

Designing a Digital Edition using Metadata and Omeka

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The Development of Digital Documentary Editing Platforms – April 2018

Edition Design

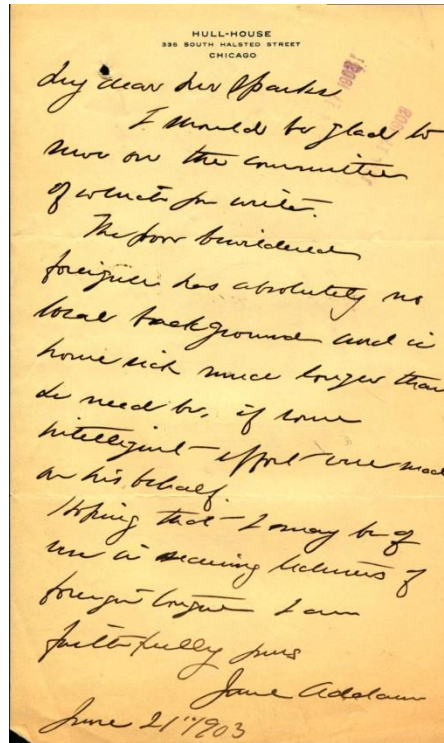
Transcriptions

Translations

Relations between docs

Search and browse by date,
subject, type, author, etc.

Archival Collections



People, Organizations, Events

Map-based views

Packaged exhibits

Public engagement, via
crowdsourcing

Teaching materials

We want it all!

Choosing a Platform

- How easy is it to use for data input?
 - Editors, student workers, possibly volunteers, teachers.
- How easy is it to use for quality control?
 - Proofreading encoded content is difficult.
- How easy is it to publish to the web?
 - Can we pick and choose which documents to publish easily?
 - Do we have to rely on programmers ?
- Is it open-source?
 - We want any development work we do to be accessible to all.
 - Is there a possibility of building shared editions using a common description format?
- Can it be migrated?
 - My experience with TEI-based digital editions was not good.



Using Metadata

- Metadata is less precise than encoding.
 - Encoding every mention of a personal name in the letter gets you to the exact spot it appears.
 - Using Omeka Item Relations indicates that a specific person was mentioned in the letter.

That silly man
<name
ref="http://www.example.com/person
ography.xml#DPB1"
type="person">David Paul
Brown</name> has suffered

Item Relations

Here you can relate this item to another item and delete existing relations. For descriptions of the relations, see the [Browse Vocabularies](#) page. Invalid item IDs will be ignored.

Subject	Relation	Object	Delete
Custom			
This Item	Written by ▾	Johnson, Clara Sturges (?-?)	<input type="checkbox"/>
This Item	Received by ▾	Addams, Jane (1860-1935)	<input type="checkbox"/>
This Item	Mentions ▾	Wilhelm II of Germany (1859-1941)	<input type="checkbox"/>
This Item	Mentions ▾	Wilson, Woodrow (1856-1924)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Soldier's Testament	Enclosed in	This Item	<input type="checkbox"/>

Consider Your Transcription Goals

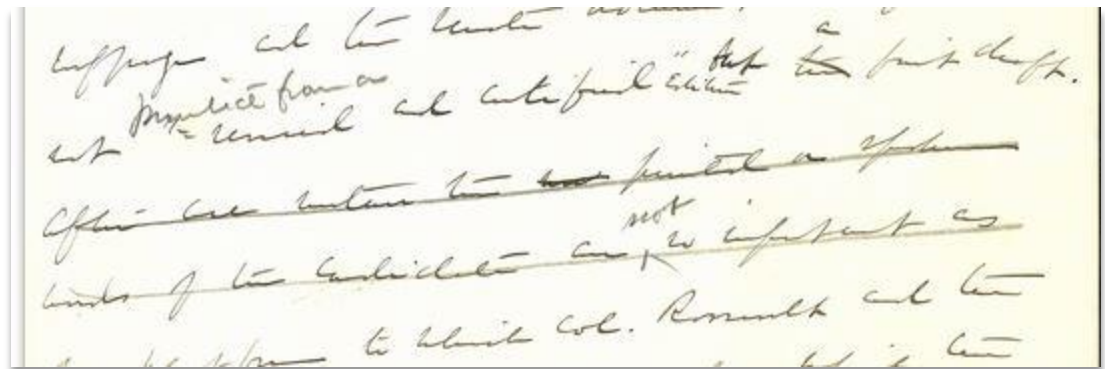
- If you want to do fancy, complex transcriptions, database-driven editions are probably not for you.
 - Mouse-over alternate readings
 - Encoding marginalia and changes of hand
 - Marking up individual characters or parts of speech for later text analysis

