

# PRESERVATION OF THE LITERATURE OF AGRICULTURE: WASHINGTON STATE

Final Report: June 2008  
University of Washington Libraries

## BUDGET

All grant money was spent except for \$344.53. We spent less on staffing and travel and 8% more on microfilming than originally proposed. We also secured \$26,663.31 in additional funding for several related projects – see additional grant funding section below.

|                                       | Budgeted         | Spent               |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| <b>For Phase VI budget, \$131,555</b> |                  |                     |
| Microfilming                          | \$72,722         | \$78,865.49         |
| Salaries and wages                    | \$45,616         | \$40,523.76         |
| Benefits                              | \$10,772         | \$10,841.68         |
| Travel                                | \$2,445          | \$979.54            |
|                                       |                  |                     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>\$131,555</b> | <b>\$131,210.47</b> |

## STAFFING

Stephanie Lamson supervised the microfilming portion of the project with the assistance of Esther Benson. Gary Menges served as project manager while Stephanie was on maternity leave.

We were very fortunate to have Esther Benson and two students, Emily Thompson and Jennifer Baillie, work nearly the entire two years of the project. They did not have previous microfilming experience but they gained considerable expertise over the course of the project. We were also fortunate to be able to increase Esther's and Jennifer's hours near the conclusion of the project as well as hire two additional students, Maddie Rauzi and Brendan Lax. This allowed us to catch up on quality control while continuing to send out material for microfilming during the last two quarters. I am very thankful to Gary and Esther for their additional help while I was on maternity leave. And I am especially grateful to Esther, Emily, Jennifer, Maddie, and Brendan for their patience and diligence near the end of the project. They persevered and carefully photocopied a very large number of missing pages from unwieldy, oversize volumes on

loan in order to film *Timberman* complete and then waded through a substantial backlog of microfilm quality control in order to finish the project.

## **MICROFILMING**

A total of 61 book titles (63 volumes) and 9 serial titles (148 volumes) were filmed in Phase VI of the grant. This amounted to 95,254 frames. Thirty duplicate service copies were also created for libraries who loaned us materials. Another 37 book titles (37 volumes) and 21 serial titles (500 volumes) were filmed earlier as part of the Phase V budget extension. This amounted to an additional 44,485 frames.

Combining both Phase V and Phase VI of the grant, a total of 128 titles (30 serial titles, 98 book titles, 748 volumes, 278,000+ pages) were microfilmed. We exceeded our original goal of filming 20 serials and 50 books (an estimated total of 250,000 pages).

Approximately 60% of the books ranked most important for preservation were microfilmed. Most books filmed were from the University of Washington Libraries Special Collections including:

Ezra Meeker's *Hop Culture* (1883), Arthur Denny's *Pioneer Days on Puget Sound* (1888), Enoch Albert's *Historical Sketch of the State College of Washington, 1890-1925* (1928), *Save the Columbia River Salmon* (1924), Hugo Winkenwerder's *Forestry in the Pacific Northwest* (1928) and Guy Williams' *Logger-talk* (1930).

Approximately 25% of the serials ranked most important for preservation were microfilmed. This included many serial titles important to both Washington State and the Pacific Northwest: *Northwest Science* (1927-1947), *Research Studies of the State College of Washington* (1929-1959), *Northwest Fruit Grower* (1929-1939), *Better Fruit* (1906-1967), *Ranch* (1894-1914), *Pacific Fisherman* (1903-1966), *Timberman* (1899-1962), *University of Washington Publications in Fisheries* (1925-1929), *Puget Sound Marine Station Publications* (1915-1931), *University of Washington Forest Club Annual* (1913-1950/1951), and *Washington (State) Fire Warden Report of the State Fire Warden* (1905-1954/1956) among others. While most of these titles were held at least in part by the University of Washington Libraries, a few had to be gathered entirely from other libraries.

In addition, all UW theses in forestry and fisheries completed before 1931 were microfilmed.

We were very happy with the microfilming done by OCLC Preservation Service Center. Brad Boer and Erica Dreabit worked very hard to accommodate our needs, particularly filming the vast majority of the largest title, *Timberman*, in the last two quarters of the grant.

We found the microfilming of popular journals such as *Pacific Fisherman*, *Timberman*, and *Better Fruit* challenging on two fronts. First, these titles were often incomplete (see loan section below) and second, they were heavily illustrated. All three titles were filled with grayscale images of tools, machinery, and people growing and harvesting agricultural products, as well as images of the products themselves (in this case, fish, trees/lumber, and fruit). In part, these titles were important to preserve because they recorded this information created for the fisherman, lumberman, and fruit farmer both textually and visually.

After doing test reels of both high-contrast and continuous tone film (CTF), we decided to use CTF since the image quality was superior. Once filming began, we discovered that the combination of glossy paper and bright CTF lights caused more glare than expected. To successfully capture the information, we had to cut strings or disbind many of the volumes filmed using CTF. Fortunately, in most cases, we already had or were able to acquire a second copy of the title for filming. Nonetheless, the microfilming process would have gone much more quickly if we had been aware of this problem in the beginning.

As of June 30, 2008, sixteen reels have not been quality controlled and another 22 reels are at OCLC for corrections. We expect to easily complete this work by the end of September using our regular staff. All other reels were quality controlled frame-by-frame.

## **CATALOGING**

About half of the titles have been cataloged (62 of 128); nearly all of the uncataloged titles are from six reels of UW theses. We expect to complete cataloging of all titles by the end of September. The serials cataloging unit has been a great help prospectively cataloging titles and carefully documenting the multiple title changes of some of our more complicated serials such as *Report of the State Fire Warden* (1905-1954/1956) with five title changes and *Ranch* (1894-1914) with four title changes. All cataloging was contributed at no cost to the project.

