

Upcoming Events

[Personal Digital Archiving Conference](#) Feb. 21-22, Univ. of Maryland [@pda2013](#)

[Webwise](#), March 6-8, Baltimore, MD

[SXSW 2013](#), March 8-17, Austin, TX

[ALA's National Preservation Week 2013](#), April 21-27

[NDSA Regional Workshop](#), May 10, Boston, MA

Viewshare.org Highlights

[Teaching Viewshare for Academic Work](#)

[A Viewshare Roundup](#)

Digital Preservation Bits

[Adding Labels to Audio Files](#)

[What Resolution Should I Use? Part 2](#)

[Persistant Paleontology](#)

[Digital Collection Features Inauguration Treasures](#)

[Personal Digital Archiving Campaign](#)

[Geopreservation Information for All Communities](#)

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Digital Preservation Top Ten of 2012

With 2012 safely behind us, let us praise some of the best things that happened last year in digital preservation. This is something of a tradition for us, as we have previously run down a list for [2011](#) and [2010](#).

We cast a wide net, and picked activities with the potential for broad, collaborative impact in the world-wide effort to keep digital material available and accessible over time. The resulting list covers an assortment of practical, hands-on information, as well as tools for helping with outreach, program assessment and research data management.

See the full post for [our 2012 top ten list](#).



Bottle Top, by Smabs Sputzer, on Flickr

Scanning: DIY or Outsource?

At our personal digital archiving events, we get various questions about scanning family photos, slides, negatives and film. While we've focused on developing tips and resources for [saving personal digital materials](#) created with software and hardware, we recognize that individuals have both analog and digital materials and are looking for guidance on how to deal with both.



An NDIIPP staff member listens to questions about personal digital archiving

If you're interested in converting your personal collections of photos or documents to digital files, you have two options. One, you can scan your own materials (or DIY). Two, you can outsource or use a scanning service to do it for you.

On our personal digital archiving [scanning handout \(PDF\)](#), we provide some basic steps about digitizing photos, documents and slides using a personal scanner. This handout is a step-by-step overview touching on preparing the scanner and items, saving scanned items and access and storage tips. As always, when you're working with your own hardware, consult your scanner's manual for more specific information.

We also use the blog as an opportunity to informally share with you more detailed tips about scanning your photos or documents.

[Read on](#) for more guidance.

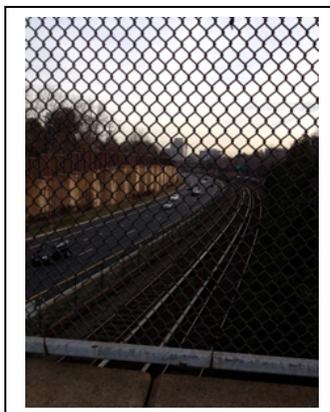
[digitalpreservation.gov/](#)

Incorporating History in Digital Maps

In 1982 [Interstate I-66 opened](#), providing a direct high-speed connection (except at rush hour) between downtown Washington D.C. and its western suburbs in Virginia. I was barely out of high school at the time, but now I live mere blocks away from the highway so it's an everyday part of my life.

What did the area near my house look like prior to the highway's opening? Many of us are fascinated by [old photographs](#) of the places where we live, but advances in technology are now making it possible to incorporate geography into these memories; to leverage maps to help us visualize the history of our favorite places in new and innovative ways.

Read the [full post](#) to find out more.



Interstate I-66 in Arlington County VA, Looking East. Photo credit: Butch Lazorchak

Is JPEG 2000 A Preservation Risk?

Like many people who work with digital imagery, I've been looking forward to the JPEG-2000 image format for a long time due to solid technical advantages: superior compression performance for both lossless masters and lossy access images, progressive decoding and multiple resolutions and tiling. Having a single format which is flexible enough to satisfy both preservation and access

requirements is appealing, particularly at a time when many organizations are being forced to reconcile rising storage costs with shrinking budgets.

So, given clear technical advantages, why do many of my fellow software developers seem distinctly uneasy about using JPEG-2000? Read the answer [here](#).

The Power of Digital Oral History



Digital preservation and Internet access are not only transforming the way we record and convey history, they are also restoring the

importance of humankind's oldest means of storytelling: the oral tradition. One of the most influential leaders in this modern oral-history movement is Doug Boyd, director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries. Boyd is pioneering the use of digital technology to preserve and distribute oral histories.

[Read more](#) about the value of these recordings.

Digital Preservation Outreach and Education

[Calendar of Events](#): Access training and educational offerings in the practice of digital preservation.

About Web Archiving

[Scoping a Web Archiving Project Around The Hobbit](#)

[Web Archiving Roundup](#)

Meetings Update

[Perspectives on Big Data Stewardship](#). From symposium at Georgetown Univ. Law Center

From Our Interns

[Wishing and Working for Safe Data](#)

Tess Webre, intern from University of Maryland

Conversation Corner

[When Is Open Source Software the Right Choice?](#)

An interview with Peter Murray

[Public Participation and Stewardship of Science](#).

Arfon Smith of Adler Planetarium

This is the newsletter of the National Digital Stewardship Alliance, the Digital Preservation Outreach and Education initiative and the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program.