Breaking Down Barriers: Creating a Mobile Digitization Service

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CULTURE IN TRANSIT

MBQE

Digitizing & Democratizing Metropolitan New York’s Cultural Heritage
Funded by the Knight Foundation News Challenge on Libraries

18 month project starting in Feb 2015

Mobile digitization equipment for kits

Final deliverable - Toolkit
“How might we leverage libraries as a platform to build more knowledgeable communities?”
CIT Project Partners
Pond to Lake to Ocean
Mobile Digitization Equipment
Digitization Equipment Sets

Flatbed Scanner
Copy-Stand
Outreach
**Portable book & document scanners: The dilemma**

There are a lot of scanning solutions on the market, which scan documents in a myriad of ways. There are the conventional flatbed scanners, portable overhead scanners, portable document feed scanners, portable scanning units and even small devices that attach to your laptop with an extendable arm to capture content. This technology is undoubtedly beneficial in so many ways and these products are increasingly finding their way into many offices, home and digitization labs at universities and cultural heritage institutions worldwide.

Flatbed scanners are just one of the pieces of equipment already in use at cultural heritage institutions worldwide to digitize their collections for different purposes. However, what about the other scanning solutions? Would these work for creating preservation quality digital surrogates? What about the scanners that are portable and can be carried on a plane, and are often mentioned in connection with cultural heritage institutions? The answer is yes, but the technology is still in its infancy.

**The Great Equipment Weigh In**

We talk a lot (maybe too much?) about portability and ease of transportation of our mobile digitization kits. It's important because if we want to create a replicable model for others, we need to be fully transparent not only about the quality of the kit we've purchased and what we recommend but also how much it weighs. So how much do they weigh?

With everyone the itemized breakdown and cost of our kits with the publication of the new kits. But what we haven't done is shared with everyone just how much...
Project Strand 1: Community Scanning
Ridgewood
Woodhaven
Sunnyside
Rochdale Village
Village
St Albans
Richmond Hill
Douglaston & Little Neck
Forest Hills
Lefferts
St Albans
Rochdale Village
Richmond Hill
Woodhaven
Sunnyside
Woodside
Community Scanning in Queens
Working on Paper: Consent & Metadata

- Donors work one on one with staff to complete consent & metadata forms
- Prepare folder of materials for scanning
While the donor waits...

- Staff digitize items, saved as TIFF files according to institutional standards and naming conventions
- Create a thumb drive for the donor with TIFF & JPEG files
- Load external HD with all donations
Community beyond the Library

Boys and Girls High School
Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn

Green-Wood Cemetery
Brooklyn

Neir's Tavern
Woodhaven, Queens

Emanuel United Church of Christ
Woodhaven, Queens
Project Strand 2: Cultural Heritage Institution Scanning
“How might we leverage libraries as a platform to build more knowledgeable communities?”
Goals: METRO

- DPLA and ESDN
- Support needs of our smaller/underfunded members
- Pilot small-scale digitization service for members
- Collections to seed METRO’s digital platform
- Learn about our member needs - digitization and related
Onsite work

Offsite work
Wildlife Conservation Society  LGBT Community Center

New York Academy of Medicine  Hostos Community College

Fordham University  General Society for Mechanics & Tradesmen

The Grolier Club  White Plains Public Library

Yeshiva University  Bronx Community College
So Far.....

- 9 METRO member institutions visited
- Over 1,400 unique items digitized
- 7 collections in METRO’s Digital Culture
- 4 collections in DPLA
New York Academy of Medicine, Carte de Visite Collection

The Carte de Visite Collection consists of 223 late 19th and early 20th century photographs of national and international figures in medicine and public health. Many are from the New York area.

Learn More About the Collection

Carte de Visite, A.S. Ball
Carte-de-visite of A.S. Ball, taken by photographic studio Rockwood and Co.

