



Preserving Newfoundland Culture: Memorial University of Newfoundland's Digital Archive Initiative (DAI)

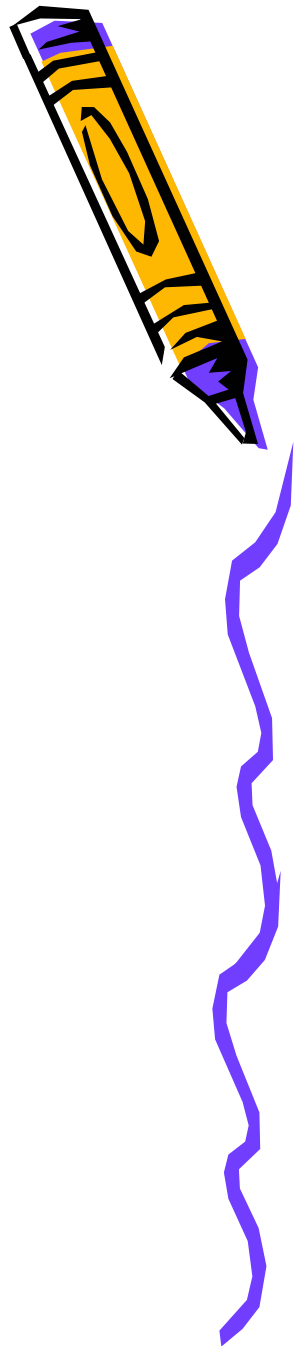
Slavko Manojlovich

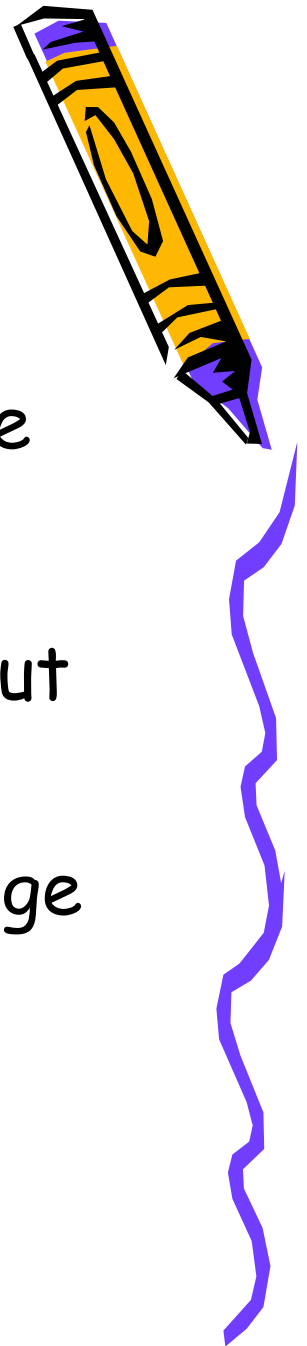
Assistant to the University Librarian for Systems and Planning
Memorial University Of Newfoundland



Outline

- What is a digital archive?
- History of the MUN DAI
- MUN digital archives and standards
- Accessing the digital archive
- Demo





What is a digital archive?

A digital archive is like a regular archive except that the contents are digital.

"Archives have a bad image: worthwhile but boring; necessary but a low priority for funding; little-used and under-visited. Digital access has the potential to change all that."

