

# Toward an Interactive Directory for Norfolk, Nebraska: 1899-1900

Robert B. Allen

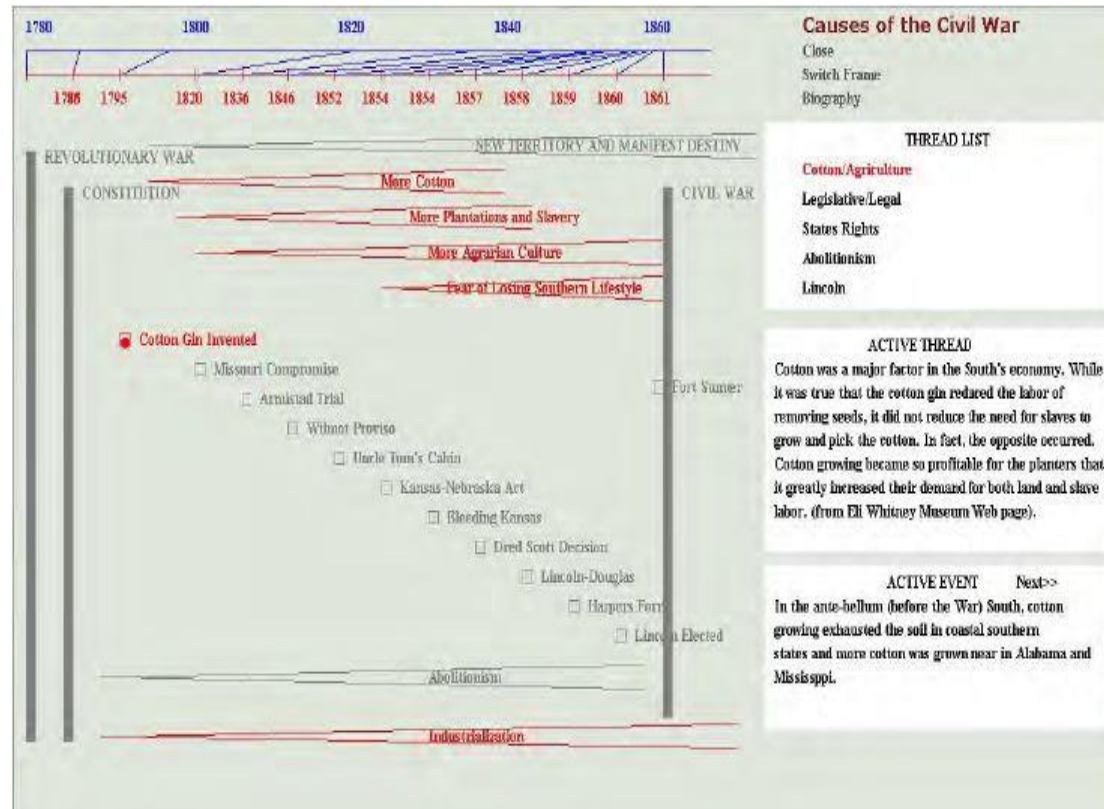
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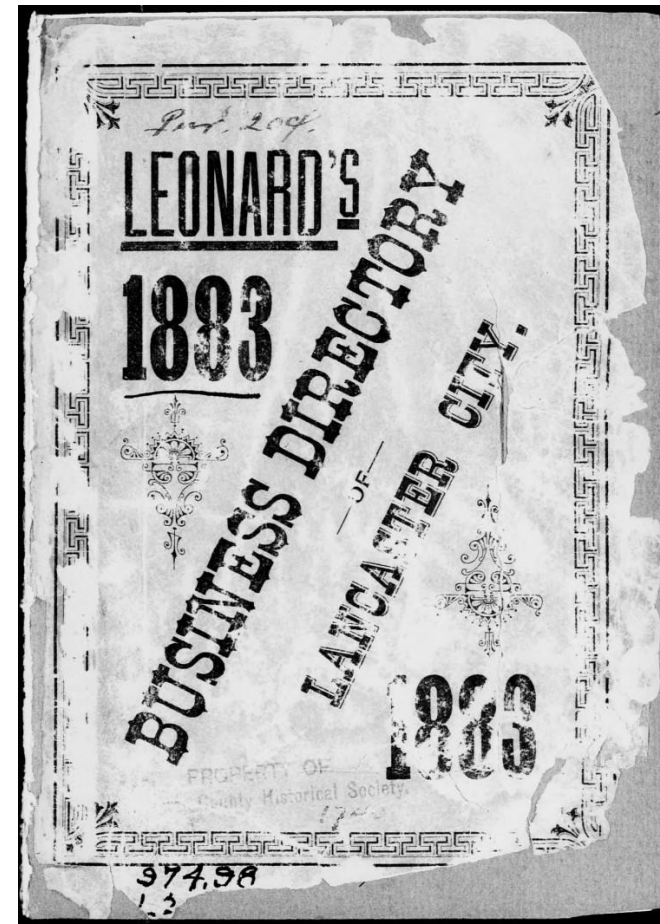
# Next Generation Cultural Collections

- Scale (“Big Data”)
- Coordinated media
- New users and user interfaces
- New modes of indexing



# Toward an Interactive City Directory

- City directories are common and useful.
- In the modern context, they would be more useful if they covered many years.
- It helps to have scale of combining many resources many people, many families.



# Strategy: Pick a test town

- Criteria
  - Digitized Newspaper Collection (NDNP)
  - Census Transcription
  - City Directories or other records online.
  - All available in a short period of time.



Norfolk, Madison County, Nebraska





*Main Street, Looking West, Norfolk, Nebr.*



Many other resources such as post cards.

Same intersection from 1910 and today.





# Toward an Interactive Directory

- Prominent Individuals and Families
  - Asmus
    - Owned grocery
    - Active family
  - H. Baird
    - Married and moved
  - J.S. McCleary
    - Civil War veteran
  - Simpson
    - Mayor
  - Truman
    - Painting and wallpaper
- Characterizing the town



# Formalizing the Model

- Complex entities
- Representing the events
  - Entity-event fabric
    - State changes
  - Discourse models



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## Model-Oriented Information Organization: Part 1, The Entity-Event Fabric

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# Toward Community Models

- Multi-family biography
- Executable models (simulations)
- Interactive historical re-enactors
- Games
  - talk to your (simulated) ancestors
- Cyber-drama