Book Scanning Instructions

To scan a book with this scanner according to these instructions you will need: (A) a means of ordering photos after taking the pictures and (B) Adobe Acrobat X Standard. There are other methods, but this one works for me.

Photo ordering method for Mac users: http://www.diybookscanner.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=19&t=527 If the link above doesn't work you may try searching www.diybookscanner.org under Mac OSX Instructional: Order and Prepare Images for Scan Tailor.

Renaming program for PC users:
Ant File Renamer:
http://www.antp.be/software/renamer

Using the Daniel Reetz DIY Book Scanner:

1. Plug in the scanner light.
2. Clean the glass plates with Windex and cotton (no paper) cloth.
3. Place book in cradle
4. Attach bungee cords.
5. Turn on cameras and format each of them. (To format the cameras click menu, then setup, then format card. Make sure the camera screen says 1.7x zoom and that flash is off).
6. Lift book up to glass with lever and check each camera screen to make sure the book is centered.
7. Snap shots making sure to listen for each camera fire and that nothing besides the pages of the book move position.

Importing Pictures:

If you are a Mac user you may follow the photo ordering method mentioned at the beginning of this instructional. If you are a PC user, the following instructions are for you

8. Create two folders on your desktop titled: Odd Pictures and Even Pictures.
9. When you are finished shooting, plug the camera on the right side into the computer. (Do not erase pictures off of either camera)
10. Import photos and save them in the file titled Odd Pictures.
11. Plug the left camera in to the computer.
12. Import photos from the left camera into the folder titled Even Photos.

Renaming Files (*For PC Users*)

13. Download Ant File Renamer at http://www.antp.be/software/renamer 14. Create two folders on your desktop titled: Odd Pictures and Even Pictures.
15. Open Ant File Renamer 2.10
16. Click Add files... in top left hand corner
17. Navigate to odd photos. Highlight all of the JPGs by pressing control A (Select OK if box says "This Folder contains hidden files...") or left clicking and dragging cursor over all of the files. Then click Open.
18. Click actions in top left corner.
19. Select enumeration in the left hand column.
20. In the box next to Mask: make sure it reads:
%num%%ext%
Start at: 1
Number of Digits: 5
Increment by: 2
21. Select Go at the top middle of the screen.
22. Select Files in the top left corner to check whether the files are named correctly. They should look like this: 00001.JPG, 00003.JPG, etc.
23. Click remove all at the top middle of the screen.
24. Repeat steps 16 through 18 for even photos.
25. In the box next to Mask: make sure it reads:
%num%%ext%
Start at: 2
# of digits: 5
Increment by: 2
26. Repeat steps 20 and 21
27. Close Ant File Renamer 2.10

Importing Photos into Adobe Acrobat X Standard:

28. Open Adobe.
29. Select Combine Files into PDF.
30. Click Add Files in the top left hand corner (select Add Files in drop-down menu).
31. Locate and highlight all odd photos and click Open.
32. Repeat Steps 30 and 31 but for even files.
33. Select the Name tab to order the files numerically.
34. Select Combine Files (should take a few minutes to combine the files).

Rotating and Cropping PDFs in Adobe Acrobat X Standard:

Rotating Pages:

35. Select Tools (top left of screen)
36. Select rotate (right column)
37. Under Direction: select counterclockwise 90 degrees
38. For Page Range select the Pages box and have the box beside From: read 1 and To: read the last page of the book.
39. Under Rotate: select Odd Pages Only and have the box below read: Pages of any Orientation. Then select OK
40. Go to page 2 of the PDF
41. Repeat step 36
42. In the box beside Direction: it should read Clockwise 90 Degrees. Under Page Range the pages should be from page 2 to the end of the book.
43. Under Rotate: select Even Pages Only then Pages of any Orientation. Then select OK
44. Delete Page 1 if it is blank.

Cropping Pages:

45. Go to the new page 1 and select Crop.
46. Use the cursor to highlight the front cover of the book then * hit Enter. (*If your book moved much during shots you may need to crop each photo individually).
47. For Page Range have the range be from page 1 to the end of the book.
48. For Apply To: the box should read Odd Pages Only. Then select OK.
49. Go to page 2, select crop, and repeat step 46.
50. For Page Range have the range be from page 2 to the end of the book.
51. For Apply To: the box should read Even Pages Only. Then Select OK.
52. Scroll through each page to make sure you have all the pages and that none need to be retaken (If you need to retake a picture you may insert the new picture into your book using the replace or insert feature in the Adobe tool bar).
52. Save your PDF and you are done!

Last Bits of Information:

I would highly suggest purchasing Adobe Acrobat X Standard for about a $100. It's well worth it given that it also has OCR (Optical Character Reader) capabilities and ease of use over Scan Tailor.

Alternatively, you could purchase the Fujitsu Scansnap S1500 that includes Adobe Acrobat X Standard. I prefer cutting the spines off my books with a Professional Guillotine Desktop Stack Paper Cutter and feeding pages through my Scansnap scanner. Scanning books this way is much faster and the pages look better; but, you destroy your books. If you need to scan a lot of books this is a good but expensive method.

I only use Abbyy FineReader 11 Corporate Edition for OCR since it can OCR an entire book at once rather than just a single page at a time. As it is expensive I would only purchase it if you are dissatisfied with Adobe Acrobat X Standard's OCR capabilities.

Helpful Website: www.diybookscanner.org

For more questions shoot me an email: jschaeffera@gmail.com

For helpful school advice see my blog: http://ajschaeffer.wordpress.com/

Happy Scanning!

By: Andrew Schaeffer