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# Creative Collaboration: Maximizing Resources for Multi-collection Exhibits

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# **CREATIVE COLLABORATION:**

## **MAXIMIZING RESOURCES FOR MULTI-COLLECTION EXHIBITS**



**1913 DAYTON FLOOD**  
UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON LIBRARIES





■ **LOW BUDGET, SMALL-SCALE EXHIBITS  
CAN BE SUCCESSFUL!**

■ **COLLABORATION AND  
RESOURCE SHARING**

■ **PROACTIVE VS. REACTIVE**



A sepia-toned historical photograph of a street scene. On the left, a crowd of people in early 20th-century attire stands along the sidewalk. In the background, there are several buildings, including a two-story house with a chimney and a building with a small tower. A horse-drawn carriage is visible on the right side of the street. The overall scene suggests a public event or exhibition.

## **LOW BUDGET, SMALL-SCALE EXHIBITS CAN BE SUCCESSFUL!**

- It's the content that matters
- Find ways to work with the space and resources you have
- Work around your challenges

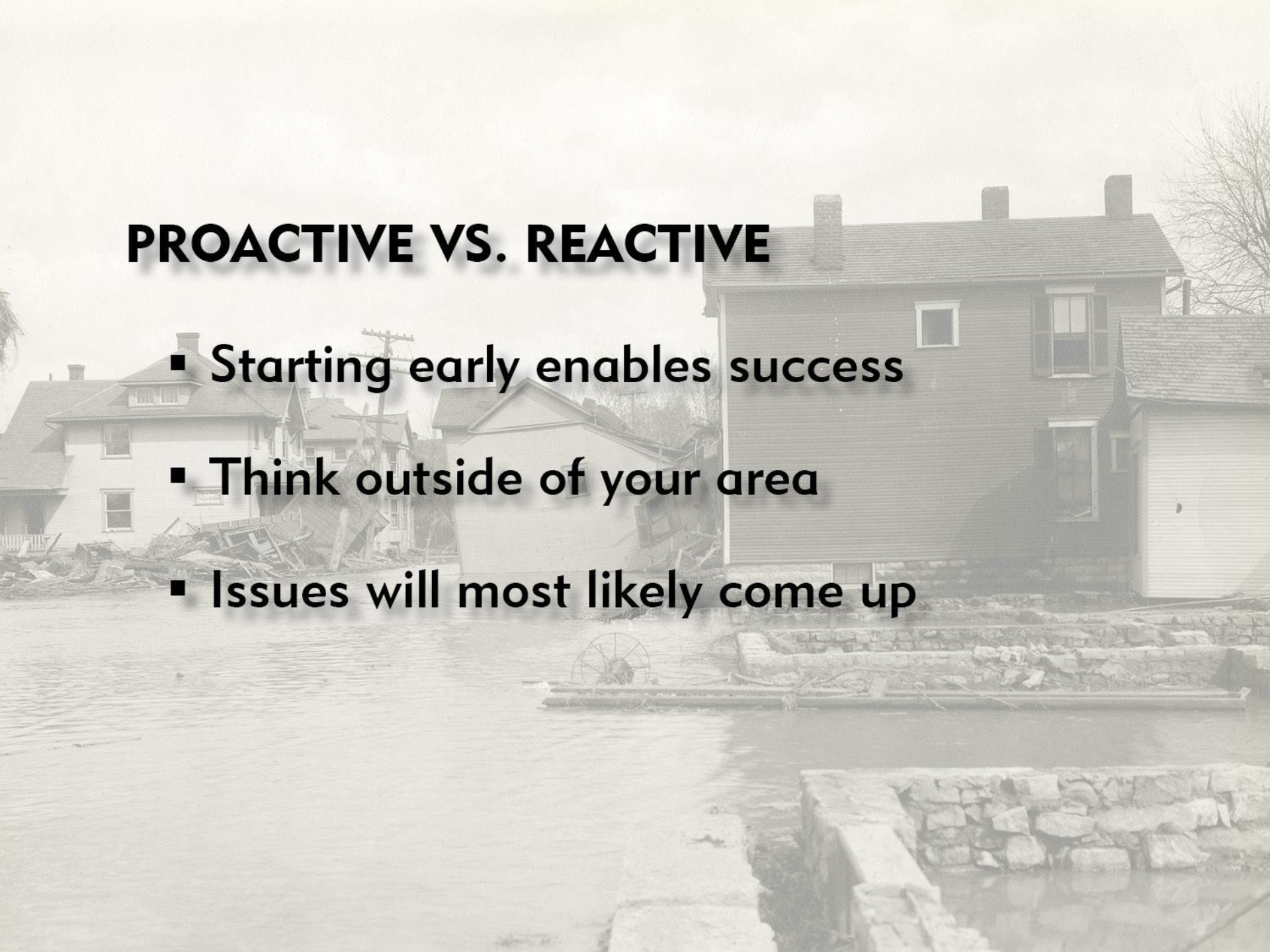


# **COLLABORATION AND RESOURCE SHARING**

- The work is divided and manageable
- Expertise and resources from different areas
- The collaborative process facilitates a creative approach

