

**NDNP Awardee Interim Performance Report**  
(September 1, 2013–February 28, 2014)

**NEH Award Number:** PJ-50039-08

**NDNP State:** Ohio

**Submitted By:** Jenni Salamon, Project Coordinator

**Report Date:** March 31, 2014

**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.*

The overall project work plan has not changed since the last report. We have made several modifications to our microfilm preparation and quality review processes in an effort to increase the efficiency of our workflow and/or the accuracy of our data:

- Instead of providing full collation information to our vendors (with notes on every issue on the reel), we now only provide collation information for anomalies (such as issues with title changes and missing or duplicate pages). We use a separate spreadsheet to record the presence or absence of each issue in a calendar. This spreadsheet also tracks the total image count for each issue and reel.
- Prior to receiving the completed batch from our vendor, we access the batch in their local QR/Metadata tool to review images and LCCNs. This allows us to catch processing errors and reduce the amount of reprocessing that done by our digitization vendor after batch delivery.
- After batch receipt, we:
  - utilize the NDNP\_QR Application developed by Andrew Weidner (New Mexico/Texas) to review issue dates and volume, issue and page numbers for the entire batch; and
  - utilize an in-house developed script that pulls out confidence values from XML documents into spreadsheets.

Both of these tools help us to review metadata more quickly and more completely by pulling out the values of interest and allowing us to check them against our collation notes. We can also quickly spot outlying values that require a closer look at the metadata or images.

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, was performed on the following papers:

<b>Title</b>	<b>LCCN</b>	<b># of Rolls</b>
<i>Napoleon Democratic Northwest</i> (series)	sn84028296, sn84028297	7
<i>Fremont Freeman</i> (series)	sn90068957, sn90068958, sn83035174	3
<i>Plymouth Advertiser</i>	sn86079046	1
<i>Cadiz Sentinel</i> (series)	sn84028793, sn85042199, sn85025647, sn84028794, sn85034406	5
<i>Delaware Gazette</i>	sn83035595	5
<i>Carroll Free Press</i>	sn83035366	3
<i>Jackson Standard</i> (series)	sn85038180, sn87075147	9
<i>Somerset Press</i>	sn85038088	3
<i>Wyandot Pioneer</i> (series)	sn85026335, sn87076863, sn85038238	7

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

The advisory board convened on October 22, 2013 to discuss the status of the project and the future of Ohio’s digital newspaper program, including the 2014 NDNP grant proposal. Advisory board members discussed current and future outreach opportunities and tools that can be created by NDNP-OH staff to promote the project to various audiences.

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

Monthly shipments to our vendor, iArchives, have gone according to our anticipated schedule.

Batch Name	# of Reels sent to Vendor	# of Images Received	Status
arnarson	16	8,684	accepted by LC
byrd	15	9,793	accepted by LC
cousteau	10	8,243	accepted by LC
drake	9	7,203	accepted by LC
ericson	11	10,753	accepted by LC
fu	18	9,939	accepted by LC
gann	13	9,915	accepted by LC
himilco	11	11,353	at LC
ingstad	11	8,810	at LC
julian	10	7,678	in process (post-digitization) at OHS
konscak	12	8,848	in process (post-digitization) at OHS
		<b>101,219 (total)</b>	

Batch Laing is currently in-process at iArchives.

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 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).

Processing of monthly deliverables (approximately 8,000-10,000 images per batch) began in February 2013, and our first batch was delivered to LC in June 2013. Since then, batches have been sent to LC via external hard drive approximately every four to six weeks. An updated version of our batch schedule is provided below. Historical essays for papers in batches arnarson through ingstad have been researched, written, reviewed by NEH and sent to LC.

