

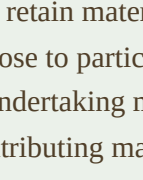
Western Regional Storage Trust

The Value of WEST

WEST leverages collaborative action for the collective good, preserving print journals and serials across the western region of the US to support the library and scholarly communities' current and future teaching, learning, and research needs.

<https://cdlib.org/west>

Preservation



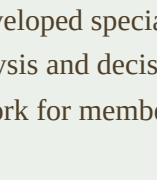
WEST's collection model allows members to retain materials according to local needs. Institutions can choose to participate by engaging in quick, low-effort archiving, undertaking more time-intensive higher-effort archiving, or contributing materials to complete retained backfiles. **Together, WEST members are protecting over 830,000 volumes across nearly 38,000 holdings, ensuring they're available into the future.**

Libraries worldwide that own item:

125 (1 Committed to Retain)

OCLC FirstSearch result

Physical space

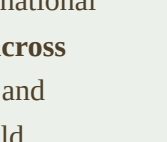


When WEST Archivers make commitments to retain materials, other WEST members can rest assured that those materials will be **available for the long-term**. They can then choose to deselect their local copy and instead **rely on the retained copy for access, freeing up library space for new materials or other uses**. WEST has developed special comparison tools in its custom in-house analysis and decision support system, AGUA, to streamline this work for members.

WEST Archived Titles

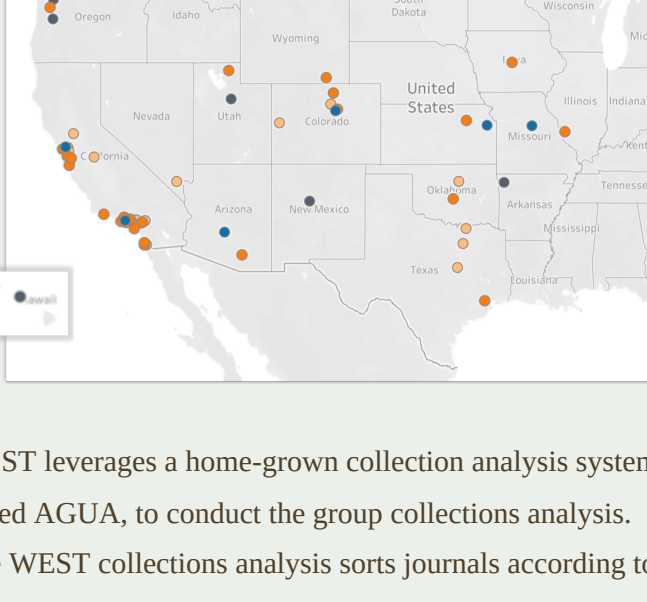
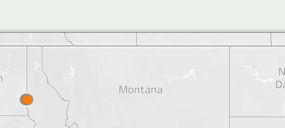
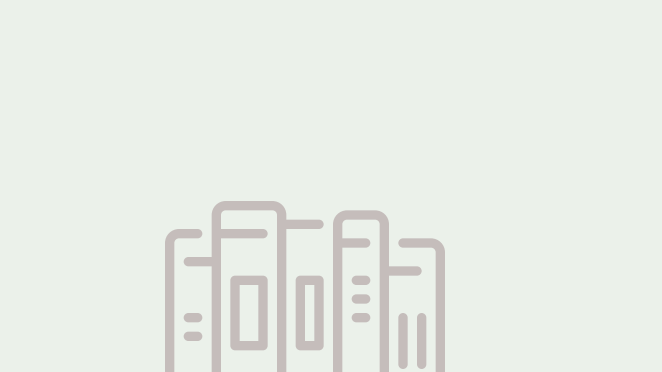


*Journals that are digitally preserved are considered low-risk and are not required to be physically validated



Access

The WEST collections are only useful if they are usable. WEST maintains an OCLC Profiled Group and a RapidILL pod to help **connect members to the WEST archives**, and provides national leadership promoting **better discovery of shared print across institutions**. WEST is dedicated to partnering with peers and advocating with OCLC and other service providers to build **comprehensive registries** and develop **solutions to support cross-institutional discovery** of shared collections.



