

Santa Paula Historical Society Case Study

Background

Organized in 1977, the Santa Paula Historical Society of Santa Paula, California is dedicated to preserving, protecting and perpetuating the history of the town and the surrounding area. Its founding eleven Directors were descendants of pioneers or long-time residents, and many of them continue to serve the Society today.



Santa Paula, CA circa 1888 (used with permission)

When the Santa Paula Historical Society decided to convert its microfilm collection of local newspapers to a searchable digital format, President Mary Alice Orcutt Henderson contacted Creekside Digital. Prior to committing to a project, SPHS sent Creekside its oldest and most difficult to read roll of microfilm in the collection, and Creekside provided free samples in order to demonstrate both the quality of the microfilm scans and the accuracy of the Optical Character Recognition.

"Having experienced our library's microfilm machine's extremely poor quality and clarity in a printed page, my skepticism continued until receiving the free samples from Creekside Digital. I was astounded! On the screen the images were easily enlarged for readability; the printed page was equally easily read. More importantly, the whole process (of converting SPHS's microfilm) was facilitated. I was sold!" – Mary Alice Orcutt Henderson, President of SPHS

The Process

Creekside Digital uses high speed rollfilm scanners which utilize latest-generation technology including fiber-optic lighting, Nikkor lenses, CCD cameras and cutting-edge microprocessor designs in order to provide previously unachievable image quality. Combined with "ribbon scanning" – a process by which a roll of microfilm is scanned in its entirety, with frame detection, quality control and image file output occurring after the initial film capture – the potential for common scanning problems including improperly cropped images and skipped frames is eliminated.

At A Glance

- 240 rolls of 35mm newspaper microfilm spanning 110 years of history
- Digitized at 300dpi / 256-color grayscale
- Optical Character Recognition output to multipage PDF files
- Fulltext Index creation allows for searching across multiple years of content

Once SPHS's microfilm rolls were scanned, text was extracted from the raw images using Optical Character Recognition. OCR creates an invisible layer of digital text behind the image of the original newspaper page which may be copied, pasted, and searched into other digital text. Multipage PDF files (one page for each frame on the original microfilm) were then output from the OCR creation process. Finally, a Fulltext Index was created for each roll of film to allow patrons of the Santa Paula Historical Society to quickly search the newspapers for surnames and place-names specific to their region – a boon to historians and genealogists alike.

Results

"To finance our project, the Society and the (Santa Paula) Library jointly shared the expenses. Now both organizations have a full set of the scanned newspapers to offer to the interested public. Yet, better than the product is the willingness of Creekside Digital to assist with any questions – no matter how simple or complex. All in all, it was money well spent for both our community library and the nonprofit historical society." – Mary Alice Orcutt Henderson

Are you ready to convert your microfilm to digital images and data? Contact Creekside Digital today!

SANTA PAULA CHRONICLE

NEW SHIPMENT OF
Hot Point Electric Irons
ECONOMY IN TIME, ENERGY AND PATIENCE
They stay flat at the right spot

VENTURA COUNTY POWER CO.

MARJORIE MANSFIELD
"IN ARKANSAS"

Little known, but her first attempt at writing was in the early years of the war. She has since been writing for the Santa Paula Chronicle. Her first story was "The Arkansian" which she wrote for the Chronicle in 1918. She has since written many other stories for the Chronicle. Her latest story is "The Arkansian" which she wrote for the Chronicle in 1918. She has since written many other stories for the Chronicle.

A BETTER SYSTEM
The system here has not only been improved but it has also been made more efficient. The system here has not only been improved but it has also been made more efficient. The system here has not only been improved but it has also been made more efficient.

LIVESTOCK AWAY
The livestock here has not only been improved but it has also been made more efficient. The livestock here has not only been improved but it has also been made more efficient.

JUST ARRIVED AT THE
CASH
Dry Goods Co.

A Large Line of BOYS' and YOUNG MEN'S SUITS
Best Ever and Hercules Styles
Be sure you see them

Silks
New lot—exclusive dress and waist patterns in plain and fancy.

Shirt Waists
Unique styles, direct from Eastern market, in lingerie and tailored effects.

LEAVENS & BOWKER

SOCIAL AND FRATERNAL
ITEMS OF THE WEEK

WILL INITIATE
The members of the... will initiate...

FOR NEW FORMER
The members of the... will initiate...

APPROXIMATE WEDDING
The members of the... will initiate...

AUTO AUTO
The members of the... will initiate...

NATIVE SON EXCELLENT HOST
The members of the... will initiate...

HEAD OUTFITTERS
FOOT OUTFITTERS
SPRING SUITS FOR MEN
ARE HERE

The Best that can be found from America's Master Tailors

STROUSE HIGH ART

'Kazoo' Peg Top Trousers

PACKARD SHOES

MILLIKAN & MUMM
Cor. 10th and Main - Santa Paula

TRY
... SAN-A-GOTE ...
On your Bath room and Kitchen
MADE IN 16 FADELESS COLORS

SAN-I-COTE is not affected by the chemical action of Plaster, will not Fade, Spot, Streak or Rub Off.

IT IS THE NEW WAY
The Two Rooms in the house that get the most wear will require the least care—If you use

San-a-cote

Wanted—Spaces to put up large Advertising Signs. Will pay well for the privilege. Write or call at once. C. E. KING

KING, THE FURNITURE MAN
117-119-121-123 WEST MAIN STREET, SANTA PAULA, CALIFORNIA

SANTA PAULA HOTEL MAN
The members of the... will initiate...

WEDDING SOCIAL
The members of the... will initiate...

PLAID EVENING
The members of the... will initiate...

RECEPTION PLANNED
The members of the... will initiate...

Hotel Alhambra
218 So. Broadway
Santa Paula, Cal.

Through Tourist Cars

SUNDAY
SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

TUESDAY
SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

WEDNESDAY
SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

THURSDAY
SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

FRIDAY
SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

SATURDAY
SANTA PAULA, CALIF.

Santa Paula Chronicle Weekly, 1912 (used with permission)