# PROACTIVE VS. REACTIVE

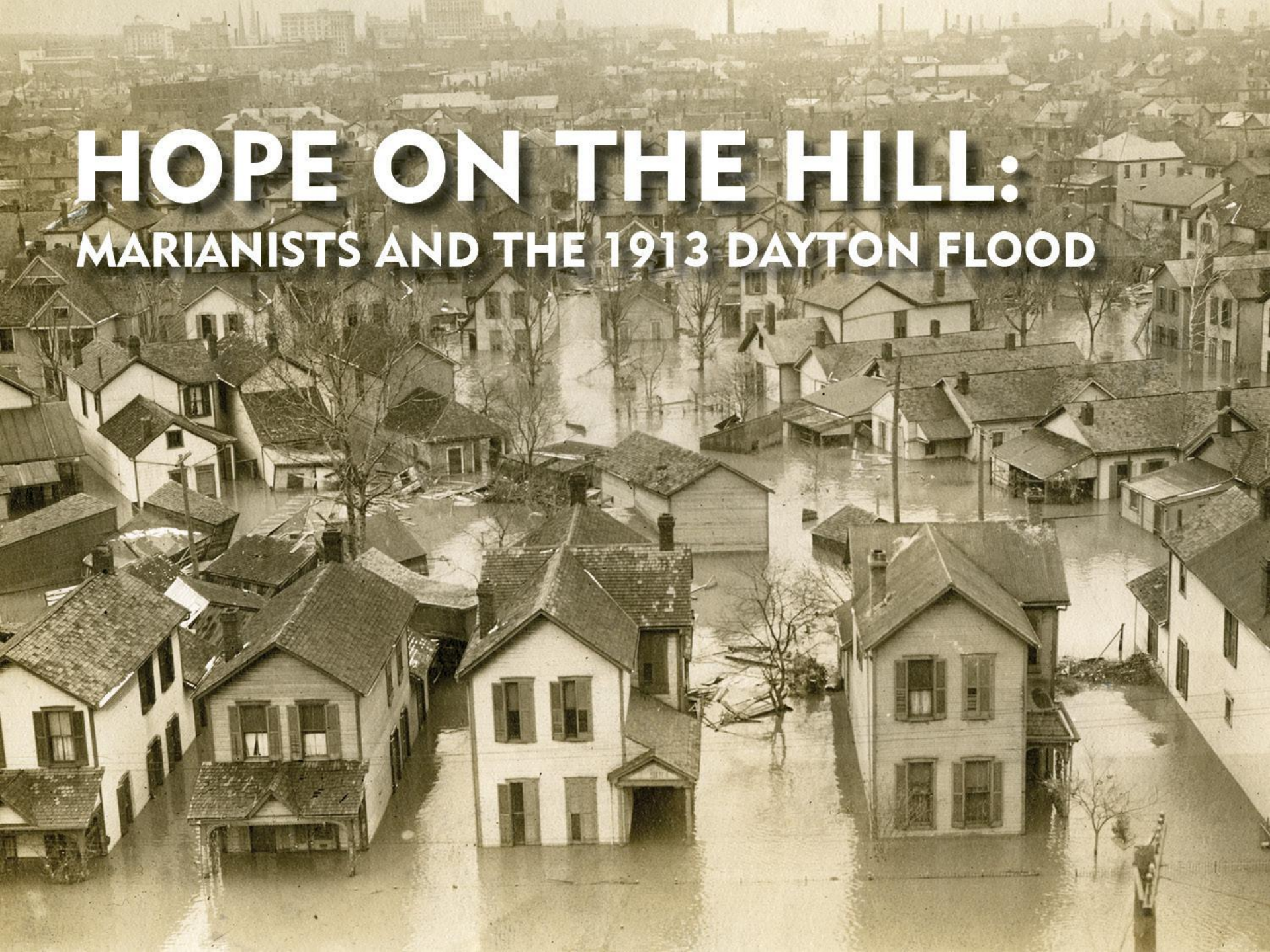
- Starting early enables success
- Think outside of your area
- Issues will most likely come up





