Against the Grain

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Biz of Digital – Digitization Workflows: Streamlining the Digitization Process and Distinguishing the Peculiarities in Capturing Various Archival Materials

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Biz of Digital — Digitization Workflows: Streamlining the Digitization Process and Distinguishing the Peculiarities in Capturing Various Archival Materials

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Overview

With thousands of archival collections prioritized for digitization and numerous grant opportunities for external funding, large-scale digitization is on the rise. That's an exciting trend — from users' perspective, it makes rare, fragile, historical, local and research-significant materials readily available online. Users nowadays want to find all their research materials on the web, and digital librarians are working hard to meet the demand for digitization and to provide access to archival collections.

Large-scale digitization is a great initiative; however, it brings challenges to the digital librarians. The main question that emerges is: "How do we streamline the process to make it efficient and optimal?" It also brings a subset of other questions that cause some anxiety: "What technology should be used? What's the best workflow? How do we troubleshoot issues and address challenges?" and so on.

This article is far from being comprehensive on the topic; it's rather a case study based on one librarian's experience that shares some of the practices, issues, challenges and tips related to making the digitization process more robust. They are universal and equally helpful for largescale and smaller scale projects.

UNLV Digital Collections and Digitization Stats

UNLV Digital Collections (*http://digital.library.unlv.edu*) is a department in UNLV Libraries Special Collections & Archives division (*https://www.library.unlv.edu/speccol*). The internationally renowned UNLV Libraries Special Collections & Archives houses over 11,000 linear feet of unique archival collections, over 32,000 rare books and periodicals, and over 1,800 maps. It is located in the main campus library — Lied Library (*https://www.library.unlv.edu/about/quick-facts-about-unlv-libraries*).

The Digital Collections department has 5 full-time permanent staff (faculty and professional), 6 part-time student assistants, 1 full-time visiting faculty and 3 full-time temporary professional staff. Each digitization project is unique and requires different team configurations. Sometimes, there is a project manager and 1 to 3 student assistants; other projects are entirely run by students and managed by a student supervisor; still others are digitized by faculty or professional staff as proof-of-concept and workflow improvement projects.

Digital Collections is a very collaborative department and staff not directly involved in digitization still contribute with their expertise — the metadata librarian and the visual materials curator are always available to share their knowledge, consult on project workflows and provide help if needed.

UNLV Digital Collections is frequently awarded various digitization grants and external funding. The grant-funded digitization projects are usually comprised of professional level project managers and specially hired project technician or student assistants.

It is hard to quantify the digitization turnover per year — it depends on the number of active digitization projects and available funding, as well as the digitization speed, which directly relates to the condition of the materials and the level of processing of the archival collections. Appendix 1 (see p.64) provides sample statistics and attempts to quantify some of the past large-scale digitization initiatives completed on the *Phase One Rapid Capture system*.

The Technology

The **UNLV** Digital Collections staff utilizes the innovative technology *Phase One Rapid Capture system (https://dtculturalheritage.com/ flat-art-loose-material)* for the majority of digitization projects. The system is comprised of an 80 megapixel digital back, a reprographic copy stand with lights, a film kit with a lightbox and holders, and integrated software specially designed for cultural heritage institutions (see Figures 1-4). It is a powerful tool in large-scale capturing of various archival materials. This set-up digitizes materials in sizes as large as 30" x 40" down to 35 mm sized images and captures both reflective and transmissive materials. The camera is equipped with two Schneider lenses: a 72 mm lens used for the digitization of *reflective materials*, with a scanning resolution ranging from 300 to 600 ppi, and a 120 mm lens used for the digitization of *transparencies*, with a scanning resolution from 600 to 3,000 ppi.

