libraries

Infosys 290 § 10
November 15, 05

aob?
assignment
a little history
project gutenberg
paper outlines
google print/library
"the memory of mankind"
Goethe
"reserves against a spiritual winter"
Yourcenar

to Alexandria
institutional resources

library vs archive

individual item vs collection

"portable context"

Gilgamesh
Mesopotamia

"libraries — large reference collections of copies of the 'classical' literary and scientific works — as institutions are more characteristic of the Babylonian and Assyrian civilization of the later second and first millennia BC"

—Jeremy Black
Mesopotamia

**Ebla** (Syria, c 2250 bc)

**Nineveh** (Iraq, 668-627 bc)
Greece

**Aristotle's library** (c. 323 BC)
Theophrastus to Neleus to Alexandria

**Pergamum** (c. 197 BC)
200,000 scrolls
parchment to Alexandria
Alexandria

Ptoleomies
I (367/6-283/2 bc)
II (308-246 bc)

490,000 volumes
"much historical confusion has been caused by what was a multiplicity of libraries"
Jonathan Raven

royal library (est 290 bc)
hall of mouseion
daughter library(Serapeion) (Ptolemy II)
Caesarion
Claudius' library
Pergamum collection
fires

Julius Caesar

Patriarch Theophilus

Caliph Omar
Caesar: Alexandrian War
48 bc (Plutarch, Cicero)

destruction of the Serapeion
Theodosius' decree, 391
(Gibbon)

conquest of Egypt
Amr, 642

"If what is written in them agrees with the Book of God, they are not required: if it disagrees, they are not desired"
—Caliph Omar
a book burning
or a book sale?

Saladin

"Ibn Al-Qifti included ... the fantastic story of Amr ordering the books of the ancient library of Alexandria to be used as fuel for heating the city baths, the implication being that it is less of a crime to sell books in an emergency than to put them to the fire".

Mostafa El-Abbadi
religion & libraries

monastic libraries (Benedictine)
scripture & patristic texts
Monte Cassino

Islamic libraries
Jerusalem, Damascus, Cairo, Cordoba
state libraries

Paris (Charles V)

Florence (Cosimo Medici)

Escorial

Vatican

collections management
orders of dissolution:
Henry VIII to Joseph II
patrons

Duke Humphrey & Bodley

Mazarin & Naudé

"Come in, all you who desire to read"
public libraries

- Grantham (1598)
- British Museum (1753)
  - Panizzi
- London Library
- Mudie's library
selection

separation

Roman libraries: Latin - Greek
Islamic libraries: sacred - secular
exclusion

Christian libraries
profane literature

humanist libraries
"old world"
ephemera
annotations
the Alexandria fantasy

"universal access to all knowledge"
Brewster Kahle

Bibliotheca Universalis, sive
Catalogus omnium scriptorum
locupletissimus, in tribus linguis
Conrad Gesner, 1545

"a Library arranged for the use of the
public must be universal ... "
Avis pour dresser une Bibliothéque,
Gabriel Naudé, 1617
"These Libraries in a few years, will be full and compleat, being furnished, not only with all the valuable and usefull Old Books in any Art of Science, but also with all the valuable New Books, so soon as every they are heard of or seen in the World"

An Overture for Founding and Maintaining of Bibliothecks in Every Paroch Throughout this Kingdom, James Kirkwood, 1699
"I have seen ...

the British Museum ... I could wish the series of medals was connected, and the whole of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms completed, by adding to each at the public expense, those articles that are wanting .... by purchasing all the books of character that are not to be found already in the collection. They might be classed in centuries, according to the dates of their publication, and catalogues printed of them and the manuscripts .... a complete apparatus for a course of mathematics, mechanics, and experimental philosophy".

Tobias Smollett, *Humphrey Clinker*, 1771
"A library of a million volumes could be compressed into one end of a desk". Vannevar Bush

"an America where every child can stretch a hand across a keyboard and reach every book ever written, every painting ever painted, every symphony ever composed". Bill Clinton, 1966

"A young generation of entrepreneurs asked what if we could take all the information in a library and put it on a little chip the size of a fingernail? We did that and changed the world forever".
the virtual library

"those addicted to tree flakes encased in dead cow" —Bill Mitchell
the future of the library

Any Text. Anytime. Anywhere. (Any Volunteers?)

