

Model Editions Partnership

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Texts & Files: Using Corpora and Digital
Archives / Editions
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SS 2009

“Rethinking the Edition”

- *Model Editions Partnership*
<http://mep.cla.sc.edu/mepinfo/mep-info.html>
- *A Prospectus for Electronic Historical Editions*
(1996)
<http://mep.cla.sc.edu/mepinfo/MEP-Docs/proptoc.htm>
- *Markup Guidelines for Documentary Editions*
(1999)
<http://mep.cla.sc.edu/MepGuide.html>

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MEP: 4 Goals

1. To develop new approaches for addressing questions of intellectual access to source documents and their context in electronic editions.
2. To develop a generalized model for the process of preparing and delivering electronic editions.
3. To create a series of sample editions which demonstrate a variety of approaches in accomplishing the first two goals.
4. To provide clear documentation of the process for creating those sample editions.

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Historical / Documentary Editions

- Representative text types:
 - Letters
 - Diaries
 - Speeches
 - Newspaper accounts
 - Pamphlets
 - Public records

“Model Configurations”

1. Image Editions
2. Live Text Editions
3. Combined Editions
4. Transitional Editions

3 Models

- Image Editions
- Live Text Editions
- Combined Editions

Image Editions

- **Image Editions**
presenting images of original documents together with retrieval and search tools and supplementary material.

Live Text Editions

- **Live Text Editions**
presenting transcriptions of original documents together with retrieval and search tools and supplementary material.

Combined Editions

- **Combined Editions**
presenting the documents in both image and live text form together with retrieval and search tools and supplementary material.

“Live Text”

- Embedding Variants within the Text
- Multiple Representations of the Text
Clear text to the most conservative diplomatic transcription.
- Alternate Organizing Principles
- Annotation for Multiple Purposes
Tailored to a specific audience

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“Live Text”

- Interim Cumulative Indices
 - Also personally derived
- Extended Illustrations
- Related Texts

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“Good Markup”

- “[...] Good markup allows editors to identify features of the text which will be useful in retrieving information. For example, if the markup identifies the author, recipient and date of each letter, it becomes possible to generate a selective list with links from the listing to the texts of the documents. If the markup also identifies the names of individuals within each letter, the listing could be further refined to exclude all letters except those referring to a particular person.”

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