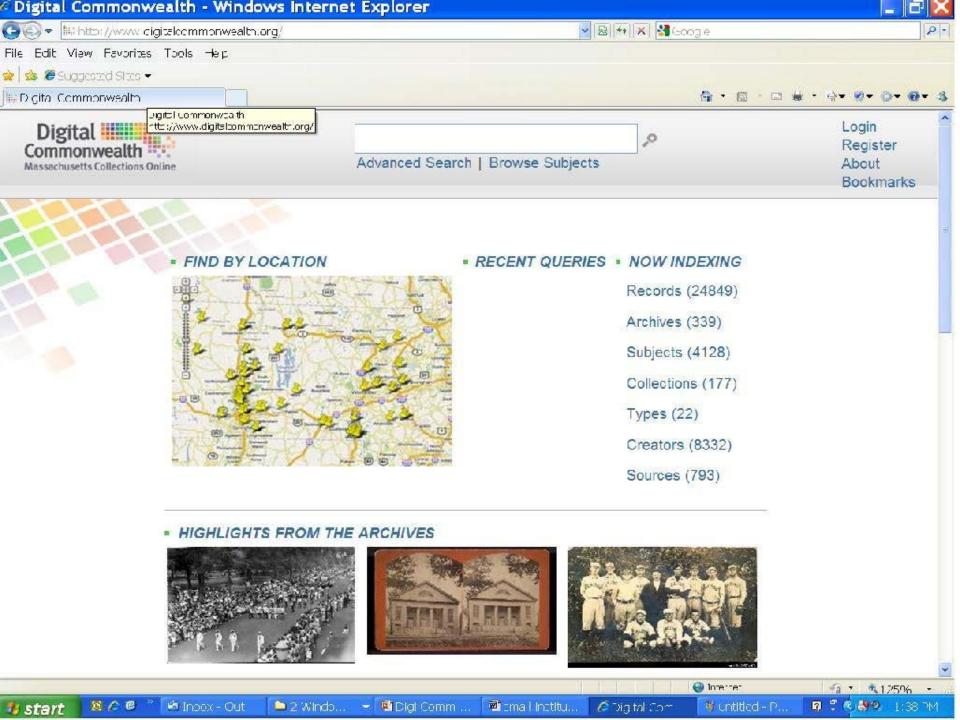
# Digital Commonwealth

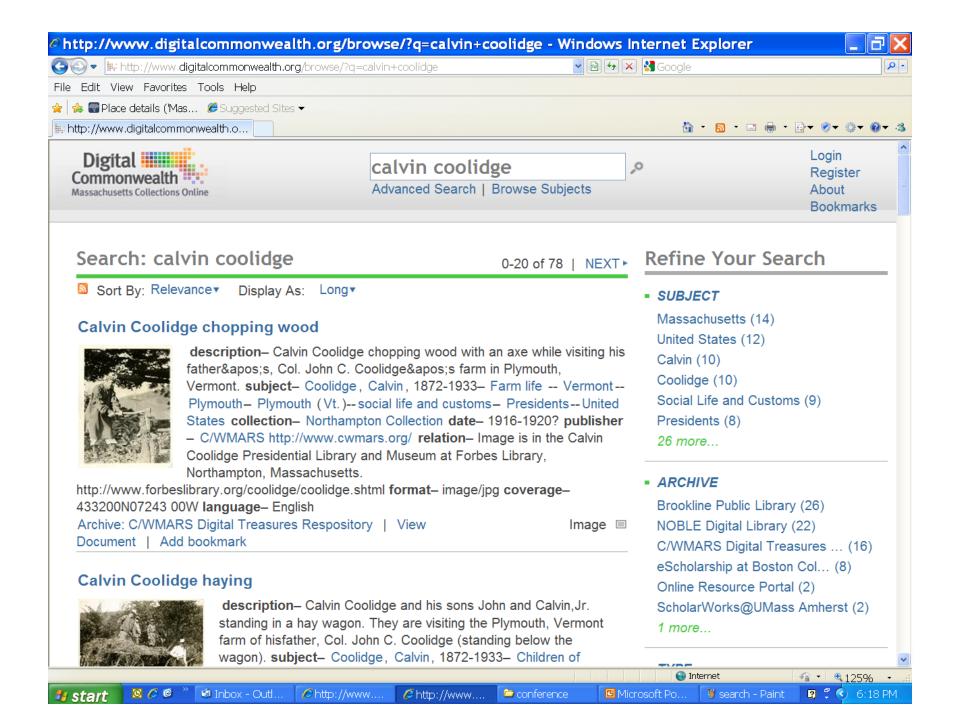


# What is Digital Commonwealth?

 A web portal allowing researchers a single entry into the rich world of Massachusetts' digital collections.







