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Working together: Journal of Western Archives & Western Roundups

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Working Together:
Journal of Western Archives
&
Western Roundups



Presented at the
2012 Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists (CIMA) &
Society of Southwest Archivists (SSA) Joint Meeting, Mesa, AZ, May 2012.

(Click)



The idea of a Journal of Western Archives began in the early 2000s after plans were being made for a super regional meeting in Las Vegas, NV. It was during this **collaborative (Click)** time that University Archivists Gordon Daines proposed an idea to then Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists President John Murphy. Gordon wanted to establish a journal that would be for archivists working in the western United States. He noticed that as a researcher himself at BYU that archivists in the western United States didn't publish as much as archivists in the eastern United States.

In 2002, Gordon approached CIMA about establishing a task force to investigate the idea of a journal for archivists working in the west. In 2002, the CIMA Council created the Journal Task Force and charged it with investigating the creation of a journal that would deal with Western related archival issues. The Task force was composed of CIMA, SRMA, SCA, SSA members. A business plan was created that included a marketing plan, editorial policy and a financial plan. **(Click)**

Sponsors of the Journal



The Journal of Western Archives promotes the collaborative efforts between the four Western regional archival associations. They are the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists (CIMA), Northwest Archivists, Inc., Society of California Archivists (SCA), and the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists (SRMA). This all began at the 2005 Western Roundup in Las Vegas. Thus, each association has a stake in the success of this journal. (Click)

Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal

Eventually, all this information ended up in ***The Journal of Western Archives and Curatorial Studies: A Proposal***. **(Click)** The initial response to the journal was good. A presentation was made at the Joint Meeting of the Society of California Archivists and the Northwest Archivists, Inc. in Sacramento, CA. This took place in April 2003. Within the next eight months the governing bodies of the interested associations considered the proposal which included a dues increase to cover the costs associated with financing the new journal. Unfortunately, the costs with publishing a print version of the journal were too high for the project to take off. The project was tabled by CIMA at this point.

Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal
- ❧ Open-Access

In early March 2007, Gordon attended De Lange Conference VI – Emerging Libraries and learned about open-access journals in the sciences. This is where he came up with the idea of establishing an **open-access (Click)** Western archives journal. This would allow for a more cost effective way to produce an archival journal.

Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal
- ❧ Open-Access
- ❧ A New Proposal

In March 2008, a **new Journal of Western Archives business plan (Click)** was started. The areas that would be particularly important were the justification, the editorial policy and the funding model/financial model. There was a great deal of time spent on the editorial policy, though. It was agreed that the policy should focus on Western issues. Gordon was tasked with the financial aspect of the journal. He found that the open-access platform provided several benefits. First, the journal could be electronic. Second, the costs for hosting the journal electronically were very low. Finally, the automation of the submission and review processes eliminated the need for postage and associated costs.

Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal
- ❧ Open-Access
- ❧ A New Proposal
- ❧ Unanimous Support

Gordon then approached the presidents of the **(Click) Society of California Archivists, the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists, the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists, and the Northwest Archivists Inc. about supporting** the journal both financially and via manpower. In June 2008, Gordon heard back from SCA, SRMA and CIMA and they all agreed to support the journal in the amount of \$1,000 per year for the next three years.

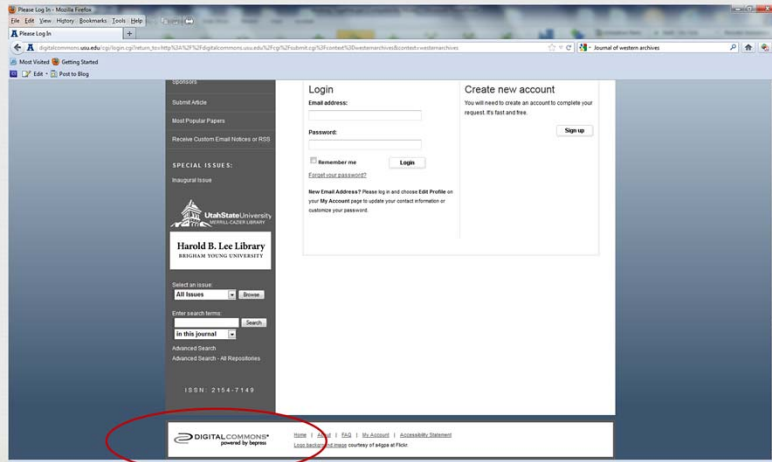
Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal
- ❧ Open-Access
- ❧ A New Proposal
- ❧ Unanimous Support
- ❧ Bepress Digital Support

