NPRHA Digitization Standards

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by the Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association - Archive Committee

Summary

This document recommends scanning and file naming conventions of the NPRHA to serve its image quality and easy identification needs.

Implementing these standards has several benefits:

- 1. **Accuracy** sharing standard files online (AtoM or SharePoint) or in digital products like the Vista Dome Package ensures quality and reference accuracy for users such as researchers, manufacturers and publishers.
- 2. **Consistency** standards for image quality and naming ensure that all archiving volunteers understand how to do their work and integrate it with others. Every volunteer inventing their own conventions would be chaos.
- 3. **Conservation** following uniform standards helps conserve resources (such as computer storage, network bandwidth, etc.) by reducing wasted rework, time to find or transfer, or future compatibility with online library archive systems. We also protect our assets by digitizing them right the first time without unnecessary re-handling.

Scanning Standards

Image File Format

The NPRHA has **standardized on the TIFF standard for initial image capture and archive**. The TIFF image format is recognized as a universally sustainable and supportable archive format by organizations such as the Library of Congress.

When scanning, select the **TIFF format** for saving files. When possible, also select **LZW Compression** as a TIFF format option. LZW compression within a TIFF can sometimes greatly reduce file size without changing any original image quality (also known as Lossless Compression).

Workflow is a sequence of actions that result in a desired outcome. Consider these workflow steps:

- Capture (required) the act of digital image scanning that creates a file
- **Working** (optional) an optional step that may change the quality or naming of a captured file (clean, crop, brighten, rename, etc)
- **Delivery** (optional) an optional step of collecting, organizing, or sharing one or more files
- Archive (required) the act of copying digital files to proper library storage

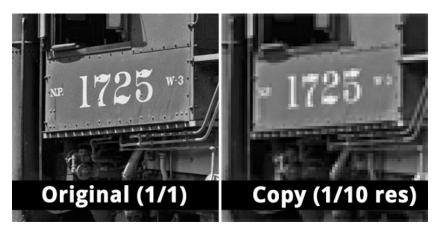
Scanning images and sharing them is a basic workflow for archive's mission. The TIFF file format provides a robust and very broadly adopted standard for the Capture and Archive steps.

This table provides NPRHA guidance, based on standards from the federal government digital archive guidelines. For further research, see http://www.digitizationguidelines.gov/

Format/Use	Capture	Working	Electronic Delivery	Print Delivery	Archive
TIFF	Yes	Yes	Maybe	Yes	Yes
JPEG	No	No	Yes	No	No
PSD	No	Yes	No	Maybe	No

Image Resolution for Initial Capture

Proper scanning resolution ensures that valuable historical data is not lost when the original artifact is unavailable. For example, the 1/10th resolution scan of the same image below blurs small historical details such as the engine class lettering for this W-3 locomotive:



Without access to the original image, unnecessary ambiguity is introduced and may require rescanning to recover the original detail. For scanning resolution, the smaller the size the media, the higher the resolution. The larger, the lower the resolution.

Film Formats	Examples	Resolution/DPI Standard
35mm format	35mm slide, 110	4800
Medium format	616, 645, 6X6, 6x7	2400
Large format	4x5, 5x7	1200
Very large format	8x10	600
8x10 print, other	Various	600, occasionally 1200 for
printed photos		small prints

As a double check on your scanning resolution, color films and slides saved as TIFF should be in the 50MB to 80MB range uncompressed, 25MB to 35MB with LZW compression.

Document File Format

The NPRHA has **standardized on the PDF standard for multi-page document capture**. Examples include AFEs, annual reports, timetables, memos and correspondence.

The NPRHA has **standardized on the TIFF standard for single-page documents**, in particular for documents that are not 8.5x11 or standard paper sizes. Examples include maps, technical drawings, postcards, train sheets, etc.

PDFs should be in version 1.6 (Acrobat 7.x) or higher.

Printed Document Resolution for Initial Capture

The NPRHA scans **virtually all printed documents at 300 DPI**, unless there is an extraordinary reason to jump up to 600 DPI for an extra special document.

Printed/Reflective Formats	Resolution/DPI
Documents, 8.5 x 11 pages, drawings	300
Postcards, forms, etc.	300

One reason to scan at 600 DPI is to de-screen a printed image. Printed images are created at the print shop with a screen (very, very, tiny dots of various sizes). Once scanned, the screen-printed images can look poor on the computer. De-screening software can greatly reduce the effect. Example below from a 25.5 x 42 inch NP calendar, using the Photoshop plug-in *Sattva*. It requires 600 dpi to de-screen. It's also true that some initial-scan packages like VueScan can de-screen initial scans when done at 300 dpi.





When In Doubt

When in doubt, it's always better to scan at a higher resolution. Down-sampling an image is easy but scanning at higher detail requires a physical rescan which further micro-damages the document due to handling. Server storage space is cheaper than the labor to re-scan.

File Naming Standards

The NPRHA strives to have consistent file naming standards for anything we digitize, whether it be photos or documents.

The table below provides a <u>summary</u>, with further sections below for each specific row in the table.

Archived Item	Archive File	Electronic	Naming Convention for Archive File
	Format	Sharing	
		Format	
<u>Images/Photos/Pictures</u>	TIF	JPG	CCCC-SS-XX-YYY.TIF
Mechanical Dept Drawings	TIF	JPG	FIRST TITLE - SECOND TITLE SERIES# DRAWING# MM-DD-YYYY.TIF
<u>Maps</u>	TIF	JPG	STATION NAME_STATE INITIALS_MM-DD-YYYY.TIF
<u>Forms</u>	PDF	PDF	FORM NUMBER_FORM TITLE_YYYY-MM_FILLED.PDF
<u>Postcards</u>	TIF	JPG	STATION NAME or MAIN SUBJECT – STATE INITIALS – UNIQUE NUMBER.TIF
<u>Annual or Financial Reports</u>	PDF	PDF	YYYY – TITLE.PDF
<u>Timetables</u>	PDF	PDF	RR Initial(s) YYYYMMDD XTT Location Descriptor.PDF
AFEs	PDF	PDF	RR-YYYY-AFEnumber.PDF
Condensed Track Profiles	TIF	JPG	Number Station to Station YYYY.TIF
Long Track Profiles	TIF	JPG	Division – Sub Division – Station to Station – MP XX to XX - YYYY.TIF
Marketing	PDF	PDF	MAIN TITLE ON ITEM - YYYY.PDF
Brochures/Booklets			
<u>Train Sheets</u>	TIF	Zoomify	RR-Initial_DivisionXX-XX_p2_YYYY-MM-DD.TIF
Structure Drawings	TIF	JPG	PlanNumber.InitialYear.revYear-Plan Title.Collection.TIF
Signal Dept Drawings	TIF	JPG	
<u>Aerial Photos</u>	TIF	JPG	Div Sub - PhotoName.TIF
Calendars	TIF	JPG	YYYY_Type.TIF
<u>Posters</u>	TIF	JPG	FIRST TITLE - SECOND TITLE YYYY.TIF
Bridge & Building Drawings	TIF	GIF	TBD by April 2023
Miscellaneous Anything –	TIF	JPG	MAIN TITLE or SUBJECT OF ITEM - YYYY.TIF
Single Page or Image			
Miscellaneous Anything –	PDF	PDF	MAIN TITLE or SUBJECT OF ITEM - YYYY.PDF
Multi Page			

NOTE – The limit for total characters (including spaces) is <u>128 characters</u>. 80% of file names that follow the spec will be much shorter, in the 30-60 character range.

Images/Photos/Pictures

The following describes the file naming standard for slides, negatives, prints or any image that is scanned and given a digital file name.

CCCC-SSS-XXX-NNN.TIF

cccc – 3-4 Alpha characters that indicates the COLLECTION these images are part of. All slides, negatives, prints and other images are donated to the historical association as part of named collection that is tracked at the archive. The historical association should assign a 3-4 alpha character set to identify each and every collection.

SSS – 2-3 Alpha characters that indicate the SUB COLLECTION of the overall collection. For instance, if Walt Ainsworth donated 10,000 slides with one quarter freight cars, one quarter passenger, one quarter diesel locomotives, and one quarter miscellaneous images, the sub collection alpha characters might be FC, PA, DL, MS. Its up to the archivist who starts scanning the collection to come up with reasonable initials for the Sub Collections.

