Backs Matter: Reformatting Postcards in CONTENTdm

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University of St. Thomas

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Today's Presentation

1. Postcards in Minnesota Reflections
2. The problem
3. A Solution
4. How does the solution work?
5. Single Replacement vs. Action Script
6. Application Beyond Postcards
7. Questions?

Postcards in Minnesota Reflections

Minnesota Reflections contains 3,216 postcards

BUT

users only see the fronts

Reference URL Share Add tags Comment Save to favorites

A few hours of duck shooting near Pine River, Minnesota

View Description

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Reference URL Share Add tags Comment Save to favorites

300 Block of Front Street looking north, Mankato, Minnesota

View Description

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Reference URL Share Add tags Comment Save to favorites

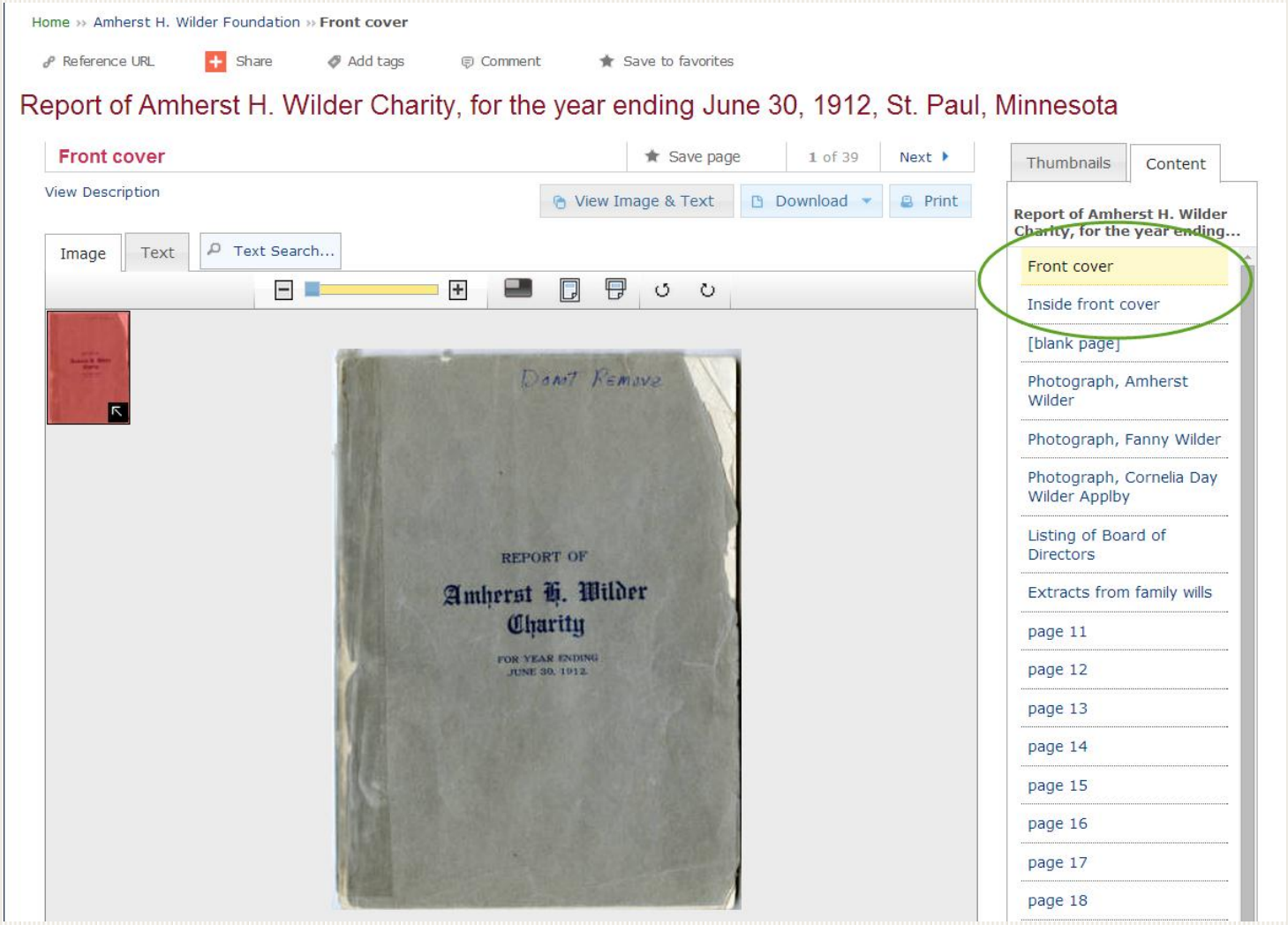
Aerial Bridge Duluth, Minnesota

View Description

Download Print

CONTENTdm's Postcard Solution

Postcard = Compound Object



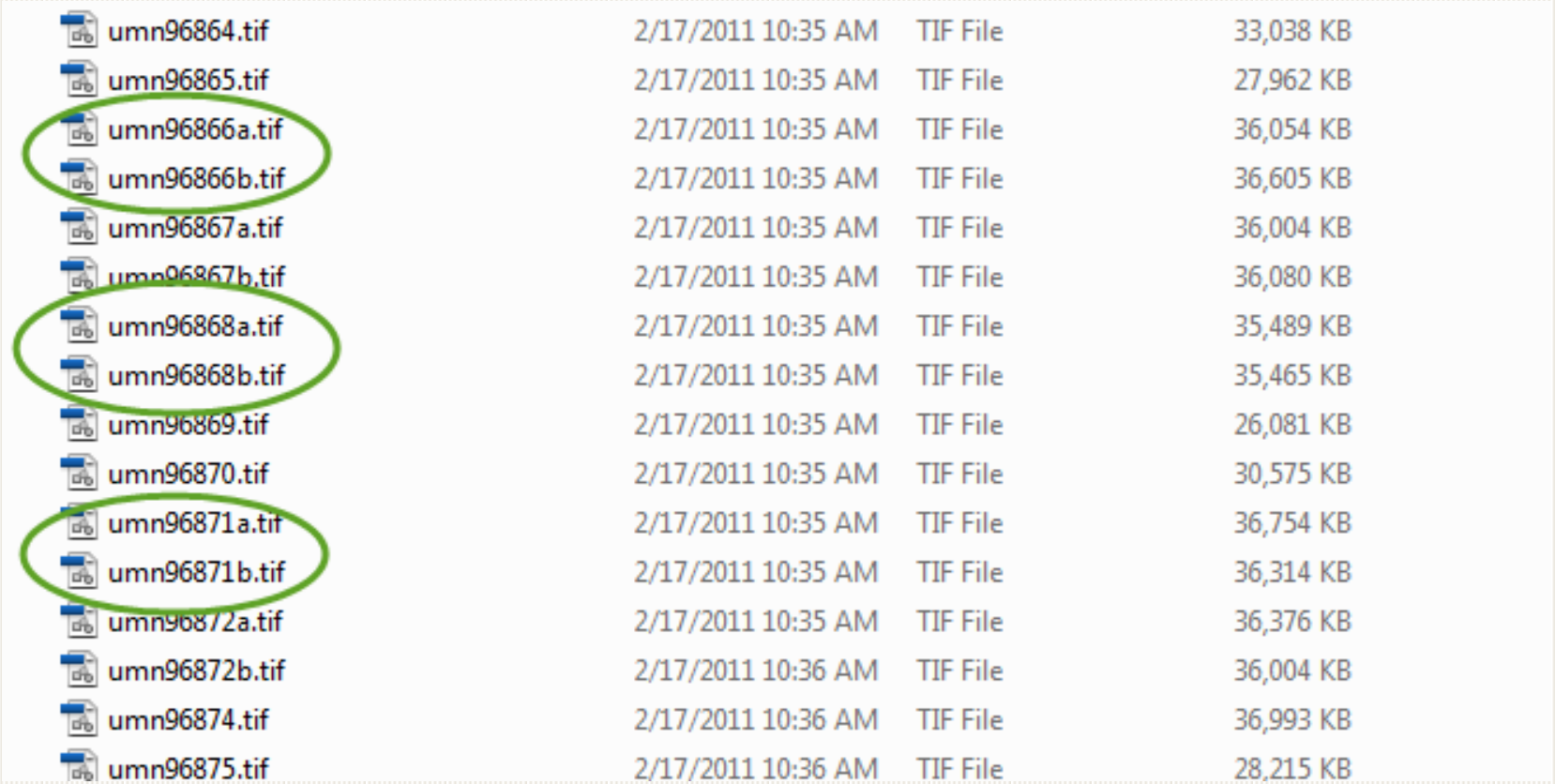
What's Wrong with Compound Objects?

