

Digital Archivist Improves Accessibility for Customers



THE CLIENT

AM is a **publisher** that specializes in creating primary source databases for the humanities and social sciences. They work closely with libraries, archives, museums, and heritage institutions worldwide.

Over the past two decades, AM has completed over 130 projects, digitizing up to three million documents for each project and developing a corresponding database and website. Their main objective is to provide researchers, teachers, and students with **easy access to primary sources**.

"Harnessing the latest technologies to enhance discoverability is at the heart of AM's mission. The integration of PLANET AI's Intelligent Document Analysis into our platforms in 2017 marked a key turning point in the landscape of teaching and research, transforming the possibilities of digital humanities and unlocking hidden narratives within handwritten manuscripts for cutting edge future scholarship."

Glyn Porritt, Technical Services Manager, AM

THE CHALLENGE

Prior to implementing IDA, AM used a market-leading optical character recognition (OCR) engine for machine-printed text. However, since primary sources often contain handwritten text of varying quality and damaged scans, the editorial team had to **manually index documents** with challenging-to-read handwriting and historical styles.

Automatic transcription with sufficient accuracy was not possible, which limited users' ability to search the primary source databases to index-based searches. This ultimately weakened AM's value proposition and **hindered their expansion efforts**.

THE SOLUTION

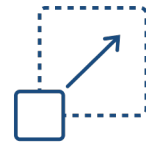
To address this challenge, AM adopted IDA, a solution specifically designed to handle handwritten documents. PLANET AI's OCR and ICR feature, IDA Recognition, stood out for its **remarkable out-of-the-box accuracy in the transcription of historical scripts**.



This achievement is attributed to PLANET AI's **patented PerceptionMatrix**, which ensures that all possible transcriptions of a given text are preserved without any loss of information. These two capabilities combined enable a groundbreaking level of accuracy for full-text search.



Thanks to PLANET AI's technology, AM was able to **increase automation for their document indexing process**. Moreover, they could proudly claim to be the first academic publisher offering searchable databases with unprecedented accuracy, giving them a **significant competitive advantage**.



AM integrated IDA into their proprietary solution and now utilizes IDA Recognition to automatically transcribe between 15,000 and 18,000 documents per day. When combined with the previous manually added indices, these documents can be searched using keywords, which are then highlighted. This empowers AM's clients with a **new and immersive archival experience** that encourages exploration.