Building A Community Digital Repository

documenting FERGUSON

Washington University Libraries

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Jennifer Kirmer, Digital Archivist

Sonya Rooney, University Archivist

Micah Zeller, Copyright & Digital Access Librarian
Project Team

• Assembled August 21, 2014

• Tasked with collecting and archiving community reactions to the shooting death of Michael Brown August 9

• Website and contribution infrastructure, partnership with Archive-It established by August 22

• Additional members joined the team later in August and a Statement of Purpose was drafted
Purpose

• Preserve and make accessible community and media-generated, original content that was captured and created following the shooting death of Michael Brown

• Create a freely available resource for students, scholars, teachers, and the greater community

• Provide diverse perspectives, especially those of the local community, of the events surrounding conflicts in Ferguson, MO
THE COLLECTION

Community contributed content
Woman with Obama sign Greater Grace Church

Creator: Mark Regester

Date: August 17, 2014

Protesters holding signs in the street. W. Florissant

Creator: Mark Regester

Date: August 17, 2014

Ferguson, Night 3, photo 4

Creator: Joel Levy

Date: August 11, 2014

Ferguson, Day 6, photo 45

Creator: Joel Levy

Date: August 14, 2014

Protesters

Creator: Holly Schroeder

Date: August 30, 2014

News coverage from Ferguson, MO October 09 2014

Creator: Argus Streaming News

Date: October 09, 2014 9:12 pm CST

Shaw neighborhood protests October 10, 2014

Creator: Adam Ehlen

Date: October 10, 2014

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wed 10/01/14 5:51 PM
To: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Date: September 9, 2014 11:05:40 AM CDT
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Shaw Conversations: Oct. 4th, Nov. 1st & Dec. 6th
Reply-To: [Redacted]

SNIA Members, in answer to the question that has been put to me of "What is Shaw going to do about Ferguson?" SNIA will be hosting a series of "Shaw Conversations" on the first Saturdays of October (4th), November (1st), and December (6th) from 9:00-10:00 AM at the SNIA office, 4103 Shenandoah Ave.

The "conversations" will be an opportunity for us to share our thoughts & feelings about what occurred in Ferguson and to build community and trust here in Shaw.

The "conversations" will be facilitated by [Redacted], a 30-year resident of Shaw who has served on the SMOS Parish social justice ministry. So bring your coffee, tea, donuts or bagels and join us at any or all of the "conversations." We're looking forward to seeing you...


Photos: Darren Wilson’s uniform and weapon

Source: The New York Times

Date: August 2014

News coverage from Ferguson, MO November 16, 2014

Creator: Argus Streaming News

Date: November 16, 2014 12:06 pm CST

Am I Next?

Creator: Anonymous

Other media

- Oral histories
- Audio
- Video
- Creative works
**Contribution process**

1. Enter basic information about your submission
2. OMIT creator name and email to remain anonymous to the public
3. Attach a file
4. Enter your name and email (required, but only visible to website administrator)
5. Agree to the Terms & Conditions

• [http://documentingferguson.wustl.edu/omeka/contribution](http://documentingferguson.wustl.edu/omeka/contribution)
THE COLLECTION

Archive-It web content & other projects
The Archive-It Team is collecting web resources related to the #blacklivesmatter movement. View the current collection here: https://archive-it.org/collections/4783

#blacklivesmatter Web Archive

Collected by: Internet Archive Global Events

Archived since: Aug, 2014

Description: In August of 2014, the Archive-It team put out a call for URLs related to the August 9th shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO. Soon after, we were joined by Archive-It partner Washington University in St. Louis, MO who contributed lists of URLs and solicited URLs from communities in and around Ferguson, Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities contributed a significant number of URLs extracted from tweets about Michael Brown and Ferguson. In December we expanded the collection to include content related to the July 17th chokehold death of Eric Garner in Staten Island, NY, and the reactions around the country to the acquittal of the police officers in both cases. The collection then progressed further to reflect the movement building in reaction to the perceived unjust police violence against people of color. Today the #blacklivesmatter Web Archive contains news articles, blogs, social media, and other websites related to Ferguson, Michael Brown, Eric Garner, protests and demonstrations around the country, and seeks to document the movement as it grows and evolves. Seed URL nominations are continuing to be accepted. If you would like to contribute to the collection please copy and paste the following URL into your browser: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uTy1NJaFgLzxesqQfGzHs8xb5_1xj2oMVXhwxoX/viewform Note: Many of these sites contain videos, some of which may not play back in the page. To view archived videos click on the Videos link in the yellow banner at the top of the archived web page.
Other Related Projects

THE D/VIDED C/TY

Washington University in St. Louis

WashU Voices: Ferguson and Beyond
THE COLLECTION

Collecting history as it happens
## Traditional archive collections vs. Documenting Ferguson

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional</th>
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<tr>
<td>• evaluation of the collection within the framework of a collection</td>
<td>• no selection</td>
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<td>development policy</td>
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<td>• assessment of the content for research use</td>
<td>• no assessment of content</td>
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<tr>
<td>• assessment of originality and authenticity</td>
<td>• no quality control</td>
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<tr>
<td>• ownership transfers to archive</td>
<td>• copy of image/ document (the original remains with creator)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• contributor retains rights</td>
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COPYRIGHT
Terms & Conditions

• Contributor retains ©
• Non-exclusive license → Washington University
• Original (or public domain, or w/ permission, or fair use)
• 18+
• May elect to display contact info
• Referral service for third party use
Why not CC?

**deray mckesson**
@deray

Permission granted to use all videos and tweets.

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**Ed Summers**
@edsu

… I wonder if @WUSTLlibraries considered letting contributors select a Creative Commons license for their donation?

1/18/15, 8:34 AM

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**Bergis Jules**
@BergisJules

@edsu @WUSTLlibraries Good question for @Makibaj @mre1920
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS & FUTURE WORK
Joint Statement of the Regional Collecting Initiative on Ferguson

As institutions representing various aspects of the community—education, culture, and civic societies—we believe that the work of capturing and preserving this historic moment is a responsibility we all share and falls within the missions of our respective organizations...

...We collect, preserve, organize, and make accessible to the larger community that which has been shared with us, continually enhancing its ability to serve as an evolving public record.

Ferguson Municipal Public Library, Scott Bonner, Director
Harris-Stowe State University, Barbara Noble, Director of Library Services
Missouri History Museum, Christopher Gordon, Director, Library & Collections
Missouri Humanities Council, Dr. William S. Belko, Executive Director
Saint Louis University, David Cassens, Dean of Libraries
University of Missouri–St. Louis, Christopher Dames, Dean of Libraries
University of Missouri–St. Louis, Dr. Kathleen Nigro, Department of Sociology, Gerontology, and Gender Studies
Washington University in St. Louis, Jeffrey Trzeciak, University Librarian
Future Work

#BlackLivesMatter
#Ferguson
Questions?
documentingferguson@wustl.edu

http://documentingferguson.wustl.edu/omeka/items/show/8266