The mechanics of a universal library are simple. The tricky part: harnessing the free labor.

It's a bad day in the stacks.

I go there for seven: three books found, one that should be there but isn't, one recorded lost, and one checked out that will have to be recalled. The seventh is the one I really want: QBQ.5111.

There's no copy in UC Berkeley's main Doe Library stacks; it's shelved in the Math Library. The math copy is not where it's supposed to be, but the catalog claims there are two copies on the shelves in Math. Then times up. It will be 44 hours before I get another crack at tracking down Appendix E of Carl Bajenar, et al., Communication With Extraterrestrial Intelligence.

And that's after two hours doing very low grade work: looking up call numbers, meandering down corridors, waiting for the crowds to clear out between the compact movable stacks so I can get at the shelves without crushing grad students in the next aisle. Knowledge revolution, indeed.
virtual library

Status: U
Date: Wed, 29 Jan 2003 07:56:21 -0800 (PST)
To: wired@slofi.com (pd)
From: fromwired@slofi.com (dp)
CC: fromwired@slofi.com

From Wired Magazine, available online at:
http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/11.02/view.html?pg=5

VIEW

Will biometric security scans really make us safer?

Tom McLaughlin
Project manager, Office of Law Enforcement Technology
Commercialization
quality control

Project Gutenberg Shandy

A work by Laurence Sterne

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman.

(two lines in Greek)
textual criticism

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divisions: chapters

Chapter 1.I

Chapter 4.LXXXI

blank chapter, torn out chapter, chapters on holes, sleep, sash windows, and even a "chapter on chapters."
And in this, Sir, I am of so nice and singular a humour, that if I thought you was able to form the least judgment or probable conjecture to yourself, of what was to come in the next page,—I would tear it out of my book.

Chapter 1.XXVI.

I have begun a new book, on purpose that I might have room enough to
Chapter 1.LII.

End of the first volume.

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gent.

Volume the Second

Multitudinis imperitae non formido judicia, meis tamen, rogo, parcant opusculis — in quibus fuit propositi semper, a jocis ad seria, in seriis vicissim ad jocos transire. Joan. Saresberiensis, Episcopus Lugdun.

Chapter 2.I.
in coition all at once with Scorpio \(^1\) (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth house, which the Arabians allotted to religion—it appeared that Martin Luther did not care one stiver about the matter—and that from the horoscope directed to the conjuction of Mars—they made it plain likewise he must die cursing and blaspheming—with the blast of which his soul (being steeped in guilty) sailed before the wind, into the lake of hell fire.

The little objection of the Lutheran doctors to this, was, that it must certainly be the soul of another man, born Oct. 22, 83, which was forced to sit down before it with in that manner—inasmuch as they appeared from the registre of Islaben, in the county of Mansfelt, that Luther was not born in the year 1483, but in 84. The year of the 22nd of October, but on the 10th of November, the eye of Marti-

mas day, from whence he had the name of Martin.

—I must break off my translation for a moment; as I did not, I know I should no more be able to shut my eyes in bed, than the abbess of Queen's burg. I am in such fear that my father never read this passage of Slawkentoe, to my uncle Toby but with triumph—not over my uncle Toby, for he never opposed him in his opinions, but in the world.

—Now you see, brother Toby, he would say, nothing but that Christian names are not such indifferent things, had Luther here been called by any other name but Martin, he would have been dier, and to all intents, I look upon Martin, he would add, as a good name—far from

---

1. Haec mira, satisque horrenda. Planetarum coito sub Scorpio in nona coeli statione, quam Arabes religionis hostem ascribunt, et auctor deputabant efficit Martinum Lutherum sacrilegium hereticum, Christianae religionis hostem acerrimum atque prophanum, ex horoscopi directione ad Martis coitum, religiosissimus obiit, ejus Anima scelestissima ad infernos navigavit—ab Alecto, Tisiphone & Megara flagellis ignes cruciata perenniter.—Lucas Gaurieus in Tractatu astrologico de praeteritis multitum hominum accidentibus per genituras examinatis.) (in reading this my father would always shake his head) in the ninth house ...
lost pages

monumental inscription

Ten times a day has Yorick's ghost the consolation to hear his monumental inscription read over with such a variety of plaintive tones, as denote a general pity and esteem for him;—a foot-way crossing the church-yard close by the side of his grave,—not a passenger goes by without stopping to cast a look upon it,—and sighing as he walks on, Alas, poor Yorick!

