

## Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative Initial Assessment and Recommendations

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### Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative The Digital Library of the Caribbean's Initiative to Support the Vulnerable Libraries and Archives of Haiti Initial Assessment and Recommendations February 26, 2010

#### ANOTHER PORT-AU-PRINCE IS POSSIBLE



Photographer: Matthew J. Smith

*Dramatic contrast that shows the damage from the earthquake and the hope for another Port-au-Prince that existed even before the earthquake.*

#### Executive Summary:

The Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) developed the Protecting Haitian Patrimony (PHP) Initiative to bring together international contributors to assist Haiti with the preservation of Haitian cultural patrimony while respecting local sovereignty. From February 11-17, 2010, the dLOC Project Coordinator travelled to Haiti to meet with local leadership and determine the short, medium and long term goals for the initiative.

This report summarizes the current actions taken in regard to the specific patrimonial collections in Haiti. It also provides the background necessary **to develop coherent, complementary plans** to assist local institutions as they **protect** the collections and develop resources to **preserve** and ensure that the future generations will have access to these resources. For more details on the PHP Initiative, go to [www.dloc.com](http://www.dloc.com).

Prepared by Brooke Wooldridge  
dLOC Project Coordinator, Florida International University

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### LIST OF ACRONYMS:

<b>ALA</b>	American Library Association
<b>ANH</b>	Archives Nationales d'Haïti -- the National Archives of Haiti
<b>BHFIC</b>	Bibliothèque haïtienne des Frères de l'Instruction Chrétienne -- The library at Saint Louis de Gonzague.
<b>BNH</b>	Bibliothèque National d'Haïti -- the National Library of Haiti
<b>BNPHU</b>	Biblioteca Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña -- National Library of the Dominican Republic
<b>BHPSE</b>	Bibliothèque haïtienne des Pères du Saint-Esprit -- The library at the Collège Saint Martial
<b>BSF</b>	Bibliothèques Sans Frontières -- Libraries Without Borders
<b>CARBICA</b>	Caribbean Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives
<b>DLOC</b>	Digital Library of the Caribbean
<b>ICA</b>	International Council on Archives
<b>ICOM</b>	International Council of Museums
<b>IFLA</b>	International Federation of Library Associations
<b>PHP Initiative</b>	Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative
<b>TICFIA</b>	Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

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### BACKGROUND:

In response to the earthquake on January 12, 2010, many institutions and individuals have expressed an interest in supporting Haitian libraries and archives as they begin the difficult and costly process of rebuilding and working towards the future. The Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) has been working closely with its partner institutions in Port-au-Prince and is poised to play a vital role in helping them coordinate their efforts to rebuild and implement a long-term plan of for sustainability in the future. The Protecting Haitian Patrimony (PHP) Initiative builds on strong, long term partnerships, with an emphasis on accountability and transparency. The mission of this Initiative is to bring together international contributors to assist Haiti with the preservation of Haitian cultural patrimony while respecting local sovereignty.



Initial visit to downtown Port-au-Prince.

Left to Right: Matthew Smith, Francoise Thybulle, Luis Medrano, Jean Wilfrid Bertrand, Brooke Wooldridge

Based on the reports provided by the directors in Haiti, dLOC project coordinator Brooke Wooldridge has been sharing information as it becomes available via the dLOC website and listservs. The Florida International University (FIU) Dean of Libraries, Laura Probst, convened a conference call where library directors from multiple universities in the North America and the Caribbean received updates and discussed opportunities for collaboration. FIU established an online mechanism to collect funds and organize volunteers to provide for the immediate and long term assistance of the partners in Haiti ([www.dloc.com](http://www.dloc.com)). Brown University has also developed a fundraising initiative and has invited Patrick Tardieu of the Collège Saint Martial Library in Haiti to join the John Carter Brown Library as a visiting scholar. Duke University will host a two day conference April 22-23, 2010, to discuss Haiti's history and possible ways to assist its libraries. Many other universities and groups are interested and willing to help, and are waiting for more information and direction before deciding the best course of action.

After the encouragement of Haitian historian Thorald Burnham, Ph.D., University of British Columbia, and with the invitation from Francoise Thybulle, Director, National Library of Haiti, the FIU Libraries agreed to send Brooke Wooldridge to Haiti to express solidarity with local partners and gather the information needed to determine the next steps for the PHP Initiative. Brooke travelled to Haiti with historian Matthew J. Smith, Ph.D., from the University of the West Indies – Mona (UWI).