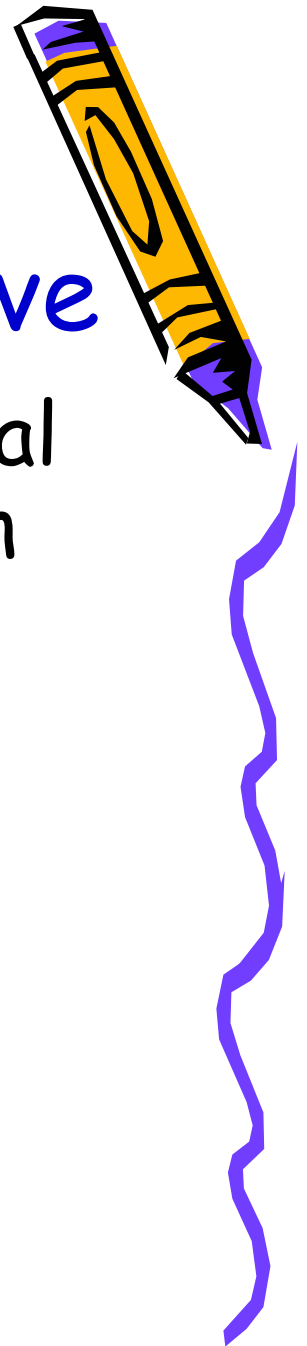
Julian D. Richards (York, UK)



Advantages of a digital archive

- Preserves decaying/deteriorating materials like audio cassettes, folklore department interview cards, "Land and Sea" videotapes.
- Provides ubiquitous access to materials.
- Easy to duplicate material.





Disadvantages of a digital archive

- Technological change may make digital objects created today obsolescent in the future.
- Access requires a computer and the internet.
- Digital objects require special treatment with respect to copyright and rights management.



History of the MUN DAI

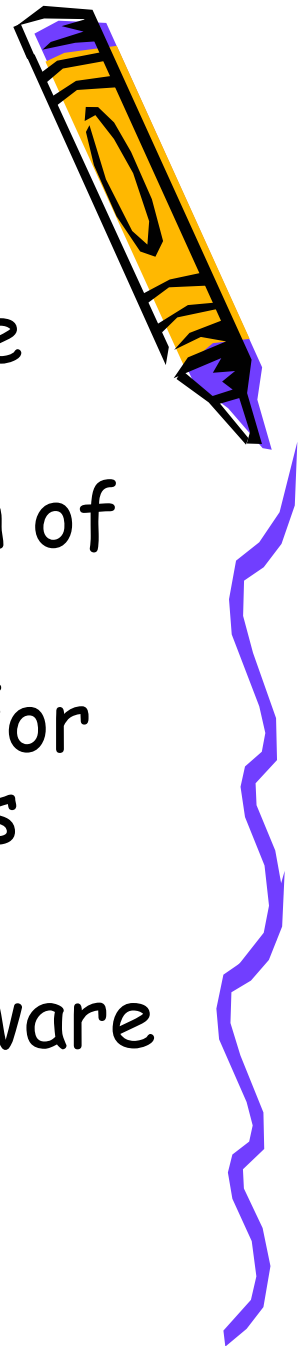


- 2003 (Fall) - President Meisen convened a meeting to discuss the possibility of providing web access to MUN's collections as a means of promoting the University.
- 2004 (Winter) - Dean of Arts is faced with a serious problem of deteriorating collections in the Folklore Department.



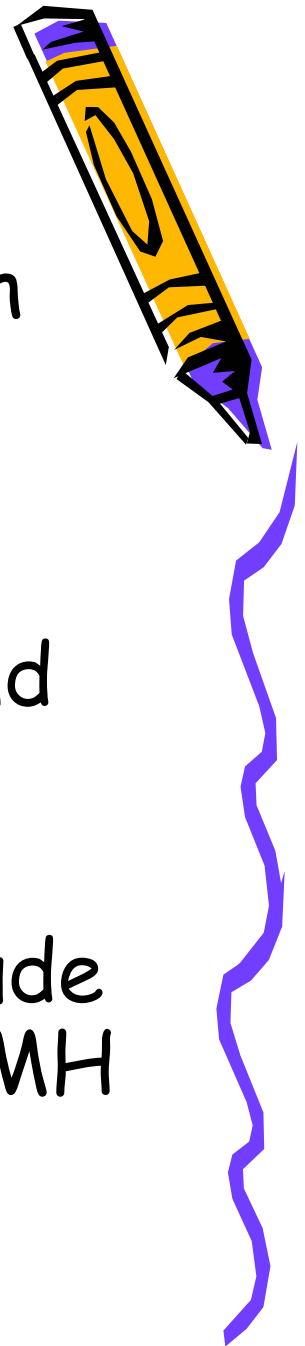
History of the MUN DAI

- 2004 (Spring) - Joint proposal to the President by the Dean of Arts and University Librarian for the creation of a digital archive using CONTENTdm.
- 2004 (Summer) - Funding approved for MUN digital archive from President's special projects budget.
- 2004 (Fall) - acquire hardware/software for the digital archive.



