

Creating a Nation of Learners



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES



Museums Libraries & Archives in the Digital Age

Digital Tools for Information & Democracy
Chuck Thomas

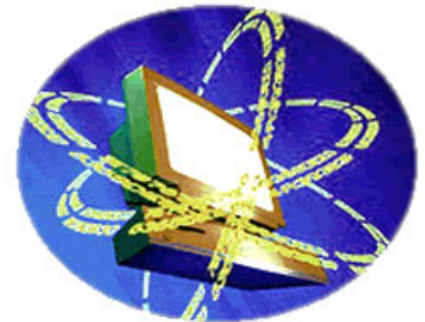
November 6, 2009
Charlottesville, VA

In the Beginning....

IMLS First Funded Digitization Projects In 1998 *

Primarily Archives/Special Collections Materials
~ \$5 Million Dollars to 18 Projects
~ + Several Education & Training Programs

***After LOC & NSF programs were winding down**



Since the Beginning....

- ~ **150 projects primarily involving digitization***
- ~ **Much greater variety of resources digitized**
- ~ **Bar has been raised: digitization plus...**

***Plus many, many more secondarily involving digitization**



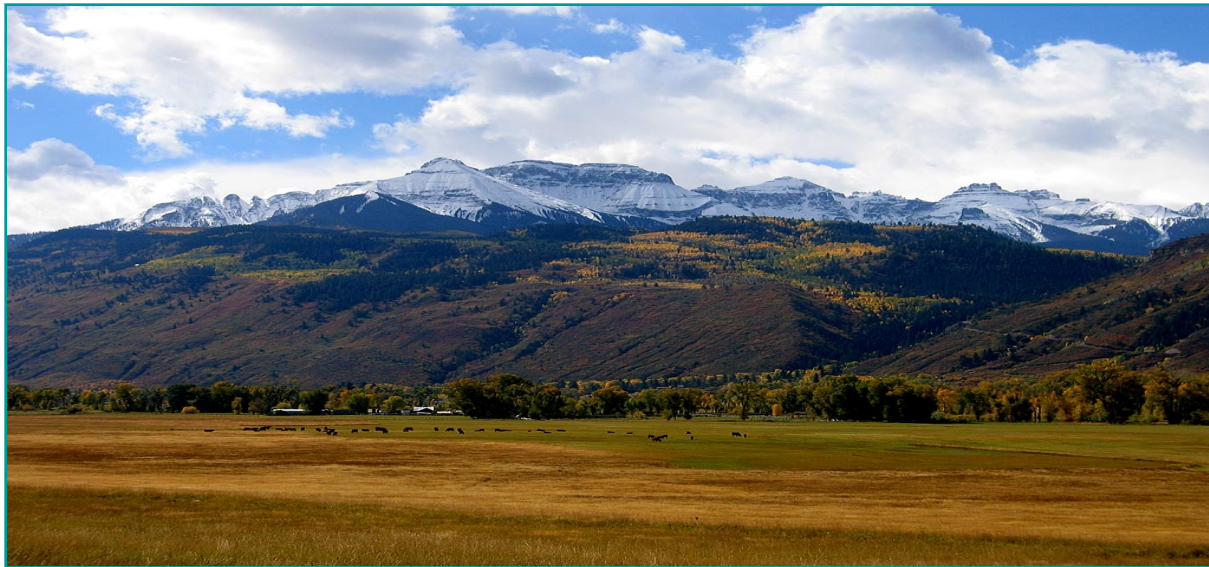
Early & Ongoing Challenges

- **Build the content landscape**
- **Find right economies of scale for digital information: digitization, management, discovery**
- **Enhance discovery & develop tools to support advanced search & re-use**
- **Address copyright barriers**