<b>Batch Name</b>	<b>Paper Titles</b>	<b>Approximate Image Count</b>	<b>Anticipated Date Sent to LC</b>
arnarson	<i>Ashland Union</i> (series) <i>Eaton Democrat</i> (series)	8,000	June 2013
byrd	<i>Woodsfield Spirit of Democracy</i>	9,000	July 2013
cousteau	<i>Canal Dover Ohio Democrat</i> (series) <i>Steubenville True American</i> (series) <i>Wellington Enterprise</i> (series) <i>Cleveland Toiler</i>	8,000	August 2013
drake	<i>Lancaster Gazette</i> (series) <i>Meigs County Telegraph</i> (series) <i>Portsmouth Inquirer</i> <i>Ironton Spirit of the Times</i>	7,500	September 2013
ericson	<i>Tägliches Cincinnati Volksblatt</i>	10,500	October 2013
fu	<i>Kalida Venture</i> <i>Maumee Express</i> (series) <i>Ravenna Democratic Press</i> <i>Portage County Democrat</i> (series) <i>Ravenna Western Courier</i> <i>Meigs County Telegraph</i> (series)	9,000	November 2013
gann	<i>Georgetown Democratic Standard</i> <i>Greenville Journal</i> <i>Cincinnati Organ of the Temperance Reform</i> (series) <i>Portage Sentinel</i> (series)	9,000	December 2013
himilco	<i>Cincinnati Star</i> (series) <i>Medina Sentinel</i>	10,000	January 2014
ingstad	<i>Napoleon Democratic Northwest</i> (series) <i>Fremont Freeman</i> (series) <i>Plymouth Advertiser</i>	8,000	February 2014
julian	<i>Cadiz Sentinel</i> (series) <i>Delaware Gazette</i>	7,000	March 2014
konscak	<i>Carroll Free Press</i> <i>Jackson Standard</i> (series)	7,000	April 2014
laing	<i>Somerset Press</i> <i>Wyandot Pioneer</i> (series)	7,000	May 2014

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

OHS has continued to work on the Library Services and Technology Act-funded Columbus *Ohio State Journal* Project. Approximately 50 years' worth (1832-1879 and portions of 1885, 1889 and 1909) of the paper was microfilmed and digitized and nearly all the content has been uploaded to *Ohio Memory*. It can be viewed at the following URL: <http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16007coll22>.

Surplus funds from this project also permitted OHS to digitize a short run of the Columbus *Ohio Statesman* from 1869-1872 (<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16007coll26>). A portion of

this newspaper (1861-1869) was digitized for *Chronicling America* as part of NDNP-OH's 2010-2012 grant cycle.

In September, OHS began digitization of another batch of the Amherst News-Times (covering 1952-1964) for the Amherst Public Library. Work on this batch was completed in November 2013. Since beginning this partnership in 2010, OHS has digitized over 27,000 pages of this community's newspaper using NDNP standards. Content is freely-available on Ohio Memory: <http://www.ohiomemory.org/amherstnewstimes>.

NDNP-OH staff continues to be in contact with institutions around the state to provide advice regarding their potential newspaper digitization projects. Our participation in NDNP has allowed us to act as a resource for smaller institutions that would like to have their newspapers digitized and available 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).*

### **Presentations**

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

- **2013 Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting (October 5, 2013):** Staff provided an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program and discussed newspaper digitization standards and best practices. A copy of this presentation has been made available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/mk46rhs>.
- ***Chronicling America* and History Day Research (October 9, 2013):** Staff provided a brief demonstration of *Chronicling America* for educators attending a History Day workshop, focusing on advanced search tips and the proper way to cite materials found on the website. Copies of relevant slides are attached to the end of this report.
- **Ohio Digital Interest Group Meeting (November 14, 2013):** Staff provided an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program and discuss newspaper digitization standards and best practices. A copy of this presentation has been made available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/k2592tp>.
- ***Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers for Genealogy Researchers Webinar (January 9, 2014):*** Staff demonstrated how to use *Chronicling America* with a particular focus on how genealogists can find family history information on the website. A copy of this presentation has been made available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/ksq56at>. A recording of the webinar is available at: <http://creativelearningfactory.adobeconnect.com/p7ii8jfuqiw/>.
- **2014 Ohio Newspaper Association Conference (February 6, 2014):** Staff provided a brief overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program and shared some of the interesting items found in Ohio's newspapers that were digitized for *Chronicling America*. A copy of this presentation has been made available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/mrt9zjx>.