<p>Lastly, That, upon his solemn oath to observe all the above articles, the said man-mountain shall have a daily allowance of meat and drink sufficient for the support of
<choice>
 <sic>1724</sic>
 <corr>1728</corr>
</choice> of our subjects, with free access to our royal person, and other marks of our
<choice>
 <orig>favour</orig>
 <reg>favor</reg>
</choice>.</p>

Simpler Transcriptions

- But if the level of complexity that we have traditionally employed in print is good enough. . .
 - Using visual clues with typography -- strikeout, brackets, inserts, etc. These are HTML only, not encoded.
 - Combined with image of original, can we accept simpler transcriptions?
 - What do we lose?

newspapers that the sentence should be [omitted]
<eliminated.>. His spoken address was most
unequivocally in favor of woman's suffrage and the
Senate document therefore was not <printed from
a> "revised and certified" <edition> but the <a> first
draft. After all mention his not printed or spoken
words of the candidate are <not> be so important as
the platform to which Col. Roosevelt and the new
party was pledged and upon which the campaign
must be made. <Mrs. Harper admits was most
satisfactory in its advocacy of equal suffrage [page 2]



Handwritten manuscript snippet showing the original text with various annotations and corrections. The text is written in cursive and includes several lines of text, some of which are crossed out or corrected. The annotations include "suppose", "inserted from", "not", and "be so important as". The text is written on a piece of paper that appears to be a draft or a working manuscript.

