

# BIT BY BIT: <BORN> DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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Matthew Kirschenbaum  
University of Maryland

 mkirschenbaum



**Rare Books and Manuscripts Section**

Association of College and Research Libraries  
A Division of the American Library Association



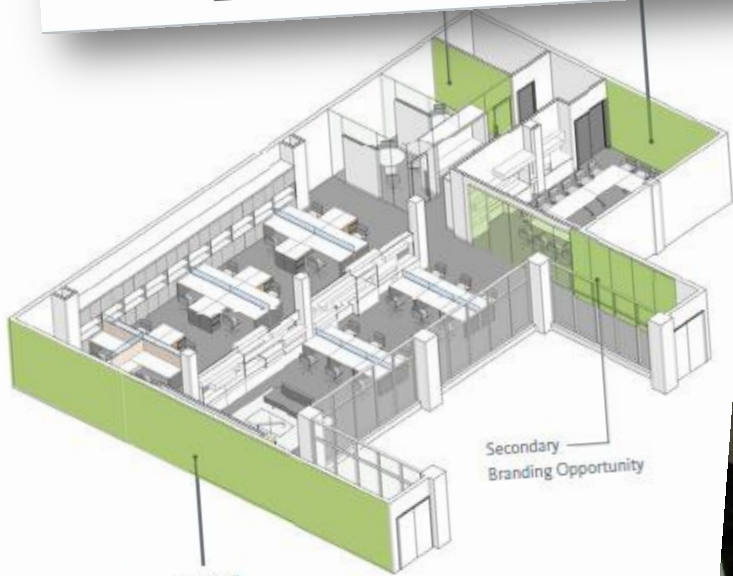
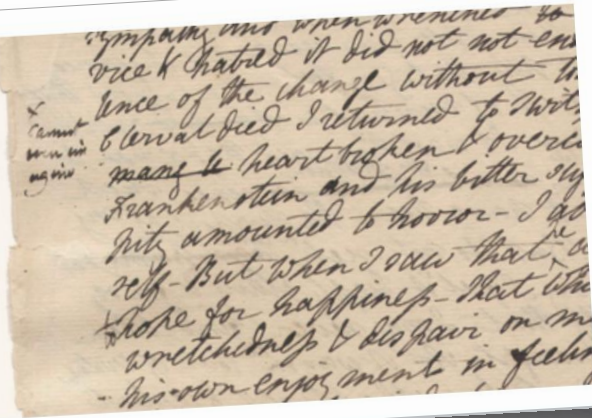
# Note

- This is a redacted version of the presentation I used at the conference, with numerous slides removed where I do not own the rights to the images. Please feel free to contact me if you are looking for a particular image/slide that is not here.

### Shelley-Godwin Archive

A digital resource comprising works of Mary Wollstonecraft, William Godwin, Percy Bysshe Shelley and Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. These manuscripts and early editions will be made freely available to the public through an innovative framework constituting a new model of best practice for research libraries.

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archives, collections, and exhibitions

syllabi, training, and practices

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programs, presentations, and publications

Spring Calendar

workshops, open houses, and meetings

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staff, faculty fellows, and advisory boards

Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities

Cont

fellow program applications

About MITH

faq, goals, and proposal

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Shelley-Godwin Archive

MITH MARYLAND INSTITUTE for TECHNOLOGY in the HUMANITIES

MITH is a collaborative community of scholars, an interdisciplinary institute, and an electronic space devoted to exploring the use of new technologies in university research, teaching, and community outreach.

