Culture in Transit: Digitizing and Democratizing NYC's Cultural Heritage

Caroline Catchpole, Metropolitan New York Library Council
Sarah Quick, Brooklyn Public Library
Maggie Schreiner, Queens Library

@DigitizeNYC
http://www.mnylc.org/cit/

“How might we leverage libraries as a platform to build more knowledgeable communities?”

- Funded by the Knight Foundation News Challenge on Libraries
- Partnership with Metropolitan New York Library Council, Queens Library and Brooklyn Public Library
- Collected material will also be shared with the Digital Public Library of America

Knight Foundation

Community Scanning
Queens Library, Brooklyn Public Library

Brooklyn Public Library

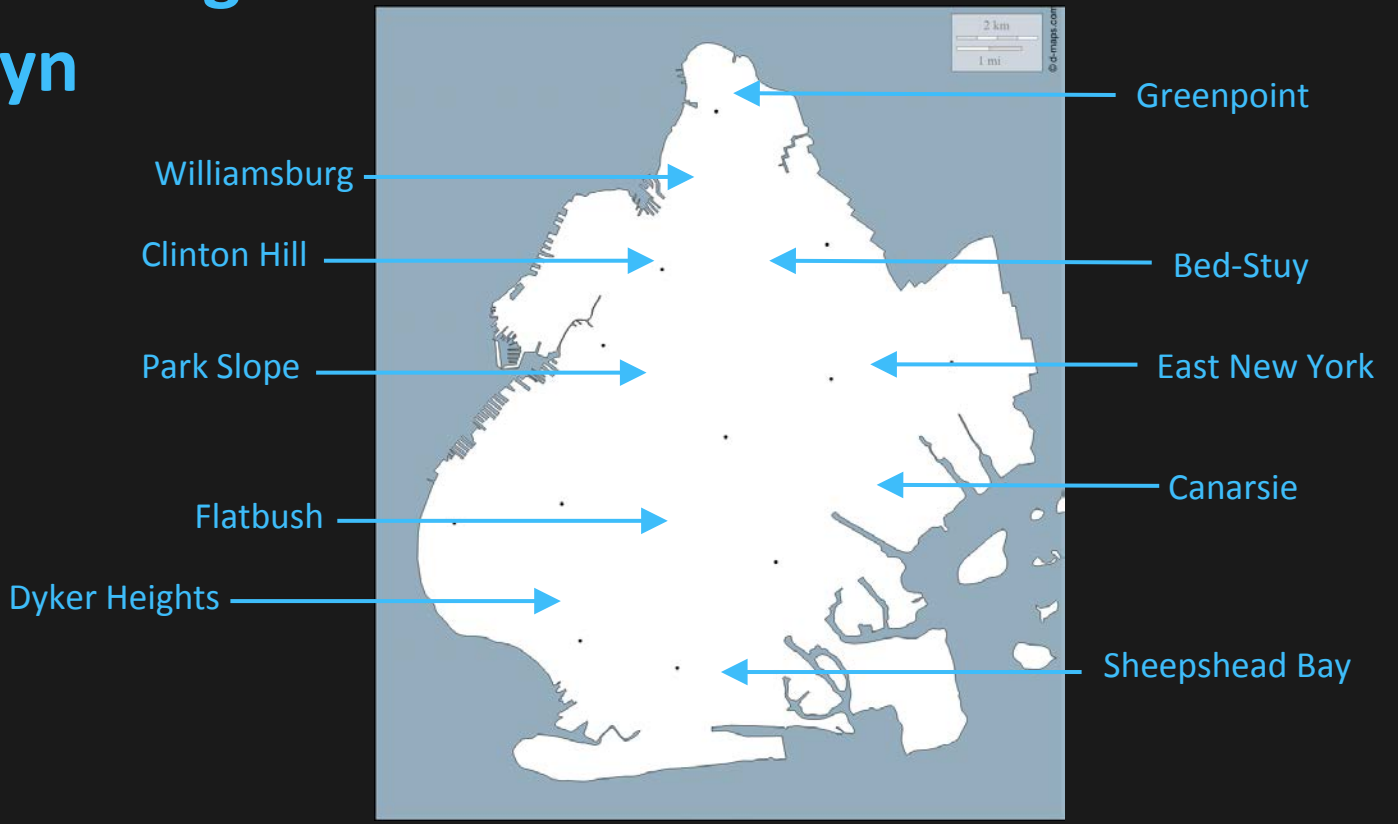
OUR STREETS OUR STORIES

Queens Library

QUEENS MEMORY

Community Scanning in Queens

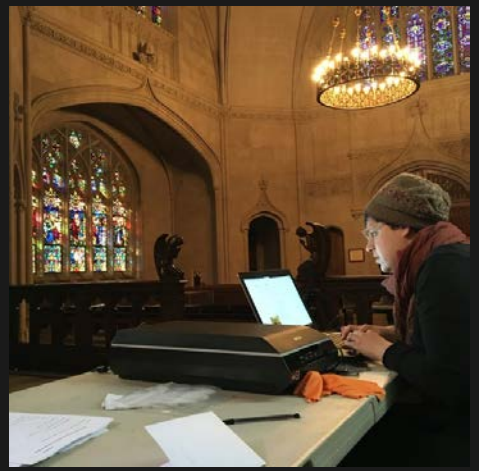
Community Scanning in Brooklyn



Not Just Libraries!

Boys and Girls High School
Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn

Neir's Tavern
Woodhaven, Queens



Green-Wood Cemetery
Brooklyn

Emanuel United Church of Christ
Woodhaven, Queens

LOGIN / REGISTER

QUEENS MEMORY

BROWSE GALLERY ABOUT SEARCH

Jump to page: GO Your search found 457 results. ‹ Previous page 1/26 Next ›

OPTIONS ▸ FILTER SEARCH ▸

Bob Monahan at the Park with...

Maureen Powell as a Newborn and Family

Iljah Chacon

18th Birthday Party

1920s Hair Salon Price List

1941

5th Grade Graduation Portrait

8th Grade Graduation

90th Street on Woodhaven

A Brown House

A Cemetery in Miniature

A Filip

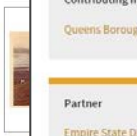
A Newborn Felice with Nurse

A Red House in Woodhaven

A Ridgewood Costume Party

A Tabaco Christmas

A Tabaco Halloween


A We

QUEENS COLLEGE

Queens Library Enrich your life®

Refine search

By Format

image 202

text 12

Contributing Institution

Queens Borough Public Library 214

Partner

Empire State Digital Network 214

By Date

From Month Day Year

To Month Day Year

Update

By Location

Astoria (New York, N.Y.) 29

IMAGE

Halloween at Corpus Christi School

Iris Zalun

Iris Zalun (dressed as a bride) and her bother Marc (dressed as Barney) at a Halloween celebration at Corpus Christi School in Woodside.

View Object

IMAGE

Portrait of Felice at Age 17

Felice Charasz

Felice Charasz (nee Grossman) at age 17, shortly after immigrating to the United States. The Grossman family originally moved in with extended family in Manhattan, and later the family moved to Forest Hills, Queens.

View Object

IMAGE

Siblings in Jamaica

Jamie McGhaney

Jamie McGhaney and Tyrone Gaylord (sister and brother) at the intersection of Lincoln St and Rockaway Blvd in Jamaica.

View Object

IMAGE

Setting Up the Christmas Tree

Iris Zalun

Iris Zalun poses with her brother Marc and grandmother Primativa Zalun in front of the Christmas tree.

Pond to Lake to Ocean

Consent & Metadata

Brooklyn Public Library
Informed Consent and Copyright Permission
For Images and Personal Documents

Participant's Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Phone: _____ **Email:** _____
I am at least eighteen years of age (if under the age of eighteen, consent must be signed by parent) and I voluntarily agree to share my interviews, images, and personal documents with Brooklyn Public Library.

I understand that the following items may be created from the items I share:

- promotional materials
- additional digital derivatives
- video clips
- social media posts

I understand that my items may be distributed to the public for educational purposes, including formats such as print, public programming, and the Internet.

I agree to freely share my items under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. This means that I retain the copyright to my material, but the public may freely copy, modify, and share these items for noncommercial purposes under the same terms, if they include the original source information.

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I understand that I shall receive no compensation for the material I share. In return, Brooklyn Public Library agrees to provide one free copy of the scanned items at the time of digitization.

Any exceptions to this agreement [such as a request for anonymity] must be listed below:

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Parent's Signature Date

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Contact Manager of Special Collections, Ivy Marvel, 718-230-2707; imarvel@bklynlibrary.org

Reminder: Sign TWO copies: one stays with the participant, and the other returns to Brooklyn Public Library.

Complete this **Submission Information Form** for EACH file you submit to Queens Memory. Files without complete information will NOT be eligible for preservation.

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Queens Memory
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Photographs:

Date photograph was taken: _____

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Name of photographer: _____

Name(s) of person/people in the photo: _____

Name of event taking place in photo: _____

Organizations represented in photo: _____

Make / model of camera and software used: _____

Measurements (height x width) *ex: 5 ¾ x 8 ¼ inches* _____

Additional Notes: **any or all** of the following information:

- Context for this photo
- Relationship between photographer and the event taking place in the photo
- Description of events in the photo

_____
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_____
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Burn your photo and/or audio files to a blank CD along with (1) this completed form, (2) a Contributor Agreement and (3)a Donor Consent form from your interviewee (if applicable) and mail to:

Queens Library, Library Services Dept., Attn: Natalie Milbrodt, 89-11 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11432

For More Information, Contact: Director, Natalie Milbrodt (Natalie.Milbrodt@queenslibrary.org)

Outreach

npr history dept. A FRESH LOOK AT AMERICAN HISTORY

Holding On Tight To Old New York

Updated August 28, 2015 · 3:39 PM ET
Published August 28, 2015 · 11:03 AM ET

LINTON WEEKS

DECEMBER 17, 2015
BY KAVITHA SURANA

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Share Your Own (or Grandma's) Greenpoint Story with this Brooklyn Archival Project

Our Streets Our Stories Community Scanning (Photo by Kavitha Surana)

Tadusz Chabrowski hands were shaking as he rifled through a pile of photos, looking for his favorite. "Oh here!" he said, pulling out a photo of himself standing in his eyeglasses shop. "When I was young– 100 years younger!" he laughed. His shop, Family Optical, once located at 120 Norman Avenue in Greenpoint, has been closed for 16 years, and yet his memories of the place are still as vivid as ever.

Share Your Story with Queens' Digital Archive And Celebrate Lunar New Year

By Ewa Kern-Jedrychowska | January 31, 2016 5:59pm
@ewakj

QUEENS — Forest Hills residents can now contribute their stories, photographs and memorabilia to a digital archive that wants to record and preserve contemporary history of the borough, all while celebrating the upcoming Lunar New Year.

Next Saturday, on Feb. 6, the Queens Memory Project is coming to the Forest Hills branch of the

Lunar New Year celebrations, 1972. Donated to Queens Memory...

+ View Full Caption Queens Memory Project

Sale MAR 16 - MAR 22
FAGE GREEK YOGURT
SELECT VARIETIES
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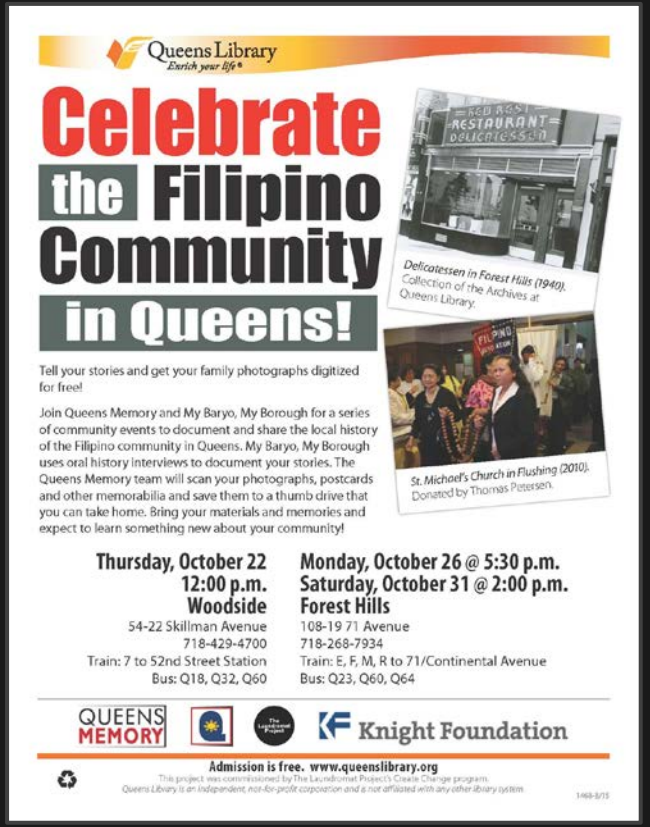
Popular

Queens Memory Project Helps Preserve the Borough's History

By NY1 News
Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 09:45 AM EDT

Community Partnerships

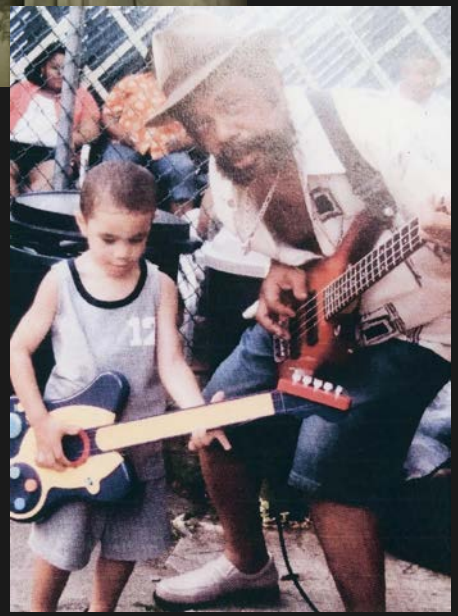


- Community groups as a liaisons
- Targeted outreach
- Access to new communities
- Language support
- Credibility
- Focused documentation of traditionally under-represented communities

