Past Pursuits

A Newsletter of the Special Collections Division of the Akron-Summit County Public Library
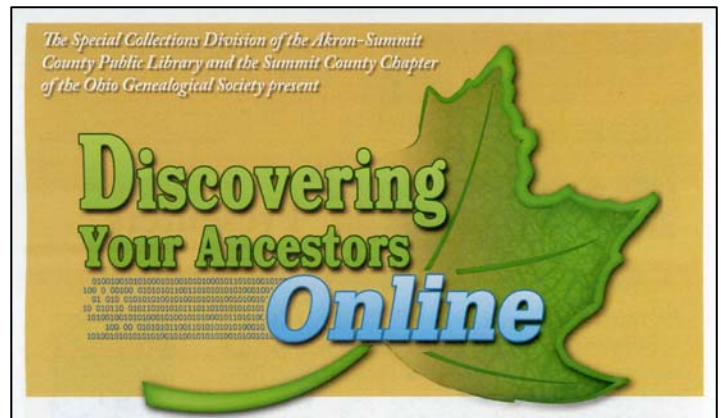
Join us for "Discovering Your Ancestors Online" on August 6

by Cheri Goldner, Librarian

The Special Collections Division and the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society are pleased to present the free day-long program "Discovering Your Ancestors Online" on Saturday, August 6 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm in the Main Library Auditorium at 60 South High Street.

The program will feature experts on several online databases available through the Library. Laura Prescott, a nationally known researcher, writer, and speaker who serves as president of the Association of Professional Genealogists and as a consultant for *Footnote.com*, will offer some general tips for doing genealogy research online and will also speak specifically about using the *Footnote* database. Judith Porter, Director of the Family History Center in Tallmadge, will present an update on the free website www.FamilySearch.org. Edward Loera, a Customer Education Training Specialist with ProQuest, will demonstrate how to use both the *Ancestry Library Edition* and *Heritage Quest* Online databases.

In this issue

Ellen Brown Stewart, Part II

by Judy James, Division Manager

The Spring 2011 issue of *Past Pursuits* included an article about Ellen Brown Hickox Stewart, a little-known 19th century woman who lived much of her life in Medina and Summit counties. A female preacher, she was an ardent supporter of women's rights and an outspoken opponent of slavery. Her memoir, *Life of Mrs. Ellen Stewart,* was published in Akron in 1858 by Beebe and Elkins.

Shortly after publication of our newsletter, Special Collections was contacted by Claudia Underhill of Washington state, a descendent of Ellen. She graciously provided additional information about Ellen and what became of her after she moved to Kansas with her daughter and son-in-law. Although elderly at the time, Ellen continued to be involved in the women's rights movement, corresponding with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, even receiving a signed copy of the first volume of *History of Woman Suffrage*, published in 1881 and edited by Ms. Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. Among several items shared by Ms. Underhill is a transcription of a letter to Ellen from Ms. Anthony regarding her gift of this book, informing her that she (Ellen) would be cited in a future volume that included Kansas. Also included is an obituary and eulogy given by spiritualist L.A. Perry at the time of Ellen's death in 1882. According to Perry, Ellen became interested in the "cause and phenomenon of spirit return" during her later years.

Perhaps the most valuable of items Ms. Underhill provided, however, is a digital version of Ellen's book from another descendent, Michael Groshong, who scanned his copy of Ellen's book, a gift from his grandmother's aunt, a Hickox descendent. According to Michael, Ellen was a favorite of his family and her book was faithfully passed down through the generations. Thanks to his generosity, Ellen's book is now available in its entirety from our Online Books page.

Again, we would like to thank Ellen's descendents, Deborah Vaughn, Clara Harsh, Claudia Underhill, and Michael Groshong for sharing their research and materials about Ellen with the Akron-Summit County Public Library. And, of course, we thank Ellen for her life, her works, and her remarkable book.

OGS Award for Special Collections Librarian

by Judy James, Division Manager

At the annual conference of the Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) in April, it was announced that Special Collections librarian Jane Gramlich was awarded first place in the fourth annual writing contest. Jane's article, *Out of the Unity of Friends: the Remarkable Legacy of Abner and Mercy Heston,* which represents many hours

Jane Gramlich, Librarian

of diligent research about her Quaker ancestors, the Hestons appears in the Spring 2011 issue of *Ohio Genealogical Society Quarterly*. Jane's fascinating and well-written article documents not only the history of this Ohio family, but also the resources she consulted and the many puzzle pieces she put into place in order to construct their history.

Along the way, Jane discovered an important and nationally significant connection to Summit County. Although the Heston family mostly settled in Cuyahoga County, William Heston moved to Akron around 1873 to work for Akron's Ferdinand Schumacher, owner of Schumacher's German Mills. An inventor, William filed a number of patents, including "Improvement in Oatmeal-Machines." In 1877, William, along with three other men, founded the Quaker Mill Company in Ravenna, Ohio. The company chose the image of a Quaker man for its logo. The origin of this trademark idea has been debated, but some accounts credit William, whose ancestors were Quakers.

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Mr. Pockrandt's Pictures: The Fickle Business of Preserving History

by Jane Gramlich, Librarian

Carl Pockrandt (1884 – 1980) was the president of the Summit County Historical Society [SCHS] for twenty years. He owned several retail and manufacturing businesses, including paint and wallpaper. The biographical volume of *Akron and Summit County, Ohio, 1825 – 1928* calls him "a real wide-awake progressive business[man]." He was known as "Mr. Akron" because of his interest in the preservation of the city's history. He carefully assembled the visual records of all the local history that was important to him, and after his death, his photograph and postcard collection was donated to the Historical Society. As part of our agreement with them to store and process their collections, Mr. Pockrandt's pictures have found their way to us. They include wonderful images of a variety of subjects: civic buildings, schools, churches, businesses, city streets, country scenes, residences, notable people, events, landscapes and landmarks.

