

2015-16 Project Final Report
Digitization of Water Resources Archive Materials
Funded by the Colorado Water Conservation Board
April 6, 2016
Colorado State University Water Resources Archive

Upon receiving a CWCB grant of \$25,000 to be spent by June 30, 2016, the Water Resources Archive digitized a selection of its historical materials. Of highest priority were documents related to groundwater research and administration in Colorado, irrigation, river compacts, and significant litigation in any of these areas.

Goals as stated in the Scope of Work (June 19, 2015):

- Digitize ~16,500 pages/items from collections in the Water Resources Archive
 - Assign metadata to the materials at the item/folder level as appropriate
 - Make the digital objects and metadata available through the CSU Libraries' Digital Repository
 - Link to the digital objects from the collections' finding aids
- Publicity of achievements in various venues
- Progress reports at 6-month intervals and/or project completion

Achievements:

- The Archive used the \$25,000 to digitize **17,750 total** pages/items:
 - 17,033 total pages of paper
 - 717 total photographs and glass plate negatives
- Selected and digitized materials from **8** collections, including:
 - Consolidated Home Supply Ditch and Reservoir Company Records
 - Irrigation Research Papers
 - Delph E. Carpenter and Family Papers
 - Robert E. Glover Papers
 - Arthur L. Littleworth Papers
 - Frank Milenski Papers
 - James L. Ogilvie Papers
 - Everett V. Richardson Papers
- Material types selected include ledgers, data, indices, administrative records, research notes, correspondence, diaries, meeting minutes, conference proceedings, photographs, and glass plate negatives
- Created the appropriate level of metadata for all materials
- Uploaded digital objects and metadata into the CSU Libraries' Digital Repository
- Linked digital objects to collections' finding aids
- Promoted digitized materials through various newsletters and other targeted efforts

Of special note:

- **424 glass plate negatives** from the Irrigation Research Papers
 - Images were created for and used by **Ralph Parshall** and his team (inventors of the Parshall flume) at the USDA in the **1910-1930** timeframe
 - Depict flume, water-meter, evaporation and other studies at the USDA facilities in Bellvue and Fort Collins, as well as reservoirs and ditches across the state
 - Fragile media now protected from patron handling since they are digitally available
 - Represents only about **10%** of the total images in the collection
 - A great resource for anyone looking for historic irrigation-related photos
 - **Explore** at: <https://dspace.library.colostate.edu/handle/10217/171435>
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As always, the Water Resources Archive welcomes the opportunity to make a presentation to the CWCB about the results their funding has achieved.

See the materials through the CSU Libraries' Digital Repository:

- <https://dspace.library.colostate.edu/> (home page; click through "Colorado State University, Fort Collins" and "CSU Archives and Special Collections" links to get to Water Resources Archive)

See the materials through the Water Resources Archive finding aids:

- <http://lib.colostate.edu/archives/water/collections.html>

Search for materials from the Water Resources Archive home page:

- <http://lib.colostate.edu/archives/water/>
- Choose "Online documents and images"