AvSAP

Audio-Visual Self-Assessment Program

A Presentation for the CARLI Preservation Working Group

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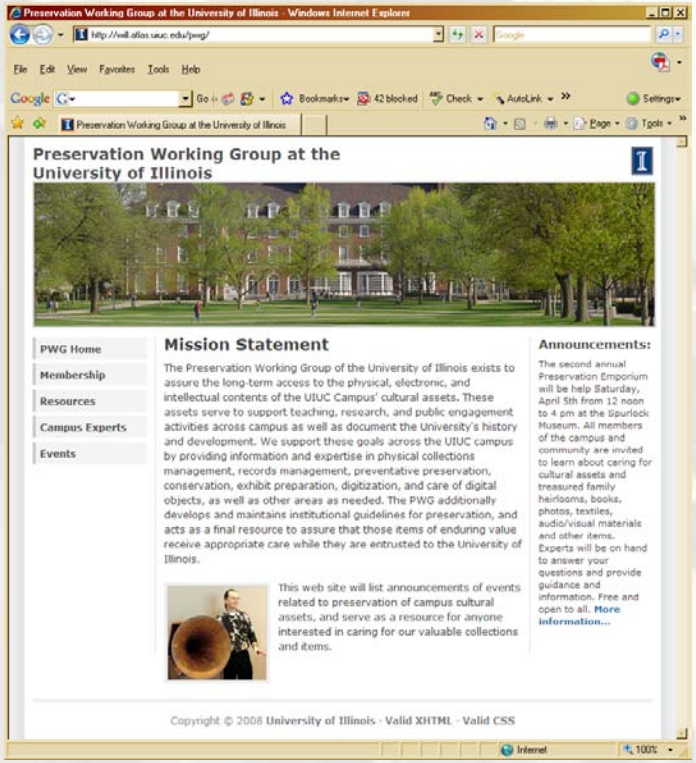
Some Background…



INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

Partners in AvSAP

- University Library and Archives
- Spurlock World Heritage Museum
- WILL AM/FM/TV
- Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
- Department of Dance
- Illinois Heritage Association

- Sarah Stauderman serving as an outside expert

The Grant Project At a Glance

- Year one:
  - Research, research, research;
- Year two:
  - Compose preliminary text and secondary educational matter;
  - Layout and program preliminary version of tool;
- Year three:
  - Test on sample of local collections and tweak as needed;
  - Test on additional outside sites and make any final adjustments;
  - Mount final tool and supplemental information to web site;
  - Provide state-wide workshops on using the AVSAP;
  - Present at national conferences and write at least one journal article about its successes and failures.

The Problem

Moving Image Materials Commonly Found in Repositories

- Motion Picture Film (16mm and 8mm or Super 8mm)
- Cassette-based video formats like VHS, U-Matic, Betamax
- Open-reel video formats like 1” or 2” videotape
- Digital media like DVDs (commercially produced) or DVD-Rs (produced in-house or by consumers)

Sound Materials Commonly Found in Repositories

- Grooved discs like LPs and 78s
- Audiocassettes
- CDs (commercially produced) and CD-Rs (produced in-house or by consumers)
- ¼” open-reel audiotape

Challenges of Audiovisual Preservation

- Formal AV training is rare
- AV is not “eye legible”
- AV materials are complex and often fragile.
- AV media need regular attention to ensure viability

Challenges of Audiovisual Preservation

- Obsolescence
- Limited support for formats by manufacturers
- Formats are dependent on the market
- These materials were not made or designed to last