# HOPE ON THE HILL:

## MARIANISTS AND THE 1913 DAYTON FLOOD







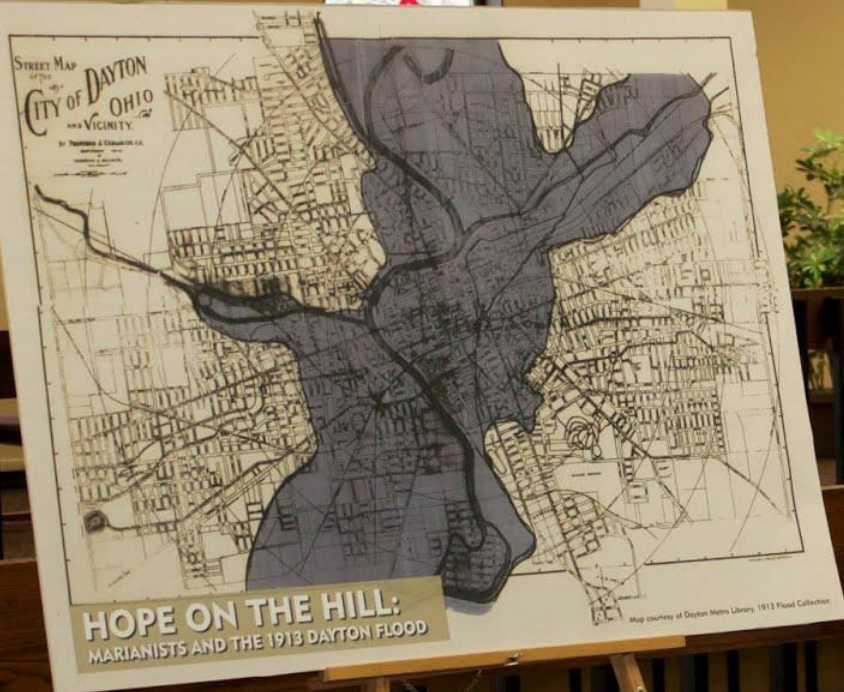
















100-200 feeding 125-150 eggs  
100-150 feeding - 100-150 eggs etc  
and probably - 100 of Normal sized who  
know that 2 for 200 pay for previous  
found through the village

200-250 feeding 125-150 eggs and  
100-150 feeding others previous from village some

Time of Season: The Great Dayton Flood  
Courtesy of Rensselaer Library Collections

