

NC ECHO
 www.ncecho.org
 State Library of North Carolina
 4640 Mail Service Center
 Raleigh, NC 27699-4640
 Phone: (919) 807-7418
 Editor: Hilary Perez

Newsletter

From the Project Archivist

Online Collections and the K-12 Audience

Inside this Issue:

Staff Notes	1
From the Project Archivist	1, 2
Mark Your Calendars	2
Metadata Matters	2, 3
Spotlight	3
NC ECHO Advisory Committee	4

Staff Notes



NC ECHO welcomes our new Project Assistant, Matt Vernon. Matt is starting the Public History Master's Program at NC State University. We are really looking forward to working with him.

NC ECHO is committed to helping the state's school children access the treasures housed in North Carolina's museums, libraries, archives and historic sites. We have recently completed a seminar focusing on online collections and the K-12 audience. May 1-5, 2006, we held a seminar called "Back of Beyond: Portals to Our Mountain Past" at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching

(NCCAT) in Cullowhee, NC. This weeklong seminar brought together 10 cultural heritage professionals and 8 teachers from the public schools. Together we looked at how resources from museums, archives and libraries can be brought into the classroom and discussed the unique needs of teachers and ways in which cultural institutions can meet

those needs in the online environment. This seminar revolved around Horace Kephart: Revealing an Enigma, a digital collection of archives and artifacts put online by Western Carolina University in collaboration with the Mountain Heritage Center. Seminar participants, both teachers and cultural heritage professionals, used this fabulous web resource to examine the potential for the use of online collections

in the classroom. In 1904, Horace Kephart, a naturalist and student of wood lore, moved to western North Carolina in search of a more simple life. He noted that the remoteness of the region and the difficulty of passing through the terrain made many of the sites he visited seem like "the back of beyond". In his newly adopted home, Kephart studied the lives and culture of

to the K-12 audience needs to be deliberate. As computers become more important in the classroom, teachers are looking for ways to expose their students to quality online content. Something to keep in mind, seminar participants discovered, is that teachers must be able to connect the online collection they use in the classroom to the Standard Course of Study for their grade and subject. Teachers

also rarely have time to develop their own lesson plan for how to use online collections with their students. A website will be of far greater use if lesson plans that align with the Standard Course of Study are provided.

NC ECHO partners with LEARN NC, a program of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Education. This statewide network of educators is using



The Back Of Beyond: Portals to Our Mountain Past (May 1-5, 2006 at NCCAT)
 Back Row: Kathy Bundy, Leslie Richardson, Tami Shaw, Jeff Futch, Karen Shaver, Jonathan Wade, Bob Boswell. Middle Row: Rachel Dickens, Nanci Petrucelli, Sharon Wiley, Richard Knapp, Romona Renfroe, Jann Brown. Front Row: Nancy Harris, Jan Wyatt, Debbi Blake, JoAnn Williford, Christy Earp. Not Pictured: Monika Rhue, Ray Rose.

the mountain people and the natural history of the mountain region. From this study came Kephart's book *Our Southern Highlanders* first published in 1913. You can learn more about the Horace Kephart digital collection in the Spotlight section of this newsletter (p. 3).

Participants at the Back of Beyond Seminar learned that making your online collections usable

the power of the Internet to improve K-12 education in North Carolina. LEARN NC can consult with NC ECHO partner institutions to help tailor online collections to be most useful to the K-12 audience. LEARN NC's website www.learnnc.org also has the most current version of the Standard Course of Study as well as numerous lesson plans which

SEE K-12 SEMINAR, 2

Mark Your Calendars!

- September, 2006

Digitization Institute X

NCCAT, Cullowhee, NC

(Check <http://www.ncecho.org> for more information as it becomes available.)

- July 30–August 6, 2006

Society of American Archivists 2006

Washington, DC

Stay Informed! Join the NC ECHO-Announce listserv to receive e-mail announcements about upcoming events by NC ECHO and NC ECHO partner institutions. To subscribe, e-mail Matt Vernon (mvernon@library.dcr.state.nc.us).

Digitization Institute IX

June 5-9, 2006



Back Row: Amy Rudersdorf, Sara McGough, Emily Gore, Hillary Dawkins, Mandy Foss. Front Row: Kim Garmon, John Mercer, Julie Thomas, Joe Baricella, Linda Sparks, Jennifer Burns, Ran Shaffner, Frank Thomson. Not Pictured: Deb Schillo.

Metadata Matters

This spring has been quiet in the metadata world. The Library of Congress made a startling announcement about the suspension of controlled series titles early in April, but other metadata schemes have not experienced any revolutionary events quite like that. That said, I thought I'd take the opportunity to talk about a few ideas that I've had about metadata recently: metadata pie and standards types. These concepts are intertwined and can help cultural heritage professionals make metadata decisions when they're getting ready to implement something new.

