### RLG's Archival Resources

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# Archival Resources Service Design Principles

- Provide a union catalog of distributed collection guides
- Index full text
- Reliably deliver the complete collection guide

## Locating the Collection Guides

- Initially: used a commercial spider application for assembling content
- Now: using a registry of guide contributors and a "collector" application
- Future: promote consistent internal representation of guides at contributor sites

#### Collection Guide Content

- · Initially: included SGML EAD content only
- Expanded the service to include XML, and accept both beta and version 1 EAD
- Expanded the service to include HTML and ASCII guides
- Enhanced the service by including access to RLIN AMC file bibliographic records
- Future: encourage consistent coding of title and other descriptive metadata in non-EAD guides

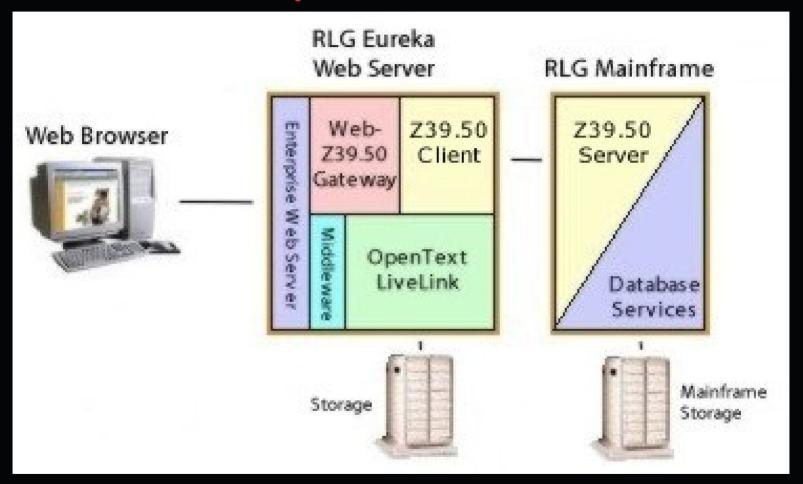
#### Collection Guide Indexing

- Initially and now: indexed full text from EAD guides
- Initially: planned to make substantial use of EAD regions for advanced searching
- Now: to account for variations in EAD practice, have made more selective use of EAD regions in advanced searching
- Now: limited full text indexing of non-EAD guides
- Future: more integration with related resources

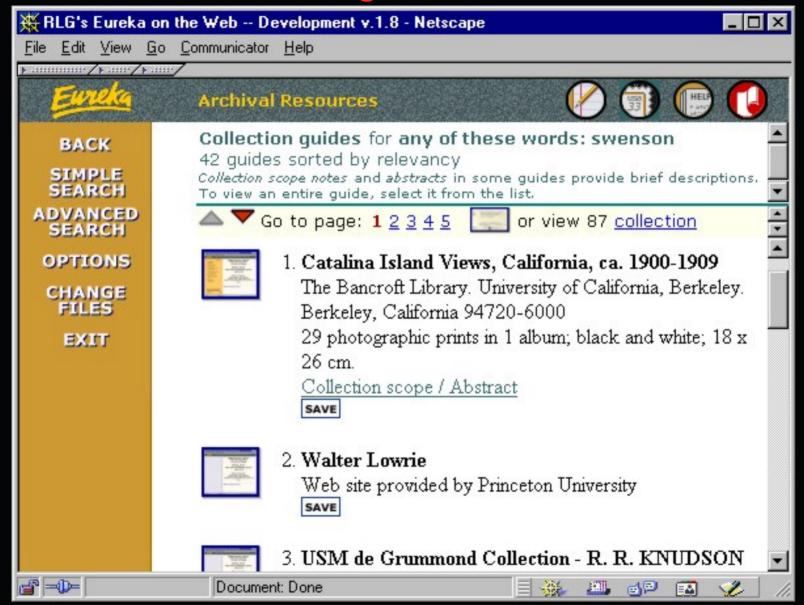
### Collection Guide Viewing

- Initially: planned to link to EAD guides stored on contributors' systems, and rely on SGML plug-in software for viewing
- Now: developed an HTML surrogate stored on an RLG server, enhanced to provide efficient network transfers and search term highlighting
- Future: expect to provide for viewing of XML guides on contributors' servers, as XML support within web browsers becomes more widely available

