



Glenn  
Cumiskey  
2018-01-24

# Digital Preservation – What I Wish I Knew...

DPC WIWIK Conference, Senate House, January 2018

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/joseph-wright-of-derby-an-experiment-on-a-bird-in-the-air-pump>



<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/joseph-wright-of-derby-an-experiment-on-a-bird-in-the-air-pump>

Today I want to:

- Encourage you to consider digital preservation as a career path
- Highlight three resources I wish I had when I began
- Tell you about three things I'm currently working on

# Working in Digital Preservation



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keypunch#/media/File:Card\\_puncher\\_-\\_NARA\\_-\\_513295.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keypunch#/media/File:Card_puncher_-_NARA_-_513295.jpg)

Photo dated December 31, 1919 of census worker with Hollerith pantograph punch. The keyboard layout is for the US Census 1920 population card



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**A** The National Archives



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



**ads**  
ARCHAEOLOGY  
DATA SERVICE



**BFI** Film  
Forever



HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

**dri**  
Digital Repository of Ireland  
Taiscarn Eilgheach na hÉire



IAEA  
International Atomic Energy Agency



BRITISH  
LIBRARY

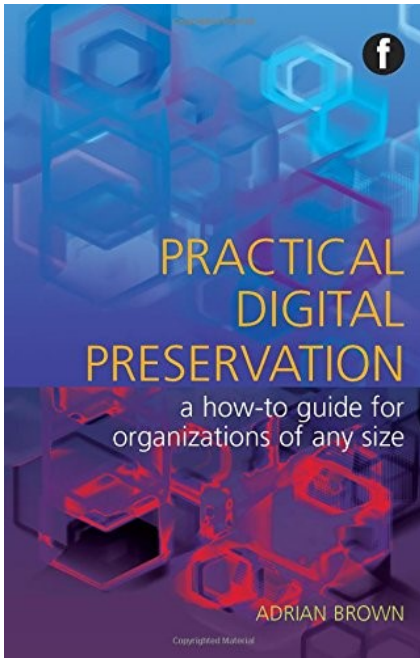
- Analyst Programmer
- Archivist
- Business Analyst
- Conservator Time Based Media
- Data Ingest Officer
- Data Scientist
- Digital Archivist
- Digital Programme Delivery Manager
- Digital Project Manager
- Digitisation Officer
- Digital Data Curator
- Digital Preservation Analyst
- Digital Preservation Assistant
- Digital Preservation Manager
- Digital Preservation Specialist
- Digital Research & Technology Lead
- Head of Digital Archiving
- Head of Digital Services
- Head of Digital & Technology Research
- Head of Information & Records Management
- Head of IT
- Head of Preservation & Access
- ICT Officer
- Infrastructure Services Team Lead
- Information Analyst
- Information & Records Manager
- Lead Metadata Manager
- Lead Technologist
- Library & Archive Assistant
- Metadata Assistant
- Metadata Cataloguer
- Preservation Repository Manager
- Programme Manager
- Project Cataloguer
- Project Creative Lead
- Project Curator
- Repository Manager
- Requirements Manager
- Research Assistant
- Research Data Librarian
- Research Data Specialist
- Research Manager
- Senior Discovery Metadata Officer
- Senior Software Engineer
- Systems Engineer
- Technical Analyst
- Technical Infrastructure Architect
- UI Designer Developer

# 3 Resources I Wish I Had



[http://www.culturenorthernireland.org/sites/default/files/styles/slideshow\\_-\\_non-scaled\\_full\\_width/public/content/Wheels.jpg?itok=vE5fAnpB](http://www.culturenorthernireland.org/sites/default/files/styles/slideshow_-_non-scaled_full_width/public/content/Wheels.jpg?itok=vE5fAnpB)

Jean Ritchie recording Seamus Ennis, Ireland, 1952



## Resource One - Getting up to speed:

Practical Digital Preservation

Adrian Brown

Facet Publishing, 2013

ISBN-10: 1856047555

ISBN-13: 978-1856047555

Buy on Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Facet-Preservation-Collection-How-Organizations/dp/1856047555>

# Personal Digital Archiving

Gabriela Redwine

DPC Technology Watch Report 15-01 December 2015

Series editors on behalf of the DPC  
Charles Beagrie Ltd.

