



Revisiting Piano Rolls

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Stanford Documents

Guidelines for cataloging Welte-Mignon piano rolls with RDA and MARC 21

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Background

Development of these guidelines began in 2014 to support the hiring of a Project Sound Recording Cataloger for the [Player Piano Project](#) at the Stanford Archive of Recorded Sound (ARS). The focus of the Project Sound Recording Cataloger's role was cataloging the [Denis Condon Collection of Reproducing Pianos and Rolls](#) at an item level, instead of a collection level. From the Condon Collection, the first rolls to be cataloged were Welte-Mignon reproducing piano rolls, some of the oldest and most unique holdings in the collection. All cataloged piano rolls can be found in [Stanford Searchworks](#).

Purpose and scope

This document builds on the [MLA Best Practices for Music Cataloging Using RDA and MARC 21](#), as well as [OCLC Bibliographic Formats and Standards](#), [RDA](#), and [MARC 21](#). The guidelines below are specific in places to working with the Condon Collection. They are also specific to working with Welte-Mignon rolls. However, for the most part, the same methodologies could be adapted to work

Guidelines for cataloging Hupfeld Triphonola and Animatic-T piano rolls with RDA and MARC 21

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Background

Cataloging piano rolls at the Stanford Archive of Recorded Sound began in January 2015, after the hiring of a Project Sound Recording Cataloger. These first rolls from the [Denis Condon Collection of Reproducing Pianos and Rolls](#) were for the Welte-Mignon reproducing piano. The rolls were cataloged at an item level, instead of a collection level. After the collection's Welte-Mignon rolls had been cataloged and the internal workflows documented, the focus switched to cataloging Condon's collection of Hupfeld rolls. The guidelines established for cataloging Welte-Mignon piano rolls (see below) served as a solid foundation for building the Hupfeld guidelines.

Purpose and scope

Although Hupfeld produced several different systems, the rolls in the Condon collection are primarily labeled as Triphonola and Animatic-T. Therefore these guidelines are specific to working with those two systems within this collection. However, similar methodologies could be adapted to work with different systems.

Alyssa Hislop, 2014 and 2015



Research and
Identification



Supplement 1 to
MLA Best Practices



Library of Congress Subject
Headings

“In London, a 1922 trade directory listed no fewer than 52 [player piano] makers.... By 1925, at the peak of the player piano's vogue, the totals [for pianos made] were 136,000 ordinary pianos and 169,000 player pianos.”

Ord-Hume, Arthur W.J.G. "Player piano."
Grove Music Online. 2001.

Let the Pianola Piano bring you happiness in 1914.

Do not merely hope for increased happiness in the year that is before you—secure it by purchasing a Pianola Piano. There is no other investment you can make which will so surely bring pleasure to you and every member of your household, for by its means everyone can play the music they love. Day in, day out, through many a year, the influence of the world's sweetest music will brighten and cheer you through the dull routine of life.

