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College of Liberal Arts
Geography and Urban Studies

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January 19, 2010

Director, Public Administration Library
City Hall, Room 100
601 Lakeside Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44114-1271

Dear Director,

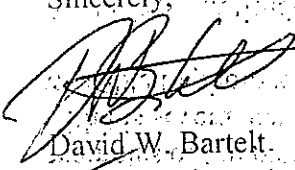
I am writing to express my thanks for assistance your library staff provided me on a recent visit (Jan. 13). I am a faculty member at Temple University, doing comparative analyses of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland specifically on long-term neighborhood changes and the current housing crisis. Specifically, I have been looking for information from the 1940 Census onward. While much of this is available in digital data sets, the underlying census tract labels change dramatically in 1970, from alphanumeric to numeric format.

Your staff not only assisted me in locating the relevant publication that provided this information, but also had pulled out the volume with this information, as well as several examples of the pioneering work that Howard Whipple Green provided to the City of Cleveland with his several census reports. The materials had been maintained in excellent condition, and I was able to photocopy much of the material I needed.

Aside from gratitude, let me express my personal recognition of the work that CPL does in making such an important set of resources available, and the efforts you put forward in maintaining these materials. In an age in which many researchers have come to rely only on the digital record formats, it was a pleasure to work with a staff that combined their knowledge of the library's electronic catalogue with an attention to meeting my own research needs. I provided a very short time frame between my original request and my planned visit to Cleveland, but I was pleasantly surprised to find that the materials were waiting for my attention when I arrived.

Please express my gratitude and appreciation to the entire staff of this important branch of the CPL. I look forward to a return visit to explore more of the records that I was unable to explore because of time constraints last week.

Sincerely,


David W. Bartelt

cc: Felton Thomas, Director, Cleveland Public Library