



## **September 11 Digital Archive <911digitalarchive.org>**

Saving America's Treasures grant, PT5019111

Interim report (July 2013 through December 2013)

Principal Investigator: Sheila A. Brennan

Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University

During the past six months, the *September 11 Digital Archive* team achieved one of its biggest goals and has proceeded on schedule in its tasks to move the *Archive* to the more stable Omeka platform.

Digital Archivist, Jim Safley tested and completed all import scripts and merged the major collections within the *September 11 Digital Archive* into the final database. Working with Omeka version 2.0, Safley successfully imported 267 collections containing nearly 100,000 items. This successful migration was a huge accomplishment for the team, and represents many hours of arduous and frustrating work.

During the fall months, Safley consulted with Sheila A. Brennan, new SAT Principal Investigator, regarding the required customizations for Omeka to ensure that there is no loss of data at the time of the final import. As a member of the Omeka development team, Safley worked very carefully to ensure that all work on the *Archive* matches with the new developments in the Omeka code.

Safley, with the help of RRCHNM Webmaster Ammon Shepherd, successfully prepared and configured the new server, where the migration occurred. The *Archive* now resides on a robust, new, server that will better balance website traffic and usage once re-launched. During this performance period, Shepherd and Safley worked together to resolve configuration issues mentioned in the last report.

The project team has transitioned well with new project PI, Sheila A. Brennan, following the departures of Dan Cohen and Tom Scheinfeldt. RRCHNM worked closely with the NEH and GMU's Office of Sponsored Programs to adjust the budget and workload.

In the next six months, the team will re-launch the *September 11 Digital Archive* on its new server. We will finish and implement any necessary web design customizations in the Omeka installation to ensure that users will be able to easily browse and search through the collection in its new system. Under direction of Brennan, the team will conduct end user testing of the *Archive* before re-launching the project and announcing it publicly. Brennan will consult with the NEH when the re-launched Archive is available for the public to ensure that announcements of this successful SAT-NEH project are widely distributed among interested groups and organizations.

Currently, the *Archive* team is on schedule for completing all project goals for this grant at the end of this performance period.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have about the progress of the project.

Sincerely,  
Sheila A. Brennan  
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