



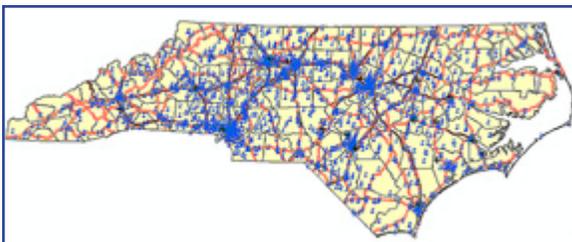
# Library of Congress Digital Preservation Newsletter

## Digital Formats

By Carl Fleischhauer - The Library has presented [information about digital formats](#) since 2004, intended to support preservation planning in our institution and in our sister archives.

This is, of course, an open-ended activity: new formats come along with some regularity and, in any case, it is often the old ones (obsolete or heading in that direction) that are of special preservation concern.

At the moment, there are 260 format descriptions on the website and, if we could wave a magic wand, we'd add another fifty or sixty at once. We want these informative pages ("human readable") to provide strong synergy to the important [Unified Digital Formats Registry](#) ("machine actionable").



Map of North Carolina that overlays vector data with data from a tabular or geodatabase source. Courtesy of Steve Morris.

In December, we announced the availability of 35 descriptions of digital geospatial formats and two brief accompanying essays.

The menu for the geospatial format descriptions is [here](#). The status is noted in each document: some are "full," some "partial" and some "preliminary." Meanwhile, the two brief essays are [here](#) and [here](#).

Fleischhauer writes in detail about the website [here](#) and more about the new geospatial formats [here](#).

## Free Online Viewshare Workshop

On Monday, Jan. 23 at 1:00 pm EST, join the NDIIPP team for a [free online workshop](#) on using [Viewshare](#) to create interfaces to digital collections. See how you can use Viewshare to [learn more about your collections](#) and [create and share dynamic interfaces to your collections](#).

[Register today!](#)

## Digital Stewards Invited to Comment

By Martha Anderson - The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy is offering the [opportunity](#) for interested individuals and organizations to provide recommendations on approaches for ensuring long-term stewardship and encouraging broad public access to unclassified digital data that result from federally funded scientific research.

The [National Digital Stewardship Alliance](#) Coordinating Committee has submitted a [response](#) (PDF) based upon the Alliance's mission and goals.

If you or your organization would like to respond, there is still time. Responses should be submitted by January 12, 2012. •



## The NDSA Storage Survey

By Trevor Owens - What are the access requirements for digital cultural heritage collections? This was one of the questions that the [NDSA](#) started exploring earlier this year. Different access requirements result in very different kinds of preservation storage systems, and the [NDSA Infrastructure working group](#) wanted to know more about the kinds of requirements that are in place for its members' collections.

As I mentioned [earlier this year](#), the Infrastructure working group has been conducting a year-long exploration of NDSA member preservation storage systems. This is the first of what will hopefully be a series of posts discussing some of the results of a survey of the their approaches to preservation storage.

Read [more](#) about the results of the survey. •

## Funding Opportunity: Ph.D. Studies in Web Archiving

The University of North Texas College of Information with the International Internet Preservation Consortium is seeking applicants for a 3-year doctoral studies award. [Applications](#) due Feb. 15, 2012. •



## Digital Pioneer: Mike Wash

By Mike Ashenfelder - Mike Wash is an engineer, technologist, inventor and visionary who holds 18 patents (search on the [U.S. Patent Office](#) site for “Wash; Michael L”), designed and implemented many of the standard automatic functions in modern digital and film cameras and — in an incredible feat of engineering — helped create a new data infrastructure for the [Government Printing Office](#). Today he is the chief information officer of the [National Archives and Record Administration](#) and he has ambitious plans to whip NARA into an efficient 21st century federal institution. Read [more](#) about Wash and his career. •



## The Artifactual Elements of Born-Digital Records

Jefferson Bailey discusses how librarians, archivists and cultural heritage stewards are attempting to preserve the informational and artifactual traits of born-digital records. These are texts, images and data that were created in only digital form.



Computer History Museum, by David Glover, on Flickr

Bailey describes artifactual characteristics of digital files [here](#) and about emulation [here](#). •

## Crowdsourcing the Civil War

In the fourth interview for Insights, Trevor Owens talks to Nicole Saylor, head of Digital Library Services at the University of Iowa Libraries, about the [Civil War Diaries & Transcription Project](#). Read the entire interview [here](#). •

## Save the Date!

NDIIPP/NDSA Annual Partners Meeting will be July 24-26, 2012 in Washington, DC. •

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## Opting In to Preservation

By Abbie Grotke - In November 2010, the Library of Congress convened a [Citizen Journalism workshop](#) that brought together researchers, bloggers, journalists, academics and archivists to address selection and preservation issues for hyper-local community news on the web.

During that workshop, a need was identified for an easy way for content creators to “opt-in” to preservation, by way of a plugin or other mechanism built into blogging tools.

The [Content Working Group](#) of the [National Digital Stewardship Alliance](#) held some engaging meetings in the last few months to discuss policy issues and the inevitable, “How exactly do we make this happen?” Read [more](#) about it. •



## More From “The Signal”

- [“It’s Dead Jim:” Resurrecting an Obsolete File, Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#). Mike Ashenfelder writes two posts about personal experiences with obsolete media and files.
- [Omeka’s Recipes for an Open Source Community](#). Sue Manus looks at the open source web publishing platform, Omeka.
- [Supporting Open Source Tools for Digital Preservation and Access](#). Bill LeFurgy highlights open source projects supported by NDIIPP.
- [NDIIPP and the Online Video Revolution](#). Butch Lazorchak lists various NDIIPP-produced videos and other videos.
- [Providing Access to 70 Million Copyright Records](#). Mike Burke talks about the U.S. Copyright Office’s project to digitize ownership records.
- [Content Creator Tool](#). Carl Fleischhauer blogs about the Content Creator Data (CCD) tool, a new software tool that supports the collection of metadata for the multi-track, multi-session sound recordings

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