



About that Microfiche...a Preservation Discussion



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- *Distribution began: 1977*
- *Hundreds of titles*
- *Millions of fiche*
- *Every library potentially affected*





Vinegar Syndrome

- Cellulose acetate film base used in fiche until the mid 1990s
- The film base shrinks as acid is released from the substrate eventually destroying the image layer of the film.

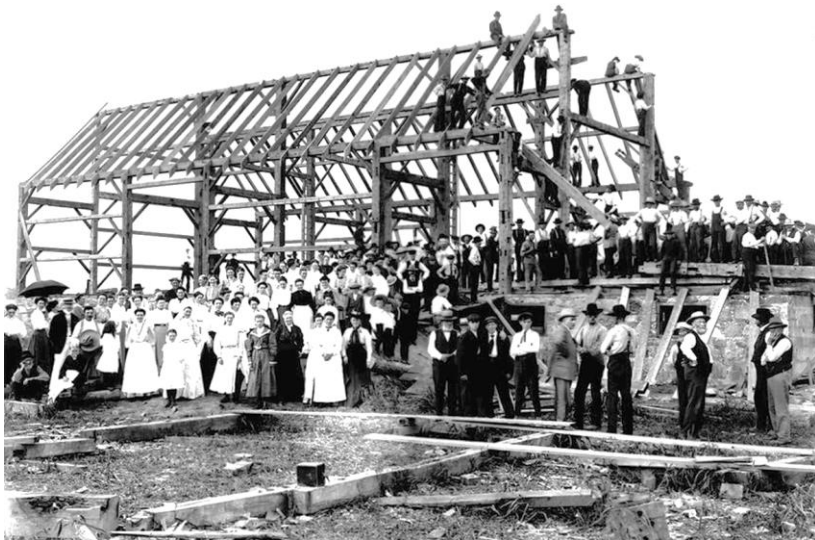


Preservation

Strategic initiatives, programs, and processes designed to maintain useful access to information assets, serving the information needs of both present and future generations



Building a Sustainable Preservation Model



- Collaborative
- No additional responsibilities for FDLs
- Leverage activities already undertaken
- Flexible/Scalable
- Partners beyond the FDLP
- Within statutory and regulatory guidance



Developing Preservation Services

- Funding for shipping items
- Cataloging
- Condition assessment
- Basic collection maintenance
- Conservation of special collection items
- Digital imaging of selected content
- Maintain FDsys/**govinfo** as a TDR
- Strategic solutions to degraded and obsolete media



GPO, Preservation and Community

- Support partner roles
- Simplify participation documentation
- Develop guidance for specific partner roles
- Present webinars on partner participation, and guidance documentation
- Provide opportunities for partners to discuss and advise LSCM
- Develop future forums for stakeholder participation, collaboration, and problem solving
- Develop service models for Collection Stewardship partners and additional partner areas



Preservation Issues with Microfiche

- Nearly an obsolete file format
- Microfilm and microfiche are vulnerable to warmer temperatures, high humidity, and mold.
- Size and weight of storage cases usually means basement storage, which raises concerns about humidity
- Cellulose Acetate film base degrades: “vinegar syndrome”
- Condition of the nationally distributed collection of publications on microfiche is unknown
- Diazo and vesicular format microfiche created for cost-effective access, not long-term preservation



Preservation





About that Microfiche...

- Webinar topic: *Everything you Need to Know about Microfiche*: May 9, 2017
- Community engagement
- Develop a pilot project to assess the condition of microfiche collections
- Evaluate and share results
- Develop cost efficient, sustainable plan that preserves access to content
- Implement plan
- Evaluate results
- White paper on a potential mitigation strategy



About that Microfiche...

- A preservation pilot would initiate:
 - A condition assessment of microfiche in participating libraries
 - A bibliographic assessment of the titles of publications shipped on microfiche (GPO)
 - Outreach to Federal agencies to see if a digital copy can be acquired
 - Reformatting from original silver halide masters to digital formats for ingest into FDsys/**govinfo**



Obsolete Media White Paper

- Review work accomplished in previous format migration or emulation projects
- Re-evaluate the risks and risk mitigation opportunities as of 2017
- Address the costs and benefits associated with storage considerations, data recovery, and emulation strategies available
- Propose a set of guidelines for the FDLP
- Evaluate opportunities for the Preservation program to advise migration strategies





Timeline

Literature Review	April 2017
Research and Analysis	April – September 2017
Draft White Paper	Late September 2017
Presentation at fall DLC Meeting & FDL Conference	October 2017
Solicit Feedback from FDL Community	Conference – November 2017
Final White Paper	January 2018



On the Horizon . . .



- Additional preservation support services
- Webinars and other training
- Study of Federal agency digital content
- Ingest of more historical content into FDsys/**govinfo**
- Condition assessment pilot project for microfiche
- Study on a solution to obsolete media



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