UBC Library
Digital Initiatives
Digitization Centre

Impact and Activity Report

2011-2014

Among the 'Seven Sisters' in Stanley Pk, Van. B.C

Rosetti..

Nº 40

UBC Library advances research, learning and teaching excellence by connecting communities, within and beyond the University, to the world's knowledge.

The Digital Initiatives Unit is a key part of UBC Library's effort to adapt to the evolving needs of faculty and students and to support teaching, research and learning at UBC. Our goal is to create sustainable, world-class programs and processes to make the collections and research at UBC available to the world and to ensure the authentic, long-term preservation of these digital holdings for the future.

The Digitization Centre embraces new technologies, methods of access, workflows and preservation stratgies while building sustainable digital collections to support and enrich the educational, cultural and economic endeavors of the University, the people of British Columbia and communities beyond.

The impact and activity report describes the work of members of our unit as well as the relationships built with UBC researchers, students and community partners since the Centre's opening in March 2011.

66 The long-term stewardship of materials both digital and analog is one of the cornerstones of libraries 99

--Bronwen Sprout, Digital Initiatives Coordinator

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Digitization Centre at a glance

The Digitization Centre fulfils the UBC Library Strategic Plan's goal to "implement a comprehensive digitization program to provide unlimited online access to materials of research and teaching value."

The Digitization Centre has been a hub of activity:

- More than **500,000 items** in locally produced digital collections

- Collaborations with more than **10 UBC Library units and the wider UBC community** on projects and collections

- Partnerships with more than **20 community organizations from around BC and beyond** to preserve unique resources

- More than **$1 million** in external funding raised in collaboration with Library Development to support the creation and management of more than 15 digital collections

- Provides work opportunities that enhance the learning experience of more than **100 UBC students** many of which are funded through external sources

"Geography" from Andrew McCormick Maps and Prints Collection

In 2013/14

- **45 online collections** that support teaching, learning, and research at UBC and beyond

- Locally hosted collections see more than **300 visits per day**

- Visits from more than **100 countries** to access rare and unique library holdings

2014 and beyond

- **18 current and upcoming projects** will extend the scope and size of collections

- Partner on projects receiving more than **$25,000** in Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF) grants: Epigraphic Squeezes, Gold Rush Letters

- More than **$19,000** in BC History Digitization Program (BCHDP) funding for two projects: Uno Langmann Family Historical Photographs, BC Sessional Papers

"Europe the new way on the second CPRMS Empress of Britain" from the Chung Collection

Enhancing student learning

Many UBC Library digital collections contain materials which directly support the UBC curriculum and which are rare or unique. The TLEF funded Epigraphic Squeezes collection will provide unrestricted access to unique content, enhancing student learning and scholarly research.

"At present, the Epigraphic squeezes are not only inaccessible to students and faculty alike, but are virtually unknown outside of the institution. […] There are few comparable collections in North America. Free and open access will be invaluable for scholarly research both at UBC and beyond"

-- Andrei Mihailiuk , graduate student, UBC Department of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies

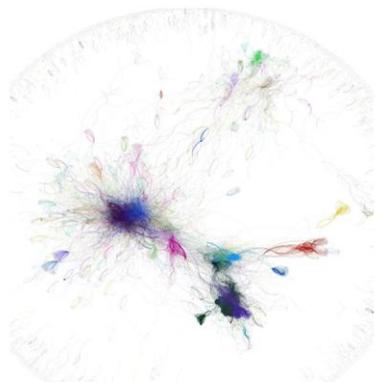
Students in front of the Library

Educational enrichment opportunities

Since 2011 the Digitization Centre has equipped more than 100 students from across campus with research, technology, project management and critical thinking skills for success in an increasingly digital world.

The Digitization Centre helps fulfil UBC's Place and Promise goal to increase educational enrichment opportunities, offering an exceptional learning environment for work learn, co-op and professional experience students.

"I've gained experience on a variety of scanning equipment, discovered aspects of Photoshop that hadn't been part of my previous work, and learned a great deal about the planning and management that goes into a large-scale digitization project. [The Digitization Centre] has been a friendly and supportive environment."