- Slower to create (each compound object needs its own upload document)
- Slower to upload
- Clumsy for users – when the compound object structure doesn't ADD to the user experience
- CRUFT

What's on the Back of a Postcard?

- Postage Stamps
- Historical information
- Handwritten messages that tell stories about people's lives and experiences

Scanned Fronts and Backs…



umn96864.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	33,038 KB
umn96865.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	27,962 KB
umn96866a.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,054 KB
umn96866b.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,605 KB
umn96867a.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,004 KB
umn96867b.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,080 KB
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umn96868b.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	35,465 KB
umn96869.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	26,081 KB
umn96870.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	30,575 KB
umn96871a.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,754 KB
umn96871b.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,314 KB
umn96872a.tif	2/17/2011 10:35 AM	TIF File	36,376 KB
umn96872b.tif	2/17/2011 10:36 AM	TIF File	36,004 KB
umn96874.tif	2/17/2011 10:36 AM	TIF File	36,993 KB
umn96875.tif	2/17/2011 10:36 AM	TIF File	28,215 KB

The MetaGreta Solution

My Eureka Moment...

Fred Stier Meat Market, Belle Plaine, Minnesota
Scott County Historical Society

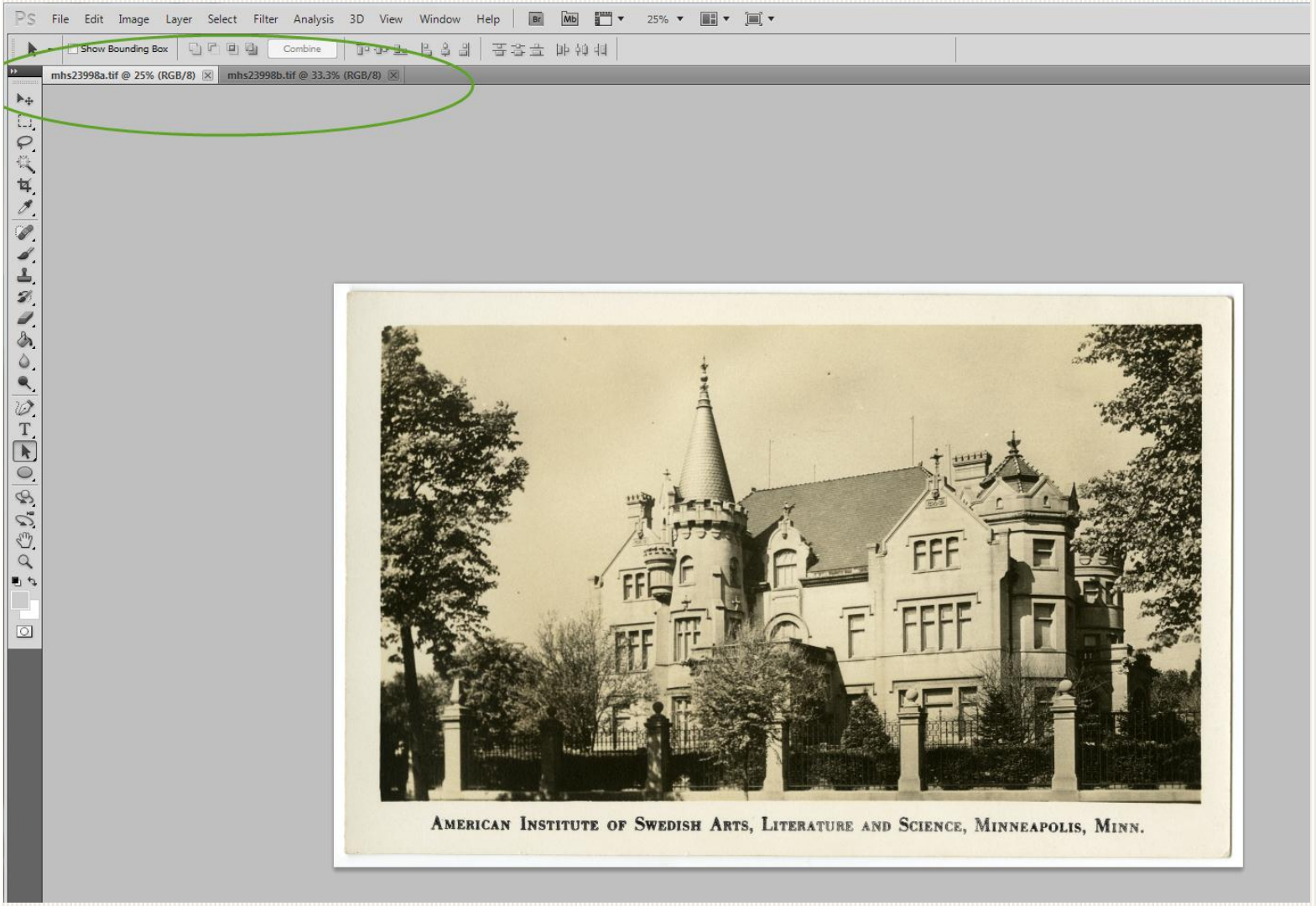
One Scanner – Multiple Scans

How does it work?

Step by Step Instructions:

