No IR? No Problem: The Resourceful Librarian's Guide to Archiving Digitized Government Publications with the Internet Archive

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Introduction

This poser illustrates our practice and process of using the Internet Archive (IA) as a repository for digitized government publications. It shows how libraries without an institutional repository, or those that have an IR but lack support for uploading depository content, can still participate in digitization and preservation programs. By doing so, the library can highlight the value of its depository collection.

Problem: Is This You?

• No money

• No staff

• No institutional repository

• You have an IR but lack support for putting government publications on it.

• You have to weed but want to retain at least a digital copy--if only you had someplace to put the digital file.

• You need a small proof-of-concept to demonstrate the potential value of and interest in your collection.

Solution: Internet Archive

• Free

• High SEO - contents discoverable via Google

• Automatically OCRs text uploads

• Unrestricted views and downloads in various accessible formats.

• Committed to Open Access (no snippet views or fees)

• Safe and stable - established in 1996

• High profile supporters:

The Process

1.

Sign up for an account
www.archive.org/signup

2. Upload

Robust metadata is crucial to making your items findable. Data entry is not always intuitive. Use these tips to move from a catalog or Worldcat record to Internet Archive entry to display on IA.

Screenshot: WorldCat Bib. Record

Screenshot: Data Entry on Internet Archive
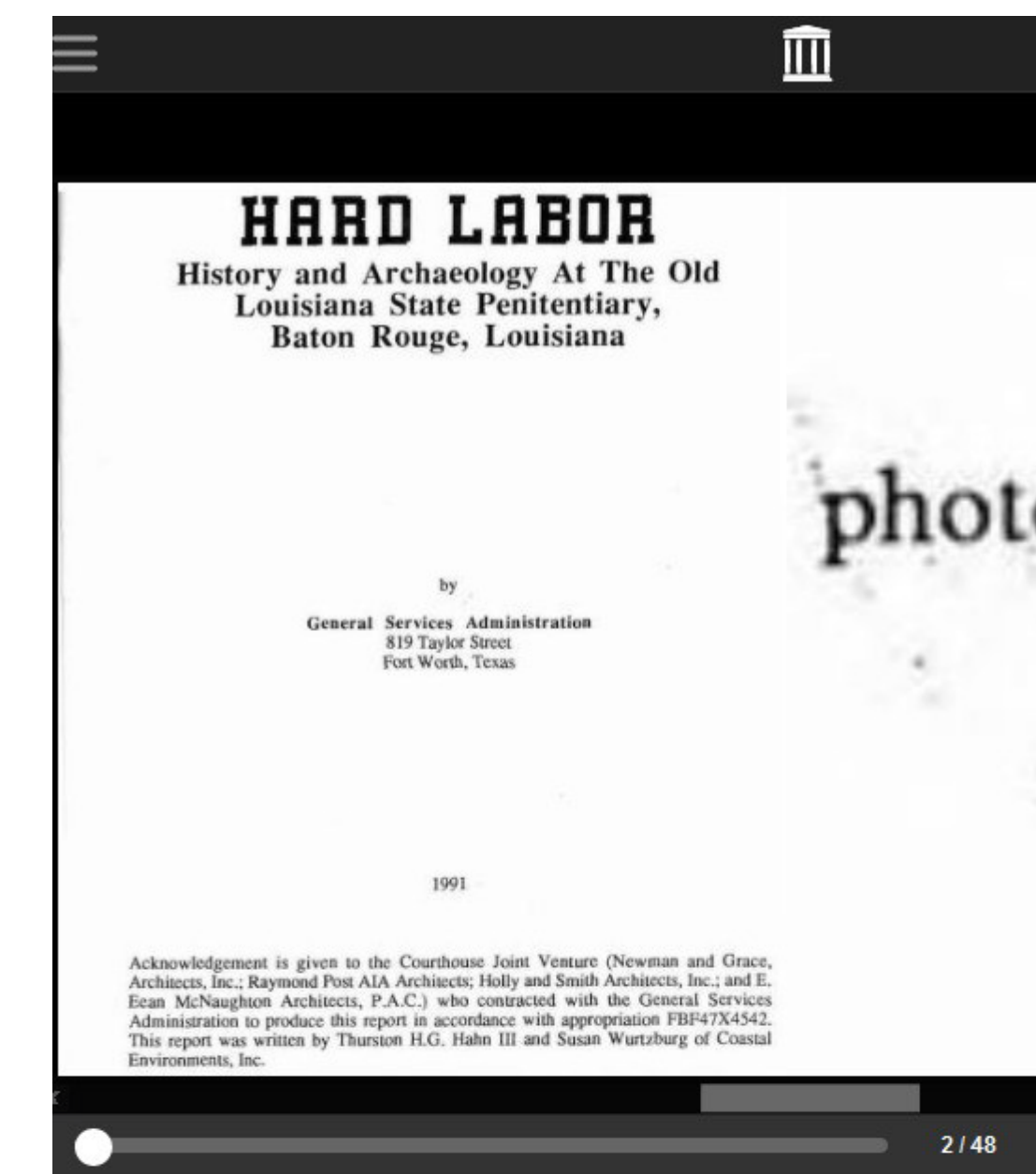
Hard Labor:history and archaeology at the Old Louisiana State Penitentiary, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
by United States. General Services Administration.

Publication date 1991
Usage Public Domain Mark 1.0
Topics Archaeology and history -- Louisiana -- Baton Rouge, Convict labor -- Louisiana -- Baton Rouge -- History. Prison administration -- Louisiana -- Baton Rouge -- History. Prisoners -- Louisiana -- Baton Rouge -- History. Government publications -- United States. Government publications. Archaeology and history. Convict labor. Prison administration. Prisoners.
Publisher Fort Worth, Tex : General Services Administration
Collection opensource
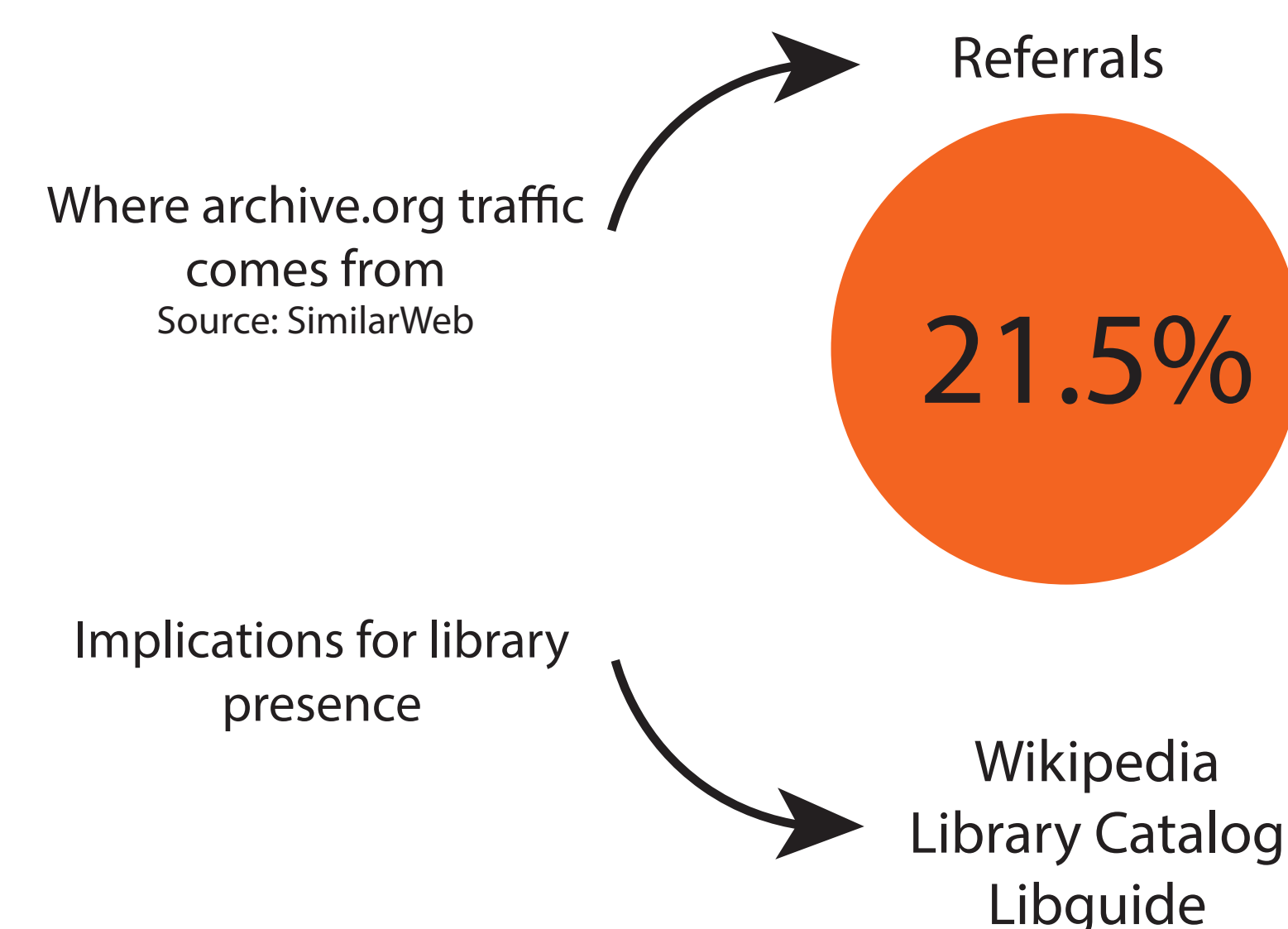Contributor Abilene Christian University Library
Language English

"This booklet relates the history and archaeology of the old penitentiary, a complex of buildings occupying an area of three city blocks. The story combines the rich archival records available for the penitentiary with the finds of the modern archaeological investigations. This combination provides intriguing insights into a little-studied component of Louisiana history." p. 1

Notes
44 pages : illustrations, maps, plans ; 23 cm

Screenshot: Public View Internet Archive

3. Promote

Where archive.org traffic comes from
Source: SimilarWeb

Implications for library presence

Referrals 21.5%

Wikipedia
Library Catalog
Libguide

Search Engine 27.4%

Google

Direct Search 42 %

INTERNET ARCHIVE

Tips

• Scan at 300-600 dpi and save as pdf.