Without his foresight and determination, and that of SCHS, this treasure trove wouldn't exist. I've spent some time with these photos, and through them I feel I've gotten to know him and understand his purpose. This collection is fantastic, yet like all archival collections, it has its limitations. It's those limitations that make it a great illustration of the difficulty of preserving history. Why do we have some things and not others? What does it take to make them accessible and comprehensible? Why are these collections so important?

With limited budget and personnel, SCHS kept Pockrandt's photo collection preserved and mostly organized. But some improvement was needed. Lack of time led to large groups of photos being put together under one subject heading, missing the details. We're trying to remedy that while keeping the original system intact. Every photo or small group of photos gets a description, a list of subject headings, and a specific location recorded in our [Local History Database](#). The best part is that our database has the capability to sort out these photos by separate subject headings. Say you're looking for an early photo of St. Vincent's Church on West Market Street. The photo that might work best for you primarily depicts the streetscape, so it's hidden away in a folder labeled "Streets and Roads." We'd be hard pressed to find it. But if we process the photo in an electronic database and include "St. Vincent's Church" among that photo's subjects, we can hone right in on it. That's the beauty of cross-referencing. It's all in those elusive details.

When we get questions about local history, we use our collections as our knowledge base. While we have a great deal, we don't have everything by far. The Library's mission of preserving local history to the extent we are doing now is a fairly recent development; our division is just ten years old. Some of what we have has been part of the Library's holdings for a long time. The rest of our collections are largely donated. It's a very specific process, but the subject matter can be fairly random. Donated collections are selective by nature. People attach importance to certain things, keep those, and discard the rest. So when we receive these collections, we're receiving what they thought was important to save, and that means there are things missing.

That raises the questions: Who records which aspects of history, and which documents are preserved? Why? And who ends up with them? It's a mind-boggling prospect. For the events of history to endure, three things must happen. Information must be deliberately recorded; second, it must be saved. Then, for people to know about it, it must be published, distributed, or made accessible some other way. For as much as we have, there's also a great deal that's either lost, or so hard to find it may as well be lost.

There's also a certain amount of history we carry around with us, our own memories of "how things were back then," that never get recorded, much less made accessible to the world. Unfortunately, the things that people living now are likely to remember are precisely where our photo collections are a bit lacking. They are heavily concentrated on images dating from the late 19th to early 20th centuries.

They're also focused on the well-known parts of our area. My theory is that when photography was still fairly uncommon, some people understood its importance and made a point of making images publicly available by donating them to museums and historical societies. As photography became more popular and personal, there was less of a push for preservation. Now, we've come full circle but in a very different way; photos proliferate all over Web sites and social networking pages. In between, there's a lot missing. If you want a photo of the old Flatiron Building, take your pick. We have about three dozen of them. But if you're looking for a photo of the little shop down the street from you that closed thirty years ago, it's not as likely we'll have it.

The upshot is that we do our best to answer local history questions with a reasonable search of our collections. But finding the answer may take an exhaustive search we can't take the time to do; we can only point you to possible sources. Or the answer might not be within our walls. Maybe it's at another repository. It could be in a file of old records in someone's basement. It might be in the mind of an unknown elderly person who's one of the last to remember. Quite possibly, it's just gone. This is why a collection like Pockrandt's is so important. It contains only specific nuggets of history, but they're not gone. At least we have them.

Part of our challenge in processing archival collections is how best to describe them so researchers can decide whether they're worth looking at. We try to describe photos a little more completely because of their nature as visual rather than written documents. Even with a good working knowledge of the history of our area, these photos can be a conundrum. Sometimes we need to do research to identify them correctly, but we cannot spend too much time on this. Our job is primarily to describe, organize, and preserve the images so others can access them and make their own conclusions. The old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words may be true, but we can't use a thousand words to describe every photo we have. So a phrase like "looking east on Market Street

from Main Street," and a good list of descriptive subject headings for the buildings, will have to do. Digitization doesn't eliminate the need for description; it is just as necessary to describe the subject and the origin of a digitized image as one in print.

It's great when donors describe their own collections, but they could also be wrong, or so vague it's meaningless. Or you might not be able to read their writing. Carl Pockrandt didn't have the best penmanship, and deciphering some of his notes is nearly impossible. Despite his interest in history, he was also surprisingly way off on some of the dates. He'd write "about 1910" when the style of clothing and automobiles clearly puts it closer to the 1930s. We try to point out errors, but sometimes, we can't tell. What he wrote might be right or wrong, but we have no easy way of knowing. Then there's the problem of photos that include people. Many are unidentified, and there's not much we can do to identify them. Of those that are identified, misspelled and variant names present another Pandora's Box. Is William Thompson the same person as W. Thompson, W. J. Thompson, or Bill Thomson? Unless we're sure, for now the photos will have to be indexed under the spellings that are given.

This aerial photo of the High Level Bridge shows the street layout before the new bridge was built. It is from the Summit County Historical Society's Pockrandt Photograph Collection.

