ALM CONFERENCE | CONNECTING NOVA SCOTIA'S ARCHIVES + LIBRARIES + MUSEUMS

Public Places, Community Spaces

C4: Library, Archives, Museum, and more: connecting for improved heritage services in the City of Burnaby

Kathy Bryce, Partner, Andornot Consulting Inc. and
Arilea Sill, IAP Administrator, Government of Nova Scotia
(former City Archivist, City of Burnaby)

September 26th, 2015

andornot

Creating Connections

The Partners:

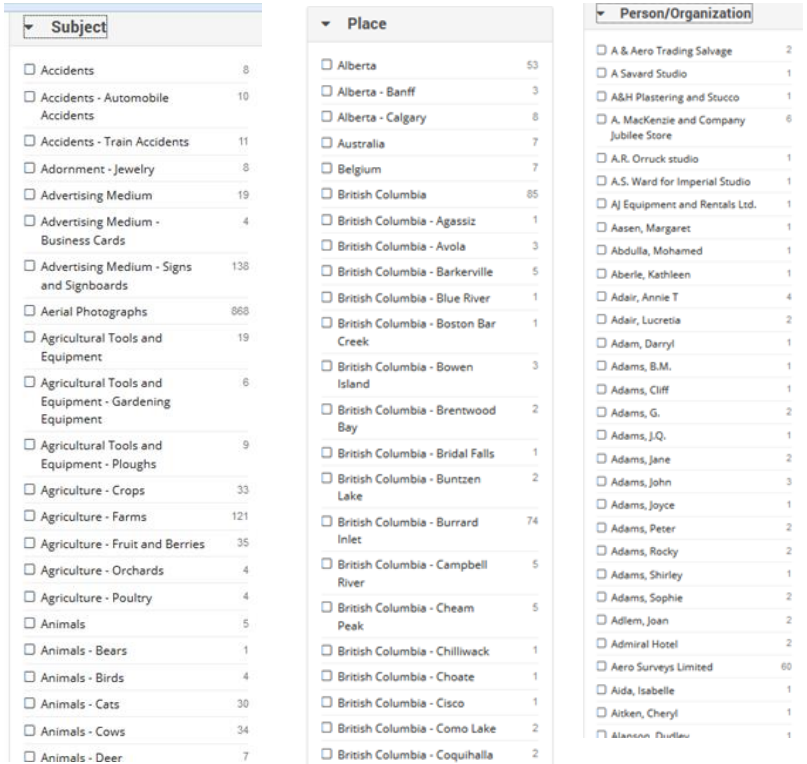
- Burnaby Village Museum
- Burnaby Historical Society
- City of Burnaby Archives
- Burnaby Public Library
- Burnaby Heritage Planning Program

Heritage Burnaby
PERSONAL HISTORY • COLLECTIVE MEMORY

City of Burnaby

Data formats - Connectors

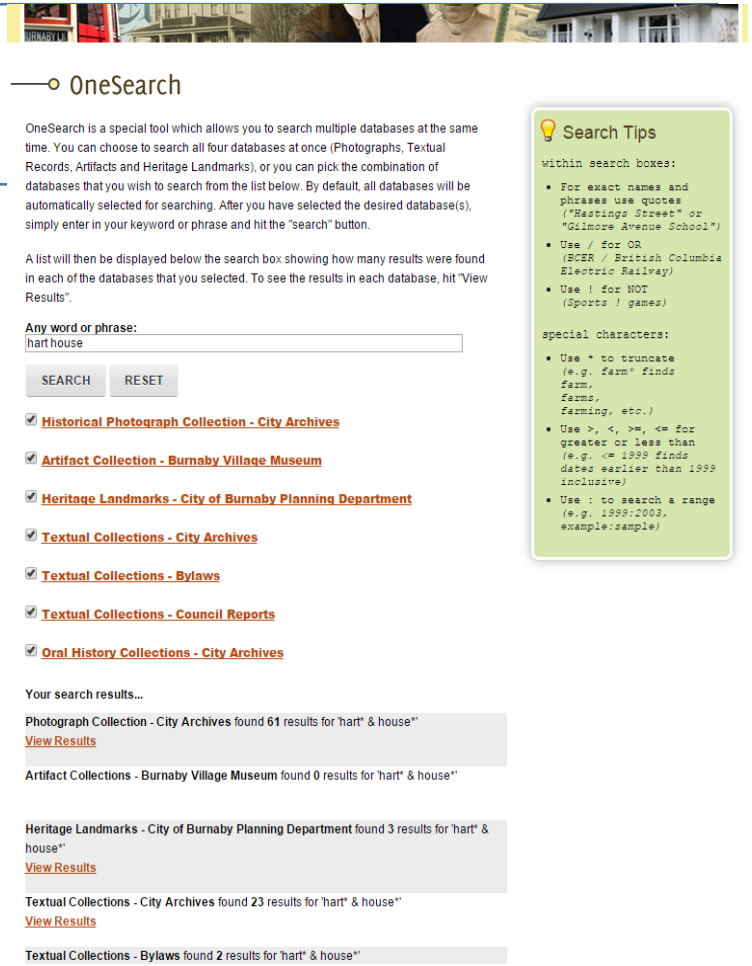
- Conversion from disparate sources
- Agreement to share Names, Subjects & Geographic thesauri ensured standardization



OneSearch

Version 1 website – 2008

- single search box
- links to separate results pages for each collection
- strict search syntax requirements
- fixed layout



