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Association for Library Collections & Technical Services

A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Minimum Digitization Capture Recommendations

Minimum Digitization Capture Recommendations

The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services
Preservation and Reformatting Section
June 2013

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PADG
 CONSDISTLIST
 DIGIPRES
 DIGLIB
 AMIA-L
 ARSCLIST
 LITA
 ARCHIVES
 RBMS

NDSA 2014

THIS DOCUMENT WAS CREATED AS A
GUIDELINE FOR LIBRARIES DIGITIZING
CONTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF
PRODUCING A PRODUCT THAT WILL
NOT BE RE DIGITIZED AT A LATER
POINT.

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:
(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC)

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
14 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

14?! RIDICULOUS!
WE NEED TO DEVELOP
ONE UNIVERSAL STANDARD
THAT COVERS EVERYONE'S
USE CASES.



SOON:

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
15 COMPETING
STANDARDS.



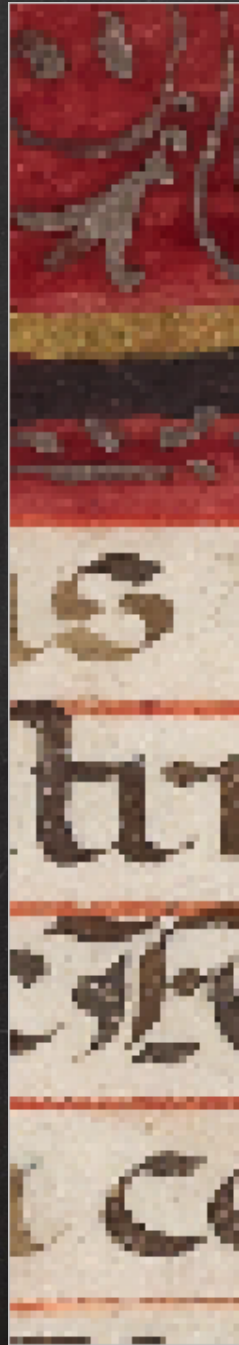
WE ARE NOT **INSERT NAME HERE.**
WHAT THEY DO IS NOT RELEVANT
TO US!



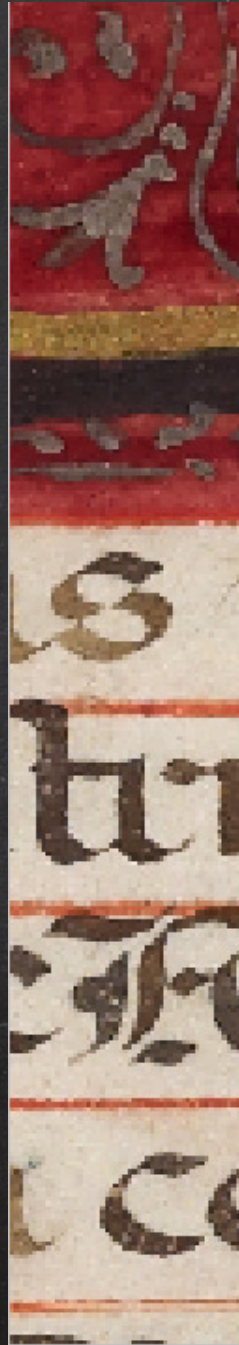
OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. HIGH ENOUGH TO MEET ADEQUACY THRESHOLD
2. IN LINE WITH EXISTING RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROJECTS
3. DO NOT DUPLICATE EXISTING WORKS (CITE THEM INSTEAD)
4. BASIC ENOUGH FOR NOVICES
5. ACCURATE ENOUGH FOR EXPERTS
6. PROVIDE ENOUGH OF AN UNDERSTANDING TO HELP MAKE DECISIONS