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It's amazing to see past landscapes in these photos and compare them to how things look today. Much of the time, we can learn a great deal. Take a look at the aerial photo of the old High Level Bridge [p.4], showing a small piece of North Hill on the left and Cuyahoga Falls on the right. I can positively identify the location; many residents of this area probably could. Pockrandt wrote "Oct. 1945" on the back, and it's easily verified that it was taken before the old bridge was demolished. This is a great view of the street and bridge layout with North Howard Street and what's now North Main Street and Riverside Drive all intersecting. It has been completely altered, but we have a wonderful visual record of how it looked then.

With other images, especially rural landscapes, it's hard to make that comparison. Here's another photo of a bridge [right], surrounded by trees and fairly nondescript. This one's much different. Its perspective, its description, published information, and the effects of time all collide and result in muddled history. "The Cuyahoga River Bridge at the Gorge, 1890," Pockrandt wrote on the back, maybe years later when his memory might not have been so good. It's probably not that early. He tended to write "1890" on a lot of photos. I know that the Gorge bridges on Front Street just off Cuyahoga Falls Avenue once linked streetcar lines from Akron to Cuyahoga Falls. There's only one bridge there now, but there were two bridges at one time. According to James M. Blower's books *The N. O. T. & L. Story* and *Northern Ohio Traction Revisited*, the low bridge was built about 1895 and the high bridge about 1903.

Since we're not sure about the date, how can we tell which bridge it is? It's not immediately apparent, and it would take some research to figure it out, if it can be figured out at all. It might take poring through atlases, newspapers, books, and other photographs. If the photo was taken in the late 1890s, this bridge could be the low bridge, about where the current bridge is today. But if it was taken after 1903, it could be the high bridge. Or is it some other bridge? The streetcar lines are hard to see, and the Gorge is a big place. I really can't be sure. All I have to go by is what Carl Pockrandt

tells me. So that's the way I'll describe it and leave it to you, the researcher, to figure it out. Though I know the history and the area, I can't reconcile this photo to what I see now. It has changed that much.

One of the Gorge Bridges in 1890…or maybe not. This image is from the Summit County Historical Society's Pockrandt Photograph Collection.

These are just two photos of thousands in our collections that capture our home landscapes and cityscapes at a fraction of a sliver of time. How do we describe them? They're almost beyond description. Yet, if these photos didn't exist, we wouldn't know what these places looked like at all. Our mission is to help keep those captured images intact and accessible. That mission is filled with questions and challenges.

Did Carl Pockrandt think of any of this? I wonder. Could he have imagined I'd be sitting at my desk, puzzling over his treasured collection? No matter, at least he took the trouble to create it, care for it, and pass it on. Despite all its problems and pitfalls, it's better than nothing. Thank you, Mr. Pockrandt. We owe you, and anyone who takes the time to collect and protect our wonderful local history, a large debt of gratitude. He knew it was worth it, and I know it's worth it. I hope our successors and our community will think so too.

Carl Pockrandt c. 1950

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"Discovering Your Ancestors Online" (continued)

The program schedule will be as follows:

9:30 – 9:45   Introductions

9:45 – 10:45   Genealogy Research Online: Sites and Strategies That May Surprise You (Laura Prescott)

10:45 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:00 Find Your Family on Footnote.com (Laura Prescott)

12:00-1:15   Lunch on your own

1:15 – 2:15   Ancestry Library Edition (Edward Loera)

2:15 – 2:30   Break

2:30 – 3:30   Heritage Quest Online (Edward Loera)

3:30 – 4:30   Family Search - The Largest Source of Free Genealogy (Judith Porter)

The program is free and open to the public. To sign-up, contact the Special Collections at 330-643-9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Parking is free in the High-Market Parking Deck.

Hattie's Café on the first floor of the Library will have a coffee and muffin cart outside the auditorium and will take preorders for boxed lunches in the morning. We *highly recommend* that you either preorder a boxed lunch from Hattie's or pack your own lunch, as the café gets very busy during library events, and there aren't many downtown restaurants open on Saturday afternoons. Keep in mind that there is also a Hattie's in the Akron Art Museum, and there are fast food restaurants on East Market St. within a short driving distance from Main Library.

Civil War Resources

by Iris Bolar, Librarian

The 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War is being remembered throughout the United States this year. With this resurgence of interest in the war, a review of Civil War resources for family history research is timely. This article will look at Websites, databases, and print titles available for genealogists in Special Collections.

Guides

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
www.archives.gov/research/military/civil-war/.
Start your search by learning about the types of Civil War records that are available. Articles provide background on military records and information for locating them. A search of NARA's Archival Research Catalog (ARC) provides descriptions of holdings at the archives. Digital copies of selected items on ARC can be viewed online.

Online Civil War Indexes, Records & Rosters
www.militaryindexes.com/civilwar/
This is a good place to look for Websites by state. Although some links lead to services requiring payment, there are links to many free online projects developed by state archives and historical societies.

Cyndi's List – US Civil War
www.cyndislist.com/cw.htm
This page on *Cyndi's List* provides links to a host of categories of Websites about the Civil War.

Rosters

The multivolume sets ***The Roster of Union Soldiers, 1861-1865*** and ***The Roster of Confederate Soldiers, 1861-1865*** can be found in the military section of Special Collections. States, regiments, companies and ranks are listed with the names. Information from the rosters is needed to get a soldier's Compiled Military Service Record from the National Archives. Some of these records have been digitized and are available on *Footnote*.