Private collection in need of assistance now receiving emergency assistance by UNESCO.

Both were well received by a delegation of the National Library in the Dominican Republic and were fortunate to hear its experience and have a staff member join them in Port-au-Prince.

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The dLOC/UWI team arrived in Port-au-Prince the day after the Libraries without Borders (BSF) delegation completed its very productive mission to Haiti. You can see the report online at <http://web1.dloc.com/ufdc/design/aggregations/dloc1/html/info/Rapport-mission-light.pdf>.

### **SUMMARY:**

The local leadership in Haiti began working as quickly as possible to develop plans to ensure that as many collections as possible are saved from further damage after the earthquake destroyed buildings housing collections leaving them exposed to the elements, knocked over shelves and dumped valuable historical materials to the floor. Through the work of ICOM (International Council of Museums)/Archives Nationales, the National Library, Bibliothèque haïtienne des Pères du Saint-Esprit (Library at Saint Louis de Gonzague), Bibliothèque haïtienne des Pères du Saint-Esprit (Library at Collège Saint Martial), private collectors and interested citizens many endangered collections have already been saved from exposure to the elements. The immediate intervention was supported by UNESCO, Libraries without Borders and others who contributed basic supplies like boxes and plastic covers. The needs for the **protection** of these resources continue. It is now important for the leaders in Haiti and interested institutions/people to begin to develop joint projects to **preserve** and **perpetuate** these collections.

This report summarizes the current situation in the three main patrimonial libraries and the National Archives. Based on the information provided by the local leaders in this report, interested institutions/individuals can decide how they may be able to offer assistance to these collections. The PHP Initiative will continue to share opportunities for collaboration with Haitian libraries/National Archives and funding agencies.

### **How Interested People/Institutions Can Help:**

If you would like to support the protection of these important libraries, archives and personal collections, sign up online at [www.dloc.com](http://www.dloc.com). The PHP Initiative is looking for people to donate money, organize fundraisers, collect and ship requested materials, and travel to Haiti to help if requested by the local partners.

**To date, the PHP Initiative has over 50 registered volunteers and almost \$5,000 collected.**

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### PROJECT TIMELINE:

It is important to think about the recovery in the short, medium and long term. In keeping with this objective, the PHP Initiative encourages a focus on the protection, preservation and perpetuation of these collections.

#### Phase 1 – Protect



Library at Saint Louis de Gonzague.

After the earthquake, the libraries and archives entered into this first phase of the recovery focusing on protecting the vital collections, both public and private, from any further damage as a result of the disaster. In just over a month, a number of groups are well underway working to secure and prevent further damage to the patrimonial collections. The urgent needs for this first phase include money for additional staffing, recovery materials like boxes, archival boxes, gloves,

masks, boots and helmets. In addition, resources for the transportation and temporary storage of the materials are also required.

#### Phase 2 – Preserve

Once all the collections are safe from the elements, the preservation phase of the recovery can begin. Due to the need to act quickly, the collections were boxed in without proper cleaning in standard cardboard boxes. So, it will be necessary to repair the current facilities or locate an alternative processing facility in Port-au-Prince for the collections to be processed as quickly as possible.

The National Archives, the National Library and the library at Saint Louis de Gonzague should not require major repairs. The library at Collège Saint Martial will require more extensive renovation or a new facility so an interim site for processing would be ideal. In all cases, the availability of architectural engineers and construction supplies may lead to delays in the physical repairs of the buildings.

In addition to damage to the building, much of the furniture, shelving and equipment will need to be replaced in order for the libraries to resume services to the public.



Staircase at the College of Saint Martial.  
Photographer: Dominique Franck Simon.

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As the physical infrastructure is being repaired, a parallel initiative to clean, repair and restore the collections to pre-earthquake condition or better must also be implemented. In order to process these collections, the preservation department at the National Archives must be supported and a parallel preservation department should be created at the National Library.

### Phase 3 – Perpetuate



Equipment provided to the ANH as a part of the initial dLOC TICFIA funding.

The local institutions should naturally grow stronger as they respond to the challenges of the protection and preservation phases of the earthquake recovery. However, a special emphasis on reinforcing the local institutions will ensure that these collections become better protected and more accessible for future generations of patrons. These actions include the development of a joint online catalog for the three main libraries, the expansion or development of preservation activities, including document restoration and digitization, general initiatives to support staff development and the strengthening of physical and technical infrastructure for the collections.