The Wealth of AV Formats

ANALOG VIDEOTAPE FORMATS

Year *	Tape Width	Cassette/ Open Reel	Use **	Obsolecence Rating ***	Originating Company	Comments ****
1956	2"	OR	P	CE	Ampex	2" Quad
1962	2"	OR	IE	CE	Ampex	First popular helical
1963	2"	OR	IE	Ext	Sony	2" Helical
1964	1"	OR	IE	Ext	Sony	
1965	1"	OR	IE	CE	Ampex	SMPTE Type A
1965	1"	OR	IE	Ext	PI	Precision Instruments
1965	1/2"	OR	IE	CE	Sony	CV--First low cost VTR
1968	1"	OR	IE	EXT	IVC	
1968	1/2"	OR	IE	Ext	Sony	
1969	1/2"	OR	IE	End		EIAJ-1
1969	1/4"	OR	IE	Ext	Akai	Small portable
1970	1/2"	C	IE	Ext	Phillips	First Cassette VTR
1971	3/4"	C	IE	T	Sony	3/4" U-Matic
1972	1/2"	C	C	Ext	Cartravision	Consumer VTR
1972	1/2"	C	IE	Ext	Sanyo	V-Cord
1973	2"	OR	IE	Ext	IVC	2" Helical
1975	1"	OR	P & IE	End	Bosch	SMPTE B
1975	1/2"	C	C	CE	Sony	Betamax--Firs consumer
1976	1"	OR	IE	Ext	Sony	
1976	1"	OR	P & IE	CE	Ampex	SMPTE A with Slo-Mo
1976	1/2"	C	C	ok	JVC	VHS
1978	1"	OR	P	End	Ampex/Sony	SMPTE C
1983	1/2"	C	P & IE	Ext	Panasonic	SMPTE M
1984	1/2"	C	P & IE	Ext	Sony	Betacam
1984	8 mm	C	IE & C	Ext		8 mm (.315")
1986	1/2"	C	P & IE	End	Panasonic	M-II
1987	1/2"	C	P & IE	T	Sony	Betacam-SP
1987	1/2"	C	IE & C	ok	JVC	S-VHS
1988	1/2"	C	P & IE	Ext	Sony	ED-Beta
1989	8 mm	C	IE & C	T		Hi-8 (.315")

