Archive / Library Reflection #01

Location: New York Historical Society

Date Visited: October 19th, 2016

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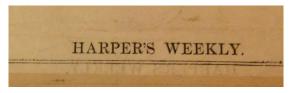
Nora Almeida/Ken Grace

Submitted by: Joyce Tam









FEBRUARY 3, 1872.]

GRAND CENTRAL DÉPÔT, NEW YORK-INTERIOR VIEW.-PHOTOGRAPHED BY ROCKWOOD, 845 BROADWAY.-[SEE PAGE 108.]

Title: Grand Central Depot, NEW YORK – INTERRIOR VIEW

Photographed by: Rockwood

Artist in print: S. Fox

Location: 845 Broadway, New York, New York

Source: Secondary Source – medium is based off a primary source

(photograph)

Published by: Harper's Weekly on February 3rd, 1872 in pg 105

When we were looking at the archival materials, this page from the newspaper caught my eye because it was detailed and colored in printed paper compared to many black and white photographs we saw. We spoke about how there was different techniques which was alternative to the advanced technology we have today. It could have been printed with ink by acid because of the fine details. I've studied French for a couple years and have basic knowledge of the language and thought it was interesting that it had an accent aigu and circonflexe on the word dépôt which made it very French. Grand Central started as a depot in October 1871 and was demolished. Grand Central Station was built on the very same site and opened in 1899-1900. Grand Central Terminal we know today officially opened in 1913.



Title: Redstone Rocket on Display 1957.

Location: Concourse, Grand Central Terminal, New York

Source: Primary source (photograph)

Notes: No known photographer.

I found this photograph interesting because when I did the first Grand Central Terminal Site Report and revised version, I was interested in the hole in the zodiac mural in the ceiling. We originally thought that it was a black spot left by the people who was cleaning the wall for historical preservation purposes from the first site visit. I decided to read about Grand Central Terminal on my own time, and found out that there was an exhibition of the Redstone Rocket by the US to counter Russia's launch of their Sputnik. This was noted during Professor Grace's lecture and by the tour guide in our second Grand Central Terminal visit. From several sources, many thought that the rocket was too tall and had to make a hole in the ceiling in order for the antenna to fit, but as seen in many pictures and the one above, it does not reach the ceiling as it is only as high as the arched windows. The hole was made to allow a wire to stabilize the structure from above.

Questions for further research:

- 1. What are the special processes in record preservation for different types of mediums?
- 2. How do they determine sources (when it was made, material) they obtained when going through the process known a deposit into the archival collection? What kind of research is necessary?