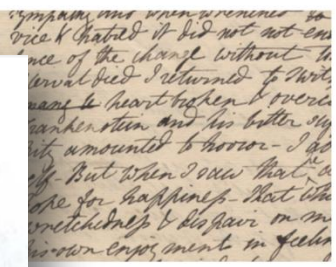
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SEARCH



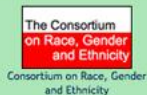
Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities

an applied think tank for the digital humanities



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featured MITH projects



There is no more urgent issue in the humanities today than the way that all of its disciplines - creative, critical, scholarly - are being transformed by New Media. The business of MITH is to rethink the Humanities, to build both in practical and intellectual terms its future. - Neil Fraistat Director

MITH News Event Calendar



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RESEARCH TEACHING OUTREACH PUBLICATIONS CALENDAR ABOUT MITH

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Digital Directions Projects 2002



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**PDA 2013**  
 Personal Digital Archiving  
 at the University of Maryland

**DHWI** DIGITAL HUMANITIES  
 WINTER INSTITUTE

topic modeling

API Workshop  
 Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities

COMPUTER FORENSICS  
 & BORN DIGITAL CONTENT  
 Cultural Heritage Collections

THE FUTURE OF ELECTRONIC LITERATURE

Electronic Literature Organization  
 Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities  
 Co-sponsored by the University Libraries and Department of English

A Symposium of the Electronic Literature Organization  
 May 2nd and 3rd  
 University of Maryland, College Park

Keynote Speakers:  
 N. Katherine Hayles, Jane Charles Mills Professor of Literature, UCLA  
 Kenneth Thibodeau, Director of Electronic Records Archive Program, National Archives and Records Administration

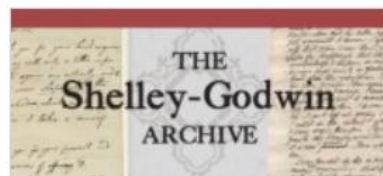
you  
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digital humanities 09

**OFF THE TRACKS**  
 Laying new lines  
 for digital humanities scholars



<http://mith.umd.edu/research/>



BC

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### LOT 57

#### APPLE I COMPUTER

Operational Apple Computer I. An Apple I motherboard, labeled on obverse *Apple Computer I, Palo Alto, CA. Copyright 1976*. Includes circuit board with four rows A-D, and columns 1-18; MOS Technologies 6502 microprocessor, labeled MCS 6502 3776; video terminal; keyboard interface; 8K bytes RAM in 16-pin 4K memory chips; 4 power supplies including 3 capacitors; firmware in PROMS (A1, A2); low-profile sockets on all integrated circuits; breadboard; heatsink; expansion connector; cassette board connector. (15 1/8 x 9 in.; 385 x 234 mm)

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# Defining “Born Digital”

## An Essay by Ricky Erway, OCLC Research

The purpose of this document is to define “born digital” and the various types of born-digital materials. It is intended to improve community discourse by encouraging caretakers of born-digital resources to specify what they mean when they use the term.

**Definition: Born-digital resources are items created and managed in digital form.**

## Types of Born-Digital Materials

### *Digital photographs*

The prevalence of digital cameras is making digital photos one of the fastest growing forms of

