



## **2020 Technology and Digitization Grant Final Report**

The Wells College library, in collaboration with Opendore/The Howland Stone Store Museum, received a grant of \$8325 to digitize materials relating to women's history from The Howland Stone Store Museum and its second location, Opendore, and make them available on NYHeritage. This collaboration came out of the previous year's project, where the library digitized a collection that had recently been donated to the museum. The grant included funds for three student intern, one for each semester and one for the summer (which the college matched with a second student intern for two semesters), and funding for additional hours by three library staff members to work in addition to their normal employment at the library.

Work began on the project in mid-January 2020. Student workers went through the boxes identifying materials to be digitized based on their condition and relevance to the topic of women's history or history of underrepresented groups. Student workers scanned identified materials using our Zeutschel Zeta (purchased in part by a previous RBDB grant, with the college providing matching funds for the yearly replacement contract) or a flatbed scanner depending on the quality needed for the scan. Student workers and one of the library staff members initially began the metadata, which was eventually shifted to three library staff members, leaving the student workers to focus on scanning. One of the library staff members also completed the transcription of handwritten materials, including two large books.

The project was disrupted in March 2020 by the arrival of the pandemic. The college moved to remote operations from March 2020 until June 2020. The student workers were unable to complete any work on the project from home, although library staff were able to continue metadata and transcription.

Work on the project continued in August of 2020. Students were once again on campus, allowing for a continuation of scanning efforts. Work also began on digitizing suffrage posters, with the assistance of staff and technology from SCRLC, as our scanner was not large enough digitize the posters. Library staff met with SCRLC staff and museum staff at the museum to digitize the posters, as was agreed in the planning stages of the project. The project was further disrupted in November 2020, when, due to a COVID-19 outbreak, the college once again went remote. Work on the project continued without student interns after this date.

The project was completed in March 2021, when all materials were returned to the museum, along with a USB drive containing the digital files. A total of 471 items were digitized and uploaded to NY Heritage.