Economies of Scale: Collaboratives

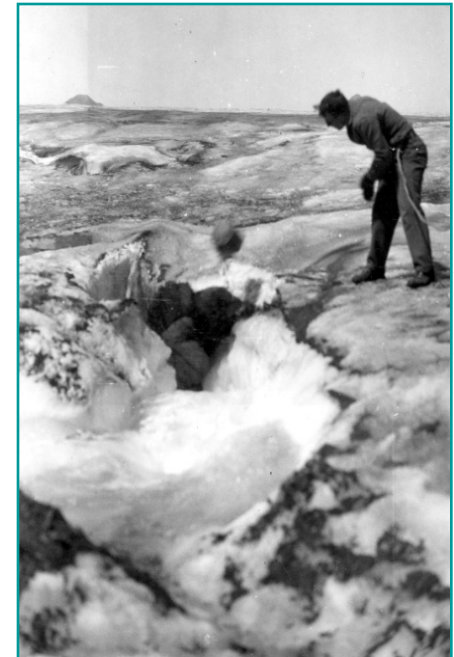
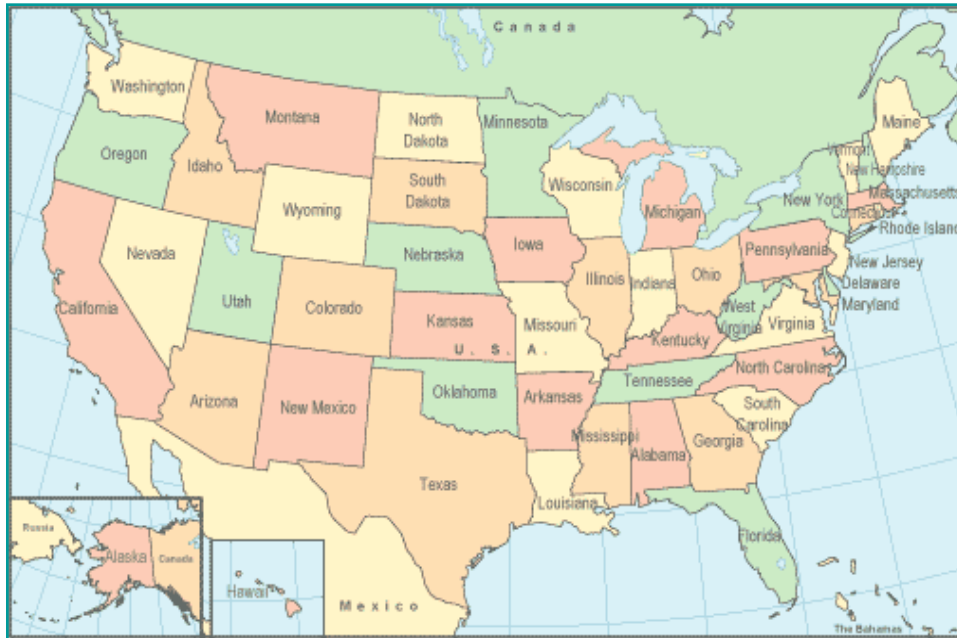
**Infrastructure, shared standards & practices
organizations, coordination**

Colorado Digitization Project - 1999



Economies of Scale: Collaboratives

Statewide initiatives in over 40 States



Plus thematic collections (Civil Rights and Water Resources)

Economies of Scale: Discovery

University of
Illinois Urbana-
Champaign
(2002, 2007)

IMLS Digital
Collections and
Content Registry

The screenshot shows the IMLS Digital Collections and Content website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar shows the URL <http://imlsdcc.grainger.uiuc.edu/>. The page features a header with the title "Digital Collections and Content" and the tagline "Working toward interoperable digital content." Below the header, there is a "What's Here?" section with a description of the digital resources and a "Project News" section with a list of recent projects. The main content area is titled "Digital Resources From Libraries, Museums, and Archives" and includes a search bar and a table of collections.

Digital Resources From Libraries, Museums, and Archives

Includes collections from model projects supported by IMLS that help preserve library resources, develop best practices for digitization, and digitize collections of national value.

Search for Items

Advanced Search | Search Collections Only

Browse Collections By:

Subject	Object	Place
Social Studies (279)	image (249)	United States (nation) (227)
Arts (109)	text (193)	Midwest U.S. (general region) (66)
Science (53)	physical object (81)	Southern U.S. (general region) (54)
Religion (23)	sound (53)	Illinois (state) (34)
Language Arts (23)	Interactive Resource (30)	Europe (continent) (33)
Vocational Education (15)	moving image (24)	Asia (continent) (24)

[view all subjects...](#) [view all objects...](#) [view all places...](#)

<http://imlsdcc.grainger.uiuc.edu/>

Ongoing: Sustainable Repositories



**Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology
(2006)**

**CAD Preservation
Research**

<http://facade.mit.edu/>

Ongoing: Sustainable Repositories

Alabama Commission on Higher Education (2006)

http://www.lockss.org/lockss/Alabama_Digital_Preservation_Network



Ongoing: Sustainable Repositories

Florida Center for Library Automation (2002, 2008)



<http://www.fcla.edu/digitalArchive/index.html>

Discovery and User Contribution Tools

Indianapolis Museum of Art (2006, 2008)

"Steve" Project



<http://steve.museum/>

Discovery and User Contribution Tools

George Mason University (2005)

Zotero



The screenshot shows the Zotero website interface. At the top, the Zotero logo is displayed with the tagline "See it. Save it. Sort it. Search it. Cite it." Below the logo are navigation links for Home, Documentation, Forums, For Developers, Blog, and About. A prominent red "Download" button is visible, with a note "Having trouble installing?". Below the download button, the text reads: "Zotero [zoh-TAIR-oh] is a free, easy-to-use Firefox extension to help you collect, manage, and cite your research sources. It lives right where you do your work — in the web browser itself." To the right of the main text, there are sections for "REQUIREMENTS", "Firefox 2.0" (noting it's not compatible with earlier versions), and "Operating system of your choice". A "view demo" button is also present. Below the main text, there is a "FROM THE BLOG" section with a link to an interview with Rosenzweig and Greenberg from January 2nd, 2007.

The browser window shows the Library of Congress Online Catalog search results for "Shakespeare: the invention of the human". The search results display the title "Shakespeare: the invention of the human / Harold Bloom." and the author "Bloom, Harold". The browser's address bar shows the URL "http://catalog.loc.gov/cgi-bin/PwebRecon.cgi?..." and the search results are displayed in a table with columns for Title, Author, and Place. The Zotero extension is visible in the browser's toolbar, and a red box highlights the "Save Item" button in the extension's interface.

<http://www.zotero.org/>

Presentation Tools

George Mason
University (2007)

Omeka



<http://omeka.org/>

Solutions to Copyright Barriers:

Books



University of Michigan (2008)

Copyright Review Management System

A collaborative resource for finding the copyright status of books published in the US between 1923 & 1963

Solutions to Copyright Barriers: Archives



University of Maryland (2009)

Study of Copyright Practices of LAMs

Examines copyright practices of libraries, archives, and museums in the digitization of their holdings and the impact of these practices upon their users

Challenges Reconsidered

- **Build the content landscape**
- **Find the right economies of scale**
- **Enhance discovery & tools to support advanced search & re-use**
- **Address copyright barriers, and...**
- **Educate professionals to do this work, including roles in curation, data mgmt., etc.**

New Professional Careers



Cultural Heritage Information Professionals Workshop

Sarasota, FL, April 3-4, 2008

<http://chips.ci.fsu.edu/>



News This Past Week

Nov. 3rd: JISC released report Cloud Computing and Repositories: *Fedorazon*

Nov. 1st: "Removing All Restrictions: Cornell's New Policy on Use of Public Domain Reproductions"

Future Themes For IMLS

Promote greater consistency across LAMs digitizing materials (not just workflow, but policies, services, presentation, interoperation)

More intentional leveraging of digital resources to teach 21st century skills (see IMLS report at <http://www.imls.gov/about/21stCSkills.shtm>)

Encourage closer ties with International Communities (via OECD, UNESCO, other organizations doing work on creativity, innovation, access to information)

International Initiatives

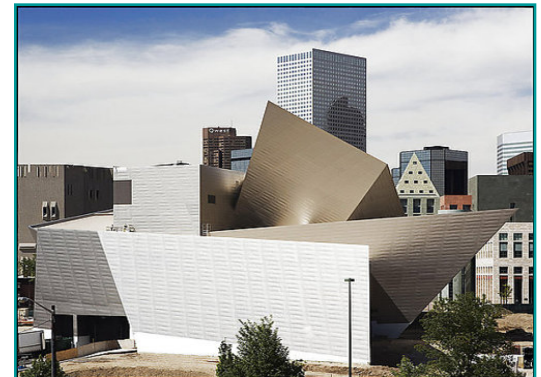
Goal:
Contribute to and Learn from the International Library and Museum Communities to Enhance Services



WebWise 2010

Imagining the Digital Future

March 3-5, 2010 - Denver, CO



<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/100709.shtm>

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