

# Archives Preppers:

*It's Not the End of the World as We Know it! How to Survive an Anniversary Through Digital Projects.*

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Big ideas. Real-world thinking.

# It's not TEOTW but...

- Minnesota State University, Mankato turns 150 on October 7, 2018
- Campus planning began in spring 2016
- Archives planning began 2014





# Survival Checklist aka List of Topics

- It's not TEOTW but...
- Survival Pre-Assessment
- MAG: Mutual Aid Group
- Sesquicentennial Projects
- Fallout

# Survival Pre-Assessment

Before SHTF

## *Who are our Stakeholders?*

Alumni  
Faculty/Staff  
Students  
Community

**Role of Archives**  
Staffing  
Committee Roles

## *What do people want to see?*

Yearbooks  
Student Newspapers  
Catalogs/Bulletins  
Oral Histories  
Timelines



# Assembling our Prepper Team

We're not going it alone

- Hired additional Archives technician
- Ramped up Archives student worker staffing
- Included library student workers from all areas
- Strategic Stealth Sesquicentennial Committee deployment

A large, abstract yellow graphic consisting of several overlapping, curved shapes that resemble flames or a stylized 'S' shape, positioned on the right side of the slide.

# Survival Cache

Essential MSU history documentation for  
Sesquicentennial committee members to view and use.

## Cornerstone (IR)

- *Out of Chaos: Reflections of a University President and his Contemporaries on Vietnam-era Unrest in Mankato and its Relevance Today*
- *Mankato State University: The Second Century: The First Twenty-Five Years, 1968-1992: An Interpretative Essay*
- *Mankato State College: An Interpretative Essay*

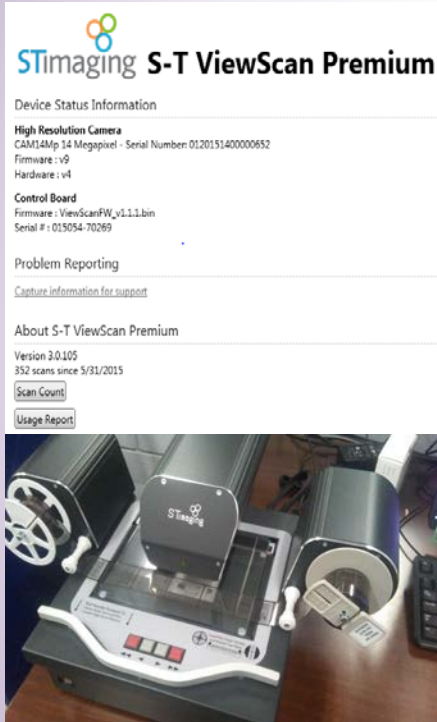
## Shared OneDrive Folder

- University history documents
- Timelines

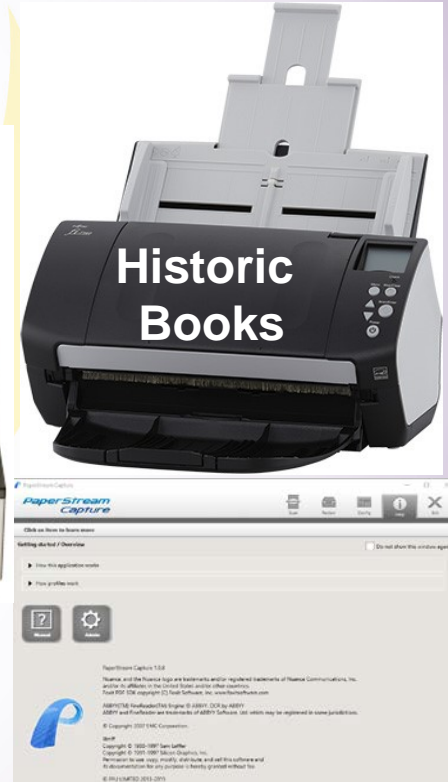
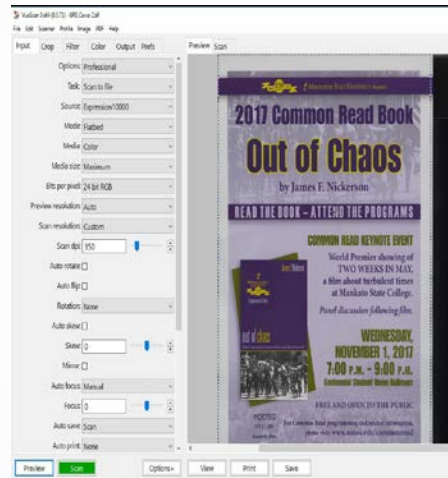


# Prepper Gear

What equipment did we already own, or could feasibly acquire to initiate digitization projects now.