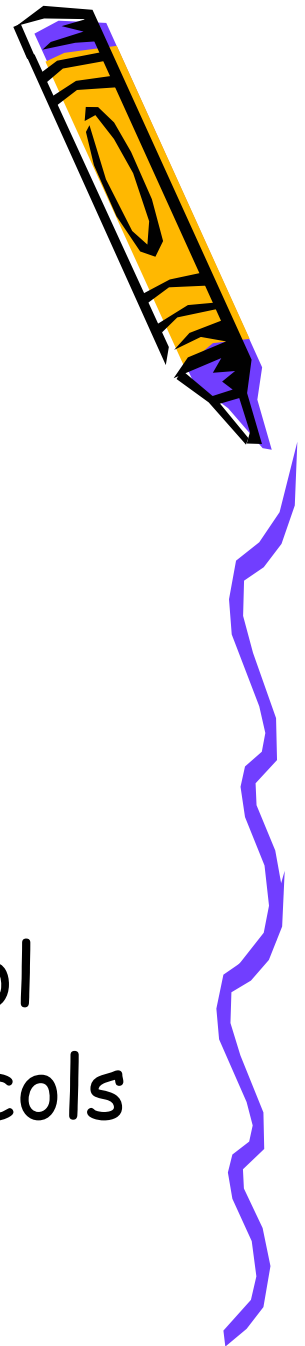
MUN DAI and Standards

- A digital archive is more than a bunch of links and images on a web site.
- Images, sound files, text digital objects, etc. are created within the context of long-term preservation and access requirements.
(avoid proprietary formats)
- Metadata description standards include Dublin Core, RAD, EAD, XML, OAI-PMH and Z39.50)