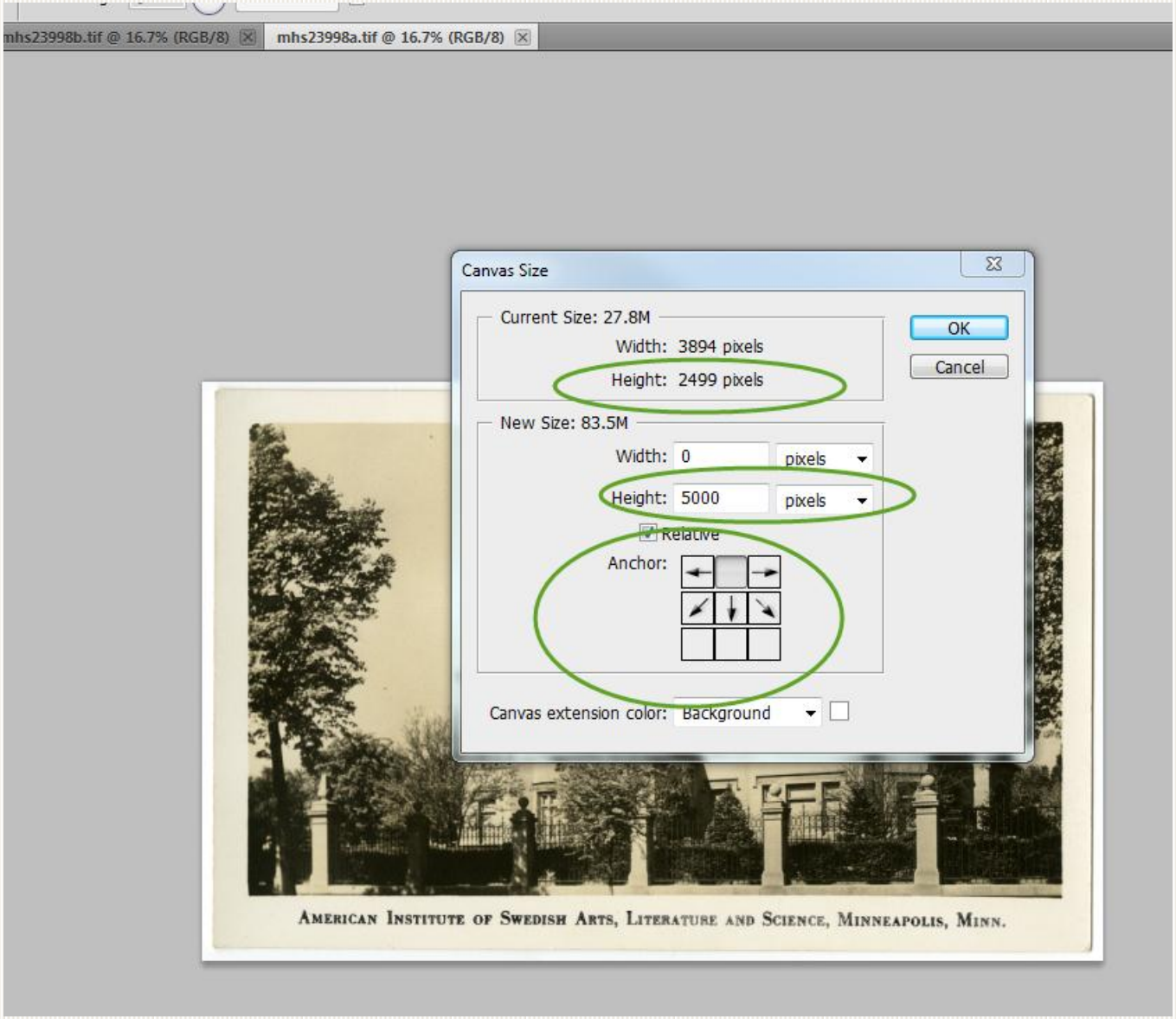
1. Manually one at a time
2. Running a script to do a batch

