from browsing to performing basic searches to printing. For more information, please visit the NDNP-OH Project Wiki:

<http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/index.php?title=Podcasts>

Additional matching funds were used to create and print a promotional poster that would highlight Chronicling America, NDNP and Ohio's newspapers. Advisory board members and project staff began to distribute the poster to schools and libraries around Ohio in early November and these distribution efforts will be ongoing. A PDF copy of this poster is provided at the end of this report.

NDNP-OH staff worked with Ohio Historical Society Marketing and Communications staff to promote the National Digital Newspaper Program in Echoes, the Membership Newsletter of the Ohio Historical Society. A copy of this article is provided at the end of this report.

Project staff has also been promoting the project through the Ohio Historical Society Collections Blog and press releases. Links to these items are provided on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki at:

http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/index.php?title=Press_Releases

Finally, NDNP-OH staff developed and created the Ohio Digital Newspaper Portal:

<http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/odnp>

This web presence is connected to Ohio Memory and seeks to provide users with information about digitized newspapers, educational resources and information about newspaper digitization. Portions of the Portal are still in development.

9. *Describe any follow-up issues or questions you would like convey to the NDNP program committee as you begin your digital conversion project.*

As mentioned in the last report, it has been determined that the page count estimates used to select enough reels to fill the 100,000 page mandate were low. Based on current statistics, we anticipate that we may need to use approximately \$5000 of surplus funds from other categories (such as consultant fees) in order to digitize the selected reels. Prior to sending our final batch to our vendor for digitization, we will be in contact with NEH to discuss the appropriate course of action.

We do not have any additional issues or questions at this time, but would like to inform NEH that we submitted a supplemental grant proposal for the 2012 award year in January. We invite any comments and feedback and look forward to the continued development and success of the National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio.