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Survival of the Fittest: The Evolving Nature of Metadata Creation for Digital Collections

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Survival of the Fittest: The Evolving Nature of Metadata Creation for Digital Collections

American Library Association Annual Conference and Exhibition
Chicago, IL June 29, 2013

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In the Beginning...

Digital Galleries

Our collections were small digital galleries.

- Very little metadata
- No metadata guidelines or standards
- Metadata copied from MARC records into CONTENTdm

...Before 2006

Digital Collections Librarian hired

Maps Collection

- Local controlled vocabularies created
- Simple indexing guidelines
- Rich, original metadata created

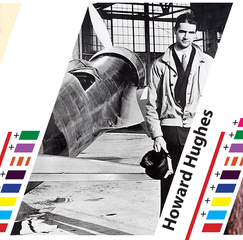
2006

Adoption of Dublin Core based metadata

Showgirls

- Commenting and rating enabled
- Digital "book" with chapters
- Consistently most popular collection

2007



Howard Hughes

First LSTA Grant Project

- Provisional metadata provided by UNLV History Department
- First collaborative project

2008

Nevada Test Site Oral History Project

- LSTA Grant Project
- Links to Maps Collection
- Variety of formats

2009

Adoption of Thesaurus of Graphic Material (TGM) vocabulary terms

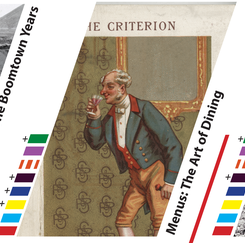
Southern Nevada: The Boomtown Years

- LSTA Grant Project
- "Genre (TGM)" field added
- "See also" links established

2010

Procedures & Documentation initiated

- Weekly metadata meetings
- Quality control step implemented



Menus: The Art of Dining

- LSTA Grant Project
- Interface with the UNLV Institutional Repository

Digital Collections Metadata Librarian hired

2011

Faceted Application of Subject Terminology (FAST) adopted

- MWDL Dublin Core Application Profile v.2

UNLV Application Profile (extended and compliant with MWDL)

- Inventory Project: revise metadata to comply with UNLV Application Profile

Historic Landscape of Nevada

- LSTA Grant Project
- Getty Art & Architecture Thesaurus (AAT) terms adopted

2012

Search Engine Optimization

- Change titles to avoid duplication

Summon implemented

- Adjust metadata to allow search by facet

Dreaming the Skyline: Resort Architecture

- LSTA Grant Project
- Oral history collection with multiple formats

2013

Restructure oral history collection

- Implementation of biographies for narrators

African-American Experience in Las Vegas

- Outsourced digitization
- Controlled vocabularies created from existing collections

INCREASE DISCOVERABILITY

Linked Data Project

- Shared vocabularies
- Split field with heterogeneous data (e.g., personal names)
- Attribute URIs to our unique materials
- And more...

Photo Collections

University Newspaper

The Rebel Yell

- Coming Soon!

Key

Feature.....
Added Feature..... +
Experimental.....

Consistency Across Collections