

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Digital Humanities

INFORMATION ONLY

DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Kathleen Woodward will provide a brief overview of how new computing technologies and new communication media are transforming research and scholarship in the humanities and will offer examples of work done at the University of Washington. Two people from the University of Washington who are deeply involved in the digital humanities – **Raymond Jonas**, Professor of History, and **Jentery Sayers**, doctoral candidate in English – will also be at the meeting to answer questions from the Regents.

Woodward, Professor of English at the University of Washington, has been director of the Simpson Center for the Humanities since 2000. In 2005 she announced an initiative on the digital humanities which has supported visiting speakers, special workshops, a task force, faculty research, and graduate and undergraduate courses, and culminated in 2009 with a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Challenge Grant of \$625,000 to endow the UW Digital Humanities Commons. Requiring a \$1,875 million match from new resources to the University of Washington, the Digital Humanities Commons, when fully funded, will be an annual summer think-make tank for collaborative, interdisciplinary projects of UW faculty, graduate students, and staff. As then NEH Chairman Bruce Cole said in making the award, “The Simpson Center will serve as a national model for the transformation of traditional humanities centers in the digital age.”

The author of *Statistical Panic* (2009), Woodward is the editor of *The Myths of Information: Technology and Postindustrial Culture* and the coeditor of *The Technological Imagination: Theories and Fictions*. In addition to grants from NEH, Woodward has been project director on grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Paul K. Allen Family Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation and has participated in many recent digital humanities projects undertaken by the Mellon Foundation. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the international consortium HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory) and was president of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes

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(CHCI) from 1995-2001. Woodward's first appointment as a tenure-track faculty member was at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in conjunction with the NEH-funded Program in Cultural and Technological Studies, an innovative undergraduate curriculum supported by the School of Engineering and the College of Arts & Sciences. Woodward holds a B.A. in Economics from Smith College and a Ph.D. in Literature from the University of California at San Diego.

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Raymond Jonas



I grew up in Silicon Valley. My best friends in high school in the seventies were techies whose idea of fun was building computers from components – something I still do and still enjoy. Since then, my interests in scholarship and technology have never strayed far from one another. Part of my training as a graduate student involved querying tape-mounted nineteenth century demographic data via punch cards. A program I wrote as a graduate student at Berkeley to maintain my teaching and research bibliographies “PBR – Personal Bibliographic Reference” was picked up by the University of Washington in 1985 and marketed – with manual and 5.25” floppy – as part of an effort to generate revenue from faculty-written software.

At the risk of sounding like a scaled-down version of Al Gore, I am proud to claim credit for the creation, in 1991, of the listserv now known as H-France. Today, H-France is *the* forum and information clearing house for thousands of scholars working on francophone studies worldwide.

Visualization – increasing information bandwidth through images – has been a core theme in my scholarship. In my first book *Industry and Politics in Rural France, 1870-1914* (Cornell UP, 1995) I used graphical (AutoCAD) and mathematical software (123, QuickSurf) to map complex demographic data as isopleths. In effect, I invoked the analogy of contours in the landscape to show demographic change as ‘peaks’ and ‘valleys’ that the lay reader could easily interpret.

France and the Cult of the Sacred Heart: An Epic Tale for Modern Times (California UP, 2000) concerned the political culture of counter-revolution in France after 1789, especially as it related to Catholic rituals and monuments. I used pilgrimage records and GIS to map the geography of pilgrimage over space and time and to show that pilgrimage – stimulated by special train fares, group hotel rates, and hosted package tours – pioneered some of the recognizably modern forms of organized leisure.

My current research concerns Ethiopia – the only African country to fend off colonization during the Scramble for Africa. *The Color of Africa: Black and White at the*

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Battle of Adwa (Harvard UP, forthcoming) is the story of Africans seeing to their own freedom. I have secured the domain name BattleOfAdwa.org and, over the coming months, I will flesh out my vision of the digital monograph by posting animations, voiceover, interview footage, location shots. This “short-form digital content” will extend the concept of the scholarly monograph at the same time that it validates alternative forms of scholarly production in the humanities.