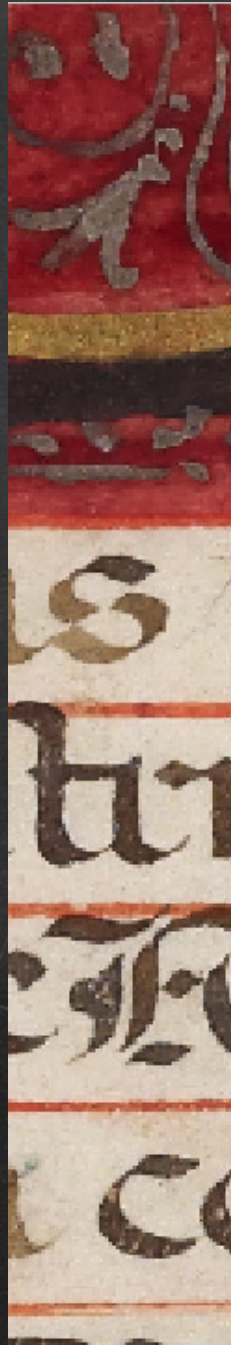
200 PPI



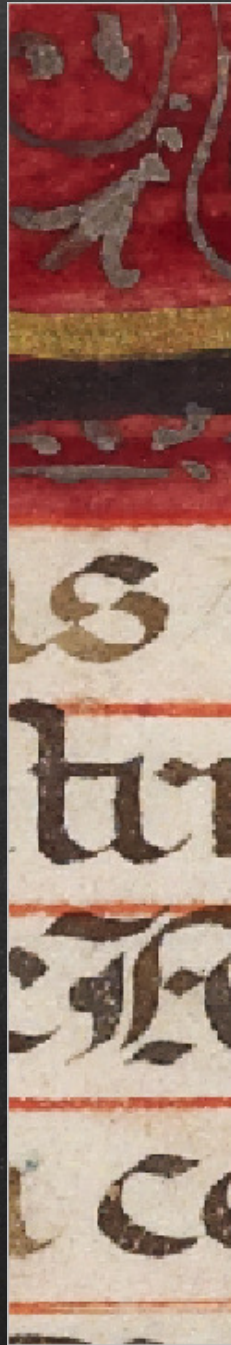
300 PPI



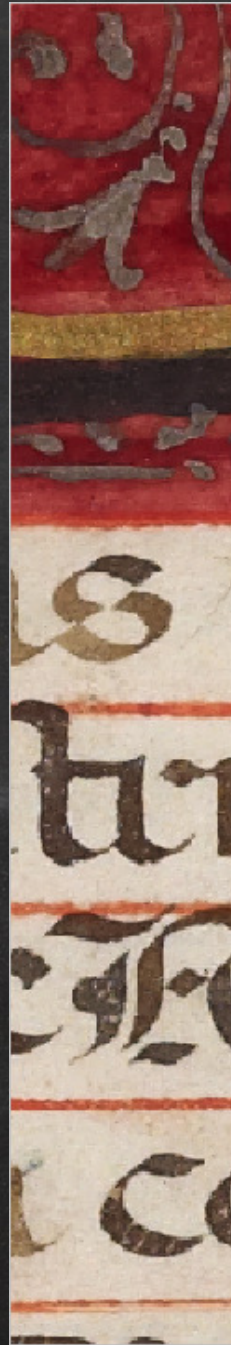
400 PPI



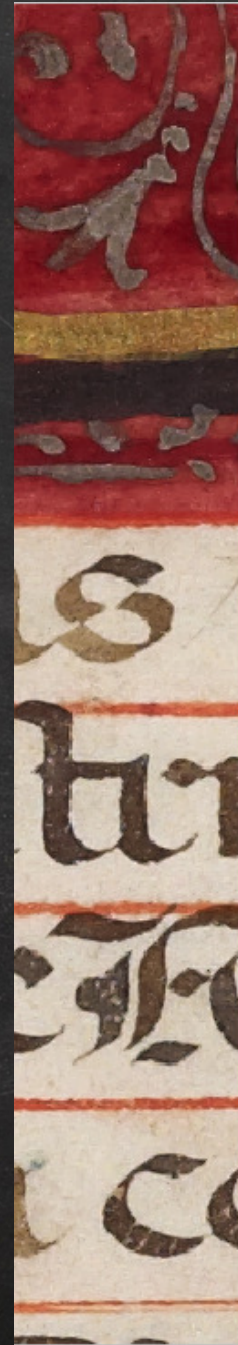
500 PPI



600 PPI



700 PPI

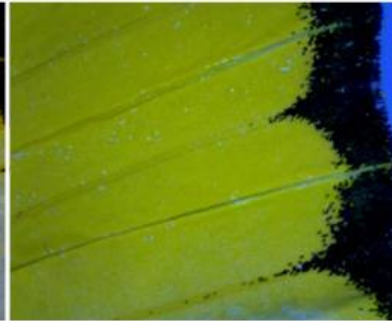




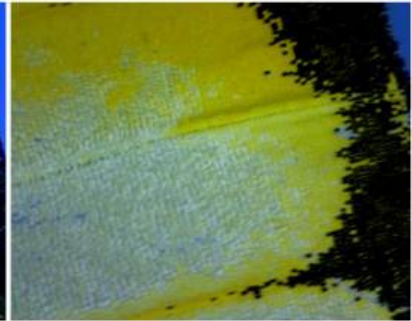
1x



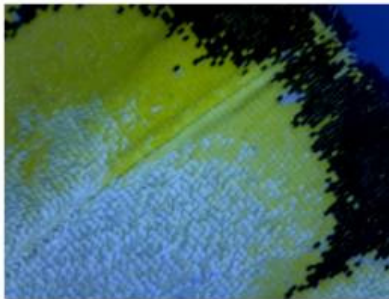
15x



30x



50x



100x



150x



200x



500x

Borrowed from:

http://schooltr.com/Teacher_Resources/Image_Library/images/Butterfly_Wing_Mag_Comparison.jpg

“I’M NOT SURE 400 PPI WILL BE ENOUGH”

“SOME RECOMMENDATIONS ARE WAY TOO
HIGH FOR THE DIGITIZATION OF OLDER
MATERIAL”

“WHAT IS MOST NEEDED IS A WELL LIGHTED BRIDGE BETWEEN WELL UNDERSTOOD BEST PRACTICES AND WORKFLOWS FOR DIGITIZATION”

“THE DOCUMENT DOES NOT ADDRESS THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT FOR PRODUCING DIGITAL IMAGES, INCLUDING LIGHT LEVELS. IT ALSO DOES NOT ADDRESS THE EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE AND CALIBRATING EQUIPMENT.”

“THE ALCTS DOCUMENT COULD PROVIDE A BIT MORE LEADERSHIP IN REGARDS TO THE ‘DIGITAL STUDIO’ INCLUDING ENVIRONMENT, EQUIPMENT AND CALIBRATION, TO SUSTAIN THE MINIMUM CAPTURE RECOMMENDED.”

	Min Resolution	Min Color Space	Min Bit Depth
Books and Textual Based Materials Without Images (non-rare)	300	Gray	8
Books and Textual Based Documents With Images (non-rare)	400	Gray	8