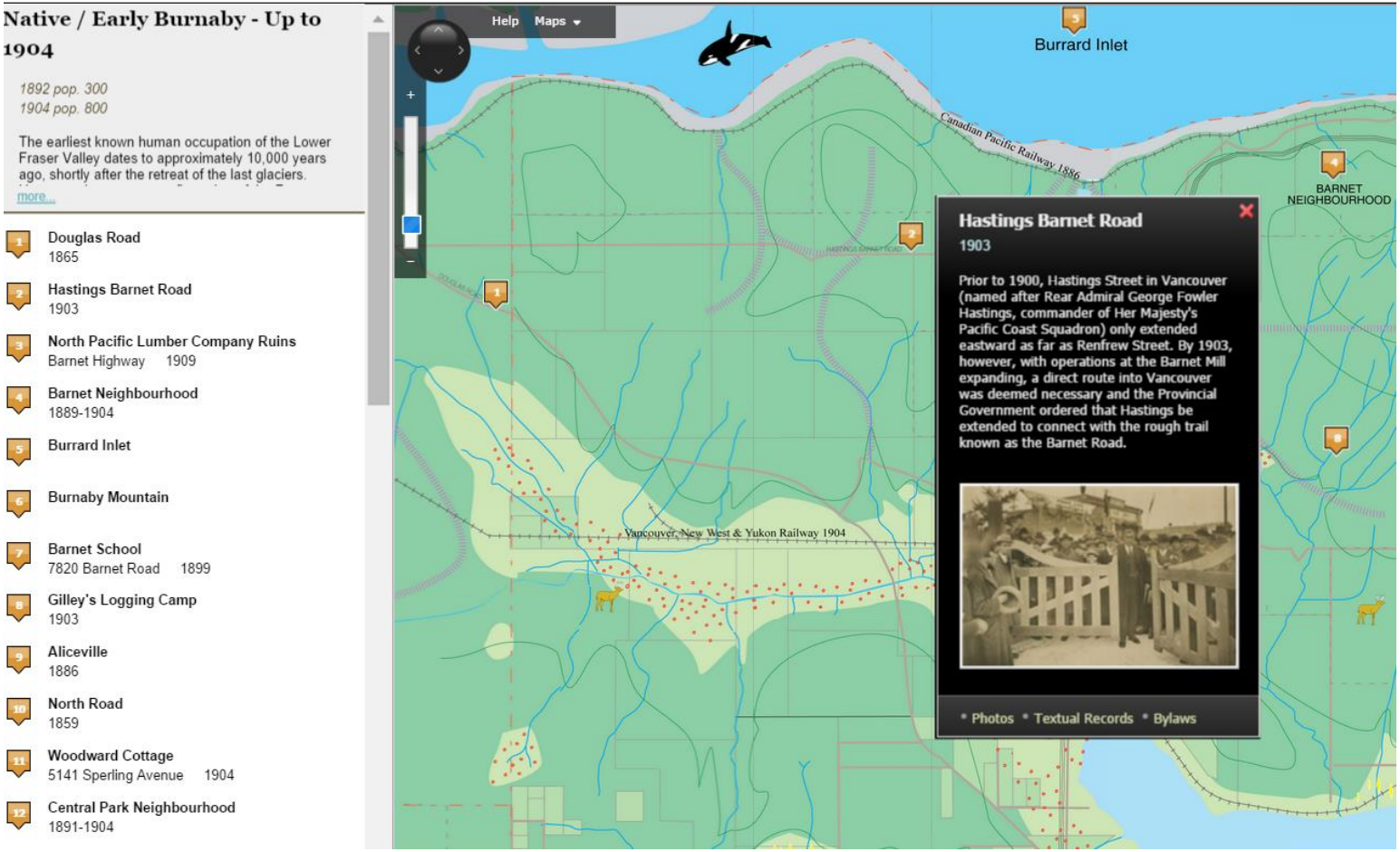
Charting Change Atlas

- Added links allowed collaborative projects

Heritage Burnaby

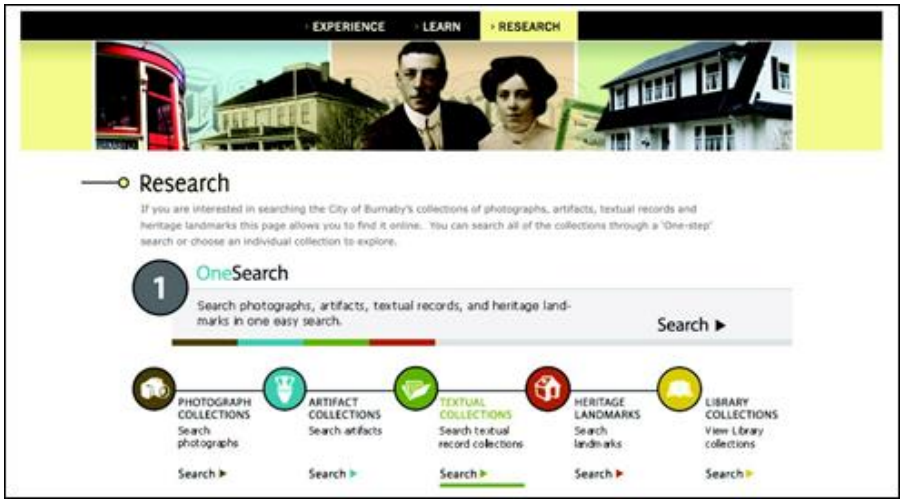
PERSONAL HISTORY • COLLECTIVE MEMORY

HOME RESEARCH NEWS ATLAS ABOUT US CONTACT US



Limitations and the Case for Upgrades

- By 2013, limitations were recognized.
- New landing page and search interfaces required for every new media type.
- Re-organization of some holdings from archives to museum



2015 upgrade

Content Management System (Umbraco)

- New responsive design template chosen
- City IT web design team involvement for the first time
- City IT now responsible for site maintenance and design
- Collaboration on new content pages
- Blog added to showcase news and updates from all collections

Single search portal

Andornot Discovery Interface (AnDI)