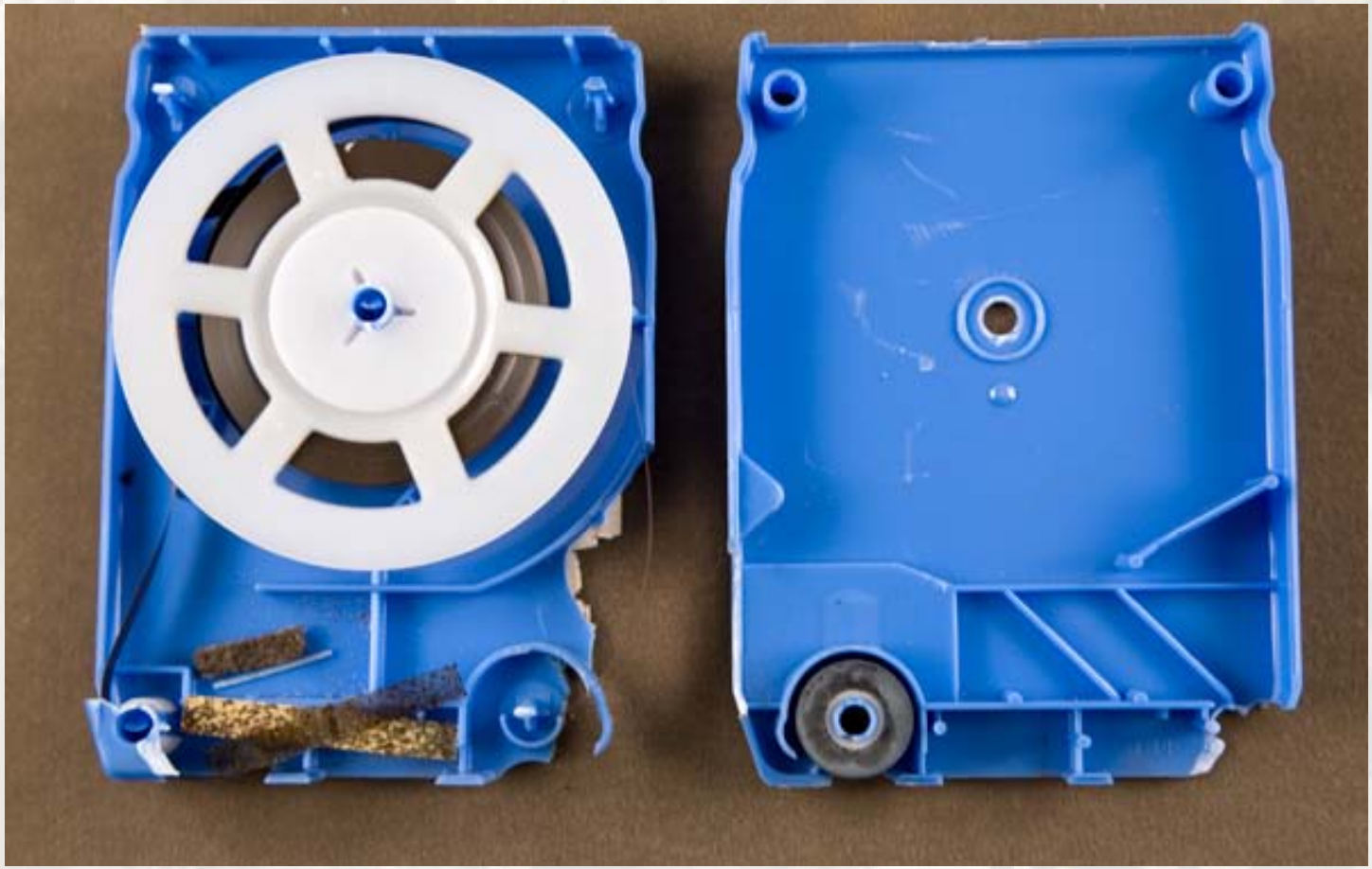
The Wealth of AV Formats

Challenges of Audiovisual Preservation

- Playback equipment must be preserved alongside the media
- Without playback equipment, a media collection can become inaccessible and effectively valueless to its repository.

What if You Don’t Preserve Equipment?

AV Materials are Often not Designed to Last



Challenges of Audiovisual Preservation

- Wealth of AV formats
- Materials take up a lot of space
- User choices of media aren't always the best for preservation

Inherent Vices

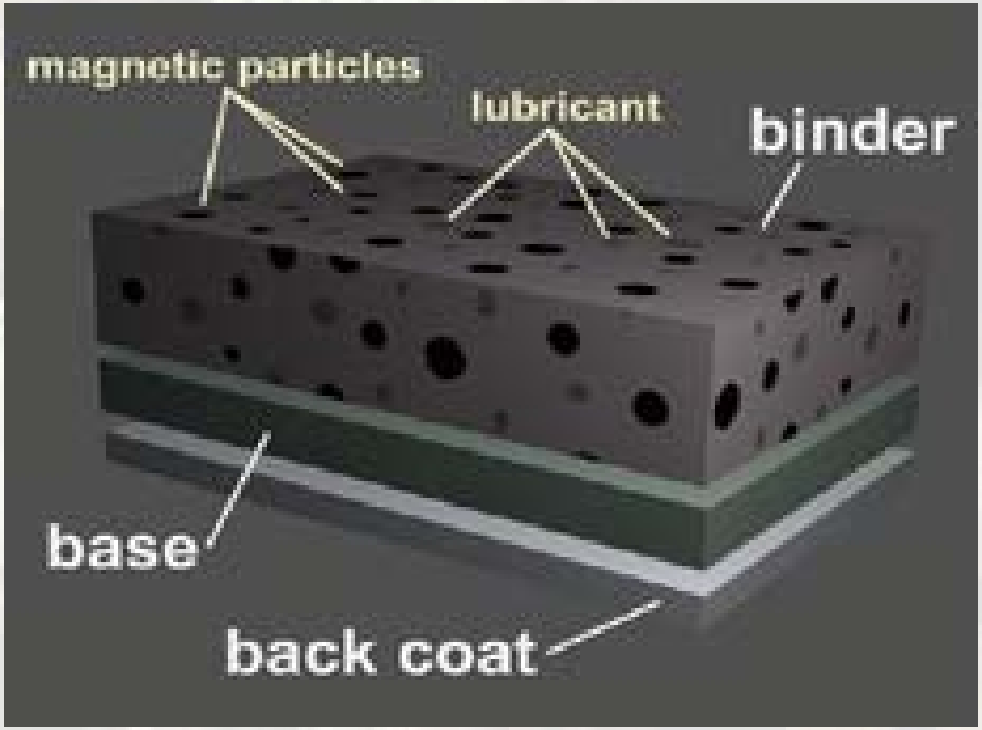
- Built into the design of media
- Cannot be reversed
- Treating inherent vices requires specialized knowledge

