

Preserving the Conservation Movement:

Digital preservation and
dissemination models for the
"Evolution of the American
Conservation Movement, 1850-1920"
digital collection



Project Team



Project Lead

Courtney Griffin, University of Washington

Residential MLIS student. Former Curator at the Montana State University Archives and Special Collections, and Yellowstone National Park enthusiast.



Project Sponsor

Jennifer González, Law Library of Congress

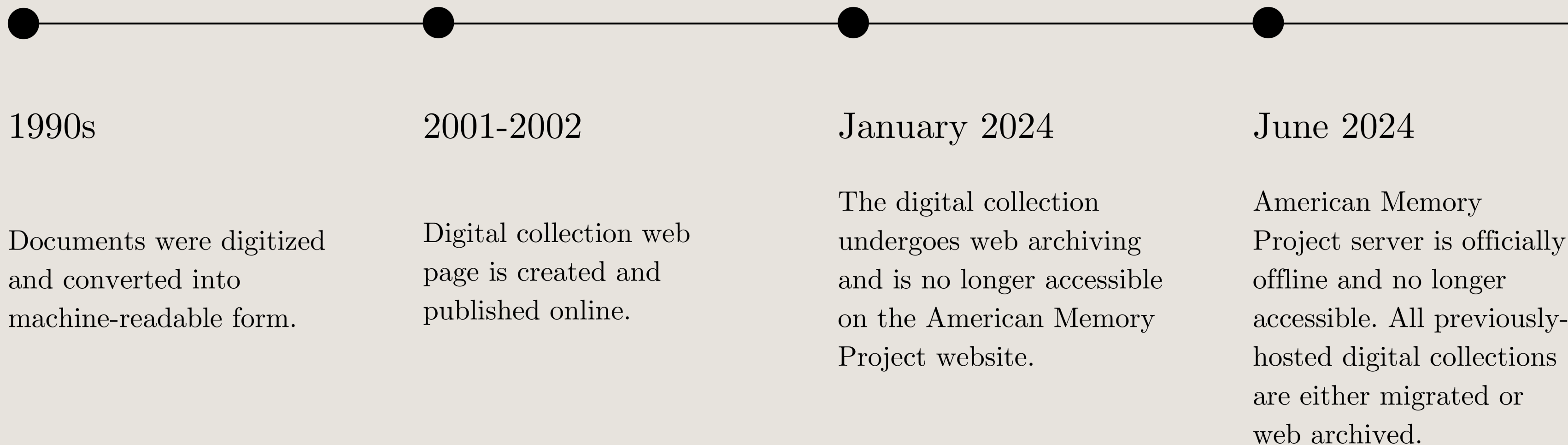
Senior legal information specialist. Serves as webmaster, coordinates the publication of digital collections, and manages remote internships for the Law Library.

The Digital Collection- American Memory Project

"The Evolution of the Conservation Movement, 1850-1920 documents the historical formation and cultural foundations of the movement to conserve and protect America's natural heritage, through books, pamphlets, government documents, manuscripts, prints, photographs, and motion picture footage drawn from the collections of the Library of Congress."



Digital Collection & American Memory Project Timeline



Why this matters?

Preserving a digital collection of legal documents detailing the conservation history and movement in America from 1850 to 1920 is paramount in today's context of ongoing environmental discourse and action. As climate change stands as one of the foremost political challenges nationally and globally, understanding the roots and evolution of conservation efforts becomes indispensable.

These historical documents serve as a crucial foundation for comprehending the legal frameworks, policies, and debates surrounding environmental conservation during a pivotal period in American history. From the establishment of National Parks to the delineation of water rights and the protection of wildlife, these legal artifacts provide invaluable insights into the genesis of modern environmental consciousness.

Moreover, the relevance of these historical records transcends mere academic interest. In contemporary times, where debates on environmental policy and sustainability solutions dominate political agendas, access to such archival materials becomes instrumental. By studying the successes, failures, and ideologies of past conservation movements, policymakers, activists, and scholars alike can access invaluable lessons and perspectives to inform present-day decision-making.

The preservation of this digital collection not only honors the legacy of conservation pioneers but also empowers current and future generations to navigate the complex terrain of environmental governance with greater wisdom and foresight.

What it contains: 555 Digital Objects

140 Federal statutes and Congressional, drawn from the Statutes at Large.

Pages from Congressional Globe or Congressional Record and all official Senate and House documents (Senate Reports, Senate Documents, Senate Executive Documents, Senate Miscellaneous Documents, and House Reports)

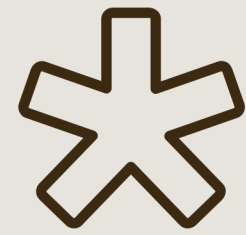
360 Presidential proclamations on conservation-related topics from 1889 to 1920, also from the Statutes at Large.

