Exercise 1: Document Description

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1  Before you start

This exercise is a paper-based exercise in which you should write on this handout the different sections or categories that you think you could sensibly divide this printed manuscript description into. Is there, for example, information about the repository in which it is kept? What other information about the physical object is there? How would you classify this information? Look at both the manuscript description and the image (on reverse) in making your decisions. Is there information that you think is important that isn’t included in the description?

2  F101-19: The Manuscript Description

F101-19: [June 24], 1502. Kamenec (Kamieniecz). Stored in Lithuania, Vilnius, Lithuanian National M. Mazvydas Library, Rare Book and Manuscript Department. "In nomine Domini amen. Ne orror obliuionis…". Latin. There are postscripts in Polish. Parchment. Single column, single sheet format: 485mm x 385mm with 115mm fold-up. Text: 375mm x 225 mm. The ornamented initial "I" takes up 30 lines, 15 cm. The lesser red wax attached seal of GDL (dia. 4 cm) in a black wax bowl (dia. 8.5 cm) is affixed to the document with a string of rosy thread (parchment fold-up is 11.5 cm, two slits for the string are spaced 8 cm apart). An original copy of a charter where Alexander (Alexander), King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania, transumes and confirms the privilege of January 26, 1380, by which Vytautas (Vitholdus), Grand Duke of Lithuania, gives permission to establish a monastery of the Augustinian Order in Brest (Bresth) and founds plots of land and Kostomoloty (Koszthomlothy) village near the Bug (Bugk) river.

3  Other things to try ...

1. Inside the major divisions, what information would you subdivide into structurally-defined categories?

2. What phrase-level pieces of information might you mark, and why?

3. How might you move blocks of text around to record the information in a better order?

4. Is there anything the manuscript description doesn’t mention?
4 F101-19: The Image