

The Streamliner

Photo Submission Guidelines

The *Streamliner* welcomes photographic and other artistic submissions that relate to the history of the Union Pacific Railroad. This page is intended as a guideline for submissions, scanning requirements for publication, and acceptable file types. If there are any questions, please contact the editor at streamliner@uphs.org

Photographs: We accept original black and white or color prints and slides, film negatives, and maps or other line drawings. Avoid submitting photo prints with a linen type finish unless that is the only available image.

File Formats: All color and black & white scans should be saved as TIF files.

Images off the internet or from digital cameras are often saved as jpps to compress the file size and reduce download times for faster website viewing. The jpg files lose information in the scan and create artifacts in the image which are difficult to remove. Such images are to be avoided if possible.

General Scanning Information: For offset printing in the *Streamliner*, an image needs to print at *no less* than 300 dpi (dots per inch) at its final size. Note that dpi refers only to the printing (output) of digital images. The correct term for scanning (input) is ppi (pixels per inch). Prints can be enlarged for publication by scanning them at ppi settings higher than 300, such as 600 ppi.

Images that are good quality and important will usually be printed in the *Streamliner* at 10 inches wide, which requires a file that is 3000 pixels wide for printing at 300 dpi. Especially large or detailed photos might be appropriate to print up to 17 inches wide and if so would need to be 5100 pixels wide.

Note that Streamliner staff can easily adjust dpi settings for print output. Just be sure to send us photos with enough total pixels, with a minimum of at least 2400 pixels wide.

Images captured off the internet are usually in the range of 500 to 1000 pixels wide — far short of our publishing requirements. While they look good on a screen display, they do not have enough resolution to reproduce for publication.

In all cases provide the scans with minimal cleanup in an image editing program (for ex. removing dust spots or other imperfections) *and please do not “sharpen” the images.*

B&W (grayscale) Images: These are typically printed 8 inches wide, which requires files that are 2400 pixels wide, resulting in TIF files of about 4 megabytes in size or larger. Set your

scanner to scan at 8 bits per channel in “grayscale.” *If you do any adjustment at all, look for detail within the shadows without “blowing out” highlights. It is easier for us to bring definition out of shadows than to bring back highlights that are lost.*

Color images: Typically scanners perform in RGB (Red, Green, Blue), and you should leave the files in that format. The scanner should also be set to the “24 bits per channel” setting. Please DO NOT use Index (some scanners have this as a default setting) or Lab color formats. Because color images use multiple channels instead of one black channel, the resulting RGB image is naturally three times larger than a B&W scan, and will generally have a file size of 12 megabytes or larger.

- **Color slides or transparencies** -- because of the small original size of the 35mm format, images need to be scanned at high resolution -- 4000 ppi is desirable for slides -- and saved as a TIF file.

Artwork: Original maps, tracings or drawings should be scanned 1200 ppi or more, and saved as bitmaps, *not* as grayscale images.

- Computer based drawings created in vector applications, such as Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw or various CAD programs, should be saved in EPS format if possible. Here size is not important as vector graphics can be scaled without difficulty or loss of data.

Virtually all of the maps and some of the charts printed in the *Streamliner* are drawn in Adobe Illustrator, and in most cases from original maps, photos, and simple sketches supplied by contributors.