

BACKGROUND

Southern Oregon University (SOU) is a contemporary public liberal arts and sciences university devoted to providing opportunities for personal, intellectual, and professional growth through education and scholarship. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the digital library primarily contains SOU's rich collections of Federal, state, and county publications. The Library concentrated its efforts on two collections of regional materials pertaining to the Southern Oregon Bioregion and the First Nations/Tribal Collection.

In addition, SOU wanted to establish a Southern Oregon Digital Archives to make historical content available to local citizens. The Library needed to convert unique and/or significant regional documents both to preserve and, equally important, to make them more widely available. They envisioned the resulting archive as the logical and necessary extension of their existing library services.

"WE SELECTED ARCHIVALWARE BECAUSE IT WAS THE ONLY SYSTEM THAT ALLOWED US TO CREATE A DATABASE THAT COULD SEARCH THE FULL TEXT OF HUNDREDS OF DOCUMENTS, IN SECONDS."

-JIM RIBLE

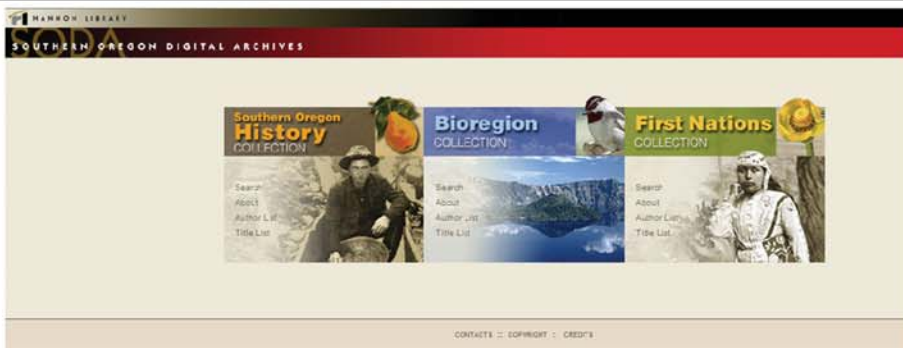
SYSTEMS LIBRARIAN, SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

BENEFITS

Immediate access to the University's collection of historical documents that previously were only available via paper, microfilm, or microfiche formats

Multiple search fields and full-text search capability across digitized documents

Enhanced access SOU's hard copy content



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SOLUTION

SOU digitized and converted the collection to make it searchable and accessible to students, university employees and the general public via the Southern Oregon University website. Each item was converted to electronic format and processed through a highly accurate voting OCR procedure. The resulting images were delivered in PDF format, which showed image format with hidden searchable text (keyed metadata). The images and accompanying metadata were then loaded and indexed into the PTFS enterprise content management system, ArchivalWare™. PTFS also provided hardware, software, training, and integration services to complete the project. The SOU collection, powered by ArchivalWare, is available to the public at: <http://soda.sou.edu>.