WEST is one of the largest regional shared journal archiving programs in the U.S. in terms of the breadth of its membership and the number of titles and volumes it has archived to date.

WEST members have retained over 830,000 volumes from nearly 38,000 titles covering a **broad range of subjects and disciplines**. The collections are held in nearly 50 libraries and storage facilities across the western region of the U.S., with new collections added every year.

| Risk profile | Risk level | Archiving effort |
|---|------------|------------------|
| Print & electronic full text in trusted digital repositories (e.g. CLOCKSS, Portico, JSTOR, HathiTrust Digital Library) | Low | Low |
| Print with selected full text access through databases | Medium | High |
| Print with electronic abstracting or indexing or no electronic coverage at all | High | High |

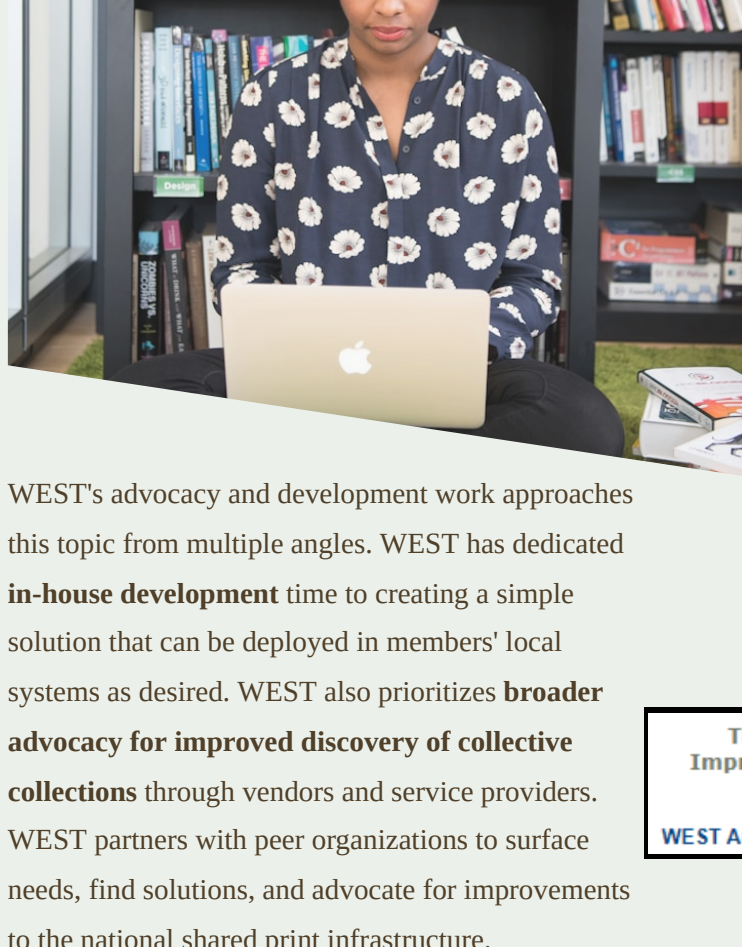
Participation in WEST assures stakeholders that journal deselection projects operate within a **strategic decision-making framework**. WEST is a founding member of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance, a federation of shared print programs that **amplifies and contextualizes WEST's work at the national level**. Expanding the **network of institutions and programs collaborating together** to preserve and protect the scholarly record allows WEST to **strategically deploy program and member resources** and **broadens the collections** for everyone.



