Social Movement to Public Policy: Digital History in the IDL

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Social Movement to Public Policy: Digital History in the IDL

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Digital Library Services / University of Iowa Libraries

Iowa Government Documents Round Table Annual Workshop
University of Iowa Libraries
July 18, 2008
Agenda

• Iowa Digital Library overview – Nicki
• Image Collections – Jen
• Text Collections – Mark
• Oral Histories & Video Collections – Wendy
• Music Collections – Anne
• Upcoming Gov Collections – Nicki
• Questions
IDL overview

• Born in 2006
• Contains more than 100,000 digital objects
  Photographs
  Documents
  Maps
  Sound recordings
  Videos
Guiding Principles

- Access
- Preservation
- Added Value
- Adoption of standards and best practices
- Respect for intellectual property
- Efficient use of resources
Image Collections
Image Collections

- photographs
- postcards
- posters
- original artwork
- etc.
- traditionally “hidden collections”
Digitized Image Collections: Advantages

• global access
• 24-hour access
• preservation (saves on handling)
• image zoom

http://lib-contentdm.iowa.uiowa.edu/u/?/noble,60
Digitized Image Collections: Advantages

- Often unique / primary resources
- Easy to scan & upload
- Straightforward to catalog


- Crossover appeal (scholar & casual user)
- Immediacy
Image Collections: Iowa Women’s Archives

Collections in the Iowa Women’s Archives

Topical List of Collections

- African American Women
- Girls’ and Women’s Sports
- Jewish Women
- Latinas and their Families
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
- Nineteenth Century Women
- Nurses and Nursing Education
- Peace and Pacifism
- Rural and Farm Women
- Teachers
- Women and War
- Women, Politics and the Law
- Women’s Clubs and Organizations
- Woman Suffrage Movement
African American Women in Iowa

Esther Walls Papers, 1860s-1996

http://sdrc.lib.uiowa.edu/iwa/findingaids/html/WallsEsther.htm
AAW Students at UI
AAW Students at UI
AAW Students at UI
AAW Students at UI

“…The collection of data in one convenient place about the contributions of black women to Iowa’s rich history is intriguing and moving. I truly appreciate the hard work that goes into such projects, as it justifiably honors and commemorates the everyday black women, college-age women in America such as myself, who have (until now) anonymously participated in the gratifying struggle of leaving their mark in the history books. It makes me proud to look upon the faces of and read the stories about women who have made a difference for women like me.”

--Courtney Parker, Black Student Union

http://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/news/2008/02/
“…This is a picture of my Grandfather. He passed away when my father was a small boy. I only had a small picture of him, far way, standing in front of his car and home in Iowa. My father, Craig W. Spotser, has never seen a picture of him that close up, but he passed away in February 2002. This is amazing. How can I obtain a copy of the photo of my Grandfather? I was surfing the web, and this is the first time that I have seen this picture. I almost started crying. I look almost identical to him, and so does my son.”

--Craig Spotser, Texas

http://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/dls/2007/05/31/why-digital-collections-matter/
Mujeres Latinas Project

Mujeres Latinas: Preserving Latina History in Iowa
A project to collect family and community history

Iowa is home to Latinos and Latinas from many countries whose work reflects a wide range of occupations and professions. Few people realize that Latinos began arriving in Iowa as early as the 1880s, and that by the 1920s boxcar communities had grown up near railroad yards in towns such as Fort Madison, Davenport, and Bettendorf. Throughout the 20th century workers from Texas and Mexico followed the migrant stream through Iowa to work the tomato and sugar beet harvests. Some chose to settle in communities such as Muscatine and Mason City well over fifty years ago. Yet where is this history?

Despite their significant presence in Iowa, Latinas remain largely invisible in our state’s history due to the lack of historical documents available to researchers. The Mujeres Latinas Project of the Iowa Women’s Archives has been established to collect and preserve materials which document the lives and contributions of Latinas and their families to Iowa history.

Types of Material Collected
- letters
- photographs
- diaries
- work records
- oral histories
- speeches
- newspaper articles
and more

To learn how you can help preserve the history of Latinas in Iowa, contact the Iowa Women’s Archives.

Please visit the Collections relating to Latinas to learn more about the materials held in the Iowa Women’s Archives which preserve the history of Latinas in Iowa.
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection

The Mujeres Latinas Project of the Iowa Women’s Archives seeks to collect and preserve materials which document the lives and contributions of Latinas and their families to Iowa history. A portion of oral histories, clippings, postcards, text, and photographs from the project have been included in this digital collection.

Reference URL: http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/latinas

Contributing Institution: Iowa Women’s Archives

Archival Collection: Mujeres Latinas: preserving Latina history in Iowa

Sample Search: Photographs, Clippings, LULAC, Oral Histories
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
Mujeres Latinas Digital Collection
1912 trip to California—a 27 day undertaking
Digital text objects

• Advantages:
  – Affords user remote, realistic viewing experience
  – Provides full text searchability through OCR
  – Option of hidden or visible transcription
Scrapbooks – Women in Politics
(digital.lib.uiowa.edu/founders)
Full Text Search

The image shows a search result page from the Iowa Digital Library, with a newspaper article titled "MJB Be Put Off". The article discusses an incident involving libel and political campaigns, mentioning "Manager Plan Mrs. Noun H. Free Speech" and "clean and fair election". The text emphasizes the importance of fair and clean political campaigns and the significance of freedom of speech.
Capturable Text (digital.lib.uiowa.edu/diaries)
he arrived this evening Al was glad to see him he had just return from the Hospital. 110 more prisoners came in today taken & [end] paroled by the rebels at Independence Mo. the rebels had 900 to our 200. Today I bought a flute of Jasper Eaton 2d Iowa Cavalry & paid him 2 dollars for it & a book.

C. W. Hadley

Monday Evening.
The weather has been quite pleasant, for several days back yesterday I heard from home Anamosa from Will McMullen. My folks [Folk] were all well, recruiting was briskly going on. Alderman's Company was full. Cranes was filling up slowly. From Mr Condit I did not much town news, he started for home today. I sent by him a piece of Briar root formed into a pipe yet not finished.

Page break

August 12th - 1862

Today we were mustered to see how many were absent & who they were. Jasper Eaton of the 2nd Iowa Cavalry is Sick in the Fair Ground Convalescent [Convalescent] Hospital. I was down to see him Saturday morning he was entirely strapped [strapped] of money, he wanted me to buy his flute & book of him. I do not really [really] want the flute but I bought it to accommodate him as he is one of my best friends. Palmer was in town & bought a note book were we shall have some singing. The news tonight is that Baton Rouge [Bogue] is taken by us (US) & that the rebel ran Arkansas is destroyed by our [Union] also that 700 Prisoners have been taken. The Arkansas-McClellan is moving. Exchange [Exchange] Still going on. The 18th Iowa regt [ regiment] left yes day—before yesterday for—(somewhere)

Chas. W. Hadley
Recipe pamphlets from 1880-1930 document the rise of the modern food industry. (digital.lib.uiowa.edu/u/szathmary)
Correspondence between Carl Menzer of the University of Iowa radio station and the Hon. C.W. Ramseyer, Sept. 15, 1931

September 15, 1931.

Hon. C.W. Ramseyer,
Bloomfield, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Ramseyer:

The State University of Iowa is preparing to install a television transmitter and has submitted an application to the Federal Radio Commission for permission to construct and to operate it under an experimental television license.

It is planned to use this equipment for instruction, research, and experimental purposes in the Electrical Engineering Department of the College of Engineering and also as an adjunct to the educational broadcasting program of the University Station WGUI. In addition, a daily schedule of entertainment is to be provided for those of this section of the country who are, or will be, equipped to receive television broadcasts. At present there are no television transmitters closer than Chicago, Illinois a distance of two
| **Title** | Correspondence between Carl Menzer of the University of Iowa radio station and the Hon. C.W. Ramsayer, Sept. 15, 1931 |
| **Creator** | Menzer, Carl |
| **Date Original** | 1931-09-15 |
| **Description** | WSUI radio station manager requesting support for TV license application. Mr. Ramsayer was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives at the time. |
| **Topical Subject (LCTGM)** | Television broadcasting, Legislators |
| **Topical Subject (LCSH)** | Television stations—Licenses |
| **Personal Name Subject** | Menzer, Carl |
| **Corporate Name Subject** | W9XK-TV (Television station: Iowa City, Iowa) |
| **Geographic Subject** | United States -- Iowa -- Iowa City |
| **Chronological Subject** | 1930-1940 |
| **Type (DCMI Type)** | Text |
| **Type (AAT)** | Correspondence |
| **Type (IIMT)** | jpeg |
| **Digital Collection** | W9XK Experimental Television at Iowa Digital Collection |
| **Contributing Institution** | University of Iowa. University Archives |
| **Archival Collection** | Subject Vertical Files: Television |
| **Collection Identifier** | RG 01.15.05 |
| **Finding Aid** | http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/archives/guides/RG01.15.05.htm#Television |
| **Folder** | 1930s and 1940s, folder 1 |
| **Rights Management** | Educational use only. No other permissions given. U.S. and international copyright laws may protect this digital object. Commercial use or distribution of the object is not permitted without prior permission of the copyright holder. |
| **Contact Information** | Contact the University Archives: http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll/contact/index.html |
| **Digitization Specifications** | Scanned with Ricoh Atico 2335 scanner at 800 ppi, 8-bit grayscale. Archival TIFF available. |
| **Date Digital** | 2008-05-15 |
| **FileName** | w01k007_1931-09-15.jpg |
Searchable tables of contents

Science Fiction Fanzine Index
digital.lib.uiowa.edu/sfzines
Wildlife Conservation

In 1934, Jay Norwood “Ding” Darling (a nationally syndicated editorial cartoonist and Chief, Bureau of Biological Survey, 1934-1935) created a revenue stamp purchased by hunters, and use the proceeds to buy disappearing habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife.