**Student  
Newspapers on  
Microfilm**



# Alpha Strategy

A survival strategy which involves generating and sharing digital objects in preparation of the Sesquicentennial event.

## In House

Katonian Yearbooks



Catalogs/Bulletins

Student Newspaper 1976-1986 mf

Tell Your MSU Story Oral Histories



## Vendor

Student newspaper 1998-2008 paper



Student newspaper 1987-1997 mf



MSU Reporter, Tuesday, August 22, 2017, page 2





# Prepper Checklist

## Sesquicentennial Preparedness

**Yearbooks**



**Student  
Newspapers**



**Catalogs &  
Bulletins**



**Oral  
Histories**



**Timelines**

# MAG: Mutual Aid Group

MAG: made up of individuals in a specific geographic area. These individuals meet for the purpose of discussing, sharing ideas and planning for emergencies in their area.

OR Collaboration makes it possible

# MAG: Mutual Aid Group

- Have a Plan
- Identify Partners
  - Within Library
  - On Campus
  - Off Campus
- Define role of archives
  - Research questions



City of Mankato bus with MSU 150<sup>th</sup> wrap, 2017 Collaboration of Parking, Integrated Marketing, Printing Services, and University Archives.

# Have a (Survival) Plan



Scrutinizing Building Plans. December 13, 1968  
Mankato State College.

- Identify who can/will initiate project.
- Ask to be involved.
- Keep asking.
- Determine opportunities for participation.

# Library Partners

- Dean of Library Services
  - General support
  - Funding
- Assistant to the Dean
  - Book support
- Student Supervisors
  - Lending students
- Other employees
  - Understanding we are busy with 150<sup>th</sup> work



Library student workers from Administration and Circulation, 2017



# Campus Partners



City of Mankato bus with MSU 150<sup>th</sup> seat back historical snippets, 2017

- Integrated Marketing
  - Project collaboration
  - Fact checking
- Printing Services
  - Project collaboration
  - Fact checking
- Webmaster/Web Team
  - Update the 150<sup>th</sup> website
  - Social media
- Intercollegiate Athletics



# Community Partners

- Blue Earth County Historical Society
  - 150<sup>th</sup> Exhibit
  - Historic walking tour of former campus
  - Book support
- Dancing with the Mankato Stars



BECHS exhibit opening, *Celebrating MSU 150 Years, 2017*

# Define role/scope of the Archives

- Research aka “Will the Archives write our department history?”
  - What will the Archives do?
  - What won't the Archives do?
- Sesquicentennial Committees
  - How does the Archives fit in?



University Archives staff by 150<sup>th</sup> birthday cake, 2017

# Collaboration is key!



Mankato State Teachers College Marching Band, 1953

- Projects and accomplishments only possible through collaboration.
- Library Vision: Will lead in campus collaboration.
- Library Value: Collaboration: We value collaboration, cooperation, and teamwork among ourselves and others.
- <http://lib.mnsu.edu/about/mission/missvision.html>



# Sesquicentennial Projects

- Portable Exhibit
- Postcard Book
- Facts of the Day
- History Book
- Brock/Otto Hall of Champions
- Sesquicentennial Presentation



Duevel, Casey. 2017. Photograph of Librarian Evan Rusch looking at the Heritage Panels of the Sesquicentennial Portable Exhibit at Memorial Library's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on October 2, 2017 at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

FROM NORMAL SCHOOL  
TO UNIVERSITY:

# *Celebrating 150 Years*

Founded in 1868, Minnesota State University, Mankato grew from a normal school to a doctoral granting university that today offers more than 130 programs of study. This history is rooted in academics and supported by the University heritage, athletics and student experience.