Inherent Vice

Inherent Vice

Inherent Vice

Inherent Vice



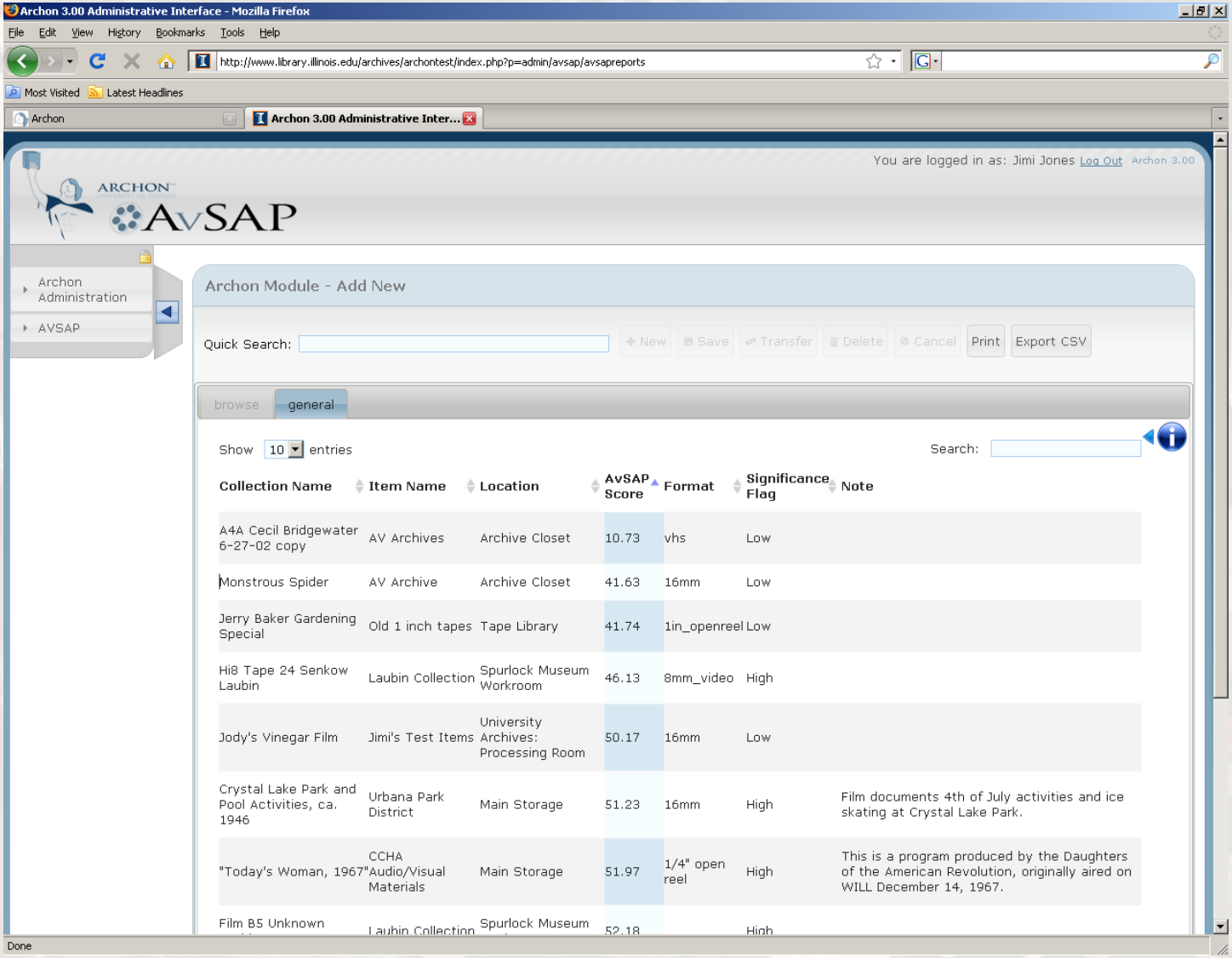
Challenges of Audiovisual Preservation

- Copyright and ownership issues can cause problems in reformatting and access.