Going forward, I believe that the great challenges facing the digital humanities concern visualization, collaboration, and venue. How can visualization enhance the richness and accessibility of knowledge? How can collaboration – the sharing of scholarly and technical tasks – facilitate that process? How can we develop new venues and new audiences for the humanities and how can we maintain the highest scholarly standards as we do so?

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Jentery Sayers is a PhD Candidate in English at the University of Washington, Seattle, and a Project for Interdisciplinary Pedagogy Fellow in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington, Bothell. Supported by a Simpson Center Fellowship in 2009-2010, Sayer's dissertation is a cultural history of magnetic recording from 1860 to the present.

Sayers was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellowship on "Broadening the Digital Humanities" at the University of Southern California to digitally compose his dissertation as a form of multimodal, web-based scholarship. He has published his work in the electronic journal *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy* as well as in the collection of essays *Writing and the Digital Generation: Essays on New Media Rhetoric*

(2010).

At the University of Washington, he has taught technology-focused courses in English composition, literary criticism, cultural studies, media studies, and the comparative history of ideas. He received the 2010 K. Patricia Cross Future Leader Award from the Association of American Colleges & Universities, the 2010 Undergraduate Research Mentor Award from UW's Undergraduate Academic Affairs at the UW, and the 2008 *Kairos* & Bedford St. Martin's Press Graduate Student & Adjunct Faculty National Teaching Award for computers and composition.

He is currently co-organizing The Humanities and Technology Camp Pacific Northwest, which will occur at the UW in late October. He also serves on the steering committee for the University of Victoria's Digital Humanities Summer Institute, the steering committee for the national consortium Humanities, Arts, Sciences, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC), and the editorial board for *Kairos*.

Email: jentery@uw.edu

Digital Humanities at the University of Washington

Kathleen Woodward

Director, Simpson Center for the Humanities
Professor, English

Pioneer Projects

- **Early Buddhist Manuscript Project**

Richard Salomon (Asian Languages & Literature)

- **Digital Egypt**

Scott Noegel (Near East Languages & Civilization)

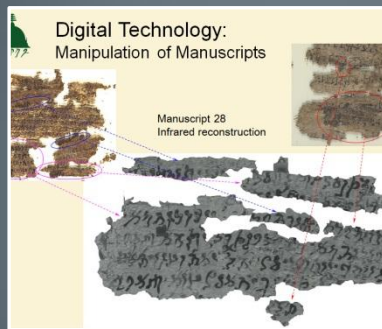
- **Electronic *Piers Plowman***

Mícheál Vaughan (English) & Terry Brooks (iSchool)

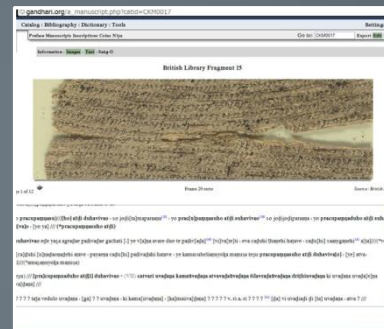
Early Buddhist Manuscript Project

Richard Salomon (Asian Languages & Literature)

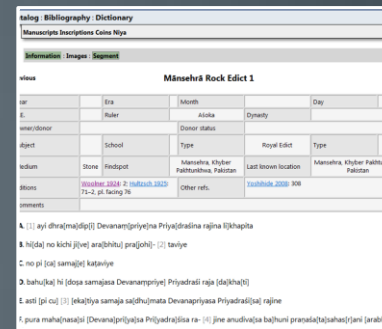
Infrared Reconstruction



Text & Image



Database



Dictionary



Digital Egypt

Scott Noegel (Near Eastern Languages & Civilization)

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UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Home : Favov

Digital Collections

Special Collections : All Collections

Ancient Near East Photographs

This collection, created by Professor Scott Noegel, documents artifacts and archaeological sites of the ancient Near East. While the majority of the collection depicts structures and sites dating from 3000 BCE to 200 CE, the collection also has images of more recent sites, such as the al-Azhar Mosque and the modern creation, Lake Nasser. Currently, all images are of Egypt and Israel, although plans exist to eventually add images from Anatolia, Syria, Iraq, and Iran.

