Archiving websites for the future

Information on the Internet is updated frequently, and websites come and go just as quickly. To counter the ephemeral nature of information on the Internet, the National Diet Library (NDL) regularly collects and archives websites to preserve their content for the future.

Searching for information on WARP

Have you ever been unable to find a webpage that you were certain you had seen not so long ago, only to find out later that it no longer exists? WARP archives webpages. They can be retrieved by keywords, URL, title, and publisher.

The complete WARP archive of websites is available for browsing on the premises of the NDL. Moreover, a full 80% of these archived websites are available via the Internet with the permission of their webmasters, thereby enabling WARP users to access a wide variety of information from their houses and workplaces.

Archive information in WARP

Websites are important media for delivering content. But once a website closes, all traces of the organizations and events that were recorded there are gone. WARP is an archive of websites. Even if original website disappears, WARP preserves archived versions for future reference.

A record of the present

Japan’s Legal Deposit system provides WARP with the rationale for comprehensive archiving of the websites of public agencies. Often, before deleting content from websites, many of these agencies add a link to the WARP archive of that content. This enables these websites to keep archived content available from their own website while reducing the burden on, and therefore the operating costs of, their own web servers.