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### UPDATES ON THE HAITIAN INSTITUTIONS

This information is generated from meetings that were conducted in Port-au-Prince from February 11-17, 2010. Because the situation in Haiti continues to evolve quickly, the following is only a snapshot of the current needs.

More photographs and videos documenting the status and needs of the libraries and archives will be available on the dLOC website and in the dLOC Facebook Group.

**Archives Nationales d'Haïti**, the National Archives of Haiti, (ANH) houses both civil and state records, including births, marriage and death certificates, documentation of social works, civil governance and records of the Office of the President and most government ministries. Director, National Archives: Jean Wilfrid Bertrand

ANH has the responsibility to protect both the Historical and Civil Archives and the collections of the thirty downed ministry buildings and the National Palace. In addition, it has created a collaborative group inside Haiti, including the National Archives and the International Council of Museums (ICOM), to address the immediate needs in the aftermath of the earthquake and ensure that materials are rescued as quickly as possible. This group needs significant funding for the rescue efforts and sustained support as the rescued materials enter the preservation phase.

**Bibliothèque haïtienne des Pères du Saint-Esprit**, the library at the Collège Saint Martial, was founded in 1873 by the Fathers of the Holy Spirit. The library holds resources documenting the history of Haiti, French colonization, slavery and emancipation, and 20th Century records, as well as newspapers and periodicals.

Director, Alumni: Dominique Franck Simon  
Curator: Patrick Tardieu

The library at the Collège Saint Martial sustained the most severe structural damage of the four institutions named here. The collections were successfully evacuated from the third floor library over the last two weeks under the direction of the school with help from ICOM/ANH and Libraries without Borders (among others). The school which houses the library suffered significant loss and is still determining the best long term plan for the institution as a whole. It is vital that a temporary space to clean and process the materials be secured.



Patrick Tardieu, Curator, BHPSE, with rare books from the collection.

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**Bibliothèque haïtienne des Frères de l'Instruction Chrétienne**, the library at Saint Louis de Gonzague, was founded in 1912 by the Christian Brothers. It served as a depository-library for Haitian imprints and holds titles not even available in the National Library. It also has one of the most important collections of Haitian newspapers. Curator: Freres Ernest Even

The library at Saint Louis de Gonzague suffered some structural damage to the building and many shelves were knocked over, dumped on the ground and materials were covered in concrete debris. As with Collège Saint Martial, the school has suffered significant loss. The building that houses the Saint Louis de Gonzague collection is damaged but still strong. Through collaboration with ICOM/ANH and the National Library, many of the materials that were tossed to the ground have been boxed and the shelves are back upright. The building will need repairs and the collections must be cleaned and preserved in the near future.

**Bibliothèque National d'Haïti**, the National Library of Haiti, (BNH) was established in 1939. It serves as a public library providing resources, study space and research support and has a large collection of rare books, manuscripts and newspapers. Director: Francoise Beaulieu-Thybulle



Municipal Library of the BNH in Petit Goave.

BNH suffered minor physical damage to the building but significant damage to the materials and equipment as shelves dumped their contents and fell to the floor. The staff of the National Library has already boxed the collection and provided assistance to the neighboring Saint Louis private collection. As with the ANH, the National Library will present a radio announcement stating it is prepared to offer its staff to support not only its collection but other patrimonial collections in danger.

**Private Collections** are also significant repositories of cultural patrimony in Haiti. Any plan to support cultural patrimony must recognize this need and help find creative solutions to support these important collections. ICOM/National Archives, the National Library and UNESCO are all providing support to endangered private collections by initially packing the collections and assisting with temporary storage.

A number of significant private collections will also require external assistance as a result of the earthquake. These collections are sometimes the only sources of valuable records vital to understanding Haitian history. ICOM/National Archives, the National Library and UNESCO will all need additional support to ensure these collections receive the attention they deserve.

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**GROUPS IN COMMUNICATION WITH DLOC ABOUT ASSISTANCE TO HAITIAN LIBRARIES/ARCHIVES**

This list is preliminary, and the PHP Initiative welcomes additional partners. Please contact Brooke Wooldridge at [dloc@fiu.edu](mailto:dloc@fiu.edu) for more information.