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Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System
www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/
The National Park Service maintains this site, which includes an index to Compiled Military Service Records, regimental histories and rosters, prisoner registers, and other databases that are works in progress. The basic information of over 6 million Union and Confederate servicemen was taken from General Index Cards of the Compiled Military Service Records held at the National Archives. The index shows on which side a serviceman fought, regiment, company, rank (incoming and outgoing), and the microfilm number for the record.

Grave Registers

Roll of Honor: Names of Soldiers Who Died in Defense of the American Union, Interred in the National Cemeteries is a compilation of registers of the burial and, in some cases, reburial of Union soldiers who died during the war and who are buried in National Cemeteries. A name index leads to the appropriate Roll of Honor number or "volume" (a guide in the first book has to be used for the first 13 Rolls of Honor since they were not actually numbered as volumes). Each book in the set contains several "volumes" of burial listings. Page numbering restarts with each Roll of Honor. Burial omissions are noted in the foreword to the index. Some volumes can also be accessed online from home for free in the text collection at *Internet Archive* (www.internetarchive.org).

Nationwide Gravesite Locator (United States Department of Veterans Affairs)
http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL_v1
This database includes veterans of various wars (and family members) who are buried in V.A. National Cemeteries, state veterans cemeteries, and other military and Department of Interior cemeteries, or veterans who are buried in private cemeteries when graves are marked with government markers.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – National Graves Registration Database
www.suvcwdb.org/home/
This grave locator database continues to grow with submissions of soldier burial information. Despite the name, this database also includes Confederate burials that have been submitted.

Library Databases

ASCPL subscribes to several databases for genealogical research. *Ancestry Library Edition*, *Footnote* and *Heritage Quest* have collections regarding the Civil War. In *Ancestry*, move the mouse onto the "search" button at the top of the page then click on "card catalog." In the title box, enter "civil war" for a list of databases with those words in the title. In *Footnote*, click on the "browse" button near the search box and then select "Civil War: 1860-1880" to see a listing of all titles included from that period. For books about the Civil War, you can search *Heritage Quest* for digitized books. Select "search books" and then select "publications." Use the advanced publications search to enter keywords, "civil war" or whatever you choose, to identify books with those words in the title or subject fields. *Ancestry Library Edition* is only available in ASCPL agencies whereas *Footnote* and *Heritage Quest* can be accessed through the ASCPL Web site with a library card.

Other Resources

FamilySearch
www.familysearch.org/
FamilySearch provides access to free databases which include some Civil War records. Select "USA, Canada, and Mexico" on the main page. In the search box, use keywords such as "civil war," "union," "confederate," or "soldiers" to identify databases with Civil War-related records. The accessibility of any digitized images varies; you may only need to complete the free registration to view images, or you may be referred to a service like *Footnote* (be sure to access *Footnote* through the library's database subscription list to avoid charges). In addition to database records, the site has a link to the catalog of the Family History Library (FHL) in Utah. Titles that have a "film notes" section in the catalog record may be borrowed from FHL for a small fee through the Special Collections Division.

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The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (AKA *The Official Record* or *"OR"*)
The Official Record contains many volumes of reports, orders, correspondence and other documents from both sides of the war. Access is not limited to searching through the books in Special Collections; *OR* can also be browsed or searched online. These compilations of Civil War documents have been digitized by Cornell University as part of the "Making of America" digital library at
http://digital.library.cornell.edu/m/moawar/waro.html

The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War
This atlas contains 821 maps, 106 engravings, and 209 drawings regarding the Union and Confederate Armies. Drawings of the various uniforms, badges, buttons, flags, weapons and equipment are included in the back. This book can be found on the atlas case in Special Collections.

Civil War Maps – American Memory (Library of Congress)
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil_war_maps/index.html
Browse or search this digitized collection of maps from your PC.

Selected Civil War Photographs – American Memory (Library of Congress)
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphtml/cwphome.html
Over 1,000 photographs of military scenes, military personnel, politicians and cultural figures of the Civil War Era make up this online gallery. Photos can be searched by keyword or browsed by subject. They can also be viewed within a time line presentation.

Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal
The Ohio Genealogical Society publishes this journal with articles regarding Ohio ancestors who participated in the Civil War. Issues can be found in Special Collections, and an online surname index can be accessed at
www.ogs.org/cwc/search_ogsocwgjnmcwc.php.

Civil War Commemorative Events in Summit County

From now through 2015, Summit County will commemorate the 150th anniversary of Ohio's contribution to the Civil War. Be sure to attend these summer events in our community. For more information about events here and throughout the State, visit: www.ohiocivilwar150.org.

June 24, 7 pm
Concert featuring instrumentalist, composer and music historian, Bobby Horton
Happy Days Visitor Center
Summit County Historical Society and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park
www.summithistory.org
www.nps.gov/cuva

June 25, 2 pm
Authentic Civil War Music: A Vocal and Instrumental History Lesson Musical performance by Bobby Horton.
10 am - 2 pm Civil War Encampment
Perkins Stone Mansion
Summit County Historical Society
www.summithistory.org

June 30, 7 - 8 pm
Lee, Jackson, & Longstreet – Traitors All?
Presented by William F.B. Vodrey
G.A.R. Hall Museum, Peninsula
The Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation
www.peninsulahistory.org

July 18, 6:30 - 7:30 pm
An Evening with Billy Yank
Presented by Mark Holbrook.
Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library
Bath Township Historical Society & Friends of Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library
http://bathmuseum.ning.com/

July 24, 2 pm
The Southern Viewpoint Presented by Ed and Sue Curtis of Salisbury, North Carolina
Bath Township Museum

Bath Township Historical Society & Friends of
Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library
http://bathmuseum.ning.com/

July 28, 7 pm
Gettysburg & Its Aftermath
Presented by Carol Zeh
G.A.R. Hall Museum, Peninsula
The Peninsula Valley Historic and Education
Foundation
www.peninsulahistory.org

August 7, 2 pm
Songs of the Civil War Nancy Ganyard will
accompany her talk with music of the era
Bath Township Historical Society & Friends of
Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library
http://bathmuseum.ning.com/

August 12 – 14 , 10 am to 5 pm
Civil War Encampment
Hale Farm & Village
www.wrhs.org/index.php/hale

August 25, 7 - 8 pm.
The Civil War Through the Window of
American Art: 1861-65
Presented Jesse Bryant Wilder
G.A.R. Hall Museum, Peninsula
Peninsula Valley Historic & Education Foundation
www.peninsulahistory.org

Exhibits

Through August 28th:
"Bath Township's Role in the War of the
Rebellion"
Bath Township Museum
Bath Township Historical Society & Friends of
Fairlawn-Bath Branch Library
http://bathmuseum.ning.com/

"Preserving the Union at Home and On the
Battleground"
Summit County Historical Society, Perkins Stone
Mansion. Call 330.535.1120 for more information.

Shall We Have Any Manifestations?

by Mary Plazo, Librarian

It was 160 years ago on the week of June 30th, 1851 that Akron received a visit from two women who were considered the founders of the spiritualist movement: Leah Fox Fish and her sister Margaretta Fox from Hydesville, NY. The Fox family, namely three sisters, Leah, Kate and Margaretta, had become well-known in 1848 for their stories about the mysterious nightly rappings of the spirits of the dead in their home. These rappings were so violent and caused such a ruckus that their neighbors moved out of fear of these spirits. Not only were the neighbors afraid, but the whole town declared the house to be haunted and would not go near the property at night.

The women in the Fox family, mother Mrs. Fox, and two of the sisters, Kate and Margaretta, began communicating with the spirits by creating a code. They would ask these "invisibles" specific questions, and by requesting a specific number of raps in response, they would decipher what the spirits were demanding. Leah, Kate and Margaretta claimed to have received the message from these spirits, "You must proclaim this truth to the world. This is the dawning of a new era. You must not try to conceal it any longer. When you do your duty, God will protect you and good spirits will watch over you." It was with this message that modern spiritualism was born.

The message led the Fox sisters to take their story around the country for paid demonstrations of the powers they possessed. The spirits seemed to follow them everywhere they went and by the time they came to Akron they had become quite famous. They would travel to a city (drawing extremely large crowds) and then take rooms where they could bring in groups of 10 to 14 people at a charge of $1.00 per person. They would have the group sit in a circle, conduct a séance. When the spirits of the dead were manifest, the sisters would ask them questions. Sometimes these séances would take up to three hours before any spirit rappings began.

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As you can imagine, especially during the 1850s, in the early years of this nation and its religious foundations, people claiming to be "mediums," or "spiritualists," promoting their beliefs about the ability to communicate with those in the afterlife were looked upon with much skepticism.

When the Fox sisters visited Akron, it was documented in detail by two skeptical Beacon Journal reporters who decided to try their own tests of observation on these women mediums. "As to the result of the test examination we made personally, when our turn came, we prefer not to speak in detail, further than to say that there was certainly almost a total failure to get correct answers." One reporter stated his experience may have been different than most people when watching the Fox sisters in action: "… we came away more than ever impressed with the conviction that the manifestations, from beginning to end, are the work of collusion and deception: that the whole rapping theory is one of the grossest and boldest frauds ever palmed upon intelligent men."

Despite the opinions of the Beacon Journal reporters, the Fox sisters remained popular with paying audiences for many years. By the late 1880s however, each of the Fox sisters had denounced spiritualism and their talents.

Workshops from Special Collections

Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors
Saturday, June 18, 10 am – noon
Most of us will find immigrant ancestors somewhere in our family tree. Join staff from the Special Collections Division for a discussion of identifying immigrant ancestors and locating passenger lists and naturalization records. As we will be using electronic resources, basic computer skills are recommended. This workshop meets in Computer Lab 1, First Floor, Main Library. For more information and to sign up, contact the Special Collections Division, 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Getting Started in Family History
Tuesday, July 19, 6 – 8 pm
Highland Square Branch Library
Join the Special Collections Division at the Highland Square Branch Library for an introduction to genealogy for new family historians. This session will include an overview of genealogical sources available at the Library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. To sign up, please contact the Highland Square Branch at 330.376.2927.

Getting Started in Family History
Wednesday, July 20, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Green Branch Library
Join the Special Collections Division at the Green Branch Library for an introduction to genealogy for new family historians. This session will include an overview of genealogical sources available at the Library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. To sign up, please contact the Green Branch at 330.896.9074.

Branching Out: Second Steps in Genealogy
Tuesday, July 26, 6 – 8 pm
Highland Square Branch Library
A detailed continuation of *Getting Started in Family History,* this class is geared toward those who have already done some research. Participants will learn what to expect when working with vital records and obituaries and basic search strategies for finding them in both online and traditional sources. To sign up, please contact the Highland Square Branch at 330.376.2927.

