# 'This Could Take a While'

OhioDIG Meeting March 31, 2014

http://digital.lib.MiamiOH.edu/postcards



Marcus Ladd Special Collections Librarian

### **Collection Overview**

#### **Donors**

- ■Charles Shields (1986)
- ■Clyde Bowden (2001)
- ■Charles Murphy (?)

#### **Previous Work**

- Interest by professors
- Applied for grant to catalog



### Storage

- ■Estimated 480,000 cards in total
- ■About 300,000 from Bowden
- Sorting done by the donors



### Pilot Project, Summer 2013

Timeline: 2 months

#### **Resources:**

- 1. Epson flatbed scanner
- 2. CONTENTdm Project Client
- 3. 1 part-time student (10 hours/week)

#### Goals:

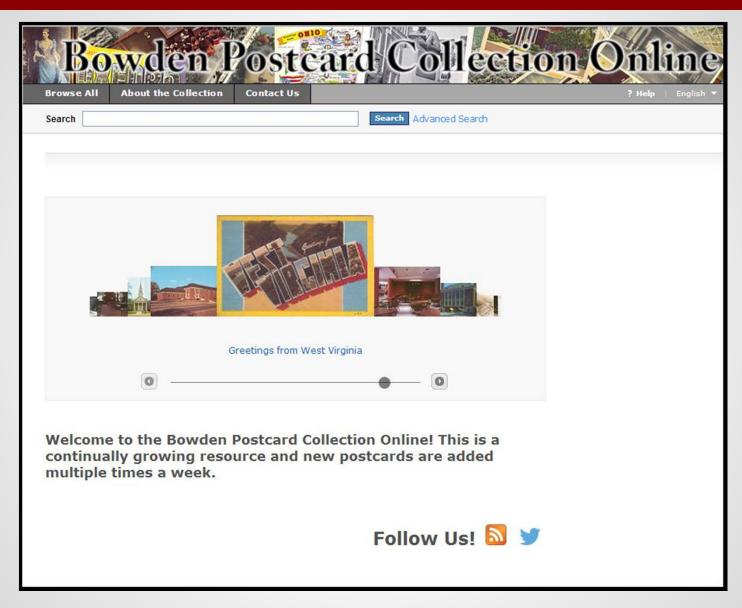
- 1. Establish workflow
- 2. Create demo collection
- 3. Determine viability of project

#### **Results:**

- 1. ~500 postcards online
- 2. Workflow streamlined
- 3. Yes it's viable BUT...



### **Bowden Postcard Collection Online**



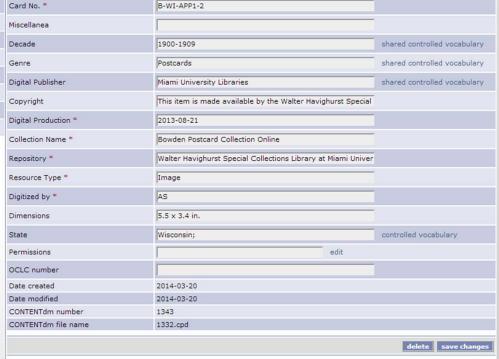
http://digital.lib.MiamiOH.edu/postcards

#### Metadata

Problems	trouble determining recipient's address	
Title *	4th Ward School	
Caption (front)	4th Ward School, Appleton, Wis.	
Caption (back)		
Message	Hello how are you? Love from Martha	
Subject *	Schools; Historic buildings; Steeples	controlled vocabulary
Location	WisconsinAppleton	
Street Address		
Photographer		controlled vocabulary
Printer	Souvenir Post Card Co.	controlled vocabulary
Publisher		controlled vocabulary
Date Printed		
Period	Divided Back Period, 1905-1915;	controlled vocabulary
Language	English	
Date Postmarked	1907-08-28	
Postage *	Yes	
Recipient's Name	Sand, Sophie	
Recipient's Address	Eockbart Wis	

Sample Metadata Record. See 'Metadata Guidelines' document for details on each field (see note). Printer and Publisher guides are also available through the links in the notes.

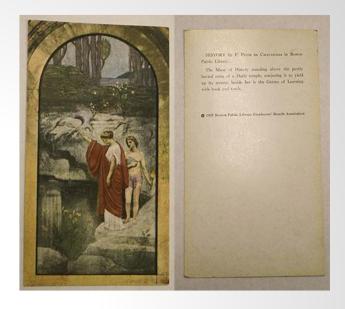
The 'Guidelines' document lists which fields are hidden - some, like 'Digitized by' are purely administrative'. Others, like 'Recipient's Address' may be used for future projects. Note that 'Recipient's Name' is to help complete the 'Address' field which is sometimes incomplete or hard to read - I have no plans to ever include this as part of the public site.



## **Early Lessons**

# **Quality Control**







**Adaptability** 

## **Two Steps Forward, One Step Back**



## **Metadata Revisions**

Caption (front) AshtabuLAO, Ohio

## Rescanning



## **Student-Powered Digitization**

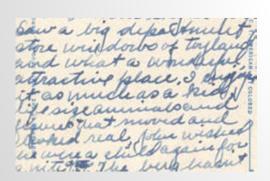
## Communication

Subject

Parlors Drawing rooms Furniture Fireplaces Problems

Some of the message is unclear

## **Expectations**





# **Experience**

### **Spreading the Word**

### Follow Us! 🔕 🄰





@bowdenpostcards

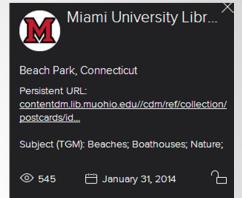
@miamiulibraries

After joining the Flickr Commons, monthly views of the CONTENT collection increased by ~25% ...

...to 1,600 page views in a month.

Our Flickr account sees ~20,000 views a day.









Help us extend a very warm welcome to #TheCommons on Flickr to @miamiulibraries! bit.ly/1fWXJvU





# **Crowd-Sourcing?**

# Mapping







