

Digital Technology and Southeast Asian Cultural Heritage

- *“From Imagined Communities to Virtual Neighborhoods: The Dilemma of Digital Representation for Southeast Asia,”* Caverlee Cary, ECAI Southeast Asia
- *“Framework Spatial Data Availability for Southeast Asia,”* Lawrence Crissman, Griffith University, presented by Andrew Wilson, University of Sydney
- *“The Ancient Route from Angkor to Phimai: Application of Remote Sensing and Multimedia GIS in the Study of the Khmer Empire,”* Surat Lertlum, Asian Institute of Technology
- *“AIRSAR Radar and GIS in the Mapping of Greater Angkor,”* Roland Fletcher, University of Sydney
- Additional comments by Royol Chitradon, NECTEC



- *“From Imagined Communities to
 - *Virtual Neighborhoods:**
- *The Dilemma of Digital Representation for Southeast Asia”*

- *Caverlee Cary, Editor, ECAI Southeast Asia*
- *PNC Annual Conference and Joint Meetings*
 - *Osaka City University, Osaka, Japan*
 - *September 22, 2002*



- *With thanks to:*
- *The Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI)*
 - Ian Johnson, University of Sydney*
 - Lawrence Crissman, Griffith University*
 - The Geographic Information Science Center (GISCI), UC Berkeley*
 - Jianchun Xu, University of California, Berkeley*
 - ECAI Southeast Asia*
 - Leedom Lefferts, Drew University*
 - Danai Thaikatoo, Chulalongkorn University*
 - Alan Potkin, Digital Conservation Facility, Laos*
 - Catherine Raymond, Northern Illinois University*
 - Adrian Vickers, Wollongong University*
 - Roxanna Brown, University of California, Los Angeles*
 - Leslie Woodhouse, University of California, Berkeley*



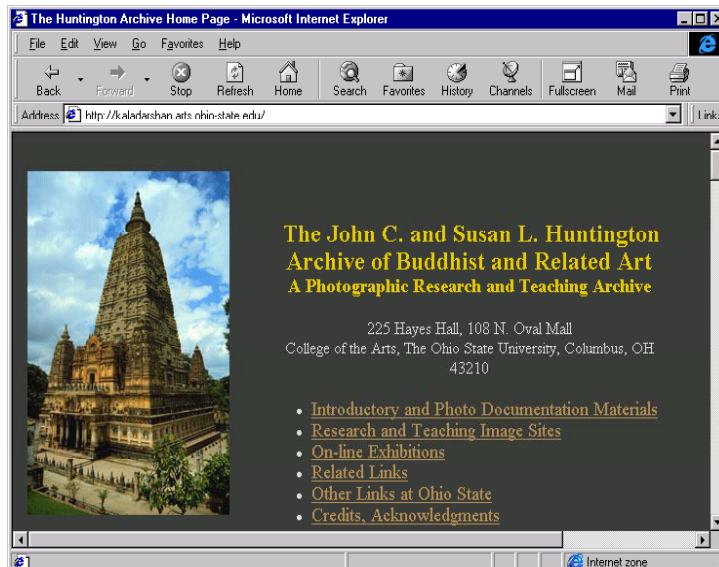
- *ECAI: A partnership of scholars and*
 - *information technology specialists*

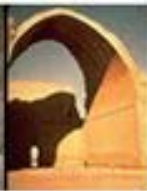
- Creating a distributed digital library of networked cultural research projects
- Visualizing, on a map-based interface, data from contributors around the world working in a range of disciplines
- Developing an Infrastructure for Interoperability of datasets



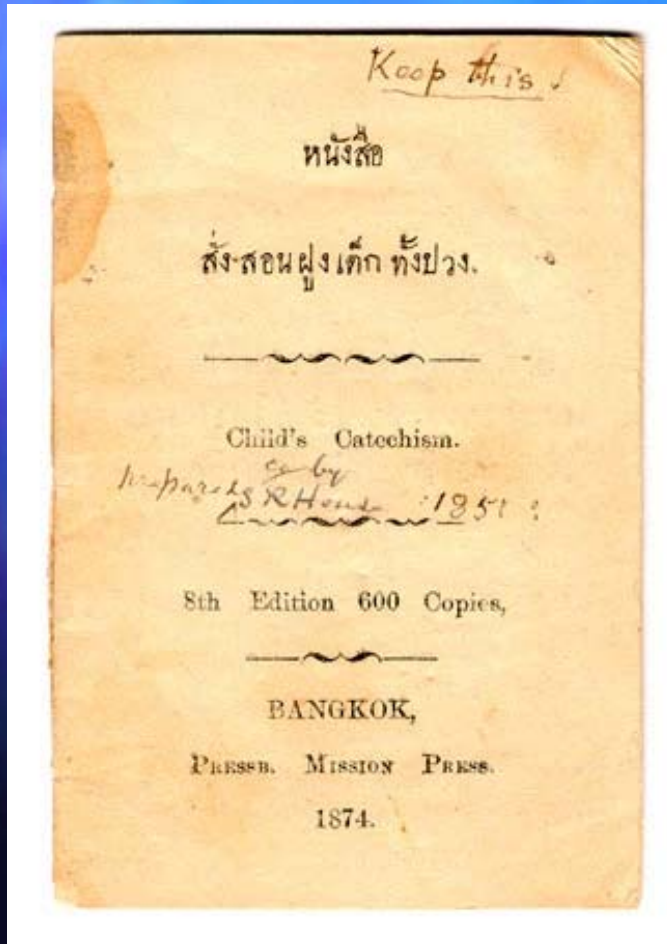
■ Sharing data with existing projects

- *EXAMPLE: Digital projects which have developed independently of ECAI may also choose to share data through the ECAI infrastructure, as for example the Huntington Archive of Buddhist and Related Art*





Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative



- **Fostering development of new digital projects**
- *EXAMPLE: Digital access to the collection of the McFarland Family Mission in Bangkok, 1860-1950, held at the South and Southeast Asia Library, UC Berkeley (Leslie Woodhouse, project coordinator)*
 - *Image at right: Child's Catechism, printed in Thai, 1874, Bangkok*



- *ECAI Affiliated Projects include:*
 - Metadata
 - Spatial information
 - Temporal Information
 - Maps
 - GIS dataset layers
 - *Base data (rivers, boundaries, topography)*
 - *Research data layers*
 - Web-Accessible Linked Resources
 - *Images, text, statistics, sound, and videos*
 - Documentation

Isan Travels of Etienne Aymonier, 1883-4

- Dr. Leedom Lefferts, Anthropology, Drew University, USA
- Drawn from reports published 1895-7, reprinted in Thai (1996) and English (2000)
- Linked textual resources
 - Issues:
 - Access to cultural and environmental history of northeast Thailand
 - Colonial perspective: French
 - Colonial perspective: Military-political
 - Attribute information: tables documenting travels
 - Linked resources: text
 - Source of information on remote regions, village life
 - Digital gazetteers to link places to text
 - Single scholar project

Phralak Phralam at Vat Ou Mong, Laos

(Lao version of the “Ramayana”)

- Alan Potkin and Catherine Raymond, Digital Conservation Facility, Laos
- Mural paintings illustrating “Phralak Phralam” on the walls of Vat Ou Mong
- Painted by: Thit Panh and assistants, 1938
- Photography: Alan Potkin and Catherine Raymond
- Text and translation: by Vo Thu Tinh, and staff of the Lao National Library
- Fonts: Ecole Française d'Extreme-Orient.
 - Issues:
 - Preservation of traditional arts
 - Preservation of vulnerable cultural resources
 - Reflection of cultural changes
 - Linked resources: video
 - Source of information on society that leaves few written records
 - Change in community attitudes to traditional culture and literature
 - Individual project and resources

Ayutthaya Art and Culture Project

- Dr. Danai Thaikatoo, Landscape Architecture, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, and many other collaborators
- Scanned historic maps from European travelers accounts (17-18 Centuries)
- GIS of historic sites
- Linked images from the Fine Arts Department
- Linked data on art and artifacts
 - Issues:
 - Access for Thai history
 - Preservation of classical Thai culture
 - Linked resources: historic maps (sources and artifacts)
 - Source of information on capital of Ayutthaya empire
 - Wide-ranging collaborative project

Southeast Asian Export Ceramics from Shipwreck Sites

- Roxanna Brown, PhD candidate, Art History, UCLA and Chief Curator, Bangkok University Art Museum; with assistance by Sten Sjostrand and Trinh Cao Toung, Institute of Archaeology, Hanoi
- Map layer of shipwreck sites
- Linked resources: photographs of ceramics, text describing finds, vessels, routes
 - Issues:
 - The seas as sites of historical activity
 - International relations within Asia
 - Changing trade dynamics
 - Linked resources: photographs
 - Art historical and material culture data
 - Immediate access to new discoveries

VOC (Dutch East India) Trade Data, 1670

- Dr. Adrian Vickers, Associate Dean, Wollongong University, Australia
- First step in major collaborative trade routes project
- Digitized VOC trade records of commodity exchange
 - Issues:
 - Archive records
 - Colonial perspective: Dutch
 - Colonial perspective: Commercial enterprise
 - Attribute data: Tabular data on commodities
 - Source of information on trade routes throughout Southeast Asia, and extending to India, China, Japan
 - Based in Java (insular Southeast Asia)

McFarland Missionary Collection, Bangkok SSEAL, UC Berkeley

- Leslie Woodhouse, Ph.D. Candidate, History, University of California, Berkeley
 - Collection of American Presbyterian missionary family in Bangkok 1860-1950
 - Collection includes books, manuscripts, photographs, pamphlets, scrapbooks
 - Developing finding aids for collection access
 - Digitizing selected resources
- Issues:
 - Preservation of fragile historical documents
 - Access for research community
 - Colonial perspective: American
 - Colonial perspective: Missionary
 - Linked resources: Historical photographs
 - Source of information on Thai capital, historical sites
 - Role of missionaries in development of printing and language



- *(DEMO OF ECAI SOUTHEAST ASIA ATLAS)*



- *ECAI Southeast Asia is committed to:*
- *Enhancing access to data for both contributors and users through information technology*
 - *Capacity-building through collaborative project development, training programs, conferences, workshops, and website user support resources*
 - *Preserving vulnerable cultural resources (rubblings, photographs, images of endangered sites and materials)*



The Southeast Asia Interactive Cultural Atlas

Sponsor:

National Institute of Informatics

Collaborators:

Kyoto University, Center for Southeast Asia Studies

University of Sydney

University of California, Berkeley



■ *Upcoming ECAI Conferences:*

- *April 2003: Budapest, Hungary*
- *September 2003: Bangkok, Thailand*

■ *Upcoming ECAI Southeast Asia Workshop:*

- *January 2003: Siem Reap, Cambodia*



- *ECAI Southeast Asia welcomes participation from interested individuals and institutions that:*
 - • have data to share in a digital environment
 - • wish to explore the use of the ECAI infrastructure in support of their professional activities
 - • are willing to share technical expertise
 - • would like to participate in upcoming conference programs
 - • would like to host ECAI training programs in Southeast Asia



■ *For further information:*

- *Visit ecai.org*
- *For information on ECAI: email ecai@socrates.berkeley.edu*
- *For information on ECAI Southeast Asia: email cari@uclink.berkeley.edu*