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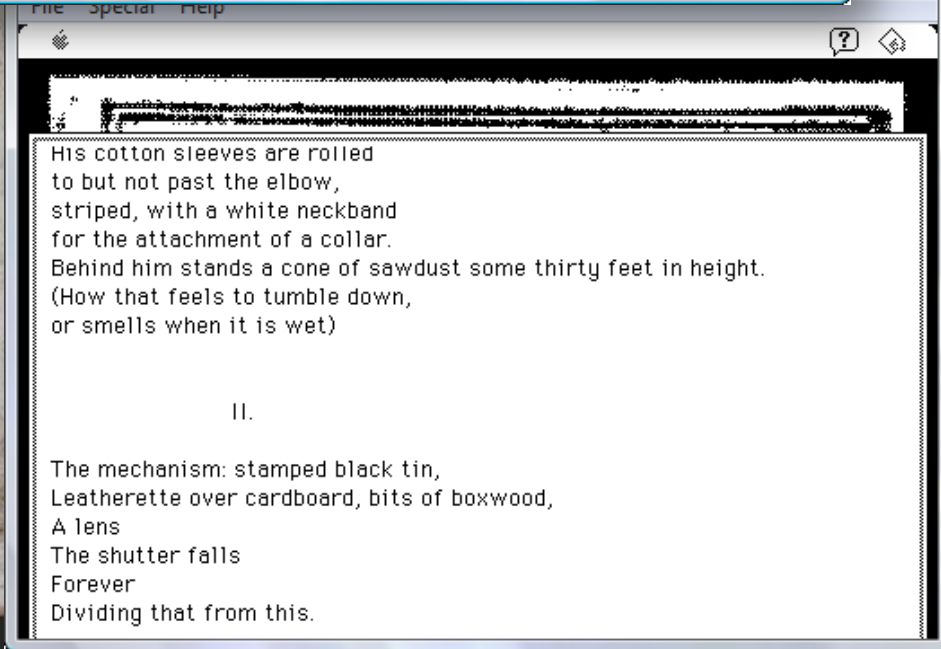
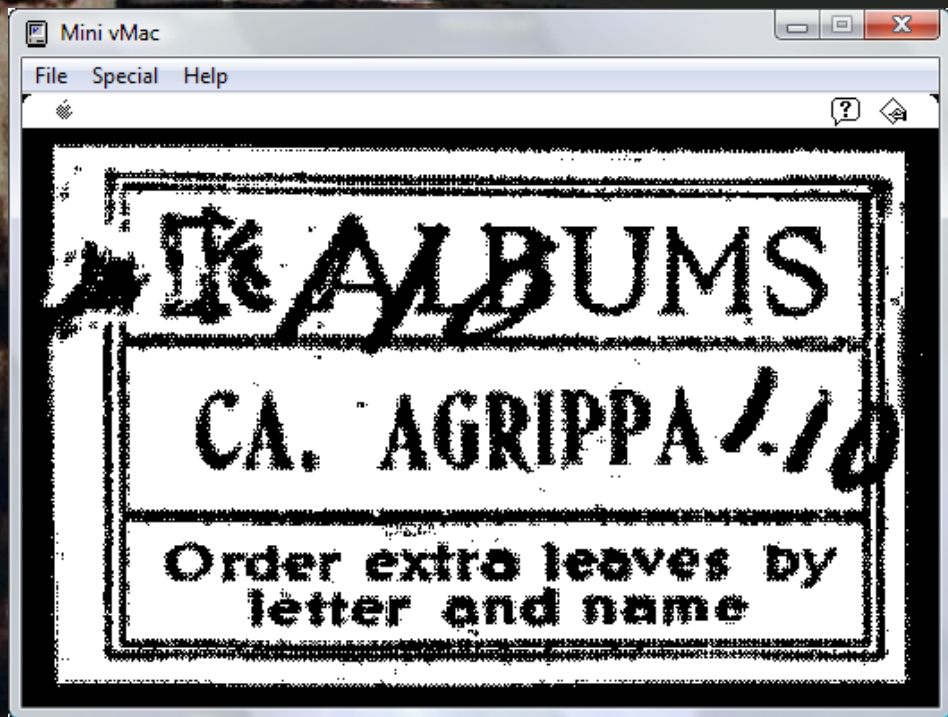
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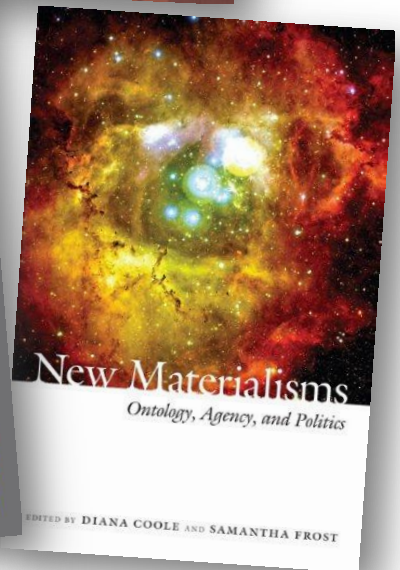
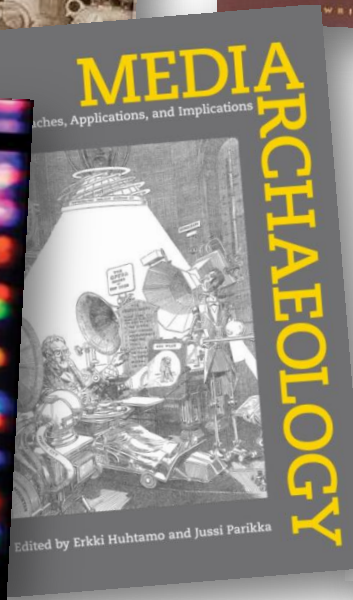
