

Digital Image Collections

>Pratt Visual Resources Center recommended websites for free access to high resolution images for teaching and study

Ad*Access Project (<http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/adaccess/>)

Images and information for over 7,000 advertisements printed in U.S. and Canadian newspapers and magazines between 1911 and 1955. Ad*Access concentrates on five main subject areas: Radio, Television, Transportation, Beauty and Hygiene, and World War II, providing a view of a number of major campaigns and companies through images preserved in one particular advertising collection available at Duke University.

American Memory: Historical Collections for the National Digital Library

(<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>)

Consists of more than 7 million digital items from more than 100 historical Library of Congress collections. The primary source and archival materials relating in the project cover topics from art and architecture to performing arts to technology and applied sciences.

American Museum of Photography (<http://www.photographymuseum.com/>)

Includes over 5,000 images from daguerreotype portraits to Ansel Adams.

ArchNet Digital Library (<http://archnet.org/library>)

Online resource for ArchNet, an online community devoted to the study of Islamic architecture, art, and culture. Developed at the MIT School of Architecture and Planning.

Archives of American Art (<http://www.aaa.si.edu/>)

Collection of primary source documentation on American visual arts.

ArtServe, Australian National University (<http://rubens.anu.edu.au/index2.html>)

This site provides thousands of images (including panoramas) of art and architecture, primarily of the Mediterranean Basin and Japan. Many other countries are represented as well.

Art Images (<http://arthist.cla.umn.edu/aict>)

Art Images for College Teaching is a personal, non-profit resource created by Allan T. Kohl, visual resources curator at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design-- all photographs were taken by Allan. Most of the images have references to pages of major art history textbooks where the work is mentioned.

Buildings & Structures Galleries (<http://www.cupola.com/bldgstr1.htm>)

An image site with photographs of structures from around the world. Search by architectural period.

Calisphere

Gateway to digitized images from the libraries and museums of 10 University of California campuses and more than 100 cultural heritage organizations. Includes more than 150,000 photographs, diaries, documents, oral histories and other resources. Serves as a single point of access for more than 300 UC-created websites and collections.

Cities and Buildings Database (<http://content.lib.washington.edu/buildingsweb/index.html>)

A collection of over 5000 digitized images of buildings and cities drawn from across time and throughout the world ranging from New York to Central Asia, from African villages to the Parc de la Villette. Users can now search for buildings by country, city, style, title, architect, date of construction, as well as other fields.

Cities Around the World (<http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/digilib/cities>)

A database of over 6,000 digital images representing over 450 cities from the photographic collections of Harrison Forman and Harold Mayer.

CORSAIR (<http://corsair.morganlibrary.org/ICAIntro/ICAintroshortdesc.htm>)

CORSAIR currently offers more than twenty thousand medieval images from the Pierpoint Morgan Library's renowned collection of medieval and Renaissance manuscripts.

The Digital Images Collections Wiki (digital-image-collections.wikispaces.com)

The Digital Images Collections Wiki is a great resource of Free- and Fair-Use digital image collections that are available for anyone to use.

Digital Imaging Project (Professor Mary Ann Sullivan) (<http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm>)

14,000 images of sculpture and architecture from around the world.

Digital Scriptorium (<http://www.scriptorium.columbia.edu>)

An image database of medieval and renaissance manuscripts. Among the participating institutions to this project are the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley, Columbia University and the Union Theological Seminary.

Digital South Asia Library (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/images>)

On-line information about contemporary and historical South Asia – including full-text documents, statistical data, electronic images, cartographic representations, and pedagogical resources for language instruction.

Ditto (<http://www.ditto.com/default.aspx>)

A visual search engine. Ditto enables people to navigate the Web through pictures.

Flickr Groups (<http://www.flickr.com/groups>)

Flickr Groups are themed image collections created by members of the Flickr photograph-sharing community. There are thousands of Flickr Groups, and more are created daily. The size and quality of images within the groups varies, but overall I am impressed with the images I find there. Copyright protection varies by photographer. A very popular protection on the site is the Creative Commons license, which allows anyone to use, distribute, and change the photograph as long as attribution is given to the creator. To the right of each photograph the copyright information is displayed. (*Example is the "Renaissance" group with 1300+ images*).

Godden Structural Engineering Slide Library (<http://nisee.berkeley.edu/godden>)

Contains 1000 images based on Professor William G. Godden's 30 years of teaching structural analysis, structural design, and architectural engineering, during which time he photographed many structures throughout the world for the express purpose of illustrating particular facets of structural theory, response, or design.

Google Image Search (<http://www.google.com/imghp?hl=en>)

Billions of images found on web pages. Some may be protected by copyright.

Great Buildings Online (<http://www.greatbuildings.com/gbc/buildings.html>)

Gateway to architecture around the world and across history. Documents 1000 buildings and hundreds of leading architects.

Helios: Photography Online (<http://americanart.si.edu/collections/exhibits/helios/index.html>)

Online collections of more than 1500 images from the Smithsonian American Art Museum Photography Collection.

La Fayette: Database of American Art (<http://musee.louvre.fr/bases/lafayette/?lng=1>)

This bilingual online catalogue presents more than 1,700 works produced by United States artists that entered the national collections of France before 1940.

Kidder Smith Slide Archives on American Architecture (<http://libraries.mit.edu/rvc/kidder>)

Selected images from the 3400 slides in the Kidder Smith Slide Archives at MIT. The slide archive systematically covers 805 buildings from the pre-Columbian period to 1978 and includes sequences of 6 to 10 or more slides for some buildings. Approximately 2000 of the slides document mid- and late- 20th century buildings, with special attention to the 1950s and 1960s.

New York City Views

(http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/dgdivisionbrowseresult.cfm?trg=1&div_id=hh)

Images of New York City from the NYPL Digital Gallery, a free resource of images digitized from primary sources and printed rarities in the collections of the Library. This link goes directly to image collections from the Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy.

NYPL Digital Gallery (<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/index.cfm>)

Catalog of digital images. Provides access to over 275,000 images digitized from primary sources and printed rarities in the collections of The New York Public Library, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints and photographs, illustrated books, printed ephemera, and more.

NYPL Digital Image Collections (http://www.nypl.org/digital/collections_images.html)

Same material as above, but in list format. The image collections are listed and content can be browsed rather than searched as above.

Perseus Digital Library (<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu>)

(Some full text)

A collection of more than 500 primary and secondary texts on the study of ancient Greece and Rome. Also includes images of vases, sculptures, buildings and other art and archaeological works.

Prints & Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC) (<http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html>)

The Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division's catalog to about 65% of the Division's holdings. Many of the catalog records are accompanied by digital images--about one million digital images in all.

Skyscrapers.com (<http://www.skyscrapers.com>)

A searchable database with images and statistics to over 80,000 high-rise buildings from around the world. (The images may not be downloaded.)

SPIRO database - Architectural Visual Resources Library

The visual online catalog of UC Berkeley's Architecture Visual Resources Library (AVRL). Images in SPIRO are copyrighted and for educational use ONLY. The AVRL collection numbers over 275,000 35mm slides, 20,000 photographs, and 75,000 digital images.

UW Libraries Digital Collections (<http://content.lib.washington.edu/index.html>)

Image collections of the University of Washington Libraries' Digital Initiatives Program.

Vitruvio (<http://www.vitruvio.ch>)

A searchable database of historical and contemporary architecture. Text is in Italian.

Museum Collections

> access to a selection of images from the collections of major museums

Art Institute of Chicago Online Collections (<http://www.artic.edu/aic/collections>)
online collection offering access to over 25,000 works from the Art Institute of Chicago's permanent collection.

Atlas: Database of Works on Display in the Louvre
(http://cartelen.louvre.fr/cartelen/visite?srv=crt_frm_rs&langue=fr&initCritere=true)
Atlas allows the direct online consultation of 35,000 works of art exhibited in the Louvre. Must search in French.

The British Museum (<http://www.bmimages.com/Index.asp>)
6,000+ images. Museum holds objects and artworks dating from the 7th millennium BC to the present day, and covers all major world cultures.

The Getty Museum of Art (<http://www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/>)
Browse by artist, type of artist, or medium.

Guggenheim Museum of Art (<http://www.guggenheimcollection.org/index.html>)
Selections from the collection. Browse by artist, movement, title, medium, date, concept, museum (including Guggenheim Bilbao and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection).

Los Angeles County Museum of Art (<http://collectionsonline.lacma.org/>)
Over 67,000 items accessible online (about 1/2 of the collection).

Louvre Museum (http://www.louvre.fr/llv/oeuvres/bdd_oeuvre.jsp?bmLocale=en)
Several searchable databases including Atlas: Database of Works on Display in the Louvre; Inventory of the Department of Prints and Drawings; La Fayette: Database of American Art and more.

Metropolitan Museum of Art Collections Database
(http://www.metmuseum.org/Works_of_Art/collection_database/index.aspx?dep=0&vw=1)
Browse through images of more than 33,000+ artworks from the Metropolitan's permanent collection, or search for information on a specific work.

MoMA Online Collections (<http://www.moma.org/collection/search.php>)
The Museum of Modern Art's online collection currently represents 2180 artists and 7898 objects from the Museum's departments of Architecture and Design, Drawings, Painting and Sculpture, Photography, Prints and Illustrated Books, Film, and Media.

Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France (<http://www.musee-orsay.fr/en/collections/overview.html?S=0>)
A national, multidisciplinary museum. The national museum of the Musée d'Orsay opened to the public in 1986 to show the great diversity of artistic creation in the western world between 1848 and 1914.

National Gallery of Art, London, UK
(http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/collection/default_online.htm)
A great set of resources. From the "Collection Explorer" to the searchable, "Full Collection Index."

National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. (<http://www.nga.gov/collection/index.shtm>)
Search by by artist, title, subject, expanded search, provenance, or accession number for information from a database of the entire collection.

National Portrait Gallery (U.K.), London, U.K. (<http://www.npg.org.uk/live/search>)
50,000+ images. Search by artist, sitter, portrait.

National Portrait Gallery's Portrait Search

(<http://npgportraits.si.edu/eMuseumNPG/code/emuseum.asp>)

Search more than 80,000 records from the Catalog of American Portraits.

Philadelphia Museum of Art (<http://www.philamuseum.org/collections/search.html>)

Search over 3000 objects by keyword. If needed, click the "options" link to limit by artist, classification, and origin of work.

Smithsonian Image Gallery (<http://sirismm.si.edu/siris/sirisimagegallery.htm>)

The SIRIS Image Gallery contains a sampling of visual records that are part of the Smithsonian Institution Research Information System's main catalog. The Image Gallery includes over 138,000 electronic images from several archival repositories and museums at the Smithsonian.

The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia

(<http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/fcgi-bin/db2www/browse.mac/category?selLang=English>)

This is the "digital collection." Note that you can query the database by using IBM's Query By Image Content (QBIC) technology including by color and layout.

>For further assistance and a more comprehensive overview of resources available to Pratt faculty, staff and students, contact or visit the Visual Resources Center (718) 636-3716.

The **Visual Resources Center**, a division of the Pratt Institute Libraries, is located on the 3rd floor of the Brooklyn Campus Library. It houses a collection of over 160,000 architecture, art and design color slides, a growing digital collection, a copy stand with a 35mm camera and a digital SLR camera, and scanning workstations.