-- Kate Clayborne, work learn student

"Everyday I encounter the practical issues of applying the theories and standards I learn about at SLAIS to real world collections and software. My work has provided endless ideas and examples for my academic research that I would not have otherwise encountered. I truly value this opportunity to enrich my academic experience!"
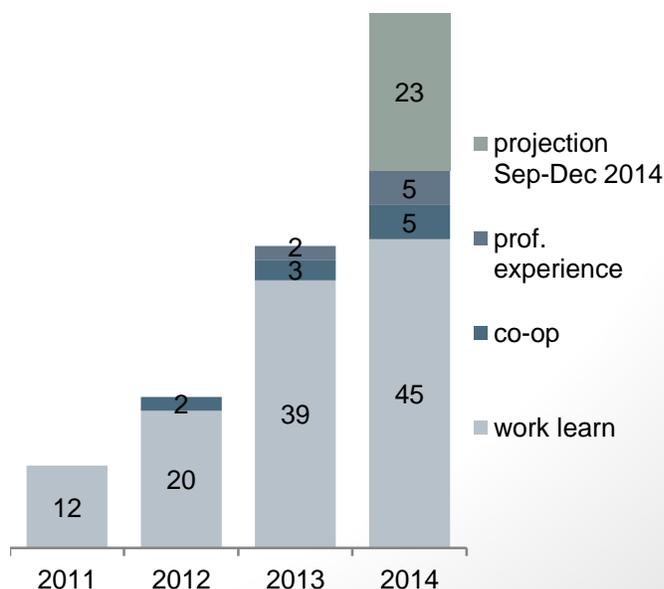
-- Evan Williamson, graduate student, UBC SLAIS

"Subject Nodes in UBC Digital Collections" data visualization.
Seeing Metadata: Harvesting and Representing Digital Collection Metadata *by Evan Williamson*

Number of students employed by Digitization Centre

Legend:
- projection Sep-Dec 2014
- prof. experience
- co-op
- work learn

Year	work learn	co-op	prof. experience	projection Sep-Dec 2014
2011	12			
2012	20	2		
2013	39	3	2	
2014	45	5	5	23

Accelerating research

The Digitization Centre prioritizes collections based on their value to researchers at UBC and beyond:

- Does the material support the teaching and research functions of the institution?
- Does the material have intrinsic value to current students, researchers or the broader community?
- Is material fragile? Is it more likely to be used more in a digital format?

Feature collection: BC Historical Newspapers

The BC Historical Newspapers Collection is a treasure trove for researchers looking to gain perspective into social and cultural aspects of community life, particularly in remote and rural areas of British Columbia where community papers are often the only chroniclers of local, national, international affairs.

The BC Historical Newspapers project features digitized versions of historical papers from around the province. The titles, which range from the *Abbotsford Post* to the *Phoenix Pioneer*, dating from 1865 to 1989.

Enhancing access to this valuable information encourages the study of B.C. history and brings research material to historians across British Columbia and beyond.

I just wanted to thank everyone for their hard work and making these newspapers available online. I am living in Ecuador and researching my family from the Sunshine Coast would have been impossible without these newspaper archives.

--Mark Jarvis, Researcher

Brilliant project, especially the newspaper "Daily Building Record" which has enabled us to locate previously missing 1912 Vancouver building permits, as a portion of the original records no longer exist.

--Patrick Gunn, Board, Heritage Vancouver Society

The Coast News

BC Historical Newspapers Digital Collection Web Traffic for the week of March 2-8, 2014

Number of visits	1,396
Unique visitors	1,212
Pages viewed per visit	6.2
Average visit duration (min)	21
# of countries (5 or more visits)	27
# of provinces (5 or more visits)	8

Managing collections in a digital context

The Digitization Centre is a fully functioning lab with specialized digitization equipment to accommodate a wide range of materials.

