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# Skills Training ‘Digital Source Criticism’

30-31<sup>st</sup> October 2017



## Source Transformations: *From Analogue to Digital*

*Andy O'Dwyer*

# Skills Training ‘Digital Source Criticism’

30-31<sup>st</sup> October 2017



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## Introduction

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## Case examples - BBC

- **Print:** Radio: Times Magazine
- **Photos:** Archive collection online
- **3D:** “Capturing” BBC TV Centre in 2013

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## Radio Times

- First published in Sept 1923 (still in production)
- “Genome” scanning project
- Digitise first 80 years
- Create a BBC broadcasting timeline (radio & TV)
- Publish online - public access

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1936: TV Launch



1953: Coronation



1957: 21st TV Anniversary



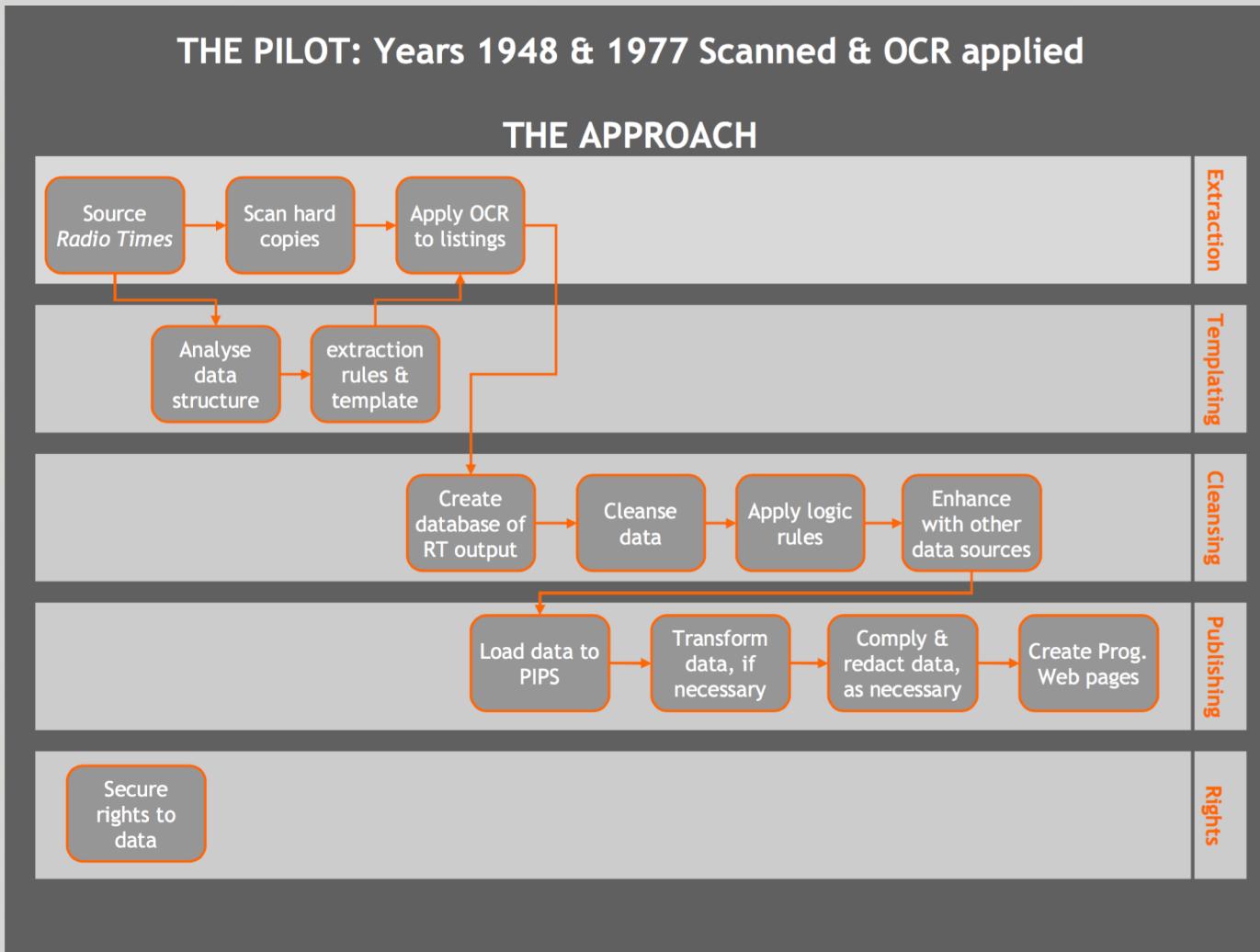
1967: Start of BBC 2

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## Radio Times: Pilot (workflow)



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## THE PILOT:

### Metadata Elements

Time

5.0	CHILDREN'S HOUR
	'Angharad's Well': an old Welsh folk tale retold by Joan Roberts, and read by Sarah Leigh
	'The Echoing Steps'
	A new serial play written for broadcasting by Mollie Chappell. Produced by Lorraine Davies
	Episode 2
	Tig Vaughan.....Timothy Pollard John Vaughan.....Brian Conway Sue Vaughan.....Melba Jones Bina.....Nan Porter Sammy Snell.....Glyn Hardwicke Guy Roderick.....Norman Chapman The stranger.....John Darran
	'Fanfare and Funfair': music for processions, carnivals, circuses, and fairgrounds. Programme devised by Grace Williams

Title

Synopsis

Episode No.

