Navigating Support for Digital Projects: A Suggested Workflow for Non-Traditional Publications

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Introduction

- Types of Projects
- Common project phases
- What we can do
Types of Projects
Small Projects

- Out of the box CMS (Omeka, WordPress, or Scalar)
  - Little development
  - Online exhibits
- Student support provided
- 1-2 semesters
Congress created the Home Owners’ Loan Corporation (HOLC) in 1933 to rescue the real estate industry and restructure the home mortgage market. In the process, HOLC also strengthened residential racial segregation. HOLC promoted racial covenants on deeds to prevent mixed-race neighborhoods and created color-coded maps of American cities that made race a key element in assessing financial risk. This exhibit explores the actions of HOLC in Virginia and its impact on Virginia cities.

It was originally an exhibit from 12/7/2016 to 2/17/2017 in Newman Library at Virginia Tech.
Medium Projects

- Built on Content Management Systems or basic HTML
  - A little more customization / development
- More hands on work
- 1-2 years
THE SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC. 1905-1926

The Southern Industrial Educational Association, Inc. 1905-1926 was one of the first philanthropic organizations aimed at improving life in rural Appalachia. It is an organization that faded into obscurity, never receiving recognition for the work it accomplished during the first decade of the twentieth century. Kathleen Curtis Wilson, a Fellow at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, spent a decade uncovering a comprehensive history of the organization and its most influential members. An overall history of the organization is included in Wilson's publication, Uplifting the South, the Legacy of Mary Mildred Sullivan, Overmountain Press, 2006.

From 1909-1926, the association published a small booklet distributed to members and potential supporters. The Quarterly Magazine contained a wide variety of Appalachian-related information on subjects as diverse as health care, agriculture, speech patterns, book reviews, craft traditions, and night school education.

In 2014, under the guidance of the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities at University of Virginia, Wilson digitized 51 of the 53 issues of the magazine. She provided the background information and formatted a framework for Virginia Tech to develop a comprehensive website that enables users to take full advantage of the fascinating new information found within the archive. WWW.KATHLEENCURTISWILSON.COM.

Recurring themes:
1. Moral turpitude in cities;
2. Manual training can improve life for men, women, and children;
Large Projects

- Very customized
- Typically grant funded
- Multi-year projects
- Large amounts of data
LORD BYRON AND HIS TIMES

General Indexes

LBT is a growing digital archive of books, pamphlets, and periodical essays illustrating the causes and controversies that preoccupied Byron and his contemporaries. The documents, large and small, ephemeral and monumental, underscore the social dimensions of publishing in the romantic era; the archive uses notes, commentary, and links to highlight relationships among their readers and writers.

Byron was at once a social critic and an object of criticism, a brooding misanthrope and an icon of fashion. His life and writings were the subject of scores of books and pamphlets that sparked yet further controversies that often developed a life of their own. These quarrels over manners and morality, politics and religion were occasions for rhetorical exchanges that were sometimes brilliant, sometimes mean, and sometimes both.

If Byron was the focus of controversy, the focus of LBT is less the man than the controversies that enveloped him. The romantic era was, contemporary observers complained, an age of “personality.” LBT pursues connections between people and publications using database technology to track the appearances of thousands of major and minor personages through a wealth of documents.

To access the archive, select CONTENTS in the menu to bring up a list of document-collections in the archive, or SEARCH PERSONS to find documents by or about a particular person. To read about the project at large, select ABOUT LBT.
Project Phases
Prototype

IT Governance

Incubation

Production

Archive
Prototype

- Team Building
- Mockups/wireframes
- Technology needed
- Accessibility needs planning
- Justification
Incubation

- Development
- Documentation
- Operations plan
- Grant writing
Production

- When its live
- Maintenance
Archive

- When and how to archive it
- Preservation
- Documentation
- Where to store it
What can we do
Implementation

- Guide researchers through project phases for every type of project
- Require proposals
  - Either before or after prototype phase (depending on involvement)
- Assist in grant writing
- Recognize the supporting documentation as part of the scholarship
- Some sort of review
- Copyedit
- Licensing projects
Thank you!

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