

Using Web Archives for Studying Cultural Heritage Collaborative Platforms

Marta Severo, University Paris Nanterre

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In the last few years, cultural institutions have launched several experiments in order to transform their registers into transparent, open and participative documents available on the web. As an example, the French Ministry of Culture has recently launched two projects. The JocondeLab website (<http://jocondelab.iri-research.org>) makes available a part of the national museums' inventories in a multilingual version. This platform relies on the functionality of the semantic web by offering access to 300,000 notices through the structured and open format of DBpedia and the integration with the contents of Wikipedia. In 2015, the Ethnopole InOc Aquitaine started the PCILab project (online in October 2017) for sharing the French inventory of the intangible cultural heritage through Wikipedia. Focusing on intangible cultural heritage, we can cite other important projects in other countries. In Scotland, the Edinburgh Napier University launched the first wiki related to intangible heritage in 2010 and the portal is still active, managed by the Museums Galleries Scotland (<http://ichscotland.org>). In Finland, the National Board of Antiquities opened a participative platform in 2016 that today collects 80 living heritage practices (<https://wiki.aineetonkulttuuriperinto.fi/>). There are also crowdsourcing projects that are growing up outside the institutional context, such as Wiki Loves Monuments project (<http://www.wikilovesmonuments.org/>), a photo contest that every year allows to collect thousands of photos that today some institutions have decided to integrate to official registers (for example the Official Inventory of Architectural Heritage of Catalonia).

All these platforms introduce new ways of collaborative management of cultural heritage through the creation of participative pages corresponding to the inventory records directly on Wikipedia or on ad hoc platforms. As an effect, cultural heritage specialists (archivists, anthropologists, etc.) are increasingly solicited to contribute to these collaborative platforms while citizens are also becoming familiar with these new possibilities of expression about cultural heritage. This communication aims at studying these new forms of collaborative management of cultural heritage based on the use of wiki platforms. Past studies on this topic are organized mainly around two poles: analyses of computer and technical solutions, on the one hand, and researches on changes in the relationship between institutions and publics, on the other hand. Differently, this study is meant to focus on cultural heritage and notably on the collaborative digital writing around heritage objects that take shape on the web. Our ideal goal would be to study, through a historical perspective, how cultural heritage objects included in these inventories have evolved in the last few years as an effect of their opening on the web through wiki platforms. The objects will not be considered in relation to the inventory record, but as digital objects resulting from the editorialization processes involving heritage professionals, but also other users of the web.

In order to do this, we intend to carry out a diachronic qualitative analysis of digital writings concerning heritage objects by analyzing the process of editorialization of web pages that talk about the object through web archives and the history page of Wikipedia. However, this study has firstly to cope with some important methodological issues. Indeed, wiki pages are really complex objects for web archives. Changes in pages are rarely collected in the harvesting process. Captures of these websites are quite incomplete. Taking into account these limitations, this communication will investigate how web archives can be used to investigate

the historical development of the collaborative platforms related to cultural heritage. Special attention will be paid to the possible combinations of information retrieved in the web archives and information retrieved in the history pages of the wiki, when it is available. The paper will summarize the perspectives of analysis that web archives realistically open in this field.