The Rescuing Texas History Mini-Grant Program: Collaboration, Digital Collection Development and Preservation.

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Rescuing Texas History at The Portal to Texas History

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Introductions

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Digital Projects Librarian
External Relations
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Digital Projects Lab
University North Texas Libraries
Agenda

• An introduction to UNT and The Portal to Texas History
• The rescuing begins
• Reassessment
• The current Rescuing Texas History Program
• Lessons learned
• The Portal to Texas History today
Stats

• Who is UNT?
  – Established 1890
  – Population of 37,973 student enrolled Fall 2016
  – Faculty and Staff: 3,887
Start of The Portal to Texas History

• 2002

• Cathy Nelson Hartman, Assistant Dean of Digital and Information Technologies

• $400,000 in equipment

• Funded in part by a competitive Texas Telecommunications Infrastructure grant
Portal to Texas History

The Portal to Texas History circa mid-2016
The Portal to Texas History

A gateway to rare, historical, and primary source materials from or about Texas.

Search 772,473 items from 340 partners across Texas.

Sample Searches: "Houston Post" "National Park" "Orange Leader" "Abilene Daily Reporter" "Telegraph and Texas Register"

[The Portal to Texas History circa Summer 2016-present]
Public Library Partner: Denton Public Library

Partnered in 2014
124 items

Statistics: Rescuing Texas History, 2014
Overview

- Total Items: 7,033
- Total Files: 45,729
- Total Uses: 56,029

Usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Apr 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Oct 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2014</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.8% Visible

Library

Denton Public Library

Partners in 2014
124 items
Agenda

- An introduction to UNT and The Portal to Texas History
- The rescuing begins
- Reassessment
- The current Rescuing Texas History Program
- Lessons learned
- The Portal to Texas History today
“The Jaws of Decay: Rescuing Texas History through the Digitization of At-risk Photographs and Maps”

- Collaboration with Summerlee Foundation of Dallas
- $7,500
- 13 original partners
- 4,754 items (5,014 files) digitized, processed, and hosted

Courtesy of Portal Partner Clark Hotel Museum
Rescuing Texas History through the Digitization of At-risk Photographs and Maps

- $15,000
- 24 original partners
- 7,795 items (8,888 files) digitized, processed, and hosted
Where the West Begins: Capturing Fort Worth’s Historic Treasures

• Also started in 2007

• Texas Cultures Online grant from the Amon Carter Foundation in Fort Worth

• Adeline & George McQueen Foundation

Courtesy of Portal Partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company
Where the West Begins: Capturing Fort Worth’s Historic Treasures

- 11 partners
- 4,531 items (13,364 files) digitized, processed, and hosted

Courtesy of Portal Partner Joe E. Haynes
Academic Library Partner: Midwestern State

Partnered 2010
25 items
Agenda

• An introduction to UNT and The Portal to Texas History
• The rescuing begins
• Reassessment
• The current Rescuing Texas History Program
• Partnerships built
• Lessons learned
• The Portal to Texas History today
Completing 2007 projects
Changes to the Process

- Project Size
- No Theme
- Portal Created Metadata
Private Partner: Private Collection of T. B. Willis

Partnered in 2013 and 2014
646 items
Agenda

• An introduction to UNT and The Portal to Texas History
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• Lessons learned
• The Portal to Texas History today
Digital Libraries Division at UNT

- External Relations
- Digital Curation Unit
- Software Development Unit
- User Interface Unit
- Digital Projects Lab
- Digital Newspaper Unit

- UNT Digital Library
- The Portal to Texas History
- Gateway to Oklahoma History
Digital Libraries Newspaper Unit at UNT

- Staffing 4 full time
- 9 part time student workers
Digital Libraries Digital Projects Unit at UNT

• Staffing 4 full time
• ~22 part time student workers
External Relations at UNT

- Staffing 1 full time
- 1 part time student worker
Types of RTH Partners

- Historical / Genealogical Societies, Groups, and Commissions
- Libraries
- Museums
- Archives
- Universities
- Newspaper Publishers
- Private Collections
- Government Agencies
- Corporations
Resources Acquired through RTH

• Photographs
• Maps
• Newspapers
• Family letters
• Yearbooks
• Serials
• Genealogy publications

Courtesy of Portal Partner General Land Office
2009 to Present Rescuing Texas History

Application Preparation –

• Set a schedule for the program

• Invite faculty members from the History Department and the Library to serve on the selection committee

• Determine award amounts to be given
2009 to Present Rescuing Texas History

Application selection and receipt of materials

- Funded by UNT Libraries 2010

- Review of applications
  - Top 20 for each committee member

- Coordinate staggered delivery
  - Divide into roughly thirds

Libraries

Courtesy of Portal Partner Dallas Firefighters Museum
Lab: Into the Workflow

Materials that arrive in the lab are:
• Inventoried
• Documented
• Assigned
• Scanned

Courtesy of UNT Libraries Digital Projects Unit
Equipment

- 3 Large Epson 10000XL and a 11000XL Flatbed Scanner
- 2 Plustek Optibook 3600 Bookedge Scanners
- 4 Fujitsu 6670 Document Scanners
- 4 negative Epson Perfection V700 Scanners
- 1 oversized Zeutschel Omniscan Planetary Scanner
- 1 Digitial Transitions Phase 1 Camera System
- 1 A1 Digibook Quartz Oversized scanner

Courtesy of UNT Libraries Digital Projects Unit
Lab: Quality Control

http://www.library.unt.edu/digital-projects-unit/standards
Lab: Metadata

http://www.library.unt.edu/digital-projects-unit/metadata
Lab: Upload

[Portrait of a Man]

Description
Daguerreotype portrait of a man with thick sideburns wearing a suit and bow-tie. The photograph is housed in a decorative leather case with a brass matte.

Physical Description
1 photograph : b&w ; 7 x 6 cm, in frame 9 x 17 cm.

Creation Information
Creator: Unknown. Creation Date: Unknown.

Context
This photograph is part of the collection entitled: Rescuing Texas History, 2014 and one other and was provided by Private Collection of T. B. Willis to The Portal to Texas History, a digital repository hosted by the UNT Libraries. It has been viewed 15 times. More information about this photograph can be viewed below.
Government Office Partner: Dallas Municipal Archives

Partnered 2011
179 items
Agenda

• An introduction to UNT and The Portal to Texas History
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• Lessons learned
• The Portal to Texas History today
Lessons Learned

- Project size matters
- Project scope
Lessons Learned

- Simplify application process
- Communication
Lessons Learned

- Inventories required in the application
Organization Partner: Matthews Family and Lambshead Ranch

Partnered in 2009
914 items
Agenda

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Rescuing Texas History Statistics

Figure: The Number of Partners, Objects, and Uses per RTH Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Partners</th>
<th>Objects</th>
<th>Uses to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4,754</td>
<td>1,142,782</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>7,795</td>
<td>1,342,853</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11,196</td>
<td>2,136,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3,278</td>
<td>333,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2,172</td>
<td>363,255</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>6,411</td>
<td>123,888</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7,033</td>
<td>83,753</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>6,527+</td>
<td>26,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Portal Results

- 2002
- 320+ partners
- ~776K visible objects
- 7.95 million files
- 10K added each month
- 120K added last year
- 550K+ uses per month

Courtesy of The Portal to Texas History, 2016
The Portal Contents…So Far

- 162,822 photographs
- 356,231 newspaper issues
- 3,549 books
- 83,077 maps
- and much more
Rescuing Texas History has

5,080,299 of the
29,575,997 Total Portal uses

- or-

17.2%
Historical / Genealogical Group Partner: Val Verde County Historical Commission

Partnered 2007
121 items
Due to these numbers the Portal to Texas History has officially determined that the Rescuing Texas History Program will be annual occurrence
Look for the next call for Rescuing Texas History late May 2017 by signing up for the Portal newsletter at http://texashistory.unt.edu

Courtesy of Portal Partner El Paso Public Library
Image Citations


History Interview with Cathy Hartman, December 7, 2015
Courtesy of UNT Oral History Program Oral

First School Building Courtesy of Portal Partner Clark Hotel Museum

[E-4 Streamliners in Chicago]Courtesy of Portal Partner Museum of the American Railroad

[Amon Carter and Ben E. Keith Shaking Hands] Courtesy of Portal Partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company

[The Adolphus Hotel, Dallas] Courtesy of Portal Partner Joe E. Haynes

Sunset South of Paris, Texas Courtesy of Portal Private Partner Jim Bell

[Chas Matthews and Wife Change Tire] Courtesy of Where the West Begins partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company

[Students Reading Newspapers Together] Courtesy of UNT Libraries Special Collections

[The Digital Projects Lab Racks, 2015] Courtesy of your presenters
Image Citations

[Photograph of Two Players on Football Field] Hardin-Simmons University Library
[The Portal to Texas History circa 2016] Courtesy of your presenters
Albert Lawrence Bates Fingerprint Card, 1933 (Oklahoma City Police Department) Courtesy of Portal Partner Dallas Municipal Archives
[1st Fire Alarm Dispatch Office] Courtesy of Portal Partner Dallas Firefighters Museum
[Computer Hardware in Digital Projects Unit] Courtesy of UNT Libraries Digital Projects Unit
Parker County July 15, 1856 Courtesy of Portal Partner General Land Office
[Parker County] 1856/1856~ Courtesy of Portal Partner General Land Office
[DPU Racks] Courtesy of UNT Libraries Digital Projects Lab
[Medical Association Application: Ruth Ann Bellinger, MD] Courtesy of Portal Partner Historical Society
[Partner Initial Inventory] Courtesy of UNT Libraries Digital Projects Lab
[Portrait of Carpe Cubana Dancers] Courtesy of Portal Partner Witte Museum
[Revolutionaries on the Lookout] Courtesy of Portal Partner El Paso Public Library