61	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 20, Chap. 182, pp. 394-95. "Geological Survey." eighteen hundred and eighty, and for other purposes."</u>
62	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 20, Chap. 213, pp. 134-135. "An act for the prese"</u>
63	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 23, Chap. 316, p. 340. "An act to protect the fish River."</u>
64	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 24, Chap. 209, pp. 408-09. "An act to grant certa Public Act No. 67]</u>
65	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 24, Chap. 288, pp. 434-35. "An act relating to the"</u>
66	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 24, Chap. 575, pp. 100-104. "An Act making an a for other purposes."</u>
67	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 25, Chap. 415, pp. 1009-1010. "An act to provide"</u>
68	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 26, Chap. 1121, p. 502. "An act to authorize entr"</u>
69	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 26, Chap. 1263, pp. 650-52. "An act to set apart o"</u>
70	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 26, Chap. 561, pp. 1095-1103. "An act to repeal t"</u>
71	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 26, Chap. 926, p. 478. "An act to set apart a cert"</u>
72	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 26, Proclamation No. 1, pp. 1543-44. "By the Pre"</u>
73	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 26, Proclamation No. 17, p. 1565. "By the Presid"</u>
74	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Chap. 150, p. 472. "An act to extend to the N"</u>
75	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Chap. 205, pp. 235-36. "An act granting to th Park, in the said state."</u>
76	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Proclamation No. 12, pp. 998-99. "By the Pre"</u>
77	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Proclamation No. 15, pp. 1006-1007. "By the"</u>
78	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Proclamation No. 2, pp. 980-81. "By the Pres"</u>
79	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Proclamation No. 21, pp. 1014-1016. "By the"</u>
80	<u>U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 27, Proclamation No. 28, pp. 1027-1029. "By the"</u>

How it is organized

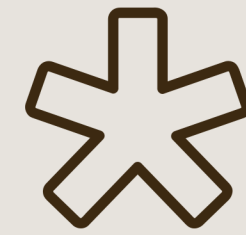
- Primarily, search is facilitated alphabetically.
- Law material is integrated into the all digital objects.
- Because the collection has been web archived, users no longer able to separate each repositories' objects easily.
- Items exist elsewhere in the LOC Digital Collections, but these locations are not accessible through the ECM site.

Objectives and Impacts



Collocation

Keeping relevant items
together



Reach

Making items accessible to
users

Preservation Process

Metadata, Indexing, and
Secondary Locations



Annotated Bibliography

In-depth review of 10 sources for digital object dissemination including blogs, articles, digital exhibits, and collection repositories within the Library of Congress and elsewhere. Particular focus was on content related to National Parks and legal documentation.

Content	Link	Notes	Pros
Collection Highlights: Civic Duty in 18th Century America with Conductor Generalis, IN CUSTODIA LEGIS	https://blogs.loc.gov/law/2023/12/collection-highlights-civic-duty-in-18th-century-america-with-conductor-generalis/	Blog, Law LOC	Easy to read, nice formatting with good layout for digital objects and quotes.
Exploring the National Parks in the Geography and Map Division, St. Onge, LOC, Storymap	https://blogs.loc.gov/maps/2016/08/exploring-the-national-parks-in-the-geography-and-map-division/	Story map of National Park, includes digital objects and historical context.	Easy read through the sectioning of items within the storymap
History of the Antarctic Treaty System, Storymap	https://www.loc.gov/ghe/cascade/index.html?appid=eb78cec7f5e34c40a2ee13732c4bf805&bookmark=Discovery	Story map	Great formatting and image inclusion
In the Shadow of the Arch, Yellowstone NP, Blog	https://www.nps.gov/yell/blogs/hrcblog.htm	Series of blog posts highlighting certain areas of research or historical documents and photos related to YNP. Blogs appear to be about 1-2 pages in length.	Can explore different aspects of work and digital collections without sticking to one main event or theme--could use this to explore different aspects of conservation based on the subject classifications.

The logo for Yellowstone National Park, featuring the word "Yellowstone" in a bold, white, serif font.

National Park
ID, MT, WY

[Plan Your Visit](#) ▼

[Learn About the Park](#) ▼

[Get Involved](#) ▼

[NPS.gov](#) / [Park Home](#) / [Learn About the Park](#) / [History & Culture](#) / [Collections](#) / [HRC Blog](#)

In the Shadow of the Arch

Yellowstone National Park blog - highlights various activities of the park and their digital collections



IN CUSTODIA LEGIS
Law Librarians of Congress

ISSN 2691-6592



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About this Blog: In Custodia Legis

In Custodia Legis is Latin for “in the custody of the law,” a nod to the fact that the Law Library of Congress is a custodian of law and legislation for both the nation and the world. Our team of bloggers covers current legal trends, developments and enhancements to [Congress.gov](#), issues in collecting for the largest law library in the world, legal history and arcana and a range of international perspectives including New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Israel, Eritrea, China and Mexico.

In Custodia Legis
- Law Library of
Congress official
blog highlighting
(digital and
physical)
collections

Dissemination Models

In Custodia Legis, Blog Series

Pros: Existing users and reputation. Precedent for collection highlights.