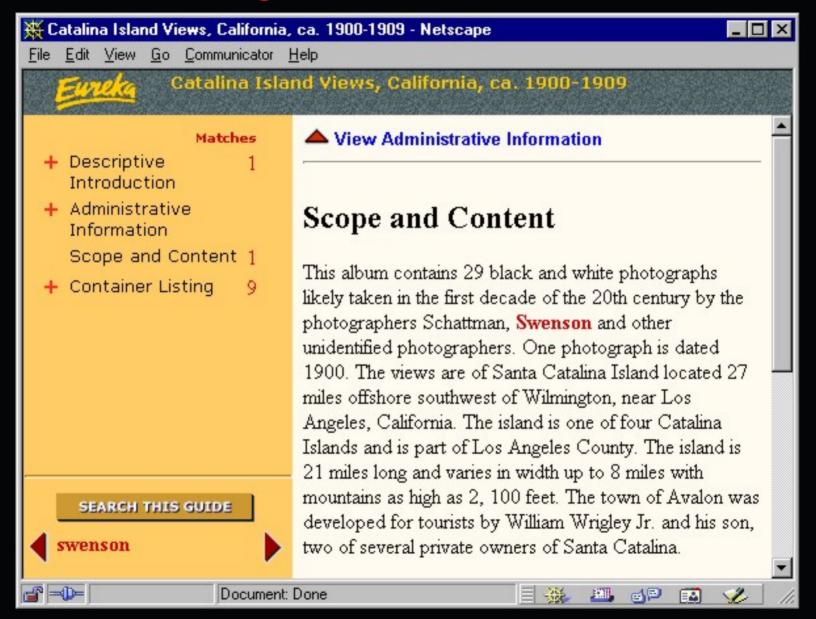
### Current System Architecture



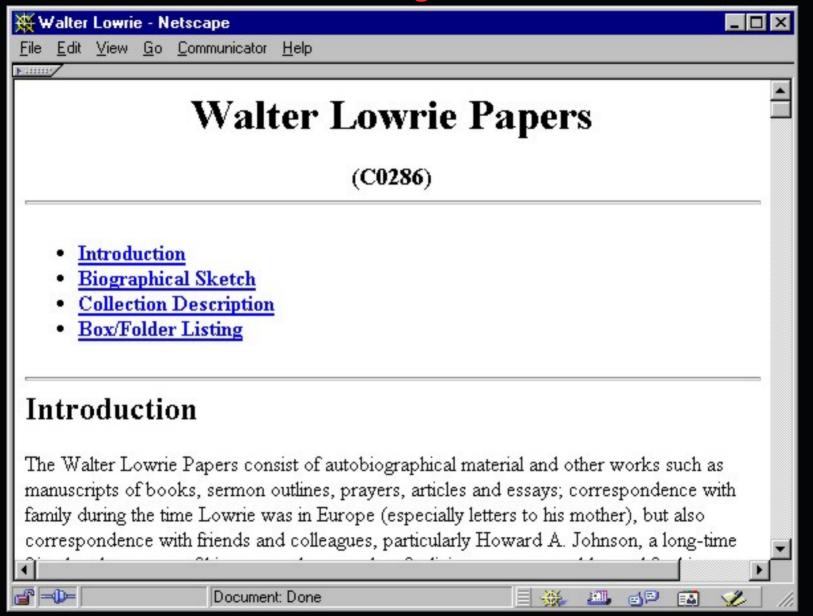
#### EAD and non-EAD guides in search results



#### EAD guide viewed as HTML



#### Non-EAD guide



#### For More Information

- Archival Resources service http://www.rlg.org/arr/index.html
- Contributing finding aids to Archival Resources http://www.rlg.org/rlgead/contribute.html
- RLG's EAD Support Site http://www.rlg.org/rlgead/
- Apex EAD conversion service http://www.rlg.org/rlgead/conversion.html