XXX – 2-3 Numbers that represent the <u>container number</u> the images are stored in. This will typically represent a slide binder or carousel of slides. The binder or carousel should be given a number (even if just a simple piece of blue tape on the cover with a number), and then all images scanned from that container should be given this number. Since the next element YYY can handle UP TO a thousand images, your container XX should be a set count in the 30-999 range.

NNN – The individual <u>item number</u> of the image. This is typically assigned automatically by the scanning software. For instance, **Epson Scan** will automatically add and increment a number at the end of batches of images. Typically, three digits with leading zeros, can be four if item count will reach 9999.



.TIF – The file extension that also represents the format of the file. In virtually all scenarios, original scans should be saved to TIFF file format, with **LZW** lossless compression turned on.

Examples – Good, not perfect	Examples – Early, not ideal
WWA-NPD-004.tif	JMF00-00024.0A.tif
WWANFC-04-024.tif	W2015-56-011.tif
	Moreau-004-R.tif
	JC10126.tif

Mechanical Department Drawings

The following describes the file naming standard for blueprints, sketches, or plans from the Mechanical Department that is scanned and given a digital file name.

Generally files should not be longer than 75 characters in length, including spaces and extension.

FIRST TITLE - SECOND TITLE SERIES# DRAWING# MM-DD-YYYY.TIF

Note – there is a dash between the first name and second name of the drawing title.



FIRST NAME ON DRAWING – Mechanical Department drawings have a **two-line title**, 99% of the time in the lower right corner. Below is the standard convention. From the example above "Painting & Stenciling" is the first title. It is strongly recommended to change special characters like & "/\. and other characters to words or drop them, so hosting computer systems don't complain or transform the unexpected, unusual characters.



SECOND TITLE ON DRAWING – The second line is below the first, usually in smaller type. In the example above, the second title is "7" BLOCK NUMERALS 6-0". In some rare cases, there is only one title, so skip the second title.

SERIES NUMBER – Each drawing has a SERIES NUMBER, which starts with either a Z, Y, X, W, T, S R or Q. Typically is in the title cluster in the lower right, although its sometimes on the right edge or bottom of the drawing. The first letter indicates the size of the drawing, see DWG Room Conventions for sizes.

DRAWING NUMBER – Each drawing has a DRAWING NUMBER, which is a sequential release number for the drawing, and often includes a revision number, like -A, -G or something like that.

MM-DD-YYYY – The LAST REISSUE DATE that can be found on the drawing. Drawings will often have a listing of reissues, either in a reissue table or as a simple list.

PIPING STEAM PIPE ARRG'T. NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO. MECHANICAL DEPT. MAY 12,1943 APPROVED ST. PAUL, MINN. SCALE 3/32"= 1.0" CORRECT	A-REISSUED 11,26-23 B -29-24 C " 7-9-24 1-29-27 E 6-17-38 G 4-38 G 4-38 G 4-38 G 6-12-46
GENERAL MECH. SUPT. SERIES Y-15019 DRAWING 48433 A B FAR. GW.M 8/4-4-8-17-48	GENERAL ARRANGEMENT NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO. MECHANICAL DEFT. -3-24 APPROVED GENERAL MECH. SUPT. SERIES R-428 DRAWING /753/- 37-H

Above left, drawing 48433 is at revision -B with a LAST REISSUE of 08-17-1948

Above Right, drawing 17531 is at revision H, with a LAST REISSUE of 06-12-1946

.TIF – The file extension that also represents the format of the file. In virtually all scenarios, original scans should be saved to TIFF file format, with **LZW** lossless compression turned on.

Examples:
Air Brake Arrangement W-1314 11-20-1942.TIF
Brakes - General Arrangement Q-1141 48066-B 6-11-1948.TIF
End Door Arrangement - Automobile Car R-635 22281-C 1-24-1917.TIF
General Plan - Arrangement Safety Appliances X-3057 19248 9-2-1914.TIF
Window and Details - Cupola end Window W-5781 54416 4-25-1951.TIF
Platforms and Steps - Application Caboose Steps W-4792 49549 8-21-1944.TIF
Painting and Stenciling - 1 Inch Numerals Z-11743 45128-A 10-25-1948

Maps

The following describes the file naming standard for maps, including:

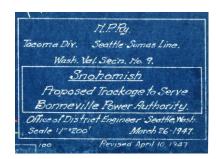
- General Building and Bridge Department maps
- Station Maps

This does not include Long or Condensed Track Profiles, which are described below.

STATION NAME STATE INITIALS MM-DD-YYYY ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION.TIF

FIRST NAME ON PLAN – Most maps have a **station or location title**, 95% of the time in the lower right corner. Below is the standard convention. From the example below "BIG TIMBER" is the station. It is strongly recommended to change special characters like **&** " / \ ' and other characters to words or drop them, so hosting computer systems don't complain or transform the unusual characters. Just plain words, no special characters.





STATE INITIAL – The second element of the map title is the state initial, in the case above MT. Valid state initials include MN, WI, ND, MT, ID, WA, OR, and MB for Manitoba.

MM-DD-YYYY – The LAST REV or LAST REISSUE DATE that can be found on the drawing. If only a year can be found, put in YYYY.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION – Other than the station or location name, maps might have additional language in the legend area that is succinct and useful to have in the name. A LIMITED amount of this text can go in this ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION, essentially an <u>optional</u> fourth field.

.TIF – The file extension that also represents the format of the file. In virtually all scenarios, original scans should be saved to TIFF file format, with **LZW** lossless compression turned on.

Note – a few maps are general state or regional maps, often focused on a topic. For example, Stampede Pass, or Eastern Montana alternative routes. In those cases, the unique topic of the map becomes the STATION NAME. And if the map covers multiple states, the STATE INITIAL becomes USA.

Examples – Good	Examples – Early, not ideal
Big Timber_MT_05-21-1964.tif	NP Bozeman low line detail 4.1966.Box26.tif
Snohomish_WA_04-10-1947_Bonneville	Buckley.1924.tif
Power Trackage.tif	
Billings_MT_8-25-1949.tif	NP Drummond.1960.Box7.tif
Seattle_WA_1910_Canal Waterway to	Tacoma.PacificAv to TacomaAv.1927.1.tif
Connecticut St.tif	
Stampede Pass Route_WA_1885.tif	NP Vincent Section 4.1949.Box21.tif
Eastern Montana_MT_1901_Alternative	NP Old Yegen (Siding #1).1979.Box8.tif
Routes.tif	

Forms

The following describes the file naming standard for Northern Pacific forms. Forms always have a number associated with them, so form file names start with that number. Forms are digitized to PDFs.

This file name standard makes heavy use of underscores, see examples.

FORM NUMBER FORM TITLE YYYY-MM_FILLED.PDF

FORM NUMBER – Form numbers are listed in the NPR Stationery Catalog and are typically at a corner of the form.



Form 1599 Rev. 10-57



FORM TITLE – The second element of the form name is the title, again from the Stationary Catalog. Spaces are replaced with Underscores.

YYYY-MM – The year and the month of the form, which is usually very small numbers near or just after the form number at the bottom of the page.

FILLED – FILLED is optional, and indicates that the scanned copy of the form is actually filled out. Filled-out forms are used because a clean original is not available. Or the filled-out version might ad clarity to the usage of the form.

.PDF – The file format and extension for Forms is PDF.

Examples – Good
0214.5_Shipping_Contract_(small)_1897-06_filled.PDF
0220_Report_of_Over,_Short,_and_Damaged_Freight_1924-06.PDF
0277_Commodity_Order.PDF
0278_Order_for_Local_and_Coupon_Tickets_1956-02.PDF
0281_Shipping_Bill_1896-06-15_filled.PDF

Post Cards

The following describes the file naming standard for postcards showing NP locations or equipment.

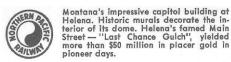
STATION NAME or MAIN SUBJECT - STATE INITIALS - UNIQUE NUMBER.TIF

STATION NAME or MAIN SUBJECT – Most port cards show locations, like stations. But certainly many show specific subjects like a circus train or new locomotives in a yard. Use your discretion in naming the postcard, but Station Name is preferred.