• Scan entire document including front and back covers and blank pages to preserve the book experience.

• Make liberal use of metadata fields.

• After uploading at least 50 items, request your own branded library collection to further promote your library.

USO, Five Years Of Service: Report of the
by Kimball, L. F.; United Service Organizations (U.S.)

709   0   0
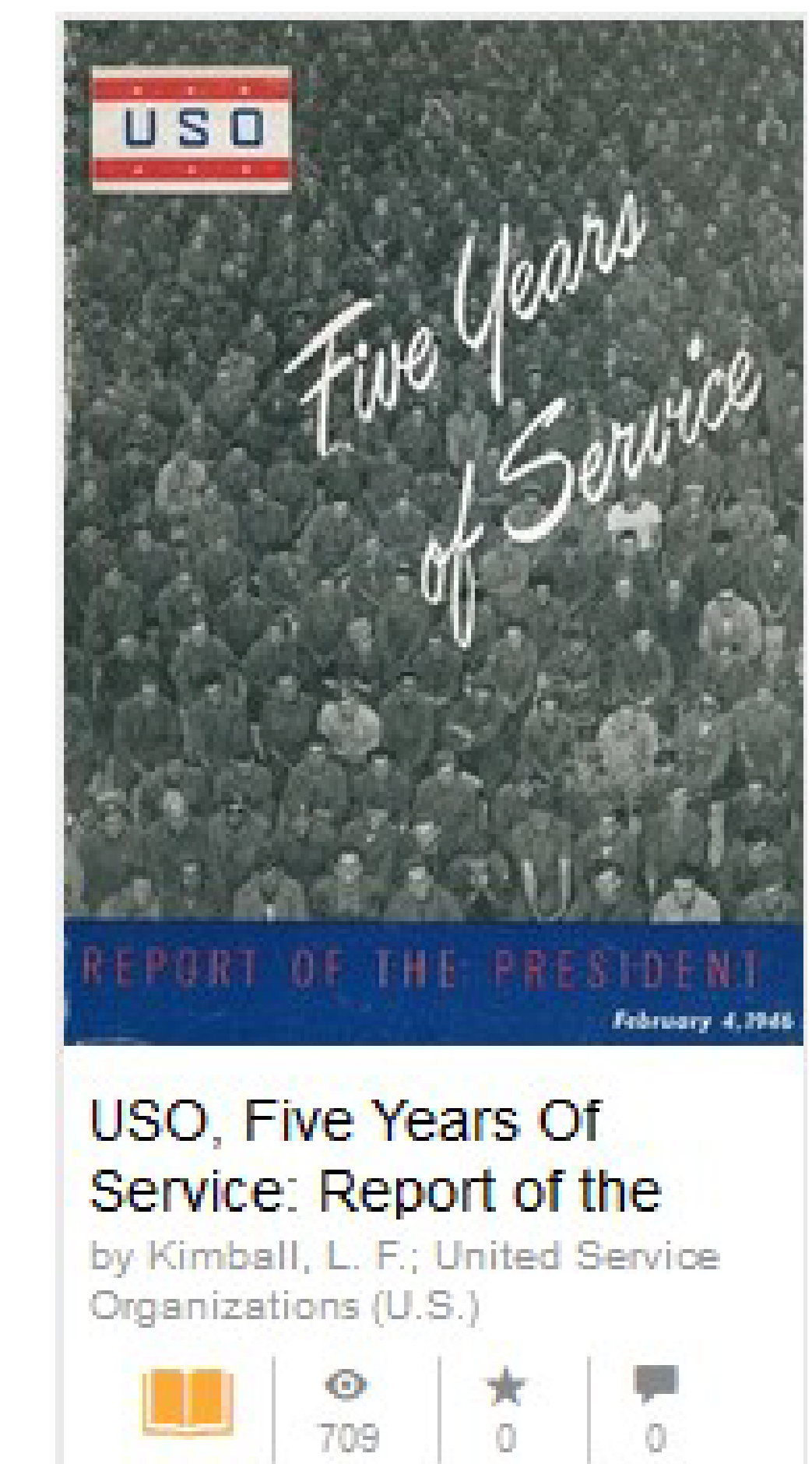
Results & Conclusions

Titles that were weeded due to low use in our on-site collection were some of the most accessed items in our Internet Archive collection.

Popular topics: historical, military, WWII, etc.

Excellent solution for "digitization on-demand" titles.

Download counts are a good way to show the value of your collection beyond what traditional circulation counts show.

Resources

Clobridge, Abby. Building a Digital Repository Program with Limited Resources. Chandos Publishing, 2010.

Monson, Jane D. Getting Started with Digital Collections: Scaling to Fit Your Organization. ALA Editions, 2017.

Schumacher, Jaime, et al. From Theory to Action: Good Enough Digital Preservation for Under-Resourced Cultural Heritage Institutions. 2014. https://commons.lib.niu.edu/handle/10843/13610.