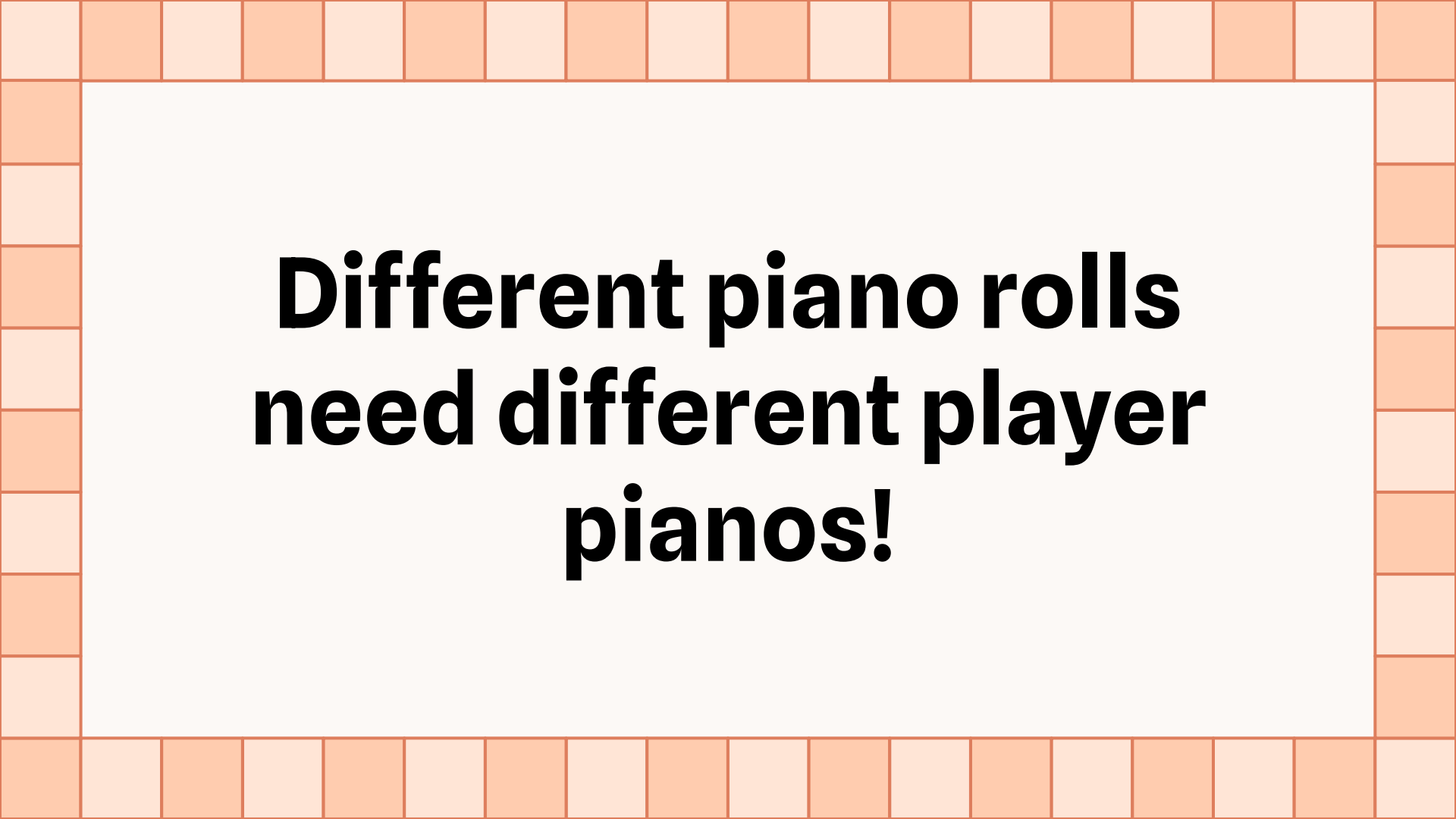


The Pianola Piano is the greatest Piano in the world when the STEINWAY, WEBER, STICK, or STROOD Piano. You are invited to play at 4-4-1/2, 5-5-1/2, or 6-6-1/2 for 11 and 12 notes per second.

THE ORCHESTRELLER COMPANY, ÆOLIAN HALL,

135-6-7, New Bond Street, LONDON, W.