About the Database

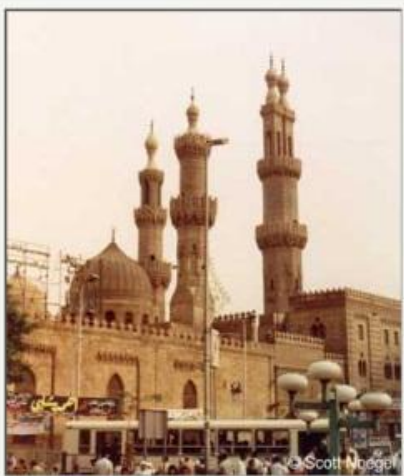
The images were collected over a ten year period by University of Washington scholars, and the images included in this database were chosen to facilitate research and to supplement general reading in a variety of disciplines. The richness of this image collection can be seen in the diversity of the topics represented by the images within. In addition to topic-specific images, one can find pictorial data to supplement to the study of pharaonic history, daily life in ancient times, ancient art, architectural features, and the history of religions (Egyptian, Canaanite, Israelite, Judaism, Coptic Christianity, Early Islam, etc.).

Images were scanned at 300dpi using an Umax Astra 2000 scanner and saved at 72dpi as jpg files. Alterations were made with Adobe Photoshop.


The images in this collection are owned by Professor Scott Noegel. For permission to use these images you must send an inquiry to Dr. Scott Noegel at [snoegel\[at\]u\[dot\]washington\[dot\]edu](mailto:snoegel[at]u[dot]washington[dot]edu).

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^ top of page ^

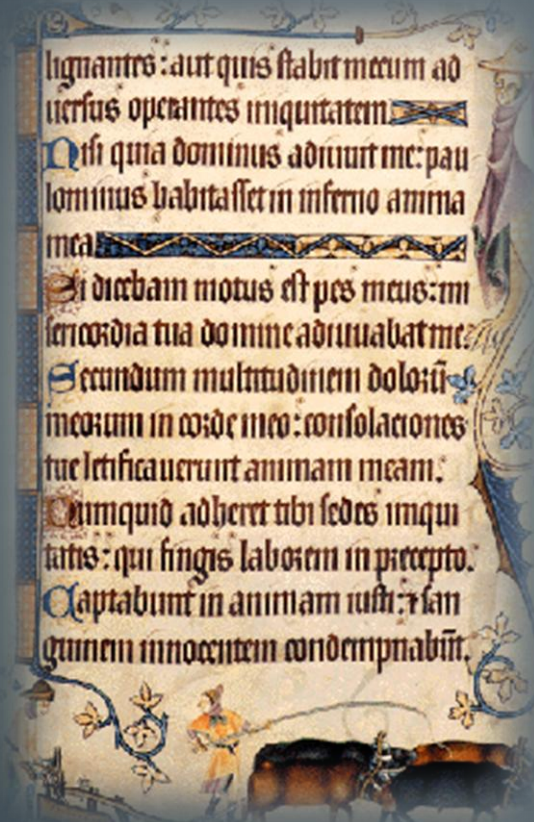


Al-Azhar Mosque



Electronic *Piers Plowman*

Míceál Vaughan (English) & Terry Brooks (iSchool)

A screenshot of the Piers Plowman (3.1) software interface. The window title is "Piers Plowman (3.1)". The menu bar includes "Poem", "Select stylesheet", "Create HTML", "Special chars", "Process HTML", and "Help". The main area is divided into two panes. The left pane shows a table of text analysis with columns for various linguistic features. The right pane shows a list of lines with their corresponding text. The text is color-coded to match the table. The interface also includes buttons for "Edit Next Line", "Edit Previous Line", "Patent", and "Add footnote".

