INTRODUCTION:
A major component of the Harry Brorby Project has been the digitization of photos, correspondence, exhibition pamphlets, sketches, artwork, among other things garnered from a collection of old beer boxes. The importance of our methodologies has been crucial to the organization and representation of archived items, especially given the the allotted time the course affords. Time restraints have been prevalent in making the selection process. This is especially true in our case, since our course has issued the completion of individual projects. This has included a research paper analyzing the compilation of our findings and digital portfolios presenting our research in a more visually and modern manner. Students have digitized based on what their topic entails, adhering to course rubric as well as to a responsibility to objectively represent Brorby’s life. We hope that this process will lead to further students interested in the life and work of Harry Brorby.

METHODOLOGIES:
At the beginning of our project, our methodological efforts in digitization stemmed from an anti-subjective approach. We initially attempted to scan everything available from the Brorby Collection in order to present a digital collection void of any bias aside from how the content was visually organized. We realized in time that attempting to digitize the entirety of the collection within the timeframe was near impossible. From there our methodology changed to a positivist, historically-objective view, that is, we wanted to digitize items that would give the viewer a historical perspective of Harry Brorby’s life and also create a newfound legacy for him both as a painter and a member of the Western Michigan community.

PROCESSES:
- Scanning photos using book scanner available at Van Wylen Library
- Improving the state of photos using programs such as Photoshop
- Storing information using Zotero (in progress), Google Drive, and Weebly
- Digitizing photos using professional DSLR cameras
- Organize and store files onto external hard drives

CONCLUSION:
Though we have only scratched the surface digitizing the Harry Brorby Collection, we seek to provide a framework for future students to expand upon. Throughout this process we have learned to utilize various digitization methods, processes to enhance aged photos through Photoshop, researched available locations for storing metadata such as the program Zotero, and integrated content onto a website platform. We learned that with simple tasks like scanning documents and photographs, we undertake the responsibility of post-mortem reputation management. Our subjective editing and digitization decisions play a crucial role in the projection of Harry Brorby’s status and legacy. Currently our collective efforts reside in digital storage devices to be added in a final digital portfolio of the Harry Brorby collection.

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