In October 2009, Gordon and Cory Nimer approached Utah State University to discuss to possibility of having them host the Journal on their servers. Gordon and Cory learned that Utah State University had access to a journal platform through their use of **bepress' Digital Commons. (Click)** Gordon and Cory met with Brad Cole with Utah State University to discuss the possibility of the Journal being hosted in Utah State University's bepress installation. Brad Cole talked with his administration at Utah State and they agreed to host the Journal of Western Archives. **(Click)**

Bepress Digital Commons



(Click) The Journal of Western Archives site includes a range of functionality for their users, too. This includes the ability to submit an article electronically. You must create an account in order submit your article, but it's an easy process. **(Click)**

Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal
- ❧ Open-Access
- ❧ A New Proposal
- ❧ Unanimous Support
- ❧ Bepress Digital Support
- ❧ Managing the Finances

The issue of who would be willing to manage the **(Click) journal's finances become an issue**. So, in December 2009, the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists agreed to manager the journal's finances. A set of policies and procedures for managing the journal's finances were set up with the CIMA Treasurer Walter Jones. In February 2010, the four sponsoring organizations began making their financial contributions.

In January 2010, each of the regional associations identified their editorial board members. Cory Nimer made arrangements with the editorial board members in order to train them on how to use the Journal on bepress. This included learning how to use an automated peer review system. Bepress was not only the website for the Journal, but it's administrative tool, as well.

Journal of Western Archives



- ❧ Collaboration
- ❧ Initial Proposal
- ❧ Open-Access
- ❧ A New Proposal
- ❧ Unanimous Support
- ❧ Bepress Digital Support
- ❧ Managing the Finances
- ❧ Editorial Policy

An **editorial policy (Click)** was later created for the Journal. The Journal of Western Archives became a peer-reviewed, open access journal sponsored by Western regional archival organizations. It's focus is on contemporary issues and developments in the archival and curatorial fields. Specifically, it focuses on issues that affect Western archives.

The Journal of Western Archives became a publication that reflected the development of a Western regional identity for archivists. It would provide publication opportunities for archivists working in the Western United States and allow Western archival organizations and institutions "to improve archivists' engagement with professional reading." It promoted the collaborative efforts of four major Western regional archival associations that began with the 2005 Las Vegas Western Round Up. **(Click)**

Western Roundup 2005 Super-Regional Meeting (Las Vegas, NV)



The **2005 Western Roundup in Las Vegas, NV (Click)** began as a way for the regional associations in the western part of the U.S. to strengthen their identity. The regional associations were the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists (CIMA), the Society of California Archivists (SCA), the Northwest Archivists Inc. (NWA), and the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists (SRMA). The discussion started in 2002 and by 2003 plans were made for a joint regional meeting in Las Vegas, NV. The Western Roundup in 2005 provided an opportunity for archivists from all four organizations to meet and share their experiences as well gain valuable ideas about how to do their profession as it relates to the challenges of working in the western U.S. **(Click)**

The Conference Program

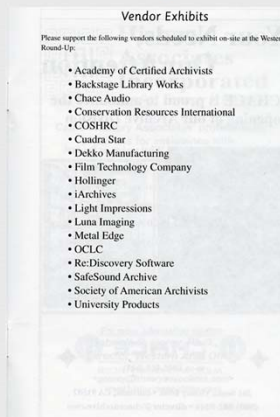


An early Las Vegas tavern, ca. 1905

(Click) The program for this first super regional meeting included an introduction to the city and all that it has to offer for conference goers. Attendees could get an idea of why this city was chosen for this momentous event. The introduction to the city included a wide range of information regarding the history of this desert city. This included information on it's founders, the Hoover Dam, the Rat Pack, Elvis, the evolution of the resort hotels, and of coarse gaming. Attendees would have a nice introduction to a city that was much more than just a casino and entertainment destination.