Equipment

- Tarsia Technical Industries 40 x 60 Copy System with a Sinar 86H camera back and digital CMV lenses
- ATIZ BookDrive Pro cradle scanners with Canon EOS 5D MKIII bodies and 50mm, 100mm and 24-70mm lenses
- Fujitsu fi-6670A Colour Duplex Document Scanner
- Contex HD5450 Wide Format CCD Scanner
- Epson Perfection V750-M Pro and Epson Expression 11000XL flatbed scanners
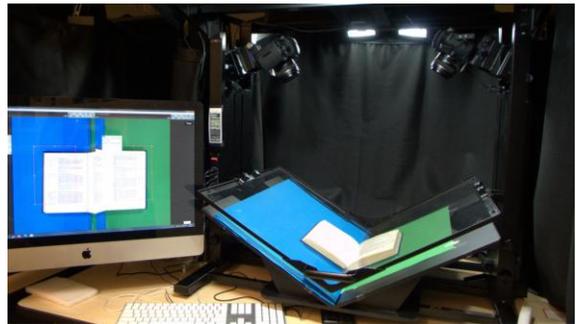- nextScan FlexScan 3-in-1 microform scanner

Imaging Standards

Archival Master files
- Stored as TIFF files with no compression
- Minimum resolution of 600 pixels per inch (ppi) on most projects
- 1 bit bitonal, 8 bit grayscale, or 24 bit colour images
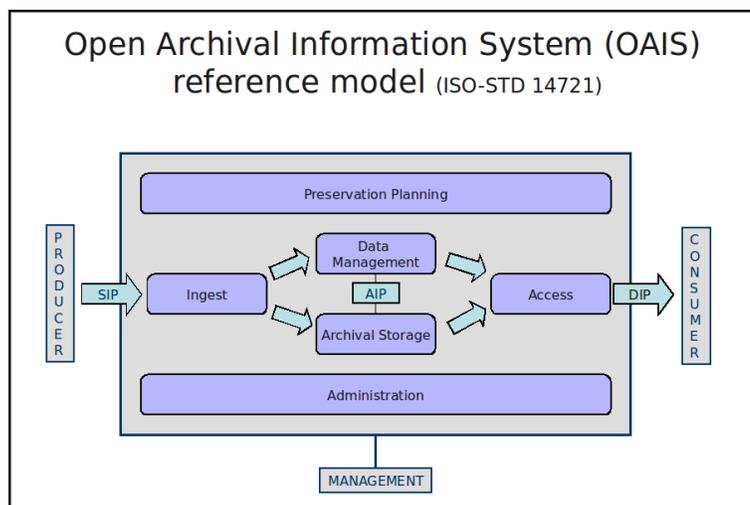
Access files
- JPEG 2000 files for display (10:1 compression)
- High quality JPEG and PDF files for download

Open source tools and digital preservation

In keeping with our goal to ensure the authentic, long-term preservation of UBC digital collections and research, we are working with local company Artefactual on the development of a comprehensive digital preservation program that meets international standards.

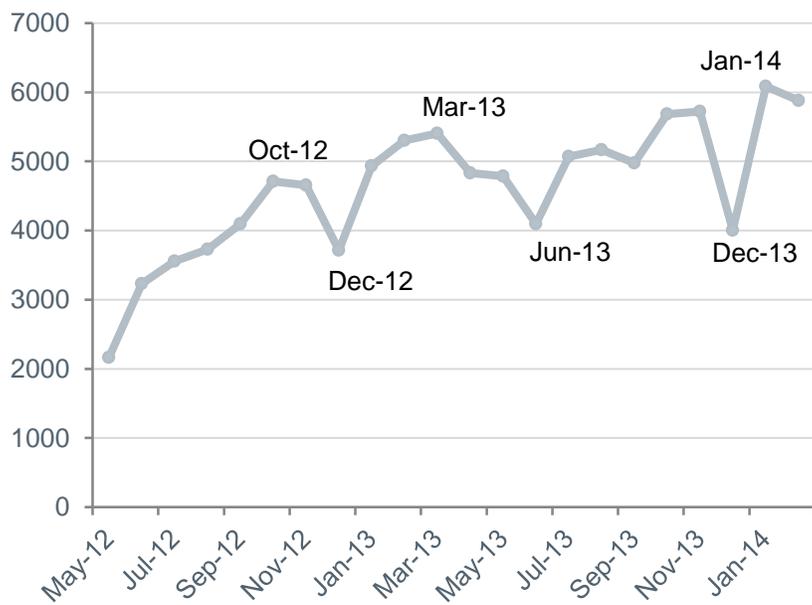Artefactual develops the open-source Archivematica digital preservation software and the AtoM archival description software. Our persistent digital collections strategy uses Archivematica to provide preservation functionality for the Library's digitized and born-digital holdings and integrates Archivematica with the existing systems we use to manage digital objects (DSpace, CONTENTdm, and AtoM).

