ArcLight
Next-generation discovery and delivery for archives

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Stanford University Libraries
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https://library.stanford.edu/projects/arclight
Overview

- Project background
- Core features
- Integrations
- Why ArcLight?
Description and objectives

- Project initiated by Stanford Libraries ~5 years ago to address needs related to discovery/delivery of information in archives
- Support discovery of physical and digital collections
- Integrations between systems as a central priority
- Maintain a community focus throughout the project
Design and development process

- Design process led by 2 Stanford UX designers
- Followed a model for **user-centered design** developed and refined over time*
- Leveraged existing practices for community-based open source software development

Overview and timeline of work to date

Discovery

Phase 1
- Environmental scan
- Stakeholder goals
- Interview planning

Phase 2
- Archivist interviews
- End-user interviews
- Interview analysis

Information Architecture

Phase 1
- User needs
- User personas
- Requirements prioritization

Phase 2
- Conceptual models
- Conceptual sitemaps
- Wireframes

Development

Phase 1
- Minimum viable product
- Design mockups
- Design style guide

Phase 2
- Requirements prioritization
- Technical analysis
- Additional features

Timeline:
- Nov 2014 to Feb 2015
- May 2015 to Summer 2016
- Oct 2016 to Nov 2016
- Jan 2017 to Feb 2017
- Mar 2017 to Apr 2017
- Apr 2017 to Jun 2017
- Aug 2019 to Oct 2019

Feedback and Partners:
- Stanford, Michigan, Georgia Tech, Chemical Heritage Foundation, National Library of Medicine
- Feedback from Columbia, GRI, Indiana, NYU, Penn State, Rockefeller Archive Center, UAlbany, USHMM, Yale

Stanford, Michigan, Duke, Indiana, Princeton
Community process

- Intentional choice informed by Stanford’s participation in open source communities
- Allows other institutions to participate by identifying needs and providing feedback
- Build interest and identify potential contributors to software development
Contributors

Institutional contributors

- University at Albany
- Duke University
- Georgia Tech
- Indiana University
- LYRASIS
- National Library of Medicine
- University of Michigan
- Princeton University
- Rockefeller Archive Center
- Stanford University
Core features

- View archival description as trees and individual components
- Support for multiple repositories/departments
- Keyword and faceted search across and within collections
  - Contextual searching
  - Hit highlighting
  - Sorting results
- Accessibility: WCAG 2.0 AA conformance
- Customizable indexing of EAD, expandable to other data sources
- Request management integration (configurable; supports Aeon)
- Incorporates digital object presentation
  - Built-in support for oEmbed
  - PDF viewer sample code
  - Configurable/extensible

https://arclight-demo.projectblacklight.org
Archival Collections at Institution

Photograph Album

In person

Before you visit:
Special Collections and University Archives repositories are closed-offline and must be viewed 24 hours in advance.

Location at time of deposit:
Special Collections and University Archives

Collection Context:

- [Collection Details]
- [Online Content]

ABOUT THIS FILE

condiments  Box 1
Rosenberg Family Correspondence, 1938-2010, bulk 1938-1946

SUMMARY

CREATOR: Rosenberg, Alfred, Rosenberg, Alise, Rosenberg, Victor, Rosenberg, Eugen, Rosenberg, Julius, Rosenberg, Johanna, Rosenberg, Nathan, and Rosenberg, Emmy

ABSTRACT: The 105 letters in this collection document the experience of a German Jewish family in the years immediately before, during, and after World War II.
Integration

- Long desired by ArcLight community, originating in design phase
  - ArchivesSpace and other archives management systems
  - Repositories/digital object presentation
  - Request management systems
- Strategic and technical considerations
  - Address “siloing” of different kinds of digital content
  - Reusing digital viewers across contexts
- **ArcLight by design is “loosely coupled”;** tighter couplings make most sense in context of an institution’s implementation
Why ArcLight?

- Loose coupling
- Good for cases where you need to support multiple systems, or multiple instances of ArchivesSpace
- Builds on Blacklight in terms of both software and community
- Community of adopters
  - Live: University at Albany
  - In progress: Duke, Indiana, Michigan, Princeton, Stanford, Connecticut Archives Online, Empire Archival Discovery Cooperative
Thank you!

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For more information on ArcLight, visit https://library.stanford.edu/projects/arclight