My Baryo, My Borough

Greater Ridgewood Youth Council

Brooklyn Connections



Trust & Credibility

Asian Americans for Equality

Brooklyn Connections

Douglaston / Little Neck Historical Society

Five Boro Story Project

Forest Hills Asian Association

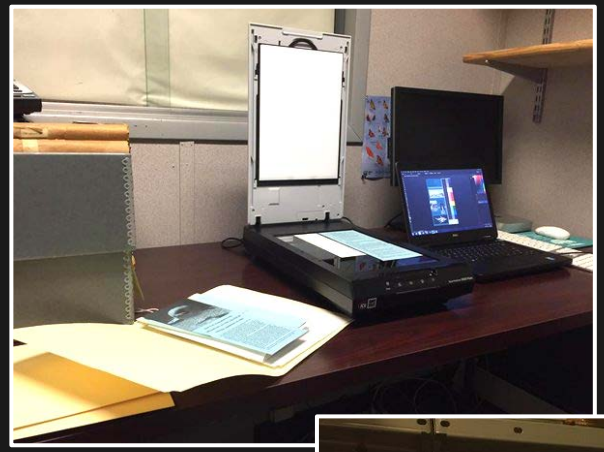
Good Neighbors of Park Slope

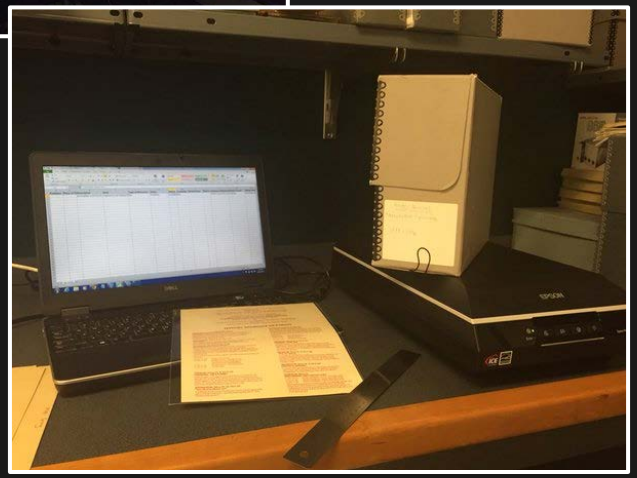
Greater Ridgewood Youth Council

My Baryo, My Borough

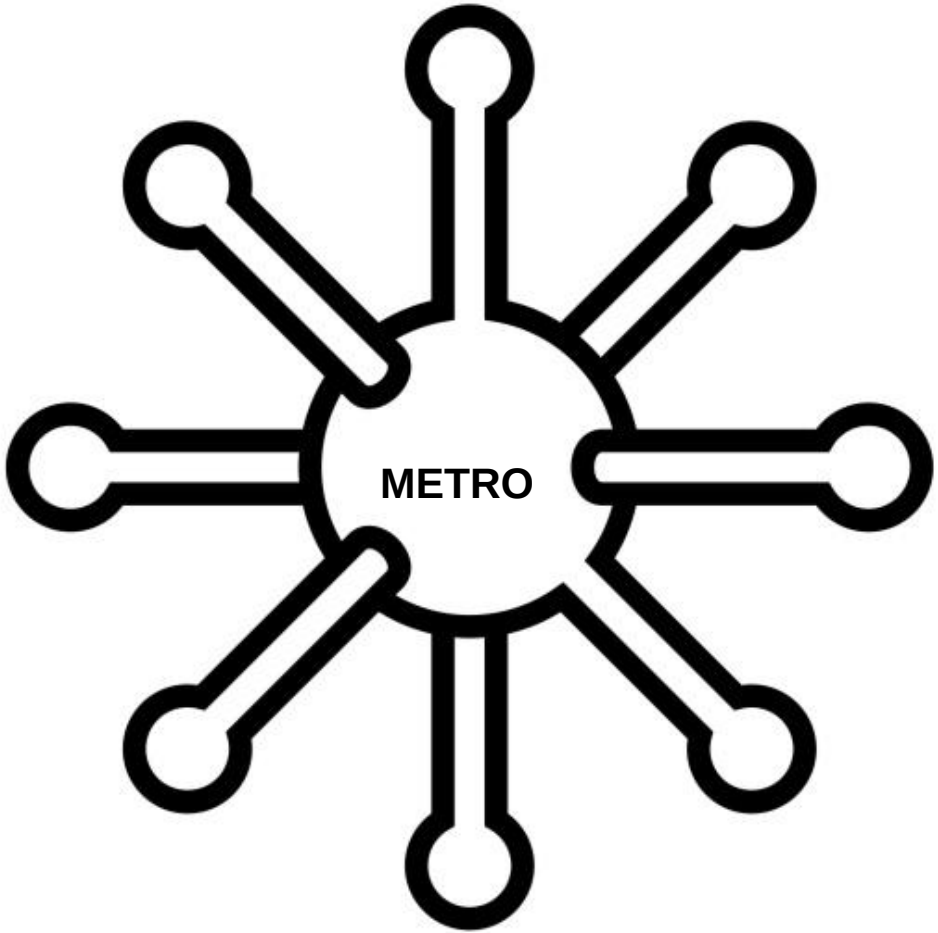
Woodhaven Cultural and Historical Society

Cultural Heritage Institution Partnerships





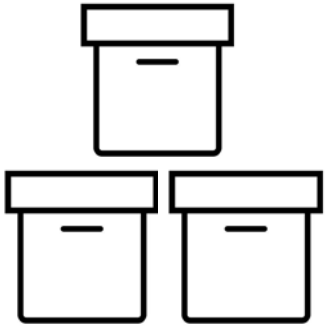
“How might we leverage libraries as a platform to build more knowledgeable communities?”


METRO

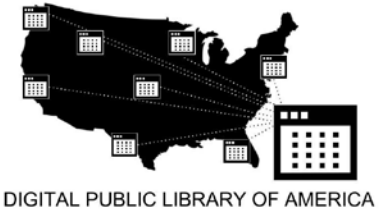
Goals: METRO

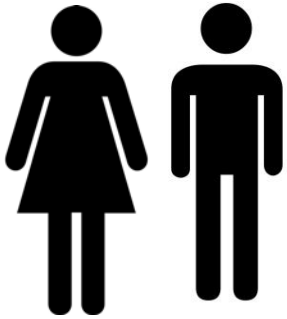
- DPLA and ESDN
- Support needs of our smaller/underfunded members
- Pilot small-scale digitization service for members
- Collections to seed DCMNY
- Learn about our member needs - digitization and related