## Portable Exhibit

- 27 panels
- 3 ft x 6 ft
- Four major themes:
  - Heritage (7)
  - Academics (8)
  - Student Life (5)
  - Athletics (5)
- Introduction (left)
- Conclusion (right)

[www.mnsu.edu/150/](http://www.mnsu.edu/150/)

Contact the University Archives about this exhibit  
[archives@mnsu.edu](mailto:archives@mnsu.edu)

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MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY,  
MANKATO

# *1868-2018*

Minnesota State Mankato is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary starting in 2017.

The 18-month celebration of the institution's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday will culminate on October 7, 2018, which marks the anniversary of the first day of classes in 1868. Plans are underway to mark this milestone with more than 150 campus and community events between now and then. We hope you will join us as we honor the University's sesquicentennial.

[www.mnsu.edu/150/](http://www.mnsu.edu/150/)

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# Heritage



The Alumni Arch and Plaza stands as a tribute to the more than 118,000 alumni worldwide. Originally part of the laboratory school on lower campus, the Arch connects generations of students to the legacy of the University.



1923 Junior Class - Mankato State Teachers College

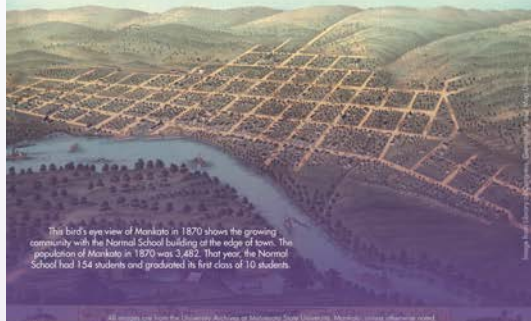


While the style of dress has changed, students themselves have not. During their time at the University they expand their horizons through education and research, build lasting friendships, and become proud Mavericks.

Minnesota State Mankato is known as a university where people expect to go further than they thought possible by combining knowledge and the passion to achieve great things.

The foundation for this vision is our heritage of both dedicated teaching and the direct application of knowledge to improve a diverse community and world.

The heritage of the University has shaped the Minnesota State University, Mankato you see today.



This bird's eye view of Mankato in 1870 shows the growing town with the Normal School building at the edge of town. The population of Mankato in 1870 was 3,482. That year, the Normal School had 154 students and graduated its first class of 10 students.

All images are from the University Archives at Minnesota State University, Mankato, unless otherwise noted.

[www.mnsu.edu/150/](http://www.mnsu.edu/150/)

Contact the University Archives about this exhibit:  
[archives@mnsu.edu](mailto:archives@mnsu.edu)

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# Student Life



Couples dancing at Snow Week Convocation Dance of Mankato State College, 1939.



Mankato State Teachers College Student Handbook 1927-1928.



Students taking a selfie, 2014.



Campus Mall, Mankato State College, circa 1970s.

Extracurricular activities provide opportunities to gain valuable leadership skills and student experiences at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Recognized Student Organizations, Residential Life and other campus support offices provide students the opportunity to share ideas, learn from each other and have an impact on our community.

Student life has vastly transformed over the years. However, one constant remains: students have always been and continue to be the most vital part of Minnesota State University, Mankato.



Students sitting and standing on the ledge outside of Armstrong Hall, Campus Mall, Mankato State University, circa 1970s.

[www.mnsu.edu/150/](http://www.mnsu.edu/150/)

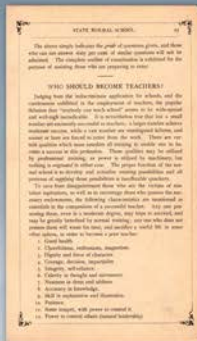
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# Academics



Mankato State Normal School catalogues, 1877-1878.



Students studying in the library, Mankato State Normal School, circa 1900.



Student working at a computer, Mankato State University, 1994.



Students sitting on the steps of a local building, circa 1870.

When Mankato State Normal School opened in 1868 its focus was strictly to train students—many without high school diplomas—to become school teachers. Tuition was free to those who pledged to teach for two years in Minnesota public schools. Minnesota's Normal Schools became State Teacher Colleges in 1921 and continued to provide teacher training. Over time the curriculum expanded to include a liberal arts education as well as graduate studies. This prompted a few more institutional name changes and several reorganizations of areas of study to programs then Divisions, Schools, and finally its current structure as Colleges.



Mankato State Teachers College Class of 1924.

[www.mnsu.edu/150/](http://www.mnsu.edu/150/)

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# Athletics



Men's Basketball Team, 1922.



