Digitization in Three Strokes: Digital Commonwealth, Minnesota Digital Library, and The Portal to Texas History
Rescuing Texas History at The Portal to Texas History

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Rescuing Texas History through the Digitization of At-risk Photographs and Maps

- 2005 - 2006
- Collaboration with Summerlee Foundation of Dallas
- 13 original partners
- 4,754 items (5,014 files) digitized, processed, and hosted

Courtesy of Portal Partner Clark Hotel Museum
Where the West Begins: Capturing Fort Worth’s Historic Treasures

- 2007
- Texas Cultures Online grant from the Amon Carter and Adeline and George McQueen Foundations
- 11 partners
- 4,531 items (13,364 files) digitized, processed, and hosted

Courtesy of Portal Partner Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company
2008 Hiatus

• Completing 2007 projects
• Project sizes
• Project scope

Courtesy of Portal Private Partner Jim Bell
Application Preparation –

• Set a schedule for the program

• Invite faculty and staff to serve on the selection committee

• Determine awards to be given
Application selection and receipt of materials

- Review of applications
  - Top 20 for each committee member

- Coordinate staggered delivery
  - Divide into roughly thirds or quarters
Lab: Into the Workflow

Materials that arrive in the lab are:
• Inventoryed
• Documented
• Assigned
• Scanned
Lab: Quality Control

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

[Portrait of a Man]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brief Record</th>
<th>Full Record</th>
<th>Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**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.

**Creator(s):** Unknown

**Location(s):** United States - Texas

**Creation Date:** Unknown

**Partner(s):** Private Collection of T. B. Willis

**Collection(s):** Rescuing Texas History, 2014

More Options

Resources for Educators

We offer teaching materials that connect your students with primary source historical documents to dramatically enrich their learning. See all resources.
Lab: Post-Production

http://www.library.unt.edu/digital-projects-unit/metadata
Resources Acquired through RTH

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

1856 and 1857 Parker County maps Courtesy of Portal Partner General Land Office
Museum Partner: Jacob Fontaine Religious Museum

Partnered in 2006
181 items
Public Library Partner: Denton Public Library

Partnered in 2014
124 items

Statistics for Rescuing Texas History, 2014
Organization Partner: Matthews Family and Lambshead Ranch

Partnered in 2009
914 items
Private Partner: Private Collection of T. B. Willis

Partnered in 2013 and 2014
646 items
Academic Library collections: Midwestern State

Partnered 2010
25 items
Government Office Collections: Dallas Municipal Archives

Partnered 2011
179 items
Lessons Learned

- Project Size
- Project Scope
- Simplify Application Process
- Communication
- Inventory
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>971,969</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>7,795</td>
<td>1,116,409</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11,196</td>
<td>1,827,274</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3,278</td>
<td>267,929</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2,172</td>
<td>242,665</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>5,050</td>
<td>61,693</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7,013</td>
<td>24,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Portal Results

• 320+ partners
• ~732K visible objects
• 7.54 million files
• 120K added last year
• 550K+ uses per month
Rescuing Texas History has

4,512,681 of the
27,526,123 Total Portal uses or
16.4%
Due to these numbers the Portal to Texas History has officially determined that the Rescuing Texas History Program will be annual occurrence.
Questions?

THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY
Visit: [http://texashistory.unt.edu](http://texashistory.unt.edu)

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