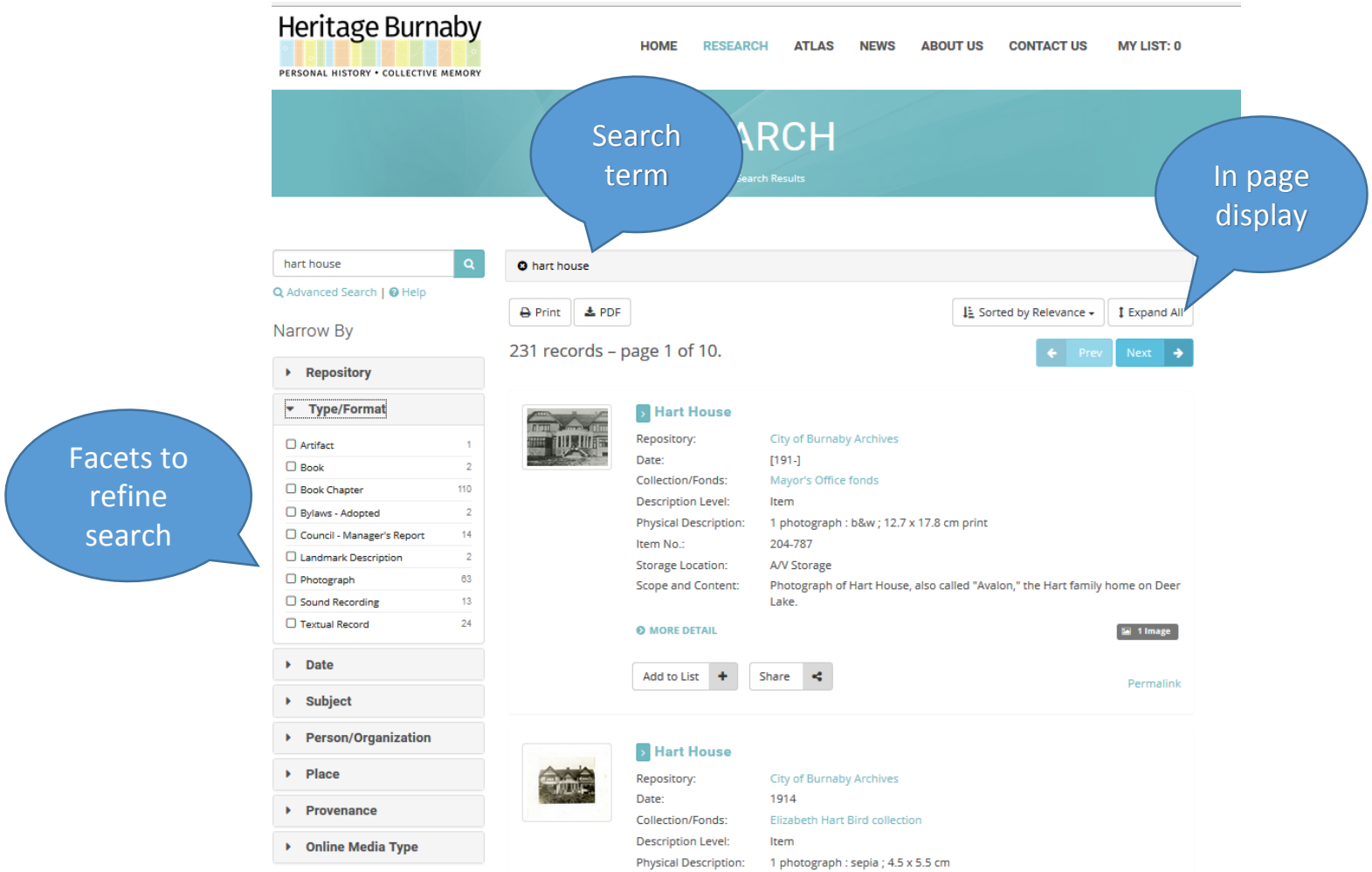
- More forgiving search syntax
  - Apache Solr search engine
  - Automatic truncation
  - Did you mean and spelling corrections
- Integrated results displays
- Facets to filter results
- Responsive layout