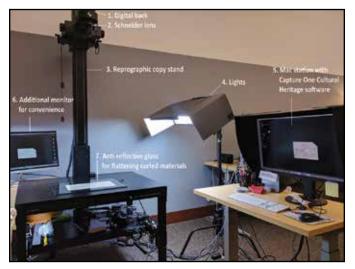


Figure 1: Phase One Capture Station, Set Up for Loose Manuscript Digitization at 300 Dpi

The capture station is powered by the mighty *Phase One Capture One Cultural Heritage edition* software (*https://dtculturalheritage.com/ capture-one-ch*). With unique features like auto crop, auto rotation, and LAB color readouts, the software allows for instant capture of materials placed under the camera, quick global editing, and final output, producing digital surrogates of finest quality. Images are saved on an external SSD drive and seamlessly backed up on a separate large hard drive.

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Figure 2: Phase One Camera Set Up with 72Mm Schneider Lens

Furthermore, **UNLV** Digital Collections has two separate editing stations allowing for continuous capturing, even while other staff are preparing and outputting their final archival tiffs.

Types of Archival Materials and Major Peculiarities in Their Digitization

The *Phase One Cultural Heritage* capture station has vast possibilities for digitizing a variety of materials. The ease of use and the speed of capturing have turned it into the preferred digitization technology in our department. The *Phase One* is so universal and suitable for multiple formats that we have made it our top choice for most projects, and we keep an availability calendar, because it is in such high demand!

UNLV Special Collections and Archives has unique archival collections that are a blend of multiple formats and sizes. The *Phase One* allows us to rapidly digitize most collections regardless of the format and the size of the materials. Rarely, for oversized items that go beyond the table surface and cannot be captured at 300 ppi, we use a special large-format scanner.

Some archival material types and their peculiarities are outlined below. During capturing *flat reflective materials*, *bound reflective materials* and *transmissive materials* patterns emerge and twist the general digitization workflow.

Reflective materials

Reflective materials fall in two main categories: flat and bound.

Flat materials are photographs and loose manuscripts such as correspondences, scripts, drafts, sketches. They vary in color, from black and white to full color prints. They also range in size from thumbnails to large posters.



Figure 3: Phase One Set Up for Film Capturing



Figure 4: Magnetic Holders for Digitalization of Transparencies

Bound materials are typed or handwritten books, manuscripts, photo albums, and scrapbooks with various content (anything from photos to newspaper clippings and 3D objects).

Usually the smoothest digitization process is capturing *flat reflective materials*. When all materials are properly arranged and named, capturing happens rapidly. Unexpected issues are generally easy to troubleshoot. Some challenges include flattening out folded or curled manuscripts, taking photographs out of protective sleeves, capturing faded ink, or handling items with torn edges, etc.

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>

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Bound manuscripts (books and scrapbooks) vary in size and thickness. They follow the general reflective materials digitization workflow, and yet they need special attention due to the thickness: the camera focus needs frequent adjustment for optimal quality of the image. Half-torn pages or papers sticking together are common problems that require careful handling due to their fragile nature.

Another frequent peculiarity of *bound handwritten manuscripts* is bleed-through of text below from thin paper materials. Although it is an easy fix, it slows down the capturing process as the operator needs to separate the pages with white paper to enhance the text readability.

Occasional missing pages from *bound volumes* can significantly clog the pipeline depending on their number. To enhance the user experience and improve the metadata, the operator keeps a log of all missing pages and adds this information in the description fields of the parent object.

Faded ink of manuscript pages can be fixed by contrast adjustment during the image processing step. Although it is a quick adjustment, multi-page materials bring a challenge if some pages are faded and the rest are normal. This calls for manual contrast correction of selected pages and slows down the process.

Transparencies

Transparencies can be film positives or film negatives. Their main peculiarity is being transmissive. Types of transparencies include:

Film (loose) are loose positives or negatives of various sizes (medium or large format, or 35 mm) that originate from film strips. They can be black and white or full color.

Filmstrips feature several film frames at a time. They have the same features as loose film and can be digitized as strips or each frame individually.

Mounted slides are loose film shots mounted in special frames so they can be projected.