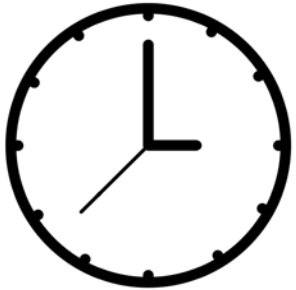
Onsite work



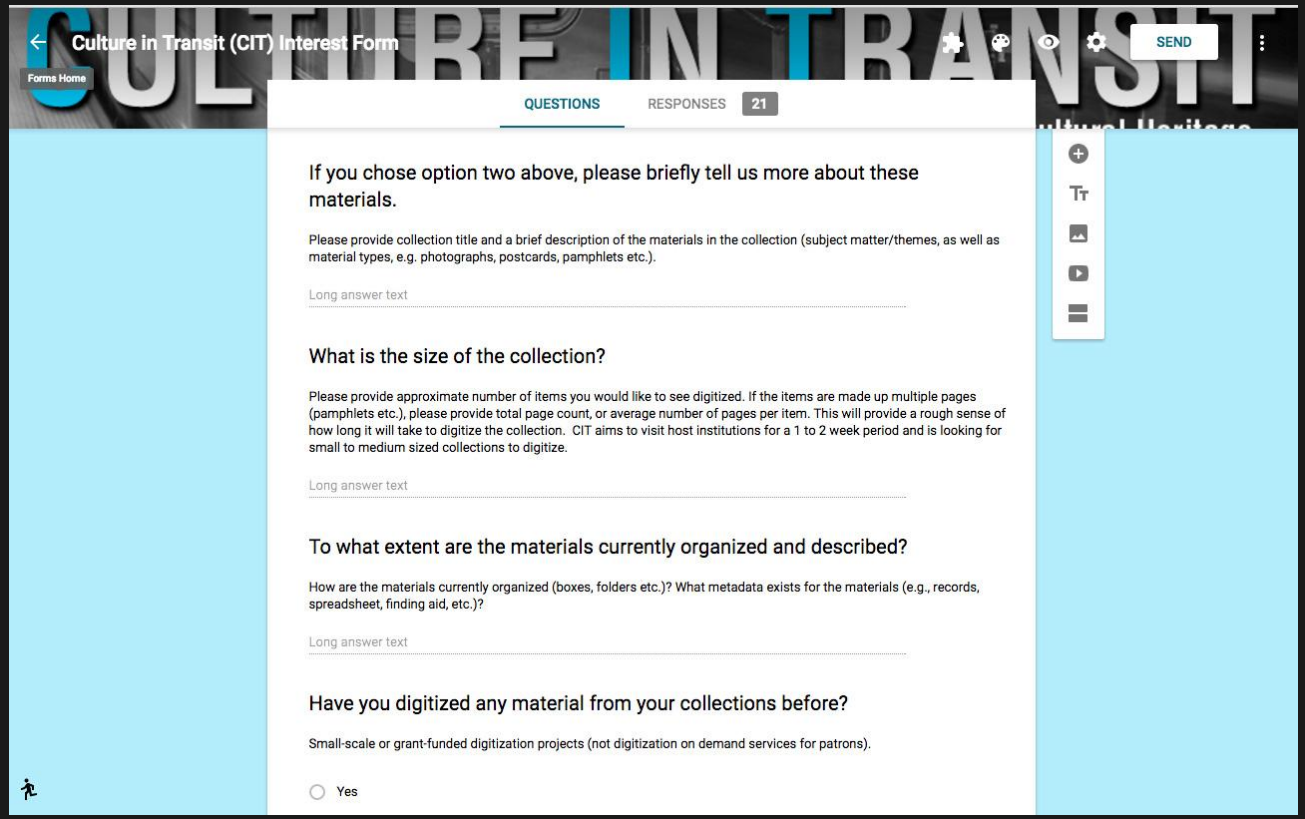
Offsite work







Choosing Partners



Choosing Partners

- Quality (cohesive, significant)
- Feasibility (material type, #s, condition)
- Collection status (processed, cataloged, rights?)
- Practicalities (location, physical space, security, contact person, timeline)

Choosing Partners

Site Visits:

- View / Assess Materials
- Go to Location / View Space
- Meet with staff

Wildlife Conservation Society

LGBT Community Center

New York Academy of Medicine

Fordham University

The Grolier Club

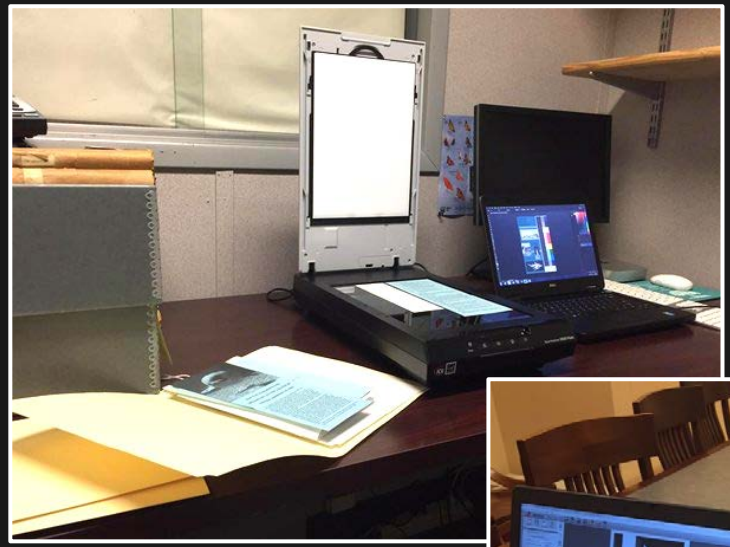
General Society for Mechanics & Tradesmen

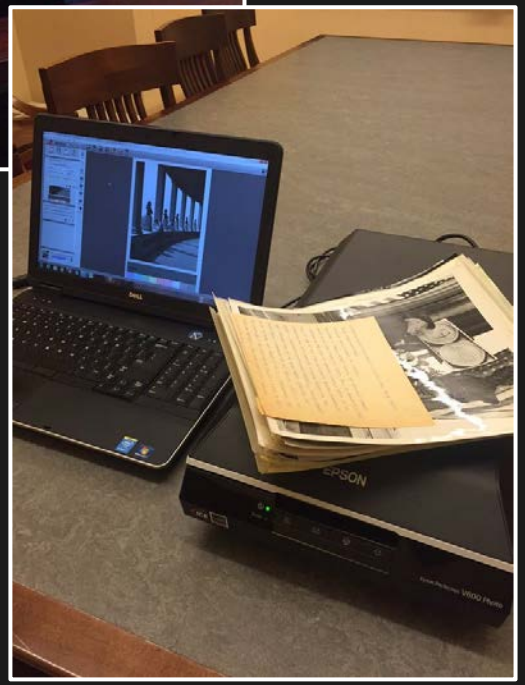
Hostos Community College

White Plains Public Library

Yeshiva University

Bronx Community College





- 8 METRO member institutions visited
- Over 1,150 unique items digitized
- 6 collections in METRO’s Digital Culture so far
- 3 collections in DPLA so far

DIGITAL CULTURE
of Metropolitan New York

Home Advanced search Browse Collections About

SEARCH IN New York Academy of Medicine, Carte de Visite Co for Go

Home › All Collections

New York Academy of Medicine, Carte de Visite Collection

The Carte de Visite Collection consists of 223 late 19th and early 20th century photographs of national and international figures in medicine and public health. Many are from the New York area.

Learn More About the Collection

Grid view List view

1 2 3 next › last »

Carte de Visite, A.S. Ball
Carte-de-visite of A.S. Ball, taken by photographic studio Rockwood and Co.

DIGITAL CULTURE
of Metropolitan New York

Home Advanced search Browse Collections About

SEARCH IN Hostos Community College, Hostos Arts and Cultu for Go

Home › All Collections

Hostos Community College, Hostos Arts and Culture Collection

The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture Collection includes 101 promotional cards featuring original artwork that documents musical performances, gallery exhibitions and art installations that have taken place at Hostos Community College. The cards illustrate the incredible variety of artists and performers who have come together at this dynamic South Bronx venue.

