Developing a personal digital archiving guide

Sarah Severson
McGill University Library
Developing a personal digital archiving guide

Or how I wanted to build my own family digital archive & couldn’t find answers to my questions so maybe there needs be a guide to personal digital archiving

Sarah Severson
McGill University Library
over 1000 postcards
600 photographs
1 envelope
so far
share and preserve
Halsfjord
-just west of Oslo.

our flat (apartment) and car marked with "X"

"The Fosseway"
Bristol
March 1974

Sept 30, 1973
Bristol
telling stories
Stan is frustrated that he can't easily advise people on how to do a personal archiving project themselves, let alone share one online with other contributors. He said that most of the necessary tools still are not easy enough to use. Stan said, "And on the scanning side, you need to know about file systems and setting up folders and things like that, which is far too complex for most people. And frankly, they don't need to know about that level."
Frameworks

Archive of feelings
Micro-histories
Small data
Collaborative & community repositories
Activist & radical archiving practices
Activists’ Guide to Archiving Video

Create
Start archiving your video at the point of creation.

Transfer
Move video and metadata from one device or location to another.

Acquire
Receive video and metadata from a source and add it to your collection.

Organize
Organize your digital video files and documentation.

Store
Store your videos, manage the storage environment, and recover from errors.

Catalog
Create a structured and searchable system for creating and managing metadata, and finding your videos.

Preserve
Ensure that your collection will be preserved and accessible far into the future.

Share
Make your collection accessible to others outside your organization.

http://archiveguide.witness.org
METADATA IS A LOVE NOTE TO THE FUTURE

- Jason Scott @textfiles
## Basic Image Information

**Target file:** 00284_p_10aey78x160244.jpg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caption:</th>
<th>David Severson - Halsfjord, just west of Oslo, Norway - June 1974</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artist:</td>
<td>Picasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keywords:</td>
<td>Travel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Date:** June 8, 1974 2:19:06PM (timezone not specified)
(39 years, 10 months, 3 days, 10 hours, 59 minutes, 13 seconds ago, assuming image timezone of 1 hour ahead of GMT)

**Location:**

Latitude/longitude: 58° 55' 39" North, 5° 39' 38.5" East

(58.927513, 5.660705)

Map via embedded coordinates at: Google, Yahoo, WikiMapia, OpenStreetMap, Bing
(see the Google Maps pane below)

Timezone guess from earthtools.org: 1 hour ahead of GMT

**File:** 2,760 × 1,824 JPEG (5.0 megapixels)

**Color Encoding:** Embedded color profile: “sRGB”

### XMP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>XMP Toolkit</th>
<th>XMP Core 5.1.2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date/Time Original</td>
<td>1974:06:08 14:19:06+00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>David Severson - Halsfjord, just west of Oslo, Norway - June 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Picasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Name</td>
<td>David Severson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Type</td>
<td>Face</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Area X</td>
<td>0.632675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region Area Y</td>
<td>0.686232</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Flickr

David Severson - Halsfjord, just west of Oslo, Norway - June 1974

00284_p_10aey78x160244

June 8, 1974

Some Rights Reserved

Add a comment

Madla, Rogaland Fylke, Norway
“Family photos are discrete items but family stories are not. Sometimes you end up with metadata with no data.”

- Pekka Uotila
Next steps
Questions?

sarah.severson@mcgill.ca

pinboard.in/u:sarah0s/t:personal_digital_archiving/