**Different piano rolls
need different player
pianos!**

Potential 500 Field Notes

500 Scale: 65n.

500 QRS piano roll.

500 Recut. Originally released as a Duo-Art piano roll by the Aeolian Company.

500 Dynamic and tempo guidelines for player pianist printed on roll.

500 Word roll.

500 Song lyrics printed on roll.

Potential 500 Field Notes

500 Scale: 65n.

500 QRS piano roll.

500 Recut. Originally released as a Duo-Art piano roll by the Aeolian Company.

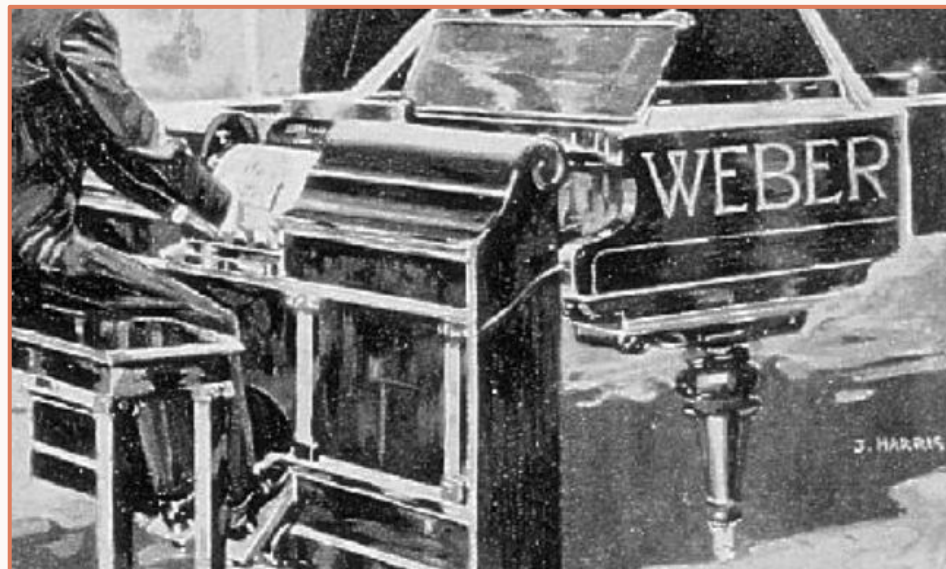
500 Dynamic and tempo guidelines for player pianist printed on roll.

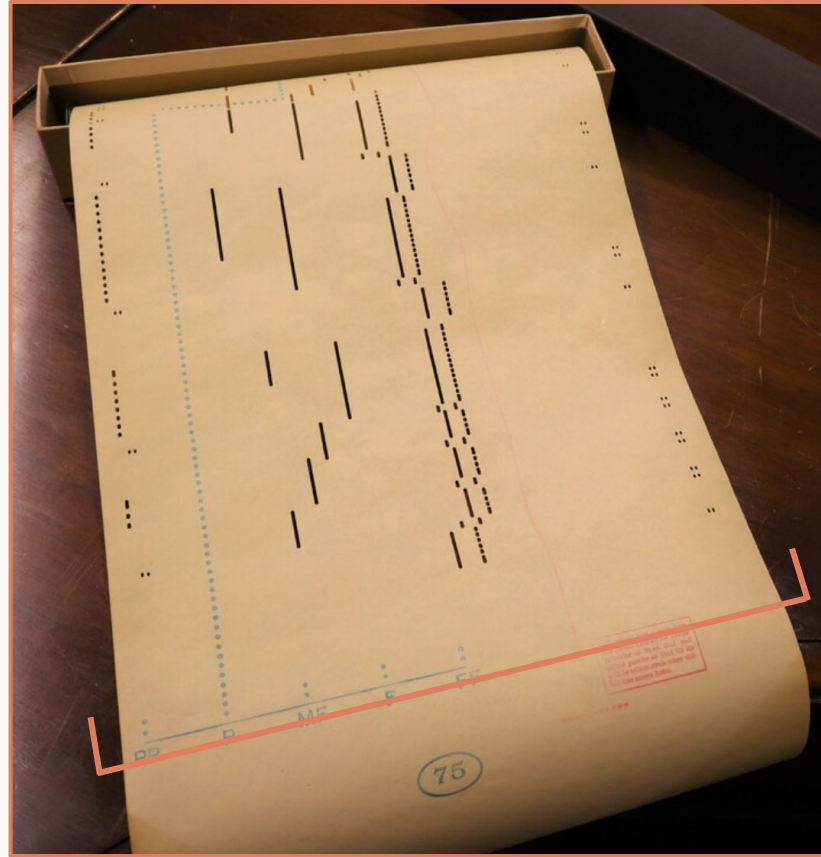
500 Word roll.

500 Song lyrics printed on roll.



**The Pianola with the
London Symphony Orchestra
at Queen's Hall.**





Potential 500 Field Notes

500 Scale: 65n.

500 QRS piano roll.

500 Recut. Originally released as a Duo-Art piano roll by the Aeolian Company.

500 Dynamic and tempo guidelines for player pianist printed on roll.

500 Word roll.

500 Song lyrics printed on roll.

- Examples:

- 500 __ ₪a Welte-Mignon red roll (T-100).
- 500 __ ₪a Welte-Mignon licensee roll.
- 500 __ ₪a Welte-Mignon green roll (T-98).
- 500 __ ₪a Welte-Mignon Purple Seal roll (T-98).