Hostos Community College, Hostos Arts and Culture Collection

The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture Collection includes 101 promotional cards featuring original artwork that documents musical performances, gallery exhibitions and art installations that have taken place at Hostos Community College. The cards illustrate the incredible variety of artists and performers who have come together at this dynamic South Bronx venue.

Learn More About the Collection

'Sophy' Concert Postcard
Postcard advertising a gala concert by 'Sophy' a Puerto Rican vocalist, held on November 14, 1998.

White Plains Public Library, White Plains Collection

The White Plains Collection is comprised of materials relevant to the history of White Plains, New York. Our digital collection contains photographs spanning from the late 19th to late 20th centuries. These 246 photographs document civic life, street scenes, and the dramatic change in the character of White Plains through suburban development and urban renewal.

Learn More About the Collection

13 Colonies Float in 1933 Parade

WCS Archives, Ephemera Collection

This digital collection includes 112 items from the Wildlife Conservation Society Archives’ extensive collection of publications and printed ephemera created by WCS, which began in 1895 in the New York Zoological Society. Within this digital collection are materials related to exhibits and events at WCS’s Bronx Zoo and New York Aquarium and souvenirs from the New York Aquarium. Materials date from 1911 to 1992, with the bulk dating from the 1950s through the 1980s.

Learn More About the Collection

Admission ticket for grand re-opening of the Farm-in-the-Zoo exhibit

Admission ticket for re-opening of Farm-in-the-Zoo exhibit at the New York Zoological Park on May 7, circa 1957

Admission ticket for opening of new Great Ape House exhibit

Admission ticket for opening of new Great Ape House at the New York Zoological Park on October 12, 1950

Admission ticket to Breakfast by the Sea event, May 19, 1985, New York Aquarium

Search Results

Your search for white plains returned 246 results.
Refined by: White Plains Public Library

Items per page: 10  Sort by: Relevance

By Format
- Image 246

Contributing Institution
- White Plains Public Library

Partner
- Empire State Digital Network 246

By Date
- From
  - Month
  - Day
  - Year

Image
Winchester Street in White Plains
YMCA of the USA

Winchester Street in White Plains showing houses in the background and trash and debris in the foreground. Image was included in a publication entitled Italians in an American Community by Charles R. Towson, secretary of the Industrial Department, International Committee, YMCA published circa 1913.

View Object

Image
Description of White Plains Village
1918

Description of the village of White Plains including information on population (1,087 at time of writing), location of the village, number and denomination of churches and number of dwellings. The description includes an illustration of the central part of the village.

View Object
LGBT Center: Unique & Historically Important
Yeshiva University: Oversize & Inaccessible
Use Cases of Digitized Content

**A Sense of Place: Research Workshop**

January’s edition of the White Plains History Roundtable will be A Sense of Place: Research Workshop on Wednesday, January 20, from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.

Ever wondered what the layers of history and human experience are that combine to create White Plains? Join Library Director Ben Himelfarb and student of White Plains history Cliff Blau to learn how to research the history of any address, building, business, White Plains. Maps, directories, photographs, and online resources from the Collection will be available for everyone to use.

Come prepared with a favorite place to research and we will walk you through the process of discovering more of time for storytelling and sharing the history we are bound to uncover. We hope you’ll leave with a stronger sense of worry and spend time in.

The White Plains History Roundtable is an educational, participatory, and social event where we hear a present topic, examine primary source documents from the White Plains Collection, and engage in discussion with each other.

January’s History Roundtable is one of many programs commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the City of White Plains. Check out the City’s Website and the White Plains Historical Society for information on other events!

**White Plains Trivia Night**

**Wednesday, March 30**

6:00 – 8:00 PM

**White Plains Public Library**

100 Main Ave, White Plains, NY 10601

Join us for a night of history, food, prizes, & fun!

Come together with a team of 4-6 people or come solo, and you’ll be added to a team.