Digitizing *transparencies* has one major peculiarity: distinguishing the glossy side from the emulsion side before digitizing. Occasionally this is very difficult and the operator needs to examine the image closely. It's helpful if the shot has text — it determines what side goes up for digitization.

Frequently, *loose film* stored in plastic sleeves brings the challenge of removing it without breaking it or leaving fingerprints on the surface. Some experts recommend handling film with gloves; however, our experience proves this poses more danger due to clumsiness and decreased finger sensitivity. The best solution for handling film is bare clean fingers touching the corners only and gently placing the shot in the digitization holder. An air puff effectively removes any dust.

The Workflow

Preparation

Preparation is a process that includes careful review of the materials in the entire collection — from examining the finding aid (if available) to inventorying the physical materials' formats, sizes and condition. The appropriate grouping of physical materials aims to enhance the digitization efficiency as it sets the groundworks for a more streamlined process. While preparing the physical items for efficient and rapid capturing, we should bear in mind that all archival materials should be organized in their original order, so proper notations are recommended.

Usually the preparation of large collections (containing mixed materials in multiple boxes) happens on a collection level. This method features digitization of items similar in format and size that need the same scanning settings, while skipping and notating all items that get other settings on the capture station. The notation process is on a digital and

• Large-scale vs small-scale approach

Selecting the most appropriate digitization approach for each collection is a critical decision point that greatly affects digitization efficiency.

Large-scale digitization differs greatly from the small-scale approach and follows a separate workflow. Usually, the large-scale approach mirrors the archival collection: archival materials are scanned on a folder level resulting in multiple complex digital objects. The finding aid metadata is reused and the digital objects get parent level descriptions. This approach is less labor-intensive and allows capturing and describing materials at a fast pace leading to a streamlined production line.

The small-scale approach features individual attention to objects; each archival item is digitized separately and receives a rich description. This approach is more suitable for smaller collections, collections with greater research value, or curated digital exhibits.

Streamlining digitization and selecting the appropriate approach requires considering different factors, such as user needs, expected user interaction with the online collection, project specifics (timeline, scope, funding), and collection research value.

Pausing for collection analysis and decision-making on the digitization approach is critical for the success and efficiency of each project. Both approaches differ significantly, so switching from one to another is never seamless as they follow different workflows.

Proper analysis, selection, and planning around the appropriate digitization approach saves time and streamlines the project as it follows established workflows.

• Digitization

— The process

On the surface, digitization looks straightforward (ready, set, go!), and yet it is an intricate system of workflow segments and procedures that involve many factors for consideration. Various archival materials require different digitization settings and workflows. For the sake of efficiency, knowing all workflow peculiarities and preparing for random unexpected issues is key, so it is a good idea to test workflows ahead of time.

Digitization of *flat reflective materials* requires a specific lens and particular scanning settings. Potential random issues include curling paper, fragile (tissue-thin) manuscript pages, faded ink, framed photographs, etc.

Besides the specific settings and lens, digitization of *bound reflective materials* requires more attention as the scanning progresses: as book pages get flipped, the thickness changes. This requires frequent camera focus adjustment to keep the pristine quality of the digital surrogate. Frequent pop-up issues that require troubleshooting are deteriorating books, fragile (ultra-thin) pages, sticky or half-torn pages, faded text and missing pages.

Digitization of *transparencies* has its own peculiarities: it needs different equipment, i.e., a film kit (lens, lightbox, table and film holders, air puff) and a specific scanning session depending on the type of transmissive material (black and white or color). The film placement plays an important role for the digital image quality: films get digitized with glossy side up. Films bring another array of unexpected issues: film stuck in plastic protective sleeves, deteriorating shots, and torn film, just to name a few.

To keep the pipeline going and to achieve streamlined digitization, maintaining a troubleshooting log of potential problems and guidelines for quick resolution improves the performance. Staff involved in digitization should be able to quickly address and resolve problems, so occasional pop-ups should not clog the pipeline.