T-27

NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

New 3600 h.p. EMD SD-45 diesel units on line at Northern Pacific's Mississippi Street Shop in St. Paul after checkout on delivery from General Motors.



STATE INITIAL – The second element of the map title is the state initial, in the case above MT. Valid state initials include MN, WI, ND, MT, ID, WA, OR, and MB for Manitoba.

UNIQUE NUMBER – Because there are many post cards for given stations or locations, look for any date or code number (like Form Number) for the postcard that can make the file name unique.

.TIF – The file extension that also represents the format of the file. In virtually all scenarios, original scans should be saved to TIFF file format, with **LZW** lossless compression turned on.

Examples – Good, from above
New NP SD-45s – J5159.tif
Capitol Building at Helena – MT – NP6019.tif
Tacoma Depot – WA – 05-1924.tif
Morehead – MN – 0099.tif

Annual or Financial Reports

The following describes the file naming standard for NP annual reports.

YYYY_TITLE.PDF

YYYY – Year the annual report was published.

TITLE – The title of the publication.

.PDF – The file format and extension for NP corporate publications like annual reports is PDF.

Examples – Good
1943_NPR_ANNUAL_REPORT.PDF
1952_NPR_ANNUAL_REPORT.PDF
1969_NPR_ANNUAL_REPORT.PDF

Timetables

The following describes the file naming standard for employee and public timetables.

RR Initial(s) YYYYMMDD XTT Location Descriptor.PDF

RR Initial(s) – the reporting marks of the Railroads that published the timetable. For instance "NP" or "GN-NP-UP" or "MILW"

YYYYMMDD – the year (YYYY), month (MM) and date (DD) the timetable was published. If month or date is not stipulated, just omit.

XTT – either ETT for Employee Time Table, or PTT for Public Time Table. Are their others?

Location Descriptor – a short description of the location covered by the timetable, such as SYSTEM or SYSTEM Condensed. Less than 32 characters, ideally short as possible.

Examples – Good
NP 19650907 PTT SYSTEM.pdf
GN-NP-UP 19651031 PTT LOCAL Portland-Seattle Pool.pdf
NP 19661030 PTT SYSTEM.pdf
NP 19680818 PTT SYSTEM.pdf
NP 19650907 PTT SYSTEM Condensed.pdf
GN-NP-UP 19681027 PTT LOCAL Portland-Seattle Pool.pdf

Authority for Expenditure (AFEs)

The following describes the file naming standard for Authority for Expenditure.

RR-YYYY-AFEnumber.PDF

RR Initial – the reporting marks of the railroad that published the AFE.

YYYY - The year the AFE was issued, four digits.

AFE number on the sheet – typically a **FOUR-TO-SEVEN** place alphanumeric, with the actual AFE number padded with zeros so it equals five digits (i.e. not 49, but 00049).

Examples
NP-1920-D1234.pdf
GN-1944-00003.pdf
CP-1950-00800.pdf
NP-1897-RM0016.pdf
NP-1920-5081a.pdf

Condensed Track Profiles

The following describes the file naming standards for Condensed Track Profiles.

Number Station to Station YYYY.TIF

Number – Condensed profiles are numbered, East to West.

Station to Station – Condensed profiles are also titled, station to station.

YYYY - Condensed profiles are published for a year.

Examples – Condensed Track Profiles	
7 Manitoba Jct to E Grand Forks 1928.tif	
4 St Paul to Staples 1969.tif	
27 Tacoma to Tenino 1969.tif	

Long Track Profiles

The following describes the file naming standards for regular or "Long" track profiles. This naming convention is long, but since there are so few long profiles and most have been scanned to this convention – this is the convention.

Division - Sub Division - Station to Station - MP XX to XX - YYYY.TIF

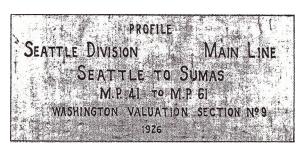
Division – Overall division for which the track existed. This comes directly from the profile title.

Sub Division – Sub Divisions are pulled from the 1969 sub division listing in the Station Agents book.