Potential 500 Field Notes

500 Scale: 65n.

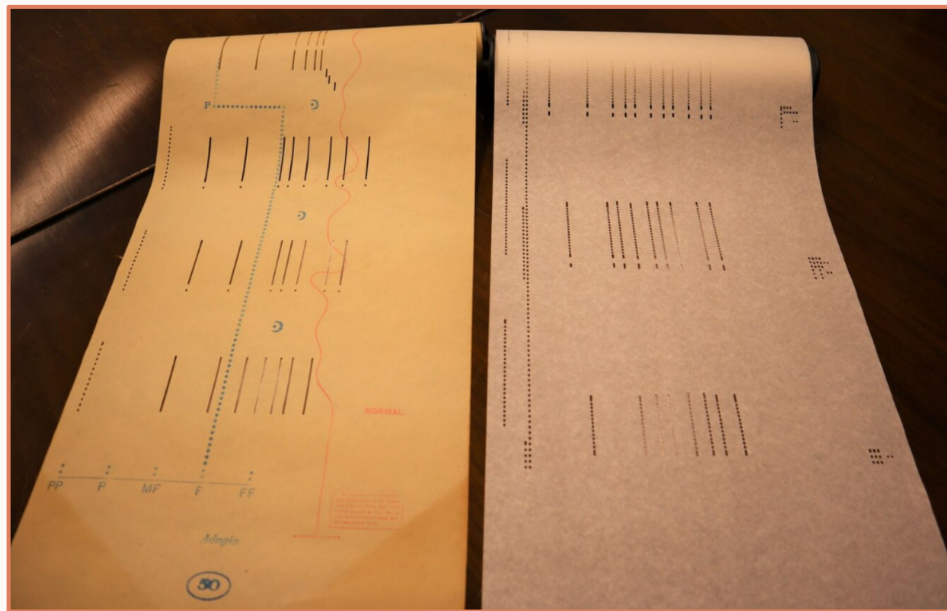
500 QRS piano roll.

500 Recut. Originally released as a Duo-Art piano roll by the Aeolian Company.

500 Dynamic and tempo guidelines for player pianist printed on roll.

500 Word roll.

500 Song lyrics printed on roll.



Potential 500 Field Notes

500 Scale: 65n.

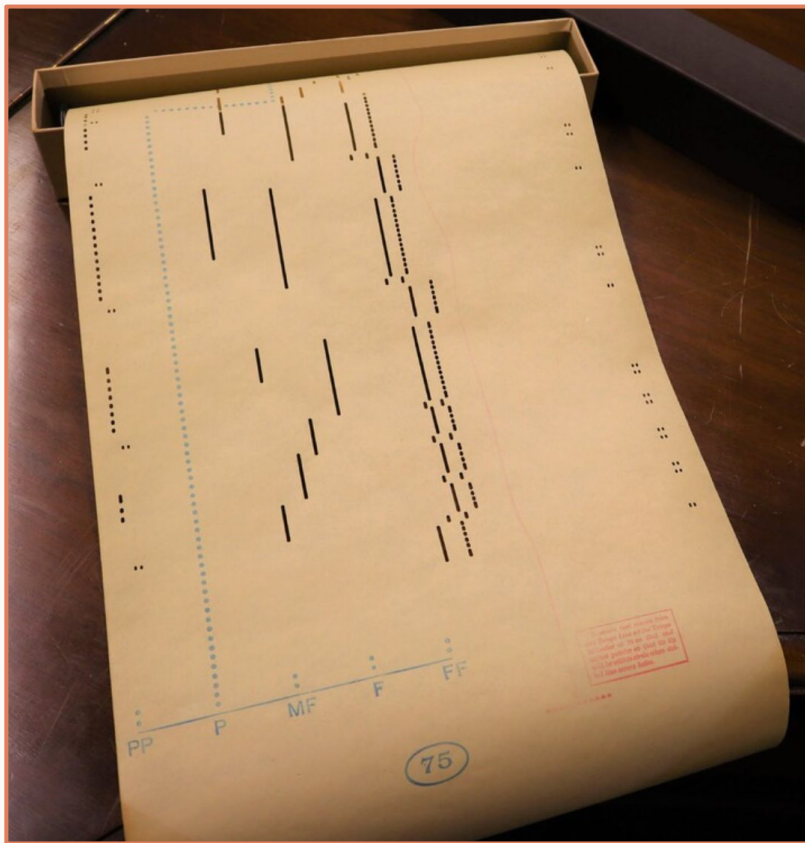
500 QRS piano roll.

