The Long and Winding Migration:

What We Learned at the
Ohio Historical Society

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Ohio Historical Society

OHIO
HISTORY

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Situation: 1998 - 2012

- Single integrated library system: Horizon from SirsiDynix
- Library, archives and museum records in MARC format
- <u>Very</u> limited referral and accessioning functionality
- <u>Very</u> limited image capability

New System July 2012: Cuadra STAR

- STAR system from Cuadra Associates, part of Lucidea Group
- Single system with separate modules for library, archives, museum
- Referral and accessioning functionality for archives and museums
- Image capability for museum and archives collections

OHIO HISTORY

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Online Collections Catalog

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Click here to learn more about the online collections catalog.

Taking a deduction without receipts? That will never fly!

LIBRARY AND NEWSPAPERS

This database includes the majority of our books, serials, pamphlets, maps and newspapers. To limit your search to only newspapers, please add "npdb" to your search terms. For example, a search for "Cleveland npdb" will return newspapers with "Cleveland" in their title.

view

MANUSCRIPTS, AUDIO/VISUAL, AND STATE ARCHIVES

This database includes large portions of our State Archives, manuscript, and photograph collections, as well as additional archival materials.

view

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

This database features over 140,000 records from our archaeology, history, and natural history collections. More than 20,000 records include images.

view

1. Booklet.

Date: 2003

Provenance: The Ohio Bicentennial Commission donated this booklet in 2005.

Location	Shelving	Call#	Status
OHS Museum	Historical Communication Artifacts	H 92241	Ask at desk

2. Quilt.

Date: 2003

Provenance: Sew What friendship group created this quilt to be used at the Grant Birthplace State Memorial. Brad Long received the quilt for the Ohio Historical Society at the Ohio Bicentennial celebrations at Point Pleasant, Ohio, on May 18, 2003.

Location	Shelving	Call#	Status
OHS Sites	Grant Birthplace Historical Artifacts	H 88570	Ask at desk

3. Quilt.

Date: 2003

Location	Shelving	Call#	Status
OHS Sites	Grant Birthplace Historical Artifacts	H 88569	Ask at desk

4. Quilt : Friendly Neighbors Club Quilt.

Date: 1936

Location	Shelving	Call#	Status
OHS Museum	Historical Furnishings	H 87595	Ask at desk

5. Quilt : Wall Hanging.

Date: 2003

Location	Shelving	Call#	Status
OHS Museum	Historical Communication Artifacts	H 87600	Ask at desk

Select: All, None

[View Selected]

☐ Quilt. Borkowski, Mary, 1916-. ([maker]) 1962, *H 6565*.
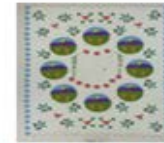
multiple files available
Full Record

☐ Hanging. Ide, Lois K. 1920-. (maker) 1993, *H 86240*.

multiple files available
Full Record

☐ Quilt. Patty, Betty K. (maker) 2003, *H 87600*.

multiple files available
Full Record

☐ Quilt. Goodrich, Irene Phyllis Surratt, 1927-. (maker); Wilhoit, Alice. (designer) 2001 - 2002, *H 92568*.

Full Record

☐ Quilt. 1999, *H 93624*.

Full Record

☐ Pin, Lapel. 2003, *H 96328*.

Full Record

☐ T-Shirt. Jerzees Activewear. (manufacturer) 2003, *H 96330*.

Full Record

Migration Logistics: Library

- Bibliographic records: MARC -> MARC
- About 120,000 MARC bib records
- Item records: embedded in MARC bib records
- About 160,000 item records
- Serials holdings data: SQL -> Excel -> Cuadra
- About 8,000 serials holdings records plus holdings

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Migration Logistics: Archives

- "Bibliographic" records: MARC -> Cuadra format
- About 21,000 MARC bib records
- Converted to Cuadra format by vendor
- From flat record structure to hierarchical structure

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Migration Logistics: Museum

- "Bibliographic" records first step: SQL -> Access
- First step done in-house
- Next step: Access -> Excel -> Cuadra format
- Second step finished by vendor
- About 140,000 MARC bib records: item and collection level records
- Museum images: tiff -> jpg
- About 27,000 images

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Major Takeaways

- Do thorough benchmarking
- Start talking to people early to get buy in
- Think about opportunities
- It's taking longer than I thought it would

Value of Thorough Benchmarking

- What are others institutions doing?

- Get many product demos

- Talk to colleagues at other institutions

- Time spent at this stage was extremely valuable

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Getting Buy-In Early

- Talk to staff/stakeholders early and often

- What do they want?

- What can a new system actually give them?

- Be as honest as possible

- You can't please everyone, but time heals all wounds

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Looking for Opportunities

- **I**s there anything you can do with your content or data while it's moving?

- We did a lot of cleanup: improving controlled terms, especially museum collections

- Materials, techniques:

  - cast iron; iron, cast; cotton; cotton (textile)

- Location codes:

  - AD0206: Adena, Floor 02, Room 06

  - AS118 Shelf08 Box45: Armstrong, Room 118, Shelf 08, Box 45

Migration Takes Time

- It's taking longer than I thought it would

- Especially true if your migration project has many elements

- Allow plenty of time for testing and trouble-shooting

- Sometimes we needed to understand what happened in Step 1 before moving to Step 2

- Next steps

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