SCANNING KEY CONTENT OF TEXT BASED MATERIAL at Point of Accessioning or Cataloging

A project of the Harvard Library Lab, made possible through the generous support of the Arcadia Fund

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Karen Nipps, Houghton Library
Project origins
A Picture is Worth 1,000 Words
Let’s enrich our catalog and make it more visually appealing
(Look inside this book!)
“As easy as uploading your pictures to Facebook!”
1. Dedicated Lives

2. Digital Repository

3. Image capture

Link to catalog record
The Whats

• Cover(s)
• Title Page and Verso
• Tables of Contents
• Indexes and Bibliographies
• Illustrations
• Colophon
• Back cover(s)
• Inscriptions
The Whys

- Quick and cost effective complement to centralized imaging services
- Visual inspection by remote users
- Efficiencies for both catalogers and users
- Searchability with OCR
- Automating cataloging
“Nothing comes easy.”—Nell’s dad.
Ambitious vision

Baby steps
Here is what we needed

- Scanners in our cataloging units
- Permission and training to contribute images to the digital repository
- Technical infrastructure
  - Formatted links for the holdings records
  - Programming to enable display of thumbnails in our discovery platform

Fair Use guidelines  It’s complicated!
Scanners & cameras
Technical infrastructure

- File format: JP2 for image size flexibility – thumbnails to full size images
- File naming: systemno_sequenceno_partcode to support automatic creation of 856 fields in ‘book’ order (cover, tp, toc, etc.)
File naming & deposit

In this case, a barcode number → Sequence number → Our code for type of content
Technical infrastructure

• Upon image deposit, each repository receives a report that includes file name and URN for digitized object

• Macros
  – Excel: Using the deposit report, split the file name into component parts, expand partcode for $3, combine elements for complete 856
  – MacroExpress: take the system no. and completed 856 from spreadsheet, pull up holdings record, copy and paste complete 856 into local cataloging system
From deposit report to 856 field

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Thumbnails in our discovery platform
Culinary Pamphlets Box 29 (Gelatin, Pudding & Tapioca)

Collection: Schlesinger

Binding Info: Original illustrated yellow paper covers.

Cover

Table of contents

Collection: Schlesinger

Call #: Culinary Pamphlets Box 29 (Gelatin, Pudding & Tapioca)

Status: In-library use

Barcode: RSNWUA
Displaying TOCs not in bibliographic record
Variants of a single edition
Interesting binding features
ANNOTATIONS OR INSCRIPTIONS
Hard to describe graphic information.
Supplemental information for materials not yet cataloged or for imperfect items
Collection-level records enhanced

Title: Philadelphia committee reports
Published: 1810-1840

Description: 1 v.
HOLLIS Number: 013999350
The Future:
1st Series. No. 208.

THE

PECULIAR DOCTRINE OF CHRISTIANITY,
or

RECONCILIATION BY JESUS CHRIST.

By JAMES P. CLARKE.

"God in Christ reconciling the world unto himself."

PRINTED FOR THE
American Unitarian Association.

BOSTON: JAMES MUNROE & CO., 134 WASHINGTON STREET.
November, 1844.
Price 3 Cents.
More pre-cataloging possibilities for discovery?

LDR 008 245 00 a

505 0 a

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“As easy as uploading your pictures to Facebook!”
THANK YOU!

Please Join Us

THANK YOU!
SCANNING KEY CONTENT TEAM

https://osc.hul.harvard.edu/liblab/proj/scanning-key-content-text-based-material-point-accessioning-or-cataloging

Or search :

“Library Lab scanning key content”

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