Learn More About the Collection

Grid view List view

1 2 next › last »

'Sophy' Concert Postcard
Postcard advertising a gala concert by 'Sophy' a Puerto Rican vocalist , held on November 14, 1998.

11th Annual Three Kings Celebration & Cultural Exchange Event Postcard
Postcard advertising a performance presenting the 11th Annual Three Kings Celebration & Cultural Exchange featuring Trio New York from Puerto Rico, Wito & La Cura Band from the Dominican Republic, Mariachi Bustamante from Mexico and Agua Clara from Bolivia/Peru.
Performance date was January 5, 2002

DIGITAL CULTURE
of Metropolitan New York

Home Advanced search Browse Collections About

SEARCH IN White Plains Public Library, White Plains Collection for Go

Home › All Collections

White Plains Public Library, White Plains Collection

The White Plains Collection is comprised of materials relevant to the history of White Plains, New York. Our digital collection contains photographs spanning from the late 19th to late 20th centuries. These 246 photographs document civic life, street scenes, and the dramatic change in the character of White Plains through suburban development and urban renewal.

Learn More About the Collection

Grid view List view

1 2 3 next › last »

13 Colonies Float in 1933 Parade

DIGITAL CULTURE
of Metropolitan New York

Home Advanced search Browse Collections About

SEARCH IN WCS Archives, Ephemera Collection for Go

Home › All Collections

WCS Archives, Ephemera Collection

This digital collection includes 112 items from the Wildlife Conservation Society Archives' extensive collection of publications and printed ephemera created by WCS, which began in 1895 as the New York Zoological Society. Within this digital collection are materials related to exhibits and events at WCS's Bronx Zoo and New York Aquarium and souvenirs from the New York Aquarium. Materials date from 1911 to 1992, with the bulk dating from the 1950s through the 1980s.

Learn More About the Collection

Grid view List view

1 2 next › last »

Admission ticket for grand re-opening of the Farm-in-the-Zoo exhibit
Admission ticket for re-opening of Farm-in-the-Zoo exhibit at the New York Zoological Park on May 7, circa 1957

Admission ticket for opening of new Great Apes House exhibit
Admission ticket for opening of new Great Apes House at the New York Zoological Park on October 12, 1950

Admission ticket to Breakfast by the Sea event, May 19, 1985, New York Aquarium
Admission ticket for event 'Breakfast by the Sea' held at the New York Aquarium on May 19, 1985

dp.la/search?provider%5B%5D=White+Plains+Public+Library&q=white+plains&utf8=✓

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DPLA DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY OF AMERICA

Home Exhibitions Map Timeline Bookshelf Apps

View: white plains

Search Results

Save Share

Your search for white plains returned 246 results.

Refined by: White Plains Public Library ×

Items per page: 10 Sort by: Relevance 1 2 3 ... 24 25

Refine search

By Format

image 246

Contributing Institution

White Plains Public Library ×

Partner

Empire State Digital Network 246

By Date

From Month Day Year

IMAGE

Winchester Street in White Plains

YMCA of the USA

Winchester Street in White Plains showing houses in the background and trash and debris in the foreground. Image was included in a publication entitled Italians in an American Community by Charles R. Towson, secretary of the Industrial Department, International Committee, YMCA published circa 1913.

View Object

IMAGE

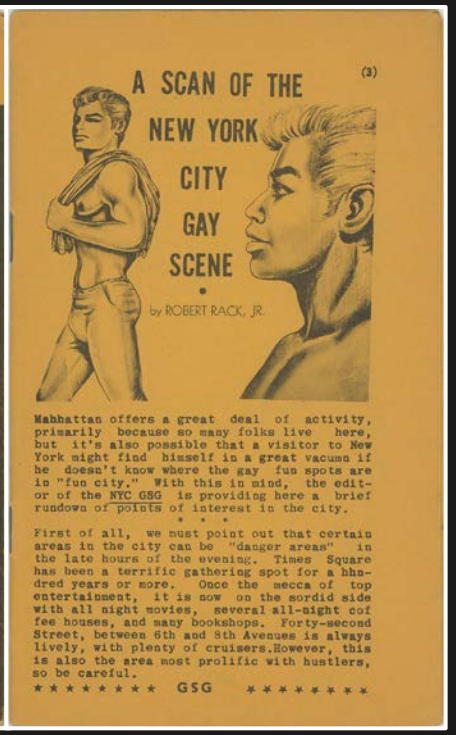
Description of White Plains Village

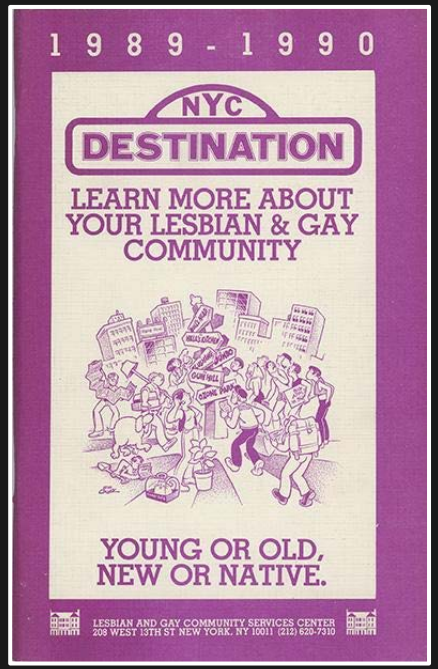
1918

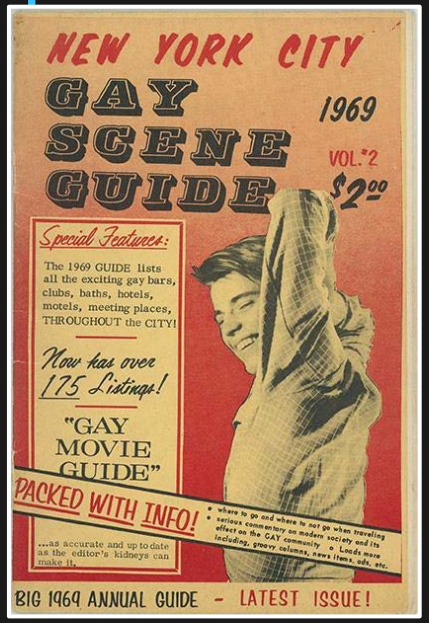
Description of the village of White Plains including information on population (1,087 at time of writing), location of the village, number and denomination of churches and number of dwellings. The description includes an illustration of the central part of the village.

