Fun with Digital Commons

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Yearbooks, lots of them...
Moving to the book scanner...
We scan!

- Saving as .tiff files
- Editing for image quality as needed
- Then merging in Adobe Pro, running OCR...
We have a Konica Minolta unit. It’s essentially a camera on a stand with an articulated base.

- It will scan up to 600 dpi, b&w, greyscale or color, up to 18”x24”.

- It allows easy scanning of fragile books and other documents.
For another project I’ll use a flatbed...
A typical higher end flatbed

- An Epson, scans photos, slides, negatives and so forth at as high resolutions as one might want.
Diary

of

The Sidewalk Superintendents Club

Brockport Junior Chapter
Ages 8-10

By
The Pupils of the Fourth Grade
of the
Campus School

Brockport State Normal
Brockport, New York
1939
Once I have a digital file, I go to Digital Commons and log into my account.
Fill out the form...
And after a bit...
Batch Uploading

- Scan documents
- Upload to Google Docs
- Run automated workflow script (http://engagedscholarship.csuohio.edu/msl_facpub/105/)
- Add URLs and metadata to spreadsheet
- Upload spreadsheet
Create Banners

Crescendo! The Newsletter of the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus

Crescendo!, Spring 2014
Timeline JS

- Free and Open Source!
FlippingBook

- Fun to use
- Great for viewing large files
Plan ahead when building larger collections

Diagram:

- Drzewieniecki Collections
  - Zofia
  - CV
    - Family Photos
      - Polish YMCA
        - Selected Documents
      - YMCA Photos
      - YMCA Documents
    - Other Documents?
      - WWII 1940s
        - Military Decorations and medals
      - September Campaign
    - Family Photos?
      - Documents of special interest
    - WWII Photos
      - WWII Photos
        - Europe to Middle East
        - Poland/USSR to Middle East/Italy
        - UK/Western Europe
        - USSR to Germany
        - Polish Soldiers before WWII
        - In Poland
        - Memorials & Veterans
  - Walter
Contact local groups that may want to feature a link to your collection.

Create a Wikidata page for your collection.

Add links to your collection on relevant Wikipedia pages.
Why digitize and post one collection instead of another?

- Materials were previously digitized as part of another project.
- We already had permissions to publish materials.
- Groups who owned copyright to materials were easy to contact to obtain permissions.
Why digitize and post one collection instead of another?

- Same reasoning as prevails in a lot of archival work; collections that are likely to be of more interest, more significance, get picked first.

- Yearbooks for example were a simple pick.

- The Sidewalk Superintendents book is a special project of our library Friends group.
Digital Commons or...?

- Digital Commons isn’t the only game in town. ContentDM for example is widely used, a very sophisticated software.

- I have used both. ContentDM does allow higher control over vocabulary etc., a must in projects like NY Heritage where multiple contributors work must work together.

- Digital Commons for a stand alone gets the job done simply and effectively.