Getting Started in Family History
Monday, August 8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Nordonia Hills Branch Library
Join the Special Collections Division at the Nordonia Hills Branch Library for an introduction to genealogy for new family historians. This session will include an overview of genealogical sources available at the Library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. To sign up, please contact the Nordonia Hills Branch at 330.467.8595.

Branching Out: Second Steps in Genealogy
Monday, August 15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Nordonia Hills Branch Library
A detailed continuation of *Getting Started in Family History,* this class is geared toward those who have already done some research. Participants will learn what to expect when working with vital records and obituaries and basic search strategies for finding them in both online and traditional sources. To sign up, please contact the Nordonia Hills Branch at 330.467.8595.

Summit County OGS Meetings

Rutherford B Hayes Presidential Library
Saturday, June 18, at the Rutherford B Hayes Library, Spiegel Grove, Fremont, Ohio
This is a road trip to Fremont, Ohio. A librarian will give us an overview of the holdings and we will have time for individual research. For more information, please contact the chapter at summitogs@yahoo.com.

Annual Cemetery Invasion
Saturday, July 16, at the Northfield Cemetery
The Northfield-Macedonia Cemetery is located at the intersection of Valley View Road and Olde Eight Road south of Northfield. For more information, please contact the chapter at summitogs@yahoo.com.

Summit Memory Update

The Summit Memory Project welcomes our newest partner, the Portage Lakes Historical Society. The society was founded in 1978 to preserve the unique history of the Portage Lakes area which includes Coventry and Franklin Townships as well as the City of Green. Their first contribution, the Edwin Bell Howe Glass Plate Negative Photograph Collection contains 19 images from glass plate negatives which were created in the 1880s. Edwin Bell Howe, a descendent of the well known canal engineer Richard Howe, created these images of the canals and railroads in Summit County.

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

John R. Dixon for historical materials and artifacts pertaining to the Kepler, Harter, and Dixon families.

Michael Groshong for historical and biographical materials about Ellen Brown Hickox Stewart.

David McCann for miscellaneous political memorabilia and correspondence pertaining to the presidential elections of the 1960s and 1970s; Bath, Ohio school photographs and memorabilia.

Dorothy Hayden Miner for music recordings of First Lutheran Church, Norton High School Band, Barberton vocalists, and 1963 Summit County Music Festival.

Summit County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society for the book, *Index to the Portrait and Biographical Record of Portage & Summit Counties, Ohio*, in memory of Frederick Allen Thornton.

Claudia Underhill for historical and biographical materials about Ellen Brown Hickox Stewart.
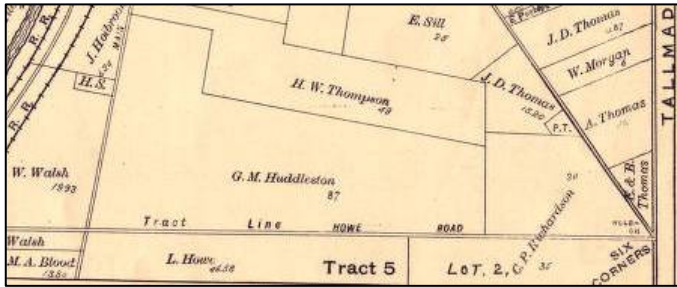
Street and Road Name Origins: Huddleston and Howe Avenues, Cuyahoga Falls

by Jane Gramlich, Librarian

We were once asked if we knew anything about "the old Huddleston place." That's pretty vague, and it took a while to narrow down possible locations and time period. A first answer of "sometime in the 1800s" was honed down to the late 1800s. The 1870 census shows Huddlestons in Richfield and Cuyahoga Falls, and the questioner chose Cuyahoga Falls as the most likely area. After some atlas research, it turns out that the old Huddleston place is now a plaza near Chapel Hill Mall, and one of the entrances to the plaza is called Huddleston Avenue.
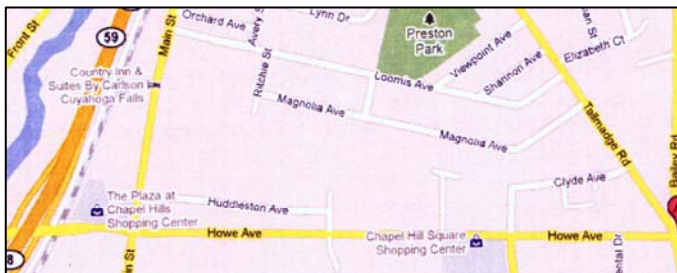
The 1891 atlas *Illustrated Summit County, Ohio* shows G. M. Huddleston as the owner of a large tract of land to the east of Main Street. In addition, it

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shows Lucius Howe as the owner of the land across the road to the south, which by then was already named Howe Road. It's now Howe Avenue in Cuyahoga Falls, but remains Howe Road in Tallmadge. By the 1920s, the Huddlestons' property had been broken up into smaller pieces, some still owned by the family. But nearly a century later, it's a much different story.

*1891 atlas: **Illustrated Summit County, Ohio** shows the Huddleston property at the corner of Main Street and Howe Road in 1891. A digital copy of this atlas is available through the Online Map Room collection of Summit Memory.*

So the next time you head into PetSmart, Best Buy or Target near Chapel Hill, give a thought to the old Huddlestons who once farmed the land under your feet!

Google map: The "old Huddleston place" today, with Huddleston Ave leading to a plaza near Chapel Hill Mall. The street layout clearly matches the old property lines.

