

2016 Awards, Washington Rural Heritage Grants

Washington Rural Heritage (WRH) is a Washington State Library program supporting public and tribal libraries in the development of online digital collections of historically significant materials. Primary candidate institutions are those without the means to digitize and serve online such items without outside support. The initiative encourages collaborative efforts between libraries and community partners (e.g., museums, genealogy societies, schools, etc.).

Explore the collection at www.washingtonruralheritage.org

Total Requested: \$34,819

Total Awarded: \$24,819

Organization: Fort Vancouver Regional Library, Goldendale Community Library

Award: \$5,000.00

Abstract: The Goldendale Community Library will partner with the Klickitat County Historical Society (KCHS) to digitize items pertaining to the history of Goldendale and Klickitat County, primarily from KCHS's collection of historic photographs depicting Klickitat County history and culture, a research collection housed in the Presby Museum. The project will also seek to digitize privately held (family) collections from the surrounding community.

Organization: North Olympic Library System, Port Angeles Public Library

Award: \$5,000.00

Abstract: The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) proposes to continue the work to digitize, catalog, and, in conjunction with the Forks Timber Museum and with educators and student researchers of Washington State History Day, promote the Bert Kellogg Collection. Consisting of over 5,000 images dating from the mid-1800s through the 1970s, the Kellogg Collection documents social, cultural, and historical events; landscapes; and peoples of Clallam County. Through previous grant cycles and supplementary funding, over 4,000 images have been scanned; during this grant cycle, staff will prioritize, scan, research, and catalog images from the remaining 411 to be digitized, which primarily document logging activities in the region.

Organization: Whitman County Library

Award: \$3,870

Abstract: Whitman County Library will partner with three local organizations, along with families and individuals to digitize photographs of historic significance while adding a brand new collection that is most timely to our region. WCL will digitize items from the Tekoa Museum, The Perkins House in Colfax, and The MacGregor store in Hooper, while the new collection will highlight the former St. Ignatius Hospital along with a variety of historic photographs related to medical care across Whitman County. This last collection is particularly significant in light of the former hospital being listed on Washington's 10 most endangered

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historic properties in 2015 and the community's enthusiastic interest in saving the structure and its history, of which little has been previously gathered.

Organization: Whatcom County Library System, Sumas branch

Award: \$4,997

Abstract: The Sumas Library and the newly formed Sumas Historical Society will gather and preserve many original photographs and documents provided by members of the community, which is celebrating its 125th birthday. The library will digitally document the uniqueness of a small United States border town and its shared history with its neighbors in the Canadian Confederation.

Organization: Whatcom County Library System, Deming branch

Award: \$2,432

Abstract: The Deming Library, a branch of the Whatcom County Library System, will add a new complementary collection to its Washington Rural Heritage - Mt. Baker Foothills page with the Hellyer Galbraith Historic Collection. Melinda Hellyer, daughter of amateur photographer Clare Hellyer, will work closely with Deming staff to catalogue at least 100 of her father's photos, letters and articles documenting a pioneer family's life in the Acme area beginning in the early 1900s, as well as conduct a video interview with the oldest living Hellyer relative, Rhodes Galbraith. This will complement the Nessel Family Photo collection, our premier installation on the Mount Baker Foothills page, by showing a parallel and related history just up the valley.

Organization: Asotin County Library

Award: \$3,520

Abstract: Asotin County Library will be cooperating with the Asotin County Public Utility District (PUD) to digitize (vet, scan, optimize, upload into ContentDM, and catalog) a minimum of 125 photographs and documents which are particularly relevant to the early development of Asotin County because development of the water system is what enabled successful agriculture and a habitable community. We will also be working with Rick Wasem, who is a descendent of F.W. Dustan, a founder of Clarkston, and Weldon Wasem, one of the earliest businessmen in the community, to digitize his family photograph collection.