THE HUNTINGTON DIGITAL LIBRARY

Negotiating a Sharp Curve

OCLC CONTENTdm Meeting, Anaheim, 2012
BACKGROUND: SO LONG AGO….

- Photo duplication began in the 1930s
- Digital photography began in 1994
BACKGROUND

Sources:

1) Large scale scanning projects:
   - Grant Projects
     - Solano-Reeve Map Collection
     - Maynard Parker Negatives, Photographs and Other Materials collection
   - Outside or Patron driven photo orders
     - Early English Ballads

2) Scattered In-house / Outside orders
   - Whittington
   - Pierce

3) Restricted databases
   - Huntington Media System
SELECTING CONTENTdm:
DISCOVERING THE CURVE

- 2008 – DIG formed
- 2009 – RFPs sent out
- 2009 – CONTENTdm selected
- 2010 – Began using CONTENTdm
CHALLENGES: INTO THE CURVE

• No new staff, so all digital library cataloging had to be absorbed into normal workflow.

• Leveraging existing metadata: reuse MARC cataloging records, databases, paper finding aids, etc. to describe materials.

• For some, little or no existing metadata.

• Recycle, repurpose, reuse!
CHALLENGES: STAYING ON TRACK

- Maintain standards and consistency:
  - Document: Created local Huntington Digital Library Guidelines so that all departments and future projects could use the same standards.
  - Quality control over migration: crosswalks, errors in data transmissions all had to be monitored. Whenever you move, something doesn’t fit!
  - Use nationally accepted vocabularies: Library of Congress (LC) established forms of names and corporate bodies, LC Subject Headings, Art and Architecture Thesaurus (Getty) Form/Genre Headings.
CHALLENGES:
EXAMPLE OF LITTLE OR NO EXISTING METADATA
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Photographer</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Call Number</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Physical Description</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Image Number</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Digital Collection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Finding Aid/Guide to Collection</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Publication Rights</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Digital Format</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cataloging Notes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Unique Digital Identifier</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Image Request</strong></td>
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CHALLENGES:
EXAMPLE OF LEVERAGING DATA
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WHERE ARE WE NOW?
ALMOST OUT OF THE CURVE

- Documentation and procedures in place
  - Iterative process, constant review
- Small staff
- Continued review and cleaning of past work
  - Have multiple legacy databases
- New Projects in the pipeline
- New Collections
AROUND THE CURVE
AROUND THE CURVE
Examples / Screen Shots
Huntington Digital Library

Search for "Yale"

Prints and Ephemera

About this collection
The Prints and Ephemera collection in the Digital Library contains a selection from the Huntington Library's holdings of more than 550,000 prints, posters, ephemera, color plate books and extra-illustrated books. American and British images dominate this incredible archive of visual culture spanning five centuries—from the 1200s through the 1950s—with special emphasis on eighteenth and nineteenth century society. Subjects of particular significance and strength include Aeronautics, the American Civil War, British Portraits, Business & Commerce, California (notably its citrus industry, historical views, and the development of Southern California), Fashion, Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, Political and Social Caricatures, Printing History, Theatre, Tobacco, Transportation (especially American railroads and maritime history), and Urban Views. Special holdings include the Diana K remotely Collection of Art Education Ephemera, the Jay T. Last Collection of Lithographic and Social History, and the John H. Kemble Maritime Collection.

Browse these suggested topics
- Jay T. Last Fruit Box Labels (1013)
- Diana K remotely Collection of Art Education Ephemera (629)
- John H. Kemble Maritime Ephemera (1203)
- John H. Kemble Posters (0)
S.S. Yale Dinner.

Title: S. S. Yale Dinner.
Publisher: Los Angeles Steamship Company
Place of Publication: Los Angeles
Date: 1926
On board S.S. Yale ... dinner. 1932


Southern California Edison Photographs and Negatives
The S.S. Harvard right and the S.S. Yale left at San Pedro Harbor.

Call Number: 02 - 00186
Photographer: Bishop, G. Haven
Title: The S.S. Harvard right and the S.S. Yale left at San Pedro Harbor.
Location Depicted: San Pedro Los Angeles, Calif. Los Angeles County Calif.
Date: 1910
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thumbnail</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Collection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Palmer, George : parcels between Lemon &amp; Orange Sts., Temple &amp; Gibson Tract.</td>
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<td>Maps</td>
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<td>Palmer, George : sketch maps.</td>
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<td>Map of the land belonging to George Palmer in the Temple &amp; Gibson Tract.</td>
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<td>Map of a part of the Rattlesnake Island.</td>
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<td>Rancho San Pedro: S38.</td>
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<td>Maps</td>
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<td>Rancho San Pedro: S66 - sketch maps.</td>
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<td>1906</td>
<td>A panoramic view of Belgenland Steamship, created by E.A. Ferguson with compliments from Miss C. Rogers &amp; Co.</td>
<td>Maps</td>
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<td>1925</td>
<td>A panoramic view of the steamship Belgenland, docked at San Pedro in Los Angeles.</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
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<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>A panoramic view of Cabrillo Beach in San Pedro. The beach is along the coast, on either side of the breakwater. There are numerous sailboats and larger vessels in the background, but very few people on the beach and in the water.</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
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<td>1936</td>
<td>A view of Point Fermin in San Pedro. A man leans against an automobile and two women sit</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td></td>
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<td>(190-) Greater Los Angeles, Los Angeles, Hollywood, Wilmington and San Pedro.</td>
<td>Maps</td>
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<td>Map of the City of San Pedro: compiled from official records and personal surveys.</td>
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Map of the City of San Pedro: compiled from official records and personal surveys.

Title: Map of the City of San Pedro: compiled from official records and personal surveys.
Author: Ferguson, E. A.
THANK YOU!

Mario M. Einaudi
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Botanical Gardens
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