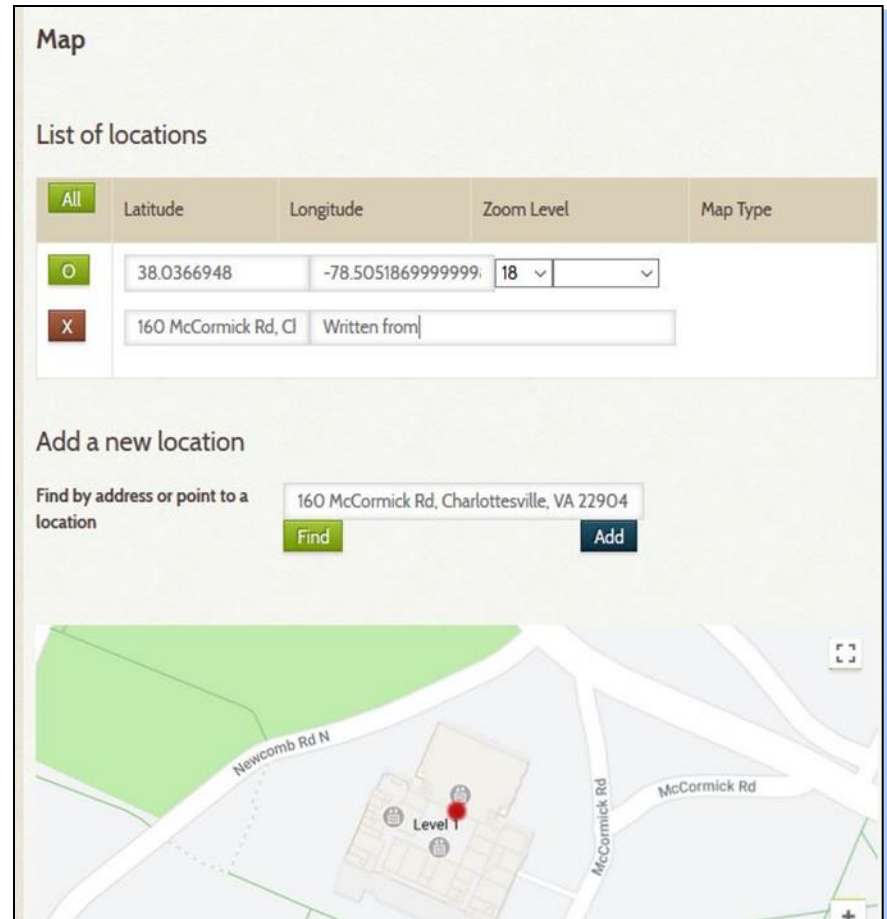
Using Omeka for a Digital Edition

- Captures all the metadata we wanted.
- Extremely easy for students and staff to work in.
 - Dublin Core metadata standard
 - Entry forms are clear and easy to use.
 - HTML options for styling text allow typography to carry meaning.
 - Free to use (server required), though customization requires consultants.

The screenshot shows the Omeka 'Edit Item' interface for item #62, 'Mary Dorsey A...'. The top navigation bar includes 'Jane Addams Digital Edition', 'Plugins', 'Appearance', 'Users', 'Settings', 'Welcome, Cathy Moran Hajo', and 'Log Out'. A left sidebar contains a menu with 'Dashboard', 'Items', 'Collections', 'Item Types', 'Tags', 'Exhibits', 'Simple Pages', 'Collection Tree', 'Item Relations', 'Redact Elements', 'Bulk Editor', 'Simple Vocab', 'History Logs', 'Curator Monitor', 'Scripto', and 'Derivative Images'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: 'Dublin Core' > 'Item Type Metadata' > 'Monitor' > 'Scripto' > 'Files' > 'Zoom' > 'Tags'. Below this is a sub-menu with 'Item Relations' and 'Map'. The 'Dublin Core' section is active, showing a description: 'The Dublin Core metadata element set is common to all Omeka records, including items, files, and collections. For more information see, <http://dublincore.org/documents/dces/>.' The 'Title' field is labeled 'A name given to the resource' and contains the text: 'For docs: Jane Addams to Sarah Alice Addams Haldeman, January 3, 1901' and 'For people: Haldeman, Sarah Alice Addams (1853-1915)'. Below the title is a text area with the text: 'Mary Dorsey Anderson Hill to Jane Addams, January 23, 1901'. To the right of the title field is a 'Collection' dropdown menu showing 'JAP-PSC-P - Jane Addi'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Use HTML' checkbox. On the far right, there are three buttons: 'Save Changes' (green), 'View Public Page' (blue), and 'Delete' (red). Above the 'Delete' button are checkboxes for 'Public: ☒' and 'Featured: ☐'. There is also an 'Add Input' button next to the title field.

