



CASE STUDY:

DISBOUND BOOK SCANNING

In 1947, we established the first microfiche imaging production facility in the United States, making the new imaging method widely available for the first time. Ever since, Northern Micrographics has specialized in developing new solutions for both preservation and access.

Applying our broad experience, we consult with clients and make thoughtful recommendations based on their priorities. We offer a wide range of preservation services and software including microfilming, digital archiving, metadata creation, search and distribution of images, text and audio.



Making of America

In the fall of 1995, Cornell University and the University of Michigan, with funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, began the Making of America (MOA) project. This project became a digital library of primary sources of American social history, collected from each library, spanning American history from the antebellum era through reconstruction.

Through a competitive process, Northern Micrographics was chosen to convert the first phase of this project to digital images for publication to the Web. Additionally, Northern Micrographics was contracted to print the images for later binding and shelving by the libraries.

The Production Process

Thousands of volumes from the two libraries arrived at Northern Micrographics' La Crosse facilities during the course of 3 years. Once they arrived, they were prepared for the digitizing process. Bound books were disbound and metadata was created, in consultation with the University of Michigan and Cornell and entered into a production database.

Each individual page was digitized at 600 dpi and formatted as an archival TIFF. These images were returned to their libraries and converted to text by the universities. The archival TIFFs remain stored in the storage vault at Northern Micrographics.

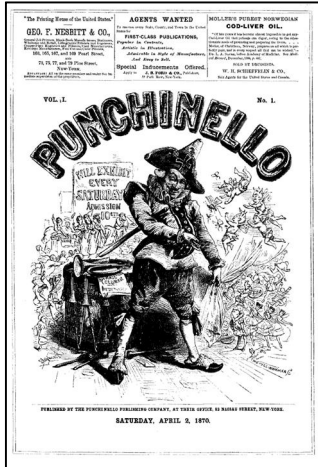
Northern Micrographics also printed the pages to acid free paper so that each newly digitized volume could be bound and placed on the shelves for use at the universities' libraries. Each volume was shrink-wrapped and shipped to its respective library.

The digitized images can still be viewed at the MOA sites for both libraries:

<http://ebooks.library.cornell.edu/m/moa>

http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagrp/moa_conversion.html

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