Creating Digital Scholarly Editions: An Introduction to the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI)

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What can you do with encoded texts?
To recap: what’s the point?

• As a publisher, it allows you to regularize your content structure and appearance and to maintain a single source for your content that will be published in various formats.

• As a researcher, it allows you to do fine-grained searching instead of just full-text searching.

• As a librarian or archivist, it allows you to store the content in a widely used, open, non-proprietary format.
XML for researchers

XML encoding of structural and especially non-structural components of a document allows you to query a corpus of texts.

• Find all instances of “Bush” as a name
• Find all instances of “rose” in verse, not as a name
• Give me a list of author names in bibliographic citations, regardless of whether these citations are given in footnotes or endnotes
Demos

• **A London Provisioner's Chronicle, 1550–1563, by Henry Machyn**: search within transcription or modernized text

• **Newton Project**: single source for both normalized and diplomatic transcriptions

• **Versioning Machine**: interface for comparing diplomatic transcriptions of witnesses and page images

• **Middle English Dictionary**: can restrict search to headwords, etymology, definition, quotations, etc.
Questions?