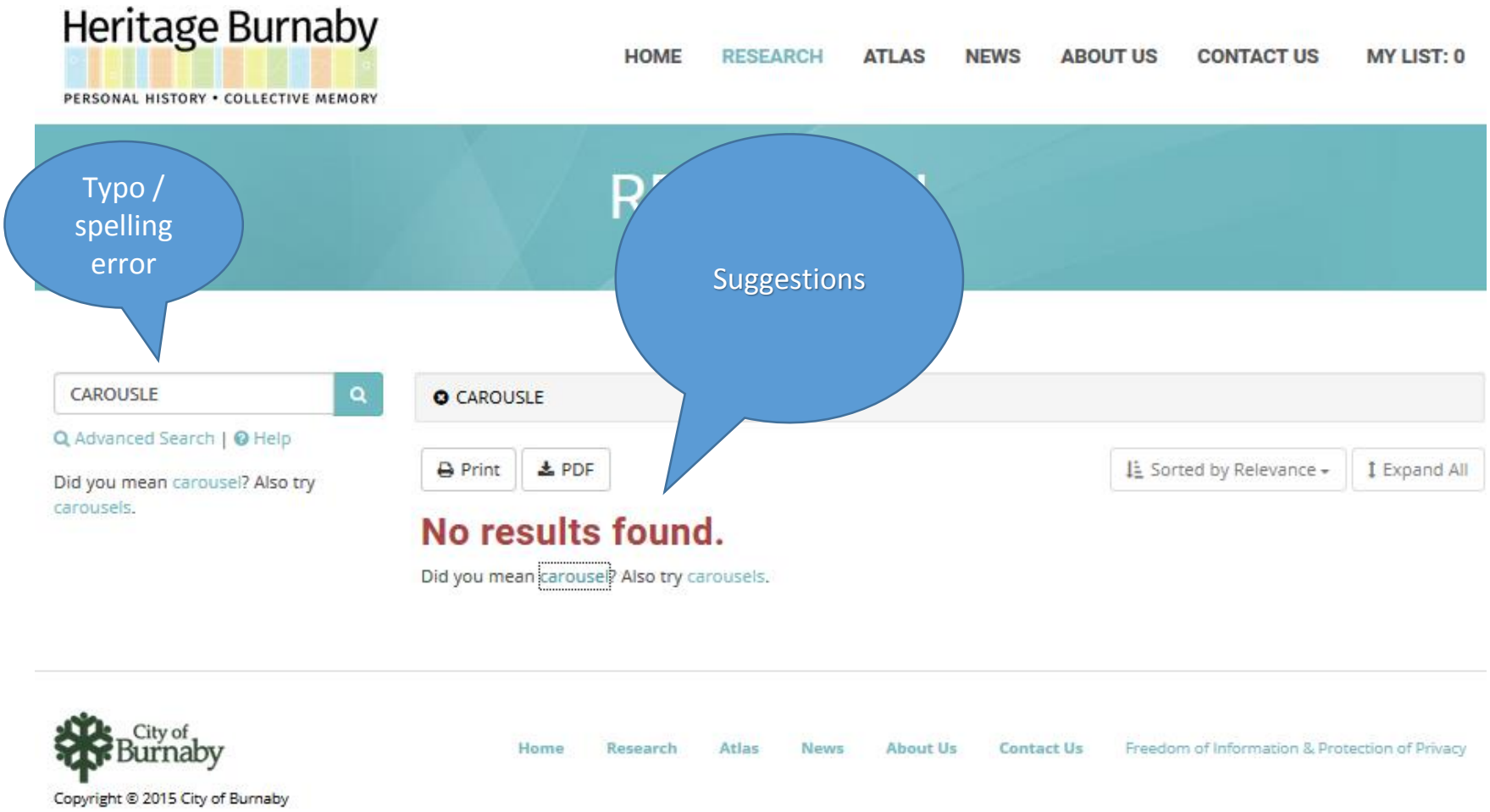
Updated search functionality

Version 2 site – 2015

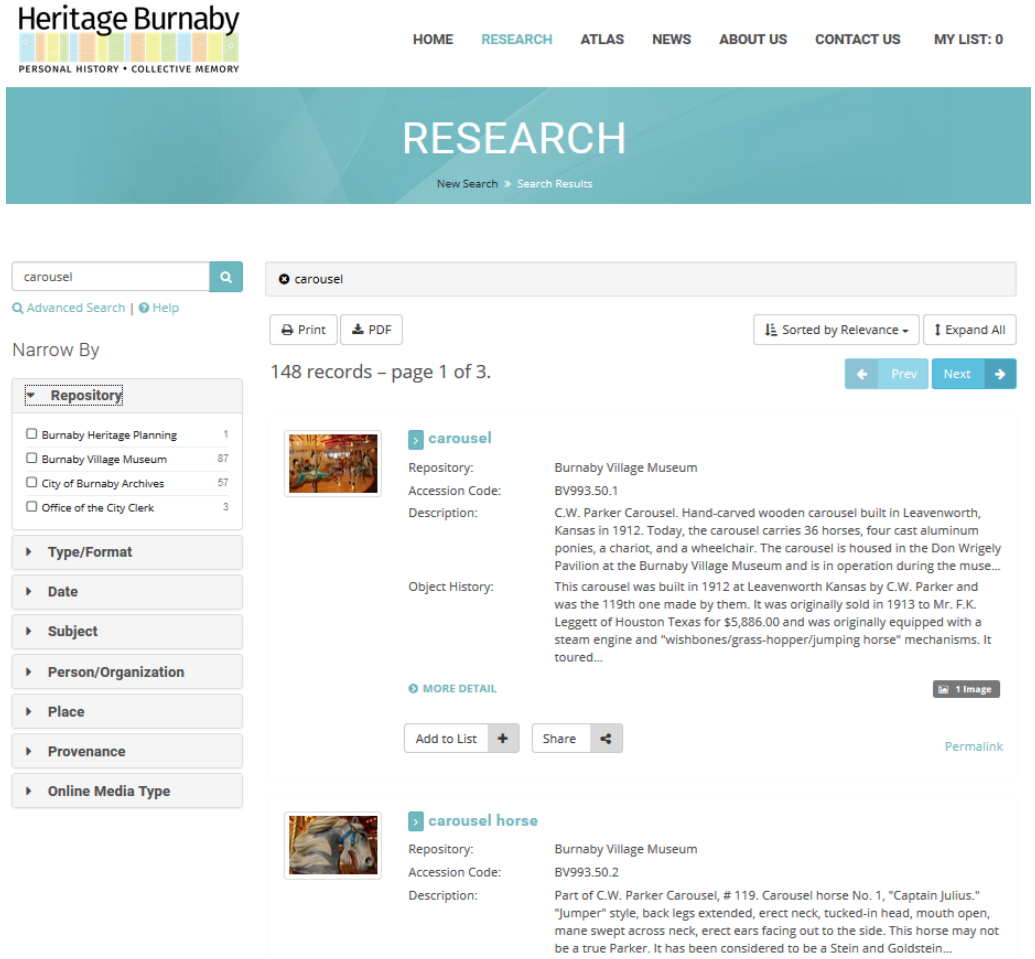
- 80,000 records from
- 19 different data sources

- single search box
- integrated results
- demo


Heritage Burnaby
PERSONAL HISTORY • COLLECTIVE MEMORY
HOME
RESEARCH
ATLAS
NEWS
ABOUT US
CONTACT US
MY LIST: 0
ARCH
Search Results
Search term
In page display
Facets to refine search
hart house
Advanced Search | Help
Narrow By
Repository
Type/Format
Artifact 1
Book 2
Book Chapter 110
Bylaws - Adopted 2
Council - Manager's Report 14
Landmark Description 2
Photograph 63
Sound Recording 13
Textual Record 24
Date
Subject
Person/Organization
Place
Provenance
Online Media Type
hart house
Print
PDF
Sorted by Relevance
Expand All
231 records – page 1 of 10.
Prev
Next
Hart House
Repository: City of Burnaby Archives
Date: [191-]
Collection/Fonds: Mayor's Office fonds
Description Level: Item
Physical Description: 1 photograph : b&w ; 12.7 x 17.8 cm print
Item No.: 204-787
Storage Location: A/V Storage
Scope and Content: Photograph of Hart House, also called "Avalon," the Hart family home on Deer Lake.
MORE DETAIL
1 Image
Add to List
Share
Permalink
Hart House
Repository: City of Burnaby Archives
Date: 1914
Collection/Fonds: Elizabeth Hart Bird collection
Description Level: Item
Physical Description: 1 photograph : sepia ; 4.5 x 5.5 cm


Heritage Burnaby
PERSONAL HISTORY • COLLECTIVE MEMORY
HOME
RESEARCH
ATLAS
NEWS
ABOUT US
CONTACT US
MY LIST: 0
Typo / spelling error
Suggestions
CAROUSLE
Advanced Search | Help
Did you mean carousel? Also try carousels.
CAROUSLE
Print
PDF
Sorted by Relevance
Expand All
No results found.
Did you mean carousel? Also try carousels.
City of Burnaby
Home
Research
Atlas
News
About Us
Contact Us
Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy
Copyright © 2015 City of Burnaby

An example of finding unexpected records – carousel usually associated with the museum



Heritage Burnaby
PERSONAL HISTORY • COLLECTIVE MEMORY

HOME RESEARCH ATLAS NEWS ABOUT US CONTACT US MY LIST: 0

RESEARCH

New Search » Search Results

carousel

Advanced Search | Help

Narrow By

Repository

- Burnaby Heritage Planning 1
- Burnaby Village Museum 87
- City of Burnaby Archives 57
- Office of the City Clerk 3

Type/Format

- Artifact 47
- Book 19
- Bylaws - Adopted 3
- Council - Committee Report 2
- Council - Manager's Report 8
- Council - Mayor/Councillor /Staff Report 1
- Landmark Description 1
- Multiple Format 1
- Photograph 27
- Sound Recording 6
- Textual Record 35

Date

Subject

carousel

Print PDF Sorted by Relevance Expand All

148 records – page 1 of 3. Prev Next

carousel

Repository: Burnaby Village Museum
Accession Code: BV993.50.1
Description: C.W. Parker Carousel. Hand-carved wooden carousel built in Leavenworth, Kansas in 1912. Today, the carousel carries 36 horses, four cast aluminum ponies, a chariot, and a wheelchair. The carousel is housed in the Don Wrigely Pavilion at the Burnaby Village Museum and is in operation during the muse...
Object History: This carousel was built in 1912 at Leavenworth Kansas by C.W. Parker and was the 119th one made by them. It was originally sold in 1913 to Mr. F.K. Leggett of Houston Texas for $5,886.00 and was originally equipped with a steam engine and "wishbones/grass-hopper/jumping horse" mechanisms. It toured...

MORE DETAIL 1 Image

Add to List Share Permalink

carousel horse

Repository: Burnaby Village Museum
Accession Code: BV993.50.2
Description: Part of C.W. Parker Carousel, # 119. Carousel horse No. 1, "Captain Julius." "Jumper" style, back legs extended, erect neck, tucked-in head, mouth open, mane swept across neck, erect ears facing out to the side. This horse may not be a true Parker. It has been considered to be a Stein and Goldstein...