Upcoming presentations include:

- **Ohio Genealogical Society—Warren County Chapter Meeting (March 19, 2014):** Staff will demonstrate how to use *Chronicling America* with a particular focus on how genealogists can find family history information on the website.
- **2014 Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians Conference (May 29, 2014):** Staff will provide an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program and discussed newspaper digitization standards and best practices.

- **Ohio Genealogical Society—Montgomery County Chapter Meeting (August 9, 2014):** Staff will demonstrate how to use *Chronicling America* with a particular focus on how genealogists can find family history information on the website.

These presentations provide us with opportunities to increase awareness of *Chronicling America*, NDNP and newspaper digitization projects in general to a variety of audiences.

### **Chronicling America Search Strategy Videos**

The third *Chronicling America* Search Strategy Videos were released in December 2013. Available through the [Ohio Historical Society's YouTube Channel](#), these short videos have two goals: (1) to build on the advanced searching skills highlighted in our "[Using Chronicling America](#)" Podcast Series, teaching users why and how you should use different search strategies to find information in the newspapers, and (2) to highlight interesting topics that will show users the wide range of content available in *Chronicling America*'s digital newspaper collection.

Click on the link below to access the videos:

- Proximity Searching – Recipes and Cooking Tips: <http://youtu.be/MEHdafd783Q>

### **National History Day in Ohio Prize**

In support of the National Endowment for the Humanities' *Chronicling America* History Day Prize, OHS will be offering, for the second year, a similar prize at Ohio History Day on April 26, 2014. This prize will recognize exceptional use of primary resources available on *Chronicling America* and/or *Ohio Memory* in the development of a student's Ohio History Day Project. A prize was to be offered for the best individual or group project in each of the Junior and Senior Divisions.

### **Articles, Press Releases and Blog Posts**

Project staff has also been promoting the project through the Ohio Historical Society Collections Blog, the Ohio Memory News Feed 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](http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/index.php?title=Press_Releases).

Starting in July, NDNP staff wrote a series of three articles for the *Local Historian*, the bimonthly Ohio Local History Alliance newsletter that is distributed to cultural heritage institutions and staff members around the state. These articles are featured in the newsletter's TechTip section and include information about Ohio's contribution to *Chronicling America*, National Digital Newspaper Program digitization standards and project planning tips.

- **From Film to Digital Part I: The National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio** (published in the July/August 2013 issue, copy was attached to end of September 2013 report)
- **From Film to Digital Part II: Newspaper Digitization Standards and Best Practices** (published in the September/October 2013 issue, copy attached to end of this report)
- **From Film to Digital Part III: Launching Your Own Newspaper Digitization Project** (published in the November/December 2013 issue, copy attached to end of this report)

In December 2013, a short article about OHS's newspaper digitization efforts was published in the Ohio Newspaper Association Online Bulletin: <http://tinyurl.com/ko3puac>.

### **Ohio Digital Newspaper Program Website**

NDNP-OH staff has continued to develop content on the Ohio Digital Newspaper Portal: <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/odnp>.

More content has been added to the Educational Resources section, such as additional subject guides and transcripts for the Using *Chronicling America* Podcast Series and *Chronicling America* Search Strategy Videos. For more information, please see: <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/odnp/resources>.

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. Content is added on a regular basis.

9. *Describe any follow-up issues or questions you would like convey to the NDNP program committee.*

At the end of February, we received notification from our NEH Program Officer, Leah Grohsgal, that she and Deb Thomas (LC NDNP Coordinator), approved our budget change request to use surplus funds from our consultant fee category to cover the digitization of additional newspaper pages. Since receiving this approval, we have begun processing our final batch for this grant cycle, which will contain these extra pages.

We invite any comments and feedback and look forward to the continued development and success of the National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio.

Please submit to NEH via e-GMS with a copy to [ndnptech@loc.gov](mailto:ndnptech@loc.gov), by March 31, 2014.