- The workflow

IMAGE PROCESSING

DOCUMENTATION

The general digitization workflow is simple and it applies to all collections regardless the technology and the type of the archival materials.

physical level: notating and color-coding the digitization documentation with item-level informa-

tion and recommended scanning settings and sticky notes attached to the outside of archival boxes and folders.

DIGITIZATION

PREPARATION

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UPLOAD

online deliven

BATCHING

Well-processed archival collections (arranged by Technical Services and described by a finding aid) are generally smooth for digitization. They are less prone to pop-up issues. Established workflows and upto-date documentation guarantee a streamlined and efficient process easy enough to be followed by newly trained staff, student workers, and experienced professionals.

— Image processing

Image processing follows the process of capturing raw images. It enhances the digital object quality, which makes it an important workflow segment. Some actions include cropping, straightening, file name corrections, and contrast/brightness corrections.

To achieve efficiency on the *Phase One*, digitization staff rapidly capture dozens of images per minute and leave the image correction for a separate workflow step because it significantly affects the capturing speed. For streamlined image processing, *Capture One* software allows automated actions that batch-process hundreds of images at a time. We have included this automated image processing in our *reflective materials* traditional workflow as it boosts productivity and is convenient for time-sensitive large-scale digitization projects.

The workflow of image processing *color transparencies* is less automated. Color corrections and enhancements are performed frame by frame. Our practice has proven to deliver color closer to real life, so this method is preferred for color film rather than the traditional automated batch processing after capturing. All remaining image processing steps are the same as for reflective materials.

- OCR processing

Textual materials (books, scrapbooks, postcards, photo inscriptions, etc.) undergo an additional step before batching. Optical character recognition (OCR) is an electronic conversion of digital images with typed or handwritten text into machine-encoded text. OCR'ed digital objects have a special metadata field "transcript" that contains the machine-encoded text. The "transcript" field enables users to perform full text searches within the documents and adds value to the digital resources by making them easily discoverable.

At **UNLV** Digital Collections, we employ one traditional OCR method: utilizing *Abby Fine Reader* software (as a separate process after export).

Large-scale digitization projects aim for speed, so our practice is to run OCR on all digital objects, regardless of their type (textual or visual). Although this automated process may take longer processing time, it is still more efficient than selecting textual files only. Additionally, OCR accuracy correction requires human labor and is manually performed. It is not suitable for large-scale workflow, although the manually corrected OCR is expected for signature projects. All large-scale efforts are streamlined through the automated OCR pipeline.

Documentation

At **UNLV** Digital Collections, we love documentation for a reason — it keeps us organized, progress is trackable and measurable, workflow trends and patterns emerge, and it promotes continuity.

We cannot stress enough how important it is to keep documentation current. This effort pays off with increased productivity and boosted efficiency. Documentation varies by type and purpose; some projects may have more and/or modified templates due to their specifics. The ultimate goal is to promote an uninterrupted digitization process with an optimal timeline.

Some documentation we keep and find helpful include:

- Collection level master-file (tracks progress of all workflow segments and material formats/types)
- Cross-collection spreadsheet (tracks progress, types and priorities of all collections for digitization)
- Troubleshooting log and guide
- · Digitization procedures and manuals
- Digitization schedule
- · Training manual for new hires
- Technology procedures and manuals
- · Cheat sheet for frequently occurring topics

The Role of the Digital Librarian in Streamlining the Process

Digital librarians play a significant role in streamlining the digitization process including testing new iterations of workflow, documenting best practices, and tweaking existing workflows to achieve more efficiency for mixed materials collections. Unfortunately, there is no universal approach, no matter how hard we attempt to standardize the process. A huge part of the digital librarian's job is the intellectual labor of making decisions to streamline each module of the digitization process; this requires familiarity with best practices and documentation as well as modifying workflows by combining solutions from other projects.