Men's Football Team, 1922.



Football Coach and Men's Athletic Director, J. Robert (Bob) Oles, circa 1950.



Coach C.P. Blakeslee, 1950.



Winning Coach, Romya "Rummy" Macias, 1959.



Mankato Mavericks over the years.



Football game program, 1955.



Mankato State Normal School, Women's Basketball Team, 1910.

Varsity athletics as we know it began at Mankato State Teachers College in 1921-1922 with the formation of the men's basketball program and the hiring of coach C.P. Blakeslee. Hugh Jameson joined the following year as the first director of athletics and football coach. Early women's sports included basketball, indoor baseball, volleyball and soccer. While some early games were played against outside teams, women's athletics remained mostly intramural until 1964.



Football team, 1933.

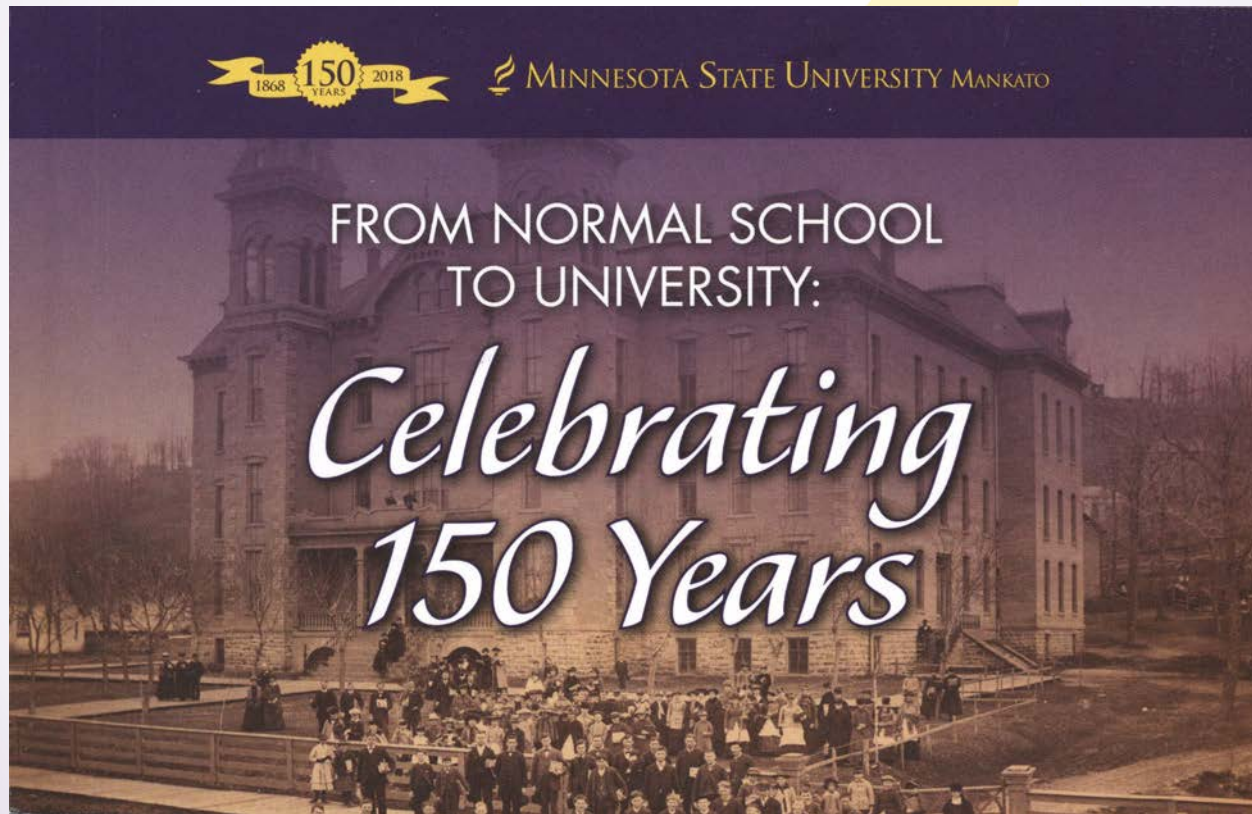
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# Postcard Book

(ISBN: ꞡz 9780972913409)



