Shifting Gears

What do digital projects look like when you can't digitize anything?

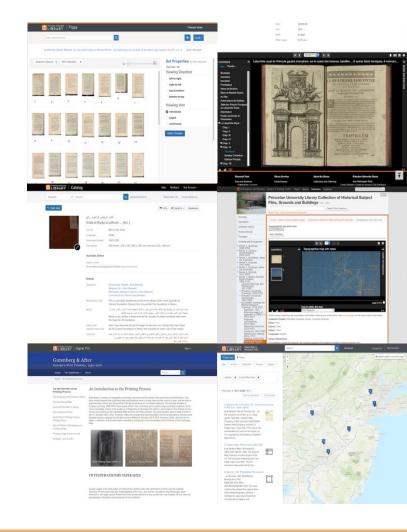
Esmé Cowles Kim Leaman



Before COVID

Tons of work to do, but we had a great team and a solid digital content ecosystem

- Repository to build objects
- IIIF to drive a viewer
- Viewer showing up in focused frontend discovery apps
- Syncing metadata instead of forking



Pain points

- Workflows never used as planned
- Unaddressed technical debt
- Bandwidths maxed out with tons of projects
- Metadata, conservation, IT work underestimated

Work had begun to address these problems...



Photo by v2osk on Unsplash

When COVID hit

- Who needs what to work from home?
 - o can they be productive?
- What if you can't do your job remotely?
- Logistics for shipping/receiving
- Helping newly-remote staff adjust





Photo by Esmé Cowles

By the end of March...

What will digital projects look like if we are closed indefinitely?

Getting content unstuck

New flexibility

- Revisiting stalled migrations
 - o new curators, new flexibility
- Imperative to make content accessible
 - o doesn't need to be perfect
- New possibilities for collaboration
 - o more staff time available
 - functionality has improved since the last time we revisited some of these projects



Photo by Edgar Castrejon on Unsplash

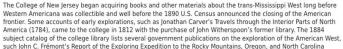
Home / Photography & the American..

Photography & the American West

Native American History

Mormon Americana

Photography & the American West



(1845) and F. V. hayden's Annual Reports of the Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories (1874-1878). More notable, however, for their early inclusion in the holdings of the college are several collections of documentary photographs of the American West taken from the 1850s through the 1890s.

Learn more about the history of the Western Americana photograph collections

Digitized Collections







Edit







Performance Audio Archive Collection

Home Browse

Search..

Edit

Dashboard

Limit your search



Online audio archive of Princeton University's performance ensembles. Browse on the ensemble picture to view the available performance archive. This archive is constantly growing and the performance that you are looking for might not be available online yet. If the performances you are seeking are not listed under the specific ensembles, contact the Mendel Music Library to check for a hard-copy recording of the concert. These performances can be listened to on site at the Mendel Music Library. If you have a copy of a performance that you feel should be included in our audio archive, please let us know!





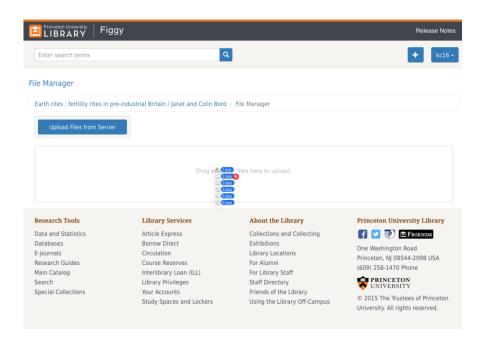






Features to support throughput

- Google Drive upload not working
 - drag and drop ingest
- Migrating Special Collections content
 - o improving metadata from EADs
- Lots of new staff scanning for course reserves
 - automatic PDF ingest



Enriching existing content

Helping staff be productive

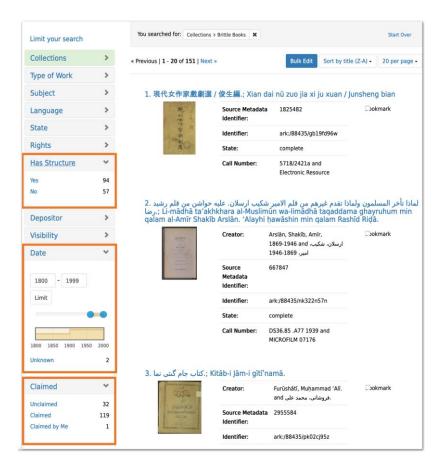
- We never had the staff time to review and enrich content
- Staff at home had time to add page numbers, table of contents
- With support from IT and some small workflow features



Photo by Jennifer Griffin on Unsplash

It's all in the facets

- Limit to items that need structural metadata
- Refine searches by date
- Let staff claim items to work on to avoid duplication of work



Coordinating new contributors

Communication and Collaboration

- explaining purpose and benefits
- o training and workflow documentation
- coordinating staff from multiple departments

Benefits

- making digital objects much more usable
- making a concrete contribution
- using language skills
- learning more of a frequently-used app
- being part of a team