Digital librarians need to also recognize the various archival materials types and be prepared to find unique combinations of them in each collection. This knowledge empowers them to analyze and select the best approach for digitization that brings efficiency and high quality.

Lastly, the digital librarian should look at the collection from the user perspective to make it valuable for patrons. It is important to assess user needs and consider how users expect to see the archival items represented as digital objects.

Conclusion

Streamlining the digitization process takes practice and iteration. Good knowledge of established digitization techniques, scanning technologies and troubleshooting strategies is critical. Additionally,

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| Project | Project URL | Staff | Project length* | Total digital objects** | Total individually captured items |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Culinary Union (pilot project, internally funded) | http://d.library.unlv.edu/digital/collection/cwu | 1 full-time faculty 3 part-time students | 18 months | 1,070 | 37,735 |
| Entertainment (grant-funded) | http://d.library.unlv.edu/digital/collection/ent | 1 full-time project manager 1 part-time digitization technician 3 part-time students | 12 months | 2,120 | 46,930 |
| Union Pacific (grant-funded) | http://bit.ly/union-pacific | 1 full-time project manager 1 part-time student | 6 out of 12 months completed | 148 | 20,440 |

*The Project length column gives the time for delivering online fully finished products. The process includes establishing workflows, preparing for digitization, capturing, creating metadata, batching, uploading online and quality control.

**Digital objects may be individual items or grouping of items that may range from two to dozens, and even hundreds!

Squirreling Away from page 65

always create the need for change in libraries, but we are burdened with the need to own the results that we are forced to produce. As I have been told repeatedly, we only own our reactions, not our situations.

Changes in Libraries

When we think about change in libraries, we think of it as a 21st Century problem. We ponder about the current parameters and how every year, libraries are being asked to do more with less space and less resources. But this is most certainly not a recent occurrence, but something that has been fairly steady for libraries over the past 50 years. If we think about change in libraries, it spans all the way to the 1960s and the early days of OCLC. Think about how the profession responded to changes such as copy cataloging; local online catalogs & shared systems; expanded access (TOC, more subject headings); shared catalogs (MeLCat, etc.); discovery layers; digital repositories; coffee and food in the library just to name a few. Think about how many people in your library are checking in print serials vs. where they were years ago.

There has been a very steady change in libraries, but in many regards, we have been controlling the pace of the change (I will talk about this more next issue). That is a great luxury when it comes to managing change. When you can slow down the amount of change that you need to digest at one time, it can generally go smoothly. But regardless of where the change is coming from, it is coming and it is likely closer than it might appear.

The inevitability of change is something that all librarians and library administrators can see. What we cannot figure out is the timing or the scope. If a library administrator sees his or her shadow on February 2nd, does the library have six more years of a print collection? Or twelve years? Or two years? No one really knows. But change is coming to libraries everywhere. I am not suggesting that your library will go virtually virtual within the next few years, but there will come a time when your administrators will question why we are using space to manage a print collection that is used sparingly. And when that happens, you might see a bold change or an incremental one. We have all seen incremental changes — moving collections for an office to relocate to the library space. We have all had to make adjustments for administrators who have big plans that do not involve a browseable collection of print titles. This is the change that is coming — but for most of us, it will be 15-20 years in the future. So we can be sure it is happening, but are just not sure if it will take place during our tenure as a librarian.

Difficult Modulations of Life

Recently, I saw the great documentary about **Fred Rogers** by **Morgan Neville**, *Won't You Be My Neighbor* (2018). Like many people my age, **Mr. Rogers** was a very important part of my childhood. The opening of the movie featured a conversation with **Fred Rogers** that was captured by **Barry Paris** of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*:

In the intimate opening of this riveting documentary, **Fred Rogers** (circa 1967) is ruminating about musical modulation: Moving from the key of C to F is easy, but going from F to F sharp is more complicated, he says. That strikes a chord, in his mind as well as his piano: "We'd like to help children through some of the difficult modulations of life."²

This phrase struck me so profoundly — "the difficult modulations of life." **Fred Rogers** treated children respectfully and never shied away from controversy and horrible things that children might have questions about. While a pie in the face on another children's program might generate a chuckle, it does not help any child understand growing up and the changes that are happening within and around them. The "difficult modulations of life" do not stop when you graduate school, but they continue throughout your days in every aspect you care about.

