

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.

The screenshot displays the MappifY application running in a Mozilla Firefox browser. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://ds1.lib.byu.edu/DigitalMaps/>. The application header includes the BYU Harold B. Lee Library logo and navigation links for "Digital Collections", "Feedback", and "Help".

The main interface features a search bar with "Search Keywords" and a date range filter set to "1892" to "1931". Below the search bar, a list of "268 Results" is displayed, including items like "The Burned Tree" (1906), "The Skeleton" (1906), and "Flood Mansion, California Street & Mason Street" (1906). The "Flood Mansion" entry is highlighted.

The map shows San Francisco with several blue circular markers numbered 1 through 13. A detailed view window for the "Flood Mansion" is open, showing a photograph of the building and a description: "This building is the million-dollar Flood residence on Nob Hill. This is a side view of the hollowed stone building, some people are on the sidewalk, observing. On the right side a man and two women are standing on top of the cement in front of the fence. On top of the building a broken railing and two pipes are coming out of the building on the right." The window also includes a "Click to enlarge" button and a "More Details" link.

At the bottom of the browser window, the search results are: "Find: Utah", "Next", "Previous", "Highlight all", and "Match case".

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.

Project Team:

BYU Department of Geography

Dr. Brandon Plewe, Assistant Professor of Geography

Lee Library Maps Department

Rick Grapes, Maps Librarian

Dr. Mark Jackson, Geoscience and Technology Librarian

Lee Library Information Technology

Jacob Jenson, Department Head, Web Programming and Design

Chad Hansen, Programming Supervisor

Chris Bateman, Student Programmer

Lee Library Digital Imaging

Sharee Compton, Student Project Lead

Elizabeth Hull, GIS Student

Lee Library Metadata Unit

Kayla Willey, Metadata Librarian

Becky McKown, Metadata Assistant

Justin Meyer, Metadata Student

Kiersten Brady, Metadata Student

Jesse Stricklan, Metadata Student

Project Manager

Scott Eldredge

801-422-6723

se@byu.edu