View Object

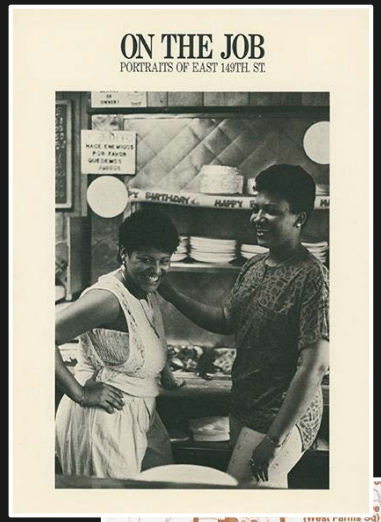
LGBT Center: Unique & Historically Important

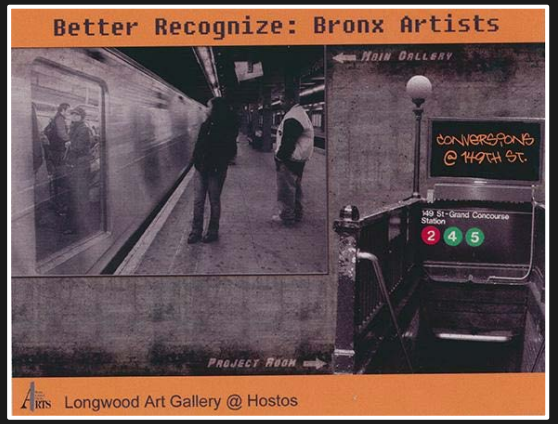


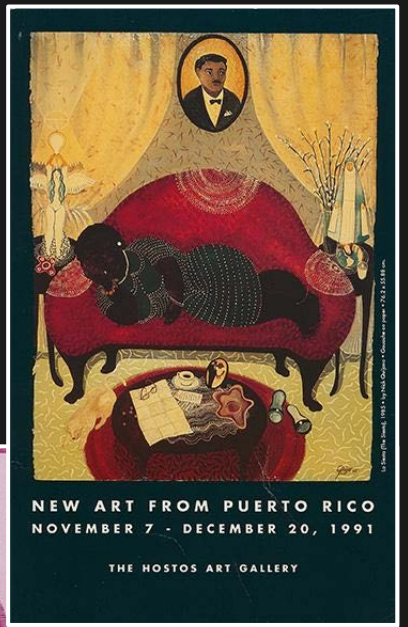


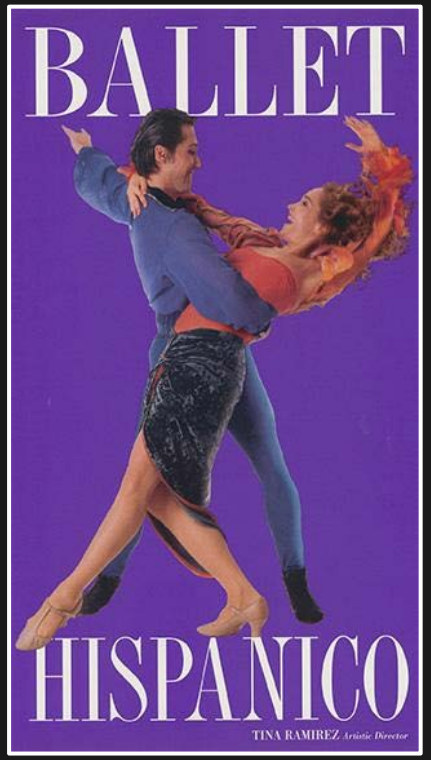


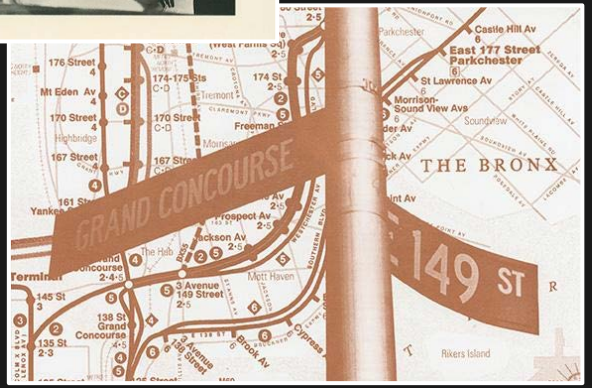
Hostos Community College: Celebration of Local Culture

