embracing micro-appraisal in digital curation workflows

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roadmap

• What inspired the idea of micro-appraisal?
• What do we mean by micro-appraisal?
• Why does micro-appraisal matter?
• How does micro-appraisal connect to what I do?
backdrop
appraisal drivers

archivist
• content appraisal
• intrinsic value
• research value
• scope of collections & collecting policy
• donor/transfer agreement

digital preservation
• technical appraisal
• feasibility
• storage needs
• infrastructure/capabilities
• budget
is it possible to recast the routine decisions that archivists make as they choose what and how many resources to devote to their digital content as “appraisal”? 
what is...
## Micro-Appraisal

| Characteristics of the records | Informational content | Resources (infrastructure, budget, etc) |
**Appraisal** (n.)
~ 1. The process of identifying materials offered to an archives that have sufficient value to be accessioned.

**Selection** (n.)
~ 1. The process of identifying materials to be preserved because of their enduring value, especially those materials to be physically transferred to an archives.
~ 2. The process of choosing materials for exhibition, publication, reformatting.
“The Archivist’s job...is to select those records with sufficient value to justify the cost involved with storage, arrangement, description, preservation, and reference. The scarcer the institution’s resources, the more difficult are the appraisal decisions.”

-Hunter

“...technical appraisal, which is the process of deciding if and how to preserve and make available those digital records...”

-Huth
Morass of Data
Narrow Perspectives
micro-appraisal
at the university of kentucky libraries
special collections research center

sarah dorpinghaus
backdrop
high level appraisal

- subject matter / research value
- size
- technical requirements / format
low level appraisal (micro-appraisal)

- shortly after donation
- during processing
- point and time of access
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bagger workflow</td>
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<tr>
<td>BitCurator Accessioning Workflow</td>
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<td>CD and DVD Accessioning Workflow</td>
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<td>Dealing with Infected Materials</td>
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<td>Hard Drive Accessioning Workflow</td>
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<td>High Level Accessioning - BitCurator.mp4</td>
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<td>Intermediate Accessioning - Data CD.mp4</td>
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<td>Media Archives of Lexington Workflow</td>
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<td>Migration Decision Tree / Rubric</td>
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<td>Settings to make PDFS on QuickView Plus.PNG</td>
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</tbody>
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a tiered approach

“processing in tears tiers: applying a flexible approach to born-digital materials”
  - dorothy waugh, emory university

“defining levels of processing vs. levels of effort”
  - carol kussmann and lara friedman-shedlov, university of minnesota libraries
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TRANSFER</strong></th>
<th><strong>MINIMAL</strong></th>
<th><strong>INTERMEDIATE</strong></th>
<th><strong>FULL</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Virus scan as needed/batch</td>
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<td>● Robocopy when appropriate</td>
<td>● Robocopy, VLC, Windows Media Player, or Handbrake</td>
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<td>● Disk image- Guymager</td>
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<tr>
<td>● BagIt standard</td>
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<td>● Multiple backups</td>
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<th><strong>MINIMAL</strong></th>
<th><strong>INTERMEDIATE</strong></th>
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</table>
| ● Update accession record | ● Collection-level data in “born digital” spreadsheet  
● Item-level media log  
● File Info Exporter 3000 documentation file  
● Update accession record  
● If PM is especially visual or informative, capture information/artwork | ● Collection-level data in “born digital” spreadsheet  
● Item-level media log  
● Reports: Bulk Extractor Viewer and BitCurator Reporting Tool  
● Update accession record  
● Capture/digitize PM with descriptive or visual info | 

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>REVIEW</strong></th>
<th><strong>MINIMAL</strong></th>
<th><strong>INTERMEDIATE</strong></th>
<th><strong>FULL</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>● Review files for challenging formats</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| ● Review files for challenging formats and no extension/formats  
● Reformat copy of files with Quick View Plus if needed  
● Search for PII and other sensitive information at a general level | 

some considerations

Does the **research value** of the collection warrant a full forensic migration?

Is there likely PII or other **sensitive information**?

Where were the files **created and edited**?

Is it most **efficient** to create a disk image?