Using Omeka for a Digital Edition

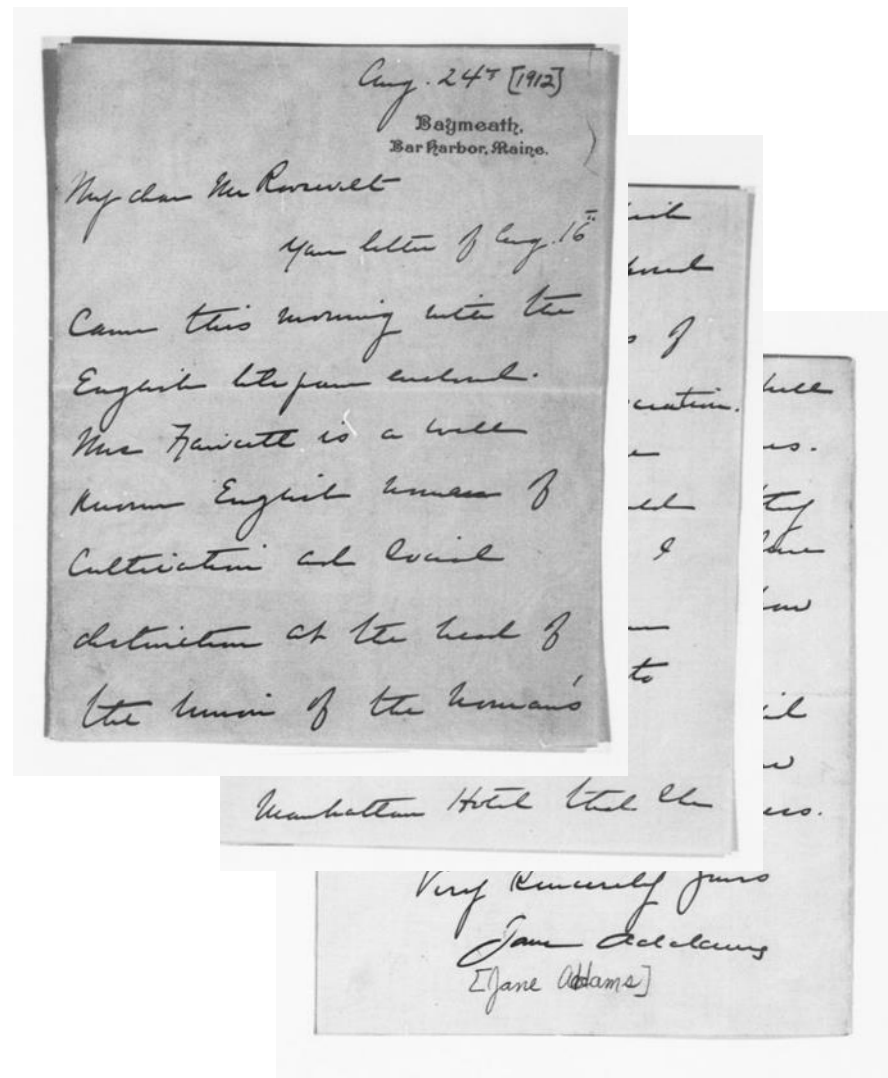
- Modules work together seamlessly.
- Adds complex functionality, like maps, by simply entering addresses.
- Item relationships allows us to build a complex web of people, documents, organizations and events.



Designing Document Metadata

■ What's important?

- Author/Recipient
- Dates
- Titles
- Types of documents
- Repositories
- Locations
- Subjects and tags
- Names mentioned
- Organizations mentioned
- Places mentioned
- Events mentioned
- Relating documents to drafts and enclosures



Designing Identification Metadata

- What's important for people, organizations and events?

- Name(s)
- Birth and death dates
- Biographical data
- Occupations
- Tags
- Rights data
- Locations
- Bibliographic data or links
- Images



Presentation

Transcription

Searchable metadata

Archival collections

Relations between docs

Links to people, organizations
and events mentioned, etc.

Public interaction

Map-based views

JANE ADDAMS TO ROSIKA SCHWIMMER, AUGUST 22, 1916

TRANSCRIPT

IMAGE

CREATOR

ADDAMS, JANE

DATE

1916-08-22

DESCRIPTION

Addams discusses her involvement with Henry Ford's Peace Ship and tells Schwimmer that she cannot intercede for her with Ford.

