



SHAKER
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

2025 OHRAB Grant Final Report: Shaker Historical Society Photograph Archives: Phase II

Organization Name: Shaker Historical Society

Project Title: Shaker Historical Society Photograph Archives: Phase II

Project Director: Brianna Treleven, 216-921-1201, director@shakerhistory.org

Summary of Project Activities and Accomplishments

In 2024, the Shaker Historical Society was awarded an OHRAB grant to establish a subject-based photograph archive with an item-level finding aid. This project aimed to preserve and improve access to our photograph collection, addressing decades of scattered materials and inconsistent filing practices. Because photographs are our most frequently requested archival materials, this work was essential to better serve both public and research needs. During the project, our 2024 intern inventoried more than three times the number of photographic materials estimated in our grant application, revealing the need for a second project phase.

Building on the success of prior OHRAB-funded projects, we leveraged additional donor support to offset a partial OHRAB award in 2025. Together, the OHRAB grant and donor funding enabled us to launch Phase II by hiring an archives intern to continue assigning accession numbers, rehousing photographs within the subject-based archive, and updating the finding aid. Our project goals were accomplished in the following ways:

- 1,700 photographs, negatives, and slides (11.09 linear feet) rehoused in archival sleeves and boxes, an increase of 450% from 2024
 - 21 oversize photographs transferred to oversize archival box
 - 20% of slides and negatives in archives transferred to dedicated archival binder boxes with space for more during future work
- Around 60 framed photographs, previously stored leaning against the wall on the floor, are now organized on archival wire shelving with Coroplast.
- Began transfer/disposal of photograph material, which freed up an entire document box
 - 11 enlarged photographs mounted on board transferred to Education Collection
 - 13 photographs transferred to Institutional Archives
 - 40 low-quality reproduction/duplicate photographs of scrapbook pages were transferred to Education Collection or disposed of
- Identified additional archives projects to be addressed in the future to complement the photograph archives
- Shaker Historical Society Photograph Archives Inventory (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zjGE3AnU9SFNKPzD-UDwRzHv2C3vu1J78d3GzFGAe4A/edit?usp=sharing>)
 - Includes both updated 2025 inventory and original 2024 inventory
 - Available on our website: <https://www.shakerhistory.org/preserve/collections>



Photograph Archives Boxes 1-14 containing over 1,650 rehoused photographs..

The project has had an immediate positive impact on both archival care and overall museum operations. Rehousing 1,700 photographs and photographic media created additional storage space in the archives for other collection materials. Framed photographs were relocated from the floor, where they had been stored for years, to dedicated shelving. Museum staff have since made extensive use of the photograph archives for research requests, educational outreach, and exhibition preparation. This project phase also enabled us to begin transferring and responsibly disposing of photographic materials that were duplicates, low-quality reproductions, or outside the scope of our collections.

Phase II completed a substantial portion of the overall project. Over the coming months, we plan to engage volunteers to inventory and rehouse the remaining slides and negatives that have not yet been transferred to the photograph archives. Phase III, scheduled for 2026, will focus on digitizing the photographs through volunteer efforts or a digitization and cataloging internship.



(Left) Prior storage of framed photographs; **(Right)** Framed photographs were moved from the floor to wire shelving with Coroplast “siding” and dividers.

On August 28, project intern Hilary Gallito and project director Brianna Treleven hosted a public open house, inviting community members to learn about the progress of the photograph archives and plans for future work. Hilary curated a pop-up exhibition highlighting sports-related photographs from the collection inspired by her experiences as a high school and college athlete.



(Left) Archives Open House in August 2025; **(Right)** Project intern Hilary Gallito’s pop-up exhibition highlighting photos from the photograph archive.

Brianna shared a [press release announcing the grant](#) with local media in late April; a paywalled press run announcing the news was published on Cleveland.com in early May. She also shared a [reflection essay from project intern Hilary Gallito](#) with museum members through our newsletter and posted project updates on social media, examples of which are included below.



Posted June 18, 2025 on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

Shaker Historical Society
Published by Brianna Treleven · July 9 ·

Overview **Comments**

We're back from a long holiday weekend, and our intern Hilary kicked things off with the most thrilling kind of unboxing video: archival supplies edition! 📦📷

Yes, we're the kind of nerds who get giddy over mylar sleeves and fresh archival boxes. Hilary has been working on Phase II of our photo archives project thanks to support from **Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board - OHRAB** and SHS member John Barber. Watching our photos get safely rehoused gives us all the warm, fuzzy (and acid-free) feelings.

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Ajay Ladanyi
Hilary is perfect for this job!
Keep us in the loop, Hilary!

