Bigger plan needed

Managing the Collective Collection

Richard Ovenden, Keeper of Special Collections and Associate Director
Bodleian Library, University of Oxford
DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY
OF
IAN MOWAT
OCLC devotee
University Librarian, Edinburgh
best of men
Uniformity vs. Uniqueness

• The sameness of e-resources
• New aggregations and mass digitization
• Response:
  – Adding value
  – Local unique
  – Global unique
• Digital archival collections: special challenges
• Missed opportunities
• In the flesh: what is the value of the real?
• Funding issues
• Management issues for the new collections
The uniformity of e-resources

• It's so easy …
Digital resources

- 2007-8 Over 6 million downloads from our licensed collections

  Significant growth in the acquisition of electronic collections
  - 2002-3 = 12,000 electronic journals
  - 2008-9 = 29,500 electronic journals

Intensively used:
  - Science Direct: second heaviest user in the UK
  - JSTOR: Oxford is the heaviest user worldwide
ABSTRACTS OF CHEMICAL PAPERS

ISSUED BY THE
BUREAU OF CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS

A. PURE CHEMISTRY

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY.

BUREAU:

Chairman:

J. C. Philip, O.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.S.

Nominated by the Chemical | Nominated by the Society of
Current Acquisitions

• New books:
  – 40,000 purchased in 2007/08
  – 84,000 acquired through Legal Deposit

• Current journal subscriptions:
  – 12,095 (print)
  – 18,570 (online)
  – 110,000 journal parts acquired through Legal Deposit

• 2,000 Maps and atlases

• 1,200 music scores
New aggregations and mass digitization

• Meta-aggregators
  – Google: G5 to G23
  – Google in-copyright deal changes things
  – Will Google acquire other digital libraries?
  – ArtStor
  – JISC: EEBO plus ECCO plus EEBO TCP
On the origin of the species by means of natural selection, or, The...

The Origin of Species

By means of natural selection, and the preservation of favored races in the struggle for life.
Adding value

• **New services**
  – Tagging: Electronic Enlightenment
  – Text encoding: EEBO TCP Oxford-Michigan
  – Text mining: Oxford Google copy
  – Social tagging
  – APIs

• **New business models**
  – All free (Medieval and Renaissance manuscripts)
  – Free but with advertising (? Political posters)
  – Some free, some not (Electronic Ephemera)
  – All subscription (Electronic Enlightenment)
Enlightenment

Enjoy unrivalled access to the long 18th-century

Explore the original web of correspondence: read letters between the founders of the modern world and their friends and families, bankers and booksellers, patrons and publishers.
Project Description / Production / OCR

Why OCR Won't Work:
Here is an example of a scanned page of original text, followed by the same page as read by OCR software.
Local unique

- Sensible stewardship of locally-generated assets:
  - Institutional repositories
  - University archive
  - Research Data
The American Future: A History, by Simon Schama

What is an American?

EPISODE 4 OF:

- [The American Future: A History, by Simon Schama](#)

IN THIS SERIES:

Previous:
- American Fervour
  - 3 days left to watch

Next:
- You're at the last episode.

CATEGORIES:

Genres:
- Factual > History
- Factual > Politics

Format:
- Documentaries

ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

Duration: 59 mins

3 days left to watch (or download at BBC iPlayer).
Oberlin College Digital Collections

BROADSIDE CALLING A MASS MEETING TO CELEBRATE THE RELEASE OF THE RESCUERS

OUT-O'-JAIL!

THE RESCUERS

Are coming TO-NIGHT!

At a public Meeting at the Mayor's Office it was voted that the citizens, en masse, turn out to meet them at the CARB, and escort them to the Church for Public Reception. The undersigned were appointed a Committee of Arrangements:

H.L. HENRY, A.N. BECHER, W.P. BARRIS.

J.M. ELIAS, E.R. STILES.

The committee appointed Father Keep for President of the Meeting at the church, and Prof. J.M. Ellis, Marshall. All the citizens are invited to meet the Rescuers at the Depot at half-past seven. The procession will form after the Band in the following order:

The Mayor and Council; The Fire Department in Uniform; The Rescuers; The Citizens.

