UNC Chapel Hill Libraries Laura Clark Brown, Coordinator of the Digital Southern Historical Collection Timothy Shearer, Head Application Development Team, Library Systems

Southern Historical Collection in The Wilson Special Collections Library:

16 million items in 4,600 archival collections Papers, letters, photographs, etc.

Extending the Reach of Southern Sources: Proceeding to Large-Scale Digitization of Manuscript Collections Mellon grant (2007-2009)

Year 1: Determine interest in digitization

- of manuscript materials • Year 2: Explore sustainable models for
- prioritization and workflow

Grant Outcomes

- Researchers see immense value in manuscript digitization (surprise surprise)
- Digitize everything, not selected items • At least at the container level
- "show me everything"
- Discovery via the finding aid
- Digitization priorities (matrix):
- Material condition
- Research value
- Convenience
- Etc.
- Also influencing priorities:
- Digitization on demand program
- Special digitization projects (grants)

Goals

II

- Create sustainable workflows to digitize manuscript materials
- Provide a robust and extensible system that supports discovery of and access to digitized items



Client JavaScript loads HTML and ____ / makes API call JavaScript

Client displays links to precoordinated search of collection



JavaScript builds links if appropriate

Figure 2

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

From Trickle to Flood: An Extensible Approach to Large-Scale Digitization of Manuscript Collections at

Collection Number: 05275-z Collection Title: Karen L. Parker Diary, Letter, and Clippings, 1963-1966 Some materials in this collection have been digitized. In the description below, look for links to the content or search (Control + F) for the word **digitized**. Or go <u>directly to all the digitized content</u> for this collectio

ge:	Object:				
in 3D	F	older 1: Dia	ry, 5 Novemb	er 1963-11	Augus
n 3D 📮	Folder 1: Diary, 5 November 1963-11 Aug				Augus
111. 			San Balan Magazar Magazar		

Constraints

- aids

Possibilities

Solution

- (figure 1)
- aid.

Growth

- \bullet
- 2010



Discovery via HTML versions of EAD finding

Minimal metadata for scanned items CONTENTdm as digital object repository Must support variable rates of ingest based on available resources Digitization and ingest must be accomplished by graduate students who

can work independently with minimal training

Should work transparently with little or no management or maintenance

• Very consistent metadata

 Tight workflow and policies from technical services staff

CONTENTdm is easy to use for ingest

Unique IDs for collections and containers

within collections

HTML finding aids and ingest packages built from XSL transforms of base file

Both contain unique identifiers

API created to query CONTENTdm

collections and return results

• JavaScript added to every HTML finding

• AJAX query for content and create links if appropriate (figure 2)

Began ingest in December 2009 Went live January 14, 2010 Contains ~110,000 objects as of October

200 collections currently represented • ~8,500 scans/month