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500 Word roll.

500 Song lyrics printed on roll.



Potential 500 Field Notes

500 Scale: 65n.

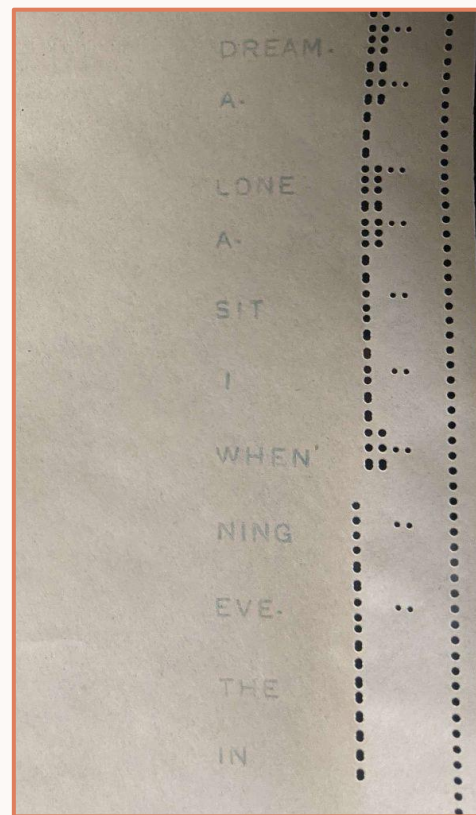
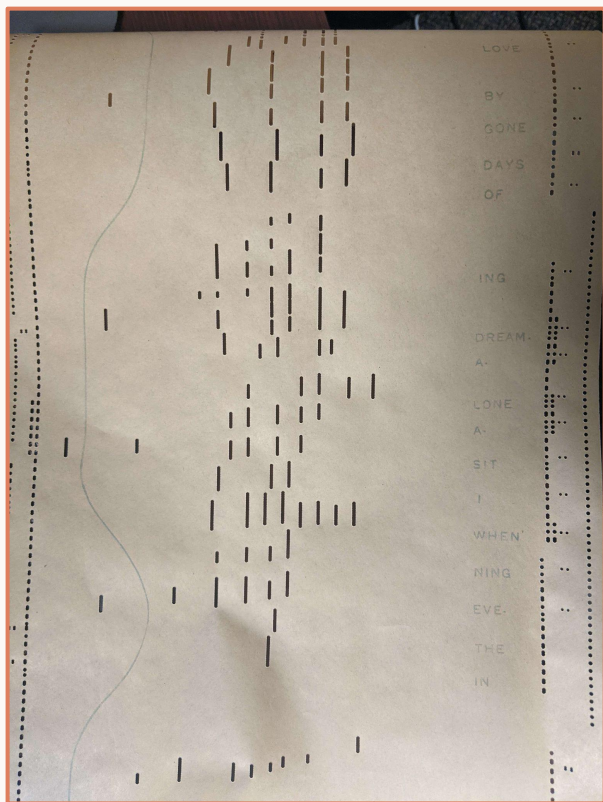
500 QRS piano roll.