Principal Investigator for the Series  
Neil Beagrie



## Resource Two - Try it out for yourself:

Personal Digital Archiving

Gabriela Redwine

Digital Preservation Coalition, 2015

ISSN: 2048-7916

DOI:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.7207/twr15-01>

<http://www.dpconline.org/docs/technology-watch-reports/1460-twr15-01/file>



### **Resource Three – Don't be afraid:**

edX CS50 Introduction to Computer Science  
Online Course  
Harvard University, 2018

<https://www.edx.org/course/cs50s-introduction-computer-science-harvardx-cs50x>



# 3 Things I'm Working On





Museum's X-Radiography Suite, Daniel O'Flynn, Gayer Anderson Cat



[https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection\\_online/collection\\_object\\_details/collection\\_image\\_gallery.aspx?assetId=1613026573&objectId=3652094&partId=1](https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details/collection_image_gallery.aspx?assetId=1613026573&objectId=3652094&partId=1)

Tuareg man playing traditional stringed instrument, the Endza. Niger, Scanned

# The Moral Question



<https://d.ibtimes.co.uk/en/full/1420747/dresden-bombing.jpg>

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/lost-memory-libraries-and-archives-destroyed-in-the-twentieth-century/>

#### MEMORY OF THE WORLD LOST MEMORY - LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES DESTROYED IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY March 1996

Every year, precious fragments, if not whole chunks of the world documentary heritage, disappear through “natural” causes: acidified paper that crumbles to dust, leather, parchment, film and magnetic tape attacked by light, heat, humidity or dust.

## Footage released of Guardian editors destroying Snowden hard drives

GCHQ technicians watched as journalists took angle grinders and drills to computers after weeks of tense negotiations

● Watch the footage of the hard drives being destroyed



New video footage has been released for the first time of the moment Guardian editors destroyed computers used to store top-secret documents leaked by the NSA whistleblower **Edward Snowden**.

I am an Arctic researcher. Donald Trump is deleting my citations

*Victoria Herrmann*

These politically motivated data deletions come at a time when the Arctic is warming twice as fast as the global average

● Analysis: Trump signals end of US dominance in climate change battle



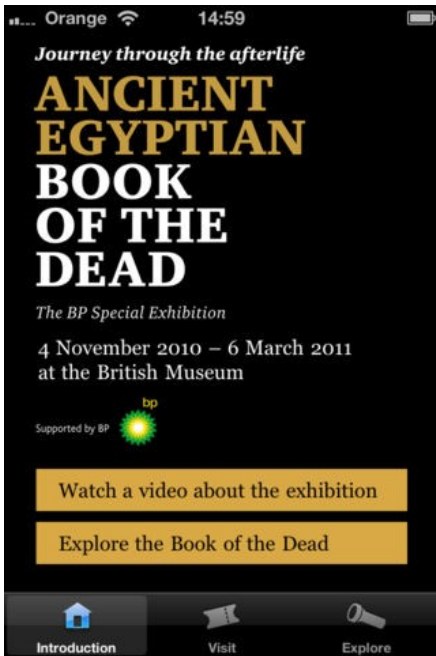
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2014/jan/31/footage-released-guardian-editors-snowden-hard-drives-gchq>

/31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2014 - The Guardian took the decision to destroy its own Macbooks after the government explicitly threatened the paper with an injunction.

28<sup>th</sup> March 2017

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/mar/28/arctic-researcher-donald-trump-deleting-my-citations>

# Competition Time!



## How should I digitally preserve this app?

App Url:

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/book-of-the-dead/id403229794?mt=8>

(or Search for 'Book of the Dead' in App Store)

Forward your answers to me at:

[gcumiskey@britishmuseum.org](mailto:gcumiskey@britishmuseum.org)

**Prize:** afternoon behind-the-scenes tour of the British Museum



<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/joseph-wright-of-derby-an-experiment-on-a-bird-in-the-air-pump>



t: @GlennCumiskey  
e: gcumiskey@britishmuseum.org