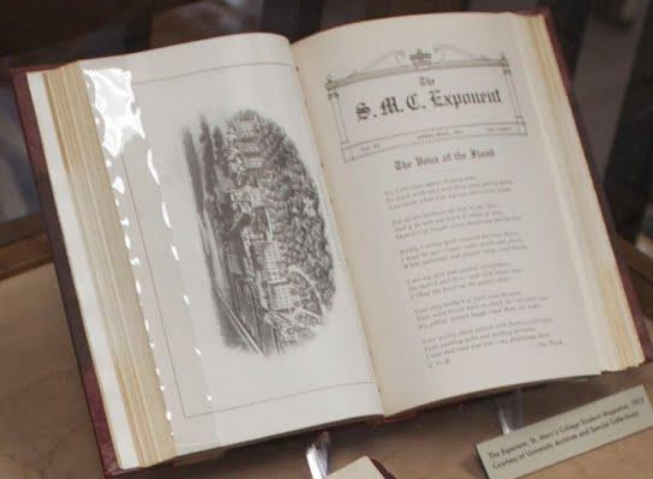


"The work,

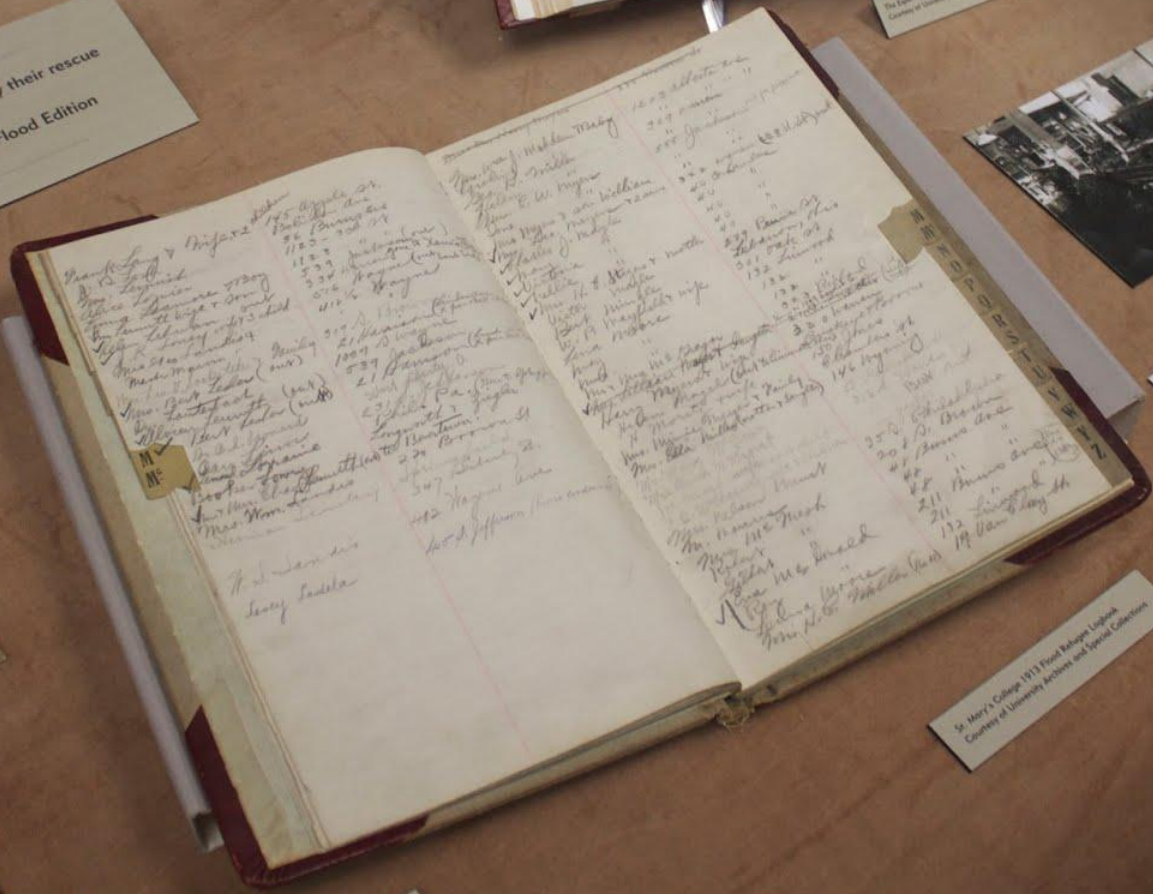




...society of Mary have immortalized themselves by their rescue  
of the unfortunates and the care for them."  
Fr. Frohmler to Br. Henry, Apostle of Mary Flood Edition



The Exponent, St. Mary's College, Emmett, Montana, 1913  
Courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections



St. Mary's College, 1913 Flood Relief Ledger  
Courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections





# 19 DAYTON FLOOD



Dayton in the 1910s, a prosperous, large city in the state of Ohio's "gem city". In 1913, more people than any other city lived there. It was a rapidly growing city, and it produced many politicians, and an



Flight from Dayton, Ohio, showing the city's layout and the Great Miami River.



Dayton, Ohio, showing the city's layout and the Great Miami River.

After a weekend of sporadic rain, the downpour began in Dayton at approximately 5 a.m. Monday, March 28. Two days earlier the Great Miami River in the city was at two feet deep. By 7 a.m. Monday morning, it was at seven feet and soon rose by approximately one foot per hour for the next day.

As the Great Miami reached flood stage at 18 feet during the early morning hours of Tuesday, March 29, many slept unaware of the dangerous rising waters. Awakening to the warning sounds of church bells, for many, notice had come too late.

At approximately 7 a.m. Tuesday, the eastern levee near the Main Street Bridge broke and water poured into downtown streets. Aware daily of the situation's severity, John H. Patterson, owner of the National Cash Register, closed his business and set the company to relief efforts, making food, providing medicine, and building fire boats. Without these efforts, the coming destruction would have been much worse.



As rain fell all day Tuesday and in afternoon buildings and in the home. Although water crossed late Tuesday evening followed on Wednesday, and relief from rooftop to rooftop to escape, or in telephone and electric wires to safety.

The NCR headquarters, located on a hill south downtown, it became a place of refuge. The NCR headquarters, located on a hill south downtown, it became a place of refuge. The NCR headquarters, located on a hill south downtown, it became a place of refuge.

Thursday morning, the Ohio National Guard was coordinating relief efforts and flood. At the time, waters began receding. The weekend, martial law had been in effect. The new-drying streets. The clean-up had



Arthur E. Morgan, President of Morgan Engineering Company. In addition to the Miami Valley Conservancy District, he later became the first chairman of the Tennessee Valley Water Authority, which he also helped design, employing many of the same techniques used first in the Miami Valley.



A giant replica of a cash register was erected at the Montgomery County Courthouse by John H. Patterson to encourage pledges for the future Miami Valley Conservancy District.



Political cartoons from Ohio newspapers.



Morgan's Raiders. The employees of Morgan Engineering Company charged with surviving the Miami Valley countryside—called "Raiders" because they were thought to resemble cowboys and because some at the time saw the Conservancy District as taking advantage of local property owners.

- 360 dead
- 20,000 homes affected
- 1,000 homes destroyed
- 2,000 more homes needed razed
- \$200 million worth of property loss
- Over 1,500 dead horses lined the streets
- 2 mile stretch of water varying from 4 to 26 feet deep.
- 9 inches of rainfall in four days
- Flood conditions spread throughout numerous cities in Ohio and Indiana.



Staplesville Dam, one of the five built by the Miami Valley Conservancy District, shown here in July 1922.

By Friday the Dayton Flood was the biggest news story in the country. Patterson, Deeds, and others formed the Dayton Citizens Relief Committee to aid relief efforts. Amazingly, within two months most clean-up work was complete and focus shifted from relief to prevention.

A fund-drive was initiated for the citizens of Dayton, which would function as a down payment on a future flood protection project. After only 10 days, the fund had pledges for more than \$2 million, enough to finance surveys, plans, and construction contracts for a flood control system.