In so many ways, dealing with the difficult modulations of life is something that is at the core of change management, especially in the context of libraries. And while I am no means saying that librarians need to be treated like children, instead I am drawn to this phrase because it addresses the inevitability and difficulty of change. We are all challenged by change in our life. Many small changes represent a ripple of a wave that is soon past. But some changes are very disruptive and can cause real problems for people. What if you lose a family member, have a relationship go sour, or lose a job? What if your job in a library becomes something that is no longer needed, like checking in serials or processing print volumes? In exploring change management, the role of the director is to help the staff through these difficult modulations so they can serve the library and the community. The inevitability of change in organizations, especially libraries, should be the central thought of the director or dean. You cannot be surprised by the timeline, nor can you ignore the needs of your community or take care of your staff. But whether you saw your shadow or not, change is coming and you need to be ready.

In thinking through these six terms, I hope to be able to showcase the aspects associated with change and how to create an environment that deals with change when it comes to the library or the organization. It is coming, that is for sure. If if is not coming, you might have bigger problems at your institution.

Corey Seeman is the Director, Kresge Library Services at the **Ross School of Business** at the **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**. He is also the new editor for this column that intends to provide an eclectic exploration of business and management topics relative to the intersection of publishing, librarianship and the information industry. No business degree required! He may be reached at <cseeman@umich.edu> or via twitter at @ cseeman.

Endnotes

1. For more than you ever wanted to know about Groundhog Day, visit the Wikipedia entry: *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Groundhog Day.*

2. "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" offers an intimate portrait of **Mister Rogers**, the legendary advocate for kids and kindness, https://www.post-gazette.com/ae/movies/2018/06/05/Won-t-You-Be-My-Neighbor-movie-review-Fred-Rogers-Mister-Rogers-Neighborhood/stories/201806050193, visited February 10, 2019.

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familiarity with archival materials types promotes better planning and collection assessment to customize general workflows as needed.

Iteration plays a key role in constantly improving digitization workflows and achieving products of the highest quality. It also reduces the time for completion and optimizes the team size to conclude the project. It includes testing new methods, trying new strategies on various types of materials, learning from past mistakes, and documenting best practices.

No process will ever be perfectly streamlined as we all know there is no "one size fits all." As digital librarians, we strive for efficiency and boosted productivity, yet there are so many variables that bring challenges and clog the pipeline. Collection materials differ in size and format, technologies bring challenges, and some archival materials have more issues and require more attention than others. The team factor plays an important role as well — staff training, staff turnover, and equipment scheduling to maximize efficiency.

Although for some projects we have achieved a high rate of productivity and speed, we need to remain flexible and remember that the same approach may not perform so well on another project even after careful tailoring. We aim to be efficient and productive but we should always remain open to the unexpected and embrace every challenge as a learning opportunity; it will enhance our future performance and will equip us with more troubleshooting tools and problem-resolution techniques.

ATG Profiles Encouraged *from page 68*

WHAT EXCITES OR FRIGHTENS YOU ABOUT THE NEXT FIVE YEARS? I see the need for recalibration that causes Big Deal breaks, but it feels like a giant step backwards, as users lose tremendous amounts of access for what are usually small financial gains. I hope we can develop the truly sustainable and flexible solutions that maintain broad access to content for our users, and that will take creative thinking and bold, collaborative actions.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU THINK OUR READERS SHOULD KNOW? I am grateful every day to work with such engaged and thoughtful people at every level of our member libraries. Virginia has phenomenal libraries – come visit us!

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guard who's also encouraged to be helpful probably has a better and more interesting job than the one who stands around glowering.

