

THE MARION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Heritage Hall

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OHRAB FINAL REPORT

December, 2015

Institution:

Marion County Historical Society

Project Title:

Accessioning and Storage of Richard Carey Collection of Historic

Records

Project Director:

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Summary:

The Marion County Historical Society received a collection of materials significant to the history of Marion County via a donation from Richard Carey. The collection contained more than 2000 items including more than 100 letters and other documents c. 1840-1920 (including many relating to the Civil War) written by or to Marion County residents. Other items in the collection included photographs, fraternal and social organization materials, President Warren G. Harding photographs and ephemera, industrial and business materials, etc.

Funding from the OHRAB grant was used to purchase archival storage materials to properly store and protect the items in the collection. While the grant was not sufficient to provide materials in enough quantity to house the entire collection, it did provide assistance in getting the project off to a solid beginning.

The project began early in April, 2015 with the sorting and organizing of the materials which were chosen to be cataloged and accessioned first. Over the next nine months, five individuals spent more than 550 hours working directly on the collection. During this time, they photographed/scanned more than 900 items which were entered into our PastPerfect data management system and then stored in an archival correct manner. Included in these materials were more than 130 political/social/advertising ribbons and medals; more than 350 photographs; more than 150 trade cards/advertising pieces; more than 200 pieces of miscellaneous ephemera including letters and other correspondence; and more than 75 items of memorabilia for a total of over 900 items. These items required approximately 18.5 cubic feet of storage. Screen shots of representative

items from the PastPerfect data management system are included in this report.

The Marion County Historical Society utilizes Heritage Hall, a c. 1910 former post office, as our home and museum. It has both permanent and rotating displays. The Carey Collection will be utilized in these displays on an ongoing, as-needed basis depending upon the current exhibit. In addition, items from the collection are available for research and viewing with proper assistance from museum personnel.

The goal of this project was to properly preserve and protect the Carey Collection items. With approximately 900 items out of an estimated total of more than 2000 items accessioned with materials provided for through the grant, we have a strong start on what will continue to be an ongoing project. We feel that we have satisfactorily met our objective presented when applying for the grant, and are appreciative of the assistance provided.

Included in this packet is a copy of a local newspaper article concerning the donation of the Carey Collection. Other publicity included discussing the donation & receiving the grant on local radio.

The grant was awarded in the amount of \$1,270. Included in this packet are copies of itemized invoices for the archival materials purchased totaling \$1,259. The additional \$11 (to total \$1,270) was spent as part of other orders for larger amounts of materials and is not itemized in this report.

Project Cost Match: The cost match for this project was accomplished through volunteers assisting our trained archivist in accessioning and storing the items in the collection. More than 550 hours were directed toward the project with a value of \$10,175 (550 hours at \$18.50/hour).