- Association of Caribbean University Research and Institutional Libraries
- Blue Shield / International Federation of Library Associations / American Library Association
- International Council on Archives / CARBICA
- Collaborative Initiative for French North American Libraries
- Libraries without Borders
- National Library of the Dominican Republic
- Society of Florida Archivists
- UNESCO
- U.S. Universities – Brown University, Duke University, Florida International University, New York University, Tulane University, University of Central Florida, University of Florida, University of Miami, University of the Virgin Islands
- Université des Antilles et de la Guyane / Manioc
- University of British Columbia
- University of the West Indies – Mona

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### RECOVERY PLANS/NEEDS AS IDENTIFIED BY LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

Even before the earthquake, the needs for each of these institutions were great. The chronic underfunding of these institutions makes intervention in the aftermath of the earthquake even



Documents in process at the National Archives before the earthquake.

more necessary. At the same time, it makes it even more difficult to separate pre- and post-quake needs. The needs below focus directly on assistance that is required as a result of the effects of the earthquake. However, it is impossible to only address these new needs and not look at the larger preservation and perpetuation of these important protectors of Haitian historical and cultural memory.

The ICOM, the National Archives and National Library are working diligently, as is the UNESCO field office, to provide services to the private collections as they are identified.

#### **Archives Nationales d'Haïti (National Archives)/ICOM**

The ANH/ICOM is addressing the broad needs of cultural/historical preservation including monuments, fallen government buildings and private historical and cultural collections. This group immediately identified a number of urgent needs outlined in a report published on January 26, 2010, and available at [www.dloc.com](http://www.dloc.com). We have an updated plan that identifies the revised immediate needs of the Archives that is in Appendix 1 of this report. The basic needs from the initial report still stand. The director reiterated the following urgent needs last week.

- Standard Boxes, Archival Boxes, Document Trays, Plastic Gloves, Face Masks, Tape
- 20 Laptops
- Two Servers
- 100 Tents for Temporary Shelter
- 20 Two-way communication devices
- 200 Shipping Containers (Forty Feet)
- Additional Temporary Space to provide services to public (for five years)
- Networking cables for three archive buildings
- Logistical Transportation/Compensation for Volunteers through April 30, 2010

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### **Bibliothèque National d'Haïti** (National Library)

The National Library continues to address the needs of its collection both in Port-au-Prince and the affected municipal libraries while assisting outside collections on its own and in collaboration with ICOM/ANH.

The summary of the needs of the library for equipment and rebuilding as a result of the earthquake are as follows:

▪ Shelves	60,000
▪ Hardware	25,000
▪ U.S. Server	2,000
▪ Other (Computer circuit)	2,500
▪ Furniture	37,00
<b>TOTAL (in US \$)</b>	<b>137,000</b>

### **Bibliothèque haïtienne des Frères de l'Instruction Chrétienne** (Library at Saint Louis de Gonzague)

The needs include clean up and physical repairs to the building, clean up and repair of damaged documents, replacement of one of the shelving cabinets and display cases, and assistance for additional staffing to address the needs presented by the earthquake. With the proper support, the librarian is hopeful that the collection will reopen to the public by August, 2010.

### **Bibliothèque haïtienne des Pères du Saint-Esprit** (Library at Collège Saint Martial)

The leadership has the materials in temporary safekeeping and is still considering the best course for mid to long term action. The library will need funding for the temporary storage and clean up of the materials until a more permanent library can be created.

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### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

This report is based on meetings conducted from February 11-17, 2010 by Brooke Wooldridge, dLOC Project Coordinator, Florida International University and Dr. Matthew Smith, Lecturer, UWI-Mona, Jamaica.

A special thanks to the United States Department of Education TICFIA program for funding projects that develop infrastructure for foreign content exchange. Without the TICFIA funding, dLOC would not exist. Thank you to the early founders of the Digital Library of the Caribbean and those who have supported it over the years, especially to the University of Florida Digital Library Center. Thank you to the Florida International University Libraries, Latin American and Caribbean Center, FIU Professor and dLOC Academic Advisory Board member Chantalle Verna and FIU President Rosenberg for supporting the idea for the PHP Initiative from the very beginning. Thank you to the director and staff of the National Library in the Dominican Republic.

My deepest thanks and appreciation, however, go to the directors and owners of the cultural and historical collections in Haiti. You have all protected your collections for decades. I am confident you will succeed in doing so after the earthquake. The level of professionalism and collaboration among the interested parties before the earthquake was strong, and in the wake of these difficulties presented in the last few weeks has been remarkable. I thank you for your friendship and hospitality. I look forward to working with you as we develop this Initiative to recover and strengthen these important collections.