Noted Civil Engineer Arthur E. Morgan was hired to prepare a flood prevention plan. He proposed straightening river channels, raising the height of levees, and creating a system of dams and reservoirs throughout the Miami Valley.

With the support of fellow Daytonian and Dayton Daily News owner Governor James M. Cox, the Vanderhorst Act, or what became known as the Ohio Conservancy Law, passed in 1914. The act allowed local governments broad powers in defining land to be used for flood control, the right to raise taxes to fund these projects, and eminent domain to appropriate land for flood control. Soon after the act was signed into law, the Miami Valley Conservancy District was created with Morgan its first president.

Today the Conservancy District still maintains the Miami Valley dams and reservoirs, and watches its rivers. And the organization continues to succeed in its mission. Heavy rains have come and gone, but never again has a flood damaged the region like the Great Dayton Flood of 1913.

University Libraries  
wright state university

This exhibit is funded by the generous support of the Wright State University Friends of the Libraries, and the Dayton office of Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio.

wright.edu/archives

WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY  
CHANGING LIVES

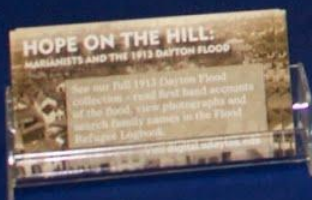
## Find a Journal

In the search for...  
Go to the...  
The shelves are...  
Go to the...  
The shelves are...  
Go to the...  
The shelves are...





Original 1913 flood footage from the Glenn R. Walters collection  
housed in University Archives and Special Collections.











Following the flood, the First Savings and Banking Company (pictured here) was the only bank with dry cash, having recently purchased a new vault. A trade magazine reported "such another disaster may be rendered impossible for all time to come...nevertheless, this incident brings to light the possibility of avoiding a certain amount of flood loss and damage."

Photograph courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections

THE S. M. C. EXPONENT

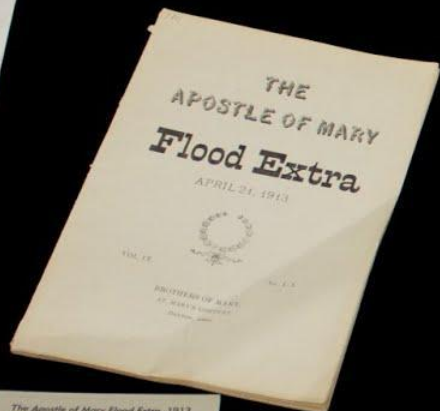
SISTERS AND PATIENTS  
SUBSIST THREE DAYS ON  
SOUR MILK AND COFFEE

## Tales of the Flood

The Exponent reported that "with practically no warning, these three buildings collapsed before the water had risen to any height." A Saint Mary's alumnus, Louis Moosbrugger (class of 1900), owned a cafe in one building from which he narrowly escaped. Photograph courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections







*The Apostle of Mary Flood Extra, 1913*  
Courtesy of the Marian Library



**STUDENTS, RETURNING TO CITY,  
SAY DAYTON WORST HIT OF ALL**

Many of Those Reporting to St. Mary's College, Came From Flooded Sections, But Are Astonished at Damage Here—Almost Entire Register Back Again.



A Pictorial History of the  
Courtesy of Roensch Library



and all the bridges but Third St. and Washington St. bridges. One City car line runs down to Monument Ave. - and that is the only one that can run.

[illegible]

And so many are dying now at the Hospital from exposure and fright during the flood, Kate. The water rose four inches a minute during the early morning and no one had time to save anything or to get away. And you never saw anything like that mud that settled on everything, it cut and ground in and is fine as flour paste and you can hardly wash it off—

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1913

I received the box this day. It was brought to me free of charge. And sister and all of you tears of thankfulness and gratitude came to my eyes to see something from Maryland and my dear relatives in all these long years. And no soul that has never had my experience here can imagine how glad and thankful one is to friends in a time like this and such a box of good things as this is rather I never expected of you. And if you believe me or not I never in my life

saw anything that looked as good as good as the buttered toast. We are actually hungry for things of that kind. The milk, meat and vegetables one cannot buy. I found that the most useful and warmest food of these kinds was Corn Meal. I found that for how good they tasted. Lillian wanted to know how over the fire but when we returned, I told her to wait until the first thing I ate from Maryland so no more food. I told her I have wanted to reach to come back for a visit for years. I told her yet that I could afford to leave the time to come, and save the time to water and distress your dear kind hands and each good day. You can never know how I thank you for the dear and warm and over, how I thought of your dear hands and the warm and dear brother, how I thought of when I was a boy in the dear old days. Thank Charlie and Anna and everyone that helped, and I will go on.

in this world) say time will not only regenerate in our hearts, but also in our lives. God shows and they will be revealed in full. I even kept the dust off the pretensions to death. I will keep God, I will have big bits of good things. Just what one needs you, how can I save the meat, Sister and the butter so it will keep good. I thought I would put the butter in a jar and put dry salt over it. And I thought I would put the butter in a meat in sacks and hang it up. Tell me, that is the right way. My work has been so different for so long that I have forgotten. And I was paid \$2 a week as you say. You know the people say, Devils are coming to the city. I was in the mountains, but that is mostly done to encourage the poor people. Some places like the Cash and Davis that escaped the river was warning. Some places like the City of across the river was warning. But not all the meat and furnish came that lives too for his health.