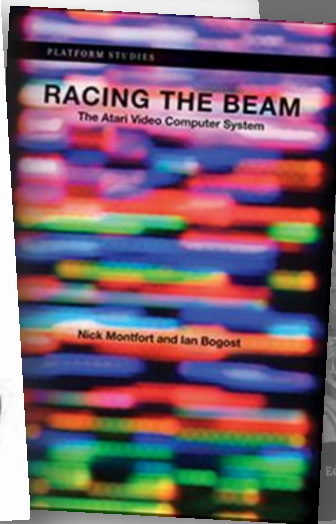
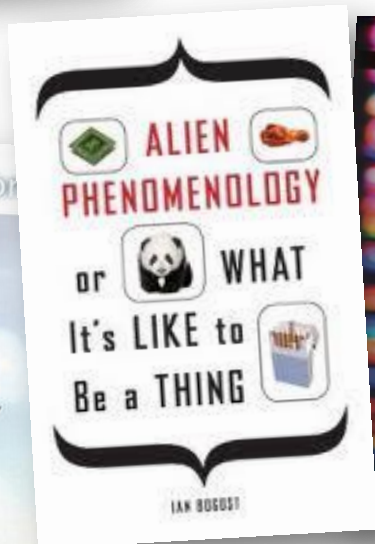
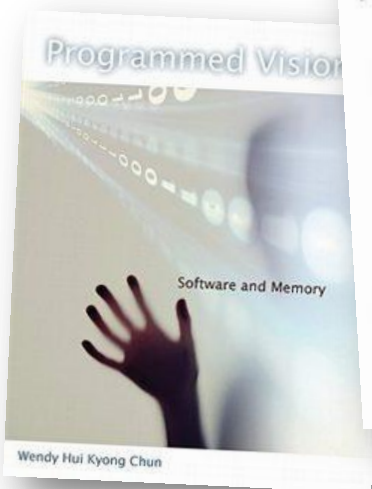
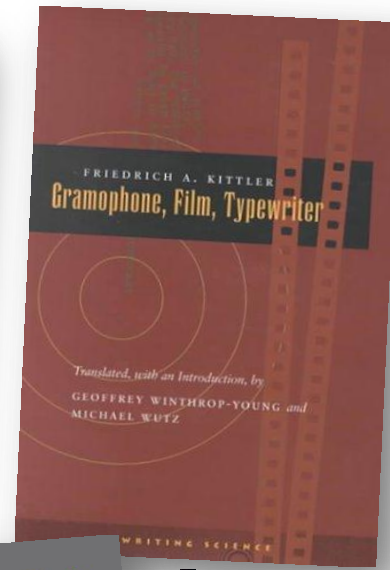
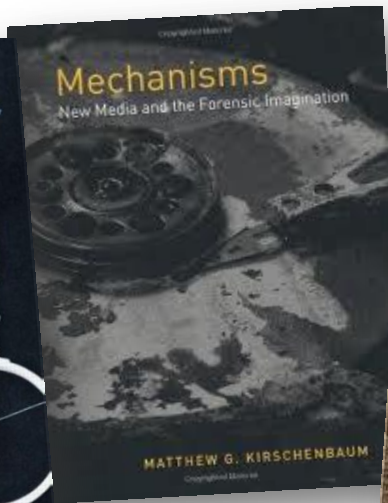
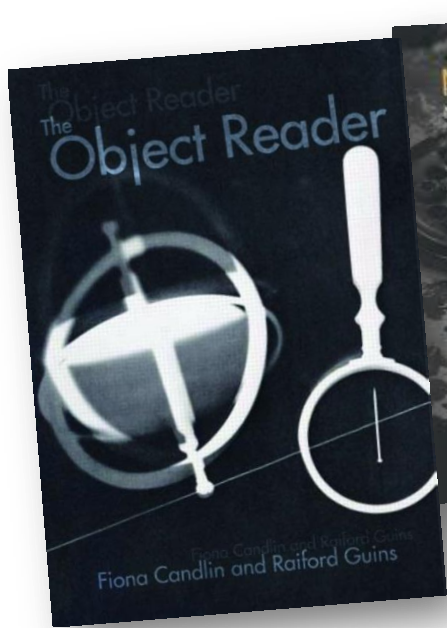