***DIGITAL LIBRARY OF THE CARIBBEAN (DLOC)** is a cooperative digital library for resources from and about the Caribbean and circum-Caribbean. dLOC provides access to digitized versions of Caribbean cultural, historical and research materials currently held in archives, libraries, and private collections.*

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## APPENDIX 1:

### Haitian Cultural Heritage in Danger after the Earthquake of 12 January 2010

Follow-up Report to the 26 January 2010 ICOM/Archives Nationales Report

-- *Séisme dévastateur/ Haïti 12 janvier 2010*

[http://web1.dloc.com/ufdc/design/aggregations/dloc1/html/info/Seisme\\_devastateur.pdf](http://web1.dloc.com/ufdc/design/aggregations/dloc1/html/info/Seisme_devastateur.pdf)

Prepared by Jean Wilfrid Bertrand with assistance from Francoise Thybulle

Translated into English by dLOC (From handwritten report)

#### 1. Context and Justification

The earthquake of 12 January was a shock to all the world. It is no surprise however that all means have been put to work to save human lives. Nevertheless it is unfortunate that our cultural artifacts have not been the object of attention of government authorities and civil society.

This catastrophe is without precedent in the history of Haiti. One twentieth of public buildings are destroyed, thousands of private homes are damaged, along with the archives, books, numerous documents and art. The response most appropriate has been the creation of a crisis management group named ICOM-Haiti/Archives Nationales d'Haiti.

#### 2. Organizational Structure

ICOM-Haiti/The National Archives of Haiti is a mixed entity, private and public, international and nation, created 25 January 2010 from the leadership of the Movement to Safeguard the Cultural Patrimony of Haiti.

This organization is co-led by Harold Jaspard, president of ICOM-Haiti, Jean Wilfred Bertrand, general supervisor at the National Archives of Haiti, and François B. Thybulle, director of the National Library. The Executive Secretary of the crisis management group is A. Lewis Clormeus, of ICOM-Haiti.

One week after we were joined by all of the cultural leaders under the Ministry of Culture and Communication, in particular the National Library, the Bureau of Ethnology, Musee du Pantheon National Haitien, the National Office of Books, and also by the leaders of private patrimony collections and other foundations, such as the Library of the Fathers of the Holy

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Spirit (Library at College Saint Martial), the Library of the Christian Brothers (Library at Saint Louis de Gonzague), the Fondation Iconographique, the Foundation of Culture Creation, the Fondation Canez-Auguste, the Haitian Art Museum of the St. Pierre College, the Center of Art.

### **3. Action Already Underway**

3.1 The printing of 200 notices and 100 letters for identifying our rescue work on the following different sites.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- The Office of Posts
- The Ministry of the Interior
- The Direction General of Imports
- The Ministry of Justice
- TELECO
- The Bank National of Credit
- The Foundation for the Creation of Culture

3.2 Formation of six teams of volunteers with the archivists as the coordinators, with gloves, face masks, cover for archival collections, books, other documents. The fees for paying and transporting 36 volunteers are \$15 (US) per person per day.

3.3 The Distribution of about 800 boxes and cartons to the institutions under us an to other private collections in danger (Library of the Father of the Holy Spirit, Library of the Christian Brothers, Foundation for the Creation of Culture, Library of the Haitian Society of History and Geography.

### **4. Action to Undertake**

4.1 Take action in sites still untouched

4.2 Recover documents from thirty affected government ministries which contain civil records from 1950-2009

4.3 Preserve documents affected by the earthquake in the temporary custody of the Archive.

4.4 Mobilize personnel to process these collections

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4.5 Classify and inventory of collections

4.6 Transport of collections as defined in the plan for reconstruction

4.7 Digitization of essential and patrimonial resources

### **5. Urgent Needs**

- Boxes and cartons for provisional storage
- Acid-free boxes
- Plastic gloves, face masks, and adhesive tape
- 20 laptops
- 2 servers
- Trays for protecting documents
- 100 tents for temporary shelter
- 20 radio communication devices
- 200 forty-foot shipping containers
- A location to offer service to clientele and for immediate delivery of material from the state for the next five years
- Connection cable for the three sites for the National Archives (the central building, the annex, and the new space)
- Pay for student volunteers and archivists of the National Archives until 30 April 2010
- 2 overhead scanners (Copibook) to digitize patrimonial items in danger of being ruined

### **6. Management of Technical and Financial Assistance for ICOM-Haiti and the National Archives**

ICOM-Haiti/National Archives receives gifts in equipment, materials, and cash. Gifts are used for urgent and middle- to long-term needs. The urgent needs are not limited to those mentioned earlier and are divided into two groups, those of all the patrimonial institutions and those exclusively of the National Archives. The use of funds will be participative and transparent.

