

# WHAT IS THE TEI AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?

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Joey Takeda  
September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
UBC DH Pixelating Mixer



HI!

Joey Takeda, MA Student, Dept. of English Language and Literatures (Science and Technology Studies Program)

Undergrad in English Honours and Gender Studies @ Uvic

Digital Humanities programmer for projects such as *The Map of Early Modern London*, *Linked Early Modern Drama Online*, and *The Endings Project*

Specialize in TEI, XHTML, and Digital Humanities project development

<https://github.com/joeytakeda>

This workshop: <https://github.com/joeytakeda/teiworkshop>

# THIS WORKSHOP

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Brief conceptual introduction to encoding, XML, and TEI

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Examples of projects that use the TEI

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Next workshop will focus on tools and resources for creating a TEI project (October 25)



# TEXT ENCODING AND THE TEI

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- All capitals to YELL

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But these are contextual and local

E.g. different types of punctuation for levels of quotation

And they are subject to varying interpretations

- E.g. I think these quotation marks denote a term, but maybe the author is just being sarcastic...

# WHY SHOULD WE ENCODE TEXTS?

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Computer-readable

Flexibility

Interoperability

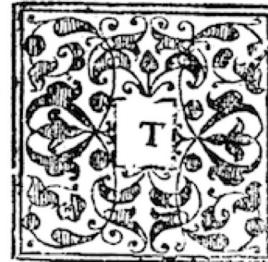
Convertibility (i.e. from one format to another)

Output  $\neq$  Input

+++

# STOW'S SURVEY OF LONDON

## Cornhill VVarde.



He next ward towardes the south, is Corng  
hill warde, so called of a corne market, time  
out of mind there holden, and is a part of  
the principall high streeete, beginning at the  
west end of Leaden hall, stretching downe  
west on both the sides by the south end of  
Finckes lane, on the right hand, and by the  
North ende of Birchouers lane, on the

Cornhill ward

left part of which lanes, to wit, to the middle of them is of this  
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so a part of Lymestreete warde hath beene (as I haide) a  
market place, especially for Corne, and since for all kinde  
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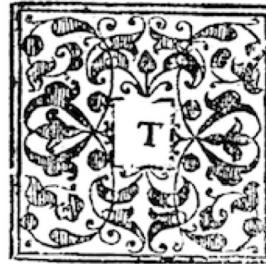
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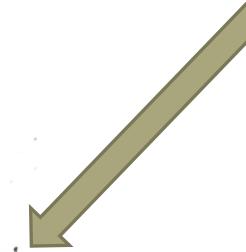
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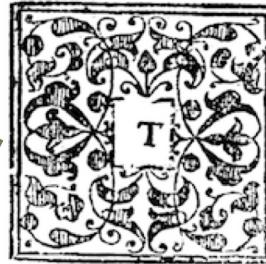
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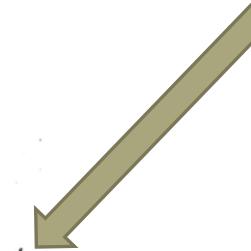
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L 2 till



Cornhill ward



## Cornhill VVarde.

THE next ward towardes the south, is *Cornhill* warde, so called of a corne market, time out of mind there holden, and is a part of the principall high streete, beginning at the west end of *Leaden hall*, stretching downe west on both the sides by the south end of *Finckes lane*, on the right hand, and by the North ende of *Birchouers lane*, on the left part of which lanes, to wit, to the middle of them is of this ward and so down to the *Stockes market*, and this is the bounds of this Ward. The vpper, or East part of this Warde, and also a part of *Lymestreete warde* hath beene (as I saide) a market place, especially for Corne, and since for all kinde of victuals, as is partly shewed in *Lymestreete warde*, yet it appeareth of record, that in the yere 1522. the Rippars of *Rie* and other places solde their fresh fish in *Leaden hall* market, vpon *Cornhil*, but forren Butchers were not admitted, there to sel flesh

*Cornhill ward*

# Cornhill VVarde.

Cornhill ward

T

He next ward towardeſ the ſouth, is *Cornhill warde*, ſo caſtled of a corne market, time out of mind there holden, and is a part of the principall high ſtreete, beginning at the weſt end of *Leaden hall*, ſtretching downe weſt on both the ſides by the ſouth end of *Finckes lane*, on the right hand, and by the North ende of *Birchouers lane*, on the

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L 2

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rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R">Corn

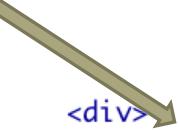
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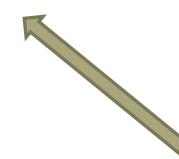
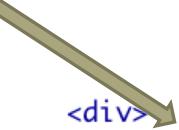
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    <fw type="signature">L 2</fw>  
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  </p>

