AlabamaMosaic: How Does It Fit into the Museum Community?

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What Does “Distributed” Mean?
Some Numbers

- 261 distinct collections
- 34 contributing institutions
- 179,569 digital objects
- Usage for 2015-01-01 – 2015-12-31
  - 15,887 visits, 78,906 page views
  - 60% visits from Alabama
Technology

• AlabamaMosaic catalog uses the open-source VuFind software.
• Individual members can use any content management software that is OAI-PMH-capable.
• We create software tools to harvest members’ metadata from OAI feeds and create catalog records.
Adding New Collections

• Collection owner creates the collection (with our help, if desired).
• Collection owner notifies us the collection is ready to index.
• We harvest collection metadata from the OAI-PMH feed and index the collection.
• We add collection information to the AlabamaMosaic Web site.
Types of Materials Found in AlabamaMosaic

- Photographs
- Postcards
- Letters
- Diaries
- Oral histories
- Newspapers
- Yearbooks
- Scrapbooks
- Sheet music
- Maps
- College records
- Census records
- Church records
- Govt. records
- Funeral programs
- Photos of artifacts
VuFind Index: Search Results for Alabama River

- Alabama Department of Archives and History
- University of Alabama
- Auburn University Libraries
- University of South Alabama Archives, McCall Library
- Troy University Library

Collection
- Alabama Photographs and Pictures Collection
- Maps from the Treasury Room Collection
- Hugh Davis Papers
- Alabama Textual Materials Collection
- Eric Overmyer Collection

Author
- Alabama State Highway Dept., Surveying and Mapping Division
- Unknown
- Davis, William F.
- Atlanta (Ga.) Construction Dept.
- Pedest family

Topical
- Alabama Photographs and Pictures
- Historic Maps
- Alabama documents
- Mobile
- Alabama portraits

Publisher
- Alabama Department of Archives and History
- Electronic
- Troy University Library
- Selma, Alabama
Alabama River at Selma, Alabama.

Format: Electronic
Link: http://digital.archives.alabama.gov/cdm/ref/collection/photo/id/7649
Published: Alabama Department of Archives and History
Subjects: Alabama Photographs and Pictures
Eodies of water, Buildings, Rivers, Alabama River (Ala.), Selma (Ala.); Dallas County (Ala.)
Alabama River at Selma, Alabama.

View Description
The three Aces that will make the Piedmont famous: Kudzu, Alfalfa, and Sorghum!
STOP!
The CACKLING OF GESE SAVED ROME.
The CACKLING HENS WILL SAVE LAUDERDALE.

OUR MOTTO
'To MAKE THE BEST BETTER'
Why Create Digital Collections?

• Visibility

• Preservation
  – Physical objects
  – Intellectual content

• Monetization
  – Low res images online
  – High res images for fees
What Are Digital Collections?

- NOT online exhibits
- NOT digital exhibit catalogs (unless you want them to be)

Interpretation is your product—We don’t demand that you give it away for free.

- Digital Collections = Digital materials + descriptions + search terms
What Can I Put in My Museum’s Digital Collection?

- Photographs of “signature” 3-dimensional artifacts
- 2-dimensional artifacts: Photos, maps, posters, etc.
- Materials you produce
  - Research publications
  - Museum newsletters
  - Institutional scrapbooks
  - Museum Friends’ event photos
  - Anniversary/Event photos and materials
  - Oral history collections
But ...

• Who would we get to do the work?
• What would we have to do?
• How would we get started?

Talk to us—We want to help.
Thank you.