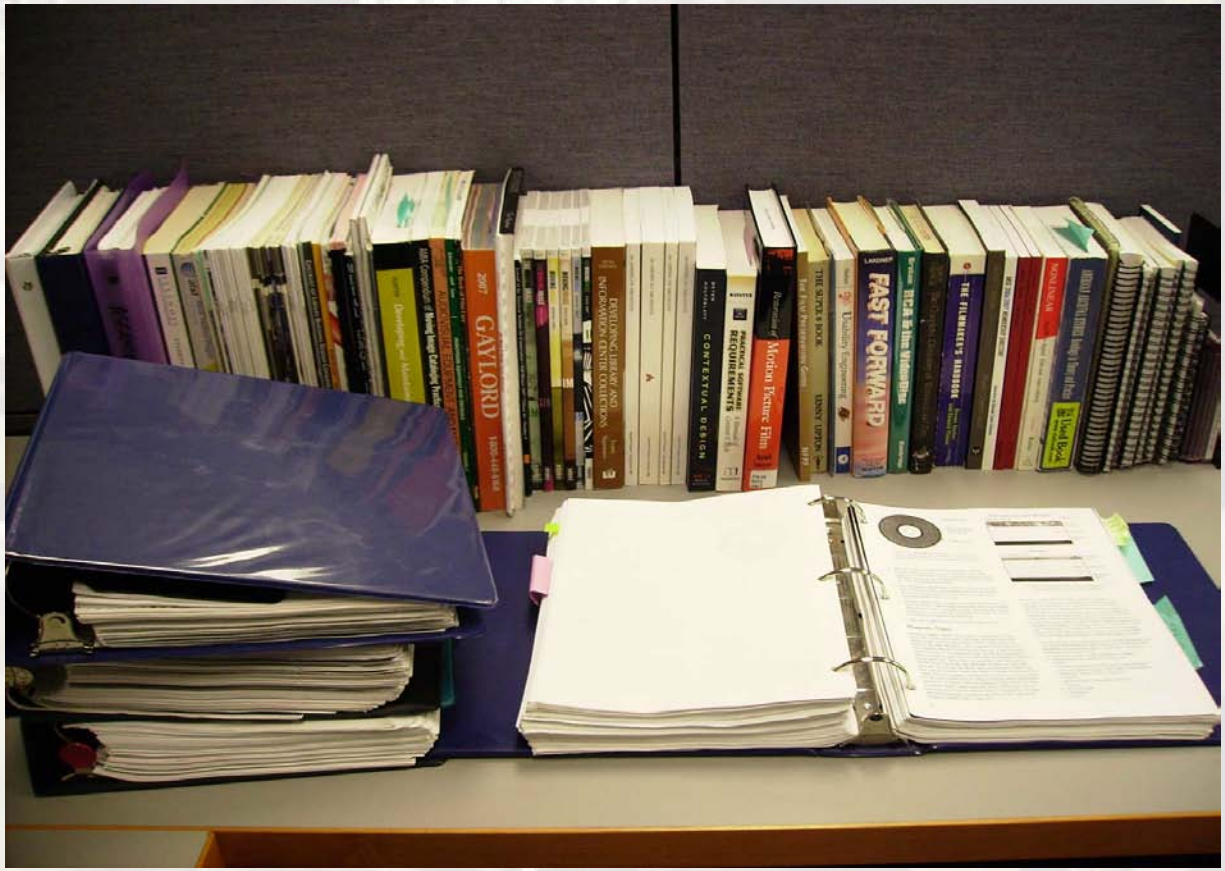
- The Digital Millennium Copyright Act makes it illegal to copy any item that has inherent copy protection

- If we have an analog item on an obsolete format, we may be able to copy it for preservation purposes.