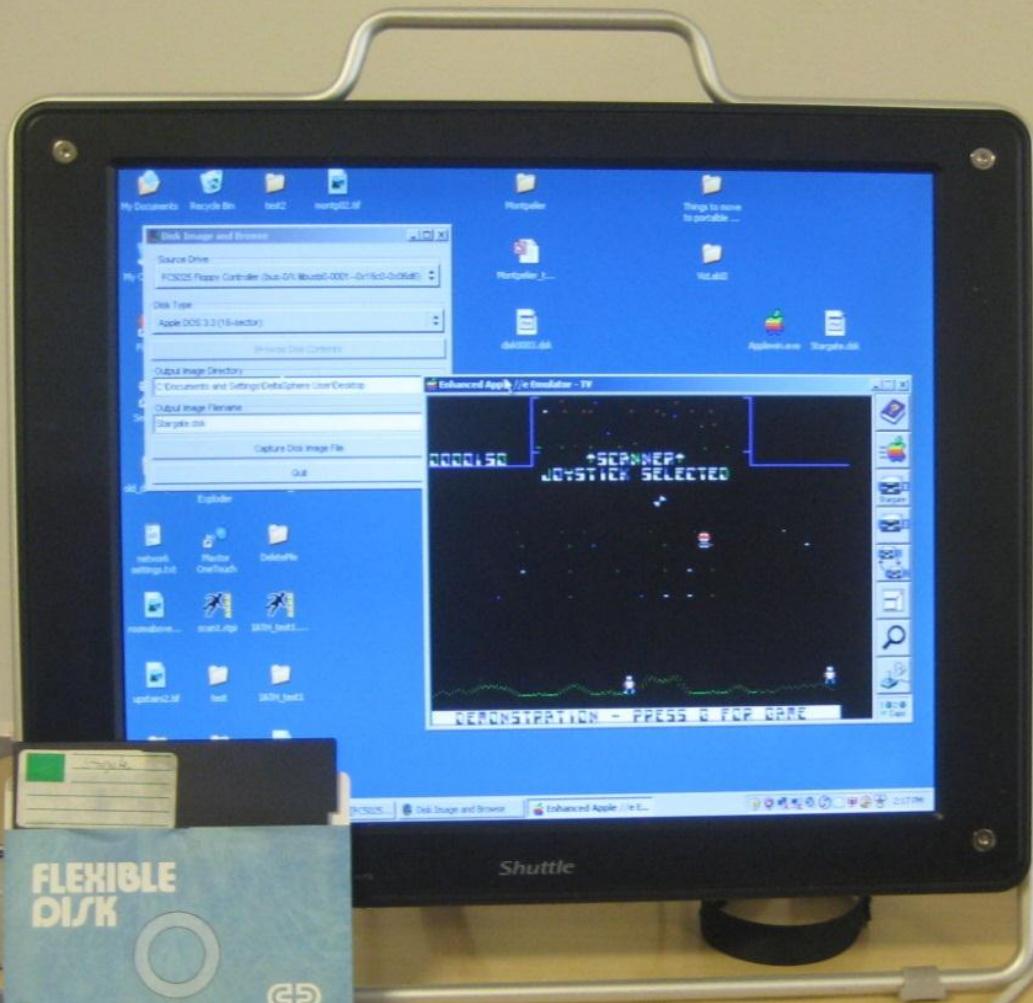


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