

Levels of Representation in Digital Archives

Jane Zhang
Catholic University of America

SAA/MDOR 2013 Annual Meeting
New Orleans, LA
August 16, 2013

Digital Archival Representation

- Digital archival materials can be represented by different types of metadata at various levels
- Levels of representation
 - Archive level
 - Document level
 - Information level

Archive Level Representation

- Traditional archival descriptive framework
 - Collection
 - Series
 - File
 - Item
- Partially or entirely digitized archival collections

ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART

Home Research Collections Exhibitions Publications News & Events Support About Us Ask

RESEARCH COLLECTIONS > TERRA FOUNDATION CENTER FOR DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Terra Foundation Center for Digital Collections

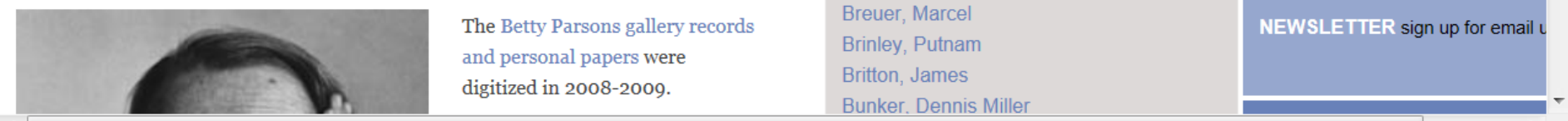
Welcome to the Terra Foundation Center for Digital Collections, a virtual repository of a substantial cross-section of the Archives' most significant collections. Since 2005, over one hundred archival collections have been scanned and posted online in their entirety. In addition, more than 12,000 documents have been individually catalogued and are accessible through the [Image Gallery](#). We invite you to browse and to visit again: content is continuously added.

Learn more about the [Background on the Terra Foundation Center for Digital Collections](#) and the Archives' innovative approach to digitization.

Funding is generously provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

FEATURED COLLECTIONS

Betty Parsons Gallery Records and Personal Papers



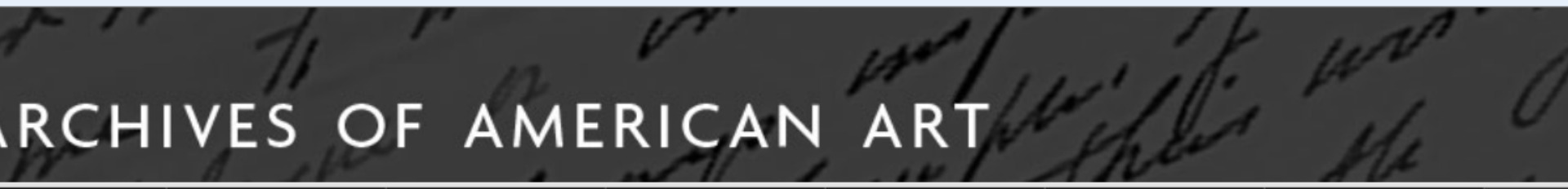
The Betty Parsons gallery records and personal papers were digitized in 2008-2009.

LIST OF DIGITIZED COLLECTIONS

- [ACA Galleries](#)
- [Alexander, John White](#)
- [Alston, Charles Henry](#)
- [Anshutz, Thomas Pollock](#)
- [Artist Tenants Association \(New York, N.Y.\)](#)
- [Avery, Milton](#)
- [Bacon, Peggy](#)
- [Beal, Gifford](#)
- [Bearden, Romare](#)
- [Beaux, Cecilia](#)
- [Bierstadt, Albert](#)
- [Bishop, Isabel](#)
- [Bluemner, Oscar](#)
- [Blumenschein, Ernest Leonard](#)
- [Borglum, Solon Hannibal](#)
- [Bransom, Paul](#)
- [Breuer, Marcel](#)
- [Brinley, Putnam](#)
- [Britton, James](#)
- [Bunker, Dennis Miller](#)



