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Doing It Differently: The Making of "Uptight & Laid-back: Iowa City in the 1960s"

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Doing It Differently

The Making of “Uptight & Laid-back: Iowa City in the 1960s”

Bethany Davis and Rob Shepard, University of Iowa
ALCTS PARS Digital Conversion Interest Group
June 25, 2016
Outline

- Digitization Project & Goals
- Iowa Digital Library
- Web Application
Start with an idea...

“Let’s create a digital exhibit of UI in the ‘60s!”

Student Protest at Iowa, Spring 1969 (http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm/ref/collection/socjustice/id/1191)
Identify project goals

Goal: Online exhibit connected to Spring 2016 semester’s theme – Social Justice.

Dates: 1958-1973

Components:
- Timeline
- Interactive map
- Subject-based links
- Audiovisual media - Oral history clips
- Participatory activity (Submit your story).

But wait... this isn’t what we usually do

- Production digitization
- Prioritize processed collections
- Assess collections with conservator
- Digitize “all” rather than “some”

- ~140 items from 40 archival collections
Reconciling the workflow with project goals

- 4 variables of project management
  - Cost, Quality, Scope, Time
- Selective digitization; item-specific workflow.

Object Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Student handouts ca. 1970</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>unidentified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date Original</td>
<td>1969/1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td>Selected items from this folder were digitized for &quot;Uptight and Laid-back: Iowa City in the 1960s&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topical Subject (LCTGM)</td>
<td>Protest movements, Peace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Iowa Digital Library

- Dozens of collections contain relevant content.
- None are specific to this timeframe.
UPTIGHT & LAID-BACK
IOWA CITY IN THE 1960s

VISIT 1960'S MAP OF IOWA CITY, IA
SEE SUBMITTED GALLERY CONTENT

STUDENT LIFE
POLITICS & PROTEST
THE ARTS
CIVIL RIGHTS
POP CULTURE
FEMINISM & GAY RIGHTS
MILITARY SERVICE

COLOPHON
The Map Application

- ArcGIS / ArcGIS Javascript API v. 3

- Why?
  - Allows advanced queries of existing geospatial data based on multiple elements, including time
  - Proprietary, but code is openly available and fits with our architecture (and others)
Leveraging Existing Resources

- Campus Buildings
- County Roads, Parcel data, Aerial Photos
- Protests
- Photographs

Refine

The 1960s Map Data
English Philosophy Building—collecting blood (real according to news report) to use in IMU Steps protest—Nov 4th, 1967

Spring of 1970 was a tumultuous time on college campuses. On April 30, President Richard Nixon announced that U.S. forces would invade Cambodia because of the recent communist coup. Students around the country protested this escalation of the Vietnam War. On May 4, the National Guard fired on students at Kent State University, killing 4 and wounding 9 people, which ignited protests all over the country.

Anti-war protests were not new to Iowa City or to elsewhere in Iowa; protests had been happening throughout the 1960s.
Historic Campus Maps
You've searched: 20 collections

All fields: 1960-1970  ❌ (and)  All fields: Currier Hall  ❌

Sort by: Relation  
Display: 50  

Narrow your search by:

- Date
- Publisher
- Relation
- Subject
- Type

Back to top
Querying CONTENTdm


- Created (as a variable) and added as a link when user "clicks" for information about an object
Querying CONTENTdm

- **URL**+/cdm/search/collection/
  [collection aliases separated by exclamation symbols]
  /field/all!all!/mode/all!all!/conn/and!and!/searchterm/
  [Chronological subject followed by exclamation]
  (we used "1960-1970")
  
- **String from user** click (we used title from GIS object)
Access & Growth

- Map-based interface is simple, familiar to most users, but gives them targeted searches with a click

- Not limited to University of Iowa data; we can create or ingest new map layers that reference other sources (e.g. trees)
  - New map layers can link to/search other collections
Access

- Library staff identify all relevant collections in support of project and populate an advanced search

- User interaction with the map (pan/zoom, time slider, clicks) provides the final steps of advanced, faceted search within content management system
Thank you!

http://dspsl.lib.uiowa.edu/sixties/

Questions? Comments? Feedback?

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Or catch us after the presentations.