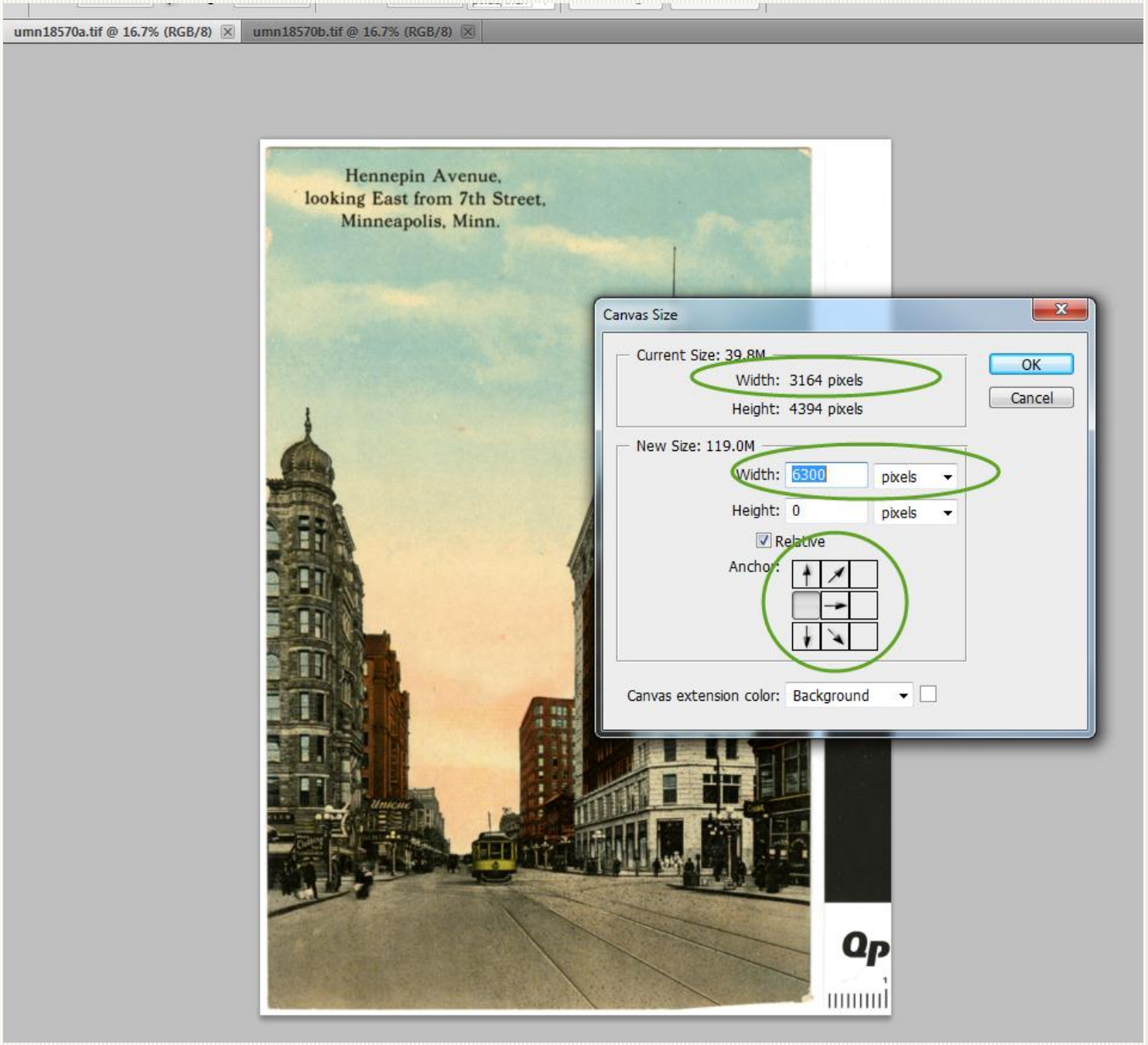
Open Front and Back of Postcard

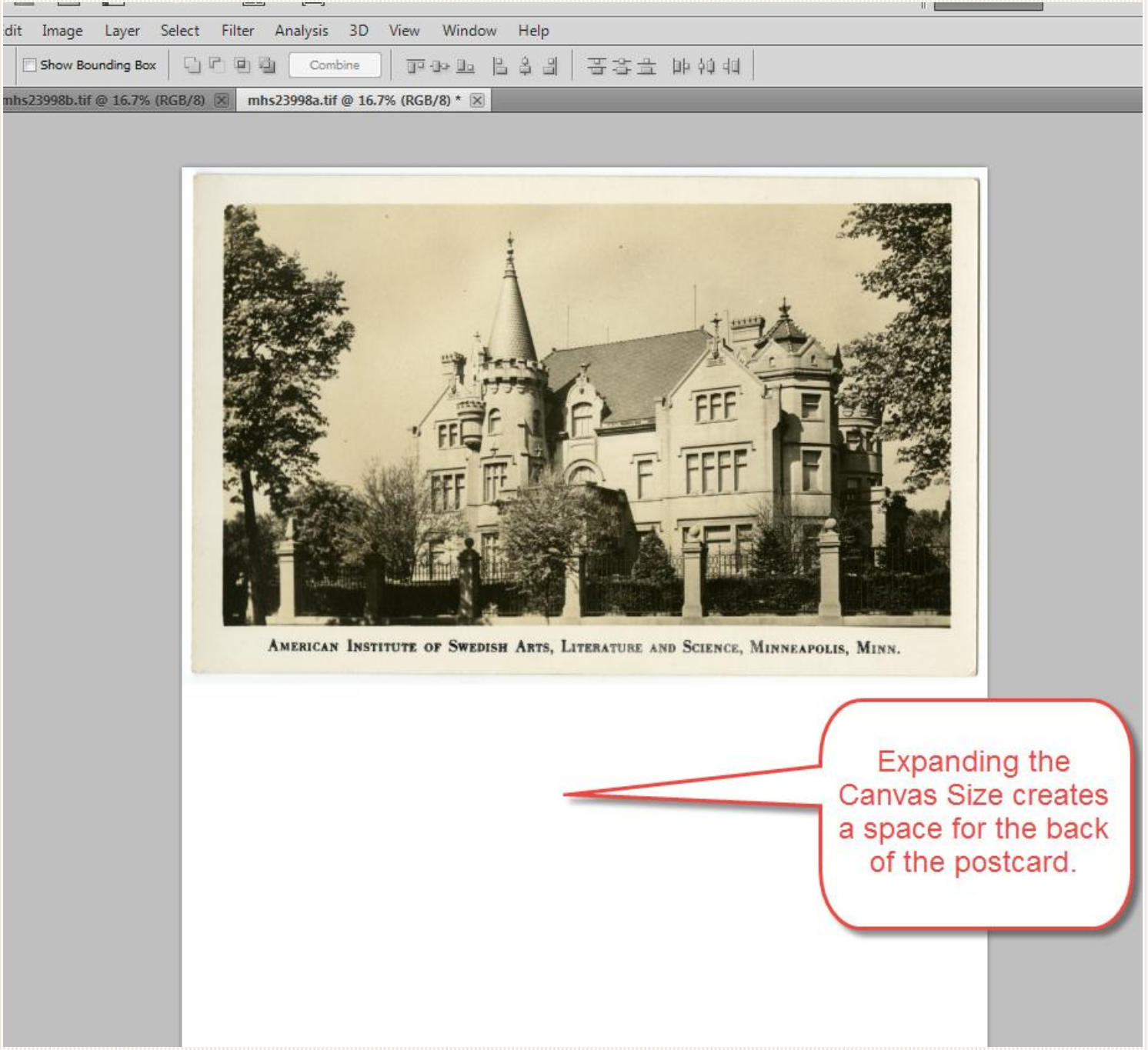


Determine Horizontal vs. Vertical

Image - Canvas Size




umn18570a.tif @ 16.7% (RGB/8)
umn18570b.tif @ 16.7% (RGB/8)
Hennepin Avenue,
looking East from 7th Street,
Minneapolis, Minn.
Canvas Size
Current Size: 39.8M
Width: 3164 pixels
Height: 4394 pixels
OK
Cancel
New Size: 119.0M
Width: 6300 pixels
Height: 0 pixels
Relative
Anchor:
Canvas extension color: Background


dit Image Layer Select Filter Analysis 3D View Window Help
Show Bounding Box
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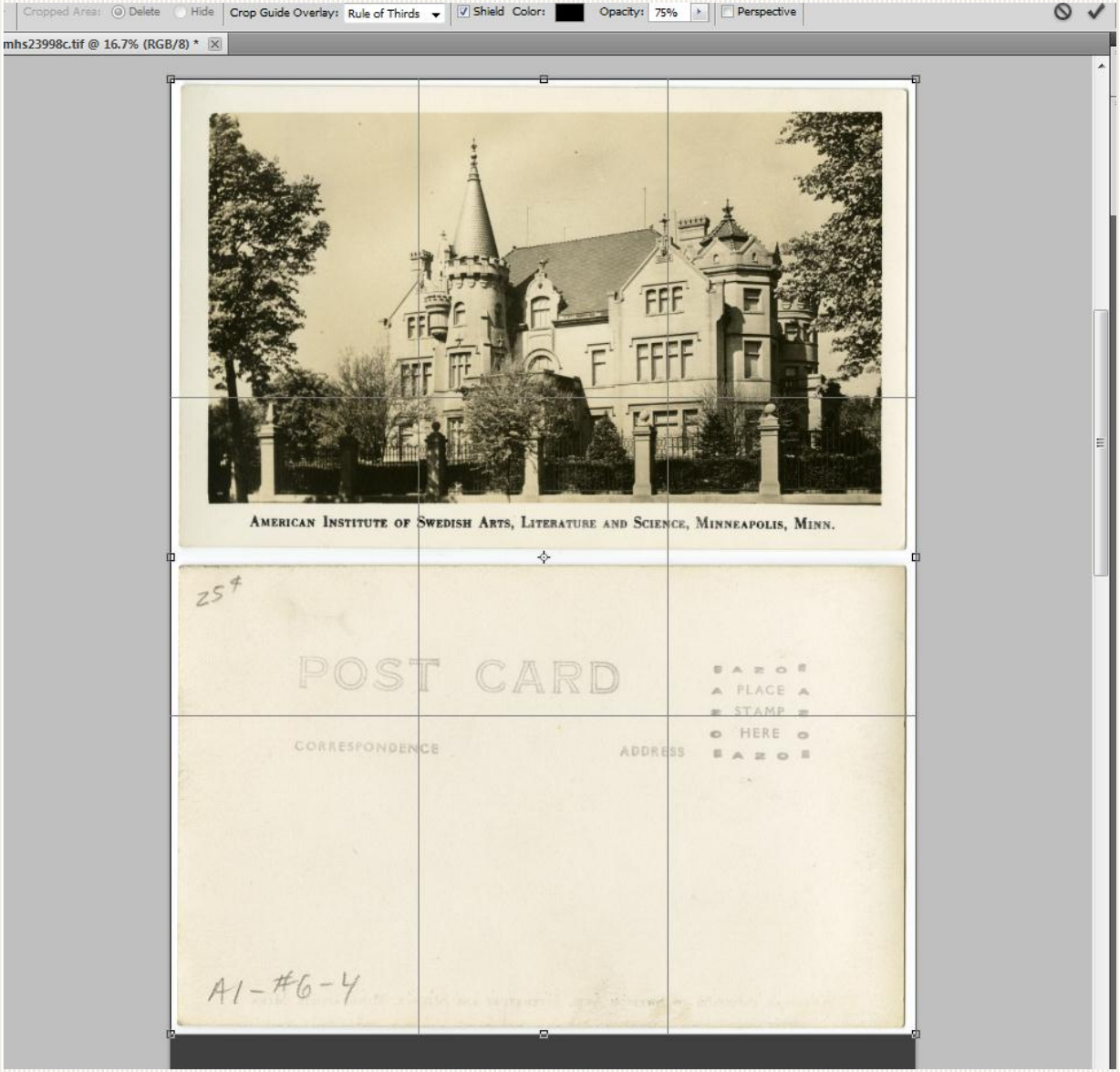
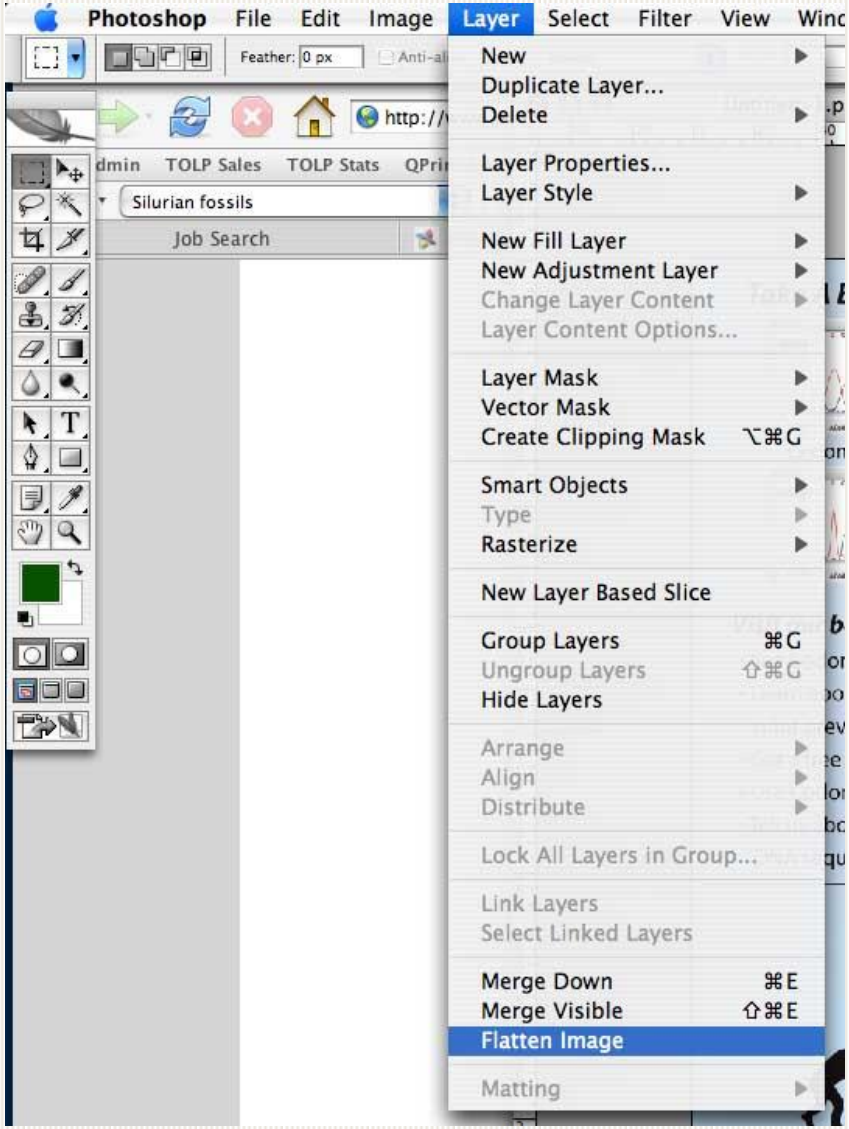
mhs23998b.tif @ 16.7% (RGB/8)
mhs23998a.tif @ 16.7% (RGB/8) *
American Institute of Swedish Arts, Literature and Science, Minneapolis, Minn.
Expanding the Canvas Size creates a space for the back of the postcard.