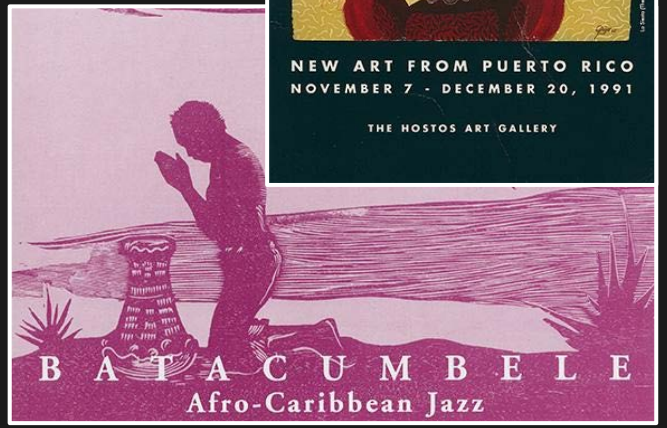




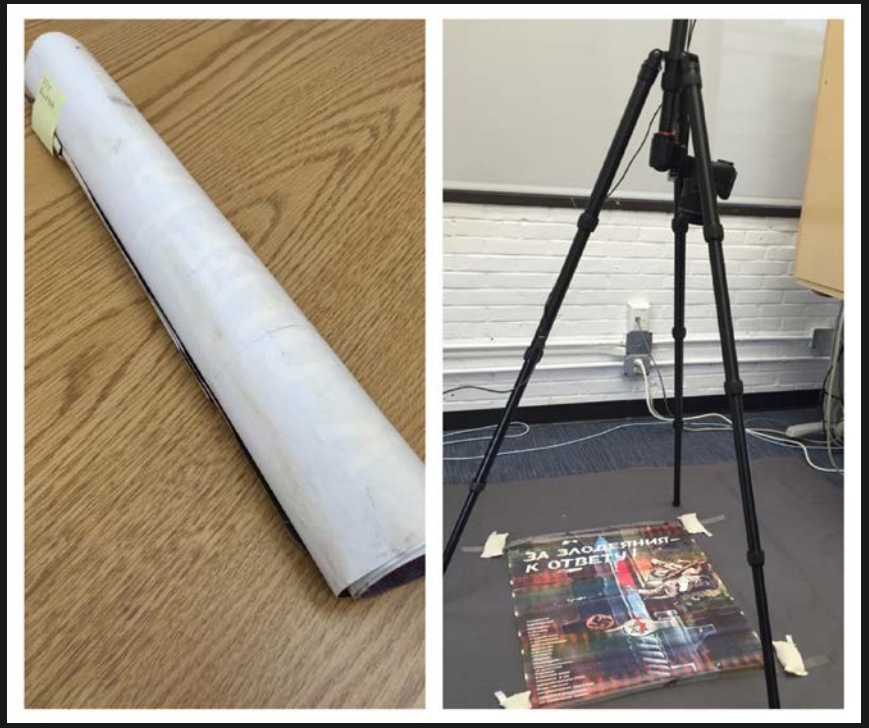


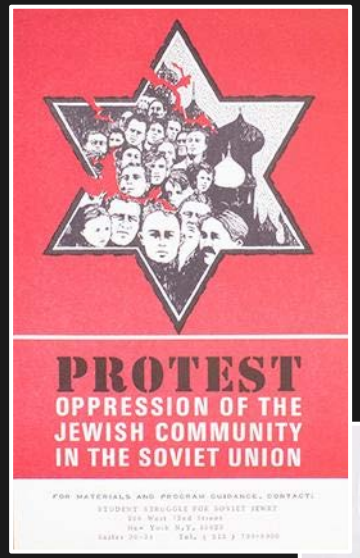


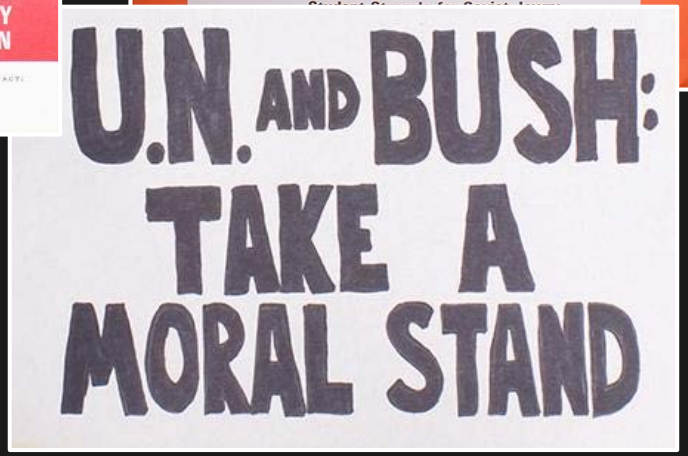




Yeshiva University: Oversize & Inaccessible

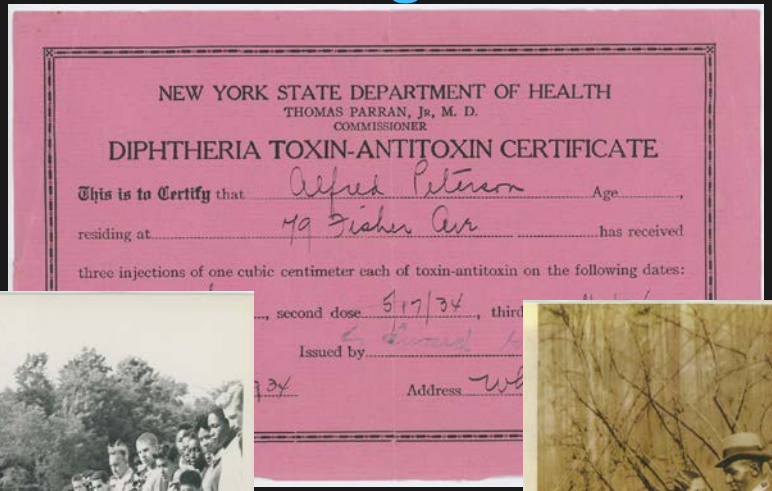






Use Cases of Digitized Content

Use Cases of Digitized Content



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
THOMAS PARRAN, JR, M. D.
COMMISSIONER

DIPHTHERIA TOXIN-ANTITOXIN CERTIFICATE

This is to Certify that Alfred Peterson Age ,
residing at 49 Fisher Ave has received
three injections of one cubic centimeter each of toxin-antitoxin on the following dates:
, second dose 5/7/34, third
Issued by
Address

Still making scrapbooks?
Bring history into the 21st century at the White Plains Public Library!

Community History Day
Saturday, December 12
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Bring up to 10 photographs, documents, or maps related to your family or White Plains history (*from any era*) to be digitized and added to our online collection. Everyone leaves with digital copies to share with family and friends! More info: www.whiteplainslibrary.org/local-history
Refreshments will be served.

WHITE PLAINS PUBLIC LIBRARY
CULTURE IN TRANSIT

Use Cases of Digitized Content

A Sense of Place: Research Workshop

January's edition of the White Plains History Roundtable will be **A Sense of Place: Research Workshop** on **Wednesday, January 20,** from **7:00 PM – 8:30 PM**.

Ever wondered what the layers of history and human experience are that combine to create White Plains? Join Librarian Ben Himmelfarb and student of White Plains history Cliff Blau to learn how to research the history of any address, building, business, house, or spot in White Plains. Maps, directories, photographs, and online resources from the White Plains Collection will be available for everyone to use.

Come prepared with a favorite place to research and we will walk you through the process of discovering more! There will be plenty of time for storytelling and sharing the history we are bound to uncover. We hope you'll leave with a stronger sense of place and a new perspective on the places we live, work, and spend time in.

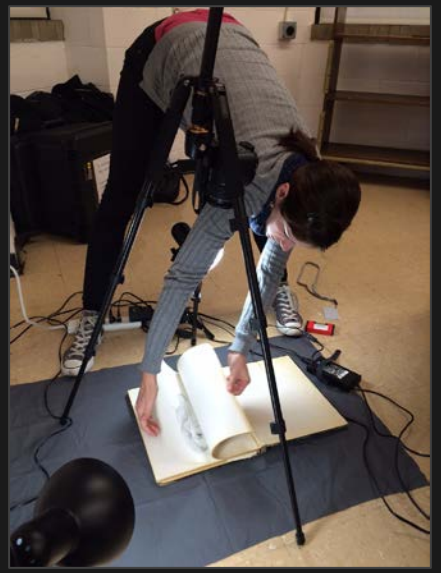
The White Plains History Roundtable is an educational, participatory, and social event where we hear a presentation on an historical topic, examine primary source documents from the White Plains Collection, and engage in discussion with each other.

January's History Roundtable is one of many programs commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the City of White Plains during 2016. Check out the City's Website and the White Plains Historical Society for information on other events!

January 17, 2016 | by Ben Himmelfarb
Categories: *Events* and *History*.
Tags: *adults*, *all ages*, *families*, *historical research*, *local-history*, *teens*, *white plains centennial*, *white plains collection*, and *white plains history*.

Digitization Equipment Sets

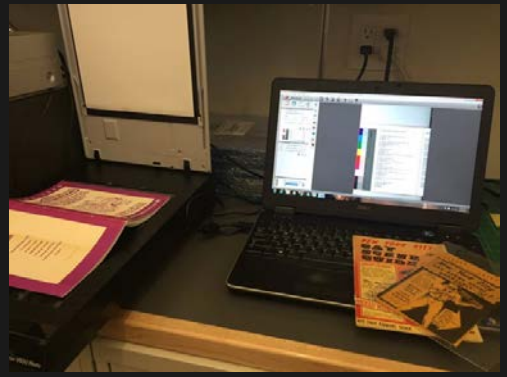
Flatbed Scanner

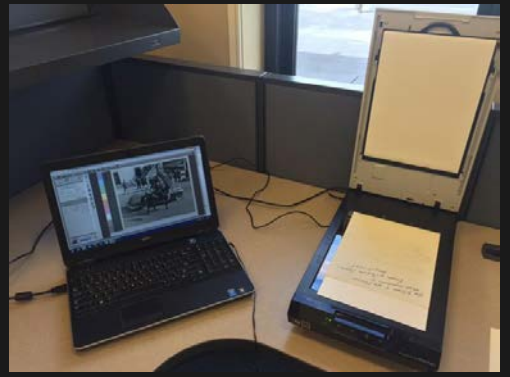


Copy-Stand

Outreach

Flatbed Scanner: Epson V Series





- V600 and V800 models: Excellent quality & capability for negatives
- SilverFast software for color management & pre-scan functionality
- V800: Extended capability vs. additional weight