Contributors

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## THE PILOT: METADATA AND OCR

### The outputs

High Resolution Tiff files for each page

searchable pdf file for each page

XML files with listings

The screenshot illustrates the process of digitizing and analyzing historical documents. At the top, three output formats are listed: High Resolution Tiff files for each page, searchable pdf file for each page, and XML files with listings. Arrows point from these descriptions down to a Microsoft Word document titled '8.15 ALEX COMFORT' which contains a transcription of a radio programme. Below this, a Microsoft Word document titled 'OCR TEXT FROM PDF' shows the same text with additional annotations. At the bottom, a Microsoft Word document titled 'CORRESPONDING XML DATA EXTRACTION' displays the XML code generated from the scanned documents.

**High Resolution Tiff files for each page**

**searchable pdf file for each page**

**XML files with listings**

**OCR TEXT FROM PDF**

**CORRESPONDING XML DATA EXTRACTION**

```
<mets:mdWrap MDTYPE="MODS" LABEL="Programme metadata">
<mods:part type="Program Title">
<mods:text>ALEX COMFORT</mods:text>
</mods:part>
<mods:part type="Synopsis">
<mods:text>talks about criticism and tradition in contemporary poetry Because I want to consider the function of criticism I am beginning with the reassertion of tradition 'I To be repeated on Friday at 1033</mods:text>
<mods:part type="Service">
<mods:text>Third Programme</mods:text>
</mods:part>
<mods:part type="DateIssued" encoding="iso8601">1948-08-08T20:15:00</mods:dateIssued>
<mods:note type="dayOfWeek">Sunday</mods:note>
<mods:note type="duration">PT25M</mods:note>
<mods:note type="repeat">No</mods:note>
<mods:note type="service">Third Programme</mods:note>
```

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BBC Sign in News Sport Weather iPlayer TV Radio More Search Q

Genome BETA Radio Times 1923 - 2009 TV ▾ | Radio ▾ | Year ▾ | Issues

Search Advanced ▾ | FAQs | Blog Q



<http://genome.ch.bbc.co.uk/>

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## Digitising Context The Case Of The Radio Times

**Andy O'Dwyer**

BBC Research | Centre House, Wood Lane  
W12 7SB London | United Kingdom | Andy.O'Dwyer@bbc.co.uk

**Abstract:** The BBC is placing online their complete TV and radio schedule information going back to the formation of the BBC in 1922. For the very first time, the public, students and academics will be available to browse through detailed information on the BBC's broadcasting history. This has been made possible by a large scanning project of the BBC's programme guide magazine, the *Radio Times*. Over eighty years of programme information has been scanned, digitised and made ready for access via the Internet. It will be possible to search through years, months and days to see programme titles. There will also be descriptions about these programmes as reflected in the *Radio Times* and information on the contributors, performers, directors and producers.

**Keywords:** audiovisual archives, broadcasting history, Radio Times, programme guides, book scanning

Read more about the BBC Genome project in the Journal of European TV and Culture <http://viewjournal.eu/>

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## BBC Image Collection

**BBC**

BBC PHOTO LIBRARY

Welcome to BBC Photo Library

**Opening of the Radio Networks**  
On 30/09/1967. Radios 1, 2, 3 & 4 were launched in response to pirate radio & replace, Light Prog ;3rd Network & Home Service

Welcome to BBC Photo Library

Welcome to the BBC Photo Library where you can find BBC copyright images available to license for editorial use in digital and print media. This is a commercial fee paying service offered on a business to business basis. All customers must register before being able to use this service. BBC Photos are not available to members of the public for private use. Due to the BBC's status as a Public Service organisation, BBC images must not be used in a way which appears to endorse or promote third parties.

Links to other related sites

BBC Picture Publicity: [Click here](#)  
BBC Motion Gallery for clips & screen grabs: [Click here](#)  
BBC Branding for Logos and Trademarks: [Click here](#)

BBC Home | News | Sport | Weather | iPlayer | TV | Radio | More

Already a customer?

Sign in here with your user name and password.

User Name:

Password:

Remember your details?