	null	Xmt	null	null	no	no
Sessith	cease	null	true	cease		
Sessyth	cease	Sess <small>small</small> THORN	false			
now	null	null	true	null	no	no
	null	Xmt	null	null	no	no
"	null	Xmt	null	null	yes	no
seyde	null	null	true	said	yes	
seyde	null	null	false	said	yes	
the	null	smallTHORNe	null	null		
king	null	null	null	null	no	no
"	null	null	null	yes	no	
"	null	Xmt	null	null	no	no
I	null	null	null	null	yes	no
suffre	put up with	null	null	suffr		
ow	null	null	true	you	yes	no

1 Pessus quartus de visione .
2 " Sessith Sessyth now , " seide seyde the king , " I suffre you no no lengere .
3 Ye shuln schul saughten sawtyn , for sothe , and serve me bothe .
4 Kisse Cus hire hure , " queth quod the king , " Consience Conciens , I hote , "
5 " Nay , be by Crist God , " queth quod Consience Conciens , " cunqe conqe me rathere ;
6 But Resoun rede me ther to ther-bille , arst wole wil I deiqhe deye . "
7 " And I comounde commaunde the , " queth quod the king Xmt to Consience Conciens thanne .
8 " Rape Rap the to riden ryden , and Resoun that thou thu fecche .
9 Comaunde Commaunde hym that he come , my counseil counseyle to here .
10 For he shal schal rewelwe rewle my reasume rewme , and rede me the beste