Send gifts of equipment and materials to the following address.

ICOM/Haiti-Archives Naitonales

22 Angle Rues Borgella et Geffrard

Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

For gifts of money, make checks out to "Archives Naitonales d'Haiti."

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For deposits: Archives Naitonals d’Haiti at Banque de la Republic d’Haiti, account no. 111-006038.

### **7. Management of Activities**

- a. ICOM-HAITI, via Harold Gaspard, is responsible for activities related to the museums.
- b. The National Archives, via Jean Wilfred Bertrand, is in charge of activities related to the archives.
- c. The National Library, via François B. Thybulle, is occupied with activities related to the libraries.

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**APPENDIX 2:**

**Schedule of Meetings/Appointments**

- **February 10**
  - Flight to Santo Domingo
  - Dinner Meeting with National Library of the Dominican Republic (BNPHU) -- To discuss impressions from the early BNPHU visit and the DR Library's intentions for collaboration.
    - Participants: Diomedes Nunez, Director, Pepe Castro (BNPHU), Maritza Merejo Vicioso (BNPHU), Luis Medrano (BNPHU), Ricardo Vega (BNPHU), Matthew Smith (University of the West Indies), Brooke Wooldridge (dLOC)
  
- **February 11**
  - Meeting with Patrick Tardieu/Team from Libraries without Borders (Hotel in Santo Domingo)
  - Participants: Jeremy Lachal (Director, Libraries without Borders), Frederic Auclair, Architect, Delphine Mercier, Patrimoine Sans Frontières
  - Bus to Port-au-Prince
  - Dinner/Informal meeting with Francoise Thybulle
  
- **February 12**
  - Initial tour of downtown Port-au-Prince and assessment of buildings
    - National Library, National Historical Archive (Post Marchand), Saint Louis (outside)
    - Participants: Jean Wilfrid Bertrand (National Archives), Francoise Thybulle (National Library) , Luis Medrano (National Library Dominican Republic), Frere Milo (Saint Louis), Matthew Smith (University of the West Indies), Brooke Wooldridge (dLOC)
  
- **February 13**
  - Meeting with ICOM/National Archives of Haiti
    - Participants: Jean Wilfrid Bertrand (National Archives), Harold Gaspard, Ruth (Ministry of Culture), George Michel (Physician/Historian), Matthew Smith (University of the West Indies), Brooke Wooldridge (dLOC)
    - Review plans and discuss possible collaborations
  
- **February 15**
  - Francoise Thybulle and team (National Library)
  - Brother Ernest Even (Library at Saint Louis de Gonzague)

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- Review and develop plans for collaboration
  - State University of Haiti – Hérard Jadotte (Director of Publications), Nixon Calixte (Library)
    - Discuss possible collaborations with the University Library
  - Thor Burnham (University of British Columbia) to discuss private collection
    - Discuss private collections in danger
  - Jean-Vernet Henry (Rector, State University of Haiti)
    - Discuss possible collaborations with the University Library
- **February 16**
  - UNESCO Meeting – to discuss the needs of the archival/library resources
  - Participants: Sylvie Coudray (UNESCO, Paris), Michele Oriol (Consultant-UNESCO), Francoise Thybulle (National Library Haiti), Freres Ernest (BHFIC), Dominique Franck Simon (BHPSE), Jean Wilfrid Bertrand (ANH), Lewis Clormeus (ICOM), Matthew Smith (University of the West Indies), Brooke Wooldridge (dLOC)
    - Discuss the challenges faced by each institution and the opportunities for collaboration
  - One Laptop per Child Representative
  - Private Collection Visit
- **February 17**
  - Quick Meeting with Nathalie Gardere, Information Resource Center Director, US Embassy in Port-au-Prince
  - Bus to Santo Domingo
  - Follow up meeting with National Library DR
    - Participants: Diomedes Nunez, Director, Pepe Castro, Barbara Perez, Luis Medrano, Matthew Smith (University of the West Indies), Brooke Wooldridge (dLOC)
- **February 18**
  - Site Visit National Library DR (International Collaboration Team)
  - Participants: Barbara Perez (National Library Dominican Republic), Pepe Castro (National Library Dominican Republic), Matthew Smith (University of the West Indies), Brooke Wooldridge (dLOC)