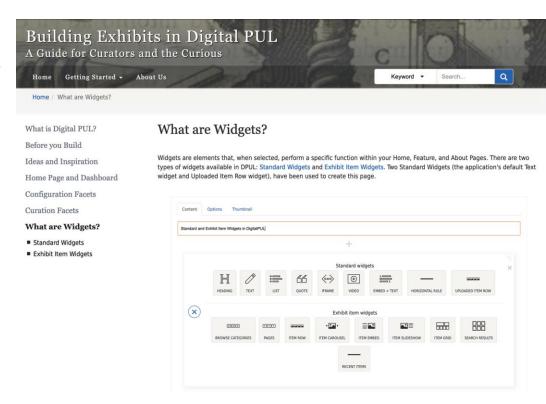
Photo by Josh Calabrese on Unsplash

Reusing existing content

How to Build Exhibits a guide for curators

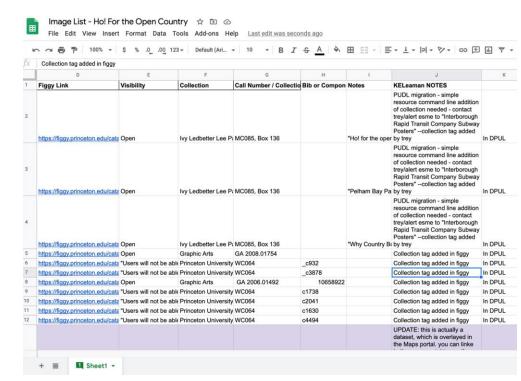
https://dpul.princeton.edu/exhibits_documentation

- Spotlight exhibit to show how to build Spotlight exhibits
- Training and individual support



Curated collections program

- Collaborated with Special
 Collections staff
- Streamlined workflow
- Training and outreach opportunities with public services



Ho! For the Open Country, The Promise of the Public Park

Home Exhibition Pages - Learn More

Keyword - Search.

Home / Getting There (New York and...

Getting There (New York and the urban park)

Parks, Picnics and Pastures

How to Build an Oasis

Getting There (New York and the urban park)

Beginning in 1904, the Interborough Rapid Transit Company operated and managed the New York City Subway's overground and underground lines, including the Pelham Bay Park Branch that ran up the city's East Side all the way to the titular park in the northeast corner of the Bronx.

Three times the size of Central Park, Pelham Bay Park was a one-time brainchild of Frederick Law Olmstead, pet project of John Mullaley and the New York Park Association, and the subject of a lengthy camping permit controversy at the turn of the 20th century.

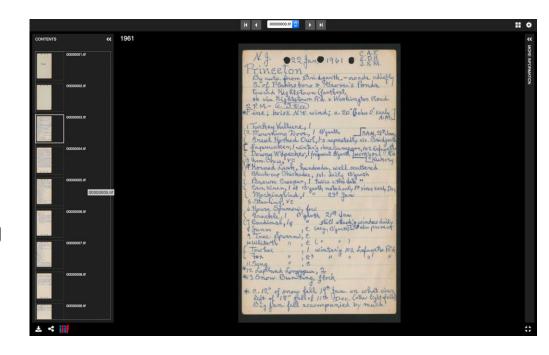
These calls to action from the Elevated Express, a publication of the Interborough Transit Commission, speak to the ideals and appeal of Pelham Bay Park. Due to its distance from the city, in contrast to Central Park, the land at the peak of Hunter's Point was left unlandscaped, providing a recreational wilderness only a stone's throw from bustling, hot, and overcrowded Manhattan.



Other collaborations

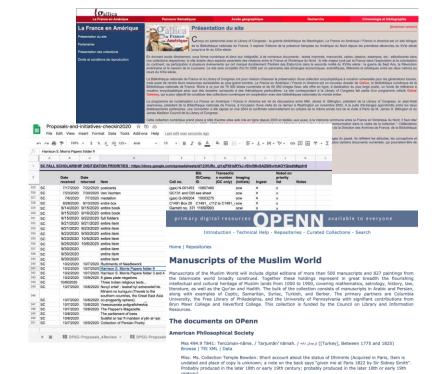
Different contributions

- Metadata vendors
 - sponsoring accounts
 - access restrictions
 - "save draft" feature
- Vendors transitioning
- Faculty collaborations
- Staff scanning and transcribing at home



Sharing what we have

- Improving OAI support
 - France in Americas
 - Digital Cicognara
- Contributing to OPenn
 - metadata review and enhancement
 - faculty and departmental support
- Prioritizing digitization for fall instruction and research



Browse | TELXML | Data

([Turkey], 1193 A.H. (1779)) Browse | TELXMI | Data

Browse | TEI XML | Data

Bryn Mawr College, Special Collections

Ms. Coll. 200 Firman: Firman issued in the name of Abdülhamid I regarding the Imam of a mosque in Izmir

Hosted by the University of Pennsylvania Libraries

Mss 494.9 T84: Handbook for composing letters ([Turkey], 1775-1825)

Bottom line

- Improving access to our collections
- Adding value to existing content
- Helping staff be productive
- Building relationships & encouraging collaboration