Copy and Paste the Back

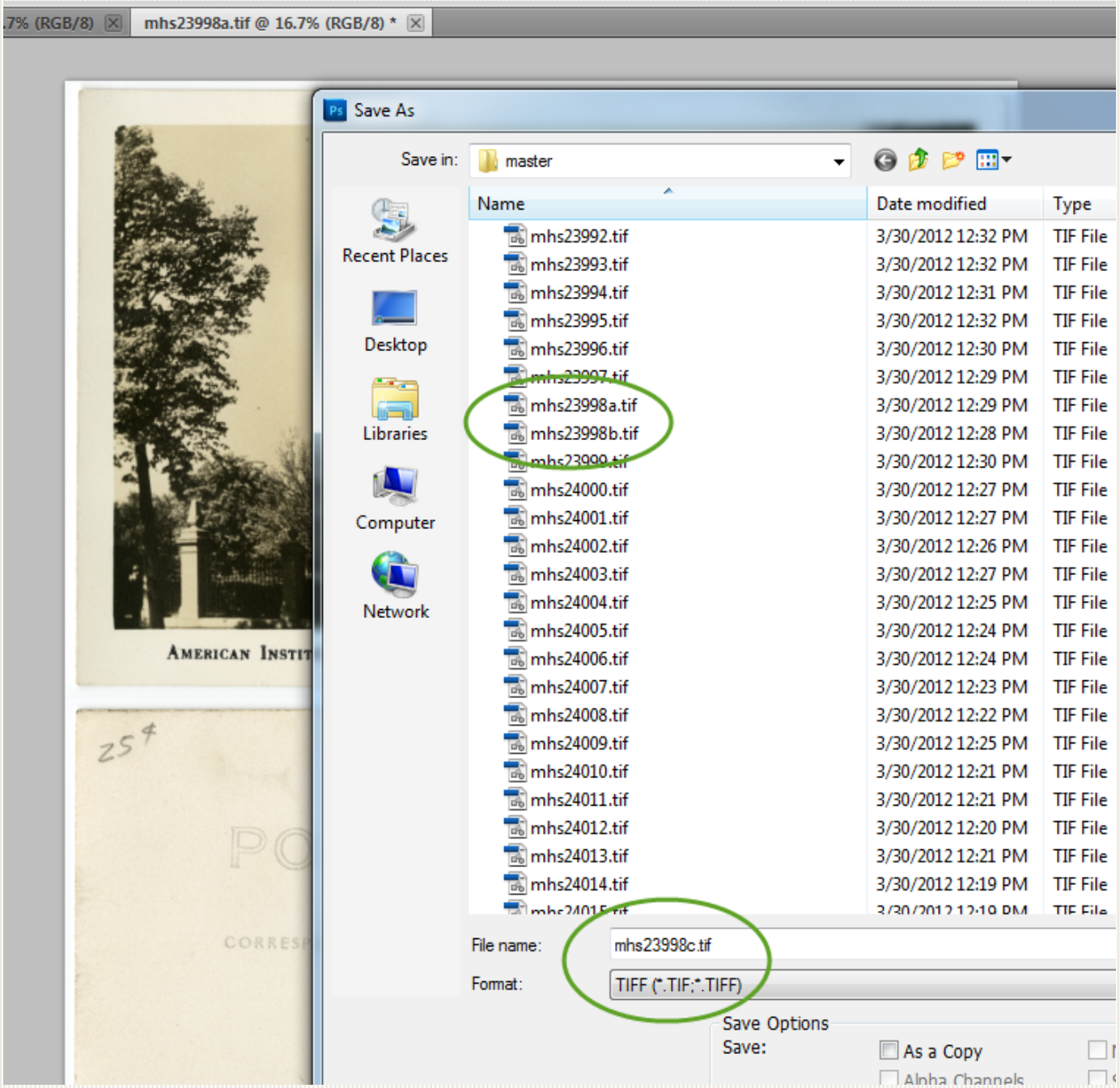
Crop Image as Needed



Layer – Flatten Image



Save As...


