



Capturing and Preserving the Federal Web for Permanent Public Access

Dory Bower, David Walls Depository Library Conference, May 2, 2014

Why we harvest:

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The Web is dynamic: "A system characterized by

constant change, activity, or progress." "Something always changing."

- New pages appear without notice
- Changing content on existing pages
- "Link Rot": Complete removal of Websites without prior notice or changes in urls that make bookmarked content inaccessible.



Progress = Complexity

1997 US Census Bureau Website:

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https://web.archive.org/web/19990117073605/http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/econ97.html

Basic HTML code structure with pdf reports. Everything from a single url.

2014 US Census Bureau Website: https://www.census.gov/

HTML 5, Java, Flash Media, content served on-demand from related databases, content from more than a dozen separate web addresses make up this single site.

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Preserving Archived Content

- WARC file format- ISO 28500:2009
- Mirror site hosting on Archive-It "Wayback"
- Ability to move content
- File agnostic ingest design of FDsys
- Widespread knowledge among peers on preserving the Web and the software that runs it.

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Web Archiving Options

Decision process for Government Resource

- PURL: Individual publications and less complex web sites, using Teleport software
- Archive-It: Content rich websites
- Partnership: Hard to harvest sites, database sites or real time information

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Develop and build website level collection

- Pilot sites: 3 sites to begin testing workflow
- Must be within scope of FDLP
- SuDoc Y3 sites: commissions, committees, independent agencies
 - Avoid duplication of effort with other institutions
 - Not distributing through print
 - Government information disseminated through web and content not cataloged
- All shaped collection development practices

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Collection Development

Moving forward

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- Y3s almost complete
- Working with Supervisor of Collection Development and staff with their extended experience to determine needs
- Non-standard sites (fatherhood.gov, read.gov)
- Look at agencies grouped by branch to determine amount of publications issued; move from smaller to larger sites
- Special collections
 - Native American resources

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Collection Development

- Nominations
 - Document Discovery
 - AskGPO
 - Listserv announcements
 - fdlpwebarchiving@gpo.gov
- What is excluded:
 - What is in FDsys
 - Duplicative effort (already in Archive-It)

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Archive-It Workflow

- Notification to Agency
 - Full disclosure of what we are doing
 - Chosen for inclusion into FDLP
- Seed list

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- Manual review of site
- Run and QA Test Crawl
 - Review all reports
 - Determine out of scope or missing content
 - Maximize collection, avoid unnecessary content

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Archive-It Workflow





- Review carefully in Wayback checking all functionality
- Run patch crawls
- Submit lots of questions
- Maximize user access
- Best playback possible

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Archive-It Workflow

- Cue catalogers to create metadata and access to CGP
- Process was completely changed, lessons learned, steps to develop best practice
- More information: webinar 3 of the Library
 Technical Services Webcast and Webinar Series

TITLE: Archiving & Cataloging Federal Agency Web

Sites: GPO's Web Archiving Project

DATE: Friday, May 16th from 2-3 pm

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Access

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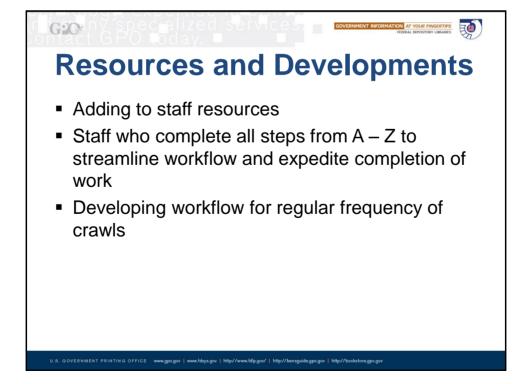
- Two locations for Access
 - Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)
 - O Identifiable through "INTERNET" in SuDoc number
 - Expert search of wcat=web archiving retrieves all
 - Archive-It
 - Search for "GPO" or "FDLP"
 - Partner name is now "Federal Depository Library Program Web Archive"

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