500 Recut. Originally released as a Duo-Art piano roll by the Aeolian Company.

500 Dynamic and tempo guidelines for player pianist printed on roll.

500 Word roll.

500 Song lyrics printed on roll.



Dating Resources

Digital Resources



“QRS Piano Rolls.” The QRS Music Co., 1919, <https://archive.org/details/qrs-piano-roll-catalog-1919-09/mode/2up>

“Catalogue of all 65 and 88 note music rolls issued for the pianola & pianola piano, including metrostyle & themodist rolls.” The Orchestrelle Company, 1914, <https://archive.org/details/catalogueofall6500orch/page/n9/mode/2up>

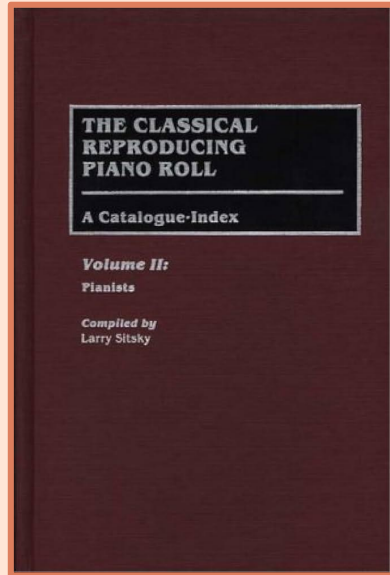
Print Books

Smith, Charles Davis. Duo-Art Piano Music. The Aeolian Company, 1987, https://www.mmdigest.com/Smythe/Smith_Duo-Art_Catalog.pdf



augustinermuseum
Museum für Kunst und Kultur am Oberrhein

“Katalog der WELTEMIGNON Reproduktionsrollen.” Museum für Kunst und Kultur am Oberrhein. <https://www.welte-mignon.de/kat/index.php?design=museum>



Sitsky, Larry. *The Classical Reproducing Piano Roll: A Catalogue-Index*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1990.

007 Physical Description Fixed Field (Sound Recording)

Stanford/OCLC macro

#a s #b q #d z #e m #f n #g z #h n #i n #j m #k z #l n #m n
#n b

MLA Best Practices

#a s #b q #d z #e z #f n #g n #h n #i n #j n #k z #l n #m z
#n z

Stanford/OCLC Macro

#e m

Configuration of playback channels: Monaural

#g z

Dimensions: Other

#j m

Kind of disc, cylinder, or tape: Mass-Produced

#m n

Special playback characteristics: Not Applicable

#n b

Original capture and storage technique:
Electrical capture, analog direct storage

Latest MLA Supplement

#e z

Configuration of playback channels: Other

#g n

Dimensions: Not Applicable

#j n

Kind of disc, cylinder, or tape: Not Applicable

#m z

Special playback characteristics: Other

#n z

Original capture and storage technique: Other

007 Physical Description Fixed Field (Sound Recording)

Stanford/OCLC macro

#a s #b q #d z #e m #f n #g z #h n #i n #j m #k z #l n #m n
#n b

MLA Best Practices

#a s #b q #d z #e z #f n #g n #h n #i n #j n #k z #l n #m z
#n z

3XX Fields

300 1 audio roll (XX min.)

336 performed music #b prm #2 rdacontent

337 audio #b s #2 rdamedia

338 audio roll #b sq #2 rdacarrier

344 analog #2 rdatr

344 #c [tempo/10] ft./min.

