

Digital Preservation and Discoverability Plan - Digitizing the Prohibited Special Collections of The Cannabis Museum

The Cannabis Museum is committed to long-term digital preservation of all materials in its collection along with any or all of its collaborative projects directed at the preservation of historical data regarding the history of cannabis use. Digital archival redundancy, proven standardization adherence, and thorough quality control methods are utilized to protect digital objects.

In the overall landscape of digital humanities and archival information resources, as intended, this project is not technically cutting edge or highly difficult. We are not intending to push the envelope of archival technology or develop novel techniques related to digital preservation or discoverability. Frankly, we are attempting to bring the Cannabis Museum into the 21st century by using best-practices and community tools to digitize its unique, one-of-a-kind holdings. This digitization effort is to serve as the bellwether for the museum (and the only other one like it in Spain) in making its most precious holdings available to a broad audience as possible. For this reason, by seeking funding from a community leading group like CLIR we are hoping to ensure that the best practices used for digital preservation and discoverability are followed.

We believe that the project plan distills and phases the overall workflow into its most basic elements to maximize efficiency. Our project team is composed of subject matter experts, who will be able to provide the detailed and granular metadata, description and transcription elements that would not be as rich or informative if done by experts in archival sciences alone. We are intending to use standard file formats and tools for digitization of these types of materials - nothing exotic.

We are currently establishing a formal, working relationship with the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy team - whose support levels are attached below. We hope this demonstrates that, by the time this project commences, the Cannabis Museum will be expanding itself within a growing network of broader institutional support. Adding the AIHP to other groups the museum is currently associated with - Ohio University, Hocking College, Lloyd Library and Museum.

By including the digitization products of this project within AIHP's infrastructure, along with that provided by the Internet Archive (see: <https://archive.org/search.php?query=journal%20of%20pharmacy>) we are making all efforts possible to ensure that even if the Cannabis Museum should cease to exist (for whatever reason) the items digitized here will sustain online accessibility.

We are committed to using appropriate standards, tools and services that will make the digitized items easily indexed and discoverable. This includes the expert created relationships between items within the collection and those that will be linked to AIHP's Pharmaceutical Trade Catalog Collection. Given pursuit of the Cannabis Museum's mission, our previous initiatives and this digitization project propose we hope it's clear that we are willing to share the metadata and digitized items with the broadest audience possible and with any other institutions with related material. Should any technical or procedural revisions be needed, we sincerely hope the grant selection committee will allow us to provide those revised specifications within the final grant submission period.

Conclusively, this project's goals are to embody standard digitization best practices to material once so completely hidden due to its targeted prohibition and eradication by the federal government.