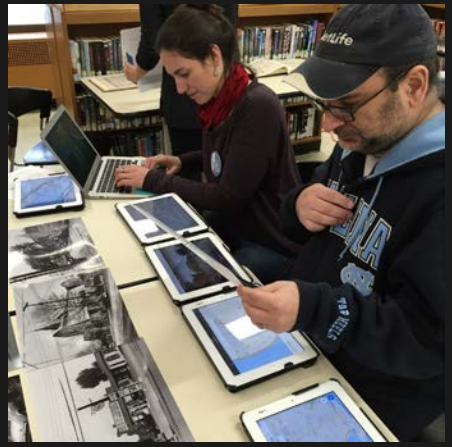
Copy-Stand

- Canon EOS Rebel T5 DSLR
- Inverted tripod
- Fluorescent & LED lighting
- Muslin backdrop

Original Lights

LED Lights

Outreach

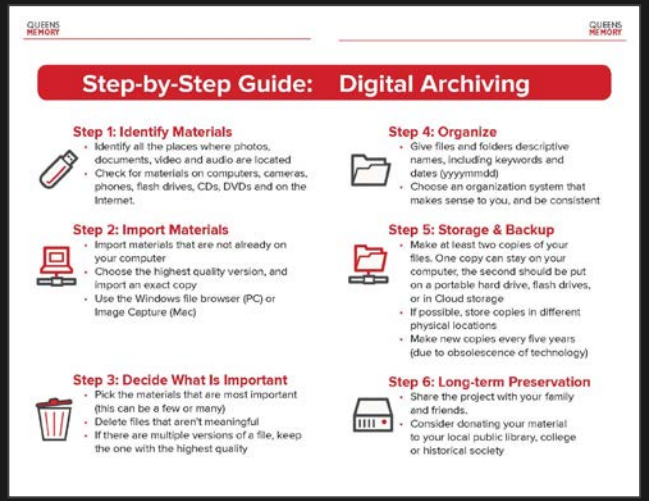


Interactive Resources:

Historic photographs slideshow & comparison

Oral history listening station

Community mapping



QUEENS MEMORY

Step-by-Step Guide: Digital Archiving

Step 1: Identify Materials
- Identify all the places where photos, documents, video and audio are located
- Check for materials on computers, cameras, phones, flash drives, CDs, DVDs and on the Internet.

Step 2: Import Materials
- Import materials that are not already on your computer
- Choose the highest quality version, and import an exact copy
- Use the Windows file browser (PC) or Image Capture (Mac)

Step 3: Decide What Is Important
- Pick the materials that are most important (this can be a few or many)
- Delete files that aren't meaningful
- If there are multiple versions of a file, keep the one with the highest quality

Step 4: Organize
- Give files and folders descriptive names, including keywords and dates (yyyymmdd)
- Choose an organization system that makes sense to you, and be consistent

Step 5: Storage & Backup
- Make at least two copies of your files. One copy can stay on your computer, the second should be put on a portable hard drive, flash drives, or in Cloud storage
- If possible, store copies in different physical locations
- Make new copies every five years (due to obsolescence of technology)

Step 6: Long-term Preservation
- Share the project with your family and friends.
- Consider donating your material to your local public library, college or historical society

Outreach & Education

- Provide a point of entry into the project
- Teach about archives, technology historical record
- Demonstrate the value of participating in the project
- Empower communities to steward their personal & local history

Transporting Digitization Equipment

- We love our wheeled Pelican cases!
- Don’t underestimate overall weight

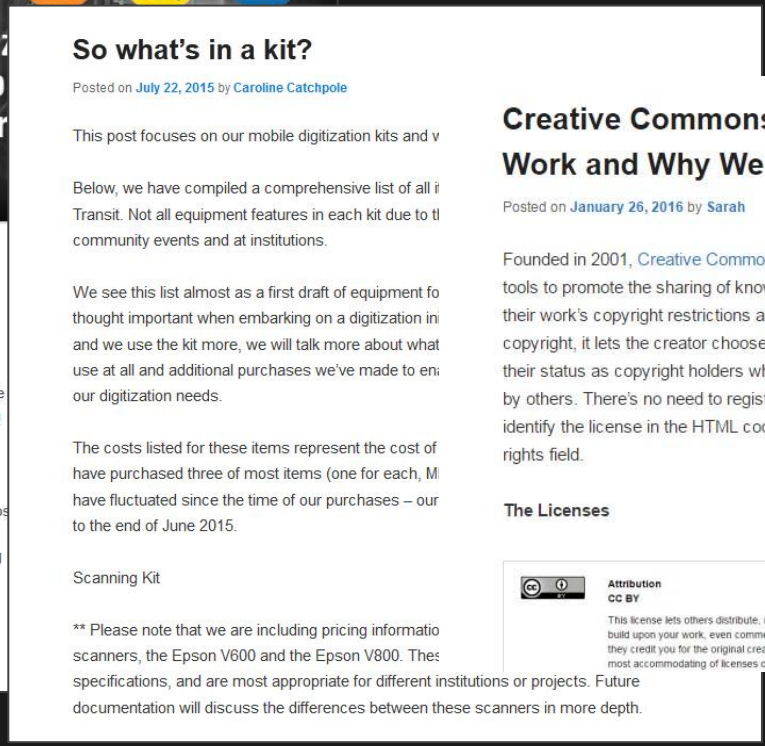
Born Digital Donations

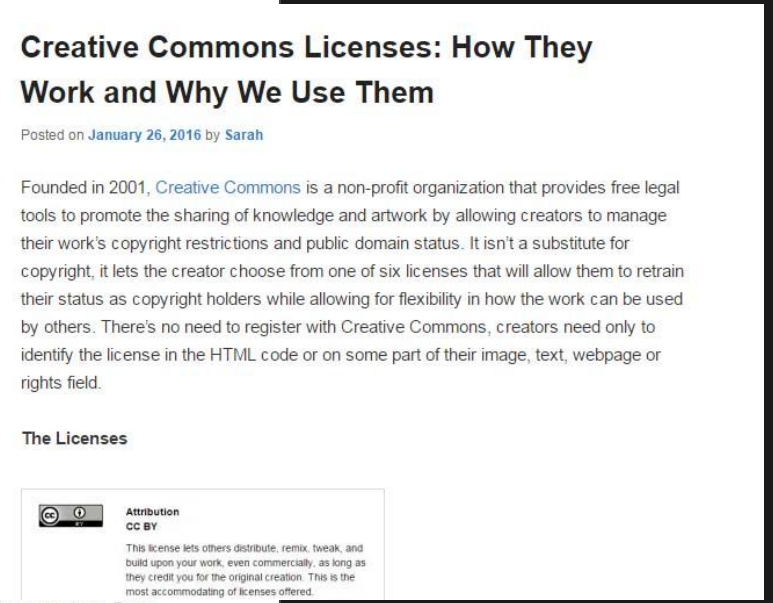
Images created in the last decade are likely digital.

Great way to attract walk-in donors.

Best practices are still being developed.

Documentation





www.mnylc.org/cit

Contact Us!

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Email: cultureintransit@metro.org

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