</div>

  
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<lb/>market place, especiallly for Corne, and since for all kinde  
<lb/>of victuals, as is partly shewed in <ref rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R" target="mol:LIME1">Lymestreete warde</ref>, yet it ap  
<lb rend="hidden" type="hyphenInWord"/>peareth of record, that in the yere <date rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R" whi-custome="1522"  
datingMethod="mol:julianSic" calendar="mol:julianSic">1522</date>. the Rippars of <hi rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R">Rie</hi> and  
<lb/>other places folde their fresh fish in <ref target="mol:LEAD1">Leaden hall</ref> market, vpon  
<lb/><ref rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R" target="mol:CORN2">Cornhil</ref>, but forren Butchers were not  
admitted, there to sel flesh  
<lb/>  
<fw type="signature">L 2</fw>  
<fw type="catchword">till</fw>

</p>

</div>

<div>

<head><ref target="mol:CORN1">Cornhill Warde</ref>. </head>

<p><hi rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_dropCap">T</hi>He next ward towards the south, is <ref target="mol:CORN1"><hi  
rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R">Corn  
<lb rend="hidden" type="hyphenInWord"/>hill</hi> warde</ref>, <label place="margin-right"><ref target="mol:CORN1">Cornhill  
ward</ref></label> so called of a corne market, time  
<lb/>out of mind there holden, and is a part of  
<lb/>the principall high streeete, beginning at the  
<lb/>west end of <ref target="mol:LEAD1">Leaden hall</ref>, stretching downe  
<lb/>west on both the fides by the south end of  
<lb/><hi rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R"><ref target="mol:FINC1">Finckes lane</ref>, </hi> on the right hand, and by the  
<lb/>North ende of <ref rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R" target="mol:BIRC1">Birchouers lane</ref>, on the  
<lb/>left part of which lanes, to wit, to the middle of them is of this  
<lb/>ward and so down to the <ref target="mol:STOC1">Stockes market</ref>, and this is the bounds  
<lb/>of this Ward. The vpper, or East part of this Warde, and al  
<lb rend="hidden" type="hyphenInWord"/>so a part of <ref rendition="#stow\_1598\_CORN1\_R" target="mol:LIME1">Lymestreete warde</ref>  
hath beene (as I faide) a  
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- **Metadata:** various classification schemes, provenance, manuscript description, etc
- +++++

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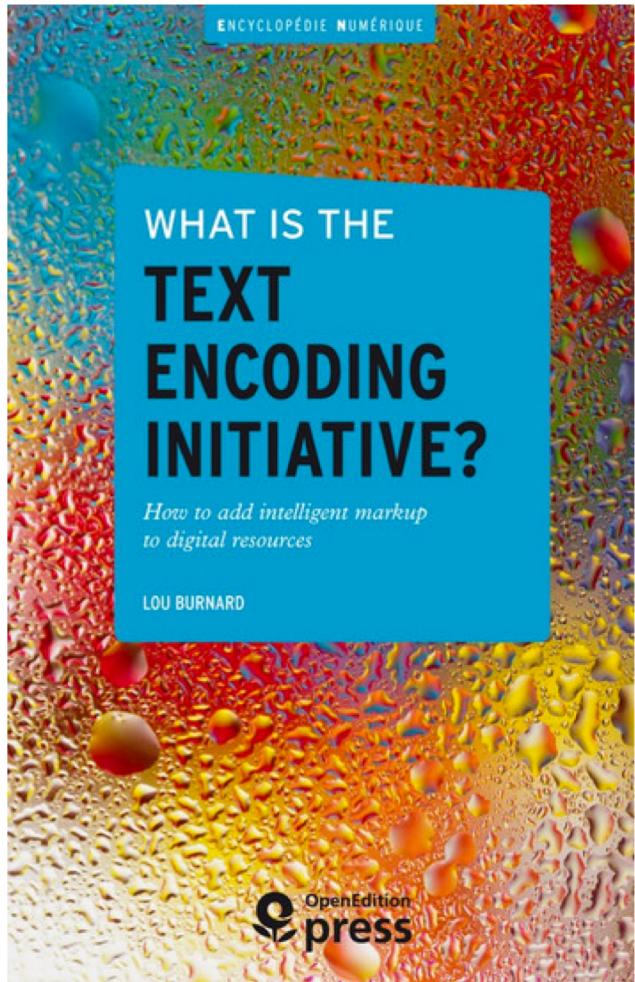
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# QUICK HISTORY OF THE TEI

The Text Encoding Initiative (originally called the Guidelines for Text Encoding and Interchange)

Started in the late 1980s in response to the boom in “humanities computing”

Wanted to provide a framework and a set of principles for encoding texts that could be widely adopted



Within the noisy market place of the *Digital Humanities*, the TEI is a kind of senior member, an annoying parental figure for some, a benevolent one for others, something just too old-fashioned even to be considered for others. Yet, over the last decade, it has become increasingly clear that the TEI is part of what makes the digital humanities happen.