Type facet illustrates the variety of associated records

Painted ponies : American carousel art

Repository:	Burnaby Village Museum
Collection:	Reference Collection
Type:	Book
ISBN:	0939549018
Call No.:	745 MAN
Author:	Manns, William Shank, Peggy Stevens, Marianne
Place of Publication:	Millwood, N.Y.
Publisher:	Zon International Publishing Co.
Publication Date:	1992
Physical Description:	256 p. : ill.
Subjects LoC:	Merry-go-round art -- United States
Notes:	Includes bibliographical references and index.

LESS DETAIL

Add to List + Share

Permalink

Example of a book in the museum library with the cover image pulled from OpenLibrary.org

Carousel animals : artistry in motion

Fraley, Tobin. San Francisco: Chronicle Books , c2002. (Book) 731.832 FRA

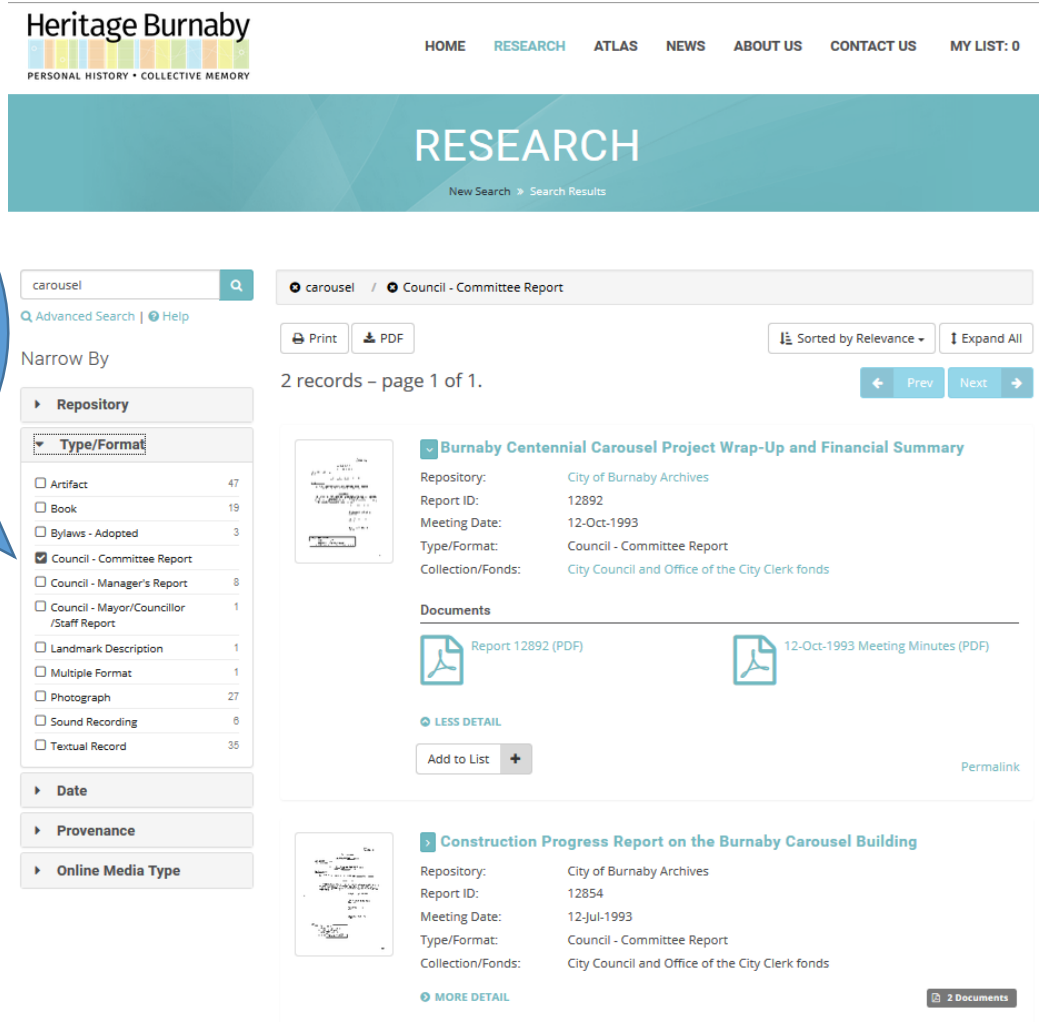
Repository: Burnaby Village Museum

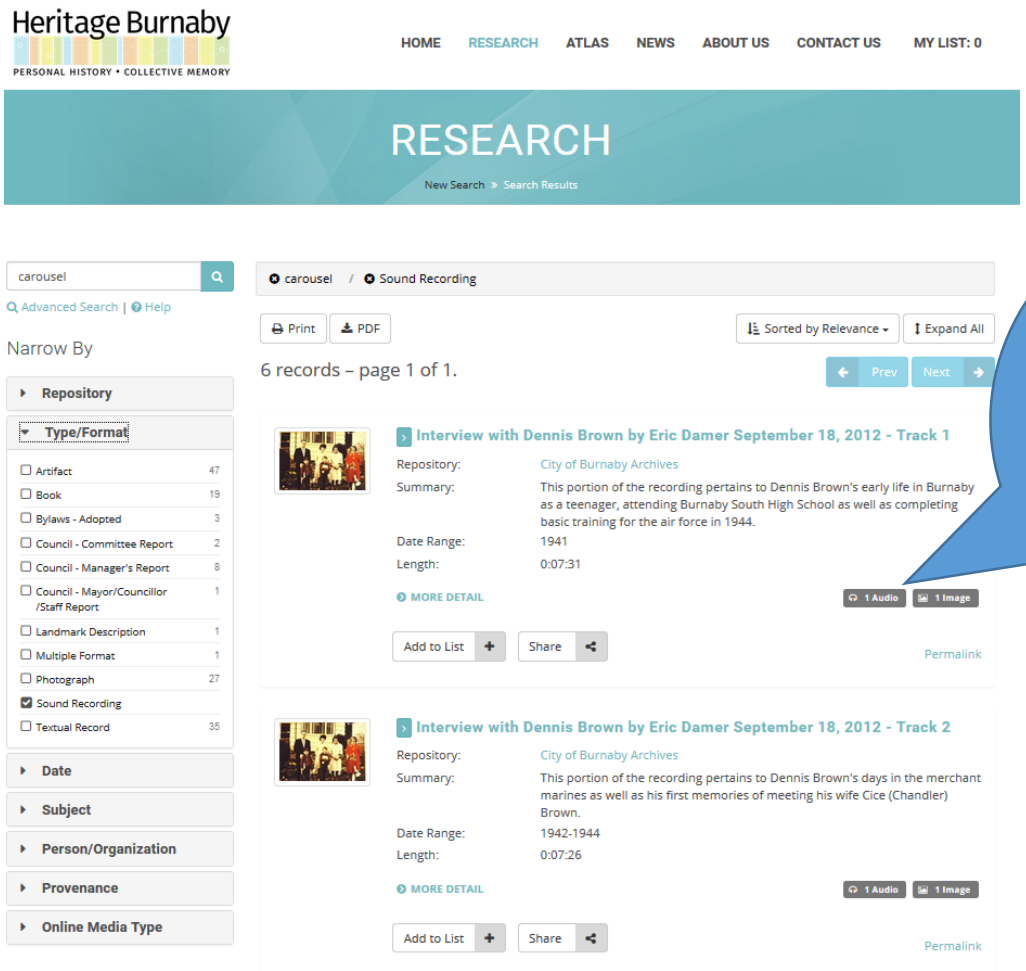
MORE DETAIL

Add to List + Share

Permalink

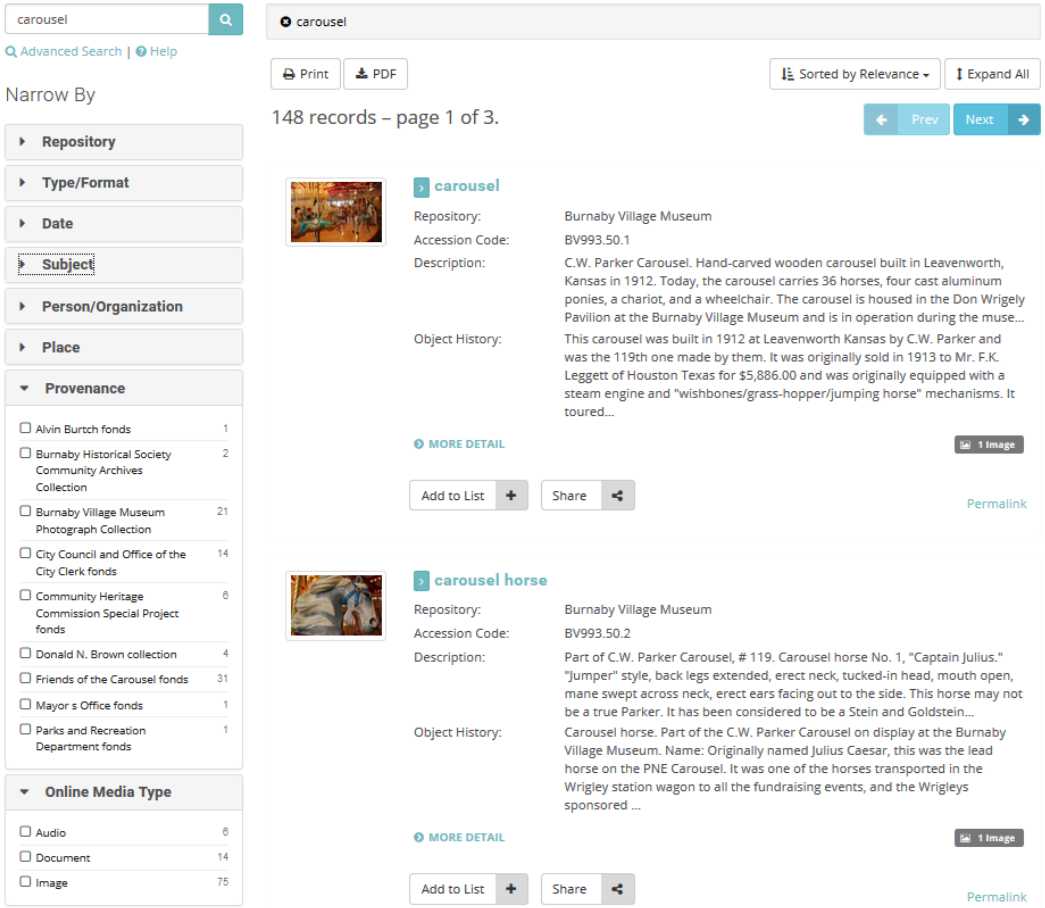
An example of a council committee report with links to the full text

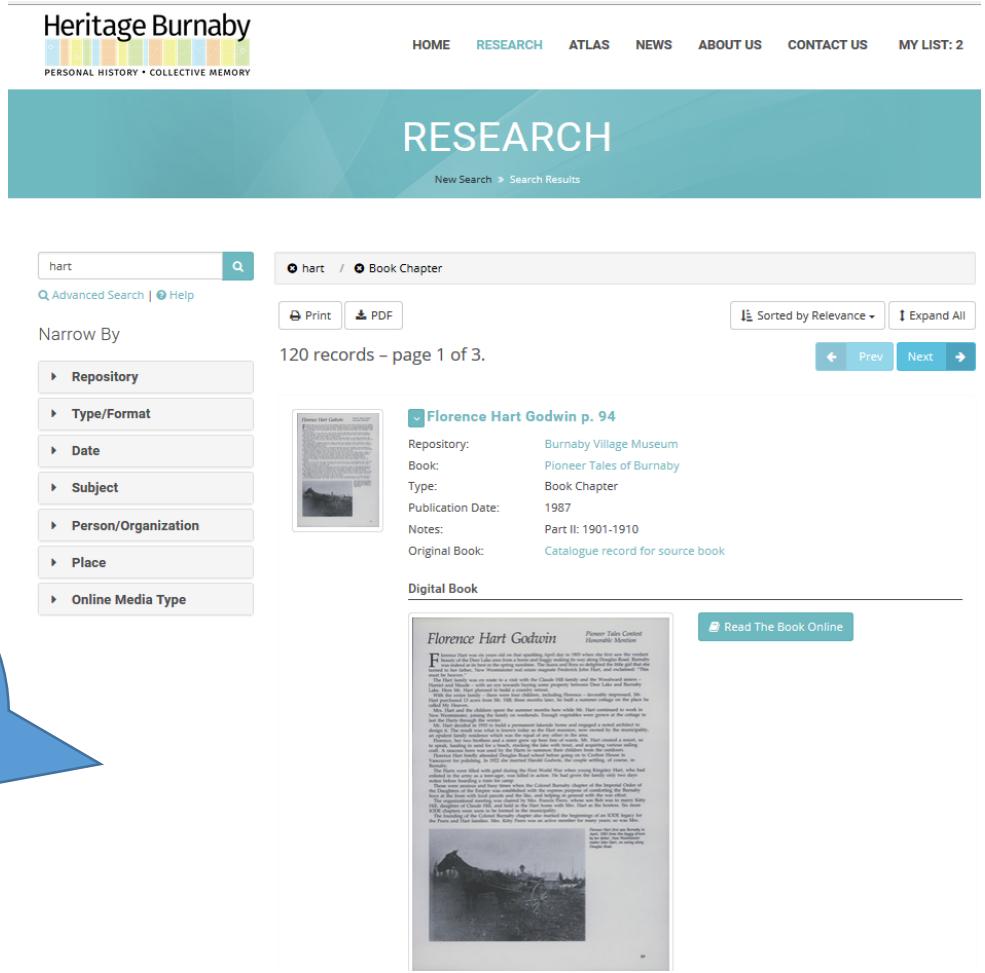




Expanded record for a sound recording contains extensive information plus an embedded audio player