Chapter 1.XIII.

It is so long since the reader of this rhapsodical work has been parted from the midwife, that it is high time to mention her again to him,
motley emblem of my work

I tell you before-hand, you had better throw down the book at once; for without much reading, by which your reverence knows I mean much knowledge, you will no more be able to penetrate the moral of the next marbled page (motley emblem of my work!) than the world with all its sagacity has been able to unravel the many opinions, transactions, and truths which still lie mystically hid under the dark veil of the black one.

(two marble plates)
And possibly, gentle reader, with such a temptation—so wouldst thou: for never did thy eyes behold, or thy concupiscence covet, any thing in this world more concupiscible than widow Wadman.

Chapter 3. LXXXI.

To conceive this right,—call for pen and ink—here's paper ready to your hand.—Sit down, Sir, paint her to your own mind—as like your mistress as you can—as unlike your wife as your conscience will let you—'tis all one to me—please but your own fancy in it.
It was one cool refreshing evening, at the close of a very sultry day, in the latter end of the month of August, when a stranger, mounted upon a dark mule, with a small cloak-bag behind him, containing a few shirts, a pair of shoes, and a crimson-fattin pair of breeches, entered the town of Straßburg.

He told the sentinel, who questioned him as he entered the gates, that he had been at the Promontory of Noses—was going on to Frankfort—and should be back again at Straßburg that day month, in his way to the borders of Crim-Tartary.
I am now beginning to get fairly into my work; and by the help of a vegetable diet, with a few of the cold seeds, I make no doubt but I shall be able to go on with my uncle Toby's story, and my own, in a tolerable straight line. Now,

(four very squiggly lines across the page signed Inv.T.S and Scw.T.S)
lost & found

"Shall we for ever make new books, as apothecaries make new mixtures, by pouring only out of one vessel into another?"

quality control

errors in *Tristram Shandy* "originate in some popular nineteenth-century editions"

—R.C. Bald.
along came google

Where's My Access to the Universal Online Library of Humanity?

It's heeerrrrreee! Actually, it's not here yet. But it's coming:

Google Print Search: brad delong:

"Economic Puppetmasters: Lessons from the Halls of Power by Lawrence B. Lindsey - Page 18As Brad delong, former Clinton aide, now a professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said in a Wall Street ...[ More results from this book ]


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google print & tristram shandy
Tristram Shandy

Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman
by Laurence Sterne - Fiction - 2004 - 476 pages
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The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy

Table of Contents

The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy.......................................................... 1
Laurence Sterne.......................................................... 1
Chapter 1.XXII.......................................................... 56
Cap. 2.III.......................................................... 127
Today, we welcome the world to our library,” said President Mary Sue Coleman. “Examples of public domain works available today from U-M include: “The Private Correspondence of Benjamin Franklin” from 1818, 10 volumes of “The Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution;” and “The Emigrant’s Guide” from 1829 addressing “the taxpayers of England” and containing “information necessary to persons who are about to emigrate.”
honest brokers

economics of information
information in the market
information about the market

in and about libraries
google scholar & those "dark areas"

lux aeterna
Lexis-Nexis & the French law corpus
... d’aller chercher dans les seules bases de données anglaises ou américaines un récit et une interprétation qui y étaient biaisés de multiples façons : les vaillants aristocrates britanniques triomphant des jacobins sanguinaires, la guillotine occultant les droits de l’homme et les intuitions fulgurantes de la Convention.

Jean-Noël Jeannenay, Le Monde 2005
les françaises
what is google doing?

**order is elsewhere**

Page & Brin "dreamed of making the incredible breadth of information that librarians so lovingly organize searchable online".

**order is ours**

"Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful".

**order and disorder**

Archie, WAIS, Yahoo, but Google?
"copy ... the actual manuscript that the compositor followed ... or text to which the Stationer could claim to possess some right ....A copy in the second sense could then be represented as properly comprising all that the work in question should be, as well as all that a particular manuscript copy was".

Joseph Loewenstein
do no evil

"depart from evil, and do good"
Psalms 34.14

"By working with existing institutions and funding sources, and creating new ones, we can provide universal access to all human knowledge within the current worldwide library budget".
Brewster Khale