



PhillyHistory.org Web Site

<http://www.phillyhistory.org/>

Geographically Located Assets on the Web

The Philadelphia Department of Records has over 2 million photographs dating back to 1865. Among these photographs are stunning pictures of ships arriving at dock, horse-drawn carriages on cobble streets, and the decaying Eastern State Penitentiary, America's most historic prison. Today, the public can search for over 30,000 of these photographs by location, view the photographs online, and purchase prints to be delivered to their home or office.

The PhillyHistory.org web site is a web-based GIS application which allows the public to search for historic photographs based on location. Users can search for photographs within a certain neighborhood, within a radius of an address, near a particular intersection, or by a place name like City Hall. In addition users can search for photographs during certain years as well as by keywords. For example, a user might search for a picture of 'gas lamps' or they might search for photographs near their own home address. All search results are returned with a map showing building footprints, streets, and the location of photographs in the area.

PhillyHistory.org is an example of an innovative way that the City of Philadelphia is both improving public access to important documents and generating new revenue to fund City operations.

Benefits

Easily accessible via the Internet

Simple and straightforward user-interface

Geographic navigation finds photos near addresses and in particular neighborhoods

Purchase high quality prints with secure credit card payment system

Extensible design enables future expansion and progressive integration of new photos, maps and audio

Gathers user feedback via surveys, error reports, and scan requests

<http://www.pocketculture.org/>

<http://www.phillyhistory.org/>

Department of Records
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