344 #g mono #2 rdacpc

Stanford Documents

344 #a analog
#b mechanical
#c tempo 85

Latest MLA Supplement

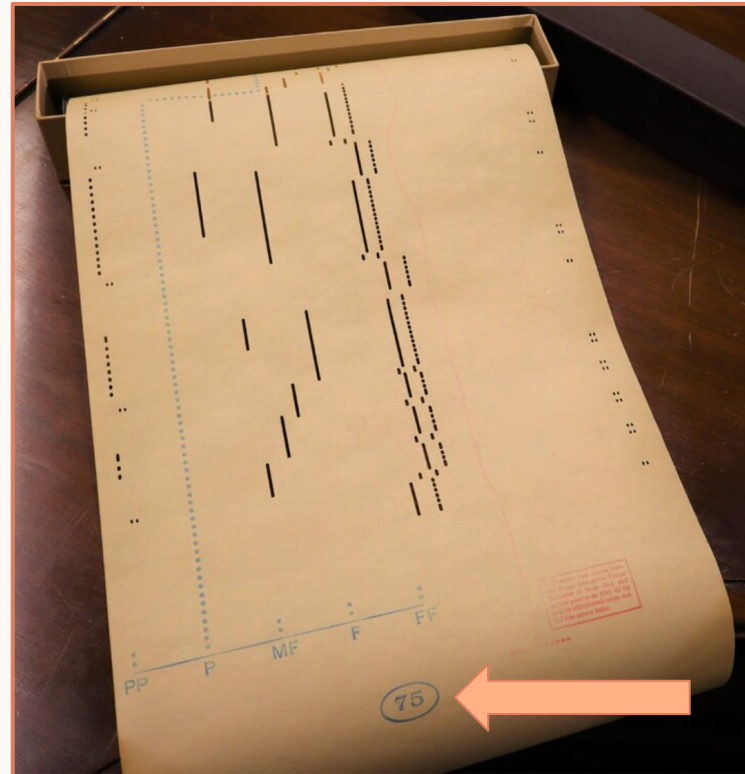
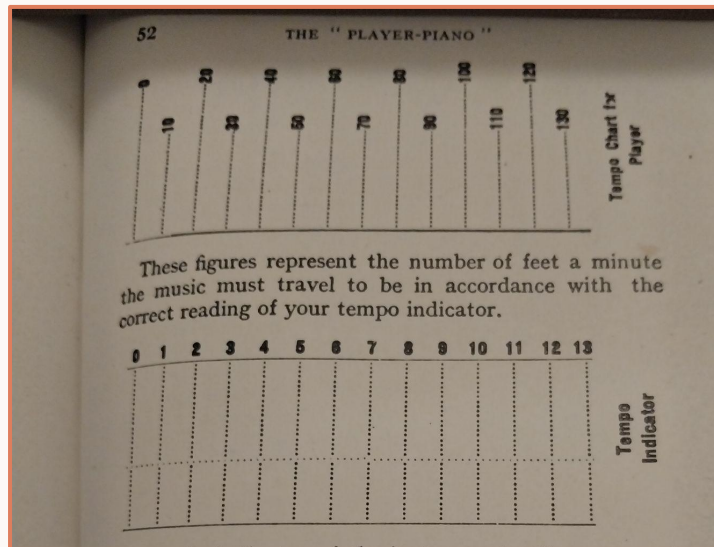
344 #a analog #2 rdatr
344 #c [tempo/10]
ft./min.
344 #g mono #2 rdacpc

RDA Value:

7 ft./min.

(for a 70),

etc.