# What does DigiCom do?

- Promotes creation of digital library resources by Massachusetts institutions.
- Makes existing digital content more accessible by allowing researchers to search across collections.
- Provides support, guidance, and information resources for members for the creation of digital collections.



#### How it works

- DigiComm gathers records from member website's that are OAI compliant with Dublin Core metadata
- Individual institutions and shared repositories are harvested
- Small institutions may use DigiComm's DSpace repository provided through Lyrasis



#### **Features**

- User-friendly portal
- Search all repositories simultaneously
- View by category: archive, subject, format, creator, source, publisher
- Bookmarking for registered users



#### Benefits for Your Patrons

- Search across collections from many
  Massachusetts cultural organizations with
  a single query (One-stop shopping)
- Focus on the search rather than location of material to find objects from members' collections
- Discover institutions and/or collections previously unknown or overlooked



#### Benefits for Your Institution

- Reach a wider audience than might be possible through an individual web presence
- Opportunity to obtain consistent, reliable, and standardized information on best practices and standards for digitizing
- Increased cooperation and collaboration among institutions by increasing their awareness of each other's collections
- Possibility for "value-added" features online exhibits, lesson plans, etc., using collection items from a variety of institutions without the need for handling original items

#### Wilson Grants

- May, 2008 the Digital Commonwealth received a \$10,000 grant from the H.W. Wilson Foundation
- The purpose is to re-grant it to small organizations to assist them with getting starting in contributing digital materials to the Digital Commonwealth



#### Wilson Grants

- Organizations may apply for \$250-\$1000 to fund digitizing and/or repository services to add materials to the Digital Commonwealth
- Digitizing is to be contracted through a vendor, collaborative project or Regional Library System or library network project
- For existing scans not OAI harvestable, grants may be used to get started with the Digital Commonwealth's repository through Lyrasis
- Grants have a 3:1 cash match with only 1 part from the library



- Public Libraries
- Must be certified by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners
- Town population of under 10,000



- School Libraries
- Town population of under 10,000
- May apply as an individual school or as a district
- School population of under 500 or district population of under 1000



- Historical Societies
- If no paid staff
  - established board of directors
  - designated volunteer(s) to serve as project manager(s)
- Open to the public regularly scheduled hours (year-round or seasonal)
- Town population of under 10,000



- Academic Libraries
- Public or private college or university
- Serve a student population of under 5,000



- Special Libraries
- Non-profit status including municipal or state agencies, hospitals, museums, law libraries, historical or educational organizations.
- Open to the public regularly scheduled hours



#### FY2011 Grants

- Applications are due May 31
- Decisions will be made at the June Digital Commonwealth Executive Committee meeting with institutions being notified by June 30, 2010
- Projects may begin on July 1, 2010 and must be completed by June 30, 2011



# Application

- State the nature and mission of the institution.
- Describe the collection that is to be digitized. Include collection size, scope, format, current condition and historical significance. Also include how the collection is currently organized, arranged and described.



## **Application**

- Who are the current users of this collection? Who is the target audience of the digitized project?
- What are the plan of work and timetable for the project? Include how, where and when the digitizing will take place.



### 2009 recipients

- Buckland Public Library & Buckland Historical Society (\$250)
- Erving Public Library (\$500)
- Governor's Academy (\$1000)
- Topsfield Historical Society (\$1000)



# Digital Commonwealth Executive Committee

- Julie Bartlett, Forbes Library, Northampton
- Marilyn Billings, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, *ex-officio*
- Kristi Chadwick, C/W Mars, Secretary
- Michael Colford, Boston Regional Library System
- Robin Dale, LYRASIS, ex-officio
- Linda Friel, MSLA liaison, *exofficio*
- Vivien Goldman, Brookline Public Library Trustee, *Past President* (2007-2008)
- Nancy Heywood, Massachusetts History Society, *President*

- Jim Keenan, Billerica Public Library
- Carolyn Noah, CMRLS, Past President (2006-2007 and 2008-2009)
- Greg Pronevitz, NMRLS, exofficio
- Alix Quan, Massachusetts State Library
- Kristin Slater, SAILS, Inc.
- Bill Talentino, Sudbury Public Library
- Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, *ex-officio*



#### Visit us! Join us!

#### www.digitalcommonwealth.org

#### Questions?

For general questions:

Julie Bartlett, jbartlett@forbeslibrary.org or 413-587-1014

For C/W Mars' Digital Treasures:

Kristi Chadwick, kchadwick@cwmars.org or 508-755-3323 x22

For Digital Commonwealth's repository through Lyrasis:

Robin Dale, robin.dale@lyrasis.org or 404-892-0943 ext. 4816