mhs23998a.tif @ 16.7% (RGB/8) *
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Save in: master
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Desktop
Libraries
Computer
Network
Name
Date modified
Type
mhs23992.tif 3/30/2012 12:32 PM TIF File
mhs23993.tif 3/30/2012 12:32 PM TIF File
mhs23994.tif 3/30/2012 12:31 PM TIF File
mhs23995.tif 3/30/2012 12:32 PM TIF File
mhs23996.tif 3/30/2012 12:30 PM TIF File
mhs23997.tif 3/30/2012 12:29 PM TIF File
mhs23998a.tif 3/30/2012 12:29 PM TIF File
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mhs24000.tif 3/30/2012 12:27 PM TIF File
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mhs24012.tif 3/30/2012 12:20 PM TIF File
mhs24013.tif 3/30/2012 12:21 PM TIF File
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File name: mhs23998c.tif
Format: TIFF (*.TIF;*.TIFF)
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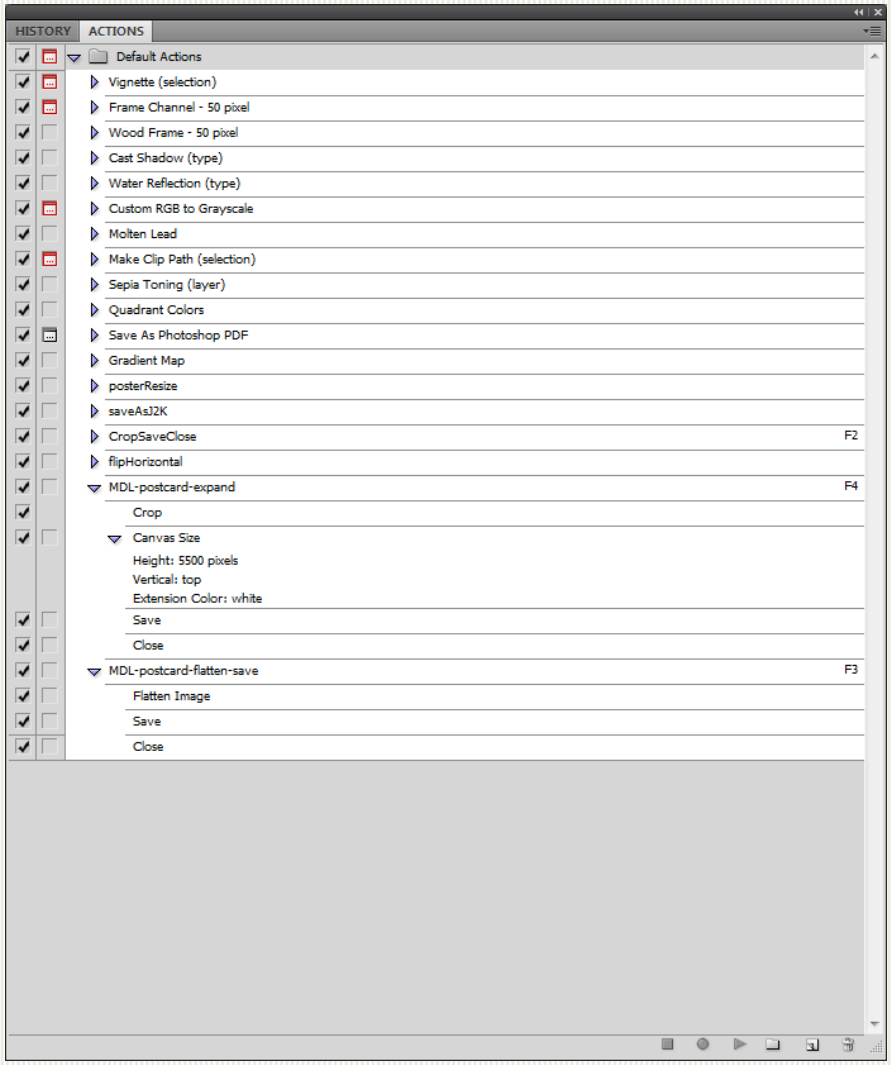
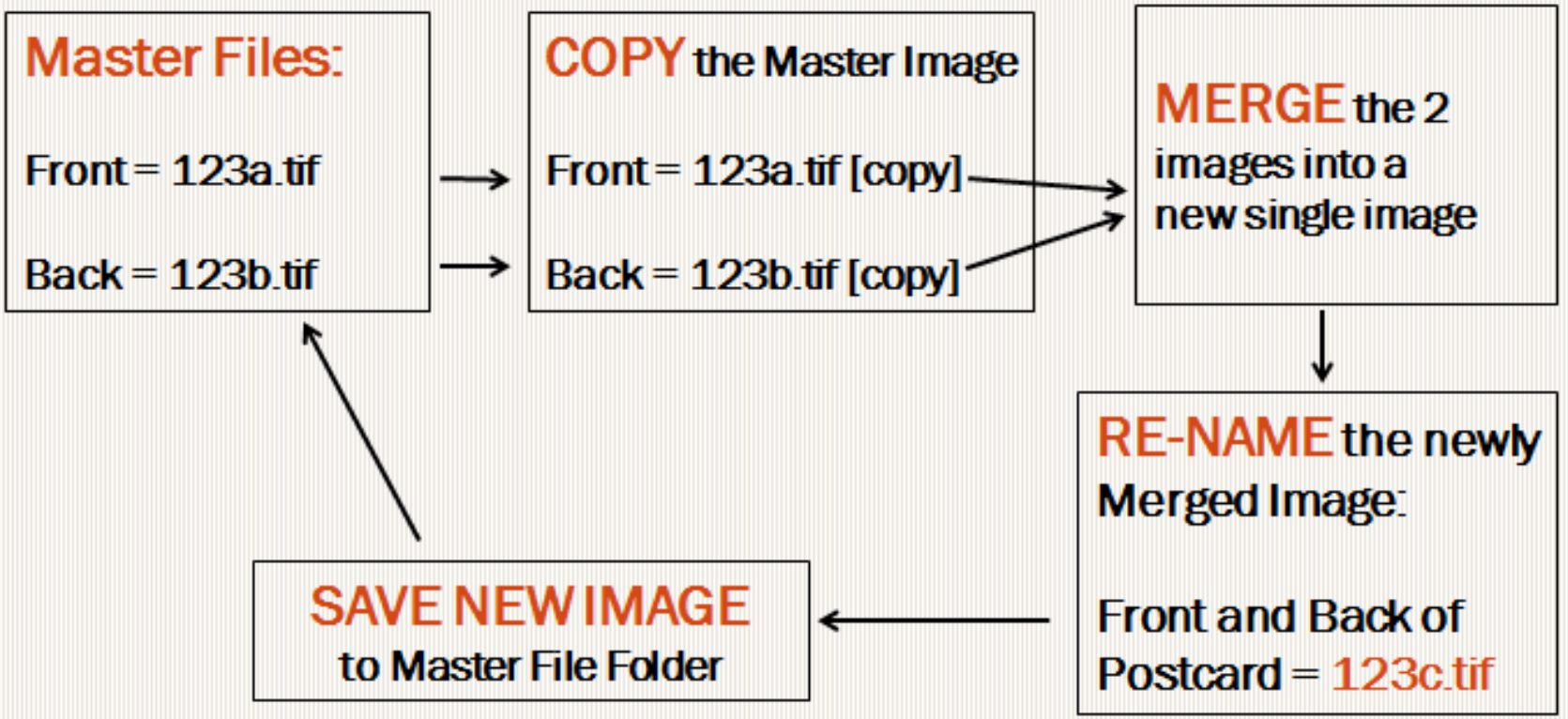
Running an Action Script