Additional facets can limit results further





New in 2015 – Digitized books included with option to read online

More integration = more need for collaboration

Decisions on:

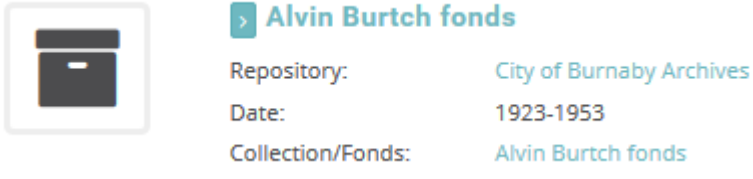
- Terminology
- Relevance ranking algorithm
- Results display formatting
- Advanced and additional search options
- Staff workflow

Terminology / who is the site for?

User profiles / needs & expectations

Plain Language

Agreement to:



- Minimize jargon
- Minimize abbreviations
- Standardize terminology across collections

Lengthy discussions around facet labels:

- Type/Format
- Provenance

Relevance ranking and sorting

Algorithm

- Records for historic Landmarks boosted to appear first
- Experimentation required to determine optimum boost percentage

Sorting

- Relevance + title, not by date

Mapping crosswalks

- Metadata mapped for each of the 19 data sources
- Decisions for 100's of fields required
- Challenging for staff to visualize outcomes

	Textbase Field	Solr Field	Freetext Label
2			
3	DescriptionsID	id, srcid	n/a
4	PartOf	setName	Collection/Fonds
5	DescriptionLevel	level, notes_free	Description Level
6	FondsNo	fondsno	Fonds No.
7	SeriesNo	seriesno	Series
8	FileNo	fileno	File No.
9	AccessionNo	freetext	Accession No.
10	Title	title	Title
11	GMD	n/a	n/a
12	ParallelTitle	title_free	Parallel Title
13	OtherTitleInfo	title_free	Other Title Info
14	Responsibility	name_free	Responsibility
15	Edition	notes_free	Edition
16	StartDate	date, year, startyear	n/a
17	EndDate	date, endyear	n/a
18	DateRange	date_free	Date
19	Publication	n/a	n/a
20	PhysicalDescription	physicalDescription_free	Physical Description
21	HistoryBiographical	notes_free	History/Biography
22	CustodialHistory	n/a	n/a
23	ScopeContent	notes_free	Scope and Content
24	Notes	notes_free	Notes
25	ItemNo	itemno, identifier_free, catalogno	Item No.
26	ItemNoRange	n/a	n/a
27	StorageLocation	notes_free	Storage Location
28	StorageRange	n/a	n/a

Archive Textual Records - Descr | Archive Cartographic Material | Archive Oral Histories | Archive

Mapping decisions

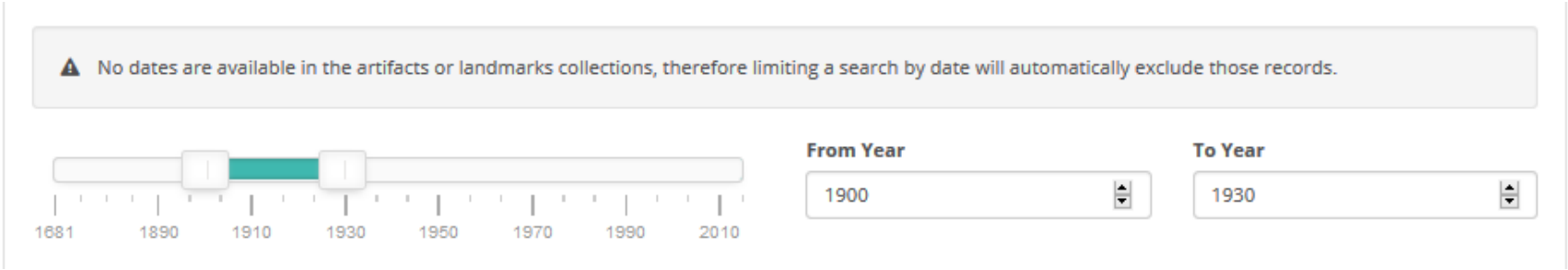
- Should a field be included in a facet?
- Inconsistent formats
  - Names reversed, eg. Smith John and John Smith
  - Thesaurus fields were chosen as these are consistent
  - Additional fields added to thesaurus
  - Consistency scripted on ingest for some fields, eg. Burnaby – added to all Landmark records
- Some fields only applicable to a subset of records
- Will users understand that they may have eliminated other types?

Mapping decisions

- Should a field be included in the brief display?
- What order should the fields be displayed in?
- Should a field be enabled as a See Also hyperlink?
- What should the field be labelled?

Dates

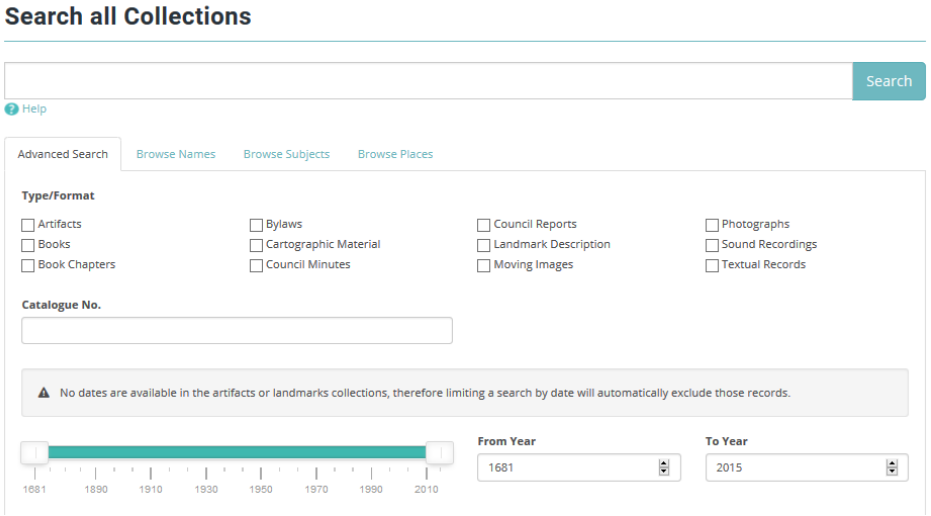
- Not all records have dates, eg artifacts
- Museum records omitted if date facet used