Station to Station – The profile will clearly list the station to station covered by the profile in the title box.

MP XX to XX – The profile will also list the milepost to milepost (MP) for each profile. This can get complicated when the profile crosses MP number transitions, see existing examples for guidance.

YYYY - Long profiles are published for a year.



PROFILE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIV. - PHILIPSBURG BR.

DRUMMOND TO PHILIPSBURG

M.P. 0 TO M.P. 26

MONTANA VALUATION SECTION Nº17
1923.

Examples – Long Track Profiles	
Rocky Mountain Div - Third Subdivision - Helena to Missoula - MP 22 to 42 – 1924.tif	
Yellowstone Div - Fifth Subdivision - Laurel to Livingston - MP 100 to 120 - 19XX.tif	
Seattle Div - Fifth Subdivision - Seattle to Sumas - MP 41 to 61 – 1926.tif	
Tacoma Div - Fifteenth Division - Wickersham to Bellingham - MP 0 to End – 1904.tif	
Camas Prairie - Fourth Division - Oro Fino to Headquarters - MP 0 to 20 – 1928.tif	

Marketing Brochures and Booklets

Over the decades, the NP published thousands of brochures (no binding, just folded) and booklets (with binding).

MAIN TITLE ON ITEM - YYYY.PDF

MAIN TITLE ON ITEM – The main, unique title of the brochure or booklet. See examples below.

YYYY – The year the brochure or booklet published for a year. Where do you find the year? Sometimes its right in the title. But frequently, its in very small type on the info page of the item, where the form number is also listed. If after checking this location, you may be left listing the rough decade, like – 193X, or consulting with others or similar artifacts for the best date to put in the file name.

The Small Print	Published Published 1917	
A. M. CLELAND, General Passenger Agent St. Paul, Minn. 1917		
CityState	Published December, 1964	
F. 6935 Printed in U.S.A. 12-64		
F6881—PRINTED IN U. S. A.,—4-50	Published April, 1950	
	Published 1951	
FORM 6859—51		

Examples – Marketing Brochures and Booklets
Jim Bridgers Yarns of the Yellowstone - 1931.pdf
The Yellowstone National Park via NPR - 1892.pdf
Magic Yellowstone - 1931.pdf
Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition - 1905.pdf
North Pacific Coast Events - 1909.pdf
San Francisco Worlds Fair - 1939.pdf
Scenic Route Across America - 1951.pdf

Train Sheets

The following describes the file naming standards for NP Train Sheets.

RR-Initial DivisionXX-XX-XX p2 YYYY-MM-DD.TIF

RR Initial – the reporting marks of the railroad that published the train sheet.

DivisionXX-XX-XX – The first word is the Division, like Tacoma or RockyMountain. The second element is 1 to N Subdivision that the train sheet covers for that shift. So if you see *Tacoma07-08-10-19*, that says the sheet covers the 7th, 8th, 10th and 19th <u>subdivisions</u> of the Tacoma division. A zero is placed at the beginning of each single digit subdivision.

pX- p is page, and X is the page count for the sheet (p2 indicates both sides were relevant or scanned).

YYYY-MM-DD – The specific date stamped on the Train Sheet.

Examples
NP_Tacoma07-08-10-19_p2_1952-08-13.tif
NP_Tacoma07-08-10-19_p2_1951-06-20.tif
NP_Tacoma07-08-10-19_p1_1964-08-23.tif
NP_Tacoma07-08-10-19_p2_1964-08-23.tif

Aerial Photos

The following describes the file naming standards for aerial photos, in particular a large collection commissioned by the NP in the 1950s that covered roughly the state of Washington.

Div Sub - PhotoName.TIF

Div Sub – Division and Subdivision of the photograph location, based on the NP's 1932 organization. The Division will be indicated by 1-2 letters such as T for Tacoma and ID for Idaho. Subdivision will be the two-digit numerical designation of the Subdivision.

PhotoName – Vertical aerial photos usually have a name such as "WATO-SELH 12" printed directly on the photo. The example given is photo 12 in a series flown between Wapato and Selah, Washington. The name printed on the photo should be adopted directly into the file name. Where the name printed on the photo has a slash "/" symbol it should be replaced with a "#" symbol.