Using the Action Script Button

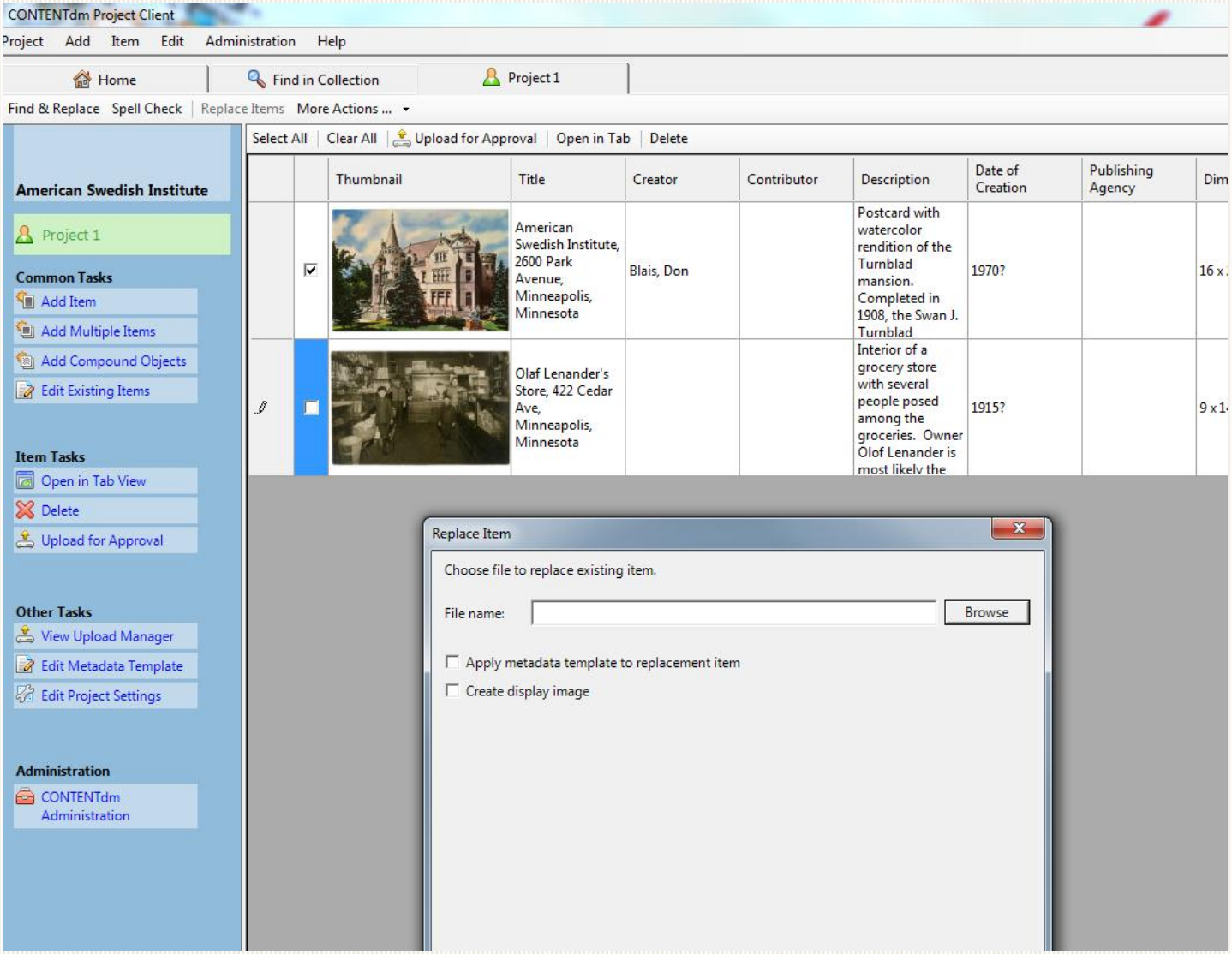


Running a Script

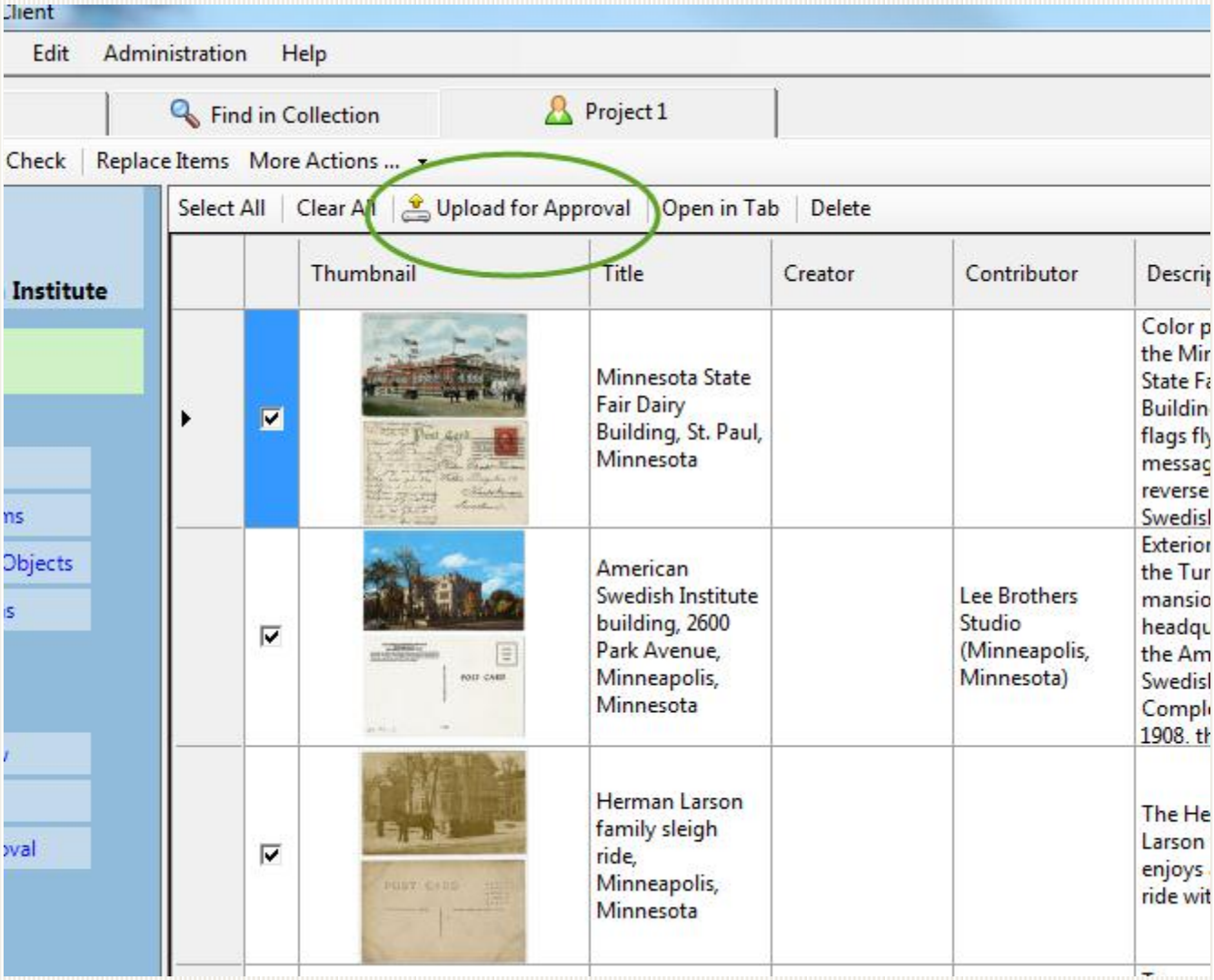


Final Steps

Replace Thumbnails in CONTENTdm



Re-upload, Approve and Index



Ta Da!

