DIGITAL LIBRARIES: A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF USEFUL RESOURCES

Concept and Theory of a Digital Library: “Based on the idea of a library or information service providing virtual anywhere/anytime electronic access through the Internet to documents and or services.” A digital library will direct users to electronic collections, such as research papers or video clips that document in great detail the history of a particular locale or area or that offer a unique thematic perspective on a subject. The main benefit of constructing a digital library is the ability to provide 24 hour, remote access to high demand items from multiple users worldwide.

The best way of discovering the potential of such a service is to look at actual examples:

ALA Task Force on Digitization Policy: http://www.ala.org/ala/washoff/oitp/digtask.cfm
(from the American Library Association, includes principles, documents and readings)

ALA’s Professional Tips for Digitization: from the American Library Association
http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Digitization

Best Practice Guidelines for Digital Collections (University of Maryland Libraries):

http://digitalwa.statelib.wa.gov/newsite/best.htm

http://www.dpc.ucar.edu/projects/evalbook/index.html


Digital Library Colloquium from Carnegie Mellon University Libraries: free research reports and conference papers, some in Video and Powerpoint format:
http://www.library.cmu.edu/Libraries/DLColloquia

Digital Libraries from the Special Libraries Association:

Important Meta-Resources: Center for the Study of Digital Libraries:
http://www.csdl.tamu.edu/
Based at Texas A&M University; lists conferences, digital library projects, publications, courses.

This Web Site has information on Collections, Standards and Practices, Forums, Publications and Resources, Research Reports and Links to DLF Partners.

Digital Libraries Registry: Digital Collections and Content
http://imlsdcc.grainger.uiuc.edu/

Digital Collections and Programs at the Library of Congress:

World Digital Library Project of the Library of Congress:
http://www.worlddigitallibrary.org/project/english/index.html


Search Engine for Uncovering Digital Resources (University of Michigan) http://oaister.umd.umich.edu/o/oaister/

“OAlster is a Mellon-funded project of the University of Michigan Digital Library Production Services. Our goal is to create a wide-ranging collection of free, useful, previously difficult-to-access digital resources (what are digital resources?) that are easily searchable by anyone.”


EXAMPLES OF DIGITAL LIBRARIES:

WORLD DIGITAL LIBRARY: http://www.wdl.org/en/


I. Catalogs and Databases of Digital Libraries and Initiatives Worldwide:

1) UNESCO PORTAL http://www.unesco.org/cgi-bin/webworld/portal_bib2/cgi/page.cgi?d=1&g=Libraries/Digital/index.shtml

2) Collections of Worldwide Digital Libraries recorded by UNESCO's PORTAL: http://www.unesco.org/cgi-bin/webworld/portal_bib2/cgi/page.cgi?q=Libraries%2FDigital%2FCollections%2Findex.shtml;d=1

3) Directories of Digitized Collections Worldwide (UNESCO/IFLA Directories of Digitized Collections) http://www.unesco.org/webworld/digicol/ (currently lists over 293 digital collections by theme or category worldwide; also lists projects by type of institution—this site is truly invaluable.)

II. History: Through the dim mists: the emerging history of digital libraries: http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/services/papers/bl/blri078/content/

Provides a valuable historical context for digital libraries
III. Photographs: Courtesy of the American Memory Project of the Library of Congress, a collection of Photographs from the Chicago Daily News, 1902-1933. All photographs published in the Chicago Daily News from 1902-1933 are digitized here. “This collection comprises over 55,000 images of urban life captured on glass plate negatives between 1902 and 1933 by photographers employed by the Chicago Daily News, then one of Chicago's leading newspapers. The photographs illustrate the enormous variety of topics and events covered in the newspaper. Most of the photographs were taken in Chicago, Illinois, or in nearby towns. Also included are photographs illustrating the operations of the Chicago Daily News itself and pictures taken on occasional trips by the Daily News's photographers to important events, such as the inauguration of presidents in Washington, D.C.”
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/ichihome.html

MORE DIGITIZED PHOTOGRAPHS and IMAGES AT:

NYPL Digital Gallery provides free and open access to over 685,000 images digitized from the The New York Public Library's vast collections, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints, photographs and more.

Shorpy This site "is a vintage photography blog featuring thousands of high-definition images from the 1850s to 1950s. The site is named after Shorpy Higginbotham, a teenage coal miner who lived 100 years ago." Most of the photos on the site "were extracted from reference images ... from the Library of Congress research archive," with others from the personal files of contributors. Includes three photos of Shorpy. http://www.shorpy.com/

The Smithsonian Institution Libraries’ Galaxy of Images collection http://www.sil.si.edu/imagegalaxy/ includes thousands of images representing a small portion of the more than 1.5-million printed books and manuscripts in their collections. Images are browsable or searchable by keyword or topics that include the animal world, art and design, bones and fossils, history and material culture, literature, the natural world, plants and flowers, portraits, science and invention, scientific instruments and apparatus, society and culture, technology and transportation, and trade literature. The libraries encourage the use of images and other content from this website for not-for-profit educational and classroom use.
http://www.sil.si.edu/imagegalaxy/imageGalaxy_Education.cfm

IV: CITY DIGITIZED ARCHIVE: Seattle Municipal Archives
This site has digitized material, dating from 1870, from the city archives of Seattle, Washington. The highlight is a searchable collection of over 47,000 images of the city's history. The site has a chronological listing of elected officials, election results (beginning with 1910), quick facts about the city, and information about the city's symbols. There are also online exhibits, links to related Web sites, and suggested research topics and resources for students and teachers.
http://www.cityofseattle.net/cityarchives/

V. DIGITAL COLLECTIONS of LIBRARIES:

Cornell University Libraries http://cdl.library.cornell.edu/

Also see the New York Public Library’s Digital Collections: http://www.nypl.org/digital/

VII. EXAMPLE OF DIGITIZED ARCHIVES DOCUMENTING THE HISTORY OF A REGION:
Documenting the American South: http://docsouth.unc.edu/
First Person Narratives of the American South. (Sponsored by the University of North Carolina.)

VIII. EXAMPLE OF A DIGITIZED ARCHIVE SPECIALIZING IN A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD:
University of Michigan’s Making of America Project. http://moa.umdl.umich.edu/
A Digital Library of Primary Sources in American Social History, particularly strong in the history of the Antebellum period through Reconstruction.

IX. EXAMPLE OF A NATIONAL LIBRARY OF DIGITIZED ARCHIVES RECORDING THE ENTIRE RANGE OF A NATION’S HISTORY:
(Millions of Photos, Maps, Books, Periodicals, Motion Pictures, all digitized. A Treasure Trove for the Study of American Political and Social History—offering one of the best examples of the possibilities inherent in a digitized library

2) U.S. Digital History: This site enhances history teaching and research through primary sources, an online textbook, extensive reference resources, and interactive materials. This Web site was designed and developed to support the teaching of American History in K-12 schools and colleges. The materials on this site include a U.S. history textbook, supplemented by primary sources on slavery, Mexican American and Native American history, and U.S. political, social, and legal history. http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu

3) A GLOBAL GATEWAY: DIGITAL LIBRARIES DOCUMENTING GLOBAL CULTURE FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS:
http://international.loc.gov/intldl/find/digital_collections.html

4) U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES EXPERIENCE [Adobe Flash Player]
http://www.digitalvaults.org/ A new site created by the National Archives of the United States

X. EXAMPLE OF A DIGITIZED ARCHIVE OF WORLD HISTORY: New York Public Library’s Digitized Image Collections: http://digital.nypl.org “NYPL will launch a searchable database of visual materials documenting culture studies and social history internationally from the ancient world to the present. A phased rollout through 2006 will eventually total over 600,000 images in the arts, humanities, performing arts and sciences, including artwork, maps, photographs, prints, manuscripts, and many illustrated books.”

XI. HUMANITIES: Wright’s American Fiction Project: 1851-1875. This is a collection of 19th century American fiction, as listed in Lyle Wright's bibliography American Fiction, 1851-1875. There are currently 2,887 volumes included (2,463 unedited, 424 fully edited and encoded) by 1,387 authors. http://www.letrs.indiana.edu/web/w/wright2/

XII. DIGITIZED ARCHIVES FOR U.S. FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN POLICY: National Security Archive (Washington, D.C.) From George Washington University, this is an extensive archive of American Foreign Policy including many primary source documents. http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv


XIV. International Children’s Digital Library: http://www.icdlbooks.org/ (Includes Children’s books in all languages with complete text)

XV. SELECTED EXAMPLES OF MAJOR DIGITAL PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST
Implementing a Maghreb Digital Library: http://www.fulbrightacademy.org/page/86607/


MIDDLE EAST VIRTUAL DIGITAL LIBRARY: http://ssgdoc.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/vlib/html/index.html

Middle East Network Information Center: http://menic.utexas.edu/menic.html (includes listing of Libraries under the Reference Section: http://menic.utexas.edu/Reference/Libraries/)

Virtual Library for the Middle East from Columbia University Libraries: http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/mideast/cuvm/

The African Digital Library http://www.AfricaEducation.org/adl/

XVI. FINALLY, HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT DIGITAL LIBRARIES AND SPECIFIC ISSUES OF CONCERN TO ME?

ORGANIZATIONS: Digital Library Federation (for future and ongoing projects and initiatives): http://www.diglib.org

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS WEBCASTS:

LOC WEBCASTS: OUR DIGITAL FUTURE:
http://search.loc.gov:8765/webcasts/query.html?sc=0&ws=0&la=en&qm=0&st=1&nh=10&lk=1&rf=0&oq=&si=0&rq=0&qc=&qt=digital+future&col=webcasts

LOC WEBCASTS FOR LIBRARIANS AND ARCHIVISTS:
http://search.loc.gov:8765/webcasts/query.html?sc=0&ws=0&la=en&qm=0&st=1&nh=10&lk=1&rf=0&oq=&si=0&rq=0&qc=&qt=librarians&col=webcasts

PROFESSIONAL E-JOURNALS:
There are a number of E-Journals that focus on digital library issues: articles are free and in fulltext format
ARIADNE: http://www.ariadne.ac.uk

D-LIB Magazine: http://www.dlib.org [Ejournal concentrating entirely on Digital Libraries]

DIGITAL DOCUMENT QUARTERLY
http://home.pacbell.net/hgladney/ddq.htm
Topics covered include basic topics in digital preservation, preserving office records, information retrieval, and even the epistemology of digital preservation.

DLIST : DIGITAL LIBRARY OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY : DIGITAL LIBRARIES (hosted by the University of Arizona’s School of Library and Information Science) : http://dlist.sir.arizona.edu/view/subjects/dlib.html

E-LIS: THE OPEN ARCHIVE FOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE: http://eprints.rcis.org/

FIRST MONDAY: http://www.uic.edu/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/index
A peer reviewed journal for Library and Information Science
THE JOURNAL OF WEB LIBRARIANSHIP:  
http://www.lib.jmu.edu/org/jwl/default.aspx#issues

WEBOLOGY: http://www.webology.ir/

SOME SAMPLE ARTICLES ABOUT DIGITAL LIBRARIES:


CURRENT AWARENESS (MAILING LIST SPONSORED BY IFLA)  
http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/diglib

SAMPLE MONOGRAPHS ON DIGITAL LIBRARIES


Consult this web site for bibliographies and resources on related topics:  
http://tinyurl.com/chn36u

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