Examples	
ID 03 WATO-SELH-12.tif	
Or prep for web as:	
ID_03_WATO-SELH-12.tif	

Calendars

The following describes the file naming standards for large **40 x 25.5** and medium **25.75 x 20.5** NP wall calendars.

YYYY_Type.TIF

YYYY – The year the calendar presents.

_Type – is the type of calendar: Depot, School, Desk, Notepad

Examples	Typical Size	Example
1969_Depot.jpg	25.5 x 42-inch calendars	1764 DE 1875 D
1953_School.jpg	20.5 x 25.75-inch calendars	HULL HOST BOUT HUT HUT CLU HUT HUT GUT HUT HUT HUT

1963_Desk.jpg	6.25 x 8-inch desk calendars	
1967_Notepad.jpg	1.5 x 4-inch notepads with calendars on front	

Structure Drawings

The following describes the file naming for structure plans, typically as large, stand-alone sheets of paper (not simply pages in a Standard Plan book).

PlanNumber InitialYear LastRevYear Plan Title.TIF

Plan Number – The plan number on the sheet, usually in the upper right corner. Examples include S-26-16, 5-4-1, etc. Letters should be in all caps.

InitialYear – Typically plans have the initial year the plan was published, just below the title.



LastRevYear – The plans will also include a listing of revisions, including data. So this would be the last date on the sheet the plan was revised.



Plan Title – The first title from the plan, and if a secondary title is included, some or all of the secondary title. They key is to keep the file name reasonably short, so the title should <u>not be longer than 50 characters.</u>



.TIF – The file extension that also represents the format of the file. In virtually all scenarios, original scans should be saved to TIFF file format, with **LZW** lossless compression turned on.

Examples
S-29-2 1889.16 Room Boarding House.tif
M-41-15 1902 rev1904 Coal Shed.tif
S-26-16 1900 3rd Class Combo.tif
S-26-17 1900 rev1904 3rd Class Combo BillMtl.tif
S-36-122 1905 rev1905 Coal Chute with One 70 Ton Pocket.tif

Signal Dept Drawings

The following describes the file naming for signal department drawings, which virtually always have the drawing number in the upper right.

PlanNumber_Plan Title_LastRevYear.TIF

Plan Number – The plan number on the sheet, usually in the upper right corner. Examples include DKZ-10-0, BA-15-0, etc. Letters should be in all caps.

Plan Title – The first title from the plan, and if a secondary title is included, some or all of the secondary title. They key is to keep the file name reasonably short, so the title should <u>not be longer</u> than 50 characters.

LastRevYear – The plans will often include revisions, including dates. We are choosing to use the last date on the sheet the plan was revised.

Examples
DKZ-10-0_Spectacle Ring for 8 and 3-8th Roundel_6-23-1923.TIF
BA-15-0_Arrangement of ABS for Single Track_No-Date.TIF
DM-15-1_Interlocked Hard Service Crossing_9-20-1915.TIF
EG-4-1_Mech Check Lock for Home Signal_11-27-1922.TIF

Posters

The following describes the file naming standards for large **40 x 25.5** and medium **25.75 x 20.5** NP wall calendars.

FIRST TITLE - SECOND TITLE YYYY.TIF

FIRST TITLE – The first title of the poster.

SECOND TITLE – If there is a secondary tile to the poster, or a tag line that is short, consider adding this. Its OPTIONAL. Also, if you know of multiple posters of the same exact subject, consider using the SECOND TITLE to differentiate the two (Portrait, Landscape for the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone).

YYYY – The year poster was published, if available in the fine print.

Examples – Posters	
Beef Cattle.tif	
Paradise Valley.tif	
FT 6000 - ONE OF A FLEET.tif	
U33Cs on River.tif	
Streamlined NCL in Rockies.tif	
North Coast Limited by Ragan.tif	
Grand Canyon of Yellowstone by Moran – Landscape.tif	

Table of Revisions

This table started Oct 2023 after version 11. Non-consequential changes or typo fixes don't result in a new version.

Date	By Whom	Version Update?	Brief Description of
			Rev
2023/10/2	Dean ONeill	Yes - 12	Updated map naming
			convention.