# We are now MSU Authors!

150 YEARS 1862-2018

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO

ANNE STENZE  
DAARDI SIZEMORE  
HEIDI SOUTHWORTH  
MEE XIONG  
MINNESOTA STATE MANKATO AUTHORS  
2018

READ

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# #Prepping for #MNSU150

aka Social Media Facts of the Day for each day  
August 2017 – December 2018

**Team:** Non-Archives library student workers and MSU History Club

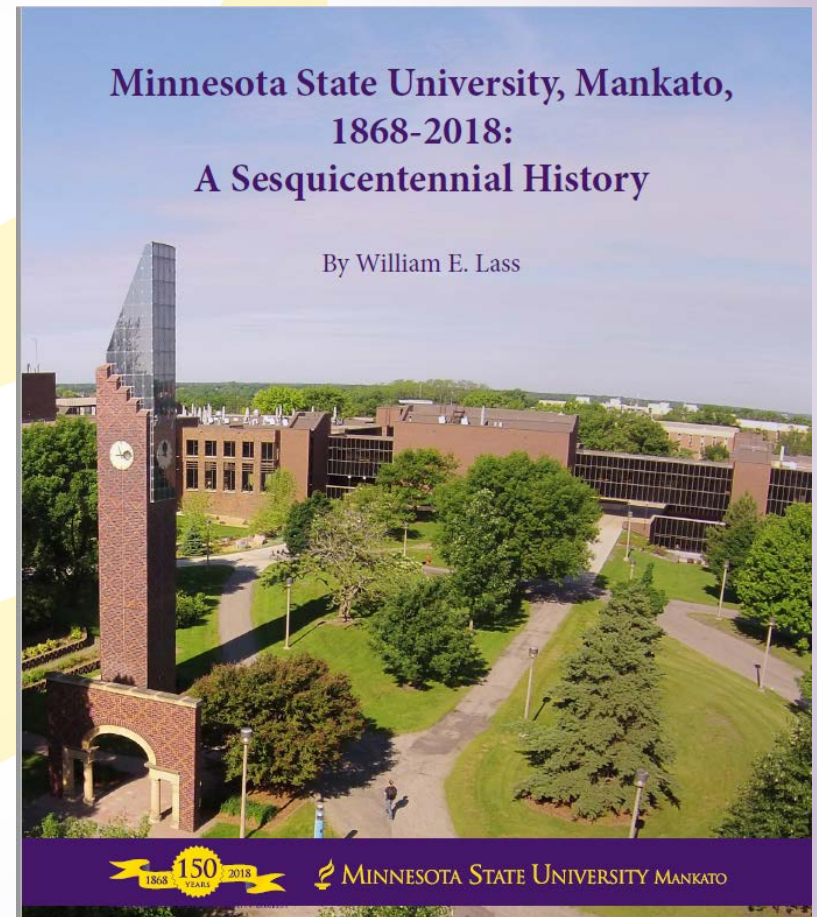
**How:** shared one-drive folder that includes a powerpoint presentation, excel spreadsheet, suggested hashtags, additional resources and documentation.

The image displays three screenshots of tweets from the account MN State Mankato (@MNSUMankato).  
1. The first tweet, dated 11:40 AM on 7 Oct 2017, features a black and white photograph of a large, multi-story brick building with a prominent external staircase. The text reads: "#DidYouKnow #MNSU held class for the first time in school history on this date in 1868. #MNSU150".  
2. The second tweet, dated 8:52 AM on 16 Oct 2017, includes a vintage poster for a "1970 HOMECOMING CONCERT" featuring "THE STEVIE WONDER SHOW" on Friday, October 16 at 8:00 p.m. in the Highland Arena. The text above the poster says: "#OTD in 1970 #StevieWonder performed in Highland Arena! #MNSU150".  
3. The third tweet, dated 7 Sep 2017, shows a photograph of a large, modern fountain with multiple water jets. The text reads: "Installed in 1969, the #MNSU Fountain is still the centerpiece of the campus mall! #TBT #MNSU150".

