MappifY

At Brigham Young University we are developing processes and an application for locating and viewing digital objects from our CONTENTdm collections.

The application, which we are currently calling MappifY, geographically arranges a variety of items from our digital collections including photographs, historical maps and travel diaries. The photographs and diary pages are accurately pinpointed on a Google Maps interface and are found by navigating the map, browsing by geographical location or chronological order, or by performing simple keyword searches based on harvested metadata. Historical maps are overlaid on top of their corresponding locations in Google maps.

This presentation will demonstrate the MappifY application, outline our processes for integrating digital objects, and review the lessons learned from both technical and philosophical perspectives.
Technical details:
Mappify was developed at Brigham Young University’s Lee Library, with generous funding from Angel Partners.
The application was created using the following tools:

- PHP and JavaScript for programming the interface
- Google Earth and Google Maps for finding coordinates for photographs and diary pages
- ArcGIS software for geo-referencing maps and creating KML and TFW files
- PKP Open Archive Harvester for harvesting data from CONTENTdm
- MySQL database for storing and searching data

We hope to release our code as open source at some point, but we have no timeline for that release.

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