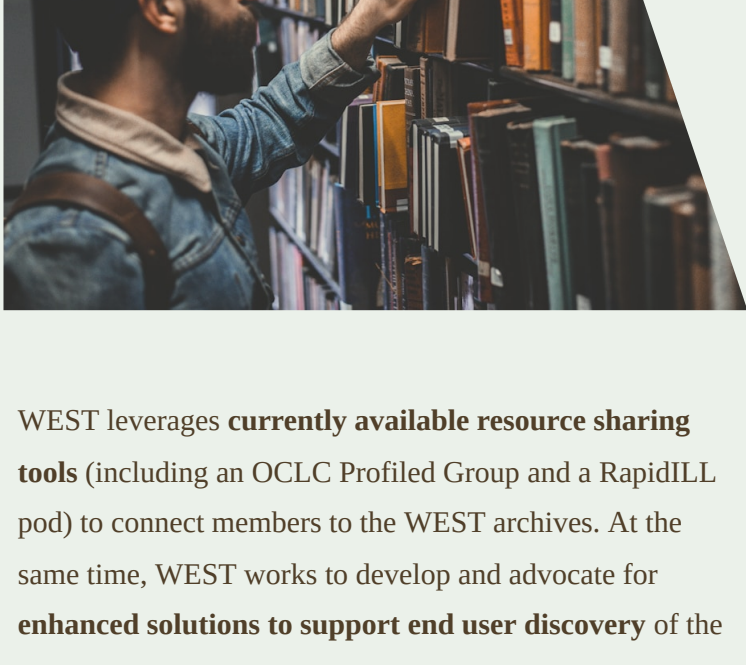
Access



When WEST Archivers agree to hold materials for the group, they also agree to make the retained materials available to members. **This guarantee supports continuity of access** to content for users, regardless of any decisions member institutions make about their local collections and whether the titles are available electronically.



WEST's advocacy and development work approaches this topic from multiple angles. WEST has dedicated **in-house development** time to creating a simple solution that can be deployed in members' local systems as desired. WEST also prioritizes **broadier advocacy for improved discovery of collective collections** through vendors and service providers. WEST partners with peer organizations to surface needs, find solutions, and advocate for improvements to the national shared print infrastructure.



WEST leverages **currently available resource sharing tools** (including an OCLC Profiled Group and a RapidILL pod) to connect members to the WEST archives. At the same time, WEST works to develop and advocate for **enhanced solutions to support end user discovery** of the critical materials held in the WEST archives.

Libraries worldwide that own item:

125 (1 Committed to Retain)

OCLC FirstSearch result

Holdings: v.1(1989)-v.11(2002)
Committed to retain for the WEST Shared Print Program