## **LOANS, GIFTS, AND FILMING TITLES COMPLETE**

The greatest challenge of this project was securing loans of material for microfilming. In many instances, no single library had a complete run of a title. We went to great lengths to film titles in their entirety so that the entire run was preserved and users can now access the complete title in one location. For several titles, we collected the last two or three copies known to exist.

As mentioned above, securing complete sets of popular journal titles, especially *Pacific Fisherman* and *Timberman*, was particularly challenging. We found our copies often lacked front and back covers as well as advertisements since removing these was a routine binding practice. This was especially the case for *Timberman*; each issue was missing 20-40 pages of ads and these were clearly significant in documenting the logging and forestry industry in the Pacific Northwest. Since most other libraries also routinely removed covers and advertisements when binding during this period, we found it very difficult to locate complete issues.

Finding and arranging loans of material was both difficult and time-consuming but it was rewarding to gather these scarce and scattered issues and titles together for preservation. We hope our users will appreciate our efforts to gather the most complete copies possible. In several instances the microfilm copy will be the most complete copy available at any one institution.

While we had anticipated relying heavily on Washington State University for loans of material, we found that we had to make many other special arrangements.

Many thanks are due to the following individuals and institutions for their assistance in loaning materials:

Barb Grayson and Heidi Nance, UW Libraries Interlibrary Loan  
Cindy Kaag and Jill Palmer, Washington State University Libraries  
May Chau and Cheryl Middleton, Oregon State University Library  
Dona Bubelis and Martin Burgess, Seattle Public Library  
Joanne Halgren and interlibrary loan staff, University of Oregon Libraries  
Laurie Fortier and Kathryn Hamilton-Wang, Washington State Library  
Joe Wible, Miller Library of Marine Biology, Stanford University

We are especially grateful to:

Shawna Gandy, Oregon Historical Society Research Library, who kindly sent us countless copies of *Timberman* pages we lacked as well as loaning us a few *Timberman* volumes. Without her assistance, we would not have been able to film *Timberman* complete.

Rose Krause, Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture (NWMAC), for donating 25 bound volumes of *Ranch* and *Washington Farmer* for microfilming and addition to UW Special Collections. Rose has also graciously offered to donate additional volumes of *Washington Farmer* for our upcoming grant projects.

Dan Lech, National Agricultural Library (NAL), for donating several titles for which we had incomplete holdings including *Ranch*, *Washington Farmer*, *Cooperator*, *Wenatchee Fruit Grower*, *Northwest Fruit Grower*, and *Timberman*. These titles were microfilmed and/or added to our Special Collections. Without Dan's help, we would not have been able to film several titles in their entirety.

A total of 212 serial volumes were donated to the UW Libraries by NAL and NWMAC for the project.

While most titles were filmed complete, some missing pages and issues for some early Washington State titles simply do not seem to exist. We plan to post a list of pages and issues we lack on the Washington State NEH-USAIN website with the hopes that an individual or small organization may have the holdings we lack.

### **ADDITIONAL FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT**

We received additional funding to support our work on the NEH-USAIN project from several sources.

#### **Conservation**

Project staff spent considerable time stabilizing materials prior to microfilming. We soon realized that we would need to purchase a significant number of boxes for volumes damaged, disbound, or acquired during the project. We received an internal grant of \$4,663.31 to support the purchase of boxes and approximately half of the estimated 235 volumes were boxed as of June 30, 2008.

#### **Shipping**

Originally OCLC Preservation Service Center in Lacey, WA provided pick-up services for the NEH-USAIN materials as part of our microfilming contract. After the filmer was involved in an accident that totaled his car, OCLC was no longer able to provide delivery. In order to cover this additional unexpected expense, we received an internal grant of \$2,000 to cover shipping costs.

#### **External grants to support filming of *Washington Farmer***

While we were able to film *Ranch*, we ran out of NEH-USAIN funds before we were able to film a significant portion of the later title, *Washington Farmer*. *Washington Farmer* (1914-1971) is an essential record of Washington State agricultural history and rural life, but it is extremely fragile and difficult to handle without causing further damage. It is so brittle that even one use can cause pages to break and lead to information being lost.

In late June 2008, we received two grants to film additional volumes of *Washington Farmer*:

- a \$15,000 Washington State Library Competitive Preservation Grant
- a \$5,000 Friends of the U.W. Libraries Award

These two grants will allow us to microfilm at least through 1914-1945 of *Washington Farmer*. We hope to continue to build upon the NEH-USAIN grant project in the future.

## **AVAILABILITY OF MATERIALS AND PUBLICITY**

The UW Libraries will make all microfilms created in this project available in the Microforms and Newspapers Collections as well as through interlibrary loan. Duplicate service copies can be ordered at <http://www.lib.washington.edu/mcnews/duplication/request.html>

We have begun work on a project website and plan to have it finished Fall 2008. At that time we will broadly announce the availability of both the bibliographies and the completed microfilm to institutions and organizations in the region, including: Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest at the University of Washington, Pacific Northwest Historians Guild, Museum of History & Industry, Washington State Historical Society, Washington State Grange, Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, Center for Columbia River History, and Oregon Historical Society.

Although our efforts to publicize the project at this point have been minimal, we were contacted by one researcher investigating barns in Washington State for historic preservation. She thanked us profusely for a copy of the agricultural bibliography and commented that it saved her an enormous amount of time.

Submitted by  
Stephanie Lamson  
Asst. Preservation Librarian  
University of Washington Libraries