

Example of a Successful Scanning Project

Bob Dale was the first customer of the Antarctic Society's new slide scanning service. Bob had a varied career in Antarctica from 1959-1972, taking him from McMurdo to Pole, from the Peninsula to the Pensacola Mountains, from Vostok to Mirny. Along the way, he took almost 2,000 slide photos. Now, through the Society's scanning service, all of those precious memories are in digital form. The conversion process would have cost Bob over \$600 regardless of whether he sent them to a commercial service or he bought a scanner and converted them himself. It cost him nothing. The only requirement was that Bob agreed to allow the Society the non-exclusive rights to use his images. Bob retains all copyrights for his images.

The most tedious task in getting your film slides to optimal digital form is the scanning. Scanning is a slow process, even with a bulk slide loader. Rendering Bob's slides took dozens of hours. After that, the slides were reviewed for quality and then catalogued. There is no commercial service that would take the time to create a catalog as detailed as the one that Charles Lagerbom creates for these scans. Below is an example:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
1	CAT	Date	Time Trek	Category	Location 1	Location 2	Location 3	Notes	
567	BD566	Dec-59	1959-1960	Aviation	Antarctica	Byrd Station		P2V JATO takeoff at Byrd Station	
568	BD567	Oct-60	1960-1961	People	Antarctica	Hallett Station	Mess Hall	Mess Hall Hallett Station	
569	BD568	Mar-60	1959-1960	People	Antarctica	McMurdo		ATKA farewell party; lots of color	
570	BD569	Jan-60	1959-1960	Structure	Antarctica	VX6 Supply Quon	ATKA	VX6 supply quonset erection ATKA behind	
571	BD570	Feb-68	1967-1968	People	Antarctica			"Bleeding Penguin"	
572	BD571	Sep-60	1960-1961	People	Antarctica	McMurdo	Maint. Wanigan	Barck and Weeks in Maintenance Wanigan	
573	BD572	Jan-60	1959-1960	Ship	Antarctica	ATKA		ATKA crew coming ashore	
574	BD573	Feb-68	1967-1968	Scenic	Antarctica	Antarctic Peninsula		Eastern shore of Antarctic Peninsula	
575	BD574	Feb-66	1965-1966	Aviation	Antarctica	Mile 160		C-47 crash Mi 160	
576	BD575	Mar-68	1967-1968	Structure	Antarctica	Anvers Island	Palmer Base	Palmer and glacier	
577	BD576	Feb-60	1959-1960	Animal	Antarctica	Cape Royds		Adelie Rookery Cape Royds	
578	BD577	Dec-59	1959-1960	Equipment	Antarctica	Little Rockford		Approaching Little Rockford	
579	BD578	1968	1967-1968	Equipment				Lowering camera	
580	BD579	Mar-68	1967-1968	Ship	Chile	Punta Arenas		FADEI BELLINGSHAUSEN (USSR) departs Punta Arenas	
581	BD580	Mar-60	1959-1960	Equipment	Antarctica			Ferguson ski tow	
582	BD581	Aug-60	1959-1960	Equipment	Antarctica			Supplies in Quonset	
583	BD582	1968	1967-1968	People	Antarctica	Instrument Lab		Bob Elder in Instrument Lab	
584	BD583	Dec-59	1959-1960	People	Antarctica			Loaded for Airborne traverse; Thiel, Robbie and Cam Craddock	
585	BD584	Sep-60	1960-1961	People	Antarctica			Foreman on prop, Malone melting carb ice	
586	BD585	Jan-68	1967-1968	Science	Antarctica	Esperanza Station		Lichens at Esperanza Station	
587	BD586	Jan-68	1967-1968	Science	Antarctica	Esperanza Station		Lichens at Esperanza Station	
588	BD587	1968	1967-1968	Equipment				Productivity incubator	
589	BD588	1968	1967-1968	Scenic	Antarctica	Weddell Sea		Weddell Sea	
590	BD589	1968	1967-1968	Ship				Fantail	
591	BD590	1968	1967-1968	Science				Water sampler	
592	BD591	Feb-68	1967-1968	Ice	Antarctica			Vic. McDonald Ice Rumples	
593	BD592	1968	1967-1968	Scenic	Antarctica	Halley Bay		Vic of Halley Bay	
594	BD593	1968	1967-1968	Ice	Antarctica	Anvers Island		Ice cliff shore Anvers Island	
595	BD594	1968	1967-1968	Scenic	Antarctica	Anvers Island		Anvers Island and mountains from helo	
596	BD595	1968	1967-1968	Ice	Antarctica	Halley Bay		Vic of Halley Bay	
597	BD596	Apr-60	1959-1960	Ice	Antarctica	Glacier Tongue		Glacier tongue	
598	BD597	1968	1967-1968	Ship	Antarctica	Arthur Harbor	Palmer Base	GLACIER in Arthur Harbor from station	

Slide Scan Catalogue Created by Charles Lagerbom

The software that is used to scan the slides also does a certain amount of automatic "repair" of the images, removing the artifacts of dust and minor scratches. It does not do automatic color restoration; that is, it does not correct the reddening or darkening that often comes with age, especially in Kodachrome slides. However, for an investment of less than \$100, slide owners can purchase Adobe Photoshop Elements and apply color corrections to their satisfaction. Photoshop Elements includes a "one-button" function called SmartFix that evaluates the color histogram of

the image and applies its best estimate for a correction. The result in most cases is remarkable. Below is an example of a discolored original scan and the same digital file that has been “corrected” using SmartFix:



Bob Dale's 1959 Photo of Scott Base



Bob Dale's 1959 Photo of Scott Base with Color Restored by Photoshop Elements