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For Immediate Release

Grant Aids Preservation of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Photographic Collection

(Pittsburgh, PA – July 30, 2007) A collection of more than 57,000 historic photographic prints and negatives is being enhanced at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP). A \$24,977.00 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Planning Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, awarded last year, is enabling the Library to preserve and provide access to the Pittsburgh Photographic Library collection.

CLP first worked with a conservation consultant and a digitization consultant to report on the state of the Pittsburgh Photographic Library. The collection requires extensive preservation, conservation and reformatting in order to present the historical images in the safest and most accessible format. The Library is developing a strategy to archivally store, reformat, catalog and provide access to the collection.

Beginning in 1950, under the direction of photo documentalist Roy Stryker, noted local photographers compiled a photo history of the Pittsburgh area. The collection was transferred to CLP in 1960, and additional images, including original photographs by Hill District native Charles "Teenie" Harris and Western Pennsylvania native Luke Swank, were added. Several images from the Pittsburgh Photographic Library have been used in exhibits sponsored by the Carnegie Museum of Art, and other prints from the collection are frequently utilized by local and national businesses, researchers, advertising agencies, publishers and the public at large.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

"Free to the People" since 1895

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country's great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 6,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.