Open Archival Information System (OAIS) reference model (ISO-STD 14721)

Providing unlimited access to research

The number of online visits to UBC Digital Collections has grown steadily since 2012, with more than **124,000** visits in 2013.

The peak and low use periods depicted below correspond to the academic calendar.

Most visited collections in 2013

BC Historical Newspapers

Chinese Canadian stories

Japanese Maps of the Tokugawa Era

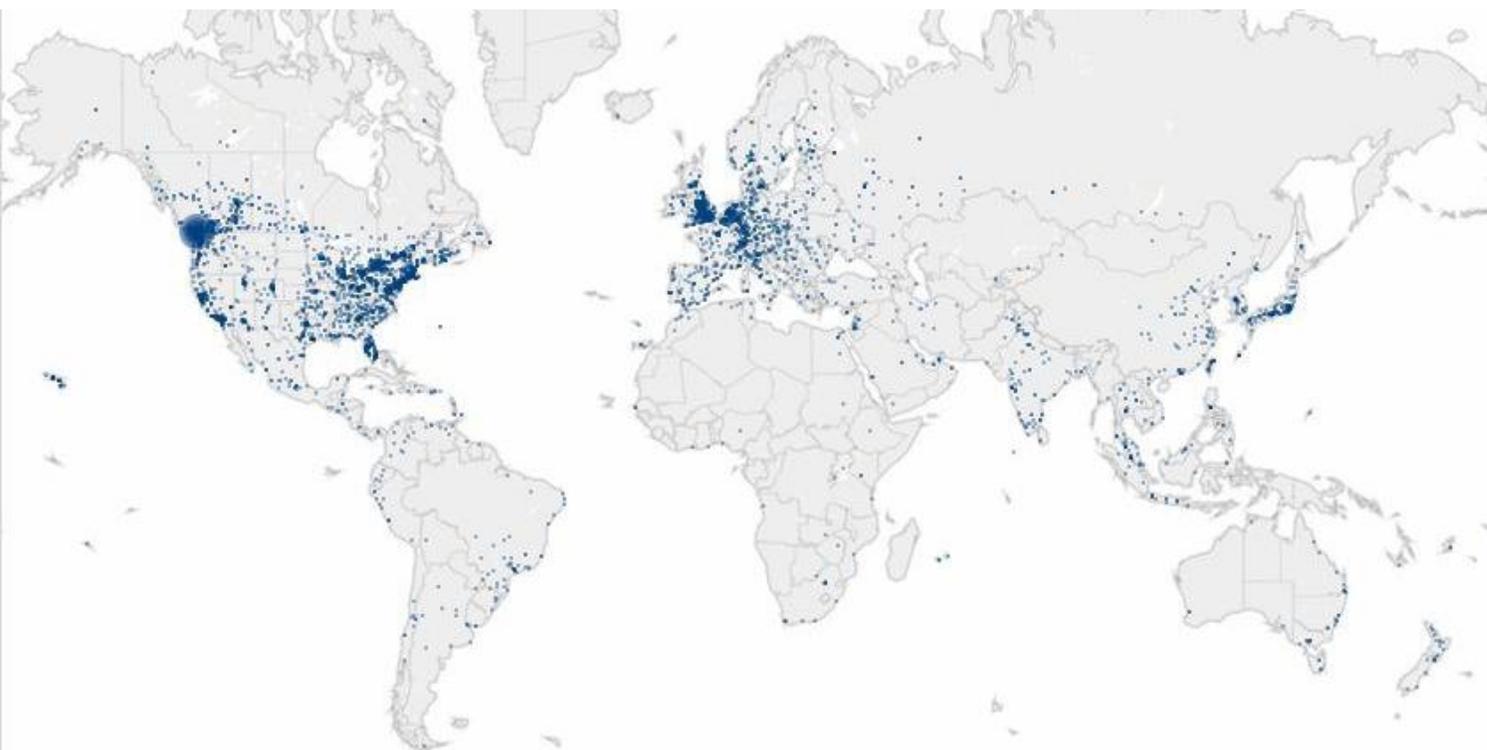Fisherman Publishing Society Collection

Okanagan Historical Society Reports

Global reach

In 2013, **32%** of visits to UBC Library's digital collections were from outside of Canada.