The “Federal Duck Stamp” has funded the world’s most successful conservation program.
This collection celebrates the work of journalist and tireless advocate for preservation of the environment Jay N. "Ding" Darling (1876-1962).

Twice awarded the Pulitzer Prize for syndicated editorial cartoons he drew almost daily between 1900 and 1949, in 1934-1935 he headed what is now the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, created the Federal Duck Stamp Program which has since restored thousands of acres of wet lands, and in 1936 founded the National Wildlife Federation.

Eleven thousand cartoons are currently represented in this collection, which also features selected audio recordings of Darling’s dictation – a chance survival documenting his voice, vigor, and attitudes.

http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/ding/
Civil Rights

African American Women Students at the University of Iowa collection brings together newspaper articles, photographs, correspondence, oral histories, and other primary sources about the students overcoming barriers to equal education.

http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/aaws
African American Women Students at The University of Iowa 1910-1960

Introduction

Though African American women made up a small percentage of University of Iowa students from 1910 to 1960, their personal and collective experiences speak volumes on the cultural climate of the University and the Iowa City community. The formation of an off-campus boarding house for African American women in 1919, the integration of the University dormitories in 1946, and the election of the first African American Miss University of Iowa in 1955 are events that both highlight the achievements of African American women and illustrate the state of race relations on campus at the time.

Little documentation exists regarding the experiences of African-American women at the University of Iowa, but efforts by the Iowa Women’s Archives and scholars such as Dr. Richard M. Breaux and Dr. Madgetta Thornton Dungy (see “About the Collection”) have uncovered a small but diverse collection of primary sources. This digital collection brings together a selection of artifacts from a variety of repositories including the Iowa Women’s Archives, the University of Iowa Archives, the State Historical Society of Iowa, and the African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa.

Select a year from the timeline on the left to browse the collection.
African American Women Students at The University of Iowa 1910-1960

1955

Dora (Martin) Berry becomes the first African American elected Miss University of Iowa. The controversy surrounding her election and subsequent exclusion from the traditional honors and duties of her title sparks a revision of the pageant rules.

Related Artifacts

Yearbook photos News clippings Correspondence Oral history

Essay Resources

Home Browse All Iowa Digital Library

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SUI SHOCKS HOUSTON!

Ever since the earliest days of slavery, what to do with the Negro has been a subject for discussion in these United States.

Recent developments in the south where an effort is being made by big-wigs to overlook the supreme court’s ruling on segregation indicate that the question remains unsettled as far as Dixie is concerned.

It must have horrified the diehards down south when they learned that the male students at the State University of Iowa selected a 17-year-old colored girl from Houston, Texas, to be Miss SUI for 1955.

In fact the girl herself, Dora Lee Martin, observed that “in Houston this will be the shock of the century... But it’s not the color of the skin that should matter, it’s just the person.”

In that, Dora Lee said a mouthful!

While on the question of the Negro, we saw a Gallup poll the other day which showed that the majority of Negro voters are still democrats. Political sharp’s say that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt switched the Negro vote from Abe Lincoln’s party to FDR. That was surprising—to ye editor at least.

But it’s even more astonishing to note that Dr. Gallup finds the colored vote in 1955 still favors the democrats. One would think the absurd efforts of democrats in the southern states to keep Negro children out of white schools—or even from playing football with a northern university—would be sufficient to disgust the Negro voter.

Down in Mississippi, they’ve even resorted to murder in an effort to keep the Negro “in his place,” as the southerners term it. Which in itself should make the Negro know that the southern democrat is not now and never will be in favor of de-segregation!
HIV/AIDS

What is in the Iowa Digital Library?
Traveling Culture:

Circuit Chautauqua in the Twentieth Century

Front cover of a program for the Redpath-Yavster Chautauqua at Keota, Iowa in June of 1919. Among the featured attractions were: exhibition dirigies by a military balloon and a talk on 'The Business of Flying' by a former pilot of the Lafayette Escadrille.
Evangelism
Temperance →

Homer Rodheater

Billy Sunday's fine lieutenant. In the organization and winning of medical losses, in the mastery of an audience through the influence of sacred music, he stands prominent. It matters not whether he is playing a solo or the tenor, playing a song, prayer, or directing the choir of hundreds of voices, the attention of each individual is centered on him.
Brewer’s Big Horses

Verse:
Oh, de brewer’s big hosses comin’ down de road,
Totin’ all around ole Lucifer’s load;
Dey step so high, an’ dey step so free,
But dem big hosses can’t run over me.

Chorus:
Oh, no, boys, oh, no!
De turnpike’s free wherebber I go,
I’m a temperance ingine, don’t you see,
And de brewer’s big hosses can’t run over me.
Prohibition
Questions?