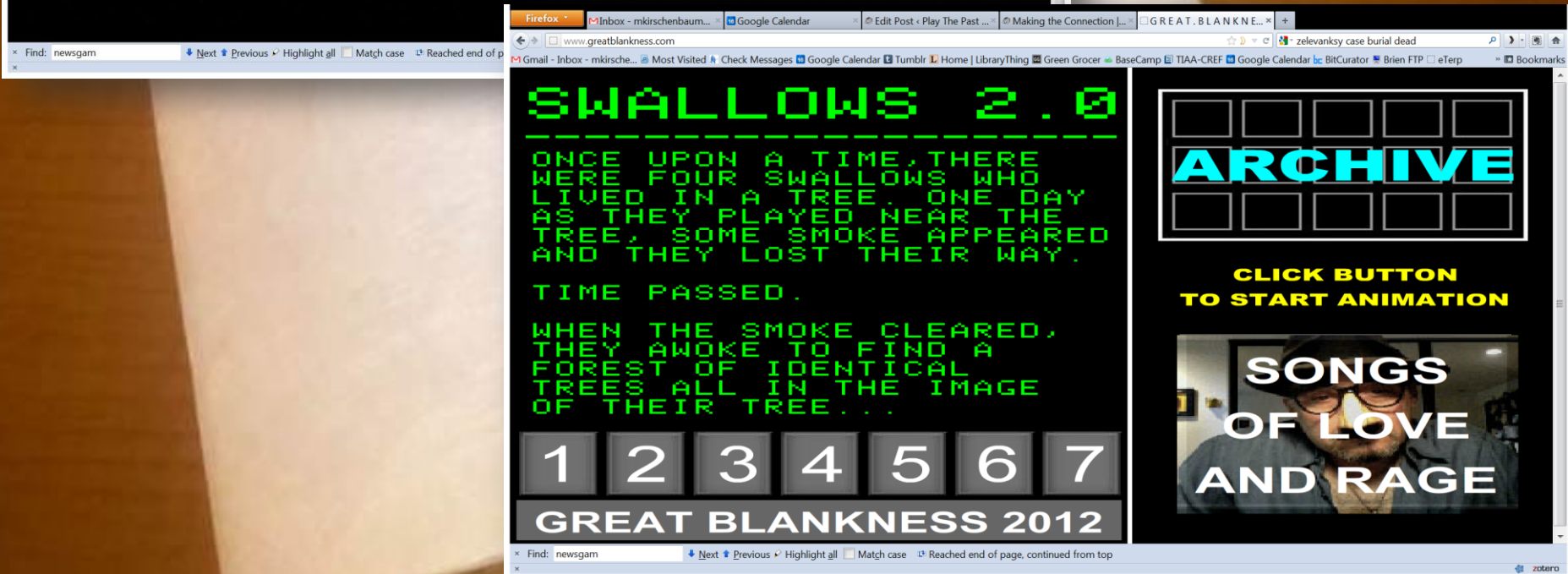
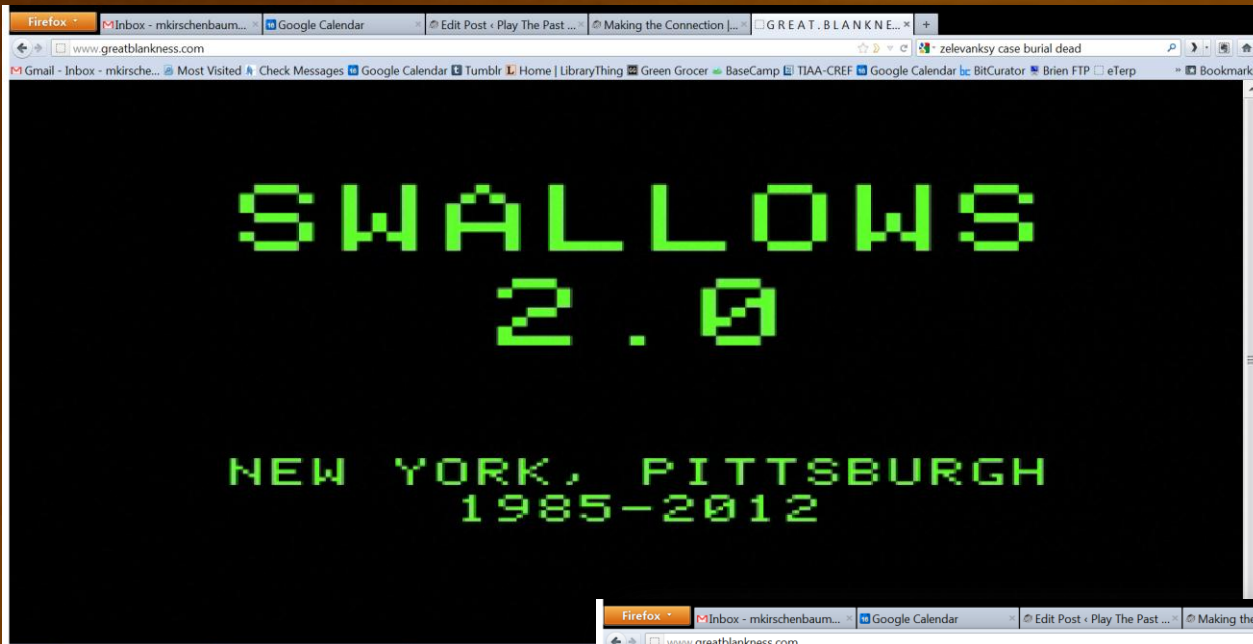
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