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[Read Terms & Conditions](#)  
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## BBC Image Collection

- Digitization on demand (production & project led)
- Flatbed scanning
- No large scale semi-automated projects
- Commercial access – online
- Limited Public access (broadcasting anniversaries/special events)



Broadcasting House 1930



Television Centre 2012

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## BBC TV Centre: image montage



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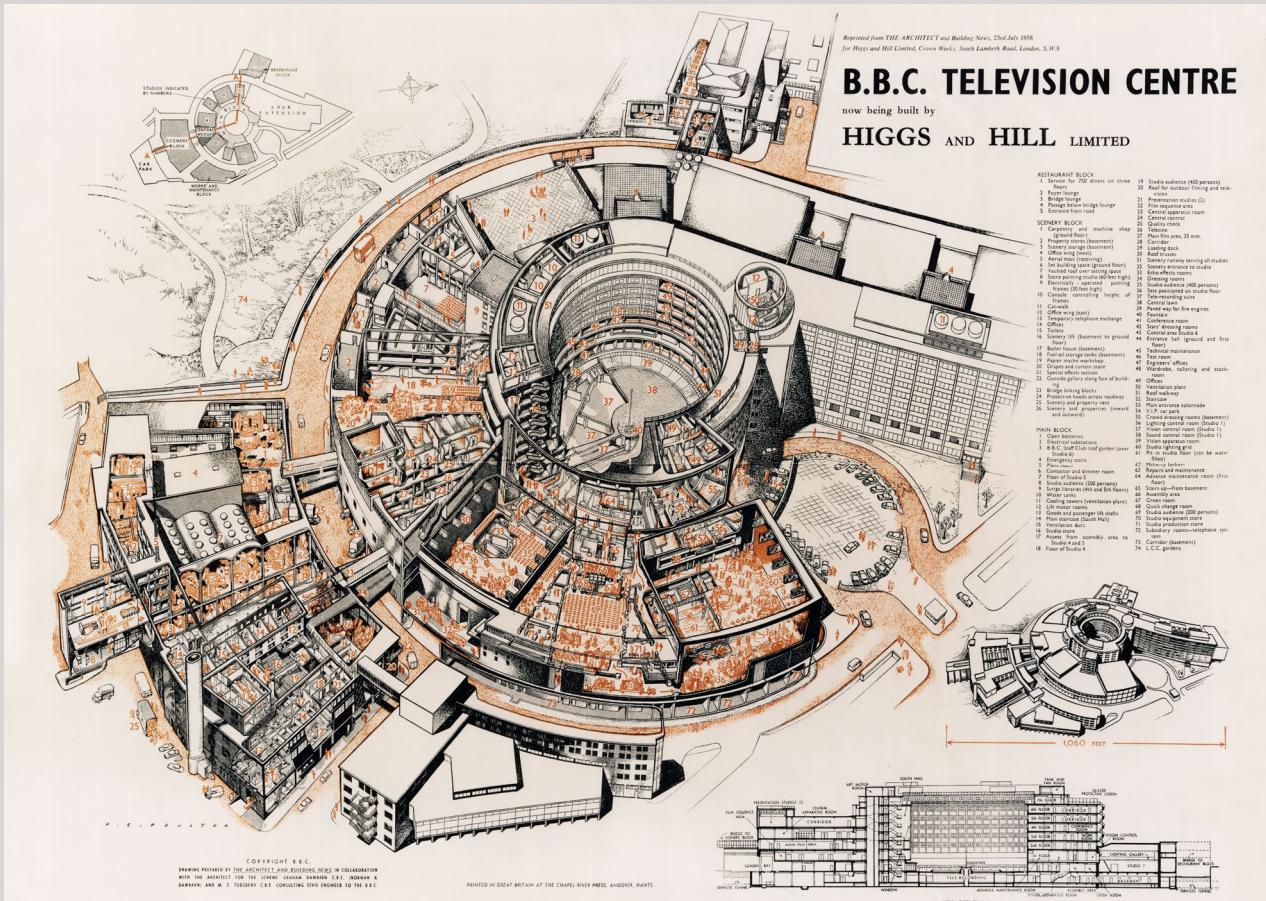
## 3D “Capturing” BBC TV Centre

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## 3D “Capturing” BBC TV Centre



Opened in June 1960 – Closed March 2013

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1960 - 2013



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1960 - 2013

## BBC TV Centre: Goodbye to the 'dream factory'

By Tim Masters

Entertainment and arts correspondent, BBC News

🕒 22 March 2013 | Entertainment & Arts

Share



BBC Television Centre opened in 1960

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## Google Street View – Invited to record TV Centre



Before the BBC Television Centre shut its doors in March, Google mapped the circular building's maze-like corridors, studios and newsroom production offices, pictured using its Street View cameras. Users can now virtually explore all seven floors of the building

[BBC TV Centre Map – link](#)

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## BBC TV Centre 3D Models



[Link to 3D Models online](#)

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Thank You



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