80 countries registered 10 or more visits to UBC Digital Collections in 2013 alone.

Community Engagement

Partnerships

The Digitization Centre has had the unique opportunity to work with more than twenty partners ranging from UBC Library units/branches to other universities in other countries.

Faculty Partnerships

- Collaboration with UBC Fisheries on the UBC Institute of Fisheries Field Records.

  "We have specimens from around the world and as old as 1904. Digitizing field data would gather all this info and make it accessible worldwide."

  -- Dr. Eric Taylor, UBC Fisheries

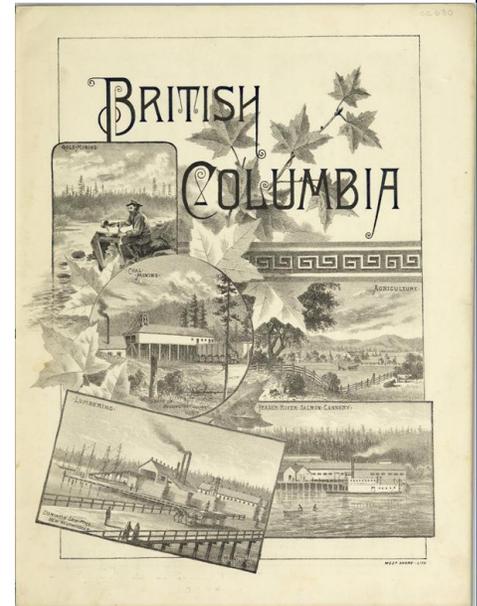### Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Sector

- Multi-member partnership with Legislative Library of BC, Royal BC Museum and Archives, Simon Fraser University, University of Northern BC, University of Victoria, Vancouver Public Library on the BC Bibliography project.

- Partnership with the BC Government Publication Librarians Group (Legislative Library of BC, Simon Fraser University Library, University of Northern BC Library, and University of Victoria Libraries) on the digitization of BC government publications, specifically the BC Sessional Papers Digital Collection.

  "The BC Sessional Papers are a treasure trove of information about government, and other materials indispensable for our understanding of British Columbia's past."

  -- Professor Robert McDonald, UBC History

International Partnerships

- Sun Yat Sen Library in Guangdong Province, China and UBC Asian Library on the Puban Rare Books Collection.

- Ritsumeikan University in Japan and UBC Asian Library on the Tairiku Nippo (Continental Daily News) Collection.

Illustrated British Columbia from the BC Bibliography Collection

楳瞿山昊鹿墅黃山紀游圖冊 | *Mei qu shan mei lu shu huang shan ji you tu ce from the UBC Asian Library Rare Book Collection*

Get your teeth into the Job from the WWI and WWII Posters Collection

Our UBC Library Collaborations

Library Systems and Information Technology
- Developed BC Bibliography website and interface
- Developed BC Historical Newspapers website and interface

Rare Books and Special Collections
- Provided training on handling rare materials during digitization process
- Project partner for many projects: Canadian Pacific, Arkley Croquet, Uno Langmann BC Historical Photographs

Asian Library
- Project partner for many projects: Puban Rare Books, Tairiku Nippo, David Conde Fonds

Other units/branches consulted for projects include: cIRcle, Education Library, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, Koerner Library, Law Library, Technical Services, UBC Okanagan, University Archives, Woodward Library, Xwi7xwa Library

Social media

The UBC Library Social Media Audit (2013) identifies the "unique and diverse content from digital collections" as one of the Library's social media strengths. (pp 10-11)

In addition to providing content for Library-wide social media channels, Digitization Centre staff promote selected images and collections thorough Twitter, Flickr, and the eye-catching Digitizers' Blog.

Recently, the Digitization Centre has become a member of the Flickr Commons in order to increase access to public domain materials within our collections, as well as to engage the general public to contribute information and knowledge about our material.

Stereograph depicting a group posing with croquet equipment from the Arkley Croquet Collection

"What a great idea and an exciting way to view images. It makes me want to hit the croquet ball."

--Tremaine Arkley, former player on U.S. National Croquet Team, re: Images in Stereo, Digitizers' Blog

Back of Irving K. Barber Learning Centre from UBC Library Communications Flickr Photostream

Digitization Centre Staff

- Allan Bell, AUL Digital Initiatives
- Bronwen Sprout, Digital Initiatives Coordinator
- Larissa Ringham, Digital Projects Librarian
- Laura Ferris, Digitization Assistant, CP/Chung Project
- Leslie Field, Digital Initiatives Technical Assistant
- Mike Conroy, Community Digital Projects Analyst
- Mimi Lam, Digital Projects Librarian
- Rob Stibravy, Digital Projects Librarian
- Tina Goritsas, Administrative Assistant

Main Library from UBC Historical Photograph Collection

Images

- Among the "Seven Sisters" in Stanley Park, Vancouver, B.C. Rosetti Studios – Stanley Park Collection [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/rosetti/id/36/rec/21]
- Geography. Andrew McCormick Maps and Prints [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/mccormick/id/64/rec/118]
- Europe on the new way on the second C.P.R.M.S. Empress of Britain. Chung Collection [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/chung/id/18689/rec/2]
- Williamson, Evan. "Subject Nodes in UBC Digital Collections",
- Students in front of the Library. UBC Archives Photograph Collection [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/arphotos/id/7994/rec/12]
- The Coast News. BC Historical Newspapers Collection. [http://historicalnewspapers.library.ubc.ca/view/collection/coastnews/date/1951-12-13#1]
- Open Archival Information System Reference Model (OAIS) [https://www.archivematica.org/wiki/File:OAIS.png]
- Illustrated British Columbia. BC Bibliography. [http://bcbib.library.ubc.ca/view/item/I-659#1]
- 楳瞿山昊鹿墅黃山紀游圖冊 | Mei qu shan mei lu shu huang shan ji you tu ce. UBC Asian Library Rare Book Collection. [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/compoundobject/collection/asian/id/1084/rec/1]
- Get your teeth into the Job. WWI & WWII Posters Collection. [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/wwposters/id/57/rec/2]
- Stereograph depicting a group posing with croquet equipment. Arkley Croquet Collection. [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/arkley/id/1702/rec/16]
- Back of Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. UBC Library Communications Flickr Photostream [https://www.flickr.com/photos/ubclibrary/2966979649/]
- Main Library. UBC Historical Photograph Collection. [http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/cdm/singleitem/collection/arphotos/id/398/rec/23]

Resources

- UBC Library Strategic Plan [http://about.library.ubc.ca/strategic-plan/]
- Teaching and Learning Education Fund [http://tlef.ubc.ca/]
- BC History Digitization Program [http://www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca/programs/bcdigitinfo/]
- Place and Promise: The UBC Plan [http://strategicplan.ubc.ca/the-plan/]
- Artefactual Systems [http://www.artefactual.com/]
- Archivematica [http://www.artefactual.com/services/archivematica/]
- AtoM [http://www.artefactual.com/services/atom-2/]
- Dspace [http://www.dspace.org/]
- CONTENTdm [http://www.contentdm.org/]
- UBC Fisheries [http://www.fisheries.ubc.ca/]
- Sun Yat Sen Library in Guandong Province [http://www.zslib.com.cn/]
- Ritsumeikan University [http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/eng/]
- 2013 Social Media Audit, Confluence [http://goo.gl/yRCCHl]
- UBC Library Digital Initiatives Digitizer's Blog [http://diginit.library.ubc.ca/digitizers-blog/]
- UBC Library Digitization Centre on Flickr Commons [https://www.flickr.com/photos/ubclibrary_digicentre/]