

CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

Preservation Newsletter – July 2019

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Last fall, a survey was sent out to collection managers in order to gather information about digital preservation practices for our [Mind the Gap](#) CCAHA presentation. Some respondents indicated that they didn't have any born digital collection material. Unfortunately, if you think you don't have digital collection material, you are mistaken. But don't worry! CJH staff is here to help.

The work we perform on a day-to-day basis is an important part of our mission to preserve Jewish heritage. Every Partner has an institutional archive ("IA") that collects and documents this work for our internal records and future researchers. From the front desk to collection managers, we all share in this particular work. Every person who works for that Partner organization generates and maintains born digital files. The content that you have on your desktop, right now, is potential IA material. In broader terms, one day your institutional archive will be some other organizations' collection with a born digital component. Even now, Partners collect *other* organizations' records, their IA. Your Digital Humanities projects are not only IA material, but also born digital. Your websites are not only IA material, but also born digital.

In the next few Preservation Newsletters, we will be covering some basic digital preservation topics. This is not meant to be a comprehensive education, but an introduction to the world of digital. If you have any questions, please ask!

As you are staying tuned for more information, here are some anecdotes and horror stories about digital "collections" as we can think about them:

- [Data Loss](#)
- [Data Loss at Universities](#)
- [The First Web Page](#)
- [The Early Web](#)
- [The Early Internet](#)
- [Myspace](#)
- [Myspace Data Migration](#)
- [Government Data Gone](#)