The program included general information on the conference, a list of **session descriptions, association meeting times, information on vendors, tours, workshops and a schedule summary**. This first Western Roundup shaped up to be everything it was suppose to be. A place to meet and share ideas with other western archivists in a formal venue. It truly was an answer to those archivists who could not make it to the national conferences as well as a place for them to help shape their own identity. **(Click)**

Sponsors and Exhibitors



(Click) The Western Roundup included a wide range of exhibitors who one might see at the national level. The vendors included the **Academy of Certified Archivists**, **OCLC**, **Metal Edge**, **University Products**, and the **Society of American Archivists**. The Western Roundup grew into a formal event that would impress any national conference goer.

(Click)

Contributing Committee Members



Program Committee:

- University of Southern California
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Brigham Young University
- Denver Water
- Graduate Theological Union
- Oregon Historical Society
- University of Montana – Missoula

The Western Roundup was put together by a wide range of archivists. A program committee, local arrangements committee, and local arrangements liaisons were created to plan and implement every aspect of this super-regional conference. They included archivists from USC, UNLV, BYU, and the Oregon Historical Society. The meeting in Las Vegas truly represented the archivists from the American West. **(Click)**

Historical Views of Las Vegas



Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Joey Bishop – Backstage at the Sands Hotel, 1960



Aerial view of Las Vegas Strip looking north, ca. 1970s

Western Round-up Super Regional Meeting – April 14-16, 2005 – 27

Here are some of the historical photographs included in the 2005 Western Roundup program. **(Click) (Click) (Click)**

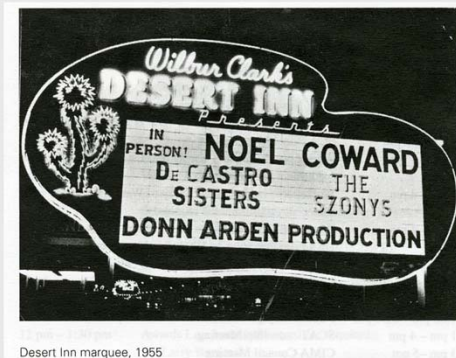
Historical Views of Las Vegas



Sands Hotel customers cool off by taking advantage of gambling tables and machines in the swimming pool, 1954

(Click) (Click)

Historical Views of Las Vegas



Desert Inn marquee, 1955

located at the entrance to the museum) to

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Boulder Dam Construction, night scene,

(Click) (Click) (Click)

Western Roundup – 2010
Super Regional Meeting
(Seattle, WA)



In 2010, the next Western Roundup would take place in Seattle, WA. **(Click)** It would be another conference for archivists from CIMA, Northwest Archivists, SCA, and SRMA. It included preconference workshops, a wide range of sessions, and plenty of tours of the Emerald City. The plenary session featured archivist, educator, and Society of American Archivists' President Peter Gottlieb. **(Click)**

The Conference Program



Washington State Ferry on Puget Sound, no date,
Series 400, Box 176, Folder 19, Courtesy King County Archives



Sailing on Lake Washington with Mt. Rainier in background.
Seattle Convention & Tourist Bureau, Seattle Chamber of Commerce photograph.
Courtesy Diocese of Olympia (Episcopal) Archives, Seattle.