Cons: Limited ability to highlight large sections of the collection.

Story Map or Timeline

Pros: Aesthetic presentation of collection information.

Cons: Inability to highlight large sections of the collection.

Articles and Essays

Pros: Ability to collocate collection information to larger digital collections.

Cons: Would be limited to access from only one other digital collection.

Collection Highlight, Object Index

Pros: Ability for users to locate all items from the Law LOC from the collection.

Cons: Lacks narrative context. Remaining issue with secondary locations.

Final Recommendations

1

Articles and Essays

Must include sub-series to best capture all aspects of the collection. Situate within Statutes at Large.

Facilitates collocation.

2

Cascade Timeline (StoryMap)

Highlight key years (not decades) and important documents related to those years. Accessible outside of single digital collection.

Facilitates access.

3

In Custodia Legis (blog) Promotion

Market both core dissemination models via the Law Library of Congress blog in order to increase usage of the models.

Facilitates discovery.

Implementation plan

1

Draft all models

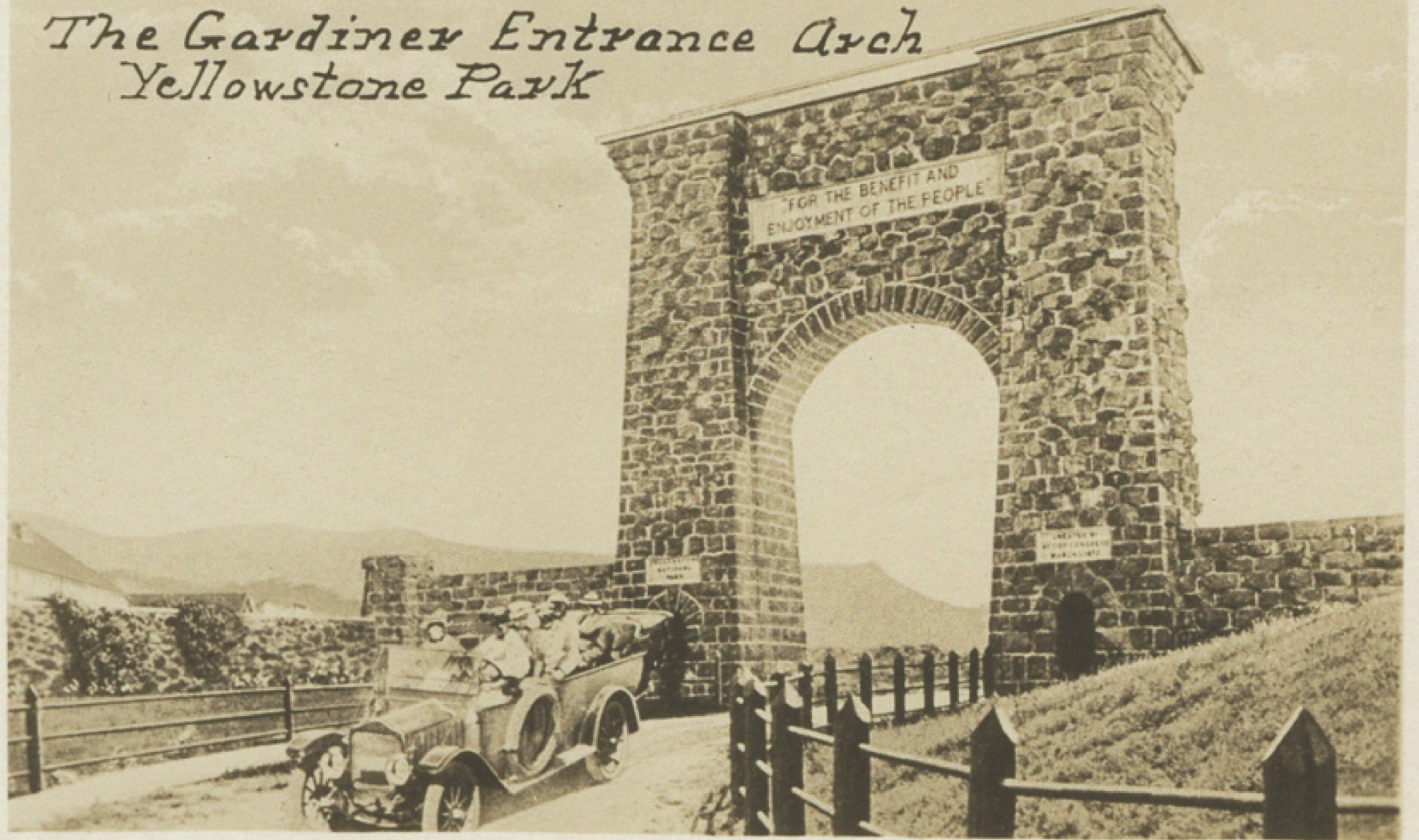
2

Transfer index to
the Law LOC

3

Publish to Articles
and Essays, LOC
StoryMaps, and
blog

*The Gardiner Entrance Arch
Yellowstone Park*



Thank
you!