Part of Steele High school walls was washed out and yesterday the tower and walls fell. Dozens of houses have been destroyed when showing their unsafe to enter. The Hospital is overflowing and some, many pneumonia patients from the damp and cold houses.

Dayton is dark at night yet the Hospital has more in the Cash electric wire and leave lights. Dayton is one mass of ruins and

Through Flood, Through  
Survivors of the Dayton







# The Voice of the Flood

*Lo, I am come again, O pious men,  
To seek with soul and shine your paltry plain,  
And claim what was my own when time began.*

*For ye are brothers all and of one clay;  
And if ye will not learn it while ye may,  
Thus are ye taught when dawns my fateful day.*

*Boldly I sweep your exalted barriers down,  
I bind ye me—rigger, ruler, priest and chown,  
While potentate and pauper sleep—and drown.*

*I set my seal and symbol everywhere—  
On church and dice—and with ironic care  
I fling the bauble on the palace stair.*

*Your airy bridges of frail cubweba span,  
Your solid levees built to check the current's run—  
My yellow waters laugh—and there are none.*

*Your pretty cities decked with flowers and trees,  
Your panting mills and puffing factories,  
I toss and rend and tear—my playthings these.  
N. C. R. —The Flood.*



A railroad bridge across the Miami River was destroyed by the high waters.  
Photograph courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections



Written on the back of this photograph is an account of the terrifying experience the family living in this home endured during the flood. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, an African-American Catholic family, lived on Washington Street. When the flood waters rose, they went to the back of their home, where they broke open holes in the wall for air. As the waters continued to rise, they crawled to the roof, where they waited until they were rescued on Thursday morning—two days after the levees failed. They were rescued by Notre Dame Sisters, who were at the local high school. When boarding the rescue boat, Mrs. Patterson fell into the water.

Photograph courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections



THE  
GEM CITY  
LIFE INS. CO.

Photograph taken from the Dayton Daily News building on Fourth Street. Looking east, the Davies Building, home of Newsalt's Jewelry Store, Reed Shoe Company, and Dayton Savings & Trust, is visible in the center of the photograph. The building on the left was the home of the Dayton Loan & Credit Company Bank. At its height, flood waters in this area reached the second stories of the buildings pictured. People can be seen in boats and wading through the waters to safety. Photograph courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections.





Receding flood waters in a residential area of Dayton. On the left side are piles of debris from the flood waters, and a home in the center has been heavily damaged and pushed off of its foundation by the flooding. Exposed foundations from two destroyed homes can be seen in the bottom right corner. Photograph courtesy of University Archives and Special Collections.







The great Dayton flood and what  
we hope for from history

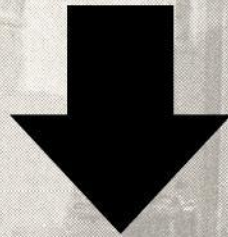
Una M. Cadegan  
4 April 2013

CEDARWY



## **LACK OF STAFFING = OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLABORATION**

- Digital project proposal for flood materials
- Absence of University Archivist



- Identifying an opportunity for outreach
- Planning ahead (being proactive)



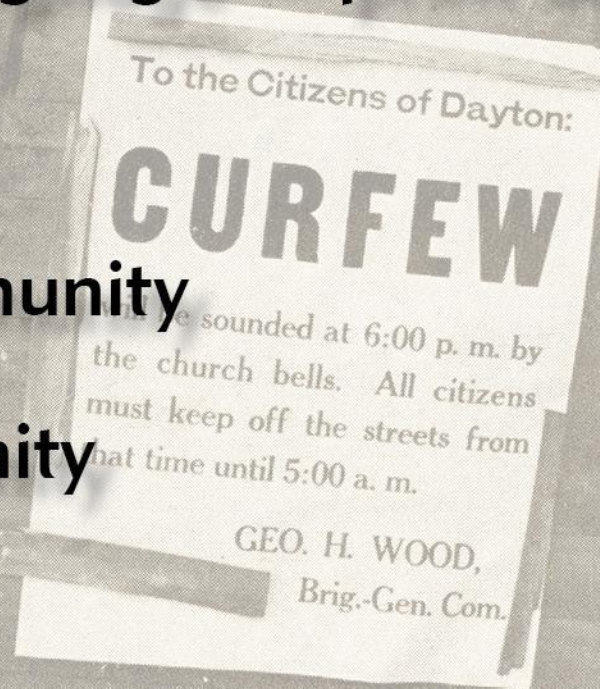
## **THE TEAM:**

- **Archivists**
  - **Graphic Designer/Marketing**
  - **Digital Projects Manager**
  - **Communications Librarian**
  - **Cataloger Librarian**
- 
- **Dividing tasks, combining areas of expertise**
  - **Viewing the exhibit from different perspectives**
  - **Each person contributes something they know**



## MARKETING THE EXHIBIT

- Materials and signage — print and digital
- Social media
- University community
- Dayton community
- Word of mouth







# HOPE ON THE HILL:

## MARIANISTS AND THE 1913 DAYTON FLOOD

When floodwaters struck Dayton in 1913, those who fled to high ground just south of where the waters crested at Apple Street found shelter, food and welcome from the Marianists at St. Mary's College, the school that later became the University of Dayton.

*Hope on the Hill: Marianists and the 1913 Dayton Flood* highlights events during and after the disaster and the college's significant role in providing relief. The Exponent, a student magazine, reported on the college's efforts and published perspectives by students.

Photos, postcards and other memorabilia are displayed. Original flood footage from the Glenn Walters Collection will also be on display.

Digitized materials from the 1913 Flood Collection are available online at [digital.udayton.edu](http://digital.udayton.edu).

**FEB. 4 – JUNE 17, 2013**  
SECOND FLOOR OF ROESCH LIBRARY



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## HOPE ON THE HILL

1913 Flood Story and Celebrity Spots - 1980 United Way campaign from the Glenn R. Walters collection housed in University Archives and Special Collections.

## HOPE ON THE HILL: MARIANISTS AND THE 1913 DAYTON FLOOD

When floodwaters struck Dayton in 1913, those who fled to high ground just south of where the waters crested at Apple Street found shelter, food and welcome from the Marianists at St. Mary's College, the school that later became the University of Dayton.

*Hope on the Hill: Marianists and the 1913 Dayton Flood* will be on display from Feb. 4 through June 17 on the second floor of Roesch Library. The exhibit highlights events during and after the disaster and the college's significant role in providing relief. The Exponent, a student magazine, reported on the college's efforts and published perspectives by students.

Photos, postcards and other memorabilia are on display. Visitors can listen to an oral history from Marianist Brother Andy Weber describing what he saw from his window at Saint Mary's. Original flood footage from the Glenn Walters Collection is also on display.

A free program on April 4, 2013 will feature short talks from Professor of History Dr. Una Cadegan, Dan Jordan from North American Center for Marianist Studies in the United States, and Communication Professor Dr. Glenn Walters. This event is open to the public and will take place on the second floor of Roesch Library at 7:00 p.m. Please call 229-4274 or email [kkelly2@udayton.edu](mailto:kkelly2@udayton.edu) for more information.

Digitized materials from the 1913 Flood Collection are available online at [digital.udayton.edu](http://digital.udayton.edu).

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- #ToMyFuturePartner
- Mike Rice
- #Rutgers
- Mel Kiper
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Search through our collections at Digital@UDayton to get a glimpse of what makes the University of Dayton truly unique.  
University of Dayton, Ohio · <http://digital.udayton.edu/cdm>

67 TWEETS 25 FOLLOWING 32 FOLLOWERS

## Tweets

 **Roesch Library** @roeschlibrary 27 Mar  
Watch the @WDTN news story on our Dayton Flood exhibit. See "Hope on the Hill" on our second floor until June 17.  
[wdtn.com/dpp/news/local...](http://wdtn.com/dpp/news/local...)  
 Retweeted by Digital@UDayton  
Expand

 **Tara Hastings** @MetTaraHastings 26 Mar  
Tonight at 5 on @WDTN find out how one local college opened its doors to flood victims 100 yrs ago #daywx #dayton  
[wdtn.com/dpp/news/local...](http://wdtn.com/dpp/news/local...)  
 Retweeted by Digital@UDayton  
Expand

 **Digital@UDayton** @DigitalUDayton 25 Mar  
100 yrs ago, a 20ft wall of water surged through the streets of Dayton. Check out the 1913 Flood exhibit on the 2nd floor of Roesch Library.  
Expand

 **Roesch Library** @roeschlibrary 25 Mar  
Today is the 100th anniversary of the levee failure during the Dayton Flood. View our 1913 Flood Collection online:  
[digital.udayton.edu/cdm/landingpag...](http://digital.udayton.edu/cdm/landingpag...)  
 Retweeted by Digital@UDayton  
Expand

 **Digital@UDayton** @DigitalUDayton 17 Mar  
Did you know St. Patrick used shamrocks to explain the Trinity? Even today, the shamrock has been associated with St. Patrick & the Irish.  
Expand

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CONGRESS  
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# NEWS STORIES

## Print, online and mobile

### Libraries offering flood exhibits

Devastating 1913 event recalled.

From Hamilton to Piqua, communities tell their flood story.

By Meredith Moss  
Staff Writer

Chances are that something is about to trigger your interest in the Great 1913 Flood – our region's most devastating historical event.

Perhaps it was the moving drama presented by Wright State University's theater department in January/February that brought the tragedy to life. Or the Dayton Art Institute's new "Watershed" exhibit featuring paired photos of now and then. Or perhaps it will be "The Great Flood Building" that's about to open at

Carillon Historical Park.

When that interest begins to surface, you'll be wise to head to one of the libraries in our region. Cities across the region affected by the memorable event are gearing up to welcome you with exhibits and lectures and, of course, books. Best of all, access to all of this information is free.

It began in November 2011, when representatives from the Miami Conservancy District began meeting with representatives from historical societies, universities, cities and libraries.

"We wanted to see what the local communities were doing to commemorate the flood centennial, so we asked them and we asked how we could support their efforts," said Angela Manuszak, special projects coordinator for the Miami Conservancy District. "Before the end of the first meeting, we had priority projects best

done as a region and a steering committee including reps from every river city starting at Piqua upstream, all the way to Hamilton downstream."

Libraries, she says, are perfectly equipped to play a key role in the dissemination of information about the significant event.

"We recognized that libraries – both local public libraries and university libraries – preserve many important collections related to the flood: photographs, newspapers, documents and of course books," Manuszak said. "They also partner with historians that can share the human interest stories that make these collections come to life."

By viewing exhibits and hearing presentations, Manuszak said, today's citizens have an opportunity to think about how the flood –

Libraries continued on D2



Colleen Hoelscher (left), an archivist at the University of Dayton's Roesch Library, and Nichole Rustad, graphic design specialist and digital project manager at UD, prepare cases for the exhibit called "Hope on the Hill." USA POWELL / STAFF



Home : News : Local : Montgomery :

Video Photo



### 1913 Flood; Hope on the hill

Local college helps flood victims

Updated: Tuesday, 26 Mar 2013, 5:51 PM EDT  
Published: Tuesday, 26 Mar 2013, 3:30 PM EDT

Tara Hastings

DAYTON, Ohio (WDTN) -

When flood waters filled the city of Dayton back in 1913 many were hungry and had no where to go. One local college opened its doors for hundreds of people and helped those who were stranded by high water.

The water kept rising throughout the streets of downtown Dayton during Easter weekend 1913. The fury and fear of the flood had people scrambling to get out of the city. Meanwhile Saint Mary's Institute, now the University of Dayton was empty because students there were gone for the holiday.

Nichole Rustad, Digital Project Manager Roesch Library says, "The college had open dorm rooms and had restocked in preparation for the students to come back. They had a lot of food, own electric water. So it was a perfect relief station."

Perfect because college sat on a hill above all the water, it soon brought hope to a crippled city. Which is why Hope on the Hill is the title of this exhibit at U-D's Roesch Library.

Nichole Rustad - Digital project manager - and the staff spent a few months going through all of the archives to tell the story of St. Mary's College.

"They came in droves of 200 hundred four hundred and then 800 and they stayed for about 2 weeks," Rustad said.

Their signatures are on display, people from as far as Xenia took advantage of the hospitality. But giving flood victims a hot meal and a dry bed weren't the only efforts from the college. Members also helped with rescue efforts. They used a flat bottom boat to navigate the strong currents.

Hand written stories on the back of photos helped the U-D staff see what happened during those cold days following the flood. This is what used to be a grocery store with an old cash register in front.

"When the water started to rise they made it to the top of the store and they were trying to warm a baby bottle and

### 1913 Flood; Hope on the hill

By: Tara Hastings

Published: March 26, 2013, 3:30 pm EDT

Last Updated: March 26, 2013, 5:07 pm EDT



Courtesy: University of Dayton Digital Archives 1913 Dayton Flood Collection

DAYTON, Ohio (WDTN) -

When flood waters filled the city of Dayton back in 1913 many were hungry and had no where to



# A CREATIVE APPROACH TO EXHIBITING ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

- Planning ahead
- Identifying people, resources
- Thinking across collections
  - including outside of the collections
- Thinking across units
  - including outside of organization

Relief Boat Landing during Great Flood March 1913 Dayton, O.



Washington D.C. -  
got to attic - broke open side for air  
crawled to roof - till Thun. a.m.  
rescued by N. D. Sisters

many women  
colored

Mrs Mrs. Patterson  
Mrs Robinson

both have a daughter  
colored nun, Sr.  
Martina, Balto.

Boat to door,  
Mrs. Patterson  
fell as doing  
N. D. fur frozen





Dayton, Ohio during Greatest Flood in Worlds History 1913.

## THOUGHTS ON FUTURE EXHIBITS

- Collaboration can be standard practice in exhibit planning
- Continuing to cultivate partnerships in the organization and in the community
- Using Omeka to capture a virtual version of the exhibit



# QUESTIONS

- What has your organization done to plan creative exhibits for archival materials?
- What worked well?

