Newspapers Re-Issued

Developing a custom IIIF newspaper viewer at the University of Maryland Libraries

Project Background
In 2015, the University of Maryland Libraries initiated a crowdfunding campaign to digitize the complete archive of the campus newspaper, the Diamondback. The campaign emphasized ease of discovery and access of the digitized newspaper to donors, prompting numerous discussions regarding user experience. Institutional experience working on NDNP digitization projects informed decisions about article level descriptive metadata and viewer requirements in the planning and requirements phase of the project.

Based on stakeholder feedback, our portal’s newspaper viewer needed to support four unique features:

1. keyword search highlighting from the main portal application
2. intuitive image clipping
3. article segmentation highlighting
4. side-by-side display of OCR text with the digitized image

System Components

Static Demo: https://umd-lib.github.io/mirador-static/

Customized Functionality

Mirador Viewer
Objectives:
- Use standard Mirador and IIIF functionality
- Otherwise, contribute back any customizations

Customizations:
- Mirador contribution: support for multiple annotation lists
- Fork of Mirador for customizations not accepted back
- Fork of OpenSeadragon Selection plugin
- Local static HTML wrapper for Mirador

Loris IIIF Image Server
Loris contribution: HTTP resolver improvements for authenticated access to Fedora 4

PCDM IIIF Manifest Server
Locally-developed PCDM Manifest service takes metadata about each newspaper issue from our Fedora 4 repository, transforms it, and delivers IIIF manifests.

UMD Newspaper Collections in PCDM

Mirador In Action

Article Highlighting & OCR Text Display

- Yellow: search hit highlighting
- Green: blocks of article text with OCR available in sidebar
- Blue: selected article from search results

Page Clipping
Users can select and download a full-resolution JPEG clip.

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