New to the Collection

Alabama
1907 Confederate census: Limestone, Morgan & Madison counties
Butler County probate minutes index, 1853-1933
Butler County tract book, 1817-1860
History of Coosa County
History of Limestone County
Index to records of McConnell & Spry Funeral Homes [Limestone Co.]
Index to deeds, 1818-1900 [Limestone Co.]
Index to the earliest wills & estates of Pickens Co.
Index to the Limestone Co. Jail registers, 1881-1947
Index to wills, 1823-1900 [Limestone Co.]
Lawrence County birth register, 1881-1900
Lawrence County marriages, 1818-1902. Bride and groom indexes.
Lawrence County marriages, 1903-1947. Bride and groom indexes.
Limestone County marriages: 1818-1918 Brides.
Mortality schedules, Limestone Co.: 1850-1880
Rainey Funeral Home records, 1917-1982 [Limestone Co.]
Register of births, Limestone Co: July 1881-1898
Registry of deaths, Limestone County: 1881-1898
Slave abstracts from Will Book III [Limestone Co.]

Connecticut
A short directory of the names, past and current, of Connecticut boroughs, cities, towns & unincorporated sections

Georgia
Early marriages, Troup County, 1828-1900
Ebert County deaths: 1873-1918
Family, church & community cemeteries of Troup County
Green County deaths: 1860-1918
McDuffie County deaths: 1872-1935
McDuffie County marriages: 1870-1919
Memories in marble: Hill View and Hill View Annex cemeteries, La Grange [Troup Co.]
Taliaferro County deaths: 1877-1921
Wilkes County deaths: 1805-1925

Akron-Summit County
Public Library

Kentucky

Adair County marriages, 1869-1879: information from marriage books 6-10

Jessamine County will book abstracts, 1800-1834

Maryland

"Drinks hard and swears much": white Maryland runaways, 1770-1774

Windows on Frederick: a glimpse into Frederick's historic past

Massachusetts

The town cemeteries and gravestones of Hadley [Hampshire Co.]

Twenty families of color in Massachusetts, 1742-1998

Michigan

Births & deaths for Gratiot County: 1867-70

Marriage records for Gratiot County, 1855-70

Naturalization index: Gratiot County

St. Louis city directory for 1937

Mississippi

1871-1873, school children, Alcorn Co.

Alcorn County, 1870-2002

Alcorn County cemeteries

Book I: the people, Chickasaw County, 1836-1852

Book II: the land owners, Chickasaw Co., 1836-52

Book III: Land patents, Calhoun Co.

Marriage records: Chickasaw County, 1858 to 1900

Paupers' burial records, 1857-1862

New York

Katsbaan Reformed Church, 1800-1839 [Ulster Co.]

North Carolina

North Carolina-South Carolina Bible records

Ohio

Bath Township cemeteries [Summit Co.]

Birth affidavits in Athens County probate court

Cleveland's towering treasure: a landmark turns 75

Crawford County wills

Early days in Peninsula: 53 articles by Fred W. Bishop, 1945-1954

Euclid Avenue: Cleveland's sophisticated lady, 1920-1970

A Euclid Beach Park album

Founded in faith: Cleveland's lost Catholic legacy

Glendale Cemetery burial records, vol. II [Summit Co.]

The First Baptist Church of New Lisbon, 1806-1825 [Columbiana Co.]

Highpoint articles on Summit County, townships

Historical atlas illustrated, 1876 [Defiance Co.]

History of Coalton and Coal Township: a town with more future than past [Jackson Co.]

In remembrance of me: our 165th year…Grace United Church of Christ [Summit Co.]

Lodi Township cemeteries: Athens County

Loyal Oak, Norton, OH

Memories [Dublin]

King Midget [Athens Co.]

Mount Hope Cemetery [Summit Co.]

Middletown Cemetery veteran burials [Butler Co.]

New Floodwood [Athens Co.]

Only in Peninsula: a collection of fond memories of an Ohio village

Our frontier, 1800-1860: and the birth of our town Ashley, 1849 [Delaware Co.]

Outlying cemeteries of Crawford County

St. Stephen's Cemetery, Hamilton: German Catholic burials, 1876-1899 [Butler Co.]

The Silent Men [Summit Co.]

Vintage Cleveland: photographs of yesteryear

What we wore: an exhibit catalog celebrating 150 years of Summit County costume

Wicked Akron: tales of rumrunners, mobsters and other Rubber City rogues

Pennsylvania

Burials in Waterford Cemetery, Waterford, Erie Co.

The cemeteries of Boggs Township, Centre County

The cemeteries of Burnside and Snow Shoe townships, Centre County

The cemeteries of College Township, Centre Co.

The cemeteries of Curtin, Howard and Liberty townships, Centre County

The cemeteries of Gregg Township, Centre County

The cemeteries of Haines Township, Centre County

The cemeteries of Half Moon and Patton townships, Centre County

The cemeteries of Huston, Taylor, Union and Worth townships, Centre County

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Pennsylvania (continued)

The cemeteries of Marion and Walker townships, Centre County
The cemeteries of Miles Township, Centre County
The cemeteries of Penn Township, Centre County
The cemeteries of Potter Township, Centre County
Cemetery records of Lancaster County
Centre County death records: 1852-1854 1893-1905
Centre County newspaper death notices, 1821-1869
Early Pennsylvania births, 1675-1875
German Protestant Cemetery of Mahanoy Township, Schuylkill County
Lycoming County cemeteries
Marriages and deaths from the Cambria Tribune
Marriages, Centre County , Pennsylvania: 1800-85
Names of foreigners who took the Oath of Allegiance to the province and state of Pennsylvania, 1727-1755: with foreign arrivals, 1786-1808
Sandyvale Cemetery, Johnstown: a recreation of burials, 1850-1906
Schuylkill County coroners' inquest records
Schuylkill County death records
Tombstone inscriptions: Luzerne County