# History Book:

Minnesota State University, Mankato, 1868-2018:  
A Sesquicentennial History

- First 150<sup>th</sup> activity
- Research began 2016
- Final content delivered 2018
- Publication date is TBD





# History books are a lot of work

- Digital Collections needed for:

- Research
- Image Selection
  - Includes: ARCH and Minnesota Reflections
  - Identified metadata issues

- Challenges

- Injured author
- Not yet digitized years of school newspaper
- Time
  - Research support
  - Editing/Image selection



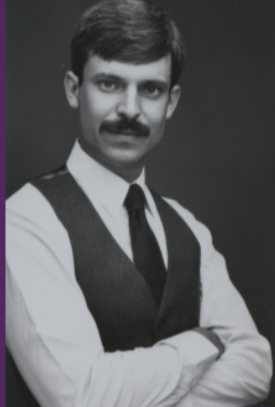
# 150<sup>th</sup> History PowerPoint



- Asked (and volunteered) to speak about history of the university
- Revised existing presentation
  - Updated content
  - Increased use of materials from digital collections

# Hall of Champions

150 YEARS 1862-2012 MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO



**Jim Chalgren**

Jim Chalgren, a then graduate student in the Counseling and Student Personnel program, founded the Alternative Lifestyles Office in 1977, the second center of its kind on at a U.S. college or university. His tireless efforts to challenge prejudice, educate students and fight for change built the foundation for the vibrant presence the LGBT Center has ultimately established on campus and in the community.

Dedicated in Jim Chalgren's honor in 2008, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Center at Minnesota State University, Mankato provides support, advocacy, referral and a sense of community to LGBTQQA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and allied individuals) students.

Until his death in 2000, Jim lived a heroic life as an activist, garnering state and national attention and continuing to push for gay rights despite battling AIDS. In Jim's memory, the Jim Chalgren Award is presented annually to honor one staff or faculty person who has acted as a visible and courageous supporter of the LGBT community and the LGBT center.

- 6 exhibit cases with A LOT of traffic
- How to sesquicentennialize?
- Reuse content!

# Sesquicentennial Projects Made Possible by... Digital Collections!



1975 computer lab at Mankato State University. MSU-UA-309-12063. University Archives, Memorial Library, Minnesota State University.

# Fallout

This is not a drill...

- Increased Collaboration Across Campus
- Increased Workloads
- Beautiful Things
- Monetary Costs (\$\$\$\$)
- Increased Awareness
- Inconsistent Crediting
- Unexpected Fact Checking
- Ran out of Time
- The more you know – the more you realize you don't know

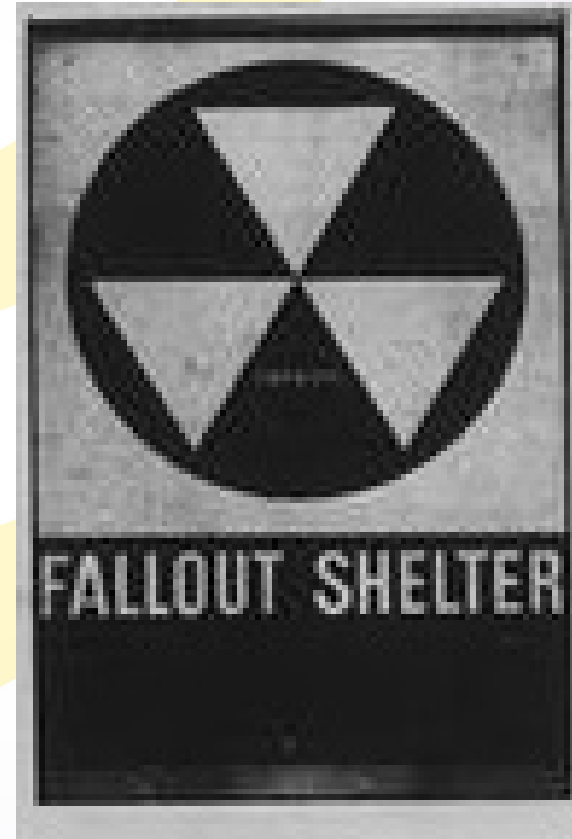


Image from The Reporter, 1986-07-16, Page 02.

<https://arch.lib.mnsu.edu/islandora/object/MSUrepository%3A100030>

# Questions? CONTACT US!

- [archives@mnsu.edu](mailto:archives@mnsu.edu) or 507-389-1029
- ARCH = <https://arch.lib.mnsu.edu/>
- Cornerstone = <https://cornerstone.lib.mnsu.edu/>
- University Archives = <http://lib.mnsu.edu/archives/>
- Sesquicentennial page = <http://www.mnsu.edu/150/>