(Click) (Click)

The program for this second super regional meeting included an introduction to the Emerald City and all that it has to offer for conference goers. Attendees could get an idea of why this city was chosen for this event. The introduction in the program included a wide range of information regarding the history of Seattle. **(Click)**

Sponsors and Exhibitors



Sponsors and Exhibitors

Sponsors

Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc.
Microsoft
National Archives and Records Administration:
Pacific Alaska Region, Pacific Region, and Rocky Mountain Region
Panda Lab

Exhibitors

Ancestry.com
Anderson Consulting
Atlas Systems, Inc.
BELFOR Property Restoration
(The Crowley Company)
Cuadra Associates, Inc.
Eloquent Systems, Inc.
Front Porch Digital
Gaylord Bros.
Hollinger Metal Edge, Inc.
HOV Services
Image Access Corporation
MAM-A, Inc.
Minisig, Inc.
Preservation Technologies
University Products, Inc.
Academy of Certified Archivists
National Archives and Records Administration
Online Archive of California (OAC)
Seattle Area Archivists
WESTPAS (Western States & Territories Preservation Assistance Service)

Sponsoring Organizations:

Conference of Intermountain Archivists
Northwest Archivists
Society of California Archivists
Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists

(Click)

The Western Roundup in Seattle included a larger group of sponsors and exhibitors. The sponsors now included **Microsoft and the National Archives and Records Administration**. The exhibitors now included **Ancestry.com, Gaylord Bros., and the Online Archive of California**. The Western Roundup continued to grow into a formal event that would impress any archivist across the country or around the world. (Click)

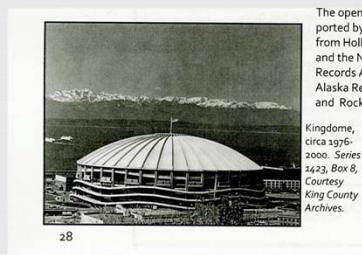
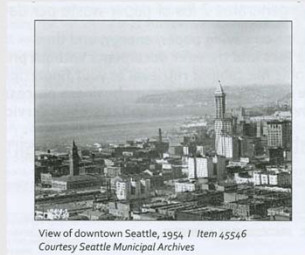
Contributing Committee Members

Program Committee Members:

- University of California, Los Angeles
- Fort Collins Museum & Discovery Science Center
- University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Oregon State University
- Brigham Young University
- Utah State University
- Colorado River Authority
- University of Southern California

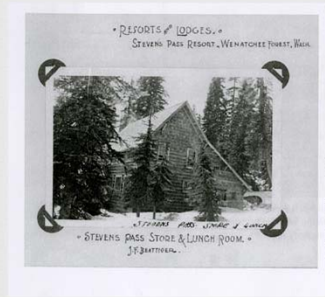
The Program and Local Arrangements Committees put together a conference that appealed to students, new professionals, and veterans. The sessions addressed a wide range of archival topics for repositories large and small. The program committee members included a snap shot of the various institutions located throughout the American West. They included archivists from UCLA, Utah State and USC. **(Click)**

Historical Views of Seattle



Here are some of the historical photographs included in the 2010 Western Roundup program. **(Click) (Click) (Click)**

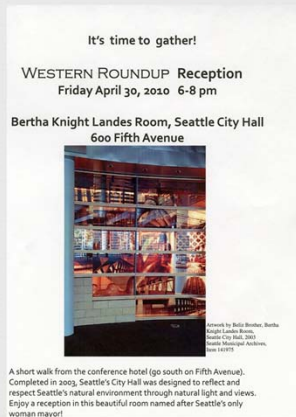
Historical Views of Seattle



Children weaving at Providence of Mary Immaculate School (DeSmet, Idaho), Image No. 59.E1.6 Courtesy Providence Archives, Seattle

(Click) (Click) (Click)

Western Roundup – 2010 Super Regional Meeting (Seattle, WA)



The second Western Roundup ended with an all-attendee reception in Seattle's City Hall.

The Western Roundup in Seattle was a wonderful conference that included a luncheon that debuted CIMA's new "Life Time Achievement Award."

In fact, the Journal of Western Archives utilized this time in Seattle to have an editorial meeting.

The Western Roundup in Seattle was another great opportunity to discuss and collaborate on the future of archiving in the American West. Archivists collaborating in the West had truly established a strong identity for themselves. **(Click)**



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