Vaughan

1 The King orders both of them to stop arguing: the 'YOGHou' is more likely a plural than a polite singular pronoun addressed to Consience, a point reinforced by 'bothe' at the end of the second line. (He addressed Consience as 'thou' earlier [108-9].) While the King thought Meed was winning the argument (216-17), his reaction here suggests that he is unpersuaded by Consience's counterargument about the two kinds of reward and the equation of Lady Meed only with the negative version. The kiss of reconciliation (equivalent to the modern deal-sealing handshake) ordered by the King is rejected by Consience. The King is made to appear somewhat weak by what follows.

```
<unit value="sonne" glossterm="sun"  
midEngSpelling="null"  
oldReading="true" modernSpelling="sun"  
space="no" special="no" />
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Larger Publics

- **The September (11th) Project**
David Silver (formerly Communication)
- **Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History**
James Gregory (History)
- **Great Depression in Washington State**
James Gregory (History)

The September (11th) Project

David Silver

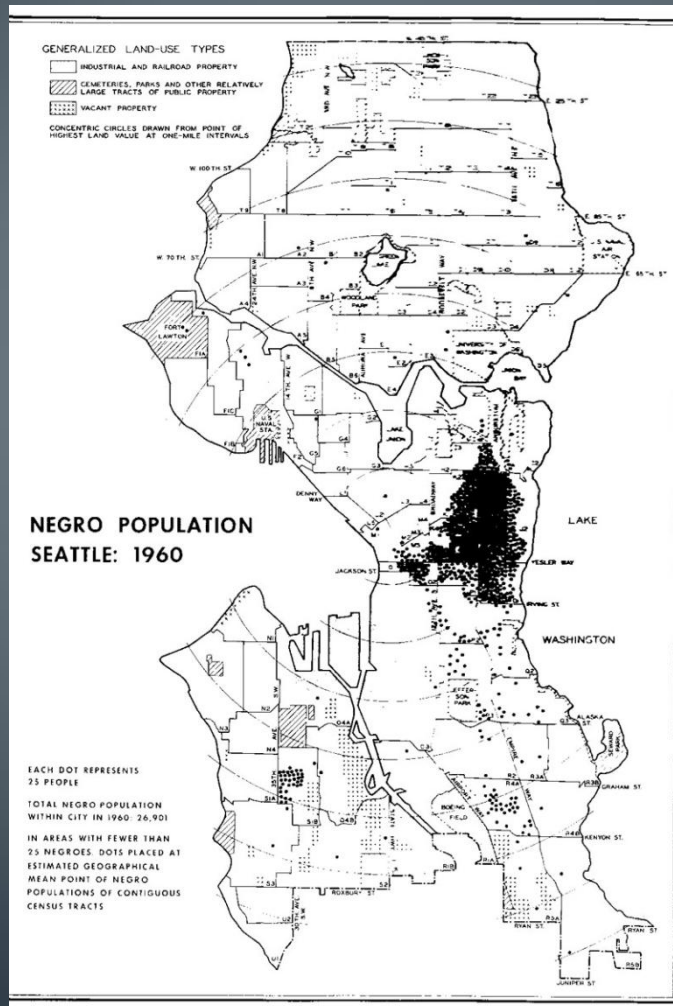


Connecting the World
One Library at a Time



Seattle Civil Rights & Labor History

James Gregory (History)



The Great Depression in Washington State

James Gregory (History)



- Home
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- Browse Content

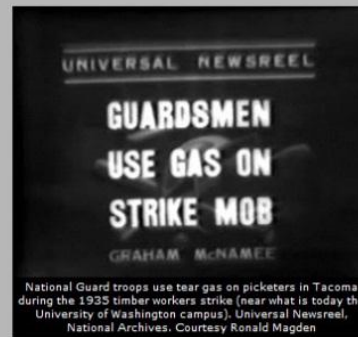
Photographs & Films

Here are collections of photographs, newsreels, and films depicting important aspects of the Great Depression in Washington State. Click on an image below to be taken to a special thematic album.



[Dorothea Lange's Yakima Valley Collection](#)

The Farm Security Administration commissioned Dorothea Lange to chronicle central Washington's Yakima Valley migrant and agricultural laborers in 1939. View Lange's images, culled from the Library of Congress photograph archives.



[Films and Newsreel footage](#)

Here are two newsreel clips from Tacoma and Seattle and a short film about the 1934 Longshoreman's strike. Courtesy Ronald Magden.

Computational Humanities & Data-Mining

- Indus Script

Rajesh Rao (Computer Science & Engineering)

- Google Books

Peter Leonard (Doctoral Student, Scandinavian Studies)

Deciphering the 4500-year-old Indus Script

Rajesh Rao (Computer Science & Engineering)

AI REDUX

Probabilistic Analysis of an Ancient Undeciphered Script


Rajesh P.N. Rao, *University of Washington*

Probabilistic methods for analyzing sequences are providing new insights into the 4,000-year-old undeciphered script of the Indus civilization.

In the latter half of the 19th century, railway workers in British India found an almost inexhaustible supply of precisely cut baked bricks at Harappa, a small town located in present-day

Indus cities, as in other Bronze Age civilizations. No extravagant royal palaces, pyramids, or ziggurats have been found. What archaeologists have unearthed in large numbers are tiny seals like those shown in Figure

representing either a word or a syllable. What the Indus signs actually mean remains a mystery, although the number of books claiming to have deciphered the script could occupy



Expanding the Book Beyond Print: Multi-Modal Tracks

- Ray Jonas (History)
- Jentery Sayers (English)

Ray Jonas

The Color of Africa: Black & White at the Battle of Adwa

Harar



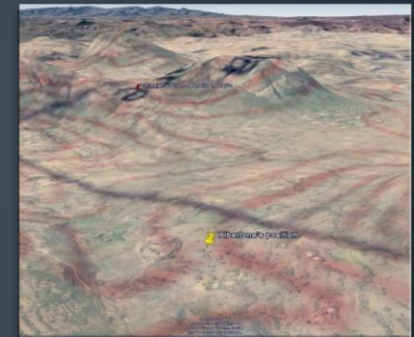
Menelik March



Menelik



Adwa




Jentery Sayers

Sound Reproduction Technologies & 20th-Century Literature

How Text Lost Its Source
Jentery Sayers, Author
Live

Sign in or Register
for additional privileges

Read Here, Stored There



The following pages are about untrustworthy texts. Not fabricated tales, unreliable narratives, or forged documents, but fleeting and ephemeral inscriptions. They are untrustworthy because they are fickle. Immaterial, even. They disappear. They are easy to lose, misplace, or modify. Unlike their predecessors, they are always in two places at once—read here and stored there. They are no doubt duplicitous. And yet they garner unquestioned authority. Precisely because they are so difficult to pin down, people carry strange faith in them.

