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WEB 160 Assignment 3 - Project Scope

Title: Fiske Genealogical Library
URL: <http://www.fiskelibrary.org>

Project Scope:

1. What type of written information is the potential user of this site looking for and/or wanting to gain by coming to this site?

New visitors will want the hours of the library, directions on how to get there, what the library contains, and how the Fiske Library relates to other private and public libraries. Are there fees, and can materials be checked out?

Return visitors and patrons will be looking for new books, books for sale, the newsletter, genealogy classes and programs, field trips and research help. Some will be looking for names and contact info for the board and emergency contacts. Links to the catalogue are most used.

2. What might be some typical questions the potential user might ask about your site's organization?

Is the Fiske Library part of the Seattle Public Library system?
Is there a fee to use the library?
Are you part of the Mormon church or the national archives?
Can I check out books?
When is the library open?
What does the library look like?
Is it handicap accessible?
Is there wifi?
Is there a bus that can take me there?
Is there help available to inexperienced researchers? Does it cost?
How do I get started with my family research?
Are there classes available so I can learn?
Is there a newsletter?
Are there online research tools the library can offer?
Who runs the library?
What's in the neighborhood?

3. What type of written information is the client looking to convey to the user with this site and why?

How to get here, what kind of help they can expect, what events are available, volunteer opportunities.

4. What are the answers your client should provide to the users' questions? (Answer the questions you described above as this will eventually become "content.")

The Fiske is a private library not part of the public library system. It is not part of the Mormon church or the national archives. The collection has grown from Arthur Fiske's original collection and is the 6th largest collection of New England Genealogical resources in the country. The books are, however, catalogued in WorldCat and available on line. There is also a large collection of local history.

The library is open M 10-3, W 12-8, Th 3-8, F by appt, Sa 10-3, Su 2nd & 4th Su of the month 1-4.

User fees are \$5 a day or \$40 a year, copier is .15 a page, scans to email are free. Classes are \$5 each. You can check out volumes for \$1 a week each, and they are available on interlibrary loan for a fee based on postage and weight of the book. The library is always interested in donations of books, financial donations, and items for maintaining the library.

The library is in the old Washington Pioneer Building in Madison Park at 1644 43rd Ave E Seattle WA 98112. It is at the end of the #15 bus. The phone number which will be answered by a volunteer during open hours, is xxx-xxx-xxxx.

The library is in the basement down a stairway, and isn't handicap accessible. Upstairs in the Pioneer hall, it is accessible. However, the library isn't upstairs.

There is free wifi in the library. Research help is available by email or phone call. Lookups can be done at no cost by a volunteer if you know the volume and page. Scans can be emailed for no charge. It is free, and for more in-depth help professional genealogists can be hired. The Fiske runs weekly classes on research topics for various countries and parts of the US. There are also special field trips.

There are articles on line with links to forms and ways to go about your work.

Fee-paying patrons receive a quarterly newsletter, and pdfs of the newsletters can be found in the online archive.

Online research tools include the library's paid Ancestry.com account (for use at the library's computers), and a link to WorldCat's worldwide library catalogue. The extensive "Finding Helps" pages detail resources for states and countries.

The Fiske Genealogical Library is run by a board of directors and staffed by volunteers.

The Madison Park Neighborhood has coffee shops, restaurants and a grocery store and the library is next to Madison Park beach and the bus stop.

5. What is the perception, attitude and tone that the user will feel most comfortable with and why?

Even though respect is generally afforded the dead, they often left behind some outrageous, inspiring or quirky information. Genealogy research is a lot of mystery solving and history. People like sharing these stories, and tactics for finding information. New approaches, especially unorthodox ones, are always welcome. Genealogy is solitary work but also requires a busy community generously sharing to find links to the past.

6. What perception, attitude and tone does the client want to convey to the user and why?

The Fiske Library is a continuation of Arthur Fiske's legacy of ongoing research and an ever-growing database tying people to their histories and each other. Validated research is of utmost importance.