

The Cleveland Memory Project Postcards of Cleveland A Retrospective of Its Markets

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The "Postcards of Cleveland" web site is part of the Cleveland Memory Project, an on-line gateway to texts and images about the history of greater Cleveland being demonstrated at the symposium. Cleveland Memory is hosted by the Cleveland State University Library and available at <http://www.clevelandmemory.org>.

The images in Cleveland Memory are managed by a new image database named CONTENT(tm), which facilitates searching across collections including thousands of pictures. Since 1996 the CSU Library's digital images were organized on the web using individual topical home pages to provide access. As the collections grew and especially with Professor Walter Leedy's agreement to provide access to his extensive postcard collection for digitizing, some better means of managing this many images became necessary and CONTENT was acquired. Today there are some 6,000 images in Cleveland Memory and about that many more are almost ready to be added.

In addition to images, Cleveland Memory also provides access to electronic texts and other digital products pertaining to the history of northeastern Ohio. The CSU Library has been digitizing the complete texts of many works of local history, such as Carl Stokes' autobiography "Promises of Power," and Cleveland Memory brings all of the Library's offerings—texts and images—in one central location on the web. To facilitate access, Cleveland Memory also provides a number of "thematic gateway" pages, where popular history topics and community projects are treated in greater detail, such as "Yesterday's Lakewood."

The historical materials for Cleveland Memory come from the holdings of the Library's Special Collections department and partnerships with private collectors and outside institutions. The Library's Systems department maintains the hardware and software associated with CONTENT and Cleveland Memory and the Technical Services department performs the essential tasks of digitizing and cataloging the materials.