Commitment displayed in the Archiver's catalog

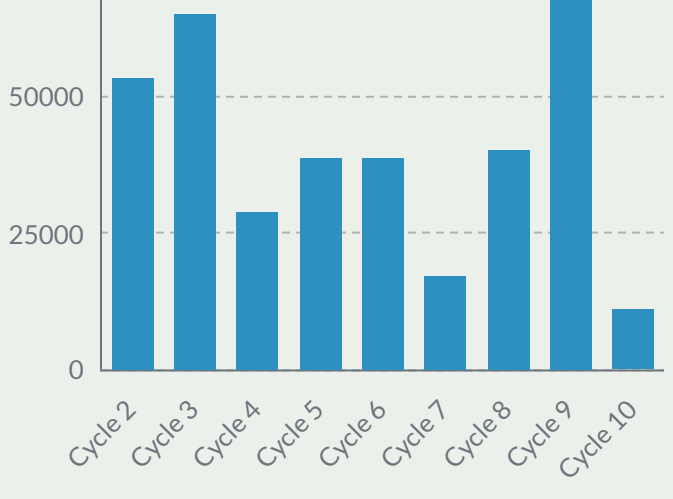
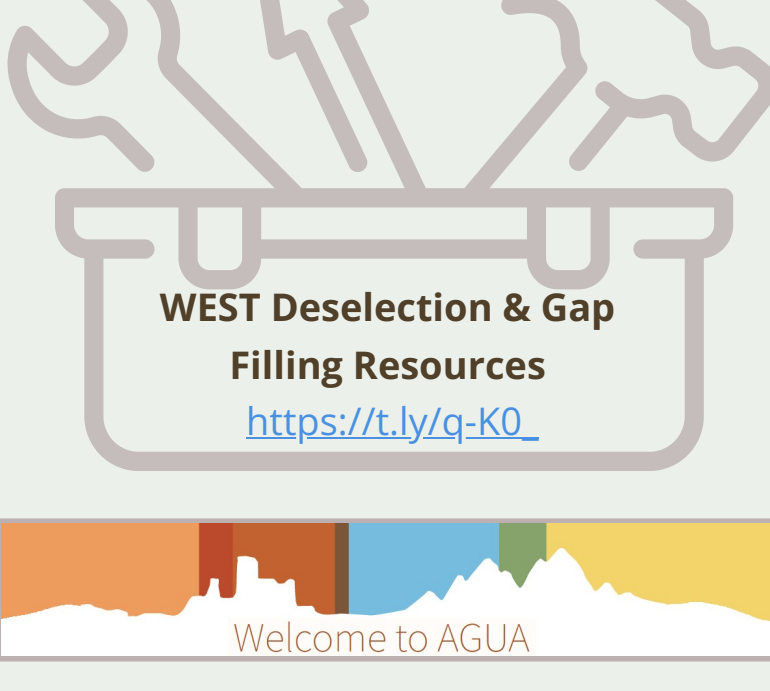
Title: **Computer graphics marketplace.**
Imprint: Phoenix, Ariz. : Oryx Press, 1-
Connect to
WEST Program Statement
WEST Archived title; Not available for immediate access. Request from InterLibrary Loan

WEST archived holdings discoverable via the local catalog

Physical space



One of the major benefits WEST offers its members is access to **trusted archives of scholarly print journals**, which in turn is used as a **reference point to support local projects** to reduce the footprint of their on-campus print collections. These projects allow member institutions to **reallocate space** in their libraries to **support new collections** and other, non-collection **library and campus priorities**.



Volumes Deselected Against the WEST Archives

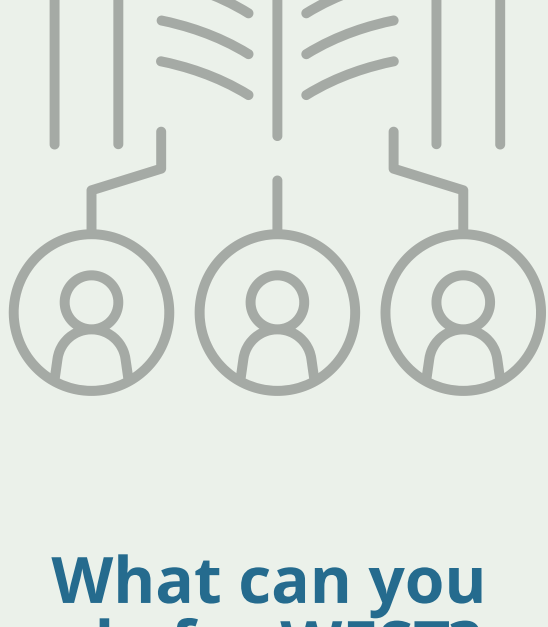
Members weigh several factors when making these decisions. Titles with **reliable electronic access** are typically preferred for **major space reclamation projects**. Titles with fewer electronic access points have historically seen lower rates of deselection, with libraries opting to keep these close at hand. As libraries grapple with managing the competing demands on their spaces, **shared print offers a path forward** for **reclaiming and repurposing space** while still **retaining access** to the materials students and scholars need.

WEST members have reclaimed over 29,300 square feet of library space



What is WEST?

