

THE CHALLENGE

In the 21st century, 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.



Providing long-term access to electronic information is a serious challenge. Citizens expect quick access through the World Wide Web. 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.

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

Washington State Archives and Library
www.digitalarchives.wa.gov

Idaho State Archives and Library
www.digitalarchives.idaho.gov

Montana State Archives
www.montanadigitalarchives.com

Oregon State Archives and Library
www.digitalarchives.state.or.us

Alaska State Archives
www.alaskadigitalarchives.org

Colorado State Archives
www.coloradodigitalarchives.org

Louisiana State Archives
www.louisianadigitalarchives.org

Indiana State Archives
www.indianadigitalarchives.org

North Carolina State Library
www.northcarolinadigitalarchives.org

Nevada State Archives and Library
www.nevadadigitalarchives.org

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www.digitalpreservation.gov

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www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/loc

PRESERVING AMERICA'S DIGITAL HERITAGE



Washington State Digital Archives

MULTI-STATE PRESERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

MULTI-STATE PROJECT

Since opening in October 2004, the Washington State Digital Archives (WSDA) has worked to develop a state-of-the-art digital archiving solution. Currently, WSDA provides easy access to 74 million records and images. WSDA will use its advanced digital archives framework to implement a centralized regional repository for state and local digital records and information.



Outcomes will include establishment of a cost-effective interstate technological archiving system, as well as efforts to capture and make available larger amounts of at-risk digital information. Content will include vital records, land ownership and use documentation, court records and Web-based state and local government reports.

The project is working with both state archives and state libraries to preserve and provide access to electronic information.



New Orleans 2005

WHY PRESERVE?

Citizens depend on state and local government information. Hurricane Katrina tragically illustrated this dependency.

When Katrina topped the levees of New Orleans in 2005, thousands of people lost their homes, their livelihoods, and their identities. Birth certificates, marriage licenses and other vital records for rebuilding lives washed away in the flood, and local government was not able to quickly replace them.

The public expects government to preserve, protect and provide efficient citizen access to their legal and historical records and information.

A NATIONAL PROGRAM

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.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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.



NATIONAL DIGITAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

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.