THE CHALLENGE

Citizens in the 21st century have come to expect quick access to information and services through the World Wide Web. Governments must preserve and provide appropriate access to public information in electronic form. This information protects personal rights, ensures government transparency and accountability, and documents the history of people and institutions.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Providing long-term access to electronic information, while minimizing costs, is a serious challenge. Records must be kept in a secure environment to guarantee their integrity and authenticity. Changing technology, huge volumes of data, and risks associated with natural disasters threaten the existence of records. In the event of a disaster, it is imperative to be able to recover quickly, cost effectively, and as complete as possible.

Cost is a crucial concern. Long-term solutions for managing electronic records must be as inexpensive as possible. This will require collaboration with others to share tools, services, and infrastructure.

STATE PARTNERS

Alaska State Archives
Educational Partner

State of Colorado, Department of Personnel and Administration
www.coloradodigitalarchives.org

Idaho State Historical Society
www.idahodigitalarchives.org

Idaho Commission for Libraries
www.idahodigitalarchives.org

Indiana Commission on Public Records
www.indianadigitalarchives.org

Indiana State Library
www.indianadigitalarchives.org

Louisiana Secretary of State's Division of Archives, Records, Management and History
Educational Partner

Montana Historical Society Research Center
www.montanadigitalarchives.org

Nevada State Library and Archives
www.nevadadigitalarchives.or

State Library of North Carolina
www.northcarolinadigitalarchives.org

Oregon State Library
www.oregondigitalarchives.org

State of Tennessee, Department of State, Tennessee State Library &Archives
Educational Partner

Washington State Archives
www.digitalarchives.wa.gov

Washington State Library
www.digitalarchives.wa.gov

Sponsored by:
Library of Congress
www.digitalpreservation.gov

With additional support from:
Eastern Washington University and Microsoft

For more information visit:
www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/loc

PRESERVING AMERICA'S DIGITAL HERITAGE

Washington State Archives, Digital Archives

MULTI-STATE PRESERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

HOSTED BY:
THE WASHINGTON STATE ARCHIVES

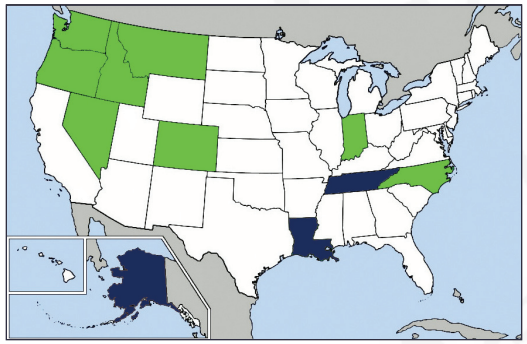
Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

PRESERVING AMERICA'S DIGITAL HERITAGE

MULTI-STATE PROJECT

Since 2004 the Washington State Archives, Digital Archives has worked to develop state-of-the-art digital archiving solutions. The Digital Archives currently provides easy access to over 26 million records and images from state and local government. Now the Digital Archives is using its advanced digital archives framework to create and host digital archives for nine partner states from across the nation. Working together, the partners are truly creating "the other national archives."

Since the beginning of the project, our partners have added over one million of their own records to their digital archives websites. These records are from nearly one hundred different record series and include searchable audio, electronic publications, census records, and naturalization records, just to name a few.



GREEN STATES: ACTIVE PARTNERS
BLUE STATES: EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

The project has been extended through 2010. This will allow us to include new partners and encourage current partners to participate with not only more records, but a broader assortment of record series.

WHY PRESERVE?

The preservation of public records is essential in order to conduct the day-to-day business of any public entity, and to leave a historical legacy for future generations. Documenting the people's business, and how that business was, and is, conducted is a necessary tool in any free society. The public record is used by people for business, historical, genealogical, and legal research.

By preserving records at the Digital Archives, our partners can be assured that their records are electronically preserved and publically accessible. Electronic preservation also helps to protect the often fragile originals from the repeated handling that would otherwise occur.

In addition, electronic preservation ensures that vital government functions can resume after a natural or man-made disaster. Off-site storage facilities and on-going disaster management strategies protect vital public records. If a disaster does occur, partners will be able to carry out day-to-day business and continue to provide uninterrupted access to the public.

WASHINGTON STATE ARCHIVES:
EASTERN REGION BRANCH

A NATIONAL PROGRAM

Digital PRESERVATION
National Digital Information Infrastructure & Preservation Program:
A Collaborative Initiative of the Library of Congress

This project is funded by the Library of Congress, National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) as part of its Preserving State Government Information initiative. This initiative focuses on capturing, preserving, and providing access to a rich variety of state and local government digital information.

NDIIPP's mission is to develop a national strategy to collect, archive, and preserve for future generations the burgeoning amount of digital content, especially materials that are created only in digital formats.

NDIIPP is working with a number of multi-state projects to preserve a variety of state and local government information with long-term value to Congress and others.

These projects focus on capturing, preserving, and making available significant digital content; building and strengthening a network of partners; and developing a technical infrastructure of tools and services. Each project will share these tools and services as well as standards and best practices to help every state manage its digital heritage.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

For more information about NDIIPP and the Preserving State Government Information initiative, visit www.digitalpreservation.gov/partners/states.html