**Bronx Zoo’s African Plains Exhibit**

See Vintage Pictures of the Opening of the Bronx Zoo’s African Plains Exhibit

Rebecca OConnell

Filed under: Animals

New York Zoological Park

African Plains

You are cordially invited to attend the opening of the AFRICAN PLAINS NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL PARK THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1941 AT 12 NOON

Please make a reservation on the enclosed card. Notify Mr. Solomon in advance.

R.S.V.P.

Nearly 75 years ago, on May 1, 1941, the Bronx Zoo opened its iconic African Plains Exhibit. The display set new standards for zoo habitats and was a huge success, drawing about 85,000 visitors in a single day even in its early days. In honor of the exhibit’s anniversary, the...
Why Digitize:

Access vs. Preservation

Or both?
Access

Wallace Letters Online

Explore this amazing collection of letters from one of the world’s most significant scientists, British naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace (1823 - 1913). Wallace’s fascinating letters and manuscripts are brought together in one place for the first time by the Wallace Correspondence Project, in this digital archive called Wallace Letters Online.

Ancestral correspondence between Wallace and Charles Darwin about evolution by natural selection.

Alfred Russel Wallace’s letters contain:

- Iconic correspondence between Wallace and Charles Darwin about evolution by natural selection.
- Important observations and discoveries made when in the Malay Archipelago (1854 - 1862).
- Engaging discussions on a variety of subjects, scientific and social such as geology, anthropology, ethnomedicine, astrology, socialism, land reform and spiritualism.

Wallace’s correspondents included many of 19th century science and society, Charles Darwin, Thomas Huxley, Joseph Dalton Hooker and Gertrude Jekyll, to name just a few.

What is in Wallace Letters Online?

This digital archive contains scans and transcripts of letters written and received by Wallace as well as a selection of other Wallace manuscripts.

Discover more detail about what is in the archive and how to use the data by downloading:

More about Wallace Letters Online (PDF) •

Terms and conditions for use of data (PDF) •

If you have any questions please contact us.

Search

You can search Wallace Letters Online by keyword here.

Search archive •

To use multiple search terms such as person, address and date continue to the search page.
Preservation

Flooding Threatens The Times's Picture Archive

A broken pipe on Saturday morning sent water cascading into the Iwanowska — the storage area where The Times keeps its massive collection of historical photos, along with newspaper clippings, artwork, records, books.

National Library of Wales identifies fire-damaged archives

4 June 2013 | Iriq Wales

The National Library of Wales has identified some of the items damaged or destroyed in a fire caused accidentally by workers using a blowtorch.

Archive material which was smoke or water damaged beyond repair included papers relating to Welsh football and the Welsh Green Party.

Three boxes of 19th Century chapel records from Carmarthen had already been identified as destroyed.

The cost of repairs to the Aberystwyth library is expected to be up to £1.5m.

Some 140 crates of material were badly damaged by water and smoke.

It is among these crates that items beyond recovery have been identified.

The fire, which gutted a section of the library's roof, broke out on 26 April, a Friday.

Hospital Archives Burn in Brooklyn Warehouse

Charred Documents Rain on Williamsburg for Most of Weekend

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Digitization can be mutually beneficial:

Access & Preservation
The Digital Divide:

The Haves and The Have Nots
NYPL & General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen: A Tale of Two Institutions

NYPL: 679,237 items digitized from their collections and available online

General Society: 0 items digitized from their collections and available online
SPECIALS
In memory of a happy occasion
April 24th, 1920

We, the members of the class of Decorative Design, present on this joyous occasion of the class dinner to express our sincere feelings of appreciation and gratitude to the Mechanics Institute and its director, Mr. Louis Roullier, for all the comradeship and opportunities which that great institution has given us.

John J. Leiss '20
James Cline '30
Gustave L. Liechman '20
Henry W. McCanta '30

E. Roemers '20
Joseph A. Doakes '20

Franklin D. Eaton '20

Alfred P. Foster '20

Julia E. Kirtland '20

Charles J. Manley '20
Contact Us!

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