

## Creating Communities Digitizing Denver's Historic Neighborhoods

Through Creating Communities, the Denver Public Library and its partners have designed a three-year, six-phase pilot project. Information on Denver neighborhoods from official records of the City and County of Denver and a wide variety of partner institutions will be digitized and brought together in a digital archive. This project will bring together items in virtual space, which are physically located in institutions spread across the Front Range of Colorado. Creating the unique partnership of the public library, municipal government, educational institutions and the Colorado Historical Society, this project will demonstrate how these groups can create a rich historical information database, easily accessible to the community without regard to the physical location of either the data or the user.



To create a Denver Public Library and City and County of Denver partnership as a model for how a public library can work with its local government to digitize and make historic documents of the government accessible to City personnel and the general public.

To create partnerships with a variety of educational and community organizations as a model for bringing heterogeneous information about neighborhoods together in one easily accessible digital archive.

To create a model that allows for the end user to access digital information from diverse sources.

To create a records management model that allows for future integration of digitized and "born digital" records including print, audio and visual files.

To use Web 2.0 technologies and tools to move the project from a static exhibit website to a dynamic and growing online community. We will use the archival and government materials of the past to engage patrons, as well as encourage them to share their stories and experiences in their own neighborhoods.

Project implementation

Digitization of City of Denver primary source documents and creation of the digital database

Development of project surveys and training

Creation and implementation of the model that will connect related materials in one easily accessible digital archive

Development of ongoing partnerships with community organizations

Creation and implementation of the records management model that will allow integration of "born digital" materials in the future and evaluation, reporting and dissemination of project outcomes to the professional community







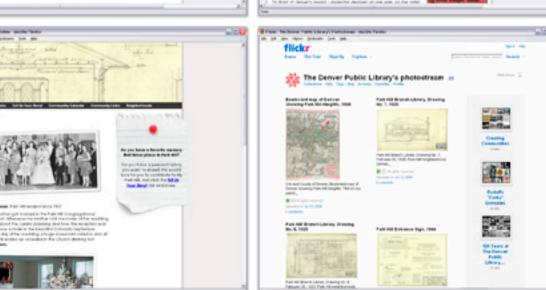


Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library City and County of Denver, Clerk & Recorder Colorado Historical Society Denver Public Library, Western History & Genealogy University of Colorado at Denver Auraria Library University of Denver Penrose Library

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User uploads and sharing: provides an opportunity for the user to upload stories and photographs about their neighborhoods. A Community Events calendar will allow users to post events as well.

Flickr: provides users the ability to view the Denver Public Library's photostream for more information about the collections in the Creating Communities project.

Twitter: provides updates for followers of the Creating Communities Website as changes and material additions occur.

Mashups: provides users the ability to view data combination and functionality in new ways. For instance combining cartographic data with tax or real estate data. Facebook: provides users the ability to become fans of the Creating Communities project as well as provide comments and feedback as well as potential content.

Mobile content: provides the user with the ability to view the Creating Communities website in a mobile edition format on mobile devices such as the iPhone.





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