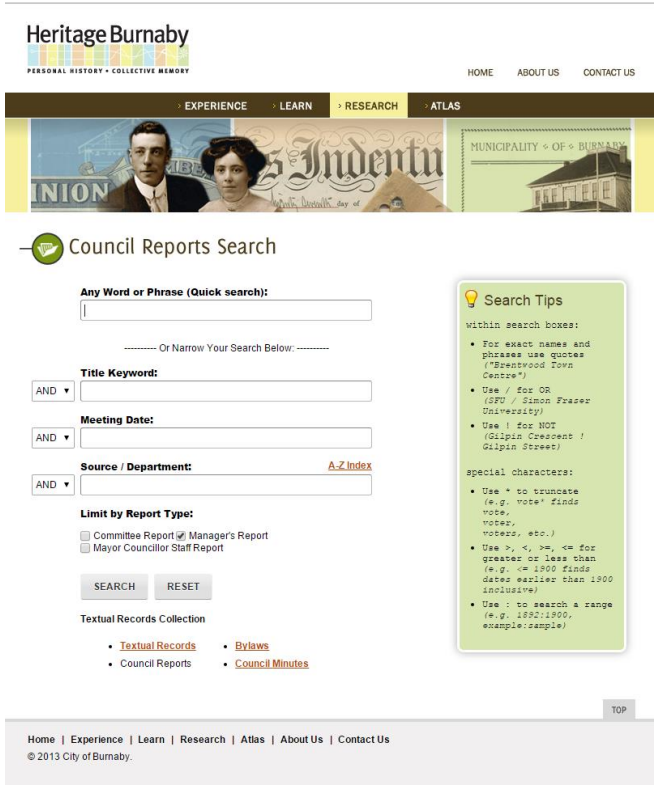


- Archives & City staff desire a date sort
- Specific dates needed for council records
- Version 3?

Advanced search page

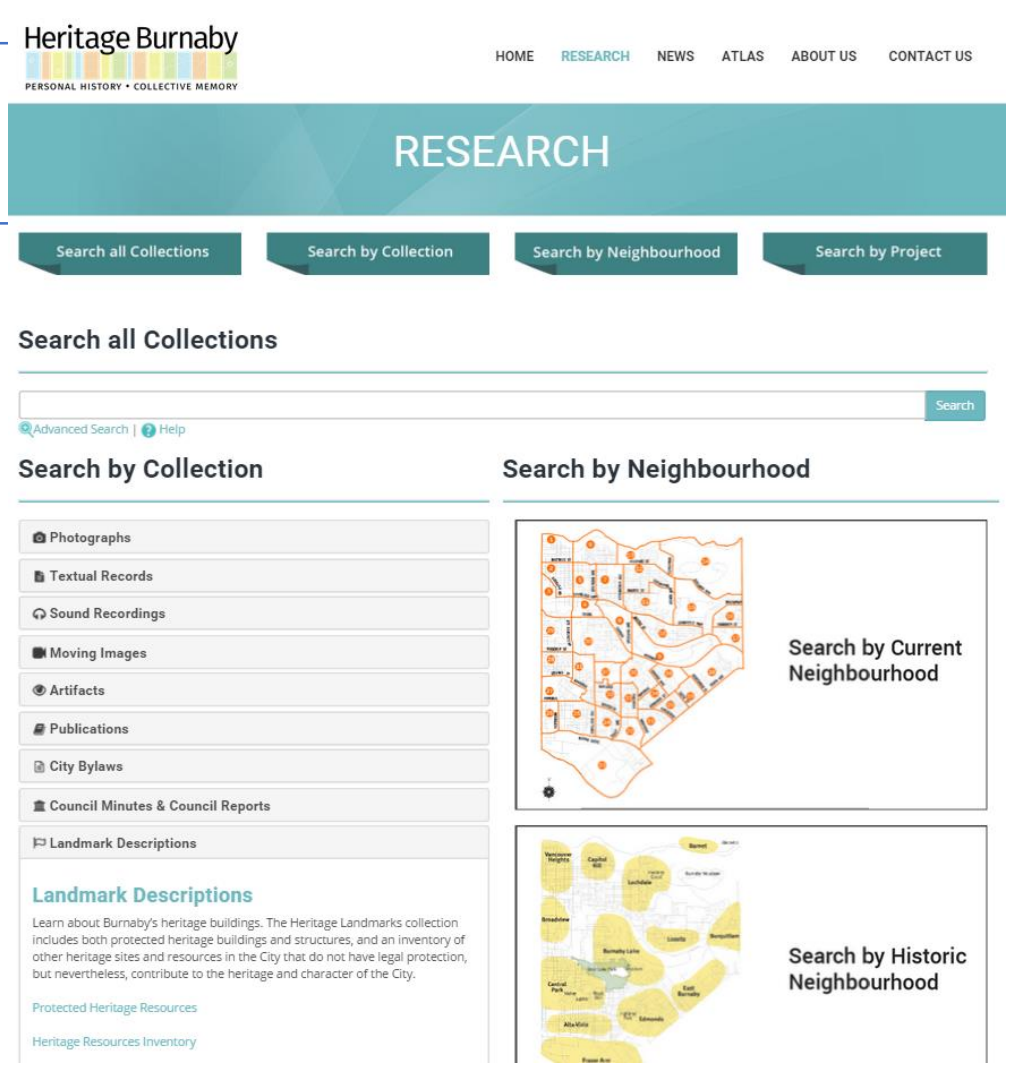
Loss of granularity for some data sources





Extra Searches

- Additional ways to access the content
- Maps
- Canned searches
- Permalinks to individual records



Cross department staffing

Integrated results required compromises:

- Add to cart can now contain items from multiple repositories

- Difficult to staff therefore:
  - Agreed to eliminate previous request more information option
  - Agreed to eliminate previous photo commenting option

Benefits

“A big part of my day, every day, is conducting research on the history of Burnaby.

I am finding many wonderful connections between photos, records, landmarks, artifacts, and library resources. It is fast, powerful, elegant, and easy to use.” (Lisa Codd, Curator)

Questions?

Contact:

Heritage Burnaby staff (via heritageburnaby.ca) or

Andornot (info@andornot.com) for further information: