

Exhibit will be on display in the Hatch Reading Room in Kelvin Smith Library during regular business hours  
August 7 – October 1

# *the quickening.*

the archives profession in northeast ohio, 1957-1977

As the deadline for the 2015 Society of American Archivists (SAA) conference program proposals drew near, members of the SAA Archives History Roundtable submitted a session concept concerning regional histories of the archives profession. Though ultimately not selected for the conference program, the dialog that began with roundtable members continued among Northeast Ohio archivists.

At the same time, several local archivists had occasion to share with the public their experiences in identifying records documenting significant milestones in the cultural, educational and religious institutions where they work. Additionally, a search had begun among members of our own Cleveland Archival Roundtable for information documenting the establishment of that group 25 years ago.

These calls for deeper study of the history and records of the archives profession in Northeast Ohio prompted a closer look at the collections available to support this research. Details that emerged from that process were presented in a poster session at the Society of Ohio Archivists 2015 annual meeting. On display are items that present a visual interpretation of those findings. Highlighting the years 1957-1977, our exhibit is entitled “the quickening,” referencing the act of bringing something to life.

It is the good fortune of archivists in Northeast Ohio that in the quickening there existed sufficient institutional resources, leaders anxious for change and a near universal will to advance the archives profession for the common good. Our hope is that these items documenting events, institutions and individuals from that time will inspire continued research on this topic and contribute to collection building to further document our story.



## Exhibit Credits

### Case 1:

- Map of the Connecticut Western Reserve. 1799. KSL Special Collections. From the original at the Western Reserve Historical Society.
- Pike, Kermit J. *A Guide to the Manuscripts and Archives of the Western Reserve Historical Society*. Cleveland, 1972. Copy 1, courtesy of KSL Special Collections; Copy 2, private collection.
- Bigglestone, William E. *They Stopped in Oberlin: Black Residents and Visitors of the Nineteenth Century*. Scottsdale, Ariz: Innovation Group, 1981. On loan to KSL Special Collections.
- Pamphlet: "Ohio Network of American History Research Centers." 1970. Bound with *The Ohio Archivist*. v.1. From the original held in the Kent State University Libraries.

### Portraits:

- Meredith B. Colket, Jr.; Kermit Pike. From originals in the collection at the Western Reserve Historical Society.
- Ruth W. Helmuth. From the original in the Case Western Reserve University Archives.
- William E. Bigglestone. From the original in the Oberlin College Archives.

### Vitrine 1:

- Letter. From the original in the Case Western Reserve University Archives
- "CWRU School of Library Science Bulletin," 1970-1971. Courtesy of the Case Western Reserve University Archives.
- Ruth W. Helmuth trading card. Private collection.

### Cabinet 2:

- All items courtesy of the Case Western Reserve University Archives.

### Group photograph:

- Workshop on College and University Archives, no date. From the original in the Case Western Reserve University Archives

### Group photograph:

- Officers of the Society of Ohio Archivists, 1969-1970. From Goerler, Raimund E, ed. *From History to Pre-History: Archivists Face the Future: Essays in Honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Society of Ohio Archivists*. Columbus, Ohio: The Society, 1994.

### Vitrine 2:

- Chiera, Edward. *They Wrote on Clay: The Babylonian Tablets Speak Today*. Ed. George G. Cameron. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1938. From private collection.
- Cuneiform Tablet. Courtesy of KSL Special Collections.

### Case 3:

- Group photograph: *The Ohio Archivist* v.2, Fall 1971. From the original held in the Kent State University Libraries.
- SOA Chronology through 1972. Appendix A. Reproduced from Goerler, Raimund E, ed. *From History to Pre-History: Archivists Face the Future: Essays in Honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Society of Ohio Archivists*. Columbus, Ohio: The Society, 1994.
- *The Ohio Archivist*, v. 5, No. 1, Spring 1974; v. 7, No. 1, Spring 1976. Courtesy of the Case Western Reserve University Archives.
- Goerler, Raimund E, ed. *From History to Pre-History: Archivists Face the Future: Essays in Honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Society of Ohio Archivists*. Columbus, Ohio: The Society, 1994. Courtesy of the Case Western Reserve University Archives.
- *Directory of College and University Archives in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia, Western New York, and Western Pennsylvania*. Society of Ohio Archivists, 1975. Copy of the original held in the Ohio State University Libraries.

### Framed Ohio Archivist cover:

- *The Ohio Archivist*. Volume 1, No. 1, Spring 1970. Page 1. Copy of the original held in the Kent State University Libraries.

### Vitrine 3 and framed fasteners:

- All items courtesy of Case Western Reserve University Archives.

### Large table-top case:

- All items courtesy of Case Western Reserve University Archives.

### Building images:

- Neal Storage photograph. Copy of image from the Nickel Plate Rail Road Right-of-Way Collection, The Cleveland Memory Project, Special Collections, Michael Schwartz Library, Cleveland State University.
- All other photographs from the original in the Case Western Reserve University Archives.