- ### QUICK LINKS
- [HOURS & LOCATIONS](#) plan your visit
 - [IMAGE GALLERY](#) documents & photographs
 - [INTERVIEWS](#) our oral history program
 - [THE JOURNAL](#) award-winning magazine
 - [BLOG](#) behind the scenes with our staff
 - [OPPORTUNITIES](#) for interns & volunteers
 - [FAQ](#) frequently asked questions
 - [NEWSLETTER](#) sign up for email updates



SEARCH COLLECTIONS > A > JOHN WHITE ALEXANDER PAPERS

John White Alexander papers, 1775-1968, bulk 1870-1915

Collection Summary More about the Collection

John White Alexander, John White, b. 1856 d. 1915
Painter, Portrait painter
New York, N.Y.

The papers of **John White Alexander** in the Archives of American Art were digitized in 2009. The bulk of the papers have been scanned in total 5,592 images.

Funding for the processing and digitization of this collection was provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art

Series 1: Biographical Information

Series 2: Correspondence

Series 3: Associations and Memberships

Series 4: Legal and Financial Records

Smithsonian Archives of American Art

QUICK LINKS

- HOURS & LOCATIONS plan your visit
- IMAGE GALLERY documents
- INTERVIEWS our oral history project
- THE JOURNAL award-winning journal
- BLOG behind the scenes with our staff
- OPPORTUNITIES for interns & fellows
- FAQ frequently asked questions
- NEWSLETTER sign up for email alerts

Series 1: Biographical Information, circa 1887-1968 (Box 1, OV 23; 0.1 linear feet)

This series contains notes, writings, and printed materials that describe the life of John White Alexander, as well as ephemera and personal documents related to specific life events.

Notes and narratives include biographical essays about Alexander and his guardian, Colonel Edward Jay Allen, taken from published reference works, and notes made by Elizabeth Alexander in preparation of those entries. Personal documents and ephemera include a wedding invitation, an identity card issued for the Paris International Exposition of 1900, a calling card, a circular about an artist named Jacques Alexander, examples of Alexander's signature, and a French visa. Also found are drafts of essays by Elizabeth Alexander about her husband and others in their circle, and an oral history interview of Elizabeth Alexander in three parts taken by DeWitt M. Lockman, a later president of the National Academy of Design.

This series has been scanned in its entirety.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Biographical Notes and Essays, circa 1913-1968
1	2	Personal Documents and Ephemera, circa 1887-1900 (<i>Oversized items housed in OV 23</i>)
1	3-5	Essays by Elizabeth Alexander about John White Alexander, after 1915 (<i>3 folders</i>)
1	6	Essays by Elizabeth Alexander about Others in their Circle, undated
1	7-9	Oral History Interview of Elizabeth Alexander by DeWitt M. Lockman, 1928 (<i>3 folders</i>)

Box	
23 (OV)	Oversized Personal Documents and Ephemera, circa 1887-1900 (<i>Items scanned with Box 1, f2</i>)

Series 2: Correspondence, circa 1870-1942 (Box 1; 0.7 linear feet)

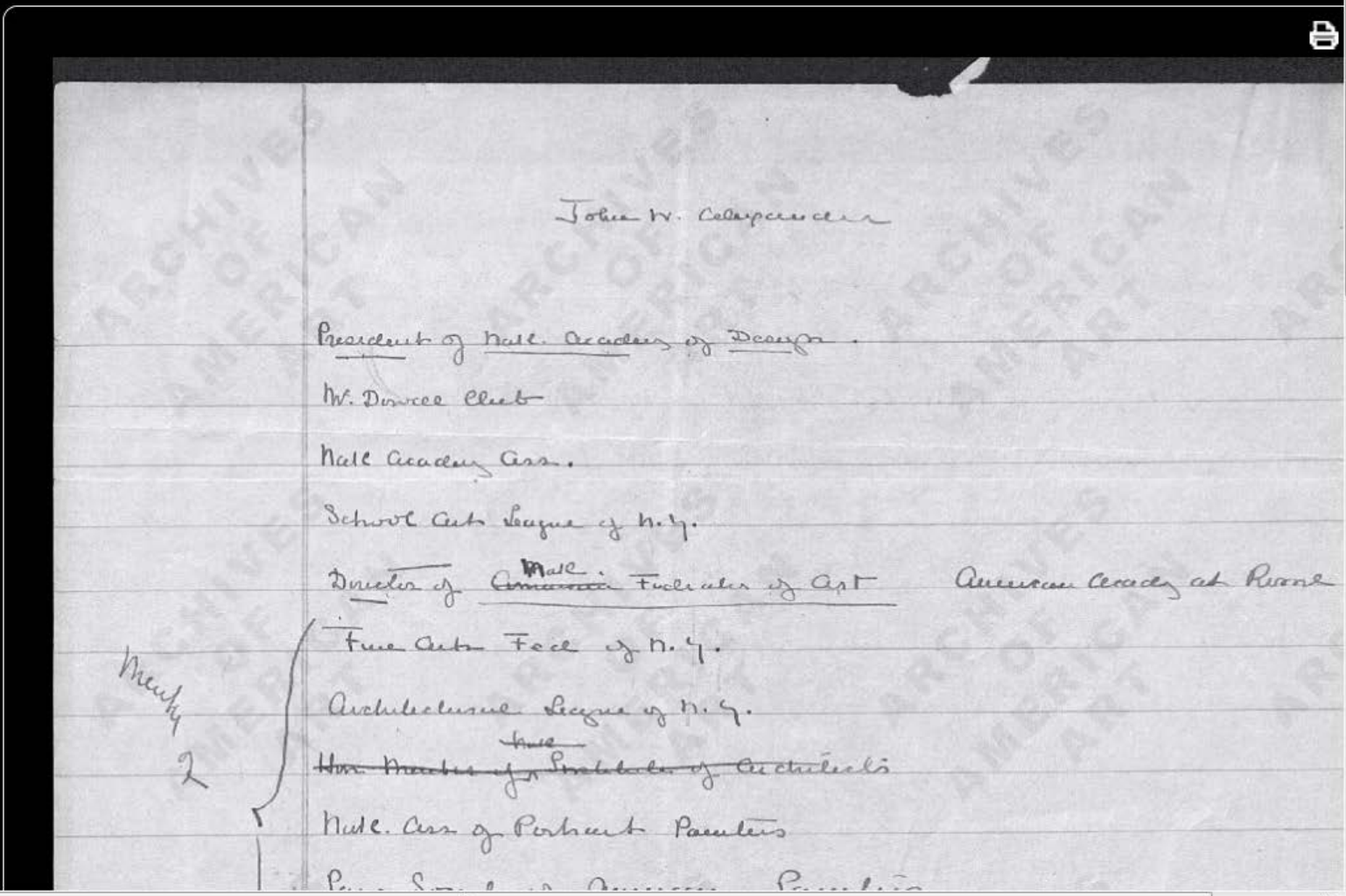
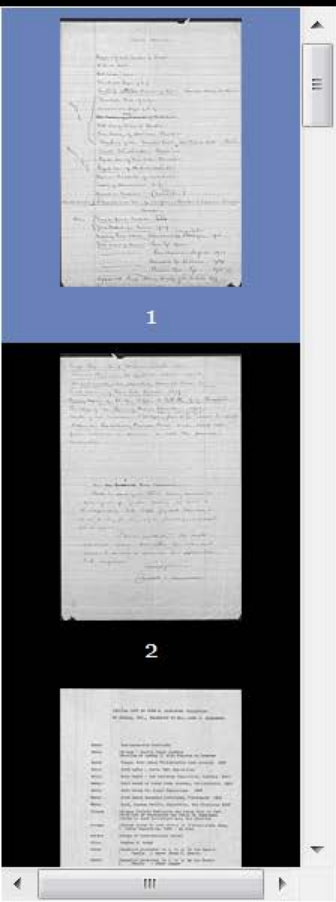
This series contains personal and business correspondence of John White Alexander and his wife, Elizabeth Alexander. Correspondence from the 1870s and 1880s consists primarily of Alexander's letters home to his guardian, Colonel Edward Jay Allen, the Allen family, and his friend, E.E. Phelps, all in Pittsburgh, written from New York and Europe. 1876 letters detail his visit to the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. Many of these letters are found with typed transcriptions which contain scattered annotations which appear to be in Elizabeth Alexander's handwriting. In a couple of cases, transcripts exist for letters which are no longer found in the collection.