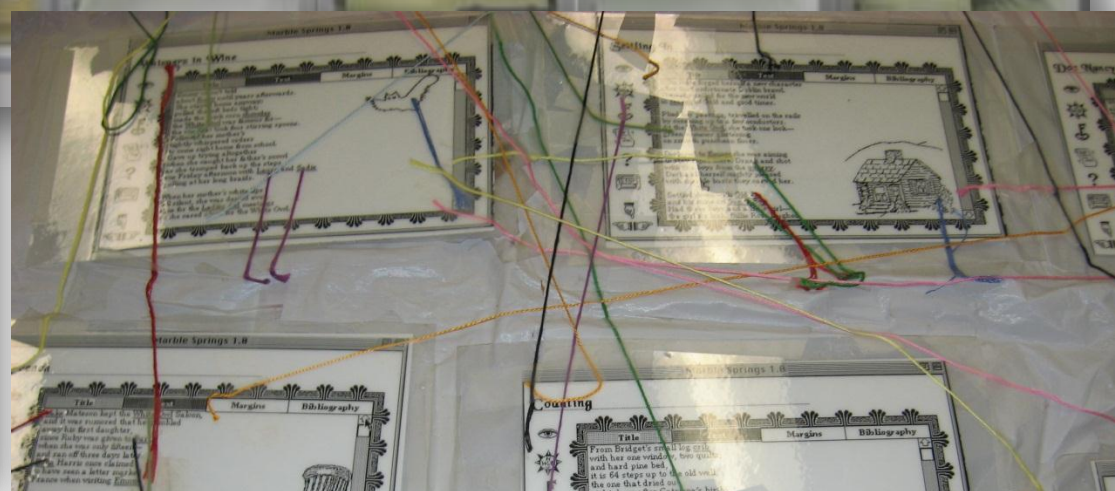
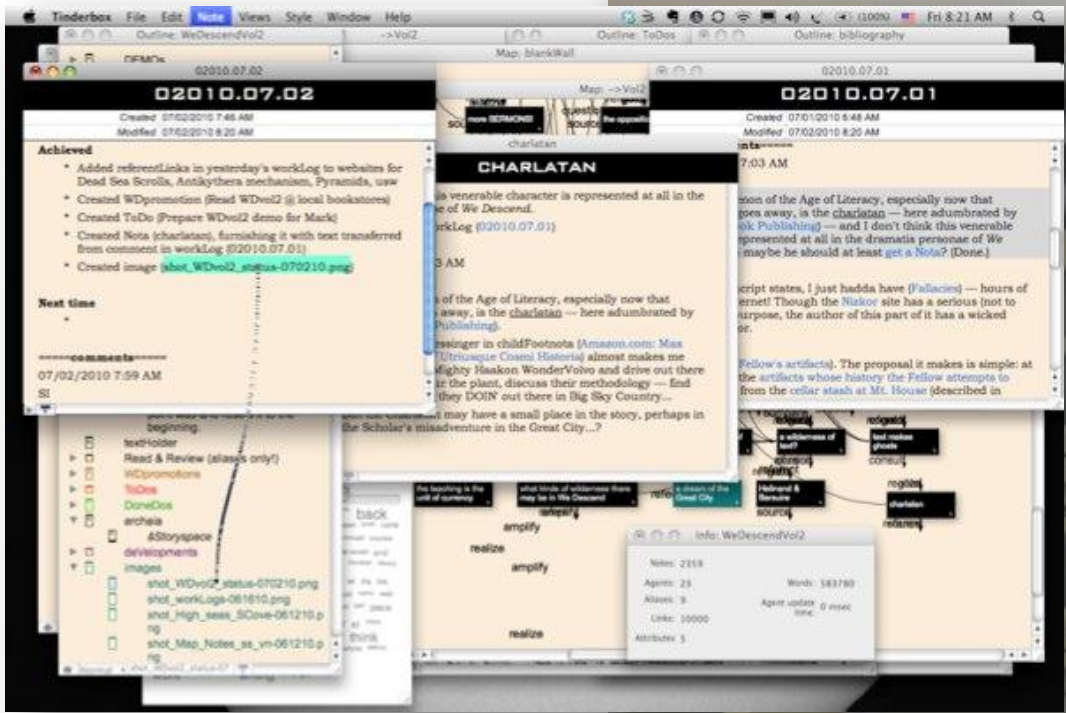




