

Finding Digital Collections on the Web*

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Monday, February 2, 2004 ■ 10:00-11:30 am ■ Electronic Classroom, Level 2

**Please note that, due to time constraints, this workshop covers only a small sample of digital collections available online. If you would like assistance finding digital collections that focus on a specific topic or digital format, please contact Heidi N. Abbey or the appropriate liaison librarian for the subject area.*

Website for the Workshop

If you would like to follow along with the website during class, or for future reference, please visit:

<http://www.lib.uconn.edu/~habbey/presentations/digitalcollections.htm>

Introduction

- **Goals of the Workshop:** 1) to familiarize users with locating and navigating digital collections, including those that are meta-resources for e-texts, images, multimedia formats (audio, video, etc.); 2) to promote awareness of digital collections developed by the UConn Libraries and its partners.
- ☛ **UConn Libraries' Digital Collections Program** [<http://digitalcollections.uconn.edu>]

Definitions

- **What is a digital collection?**
- **What is a digital library?**
- **Why are these useful research tools?**

Tools for Finding Digital Collections

- **Search Engines & Directories**
 1. "Google" [<http://www.google.com>]
 2. "Google Directory" [<http://directory.google.com/>] & "Yahoo" [<http://yahoo.com/>]
 3. "Libweb: Library Servers via the WWW," [<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Libweb/>]
 4. "The Internet Archive" [<http://www.archive.org/>]
- **Digital Collection Databases**
 1. "Association of Research Libraries' Digital Initiatives Database," lists descriptions of 497 digital projects in or involving libraries [<http://db.arl.org/did/review.html>]
 2. "Digital Library Federations' Database of Public Access Collections," includes information for 373 digital collections [<http://www.hti.umich.edu/cgi/b/bib/bib-idx?c=dlfcoll>]
 3. "UNESCO/International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions' Directory of Digitized Collections," details 271 international digital collections that allows users to search by institution, theme/subject, and format [<http://www.unesco.org/webworld/digicol/index.shtml>]
- ☛ "Digital Collections Online (DCO)," a database, developed by staff at the UConn Libraries, with information about 200 digital collections [<http://webapps.lib.uconn.edu/DigitalCollections>]

Digital Collections: E-texts

- **What are E-texts?** Texts that are transformed into electronic formats (HTML, PDF, etc.) and made available online and/or offline to users. Note that e-texts are not always freely available on the Web.
- "Directory of Electronic Text Centers," compiled by Rutgers University's Center for Electronic Texts in the Humanities [http://harvest.rutgers.edu/ceth/etext_directory]

- **“Electronic Text Center (ETC),”** based at the University of Virginia Library, contains approximately 70,000 humanities texts in thirteen languages [<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu>]
- **“International Children’s Digital Library,”** based at the University of Maryland and will include 10,000+ free books in over 100 languages [<http://www.icdlbooks.org/>]
- **“Making of America (MOA),”** a joint project between the University of Michigan and Cornell University, which makes available primary sources in American social history from the antebellum period through reconstruction [University of Michigan: <http://moa.umdl.umich.edu>; Cornell University: <http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/moa>]
- **“Networked Digital Library of Theses & Dissertations (NDLTD),”** provides access to over 20,000 electronic theses and dissertations throughout the world [<http://www.theses.org>]
- **“Online Books Page,”** from the University of Pennsylvania, with links to over 20,000 texts [<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books>]
- **“Online Medieval & Classical Library (OMACL),”** based at the University of California, Berkeley Digital Library SunSITE [<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/OMACL>]
- **“Project Gutenberg,”** founded at the University of Illinois in 1971 and now supported by the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation. Includes 3,500+ publications [<http://promo.net/pg>]
- ❖ **“Colonial Connecticut Records (CCR),”** created by the UConn Libraries and its partners, offers access to the 15 volumes of the *Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1636-1776* [<http://www.colonialect.uconn.edu>]

Digital Collections: Images

- **“Finding Images Online,”** includes categorized and comprehensive image resources online [<http://www.berinsteinresearch.com/fiolinks.htm>]
- **“Picture Australia,”** provides access to nearly 1 million images from 32 different libraries, galleries, museums, and archives in Australia and abroad [<http://www.pictureaustralia.org>]
- **“Thinker ImageBase,”** a searchable image and text database of objects from the collections of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; includes 82,000+ images [<http://www.thinker.org>]
- ❖ **“Benthic Marine Algal Herbarium of Long Island Sound,”** a project of the UConn Libraries at Stamford and the Northeast Algal Society (NEAS), which serves as an identification database of collected, pressed algae specimens from Long Island Sound [<http://www.algae.uconn.edu>]
- ❖ **“Connecticut History Online (CHO),”** created by UConn’s Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, the Connecticut Historical Society, and Mystic Seaport, CHO is a searchable database that contains approximately 14,000 historical images of Connecticut from 1800 to 1950 [<http://cthistoryonline.org>]
- ❖ **“Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE),”** an atlas of invasive plant species for New England with images and descriptive data about invasive plants and a database documenting the existence and spread of species in New England [<http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane>]
- ❖ **“Map and Geographic Information Center (MAGIC),”** an online library of digital geo-spatial data on the geography of the State of Connecticut [<http://magic.lib.uconn.edu>]
- ❖ **“Steam & Electric Locomotives of the New Haven Railroad,”** a collection of 460+ black-and-white photographs that document steam and electric locomotives owned and operated by the New York, New Haven, & Hartford Railroad [<http://railroads.uconn.edu/locomotives>]

Digital Collections: Multimedia (Audio, Video, Etc.)

- **“American Memory: Historical Collections for the National Digital Library,”** from the Library of Congress. Includes primary source materials about U.S. history and culture; 7 million digital items in various formats from 100+ collections [<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/amhome.html>]
- **“Internet Moving Images Archive,”** contains over 2,500 digitized films donated to the Internet Archive from various sources [<http://www.archive.org/movies>]
- **“Oyez: U.S. Supreme Court Multimedia,”** at Northwestern University, provides abstracts and other materials for cases in constitutional law decided by the Supreme Court of the United States. Database contains 2,000 hours of Supreme Court audio [<http://www.oyez.org/oyez/frontpage>]
- **“Performing Arts in America, 1875-1923,”** created by the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, this collection is a searchable database of 16,000 objects, including books, photographs, moving images, and recorded sound [http://digital.nypl.org/lpa/nypl/lpa_home4.html]