The remainder of correspondence consists of letters to Alexander from fellow artists, patrons, museums, arts organizations, and friends. Significant correspondents include Charles Dana Gibson. Florence Levv. Frederick Remington. Robert Louis Stevenson. Henry James.

Biographical Information: Biographical Notes and Essays, circa 1913-1968

Box 1, Folder 1

< Previous Folder | Next



Document Level Representation

- Digital collections constructed on the basis of function/document/media
- Descriptive metadata varies from collection to collection
- Each collection its own metadata model
 - Reflecting the representation features of a specific type of documents
- Multiple collection search
 - Depending on common metadata fields

Home	Search	Collections	News	Services	About us	My Recent Searches	View
------	--------	-------------	------	----------	----------	--------------------	------

Seal

First Name

Last Name

Collections

--All Collections--

Search

Keywords

Collections

--All Collections--

Search

Select a Collection

--Select Collection--

Secret

Search

Browsable Collections:

'The A M Kendrick Photographic Collection'

'House of Representatives Committee
Meeting Recordings Audio Recordings'
'Spokane City Planning Department

[Archive](#)

Welcome to Scribe

Jul 16, 2013 --




http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/

Washington State D...

EditViewFavoritesToolsHelp

CUA Webmail access for s...

Washington Secretary of State *Kim Wyman*

Washington State Archives - Digital Archives

Home

Search

Collections

News

Services

About us

My Recent Searches

Search the Digital Archives

Search By Name

First Name

Last Name

Collections

--All Collections--

Search

Search By Keyword

Keywords

Collections

--All Collections--

Search

Audio Recordings

Birth Records

Cemetery Directories

Census Records

Corporations Records

Death Records

Frontier Justice

Indian Census Records

Institution Records

Land Records

Map Records

Marriage Records

Military Records

Minutes and Meeting Records

Misc Auditor Records

Misc Family History

Naturalization Records

Oaths of Office Records

Ordinance Records

Photographs

Plats and Surveys

Power of Attorney Records

Professional License Records

Publications, State Government Agen

Real Property Record Cards

Resolution Records

Superior Court Records

Trademark Records

FEATURED LINKS

rowsable Collections:

The A M Kendrick Photographic Collection'

House of Representatives Committee

Meeting Recordings Audio Recordings'