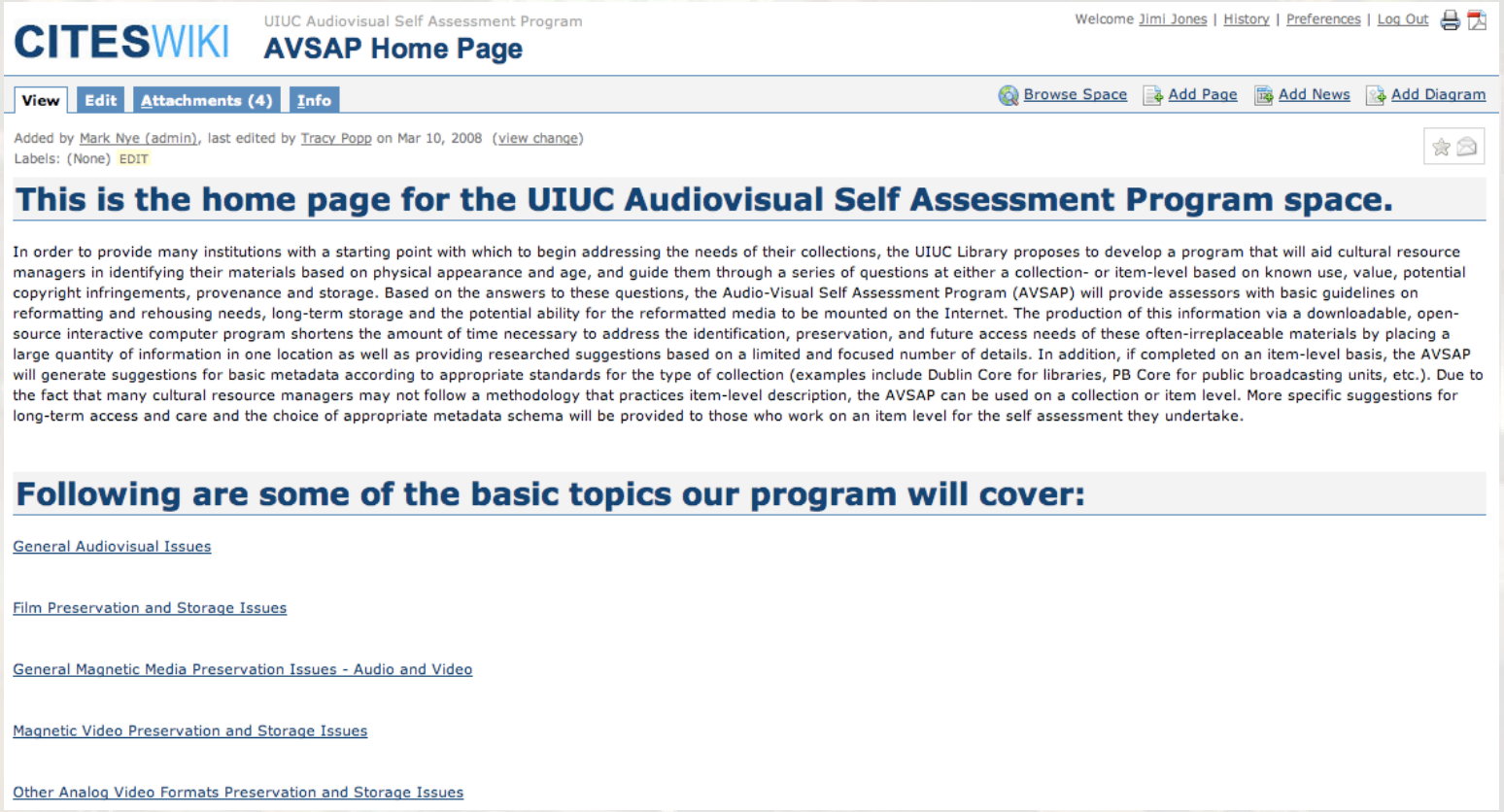
How AvSAP Can Help



AvSAP's Beginnings: Research…



To Research Wiki



CITESWIKI

UIUC Audiovisual Self Assessment Program

AVSAP Home Page

Welcome Jimi Jones | History | Preferences | Log Out

View | Edit | Attachments (4) | Info

Browse Space | Add Page | Add News | Add Diagram

Added by Mark Nye (admin), last edited by Tracy Popp on Mar 10, 2008 (view change)
Labels: (None) EDIT

This is the home page for the UIUC Audiovisual Self Assessment Program space.

In order to provide many institutions with a starting point with which to begin addressing the needs of their collections, the UIUC Library proposes to develop a program that will aid cultural resource managers in identifying their materials based on physical appearance and age, and guide them through a series of questions at either a collection- or item-level based on known use, value, potential copyright infringements, provenance and storage. Based on the answers to these questions, the Audio-Visual Self Assessment Program (AVSAP) will provide assessors with basic guidelines on reformatting and rehousing needs, long-term storage and the potential ability for the reformatted media to be mounted on the Internet. The production of this information via a downloadable, open-source interactive computer program shortens the amount of time necessary to address the identification, preservation, and future access needs of these often-irreplaceable materials by placing a large quantity of information in one location as well as providing researched suggestions based on a limited and focused number of details. In addition, if completed on an item-level basis, the AVSAP will generate suggestions for basic metadata according to appropriate standards for the type of collection (examples include Dublin Core for libraries, PB Core for public broadcasting units, etc.). Due to the fact that many cultural resource managers may not follow a methodology that practices item-level description, the AVSAP can be used on a collection or item level. More specific suggestions for long-term access and care and the choice of appropriate metadata schema will be provided to those who work on an item level for the self assessment they undertake.

Following are some of the basic topics our program will cover:

General Audiovisual Issues

Film Preservation and Storage Issues

General Magnetic Media Preservation Issues - Audio and Video

Magnetic Video Preservation and Storage Issues

Other Analog Video Formats Preservation and Storage Issues

To Research Wiki

Storage Basics and Best Practices

See also:
Nitrate Film Storage
Color Film Storage

General Storage Issues and Best Practices

"Properly stored film will outlive its video copy's usefulness, especially given how rapidly video technology and formats are changing."(Bigourdan, p. 17)

"STORAGE is the single most important factor determining the useful life of modern information media." (Adelstein, 2004)

"it makes sense to use the information gathered from the condition survey to determine which films are most at risk and to duplicate them first. These are films that test at A-D Strip level 2 and level 3. Since duplication alone will solve the problem for only a limited number of films, such a program should be backed up by improved storage conditions."(Bigourdan, p.3, 2000)

"the prevalent "wait, then duplicate everything" approach is impractical, if not impossible. It has been demonstrated that film, even decaying film, can last a long time if kept in proper storage." (Bigourdan, p.3, 2000)

"Despite archivists' efforts and dedication, film collections have rarely benefited from optimum storage conditions." (Bigourdan, p.1, 2000)