- Shared print journal program in the western region of the US
- Collaborative trust network of over 50 academic and research libraries
- Leader in developing and managing large and dependable print archives
- Leader in data-informed collaborative decision making frameworks and tools



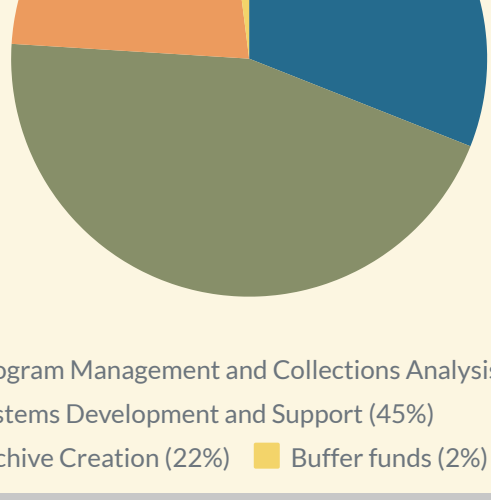
What can you do for WEST?

- Retain locally-important and unique materials
- Retain widely duplicated titles to create deselection opportunities for partners
- Contribute volumes to fill gaps
- Support program initiatives
- Participate in regional and national activities

What can WEST help you do?

- Reduce duplication and reclaim space without sacrificing access
- Focus on local strengths and identify unique collections
- Strategically manage local resources
- Access broad and diverse collections
- Safeguard against future changes
- Connect to other institutions regionally and nationally
- Scale your impact

What do your WEST member fees get you?



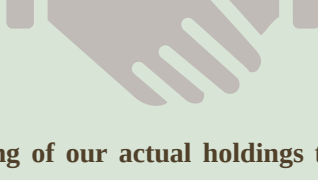
Program Management and Collections Analysis (31%)

Systems Development and Support (45%)

Archive Creation (22%)

Buffer funds (2%)

member stories



"I value the ability to have a **better understanding of our actual holdings** through this WEST project and to **make runs of whole serials more complete**...and broadly contribute to **preservation of these print materials** and then also **provide the access to the broader users**, not only our local users."

"We absolutely believe that **our participation in WEST trust increases our effectiveness for our local efforts to make scholarly works available for the long term**. So, we would be doing this work anyway but we believe that we **are more effective by being an archive builder** in terms of both our own **local holdings**, as well as **contributions to this larger community**. We also value participating in a **community that is actively engaged in long term preservation activities**."

"Archiving activities enhance our collection in several ways. Validation requires a closer examination of materials than is conducted in other inventory work. This results in a **clearer picture of our holdings**, both in terms of issues held and the stability of physical materials. **Storage in a controlled climate extends the life of these holdings**. Validation work helps us and the collective **plan for how and if these holdings could be preserved digitally** if not already represented online. Inventory and off-site storage are usually projects one thinks of for materials that are less in demand, which isn't the most glamorous area of collections to evaluate. Shared print analysis is more focused on the **equitable distribution of resources throughout the collective collection for the benefit of users many decades in the future**. Archiving work is so rewarding because of the **potential to exponentially increase the positive impact** of evaluating and verifying our library's collection."

"Our WEST weeding removed 2,195 titles and a tad over 49,000 volumes. **The space we gained amounted to 6,618 linear feet and equaled 2,237 shelves. In terms of square feet, this was about 3,500 sq. ft.**...during the WEST weeding, we conducted two other collection projects that created about 11,000 sq. ft. of space to repurpose. I know that **these three collection projects facilitated physical distancing requirements** for the building when the library reopened to the public in August 2020 after the pandemic shutdown. **We did not need to reduce as much seating, just remove shelving and then spread out tables and chairs.**"

"I wouldn't say that we've done anything really drastic like we completely eliminated our physical print backfiles, but **we did weed quite a few titles and opened quite a bit of space in our periodical section**...that's a piece of the **implicit understanding** of WEST, that **WEST is part of this process** in some way."

The Benefits of Collective Action

Space Savings & Collective Collections