

International Collaboration and Digital Archives:

The Guatemalan National
Police Historical Archive
Project at UT Austin





Overview

- Background on the (AHPN)
- Live demo of the site
- Discussion of the process and lessons learned
- Significance of the project
- Video





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- Reading room open to the public in 2009





AHPN at a Glance: the digital archive

- 10 million pages of scanned images
- Archival processing, digitization, and metadata creation
- At least 2 million new scanned images per year will be added





Demo

ahpn.lib.utexas.edu



Collaborative Initiative

at various levels

- Within UT Austin
- Within UT Libraries
- Between UT and Guatemala







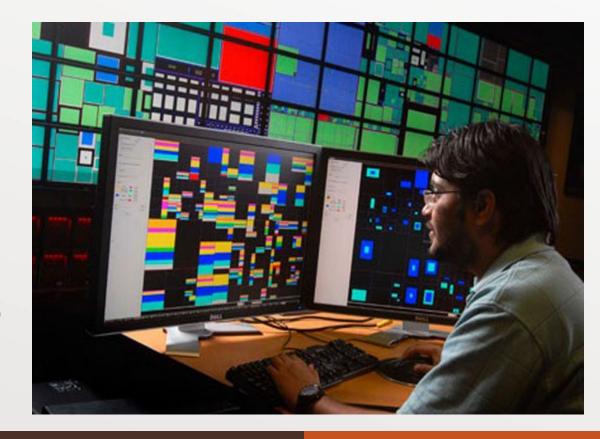






The Technology

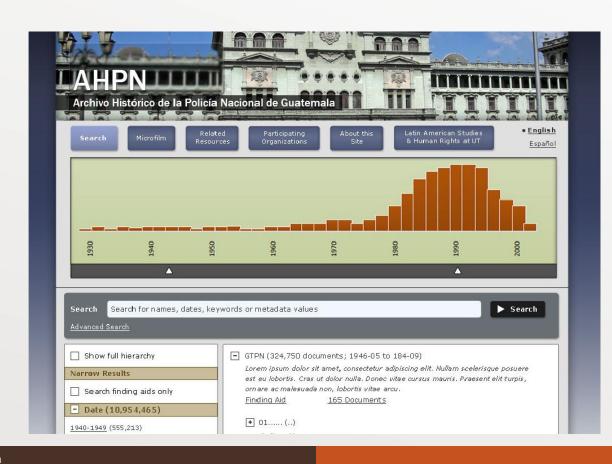
- Apache, Solr, PHP/SQL
- Drupal
- Internet Archive open source page viewer
- TACC's super computers used to generate access derivatives





TIS Process

- Stakeholder meetings
- Requirements
- Information Architecture
- Graphic Design
- Front end development and theming
- Testing





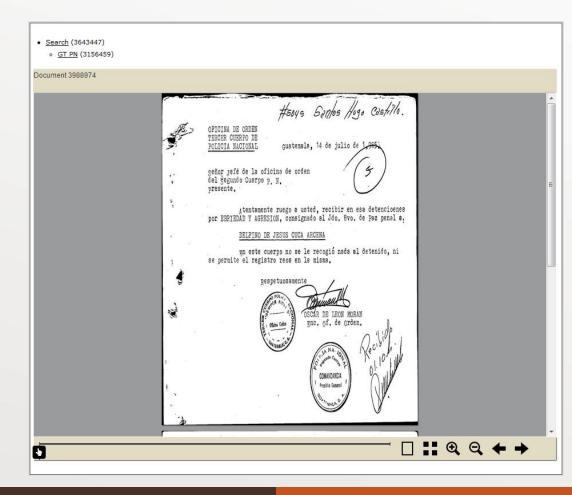
Design Challenges

- Sparse and inconsistent metadata
 - OCR not an option
- How to integrate search, how much to emphasize
 - User expectations
- Feedback/approval process
 - Set expectations at outset
 - Meet to review major milestones



Development Challenges

- Massive scale
- Bilingual
- Evaluating and integrating a page viewer





Project Challenges

- Short timeline + hard deadline
- Insufficient time for planning/initiating
- Collaborative nature
- Lost lead programmer halfway through
- Bilingual



Lessons Learned

- Projects of this size and scope will:
 - Have a project plan outlining each person's role
 - Have a project communications plan
 - Involve the right people at the right time
 - Document what's out of scope
 - Have a coordination plan for creating/editing/translating/populating content



Ceremonial Site Launch

International Conference at UT Dec 2,

2011

- Elections in Guatemala
- Site usage since launch





Project Significance

- Digital libraries as tools for real people
- Uses of AHPN
- Role of Digital Archive

The New York Times

Accused of Atrocities, Guatemala's Ex-Dictator Chooses Silence





Questions or Comments?

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