Let there be a grand gathering!

Oberlin, July 8. By order of Committee of Arrangements.
Global unique

- Selected and curated content that has been actively acquired through competition
  - ‘Traditional’ Special collections
  - Personal digital collections
  - Copy-specific printed books
Research infrastructure: funny lists, catalogues and finding aids

- Social networking and Web 2.0 = Nothing new
- Citation lists
- View indexes
- First-line index
- Iconographic indexes
  - Hassall’s Vassells
  - Shared through ArtStor AND provided locally
Global unique: research opportunities

- Acquisition
- Exhibition
- Book
- Digital resource
- Conferences
- Exhibition tour
- Academic kudos
Early Manuscripts at Oxford University

Digital facsimiles of complete manuscripts, scanned directly from the

This site provides access to over 80 early manuscripts now in institutions associated with Oxford. Please read the information about using this website.

Between 1995 and 2000 the Early Manuscripts Imaging Project created high resolution manuscripts which were selected as major treasures from their respective libraries, to ensure availability for originals which may otherwise be too fragile for handling.

In 2001 interim responsibility was taken up by the Libraries Automation Service's R&I undertook a complete redesign of the site to improve the service. The site is now in the Digital Library, to whom enquiries should be addressed.

Please note: We are aware that a number of manuscripts are incomplete. Unfortunately some images only came to light after the project had completed (during the redesign of the process of identifying the resources needed to complete the scanning of the incomplete manuscripts are still accessible from this site, on the principle that a new manuscript is better than none at all.

We realise that this situation can be frustrating but currently have no further information make the missing images available.
**Shikshapatri text & artha by Nityanandamuni (folio 1 verso)**

Verse 1

"(SAHAJANAND SWAMI) meditate in My heart upon Lord Shri Krishna, on whose left stands Râchâ, on whose bosom resides Lakshiji and who plays (with His Bhisita) in Vrndavan."
Shakespeare Quartos Archive
JISC-NEH funded
Two versions of a speech?

*Hamlet*, Q1, 1603, STC 22275
BL C.34.k.1, Sig. E4v

*Hamlet*, Q2, 1605, STC 22276
BL C.34.k.2, Sig. F4v
Lost by his latter, with all bands of Law
You most valiant brother, so much for him.
Now for ourself, and for this time of meeting.
This much the buffeted we, here we were
To bear the yoke of young Fortinbras.
Whose impious and bred disloyalty
Of his wife serves to support.
We further gave bate, in that the lessers,
The whole and full proportion are in this.
Out of his faction, we have done.
You good Cornelius, and your daughter.
For basters of this meeting to old Norway,
Gilt in your youth, further pernicious power.
To succor with the King, more then the scope.
Of these declined Articles allow.
For well, and lay your hand commend your duty.
Ces.Fr. In that, and all things will we now our duty.
Eng. We doubt it nothing, hastily the face.
And now Lutris what the newers with you?
You could not of some face, what the Lutris?
You cannot speak of madmen to the young.
And left your voice; what would 'twas the younger.
That shall be my offer, nor thy asking.
The head is not more passive in the heart.
The hand more influence shall to the mouth.
The time is the chance of Denmark to the nation.
What would it not have Lutris.
Lut. My dread Lord, your presence, and your majesty.
Your leisure and favour to return to France.
From whence though willingly I came to Denmark,
To bear my duty in your Coronation.
Yestrow I must confess, that futhe slow.
My thoughts and wishes bend against toward France.
And show them to your gracious leisure and pardon.
Eng. Have you your fathers leisure, what fate follows?
Par. He hath my Lord wrong from me, my ill leisure.
By laborious petition, and as I left.
Your will I use, I do with good comfort.
The Tragedie of Hamlet
Importing the surrender of those Lands Lost by his father, with all bands of Law To our most valiant brother, so much for him: Now for our selve, and for this time of meeting, Thus much the business is, we have here writ To Norway unce of young Fortenbrasse Who impotent and bedred scarcely heares Of this his Nephewes purpose; to suppresses His further gate herein, in that the lieues, The lifts, and full proportions are all made Out of his subject, and we here dispatch You good Comelius, and you Valtemand, For bearers of this greeting to old Norway Guing to you no further personnall power To businesse with the King, more the scope Of these delated Articles allow: Farewell, and let your hast commend your dutie.