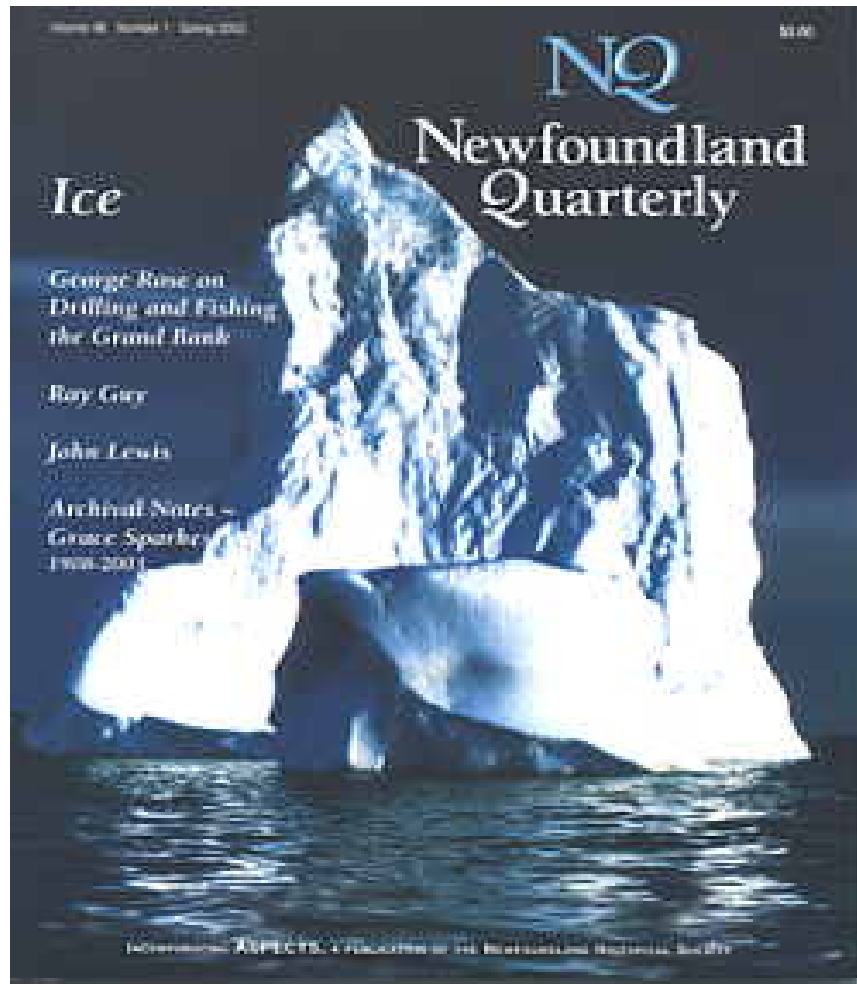


CONTENTdm Software

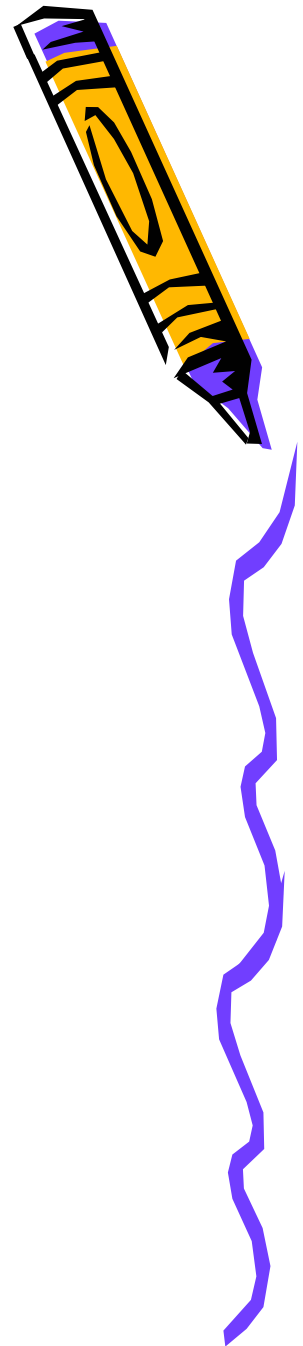
- Supports all media types
- Supports metadata standards for encoding digital objects
- Scalable
- Easy to use interface
- Provides access and copyright control
- Supports search and retrieval protocols



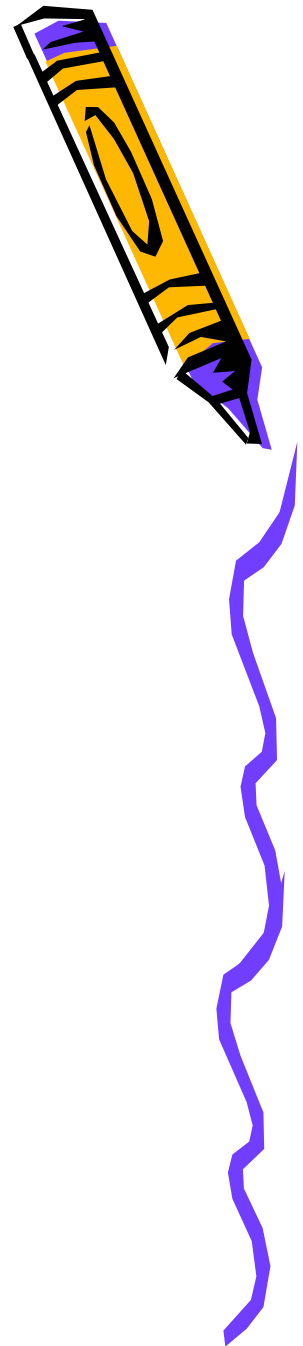
MUN Digital Collections Newfoundland Quarterly (1901-) (Centre for Newfoundland Studies)



