ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is provided an image processing apparatus for entering image data encoded with plural encoding modes and security data for protecting the image data, discriminating, based on the security data, whether the reproduction of the encoded image data is permitted, judging the encoding mode of the encoded image data, and decoding the encoded image data according to the results of discrimination and judgment, a method therefor and a recording medium storing the corresponding image processing program.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced