
We invite You to Participate in Usability Testing

SAA Research Forum
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Indigenous Digital Archive

Collaborative project of:

- State of New Mexico's Museum of Indian Arts and Culture
- New Mexico State Library
- Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, jointly run by all 19 Pueblo Tribes

Funded by an IMLS National Leadership Grant (now two!), a Knight Foundation Prototyping Grant, multiple NMHRAB grants, CLIR Digitizing Hidden Collections grant, SF Community Foundation. DigiTreaties.org portal received SAA’s 2021 C.F.W. Coker Award.
Project originated from Native American constituents expressing need

World Café session, constituents asked for:

• More archives education
• More online accessibility
The Indigenous Digital Archive is two things:

1) A **toolkit** based on **Omeka-S** to take advantage of the **International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)** and **Open Annotation** standards to allow automated and community-sourced tagging of scanned documents, adding comments, and other socially-oriented functionality.

- Online Collaboration
- Natural Language Processing
- Annotate
- Make Collections
- Share & Discuss

@NativeDocs
The Indigenous Digital Archive is also

2) A **use case** hosted by the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture to provide effective access to historic government documents related to the early US government boarding schools and Native rights to land and water.
Advisory and Tech Advisory Panel members at MIAC for November 2016 kickoff (some not in photo)
Respectful Online Access

Here’s what we’re doing to create respectful online access and what we ask you to do.

Steps we take include:

1) **We choose carefully what items we put online.** We do not have student files online. Our advisory panel feels these are too private to put up at this time. Instead, we focus on records related to the actions and statements of public officials. Our current offerings are US government records from 1849 through the 1930s. These documents come mainly from the US National Archives and microfilms held by the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. An upcoming NMHRAB grant will fund digitization of Albuquerque Indian School yearbooks from the collection of Professor Ted Jojoia (Pueblo of Isleta). A collaboration with the Sherman Indian School Museum’s digitization project will soon make yearbooks from Sherman available online also in the IDA.

2) To help people in being able to follow the stories of events or community members, we’ve put a large amount of records online, about 250,000 pages. Beyond our sampling we did when choosing what to put up, we do some screening of the records as they go online. We don’t read every page, of course, but if something stuck out as not belonging, like a medical record that’s not even supposed to be in the records, we would take it down.
Our current work:

1) Experimenting with **combinations of computer aided processing**, including Natural Language Processing (NLP) – what is most effective?

2) Experimenting with most helpful ways to **combine traditional archival hierarchy information with content results** from computer aided processing

3) Focus on **User Experience (UX)** first and foremost

**Join our usability testing?**

Please visit **IndigenousDigitalArchive.org** to sign up for email notification

Thank you!