Is the PM **damaged**?

Is there **useful metadata** embedded in the files?
appraisal is informed by as well as informs our digital curation workflows and activities
micro-appraisal
at the university of louisville archives and special collections
IDEA
- identify gaps that need to be filled; define scope

ACCESS
- description; transcription; indexing; streaming

PLAN
- who to interview; identify funding; schedule interviews

PRESEVATION
- intellectual and physical control; reformatting; digital preservation strategies

INTERVIEW
- background research; conduct interview

oral history life cycle
Our mission is to collect, preserve, and provide access to interviews that document the history of the greater Louisville area as well as the University of Louisville. We initiate oral history projects and support projects undertaken by community groups in a variety of ways.
AK: I can recall when first moved out, the whole family went out, married people, couples and their families. Almost all of us out and about 2nd and Loose. So, there was six or seven families who lived within three or four blocks of each other...your grandmother. So, this was the sort of...I guess, the area that you...or culture that we had at this place...around us. 

DC: Did you go to Hebrew school?

AK: No, I never did. I don’t know whether you know the difference between the German, Judaism at the time and the East European Jews. The German Jews were more or less, had been [inaudible 00:09:16]. Recall that during the time of Napoleon, Napoleon invaded Germany and he agreed that the Jews should be franchised. This was during the early 1800s of course. 1845, 1849. And the Jews were more or less integrated into society and culture of Germany. Even though there was a great deal of anti-Semitism, contrary to the Eastern European Jews who had to live in the [inaudible 00:09:37] and were [inaudible 00:09:37] or any active participation.

AK: You know the history of [inaudible 00:09:45] and these people. They were the leaders of what was called The Enlightenment, which attempted to assimilate the two cultures...integrate the two cultures. So that, when my parents...when my father came to this country, he came immediately associated with a so-called reform congregation. As a matter of fact, he was an active member of the [inaudible 00:10:16]...the Local Turner Society. The Turner Society was founded as a free thinking society over in Germany. It was an anthem over there.

AK: And, for many years...not for many years, for a number of years, instead of going to religious services on Saturday morning, I went to Turner Hall to study German...speak German under a woman by the name of Mrs. [inaudible 00:10:49]. And so, matter of fact, when I grew up, there was no Hebrew school. As I recall, the local Hebrew school was first established in 1905, as a result of the East European immigrants coming over to this country. They felt they needed their own Yiddish and they had grown up to be more restricting with environment. They weren't permitted to associate with gentiles or what have you and Poland is Russia. So, there was [inaudible 00:11:31].

AK: I did go along to the YMHA, my father did. And, so I went to the gym there. For a while we lived on Nason Street, in the 2000s block on East Madison Street. The YMHA was back up...it was right at the end of that block and...
African American Community Interviews

Adams, Clarence with Stoner, Fred
Adams recalls the history of the east downtown and Smoketown neighborhoods of Louisville, the predecessor organizations of the Presbyterian Community Center beginning in the 1910s, and the street corner newspaper sales business in Louisville beginning in the 1920s. Both men discuss their efforts to develop a recreation program in basketball, baseball and boxing at the Presbyterian Community Center beginning in the 1930s, the association of Muhammad Ali with the Center, and administrative changes at the Center during the early 1960s.

Alexander, Lloyd
Alexander is a retired professor from Kentucky State University. He discusses his family history; his career and life in the Parkland area of Louisville; recounts what Parkland was like in 1952; and how he was received as one of the first blacks to move into the 2800 block of Virginia Avenue. He discusses the business, education, and retail landscape of Parkland and the deterioration of the neighborhood. At a time, thriving business and retail establishments along Virginia Avenue and Dumesnil Street. Parkland was a middle-class neighborhood during the 1950s.

Alston, E. Deedom
Alston discusses his early life in Norfolk, Virginia and his primary and secondary education there; his college education at the North Carolina College for Negroes; his seminary training at Bishop Payne Divinity School; his ordination in the Episcopal Church; his ministry at Louisville's Church of Our Merciful Saviour, 11th and Walnut Street; work in race relations in Louisville; and general remarks on the role of the church in society.
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thank you
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