Metadata Pie

Sounds like a great dish, but really it's a new conceptual approach to thinking about the variety of different metadata types that you can keep about any object (digital or physical). So what do I mean by metadata pie?

Metadata pie refers to the full amount of metadata that you can compile about any object. This includes four over-all categories: descriptive, structural, administrative, and analytical metadata. Within each category there are subcategories. For instance, administrative metadata includes information about Rights management, Technical specifications, preservation and condition data, as well as mundane aspects like physical location information.

Descriptive metadata includes physical description, title, creator, and so on.

While this appears to be a neat way to divide-up metadata types, it's not as clear cut as that. For

instance, language is both descriptive and administrative. The question is: do we repeat the language information in those two different pie slices or can we conceptualize a more multidimensional approach to metadata? The best way to approach these issues is to delineate the purpose of the metadata you are creating and to consider the

aspects of that purpose. Most metadata standards include a variety of elements that address more than one of these types. Understanding these differences in metadata purposes helps you decipher the kind of information that needs to be included and the relationship that that information will have with other elements in the standard. For instance, Dublin Core includes both descriptive fields (title, creator, extent, etc.) and structural fields (relation).

Data standards types

The other aspect of metadata that should be considered is the different kinds of standards that are part of metadata. There are three kinds generally discussed. These kinds compliment each other and help construct a full metadata picture.

Data content standards:

Data content standards instruct you on the way to express information about a particular element. For instance, *Anglo-American Cataloging Rules 2* (AACR2) or *Describing Archives: a*

Content Standard (DACS) are both data content standards. If we look at the title section of these two as a comparison, it helps to demonstrate the way that content standards work. In bibliographic cataloging (AACR2), title formation is based upon transcription of the title as it appears on the title page. There are sub-

“[Metadata pie and data standards types] provide new ways to classify metadata concepts in order to make better choices...”

sequent rules for what constitutes a title, what happens if there is no title page, and so on. In DACS, title is composed of four separate pieces of information: the name of creator in director order, the nature of the materials (papers, records), a genre type if appropriate, and an optional topical unit. This results in titles such as “Louis Round Wilson papers.”

Data structure standards:

Data structure standards provide the syntax or structure in which you place your content. Examples of this include Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) and Encoded Archival Description (EAD). These standards focus on the structure or encoding of metadata rather than what belongs in particular fields.

Data value standards:

Data value standards regularize the values for the content. This includes controlled vocabularies and standards such as ISO 8601 (date-time format) or ISO 639-2b

SEE METADATA CONCEPTS, 3

K-12 Seminar, Continued

use online collections such the Horace Kephart: Revealing an Enigma digital collection.

Lesson plans for the Kephart collection are for grade 8, 11 and 12, language arts, social studies and US history. Using the collection, students read selections from *Our Southern Highlanders* to achieve social studies and English language arts objectives while developing an appreciation of the uniqueness of regional speech patterns, the complexities of ethnographic encounters, and the need to interrogate primary sources carefully to identify potential biases and misinformation in them. (<http://www.learnnc.org/bestweb/kephart-wcu>).

Visit the NC ECHO website or join our listserv to receive announcements about upcoming seminars for online collections and the K-12 audience.

Hilary Perez



Ramona Renfro, Rachel Dickens, Hilary Perez and Monika Rhue work together on a lesson plan exercise.

Spotlight

Hunter Library Special Collections and the Mountain Heritage Center Collaborate on Horace Kephart Website

About Horace Kephart

Born in East Salem, Pennsylvania in 1862, Horace Kephart went on to become a leading literary figure in early 20th century North Carolina.

Prior to moving to western North Carolina and becoming a full-time writer, Kephart established a career as a librarian. His cataloging experience gave him a unique characteristic of attention to detail that he incorporated into his later writing and research. He published his first book, Camping and Woodcraft, in 1906.



Horace Kephart's personal mica-windowed lantern and framed shaving mirror with case are among the artifacts digitized for display on the website.

Move to North Carolina

In 1904, at the age of 42, Kephart arrived in western North



Horace Kephart is seen in this photo captioned "Bunk in Hall Cabin." It appears in his scrapbook album under the heading "Great Smoky Mts."

Carolina to begin his life anew. He chose a simple lifestyle and "nature-as-healer" approach. At the same time, he took an immediate interest in the history and culture of the people. He soon emerged as a recognized authority on the cultural and natural history of the region. Kephart wrote hundreds of articles, but became especially renowned for his work Our Southern Highlanders, first published in 1913. Later he turned his writing skills towards the successful promotion of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

About the Project

In 2004, western North Carolina celebrated the 100-year anniversary of Horace Kephart's arrival in the region. As an extension of these events, Hunter Library's Special Collections and the Mountain Heritage Center joined together to create an online exhibit of Kephart's life and works. Funding for the project came through a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant managed by North Carolina Exploring Cultural Heritage Online (NC ECHO).

