



Image Captions

DRS collection curators can request that image captions be applied to the use copies of images stored in the DRS and delivered by the Image Delivery Service (IDS) and the Page Delivery Service (PDS).

An image caption is generated on-the-fly and delivered to the web browser as a part of a DRS image (a caption and an image are fused into one continuous image). This feature enables a user or a librarian to save or print an image with some minimal identifying information included.

Please note that captions will not be applied to images with a width of 300 pixels or less.

If you have questions about image captions, please contact the Digital Library Projects Group in OIS: <http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:hul.ois:digprojhelp>.

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Still image captions from IDS

For still images delivered by IDS, information in a caption consists of:

Harvard University, [Institution Name], [Owner Supplied Name of the file].
E.g., Harvard University, Baker Library, Harvard Business School, W80671_1.

Sample still image with caption: <http://ids.lib.harvard.edu/ids/view/1274457>.

Below is a screenshot of a still image delivered with an image caption:



Harvard University, Harvard University Archives, W374318_1

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<http://hul.harvard.edu/ois/systems/drs/image-captions.pdf>

Page image captions from PDS

Default caption. For page images delivered by PDS, the default caption consists of:

Harvard University – [Institution Name] / [METS label of the PDS object].

E.g., Harvard University – Collection Development Department, Widener Library, HCL / The Radcliffe magazine. Cambridge, Mass : Radcliffe College, 1899-.

Sample page-turned document with a default caption on every page image:

<http://pds.lib.harvard.edu/pds/view/6131693>.

Note: The “METS label” is citation level descriptive text that displays in the top frame of the PDS user interface. Contents of an object’s METS label can be edited in PDS Maintenance.

Custom caption. If a curator adds custom “PDS owner text”, this custom text replaces the institution name in the caption:

Harvard University – [Custom PDS owner text] / [METS label of the PDS object].

Note: Custom “PDS owner text” can be added by editing the object in PDS Maintenance.

There are two technical limitations to PDS’ support for captions:

- Captions are not supported for page images composed from TIFF source files. Captions are supported for JPEG and JP2 page images only. This limitation will be true for TIFF-based page images in PDS and PDS Maintenance.
- Do not rely on the caption format provided by the PDS Maintenance “Preview in PDS” feature – it is not consistent with correct caption format. To verify the correct caption format, you can view individual full size page images within the PDS Maintenance structure editor, or view the object in the PDS public interface.

Requesting image captions

Image captions can be turned on or off by OIS staff at the DRS billing code level. If image captions are turned on for a particular billing code, the captions will be applied to all the deliverable images under that billing code.

- To request image captions for an **existing billing code**, contact the Digital Library Projects Group in OIS: <http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:hul.ois:digprojhelp>.
- For **new billing code requests**, select the image captions option when you complete the DRS for Owners request form: <http://hul.harvard.edu/ois/systems/drs/f-drs-owner-reg.html>.