Manuscripts	400	Color	24
Microforms	300	Gray	8
Rare Books	400	Color	24
3D Objects	300	Color	24
Aerial Photographic Prints (<8"x10")	400	Gray	8
Aerial Photographic Prints (8"x10" - 11"x14")	400-600	Gray	8
Aerial Photographic Prints (>11"x14")	600	Gray	8
Aerial Photographic Film (70mm - 4"x5")	1200-2150	Gray	8
Aerial Photographic Film (4"x5" - 5"x7")	1200-1600	Gray	8
Aerial Photographic Film (> 5"x7")	1450	Gray	8
Art on Paper	400	Color	24

Photographic Film (35mm-4"x5")	800-2800	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Photographic Film (4"x5" - 8"x10")	800-1200	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Photographic Film (>8"x10" Film (4"x5" - 8"x10" x10"))	800	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Photographic Prints (<8"x10")	400	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Photographic Prints (8"x10" - 11"x14")	400-600	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Photographic Prints (>11"x14")	600	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Oversize Documents	300	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Maps	300-600	Gray / Color	8 / 24
Posters/Broadsides	300	Color	24
Audio	96000		24
Analog NTSC Video	720 x 486		8
Digital Video Source Tape, can access bits	Native		Native
Digital Video Source Tape, can not access bits	Decompressed 720 x 486		8 or 10
Digital Video File	Native		
Video Optical Disc	Native		Native