As the project developed, it became clear that Horace Kephart's personal album would become a feature of the exhibit, providing a unique opportunity to reconstruct virtually the scrapbook album. Alongside the album, another important component of the project is a series of exhibit pages



The "Turpin house" - one of Kephart's photographs featured in the website's virtual album.

featuring Kephart's artifacts and personal notes. Much like a museum gallery, these provide a logical path through related items to create a unique learning experience. Here visitors can discover Kephart, his writings, his belongings, and the people and places of early 20th century western North Carolina. Researchers will find the searchable database helpful for locating specific documents and artifacts related to a given topic.

"The virtual album presents the essence of Kephart's vision, and is a tribute to the people and places he photographed."

Special Collections at Hunter Library and the Mountain Heritage Center

invite you to enjoy this exhibit. George Frizzell

<http://www.wcu.edu/library/digitalcoll/kephart/>

Metadata Concepts, Continued

language codes. These and others are recommendations for NC ECHO community standards such as NCEAD and NCDC guidelines. They provide the way to say the 4th of July in a consistent way for computers to use that information in retrieval and manipulation.

So why do these concepts matter in the everyday use of metadata and standards? The first allows you to pinpoint the goals and objectives of your metadata in order to match your needs with your data. The second allows you to assess the purpose of particular standards in order to understand how they work together rather than in conflict. Both provide new ways to classify metadata concepts in order to make better choices about standards and systems for today's project and tomorrow's program.

Questions, comments, problems, or solutions regarding metadata? Contact me at: kwisser@unc.edu.

Update!

Kathy Wisser's e-mail address has changed.

Contact her at: kwisser@unc.edu.

North Carolina ECHO, *Exploring Cultural Heritage Online*, is the World Wide Web's doorway to the special collections of North Carolina's libraries, archives, museums, and historic sites. Supported with federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds made possible through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources, this innovative project seeks to build a state-wide framework for digitization in order to facilitate comprehensive access to the holdings of North Carolina's cultural institutions.

Newsletter

NC ECHO
 www.ncecho.org
 State Library of North Carolina
 4640 Mail Service Center
 Phone: (919) 807-7422

E-mail: ncecho@library.dcr.state.nc.us

NC ECHO Staff

Hilary Perez, Project Archivist
 Matt Vernon, Project Assistant
 Katherine M. Wissner, Metadata Coordinator

www.ncecho.org

NC ECHO Project Vision – All of North Carolina's cultural institutions work together to make the state's unique cultural and historical resources accessible for the education and enjoyment of people of all ages in the state, the nation, and the world.

NC ECHO Project Purpose – The NC ECHO portal provides a single point of entry for the citizens of North Carolina to the unique resources of North Carolina's cultural institutions in order to enhance education and learning.

Criteria for Inclusion in the NC ECHO project – Any cultural institution (library, archive, museum, historic site, or organization), which maintains a permanent, non-living collection of unique materials held for research and/or exhibit purposes and open for the use of the public will be surveyed. Denominational/associational collections will be surveyed, but individual church collections will not. Art museums will be surveyed but galleries will not. Zoos, arboreta, and parks will not be surveyed unless as a part of their mission they hold collections as described above.

Through a comprehensive needs assessment and opinion survey, site visits, consultations, workshops, and grant programs, NC ECHO encourages cooperation and collaboration among differing types of cultural institutions and among institutions of varying levels of technological and professional expertise. It is NC ECHO's belief that by working together North Carolina's cultural institutions can achieve greater successes and can do more good than they can by working alone.

NC ECHO Advisory Committee

Chair

Kevin Cherry, Visiting Lecturer, College of Education, Joyner Library, East Carolina University

Members

Robert Busko, Director, Scotland County Memorial Library

Steve Hensen, Director, Planning and Project Development, Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library, Duke University

Lynn Holdzkom, Assistant Curator, Head of Technical Services, Wilson Library, UNC-CH

Martha Battle Jackson, Curator, North Carolina State Historic Sites, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Hal Keiner, University Archivist, Appalachian State University

Dick Lankford, State Archivist, Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Nooma Monika Rhue, Archivist / Archival Services Librarian, Inez Moore Parker Archives and Research Center, Johnson C. Smith University

Druscie Simpson, Head of Information Technology, Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

Gerry Solomon, Assistant Section Chief, Evaluation Services, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Melissa Thibault, Director, Media Services, Learn North Carolina

Ann Tippett, Executive Director, Schiele Museum of Natural History

Jonathan Wade, Fellow, North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching

Helen Wykle, Special Collections Librarian, D. H. Ramsey Library, University of North Carolina – Asheville

State Library Staff Members

Grant Pair, Assistant State Librarian for Information Technologies, State Library of North Carolina



Kevin Cherry
 Chair,
 NC ECHO Advisory Committee;
 Visiting Lecturer,
 College of Education,
 Joyner Library, ECU