SUBJECT

ADDAMS, JANE, REQUESTS TO
ADDAMS, JANE, VIEWS ON PEACE
ADDAMS, JANE, HEALTH OF

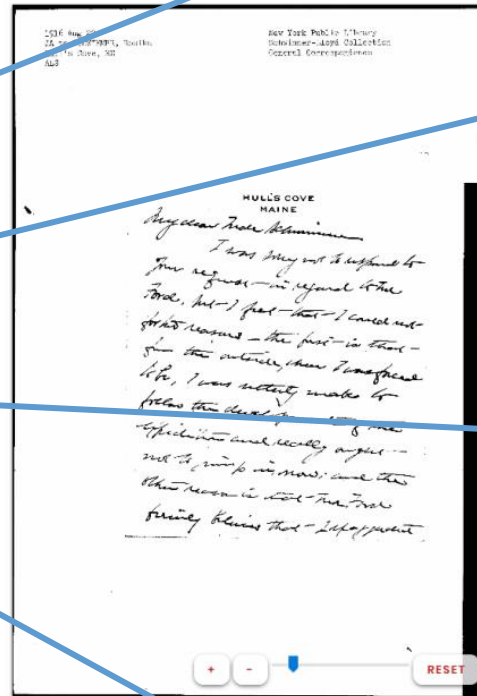
COLLECTION

SLC-WN - SCHWIMMER-LOYD COLLECTION

TAGS

HEALTH
PEACE
REQUESTS

MAP



MENTIONS (3)

RECEIVED BY (1)

WRITTEN BY (1)

COMMENTS (0)

REPLY TO (1)



ADDAMS, JANE (1860-1935)

[VIEW MORE RECORD DETAILS](#)

Presentation

Biographical Information

Relations to documents

Relations to organizations and events

Occupations

Maps (not shown)

SCHWIMMER, ROSIKA (1877-1948)

IMAGE



BIRTH DATE

1877-09-11

DEATH DATE

1948-08-03

BIRTHPLACE

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

BIOGRAPHICAL TEXT

Rosika Schwimmer was a Hungarian pacifist and feminist who started work as a bookkeeper and labor activist. Schwimmer organized women workers in Budapest and then shifted her focus to women's rights when she founded the Hungarian Council of Women in 1904. Schwimmer engaged with the international suffrage movement, and supported efforts to secure birth control, abolish child labor and reform marriage. In 1914, she left Hungary to become the secretary of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

When World War I began, Schwimmer sought to convene a meeting of neutral nations to mediate a settlement, traveling the United States in an unsuccessful effort to gain sponsorship. Schwimmer toured the United States in 1914, lecturing on peace and suffrage, and joined with Jane Addams to form the Women's Peace Party. Schwimmer suggested the 1915 Hague Congress of Women, and led follow-up delegations to neutral countries. In 1915 she convinced Henry Ford to support the Ford Neutral Mediation Conference in Stockholm. The American delegation sailed for Europe on the much-touted 'Peace Ship,' but the mission ultimately failed. Schwimmer found it difficult to work with many of the delegates and she alienated both them and the American press.

She returned to the U.S. in 1916 to try to meet with Ford, but he refused to see her. Schwimmer was named Hungarian ambassador to Sweden in 1918, but after the Communist takeover of Hungary in 1920, she fled to Vienna, and then the United States. The American press had not forgotten her, and vilified her in the press. In 1928, Schwimmer was denied American citizenship because of her pacifist views. She fought the ban to the Supreme Court, but lost.

Schwimmer married Paul Bédy in 1911, but they divorced, childless, in 1913. She died, in New York, in 1948.

OCCUPATION

WOMAN SUFFRAGE ACTIVIST
PEACE ACTIVIST
LABOR ACTIVIST

RECEIVED BY (32) PARTICIPATED IN (2) MEMBER OF (3)
MEMBER OF (1) WRITTEN BY (53) MENTIONS (106)
COMMENTS (0) PARTICIPATED IN (1)



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF WOMEN FOR PERMANENT PEACE (ICWPP)



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN



WOMAN'S PEACE PARTY

Finally....

- You don't have to build it from scratch.
 - You choose the plugins you want to use.
 - Item Relations
 - Geolocation
 - Exhibit Builder
 - Develop your own
- You can publish using free themes
 - Develop your own
- You can add functions piece by piece
 - Exhibits
 - Crowdsourcing
 - Develop your own
- Robust community of users