Spokane City Planning Department

NEWS

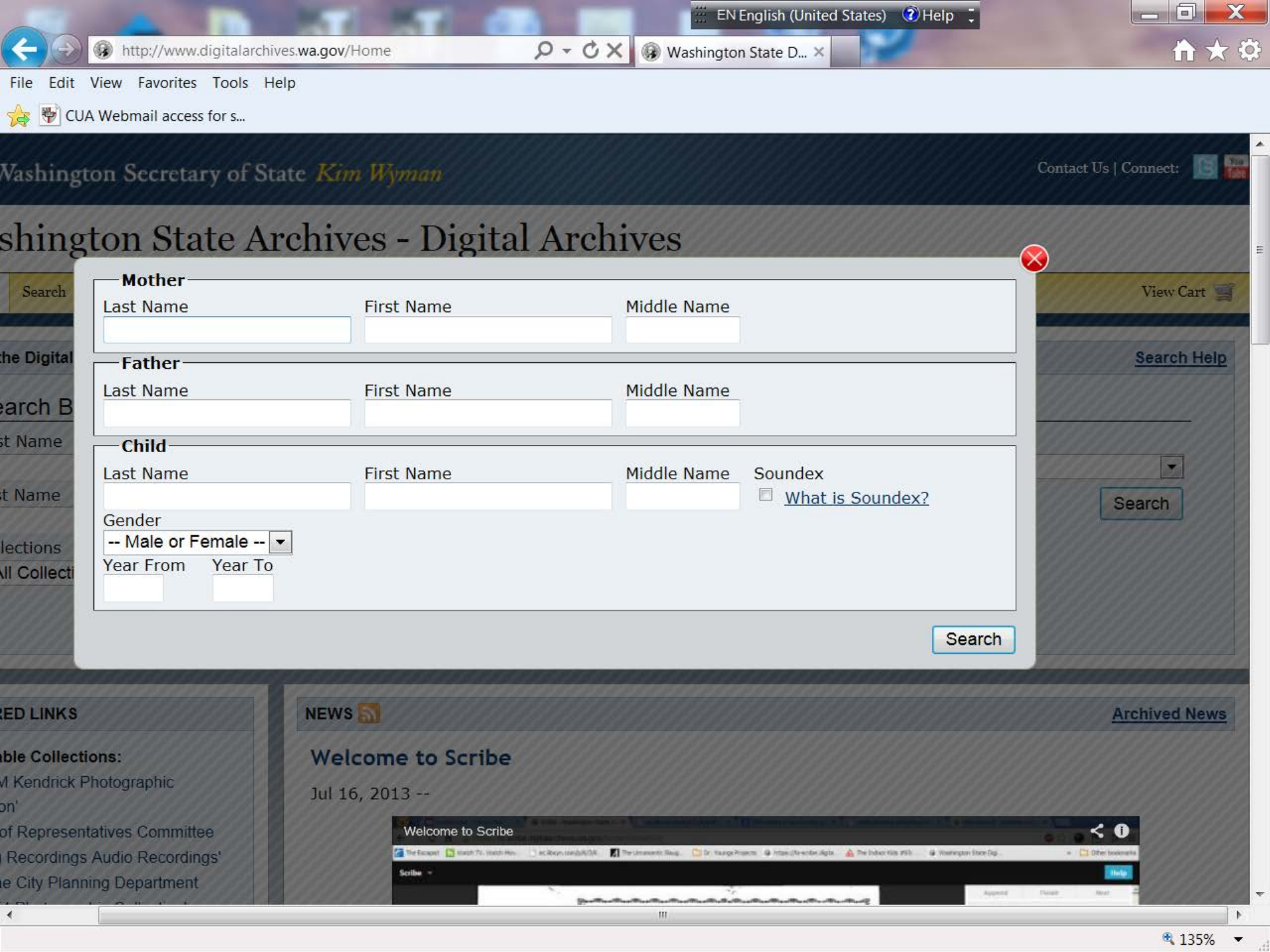
Welcome to Scribe

Jul 16, 2013 --

Welcome to Scribe

Scribe

AppendFinishNext




Washington State Archives - Digital Archives

Mother
Last Name First Name Middle Name

Father
Last Name First Name Middle Name

Child
Last Name First Name Middle Name Soundex ☐ [What is Soundex?](#)
Gender
-- Male or Female --
Year From Year To

Search

View Cart 

[Search Help](#)

Search

RED LINKS

able Collections:
M Kendrick Photographic
on'
of Representatives Committee
Recordings Audio Recordings'
e City Planning Department

NEWS

[Archived News](#)

Welcome to Scribe

Jul 16, 2013 --



Washington State Archives - Digital Archives

Keywords

person, place, or thing

People

Photographer

Year

Year From

Year To

Search

Search

Search

Search

NEWS

Welcome to Scribe

Jul 16, 2013 --

Welcome to Scribe



Washington State Archives - Digital Archives

Location

Parcel Number

House Number

Street Name

Legal Property Description

Search

--All Collections--

Search

Search

Search

LINKS

Collections:

Adrick Photographic

Representatives Committee

Recordings Audio Recordings'