MUN Digital Collections Cluny Macpherson Diaries (History of Medicine)



MUN Digital Collections Photographs (Maritime History Archive)



Reproduction of this image is prohibited



MUN Digital Collections Survey Cards (Folklore and Language Archive)



NEWFOUNDLAND FOLKLORE SURVEY 73 - 98 04

(Please type or write in ink)

FOLKLORE (PLEASE DESCRIBE EVENT EXACTLY AS OBSERVED/REMEMBERED/PRACTICED. Give the specific event
EVENT: in context, with details showing how, when and why it was said or done. Quote EXACT WORDS if possible.
What was informant's opinion or comment on this event? Was the event elicited () or encountered ()?
Remembered () or dictated ()? Explain if necessary.)

Neil A custom which many children of King's Cove, Bonavista Bay took part in some five years ago was Mummering. This event ~~was~~ occurred during the twelve days of Christmas. According to Miss Walsh during these days, people, -young and old, would go around from house to house in the community dressed in various costumes. These people had some sort of ~~mask~~ covering their faces, disguising their appearance. Mummers that would be invited into a house were made to sing or dance in order to receive a token such as a beverage and a piece of cake. However, if one would not permit a mummer to enter his home, the mummer would either tear a picket off the owner's fence or do something else that would be equally destructive. ✓

(Please flip card over and continue on back if you need more space). FEB 12 1973

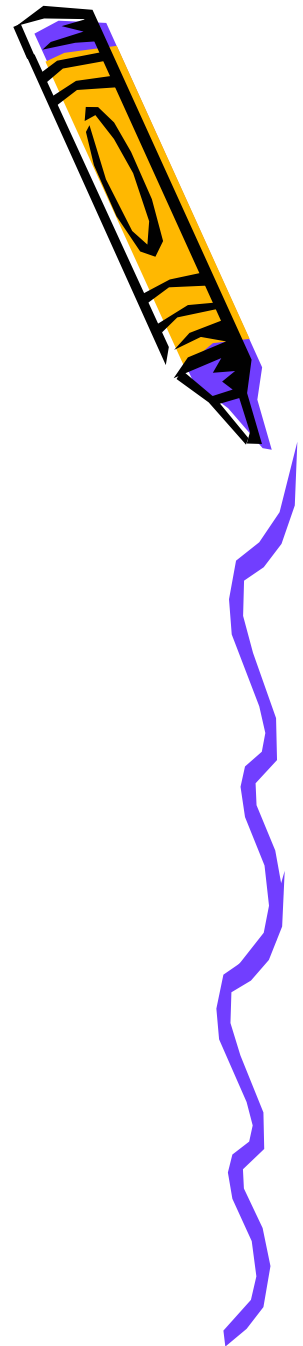
Give your Name	age	religion	Home community	date of event	today's date	
Bill Neville	23	R.C	St. John's	1968	Feb. 12/1973	
Give your source's Name	relationship to you	occupation	age	home community	present community	religion
Mary Walsh	Friend	student	20	King's cove	Bonavista Bay	R.C

Your source named this: when? where? from whom? Specify the group connected with the event: age? sex? religion? occupation? other?

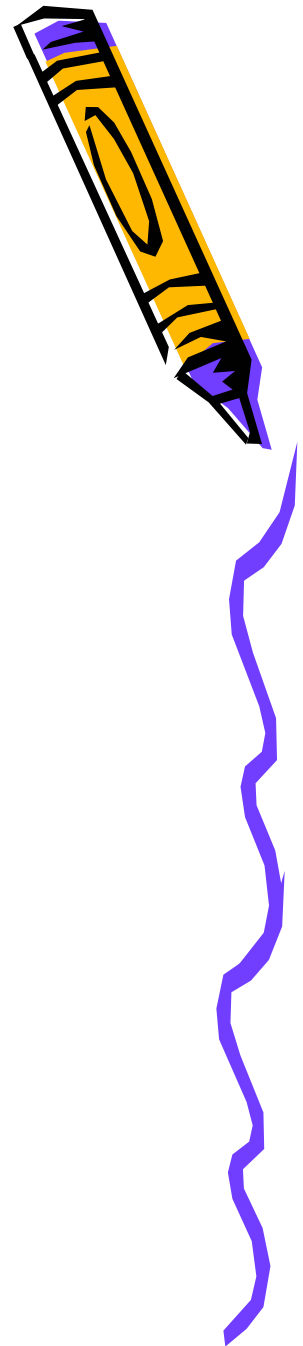
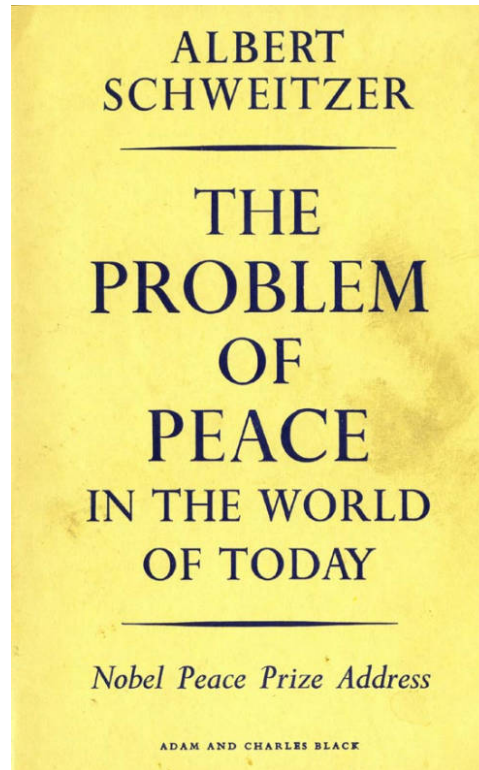
Please return completed card to Dept. of Folklore, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NLtd.



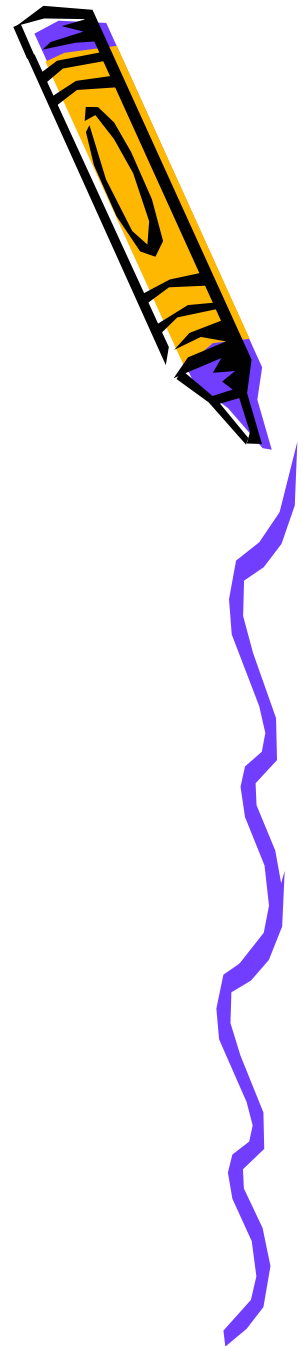
MUN Digital Collections Realia (Folklore and Language Archive)



MUN Digital Collections Rare Documents (Centre for Newfoundland Studies)



MUN Digital Collections MacEdward Leach Song Collection (Folklore and Language Archive)





Accessing the Digital Archive

- MUN Digital Archives Web Site
- Google / Yahoo (WorldCat harvesting)
- Canada's Digital Collections and other digital repositories (OAI-PMH + Dublin Core)
- Atlantic Scholarly Information Network Portal (metasearch + Z39.50)
- RSS



Demos

- MUN demo CONTENTdm site
- Other CONTENTdm sites
- Newfoundland Newspaper Index