So, what have I learned from my retail adventures? Well, for one thing, libraries do many things right. But the experience emphasized for me that we should be thinking of our libraries as, first of all, places where people are encouraged to come for their needs, not just to serve our idea of what we're there for. Second, we should work hard on those discovery systems and the metadata that users require. Third, if a **Target** security guard can be that helpful, we should be supporting every last library employee to be potentially the answer to a patron's question about where to find a book about Whatchamacallits — and with a smile.

OK, this day I need to go to Liuzzi's, Connecticut's best little Italian grocery. Hmm, I wonder if a library should be putting out those great samples of sliced breads and imported cheeses for everybody who comes in. That could do wonders for our gate counts... *

Let's Get Technical *from page 67*

ervation. A series (490) field "Carol Barton Collection" was inserted. The local description (500) field would be taken directly from the spreadsheet when applicable. For Duz: Maga*zine #2*, the local description reads: "Shoe box printed inside and outside in black ink; inside a gold shoe wrapped in tissue paper (original tissue paper replaced); Color printed map of Brazil with a narrative text printed on the back; Small wire-bound book with illustrations on how to dance the cha-cha printed over with narrative text by the artist, white clay-coated pages printed in black, red, blue, and grey ink; Halftone and offset printing; Narrative text is about a mother writing a letter to Lawrence Welk asking him if her daughter could play piano on his show and the daughter not wanting to; DUZ Magazine information printed on the bottom of the shoe box: - from local description." The Local Note (590) field was inserted as: "Forms part of the Carol Barton Collection (CB-AB-0001)." The Subject Heading (650): "Artists' books" was always used with additional topical headings. The Genre/Form Subject Heading (655) contained "Artists' books (delimiter 2) rbgenr." In addition, the Allison Jai thesaurus was consulted, and more specific form/genre headings were included when applicable. Agreement on use of the thesaurus was made prior to cataloging the records so student assistants could easily list the entries in the master spreadsheet, but this still required double-checking for usage (singular versus plural, being one example).

Other collaborative decisions were made after cataloging started. Two examples were 1) the identification of miniature books and 2) modifications of metadata in the records based on curatorial expertise. Miniature books are 3" x 3" or less and were separated from "regular" sized works into smaller housings to save space and to keep them from shifting in larger folders. For these, an "S" was added to the control number ex. "CB-AB-S-0108." A modification to the description based on curatorial expertise included the change from "coldpressed" to "cold-press" paper for the book Small Oddities. (Cold and hot-press refers to the finish on a paper. Cold has more texture or "tooth" and hot has a smooth finish.) On another work, Short + Story, the students doing the initial inventory labeled the process as "intaglio" when closer inspection under magnification could only determine that the work was a line drawing perhaps a reproduction of an intaglio print but not an actual print.

The Results

Today, the Artists' Books Collection is the most heavily requested resource in Special



Collections. Class visits happen multiple times a semester from Photography, Graphic Design, Art Education, and Book Arts classes seeking to jumpstart ideas for projects based on structures

and printing processes, etc. We have hosted classes as varied as high school students at the Shenandoah Valley Governor's School in Fishersville, Virginia to K-12 Art Educators attending **JMU's** Content Teaching Academy for "Art & Media Literacy on Growing Inclusivity" to a geometry professor teaching "Research Experience for Undergraduates" through the Institute for Visual Studies here on campus. JMU Libraries continues to collect artists' books in support of the curriculum, and the Carol Barton Collection is still being processed with over 700 pop-up or "movable" books in the queue for cataloging, and several boxes and portfolios of Carol Barton's papers awaiting manuscript processing. The occasional artists' book continues to turn up in her papers, but we expect a final tally in 2019.

Resources

http://allisonjai.com/abt/vocab/index.php https://omeka.lib.jmu.edu/specialcollections/exhibits/show/carol-barton

https://omeka.lib.jmu.edu/specialcollections/collections/show/4 r

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