"The best way to protect film content for the future is still the time-honored approach of copying film onto film and storing it in a cold, dry vault." (NFPF, 2004, p.44)

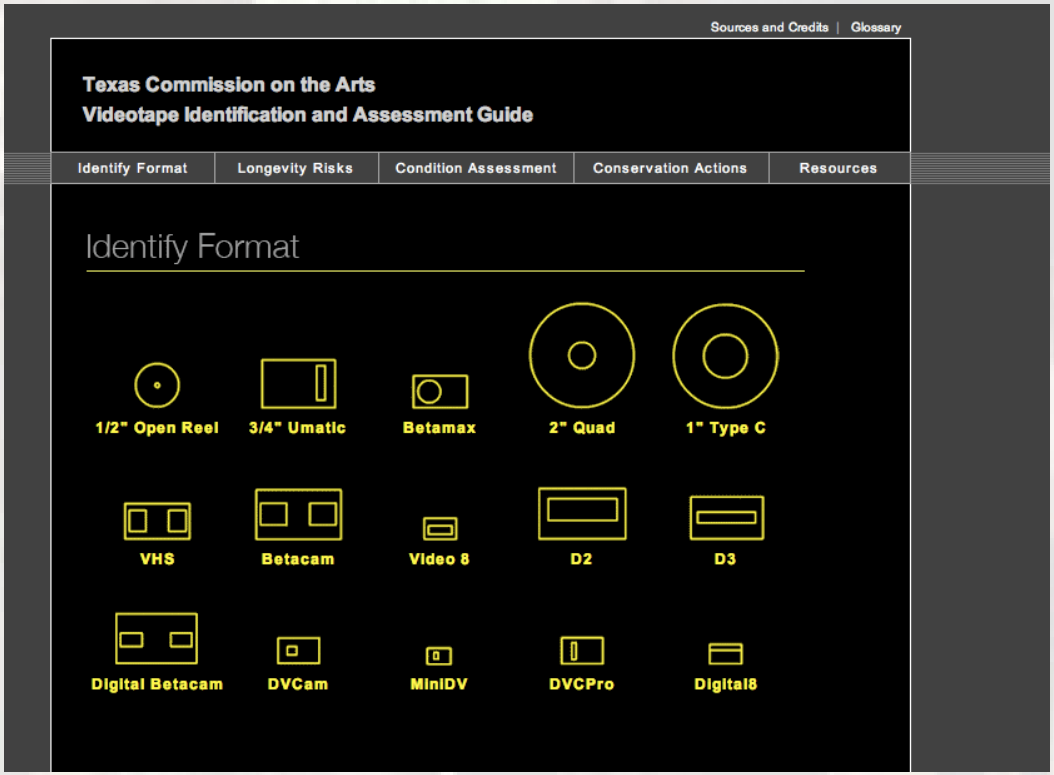
"For film, cold and dry storage conditions are the equivalent of preventive medicine. 8 Good storage slows decay and extends the useful life of the original. When motion pictures last longer, title-by-title duplication can be planned in phases over many years and not driven by emergency." (NFPF, 2004, p.44)

"For most film materials IPI finds that frozen temperatures, if RH is held between 30% and 50%, extend useful life. However, DVDs and materials having a magnetic layer- magnetic sound track and videotape- may be damaged under freezing conditions. For mixed collections that include all types of film-related media, cold (40°F) seems preferable." (NFPF, 2004, p.61)

"**PLACES NOT TO STORE FILM**:

1. Basements (often have high humidity) or on the floor
2. Attics (hot in summer and have fluctuating temperature throughout the year)
3. In direct sunlight or next to a window
4. Near heaters, radiators, or sprinklers
5. Near chemical, paint, or exhaust fumes

Texas Commission on the Arts Videotape Identification and Assessment Guide



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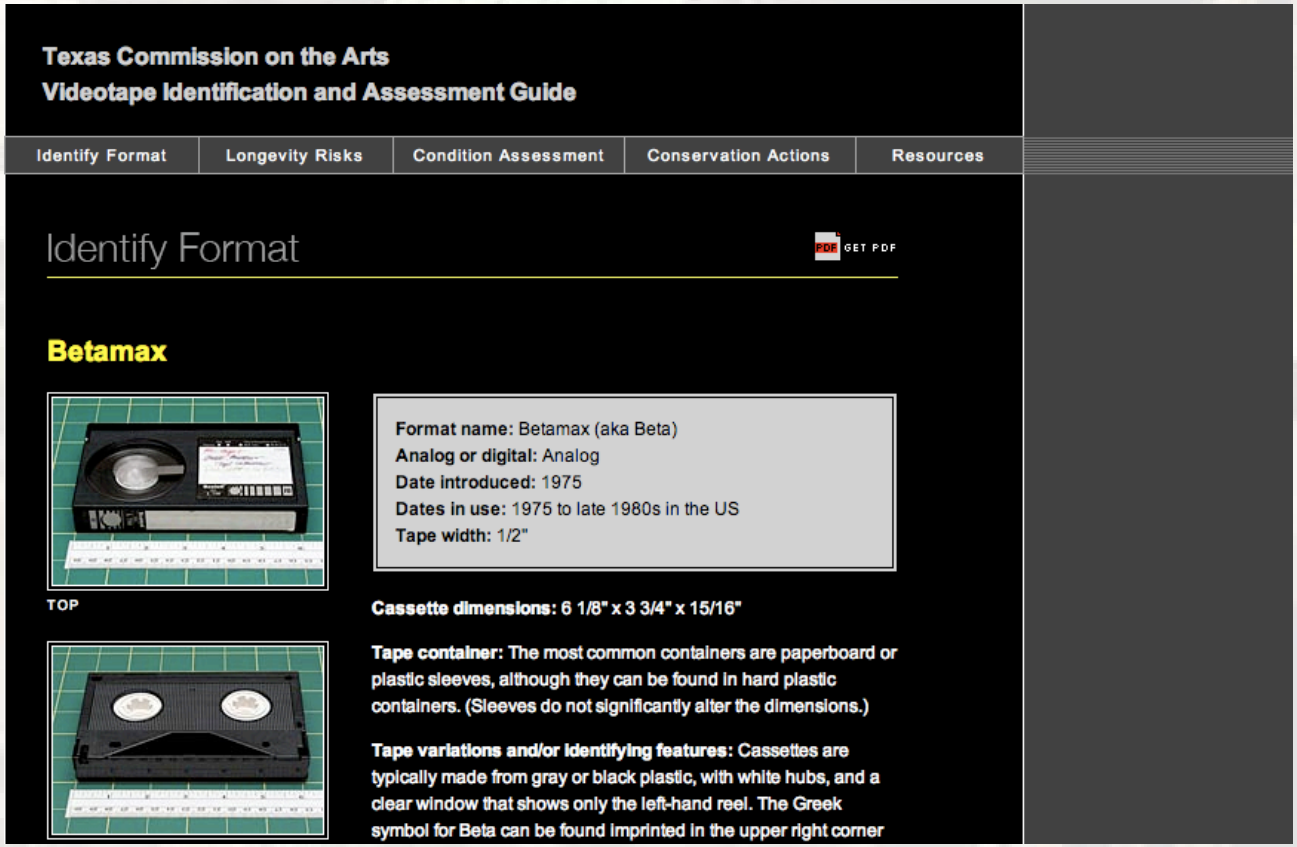

Archon Description Tool

Archon and AvSAP

- AvSAP available as a package within Archon OR
- As a standalone package
- AvSAP can be downloaded and installed locally (if you have an SQL server) OR
- AvSAP can be accessed through a web browser via our hosted installation
- AvSAP will be a supported part of the Archon-Archivists' Toolkit merge

AvSAP

Audio-Visual Self-Assessment Program

- Works as an assessment tool
- Is also a learning experience for the user
- Is designed primarily to help the user with little to no AV preservation experience

AvSAP

Audio-Visual Self-Assessment Program

- Not based in MS Access
- Platform-independent
- Graphic format selector
- Image-intensive
- Provides storage, preservation, and reformatting tips and best practices

Information Kiosks

- Popup in separate windows from assessment
- Image-heavy to illustrate preservation issues
- Are optional and don’t interfere with flow of assessment
- **Thanks to all of the people who donated images for these!!**

Three Levels to AvSAP Assessment

- Repository
- Storage Environment
- Item

The Five Basic Vectors of the AvSAP Item-Level Assessment

(in no particular order)

- Environment (as Storage Facility)
- Container
- Format
- Use/Access
- Physical Condition

Here is how AvSAP tabulates the final score:

Environment Conditions (70%) + Disaster Preparedness (30%) = Environment

Then

Format (40%) + Environment (10%) + Container (5%) + Use/Access (5%) + Condition (40%) = AvSAP Score

AvSAP Manual and Website

https://wiki.cites.uiuc.edu/wiki/display/AVSAP/AvSAP+Manual+Work-In-Progress

http://www.library.illinois.edu/prescons/services/av_self_assessment_program.html


Now Let’s Look at the Program!

Thank You for Coming!

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