Virginia

The Accomack County birth register, 1853-1896
The Accomack County death register, 1853-1896
Amherst County families and history: compiled from Henry Hardesty's Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia
The Amherst County story: a Virginia saga
Cemeteries of City of Poquoson and some cemeteries of York County
Fauquier County register of free Negroes, 1817-65
Gravestone inscriptions in Amherst County
Hollywood Cemetery: the history of a Southern Shrine [Richmond]
Norfolk registry of free Negroes, 1835-1861: abstracts
Northumberland County church records of births and deaths, 1650-1810
The history of Virginia's navy of the Revolution

West Virginia

Birth records of Roane County. 14 vols.
Birth records of Roane County, 1960s - May 2008

Cemeteries of Roane County. 5 vols.
Cemetery reading, McElroy District, Tyler County
City directory, Spencer, 1927 [Roane Co.]
Complete index to the 11-book set for declaration of intent for naturalization, 1854 through 1907, Wheeling
The founders of Roane County
Obituaries, 1905-1949 [Roane County]
Roane County marriages, 1967-1977
Roane County marriages, 1977-1987
Roane County out-of-county deaths
Sellers Funeral Home, Middlebourne, 1934-1948 [Tyler Co.]
Telephone directory of the Citizens Telephone Co.: of Spencer and nearby places
Tyler County death records, 1853 through 1899
Wirt County: history and biographies

Jews

Jews and Judaism in a midwestern community: Columbus, Ohio, 1840-1970-
1992 family portrait album [Columbus Jewish Historical Society]

Military

African American voices from Iwo Jima: personal accounts of the battle
Citizen soldiers: 107th Cavalry Regiment, Ohio National Guard
Pennsylvania voices of the Great War: letters, stories and oral histories of World War I
Red Guidon: "Soixante Quinze": being a complete illustrated history of B Battery, 134th Field Artillery from 1915-1919
Report to the Congress of the United States: a review of the restrictions on persons of Italian ancestry during World War II
Resolutions, laws and ordinances relating to the pay, half pay, …
A view from the ranks: the Civil War diaries of Charles E. Smith
Whistling death: the test pilot's story of the F4U Corsair
Women in the Civil War: extraordinary stories of soldiers, spies, nurses, doctors, crusaders and others

Reference

Colonists in bondage: white servitude and convict labor in American, 1607-1776

A graveyard preservation primer

The Family Tree sourcebook: your essential directory of American county and town records

George Washington's America: a biography through his maps

Family History

The descendants of Samuel Babb and other family members

Descendants of Jacob & Elizabeth Bolich

Kansas heritage

Growing up in Frederick in the early years of the 20th century: recollections of an octogenarian

The journey takers

Native Americans

Cherokee citizenship commission dockets

Canada

Destination Canada: a genealogical guide to immigration records

The history of Stanstead County, Province of Quebec: with sketches of more than five hundred families

Germany

German mercenary expatriates in the United States and Canada

New homes in a new land: German immigrants to Texas, 1857-1861

Great Britain

Air Force records: a guide for family historians

First World War Army service records: a guide for family historians

Ireland

An alphabetical index to Ulster emigration to Philadelphia, 1803-1850

The Irish in America: immigration, land, probate administrations, birth, marriage and burial records of the Irish in America, 18th c.

Irish wills and testaments in Great Britain, 1600-1700

Tombstones of Ireland: counties Down and Roscommon

Scandinavia

Scandinavian immigrants in New York, 1630-1674

Scotland

As others see us: Scots of the Seaway Valley

Directory of Scots banished to the American plantations, 1650-1775

Scottish genealogy

Ships from Scotland to North Amrical, 1830-1860

Switzerland

List of Swiss emigrants in the 18th century to the American colonies

The Akron-Summit County Public Library Special Collections Division is located on the third floor of the Main Library.

Contact Special Collections:

By telephone:
330.643.9030

By mail:
Special Collections
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60 S. High Street
Akron, Ohio 44326

By e-mail:
speccollections@akronlibrary.org

Akron-Summit County
Public Library

Explore Akron History Hike: Downtown Akron

Step back in time and explore Akron's rich history on foot, from canal era to the City of Invention and beyond. Join Naturalist Maureen McGinty and Charlotte Gintert from the Summit County Historical Society on Thursday, June 23, 6:15 pm. at Lock 3 Park, 200 S. Main St., Akron. The hike along the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath will highlight notable people and important events that shaped our community," said McGinty. "Traveling on foot provides a unique perspective for those interested in the area's rich history."

Parking on the street and in city lots is free after 6 pm. Registration is required and begins June 13. Call 330.865.8065 for more information or to register.

Genealogy Classes offered at ASCPL Branches!

Librarians from Special Collections will be presenting some of our genealogy classes at Akron-Summit County Public Library branches this summer. **Getting Started in Family History** will be held at the Highland Square Branch on July 19, the Green Branch on July 20 and the Nordonia Hills Branch on August 8. **Branching Out: Second Steps in Genealogy** will be held at the Highland Square Branch on July 26 and at the Nordonia Hills Branch on August 15. Please contact the appropriate branch library to sign up.

Akron-Summit County
Public Library