

## SC2 WG2 N4910

**To:** WG2 and Unicode Technical Committee  
**From:** Debbie Anderson, SEI, UC Berkeley  
**Title:** Medieval Ad Hoc Report  
**Date:** 27 September 2017

Participants: Lisa Moore, Michael Everson, Andrew West, Michel Suignard, Peter Constable, and Debbie Anderson

Two topics were discussed, LATIN LETTER THORN WITH DIAGONAL STROKE (WG2 N4836=L2/17-236) and two characters for Medieval Cornish (WG2 N4902=L2/17-342).

### 1. LATIN LETTER THORN WITH DIAGONAL STROKE


We discussed the use of LATIN LETTER THORN WITH DIAGONAL STROKE. It was noted that the upper- and lowercase thorn with horizontal stroke characters (U+A764 / U+A765) were encoded in Unicode 5.1 (2008) based on the Nordicist tradition. However, use in Old English was overwhelmingly shown with a diagonal stroke. The use of the diagonal versus horizontal stroke represents two different traditions. If the characters with horizontal and diagonal stroke were unified, the diagonal should be the representative glyph, as its use predominates in number of occurrences in the published typeset corpora. However, such a unification will cause trouble because of the number of publications which have published the thorn with the horizontal stroke.

The ad hoc recommended adding LATIN LETTER THORN WITH DIAGONAL STROKE to a ballot.

### 2, Two Cornish Characters

- COMBINING FINAL SWASH

We discussed COMBINING FINAL SWASH, which is productive and can have meaning. A concern was raised that fonts may not be able to get correct placement of such a character, and atomic characters would be preferable. The ad hoc recommended the code chart annotation specify that the character is used in medieval Cornish, and also note that the character typically fuses typographically with the letters.

The glyph shape is: 

The ad hoc recommended encoding this character.

- DOUBLE OBLIQUE HYPHEN WITH FALLING DOTS

We discussed this punctuation character that serves as a verse divider. The glyph is an oblique hyphen with dots:



No participant expressed any concerns.