Consider an example.

How Text Lost Its Source
Jentery Sayers, Author
Live

Sign in or Register
for additional privileges

Previous on path Path Overview, page 2 of 14 in path Next on path

Arthur B. Reeve's Science Fiction Detective Tales

Reeve in Cosmo

The Wireless Wire-tappers

Reeve on the Radio

1 annotation

1 of 2

During magnetic recording's early history, the physical distance between the telegraphone and its potential commercial base is generally overlooked in histories of technologies and media. When compared with post-World War II climates, when tape recorders became increasingly prevalent in U.S. homes and businesses, at the beginning of the 20th century the telegraphone was never a tangible object for popular use or artistic experimentation. That said, it did manage to float from under the industrial tents of R&D, if only in a more conceptual manner.

The *Telegraphone Path* explores some of these conceptualizations through readings of Arthur B. Reeve's science fiction detective tales, published in pulp magazines (such as *Cosmopolitan*) throughout the 1910s and '20s. Although the telegraphone plays a somewhat minor role in Reeve's work, its appearances are undoubtedly curious, educating its readers about magnetic storage without referencing much (if any) of the technical details. Reeve's fiction also marks a point when the detective genre was morphing alongside the introduction of new storage technologies, with the objectivity of forensic science and technical expertise lending support to the traditional detective's otherwise subjective intuitions. For instance, one of his best-known and best-selling series—about the detective, Professor Craig Kennedy—relies heavily on the incorporation of what were then bleeding edge technologies (such as the telegraphone) into narratives, where they are pivotal to inconspicuously capturing evidence and documenting presumably private activities.

Kenneth van Dover (1994) writes: "[R]eaders of the Kennedy series had the sense of painlessly acquiring current information about developments in science and technology. Reeve was careful in his research; Kennedy's machines (physical and intellectual) were often of quite recent design, and Kennedy's exposition of their mechanisms and their powers was accurate" (162). The irony is that not many people (including those at the American Telephone Company) really knew what the powers of telegraphone were. That is, even if it disseminated hot-off-the-press information about new technologies, the Kennedy series was not short on

Jentery Sayers


Teaching & Learning

the context the argument tech specs example materials credits search

the virtual university geoblogging project

Interactive Map of the Archive (Zoom In/Out, Move Around) calendar

Kane Bikes Map Satellite Hybrid



Captured by Curtis on April 26, 2007

August 2010

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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THATCAMP PNW


The Humanities and Technology Camp


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Have questions about THATCamp PNW? Email the organizers at THATCampPNW@gmail.com.


THATCamp on Twitter


 briancoxall: It also appears that the new avatar also resists embiggening on the #thatcamp website. Score! *25 minutes ago*

 thatcamp: THATCamp Canberra is the first BootCamp ever. Their line-up: Data Viz, APIs, Mapping, Text Encoding: <http://thatcampcanberra.org/boot> *2 hours ago*

 thatcamp: There have been 11 THATCamps so far, and there are 20 being planned. So that makes 31 total THATCamps in 2-3 years. Wow. *2 hours ago*

October 23rd & 24th, 2010 @ the University of Washington, Seattle

 23 Aug 10 @ Jentery Sayers

 23 Aug 10 @ Jentery Sayers

BootCamp Sessions Our Participants

Thank You to Microsoft Research Johanna Drucker Visits the UW