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You've searched: All Collections

Format: Postcards ✖

(3216 results

Sort by: Title ▾ Display Options Save to favorites

Display: 50 ▾

1 2 ... 65 Next ▸

	Thumbnail	Title ▲	Date-Created	Description	Publisher
☐		15 foot cut of snow, Mountain Lake, Minnesota	1936	Car driving between very high snow banks. Location is 10 miles east of Windom and three miles south of Mountain Lake.	Cottonwood County Historical Society
☐		1910 Buick, Lincoln County, Minnesota	1910	Two men Ernest Schorfe and Leo Swenson are sitting in a 1910 Buick. The steering wheel is on the right, the hand brakes are outside the car and it has no	Lincoln County Historical Society

What if I don't have Adobe Photoshop?

Other [FREE] Options:

1. www.ImageMagik.org
2. www.IrfanView.com
3. www.GIMPshop.com

Before and After Gallery

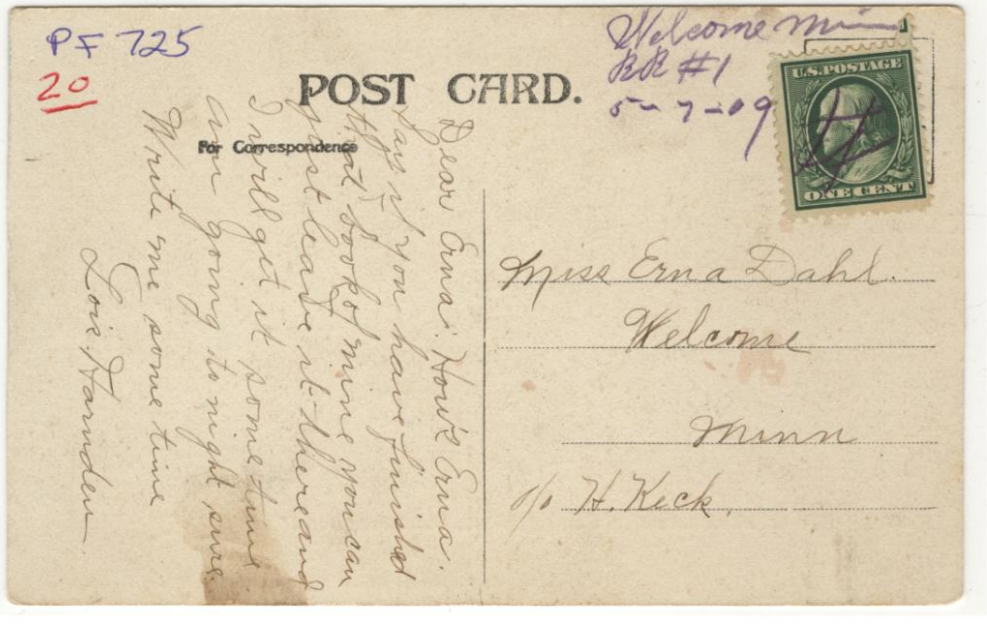
Before...

Main Street, Central Block, Sherburn, Minnesota
Martin County Historical Society

After…

"West side of Main Street in Central Block, Sherburn, Minn."

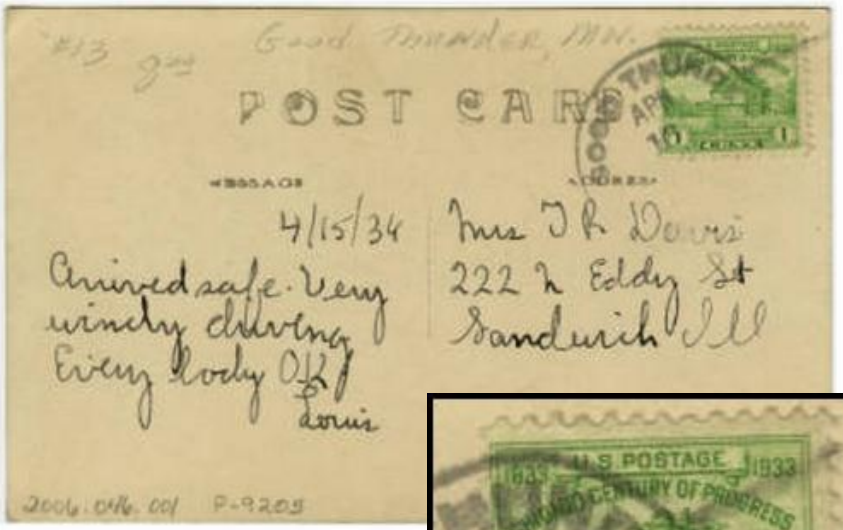
"Pub. for Norgren Medecine Co., Sherburn, Minn." — Printed in Germany



Water tank, Good Thunder, Minnesota

View Description

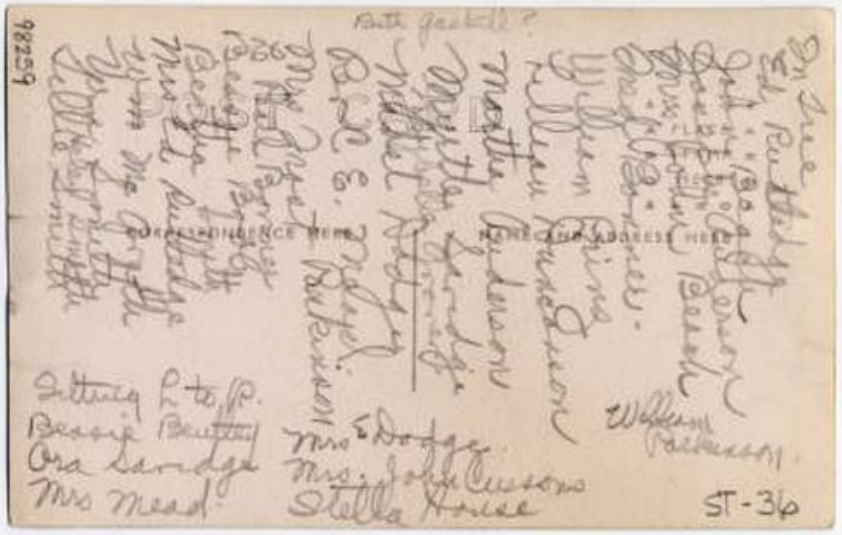
Download



The Big Elm, Stewartville, Minnesota

View Description

Download



Reference URL Share Add tags Comment Save to favorites

After the Fire of October 2, 1908, Lafayette, Minnesota

View Description

Download

The Blue Line Café, Excelsior, Minnesota

View Description

The Popular Blue Line Cafe, Lake Minnetonka, Excelsior, Minn.

Reference URL Share Add tags Comment Save to favorites

Baptist Church, Mankato, Minnesota

View Description

Application Beyond Postcards

Other Uses for this Technique

- Stereographic Cards
- Carte-de-visite photographs
- Cabinet photographs
- Trade Cards
- Baseball cards
- Advertising Cards
- Greeting Cards
- Letter and envelope
- 2 page letter
- ?

Thank You

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