Comment as Shaker Historical Society

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17 · 3 comments · 446 views

Posted July 9, 2025 on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

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shakerhistory Thank you to everyone who joined our Archives Open House yesterday to celebrate Phase II of our photograph archives! Archives intern Hilary Gallito shared some of her favorite sports-related photographs from the collection, giving attendees a glimpse into the stories preserved in our archives.

Today we say a bittersweet goodbye to Hilary. Thanks to her work this summer, over 2,000 photographs are now fully inventoried and rehoused in archival sleeves and boxes for better preservation and access.

Curious about what's in the collection? You can view digitized photos in our [@catalogit HUB](#) or search the initial 2024 photo inventory (links in our bio) on our website. The 2025 inventory will be available soon!

This project was made possible through an award from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board (OHRAB) through funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and through the generous financial support of SHS member John Barber.

Edited · 16w

catalogit Phenomenal work, team! 🙌
16w · Reply


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August 29

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Project Expenses

Shaker Historical Society OHRAB Grant 2025 - Photograph Archives					SHAKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Salaries and Wages		Grant Funds	Matching Funds	Total	
Brianna Treleven, Executive Director, 64 hrs x \$26.35/hr			\$1,686.40	\$1,686.40	
Makialani Kanewa-Mariano, Ed & Outreach Manager, 5hrs x \$18.00/hr			\$90.00	\$90.00	
Archives Project Intern, 180 volunteer hours x \$17.00/hr		\$290.00	\$2,770.00	\$3,060.00	
Subtotals: Salaries and Wages		\$290.00	\$4,546.40	\$4,836.40	
Order Date	Supplies	Grant Funds	Matching Funds	Total	
6-5-2025	Talas Metal-Edge Archival Document Boxes (17 x 12 x 5) x 5	\$117.50		\$117.50	
6-5-2025	Talas Mylar L-velopes — 5" x 7" (200), 8.5" x 11" (400), 11" x 14" (200)	\$1,050.00		\$1,050.00	
6-5-2025	Talas Heritage Print Storage Box (24" x 36") x 1	\$50.70		\$50.70	
6-5-2025	Talas Boxed Ring Binder (Letter) x 2	\$52.70		\$52.70	
6-5-2025	Talas Print File 35mm Storage Pages - 20 Transparencies (100 pack) x 1	\$41.95		\$41.95	
6-5-2025	Talas Print File 35mm Storage Pages - 35 Frames (100 pack) x 1	\$28.00		\$28.00	
6-5-2025	File Folder (Legal) (100 pack)	\$48.25		\$48.25	
6-5-2025	Talas Shipping	\$16.89	\$109.35	\$126.24	
6-27-2025	Talas Mylar L-velopes — 5" x 7" (75), 8.5" x 11" (200)		\$311.25	\$311.25	
6-27-2025	Talas Shipping		\$19.42	\$19.42	
7-24-2025	Talas Mylar L-velopes — 5" x 7" (50), 8.5" x 11" (150)		\$227.50	\$227.50	
7-24-2025	Talas Four Flap Negative Enclosure — 4" x 5" x 1/8" (15), 5" x 7" x 1/8" (10)		\$22.70	\$22.70	
7-24-2025	Coroplast - Archival Grade (4mm, 30" x 40") x 5		\$62.75	\$62.75	
7-24-2025	Talas Document Box (17 x 12 x 5) x 3		\$70.50	\$70.50	
7-24-2025	Talas Shipping		\$86.45	\$86.45	
Subtotals: Supplies		\$1,405.99	\$909.92	\$2,315.91	
Order Date	Equipment	Grant Funds	Matching Funds	Total	
7-18-2025	Metro Super Erecta Stainless Steel 4-Shelf (21"d x 36"w x 63"h) + shipping		\$1,085.00	\$1,085.00	
Subtotals: Equipment		\$0.00	\$1,085.00	\$1,085.00	
Contracted Services		Grant Funds	Matching Funds	Total	
				\$0.00	
Subtotals: Contracted Services		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other Eligible Expenses		Grant Funds	Matching Funds	Total	
				\$0.00	
Subtotals: Other Eligible Expenses		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Summary Budget		Grant Funds	Matching Funds	Total	
Salaries and Wages		\$290.00	\$4,546.40	\$4,836.40	
Supplies		\$1,405.99	\$909.92	\$2,315.91	
Equipment		\$0.00	\$1,085.00	\$1,085.00	
Contracted Services		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other Eligible Expenses		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Project Budget		\$1,695.99	\$6,541.32	\$8,237.31	