The Future of Electronic Literature

A Citizen Patriot





Deena Larsen collection



# <Born> Digital Humanities and Special Collections Points of Collaboration

- Tools
- Best practices (today's DH, tomorrow's archivists)
- Infrastructure
- Subject expertise
- Technical expertise
- Curriculum and training
- Shared advocacy

# MITH's Funded Projects in this Space

- Approaches to Managing and Collecting Born-Digital Literary Materials for Scholarly Use (2007-8)
  - NEH ODH
  - MITH, Emory University Libraries, University of Texas Harry Ransom Center
  - <http://drum.lib.umd.edu/handle/1903/9787>
- Digital Forensics and Born-Digital Content in Cultural Heritage Collections (2010)
  - Mellon Foundation
  - MITH, Harry Ransom Center, Bodleian Libraries
  - <http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/reports/pub149>
- Preserving Virtual Worlds (2008-2010)
  - Library of Congress NDIIPP
  - University of Illinois, Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Maryland, Stanford University
  - <http://pvw.illinois.edu/pvw/>
- Preserving Virtual Worlds II (2010-2012)
  - IMLS
  - University of Illinois, Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Maryland, Stanford University
  - <http://pvw.illinois.edu/pvw2/>
- BitCurator (2011-2013)
  - Mellon Foundation
  - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill SILS and University of Maryland, MITH
  - <http://www.bitcurator.net/>



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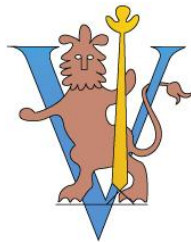
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RBS L-95 Born-Digital Materials  
(taught w/ Naomi Nelson)