Player Piano-Related Library of Congress Subject Headings

Player piano rolls

Player piano music

Player piano

Reproducing piano

Ampico reproducing
piano

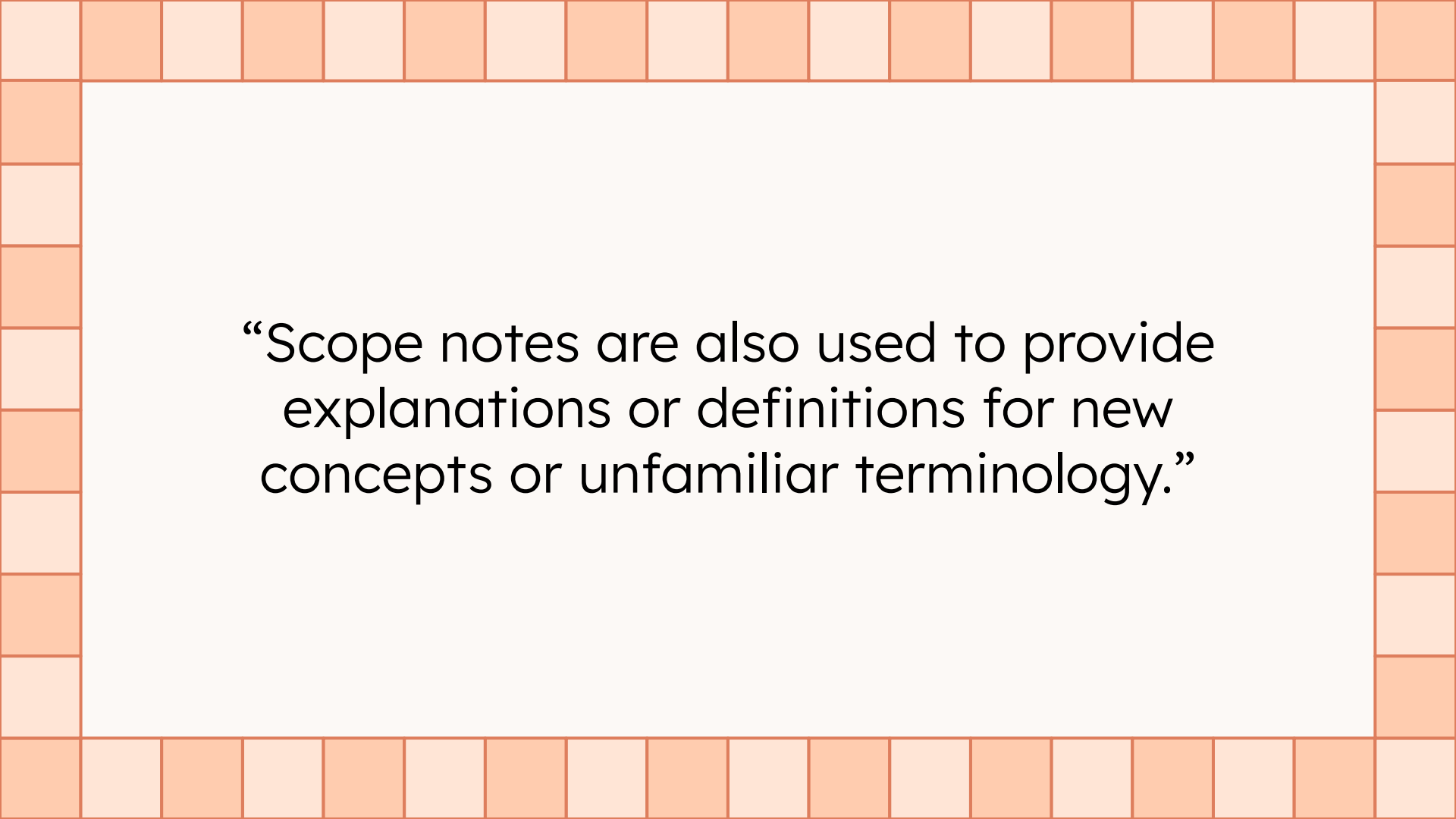
Duo-Art reproducing
piano

Welte-Mignon
reproducing piano

Scope Notes

Player piano rolls

“Here are entered the perforated rolls intended for use on player pianos and works about such rolls.”



“Scope notes are also used to provide explanations or definitions for new concepts or unfamiliar terminology.”

Scope Notes

Player piano rolls

“Here are entered the perforated rolls intended for use on player pianos and works about such rolls.”

Scope Notes

Educational videos

“Here are entered video recordings intended for teaching and informational purposes, especially those made for classroom viewing.”

Educational films

“Here are entered **works on** films that are intended to impart knowledge and information, including those for classroom viewing.”

Scope Notes

Player piano rolls

“Here are entered the perforated rolls intended for use on player pianos and works about such rolls.”



Player piano rolls

“Here are entered **works on** the perforated rolls intended for use on player pianos”

LCSH

Player piano rolls ≠v
Specimens.

Lift-the-flap books ≠v
Specimens.

Textured books ≠v
Specimens.

Toy and movable books ≠v
Specimens.

LCGFT

Lift-the-flap books.

Textured books.

Toy and movable books.

LCSH

Player piano rolls ≠v
Specimens.

Lift-the-flap books ≠v
Specimens.

Textured books ≠v
Specimens.

Toy and movable books ≠v
Specimens.

LCGFT

Reproducing piano rolls.

Player piano rolls.

Lift-the-flap books.

Textured books.

Toy and movable books.

Duo-Art reproducing piano
rolls.

Player Piano-Related Library of Congress Subject Headings

~~Player piano rolls~~

Player piano music

~~Player piano~~

~~Reproducing piano~~

~~Ampico reproducing
piano~~

~~Duo Art reproducing
piano~~

~~Welte Mignon
reproducing piano~~



Thank You