Cor. Vo. In that, and all things will we shew our duty.

King. We doubt it nothing, hartily farewell. And now Laetees what is the newes with you? You told vs of some sute, whast is Laetees? You cannot speake of reason to the Dane And lose your voice; what wouldst thou beg Laetees? That shall not be my offer, not thy asking, The head is more natre to the heart The hand more instrumentall to the mouth Then is the throne of Denmark to thy father, What wouldst thou have Laetees?
How do you make God laugh?

Tell Him your future plans

Source: Woody Allen
Personal digital collections: new phenomenon, new problem

- Bodleian a major repository of private papers
- 15% of the entries in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* based on Bodleian archival holdings
  - Politics: 6 British Prime Ministers, etc
  - Literature: Tolkien, Kafka, C S Lewis etc
  - Intellectuals: Isaiah Berlin, Bruce Chatwin etc
  - Organisations: Conservative Party, Anti-Apartheid Movement etc
- Rapid growth in personal media capture: depth and breadth:
  - Digital images, video, sound, personal digitization
  - Standard ‘Office’ materials: email, word processed files, spreadsheets
  - Communication media: webpages, blogs
We preserve and provide access to born-digital archives and manuscripts acquired by the Bodleian Library.

Digital Preservation Coalition
- DPC What's New in Digital Preservation version 18 just released
- DPC led consortium wins JISC contract for Digitisation Programme: Preservation Study.

News
- Bodleian Oriental Manuscripts on display at the European Parliament
- Alan Bennett donates his literary archive to the Bodleian Library

Contact Us

© Oxford University Library Services 2008 - Accessibility Statement - Webmaster Enquiries - Last modified on 30th October 2008 - Powered by Open Source CMS
Personal digital collections: new phenomenon, new problem

- **Major issue**: how do we change and adapt to these new creating/collecting realities in order to maintain our role as a national and international repository?
Personal digital collections: questions and implications

• Cultural phenomenon: does it have the same importance as paper?
  • Changing attitudes among creators / difference between public and private realms
    • Digital archaeology
    • Official ‘fear of disclosure’

• Do the digital equivalents of letters and drafts of literary work have a value?
  • Zadie Smith’s email
  • Clutag Press Archive: Bodleian’s first digital purchase

• Even if you want to preserve your digital ‘stuff’ yourself, how do you do it?
ARCHIPELAGO, Issue Two (Clutag Press, 2008)

Announcing the publication of ARCHIPELAGO Issue Two, available April 2008

Clutag Press is delighted to inform you that the second issue of ARCHIPELAGO is now available.

To speak geographically, this issue ranges from Donegal, Derry and Antrim to Scotland, via Galloway, Skye and Cromarty, to descend into England at Filey Brigg. It delays a few days to explore the Wash (neither sea nor land), then puts out again to round the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts. As it progresses it turns the archipelago this way and that, celebrating it across a host of literary, artistic, linguistic, historic, political and topographical trajectories and perspectives.

For more information and to order a copy please click here to visit the ARCHIPELAGO website.

Paul Abbott - FLOOD (Clutag Press, 2008)

Announcing the forthcoming publication of FLOOD by Paul Abbott with illustrations by Gail McNeillie, available February 2008

Limited edition of 100 copies.

22pp 170mm x 240mm ISBN 0-9553476-8-9

Paul Abbott's poem FLOOD is a 'Waste Land' for the twenty-first century, a timely and daring debut in the disaster genre, by a twenty-one-year-old in his final year at Oxford. Those who have read the first issue of Clutag's magazine Archipelago will have enjoyed a snapshot of the poem in its pages. Now it is offered complete in ten sections, illustrated with eight superbly grainy drawings by Gail McNeillie. The vision here - 'an Epic Newsflash' - is one of post-apocalyptic catastrophe 'couched,' we're told in a prefatory note 'somewhat in the film-cutting style of Soviet montage theory (which I read about on Wikipedia)'.

To read more, click here
Personal digital collections: signifiers

• Commercial players
  – BT Digital Vault
    • ‘Protect, share, store, and manage’
  – Apple Timecapsule
    • ‘You no longer have to worry about losing your digital life’
  – Social networking sites
    • Online deaths
    • Who controls a deceased persons profile and data on MySpace or Facebook?
A leap forward for backup.
Introducing Time Capsule. Automatic wireless backup for your Mac. Available in 500GB and 1TB models.
Personal digital collections: the challenge

• Challenge to the archival sector to offer better, more trusted services to creators/donors
The journey: past, present and future

- Previous and related work at Bodleian
- futureArch - objectives & implementation principles
- Current methods of coping and how futureArch's developments will help
Our new project

• Transform hybrid archive capacity over 3yrs
• Implementation principles:
  - Holistic view of the archival lifecycle
  - Work with relevant communities
  - Retain archival principles
  - Good fit with wider Library digital architecture
  - Distribute responsibilities - involve key personnel
  - Work with real collections
Policy objectives

• Establish hybrid archives workflow for whole lifecycle
• Establish roles & responsibilities (curatorial and technical)
• Establish and implement budgetary changes
Cultural objectives

- Address cultural & organisational changes
- Train curatorial staff (distributing knowledge of digital curation)
- Provide curatorial staff with tools that allow them to apply existing skills
- Two one-year graduate traineeships for would-be digital archivists
- Share lessons with other institutions
Cultural objectives

- Address cultural & organisational changes
- Train curatorial staff (distributing knowledge of digital curation)
- Provide curatorial staff with tools that allow them to apply existing skills
- Two one-year graduate traineeships for would-be digital archivists
- Share lessons with other institutions
Infrastructure objectives

- Establish Bodleian Electronic Archives & Manuscripts (BEAM) as a permanent production-level service
- Deliver suitable infrastructure for BEAM, which shares common components with Oxford Digital Library (ODL) and Oxford University Research Archive (ORA)
Collections objectives

- Develop new relationships with creators/donors of papers
  - Engender confidence in our digital curation capabilities
  - Insert the Library earlier in the donor workflow
- Enable easy, regular and secure electronic transfers to the Library
- Process our (identified) born-digital backlog
- Ramp up collection development of hybrid archives
Research support objectives

• Develop secure, on-site, access services for readers, which integrate finding aids with access to born-digital material
• Expose metadata about hybrid archives to third-party web services (where suitable)
• Incorporate archives into Search Oxford Libraries Online (SOLO).
On to current methods of coping...

• How we undertake some activities in the archive lifecycle now
• Issues with current practice
• How futureArch will make it better
Accession process

- **Currently**: uncertainty re. extent/nature of digital holdings, despite survey work
- Encourage capture of format information at accession, and direction of digital material to different (but related) workflow
Acquisition from older media

- Equipment, software and documentation
  - Acquire, store and maintain
- Slow, specialist, but small-ish quantities
- Draw on enthusiast expertise
- Develop and document processes
- Processes obliterate metadata
From manual to automated (mass) extraction

- Modern offline media in archival collections - more of it.
- Currently: imaged disk by disk
- Post futureArch:
  - En masse forensic imaging
  - Error logs
  - Hashing
  - Analysis of disks
  - Operates unattended

Up to 100 discs at once
Up to 150 diskettes at once
Extraction from diverse media

• **Currently:** configure solutions for media
• **Post futureArch:** forensic workstation supporting multiple devices:
  – Various hard drives & storage devices (e.g. IDE, SATA, SCSI)
  – Floppies, CDs and DVDs
  – Compact Flash, Micro Drives, Smart Media, Memory Stick, Memory Stick Pro, xD Cards, Secure Digital Media and Multimedia Cards
  – Write protection of source media, hashing, logs, data preview
Extract from Web?

- **Currently**: no strategies or tools for acquiring components of an archive that are scattered among online services

- **Post futureArch**:
  - Test extraction from different services (exploring legal and technical issues)
  - Develop curatorial guidelines and how-tos
  - Raise awareness among curatorial staff
Donor submission

• **Currently:**
  – Submission by email, etc.
  – Relationships with donors

• **Post futureArch:**
  – secure online submission tool for donors
  – Better assistance for donors
Storage and preservation

• **Currently:**
  - Small data safe (media)
  - Stand-alone storage
  - Regular directory structures
  - Accession-level metadata collected in spreadsheet
  - Lower level tool-generated metadata stored alongside data in directory structure
  - Manual technology watch

• **Post futureArch:**
  - DAMS storage layer
  - Fedora repositories
  - Repository services (authentication, PIDs, access preservation, etc.)
  - Accessible to curators
  - Improved ingest and metadata generation
  - Preservation planning and strategies developed and implemented through Planets tools
Processing and Cataloguing

• Currently:
  - Digital archivist supplies copies (sometimes re-formatted) to cataloguers - security concerns
  - Need new tricks for examining material (diplomatics)
  - Technical requirements (software, dual monitors)
  - Spreadsheets used for appraisal and arrangement
  - Intellectual arrangement takes precedence over format
  - 'MS. Digital' shelfmark

• Post futureArch:
  - Cataloguers have direct access to material via repository
  - Ability to update auto-generated repository metadata
  - Appraisal, arrangement and format transformations facilitated through repository services
  - Elimination of security concerns (no copies)
  - Established cataloguing rules and tips
### Arrangement using spreadsheets

- Used by Bodleian cataloguers for arranging archives
- Eliminate duplicates (hash values), often found in personal archive (backups)
- Assign and sort into series and date arrangements
Access

Now
- Few collections catalogued and accessible
- Exploring ideas around presentation
- Access via locked down reading room laptop
- Manual processes - preparing access environments
- Isolation of archival finding aids

Post futureArch
- Certain collections made accessible
- 'Publication pathways' for opening collections to researchers
- Researcher interfaces driven by content models & assoc. services
- Leverage relevant ORA interfaces and Fedora services
- Better linkage between finding aids and digital archives
- Develop reproduction services
- Thin client reading room service (Sun ray)
- Exposure of some metadata to SOLO and the wider web
Castle papers catalogue: Fonds-level

- **MS. Digital shelfmark**
  - Signals format to users and staff
  - Fits with Bodley’s traditions

---

**Papers of Barbara Anne Castle, Baroness Castle of Blackburn, 1868-2002**

**Abstract:**
Correspondence and papers of Barbara Castle, Baroness Castle of Blackburn (1910-2002), Labour politician.

**Shelfmarks:** MSS. Castle 1-802; MSS. Castle digital 1-32; MSS. Photogr. a. 17; b. 58-9; c. 208-33; d. 38-42; e. 32

**Extent:** 838 shelfmarks (paper); 82 shelfmarks (digital)

**Biographical History**
Barbara Anne Betts was born in 1910, the second daughter and youngest child of Frank and Annie (née Farand) Betts. After her early years in Chesterfield and Pontefract, the family moved to Bradford where she was educated at Bradford Girls’
Castle papers catalogue: Fonds-level

• Arrangement aims to integrate digital and non-digital

Arrangement

Each series is arranged chronologically with the exception of the MEP subject files which are arranged alphabetically in the manner as used by Castle. The general correspondence series was originally filed in a chronological and alphabetical system. The alphabetical system was the substantially smaller of the two and would appear to have been a later creation that was never fully implemented. Therefore the alphabetical sequence has been merged with the chronological sequence. The sub-series 'background documents' in the printed series initially contained original papers which have now been returned to their original subject files. It would appear that the 'background documents' files were created in the process of Castle's memoir research. Barbara Castle's secretaries also began to use a personal computer in her later years, and the digital records thus created are catalogued here. However, the original digital filing system appears to have been created on a largely ad hoc basis and therefore was logical only to its initial users. For the purposes of this catalogue, the function of the digital records has taken priority over format, and so descriptions of digital records have been integrated with their paper counterparts, and identified by the shelfmark 'Castle digital'.
Castle papers catalogue: Lower levels

• Describing extent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labour Party diary, 1974</th>
<th>Shelfmark: MS. Castle 25</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent: 100 leaves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly appointment sheets, 1974-9; 1989-2002</th>
<th>Shelfmark: MSS. Castle 27-8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent: 238, 297 leaves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent: 23 files</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presenting born-digital archives

- Links to born-digital material from EAD at all hierarchical levels represented in the finding aid
- Links back to the EAD finding aid
- Links to an inventory of the digital-only material in a collection
Presenting born-digital archives

- Keeping metadata in place while user reads file
- Allowing browsing between files
- Access to format-specific functionality
- But, standardising interfaces
Missed opportunities

- Printed bits and pieces
- Ephemera of the web
  - Georgia
  - Burma
WHIPSNADE ZOO

BY CAR USING BP PLUS

Coloured Bill No. 30—Rosemary and Clifford Ellis
MODERN DAYS – MODERN WAYS

SHELL LUBRICATING OIL FOR MODERN MOTORS

3/16/2009 OCLC Presentation
In the flesh

• What value has the object for research, how can you realise this value?
• Lure of the real
• Research training
• Exhibitions as research outputs
• Library as a cultural and social player – new definitions of the contribution of libraries to society
• Importance of communications and PR
Centre for the Study of the Book
The Centre for the Study of the Book provides a common ground for scholars and librarians with shared interests in understanding, documenting, and interpreting the intellectual and material history of the book.

Please use the index to the left to find information about the events and projects sponsored by the Centre, and news about lectures, seminars, workshops and projects at the Bodleian Library and in Oxford. The CSB also engages in collaborative projects with our partner institutions (listed below).

Support the Centre for the Study of the Book
The Centre for the Study of the Book depends on the philanthropic support of individuals, Trusts, and Foundations. We are enormously grateful to them for enabling us to take the Centre's work forward.

For additional information on how to support the work of the Centre, please contact:

Richard Ovenden
Keeper of Special Collections (Associate Director)
Bodleian Library
Oxford University Library Services
Broad Street
Oxford OX1 3BG
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 277 158
Fax: +44 (0) 1865 277 396
Email: richard.ovenden@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

About the Centre
The aim of the Centre for the Study of the Book is to enrich access to collections of books by fostering research that crosses academic and professional specialisms, and by promoting this research through innovative projects, public programmes, and digital developments. The Centre will collaborate with similar institutions in activities
Funding issues

- Resource allocation: How to shift from funding sameness to funding originality and uniqueness
  - Use scale of the uniform to generate economies
  - Shift resources to the unique
- Uniqueness is the pull for external funding
- Partnerships and collaboration
JISC  Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art  Marc Fitch Fund
Andrew W Mellon Foundation  Heritage Lottery Fund  V&A Purchase Grant Fund  PRISM Fund
Friends of the Bodleian  Friends of the National Libraries  The Art Fund  John R Murray Charitable Trust
Bernard & Breslauer Foundation  Strachey Trust  Samuel H Kress Foundation  Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation  Wireless Preservation Trust
Fritz Thyssen Stiftung

PRIVATE DONORS
New management issues

• Implications of Google
  – Faults in the corpus
  – Google is not curated
• Preservation of the unique more important than ever
• Who will bear the cost of keeping print?
• New models of collaboration
  – Can the mass digitizers club together?
Conclusion

- A E Housman: the arsenals of Nemesis are located in the recesses of the Bodleian Library.
- Q: Do libraries still have a role as arsenals of research information?
- A: Yes, if we focus on the unique;
  - Content
  - Skills
  - Profile and presentation
- Collective power of the unique
Richard Ovenden
Keeper of Special Collections and Associate Director

richard.ovenden@ouls.ox.ac.uk
44 1865 2877158