Bringing past exhibits and exhibitions to an online research database

The need for a tool to effectively research museum displays over space and time:

This website comes from a year of research for my senior thesis, which used the Titanic Disaster as a case study with which to examine the roles of spectacle and commercialism in the museum. Upon conducting my research, I noticed a lack of resources which could be used to search past exhibits and exhibitions at museums, or just visual displays in general. While the Smithsonian offers their own internal database of past exhibitions, this does not provide a wholistic view of exhibitionary practice in the United States over time.

The Database:

Using inspiration from the Library of Congress’s Chronicling America database, this website serves as a small scale example of what could be created in the future with the proper funding, skills, and resources. All information featured on this website comes from my own research for my senior thesis.

This WordPress website serves as a model for database of past exhibits and exhibitions. Using the Titanic Disaster as a subject of display, this site intends to recreate the various visual displays depicting the historical event over time using images, newspaper clippings, and visitor accounts. Ultimately, this website should function as a small scale database for researchers to easily search information regarding museum and popular displays of the Titanic Disaster from 1912 to 2018.

https://digitaldatabaseoftitanicdisplays.wordpress.com

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