Planning Department

NEWS

Welcome to Scribe

Jul 16, 2013 --



Washington State Archives - Digital Archives

Design Mark/Description Search

Keywords

Trademark Details

Registration Number

Business/Owner's Name

Document Type

-- Document Type --

Filing Date

From

To

Search

View Cart

[Search Help](#)

Search

LINKS

Collections:

Adrick Photographic

Representatives Committee

Recordings Audio Recordings'

Planning Department

NEWS

Welcome to Scribe

Jul 16, 2013 --



Information Level Representation

- Collection overview
- Multi-faceted item-level metadata
- Standard metadata schema
- Multiple access points
 - Name
 - Subject
 - Date
 - Place
 - Title
- External links to archival finding aids



About This Collection

Browse

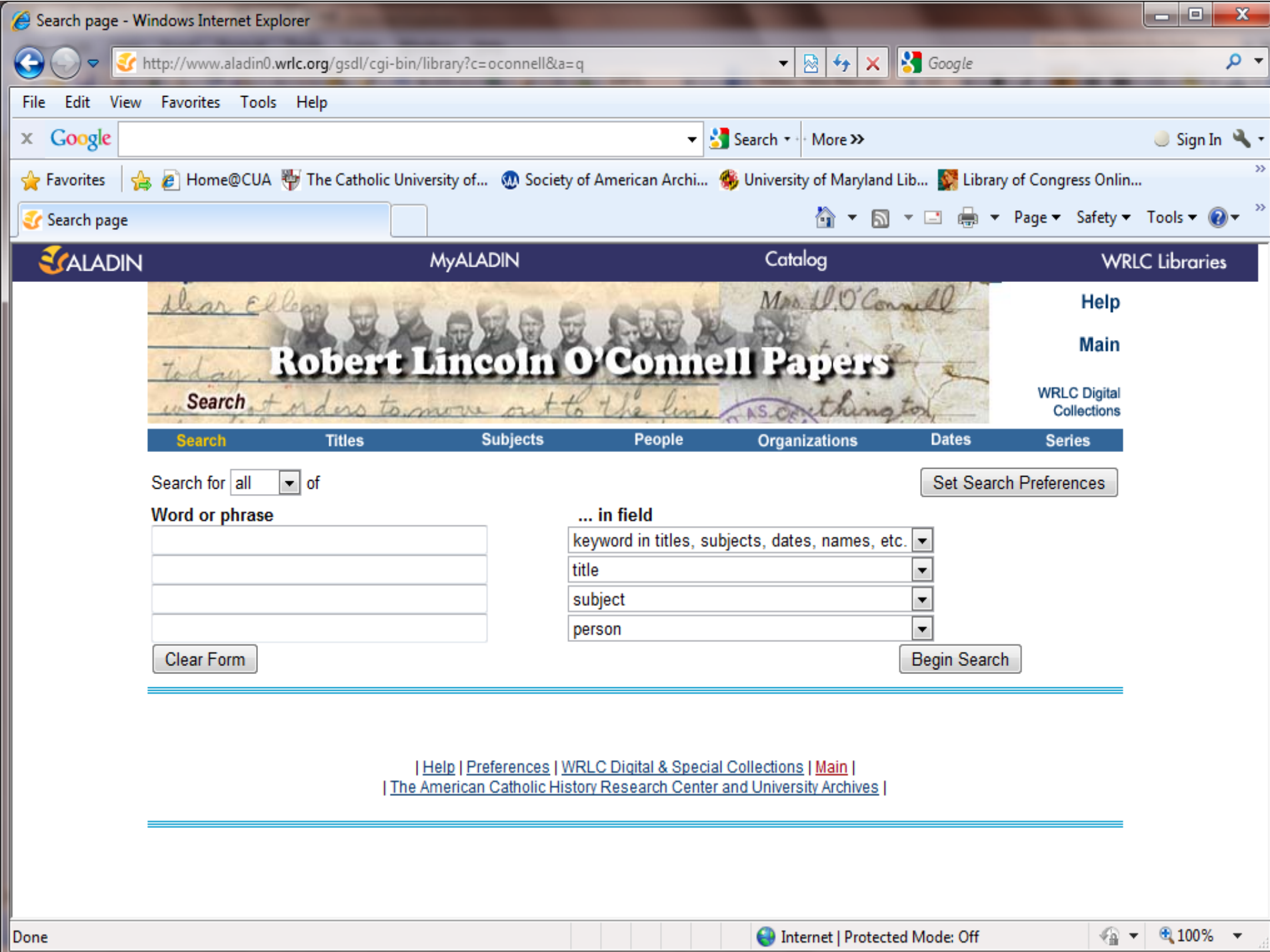
- [Titles](#)
- [Subjects](#)
- [People](#)
- [Organizations](#)
- [Dates](#)
- [Series](#)

