



[Home](#) > [About SI](#) > [News](#) > Article

## News of SI

[More News Articles >>](#)

### CAMiLEON project cracks twentieth-century "Domesday book"

(Dec 2002)

The Domesday Book, a 1086 inventory of English life composed by Norman monks, can be easily read by anyone who can understand the Old

English. The 1986 BBC Domesday project, a digital archive of contemporary British life created to mark the 900th anniversary of the original Domesday Book, became essentially unreadable within a few years. CAMiLEON project researchers at SI and the University of Leeds in the U.K. have now developed a method for decoding this compendium of recent British history.

[Creative Archiving at Michigan and Leeds: Emulating the Old on the New](#)

The BBC Domesday project includes contributions from more than one million people across the U.K., including thousands of contributions from school children and classrooms. This massive archive was encoded -- primarily in digital form -- on two long-lasting videodiscs. Because of their data content, the Domesday discs could be used only with a specially designed model of the Philips LaserVision player controlled by either a BBC Master Microcomputer or a Research Machines Nimbus. These computers are now obsolete.

CAMiLEON researchers have developed software that emulates the old BBC microcomputer and videodisc reader, making the discs' data once again accessible.

CAMiLEON, which stands for Creative Archiving at Michigan and Leeds: Emulating the Old on the New, is a collaboration devoted to the use of emulation tools as part of a strategy for long-term preservation of digital records. School of Information professor Margaret Hedstrom directs the project.

- [Read more about the rescue of the Domesday project data.](#)

- **ABOUT SI**

- **Our Mission**

- Diversity at SI

- **News of SI**

- SI in the Media

- **Events Calendar**

- **Rankings**

- **SI's Partners**

- **Giving to SI**

- **Technology**

- **Libraries**

- **Facilities**

- Getting to SI

- **Contact Us**

#### Information For ...

- **Future Students**

- **Alumni**

- **Employers**

- **Current MSI Students**

- **Current Ph.D. Students**

- **Faculty and Staff**

- [Learn more about the work of CAMiLEON researchers.](#) [Visit the News Archive](#)

Last updated: May 14, 2005

[Home](#) > [About SI](#) > [News](#) > Article



[Home](#) | [About SI](#) | [Applying](#) | [MSI Degree](#) | [Ph.D.](#) |  
[People](#) | [Research](#) | [Careers](#) | [Fieldwork](#) | [Student Life](#)  
[CONTACT](#) | [SITE MAP](#) | [INTRANET](#) | [ACCESSIBILITY](#) | [SEARCH](#)  
(734) 763-2285, fax: (734) 764-2475, [si.info@umich.edu](mailto:si.info@umich.edu)  
© 2005 Regents, University of Michigan