Search

Finding Aid

Help

The Robert Lincoln O'Connell papers document the service of an Irish-American soldier, born in Massachusetts, but raised in Connecticut, who served as a combat engineer in the First Division of the American Expeditionary Force (A.E.F.) in the First World War, 1917-1919. The papers include correspondence (31 letters, 19 postcards, 1 telegram) he wrote home, primarily to his mother, Mary, and sisters Ellen and Sarah, from his training in Washington, D.C. and Virginia through active duty service in France and Germany. Also included are military odds and ends, such as numerous passes and orders, in addition to several publications and photographs as well as dozens of postcards, associated with his time in the U.S. Army. There are also some items gathered recently by his family members and/or Archives staff, such as copies of federal census forms and his obituary, to supplement the collection. The postcards have a special circumstance in that Robert tended to divide them into two parts. There were very basic ones, usually with little or no illustration, that he used for correspondence purposes. The other type were the photograph and color prints that he apparently considered as collectibles, either sending them home with his letters, or bringing home himself after the war. There are also some memorabilia items such as button pins, French coins, and a army bottle opener.



[http://www.aladin0.wrlc.org/gsd/cgi-bin/library?e=d-01000-00---off-0oconnell--00-1--0-10-0](#)

[Google](#)


[File](#) [Edit](#) [View](#) [Favorites](#) [Tools](#) [Help](#)

[x](#) [Google](#) [Search](#) [More >>](#) [Sign In](#)

[★ Favorites](#)
[Home@CUA](#)
[The Catholic University of...](#)
[SAA Society of American Archi...](#)
[University of Maryland Lib...](#)
[Library of Congress Onlin...](#)

[Postcard from Private D. N. Rich to Daniel O'Con...](#)
[Home](#)
[RSS](#)
[Page](#)
[Safety](#)
[Tools](#)

[ALADIN](#)
[MyALADIN](#)
[Catalog](#)
[WRLC Libraries](#)



Robert Lincoln O'Connell Papers

[Description](#)

[Help](#)
[Main](#)
[WRLC Digital Collections](#)

[Search](#)
[Titles](#)
[Subjects](#)
[People](#)
[Organizations](#)
[Dates](#)
[Series](#)

Postcard from Private D. N. Rich to Daniel O'Connell, 1918

Creator: Rich, D. N.

Person(s): O'Connell, Daniel, 1855- -- Correspondence
Rich, D. N. -- Correspondence

Date: 1918

Place name: United States -- New York -- Staten Island

Resource type: Postcards

Language: English

Collection: Robert Lincoln O'Connell Papers

Series: [Series 1: Correspondence and Related Papers 1900 \(1917-1919\) 1972](#)


Rights: Reproduction and copyright information regarding this document is available from the American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives.

Repository: American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives, Catholic University of America.

Location: Box 2 Folder 9 Item 1

Date available: 2009-05-01

Click to view large image



Error on page.

Internet | Protected Mode: Off

100%

Challenges of Digital Archival Representation

- Interoperability
 - Information
 - Document
 - Archive
- Archival context
 - Archive
 - Document
 - Information