(Burnard, “Conclusion”, para. 1)

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- Caveat: There are many, many tools for transforming TEI into other formats (Word documents, PDFs, and, of course, websites)

**XML**

# XML

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And is often described in genealogical terms

# XML

Think of the hierarchy of the book:

# XML

Think of the hierarchy of the book:

Book

# XML

Think of the hierarchy of the book:

**Book**

- Chapters

# XML

Think of the hierarchy of the book:

## Book

- Chapters
  - Sections

# XML

Think of the hierarchy of the book:

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- Chapters
  - Sections
  - Paragraphs
    - Sentences
    - Words
    - Letters

**XML**

# XML

```
<book>
```

```
</book>
```

# XML

```
<book>  
  <chapter>
```

```
    </chapter>  
</book>
```

# XML

```
<book>
  <chapter>
    <section type="subsection">
      ...
    </section>
  </chapter>
</book>
```

# XML

```
<book>
  <chapter>
    <section type="subsection">
      <paragraph>
        ...
      </paragraph>
    </section>
  </chapter>
</book>
```

# XML

```
<book>
  <chapter>
    <section type="subsection">
      <paragraph>
        <sentence>
          ...
        </sentence>
      </paragraph>
    </section>
  </chapter>
</book>
```

# XML

```
<book>
  <chapter>
    <section type="subsection">
      <paragraph>
        <sentence>
          <word>
            ...
          </word>
        </sentence>
      </paragraph>
    </section>
  </chapter>
</book>
```

# XML

```
<book>
  <chapter>
    <section type="subsection">
      <paragraph>
        <sentence>
          <word>
            <letter></letter>
          </word>
        </sentence>
      </paragraph>
    </section>
  </chapter>
</book>
```

# XML EXPLAINED

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The two pointy brackets is called an **element**

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All elements have **start** and **end tags**

- E.g. <book> is the start tag and </book> is the end tag

Elements can also have **attributes** and each attribute must have a **value**

- E.g. <book type=“primary”> has a **type attribute with the value of primary**
- (Think of attributes as you would in everyday life; people don’t have “height” or “age” without a value)

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Elements **cannot** overlap

- <sentence><word>Word1</word></sentence> is right
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## Elements **nest** and use genealogical terms

- I.e this bit of XML

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<book>
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</book>
```

Can be described as “chapter is a child of book” OR “book is a parent of chapter”

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## Elements **cannot** overlap

- <sentence><word>Word1</word></sentence> is right
- <sentence><word>Word1</sentence></word> is wrong

## Elements **nest** and use genealogical terms

- I.e this bit of XML

```
<book>
  <chapter></chapter>
</book>
```

Can be described as “chapter is a child of book” OR “book is a parent of chapter”

## There is **always** a **root** element

- That is, there is always one element that encloses everything

# THE PROBLEM

I just wrote that XML to describe a book

How else could it be written?

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I just wrote that XML to describe a book  
How else could it be written?

```
<book>
  <ch>
    <para>
      <w>
        <c></c>
      </w>
    </para>
  </ch>
</book>
```

# THE TEI SOLUTION

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All texts must be called <text>

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+++

# COMPONENTS OF A (BASIC) TEI FILE

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Root <TEI> element

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A <teiHeader> that describes both the *file* and the *primary source* that you are transcribing (if applicable)

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## Root <TEI> element

A <teiHeader> that describes both the *file* and the *primary source* that you are transcribing (if applicable)

A <text> that contains the text of the document

- Within text, you can have a <front>, <body>, or <back>

# TEI IS FOR DATA AND METADATA

```
<TEI>
  <teiHeader>
  </teiHeader>
  <text>
  </text>
</TEI>
```

metadata

data

# BASIC TEI FILE

```
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
2 <TEI xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">
3   <teiHeader>
4     <fileDesc>
5       <titleStmt>
6         <title>The Most Basic TEI File</title>
7       </titleStmt>
8       <publicationStmt>
9         <p>Not for publication, really.</p>
10      </publicationStmt>
11      <sourceDesc>
12        <p>No source, born digitally for demonstrative purposes.</p>
13      </sourceDesc>
14    </fileDesc>
15  </teiHeader>
16  <text>
17    <body>
18      <p>Hello, world!</p>
19    </body>
20  </text>
21 </TEI>
22
23
```

TEI

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Individual projects *customize* the TEI for their own needs, usually using a small subset of the overall tagset (more on this in Workshop #2 in October!)

- E.g. Drama projects will use the drama tagset (<sp> for speech, <speaker> for speaker, et cetera) and discard the linguistic/dictionary tagset (<entry> for dictionary entries, <m> for morpheme, etc).

THAT WAS A LOT OF INFORMATION IN A VERY  
SHORT TIME

Any questions?



## SAMPLE TEI PROJECTS

---

# THE SHELLEY-GODWIN ARCHIVE

---

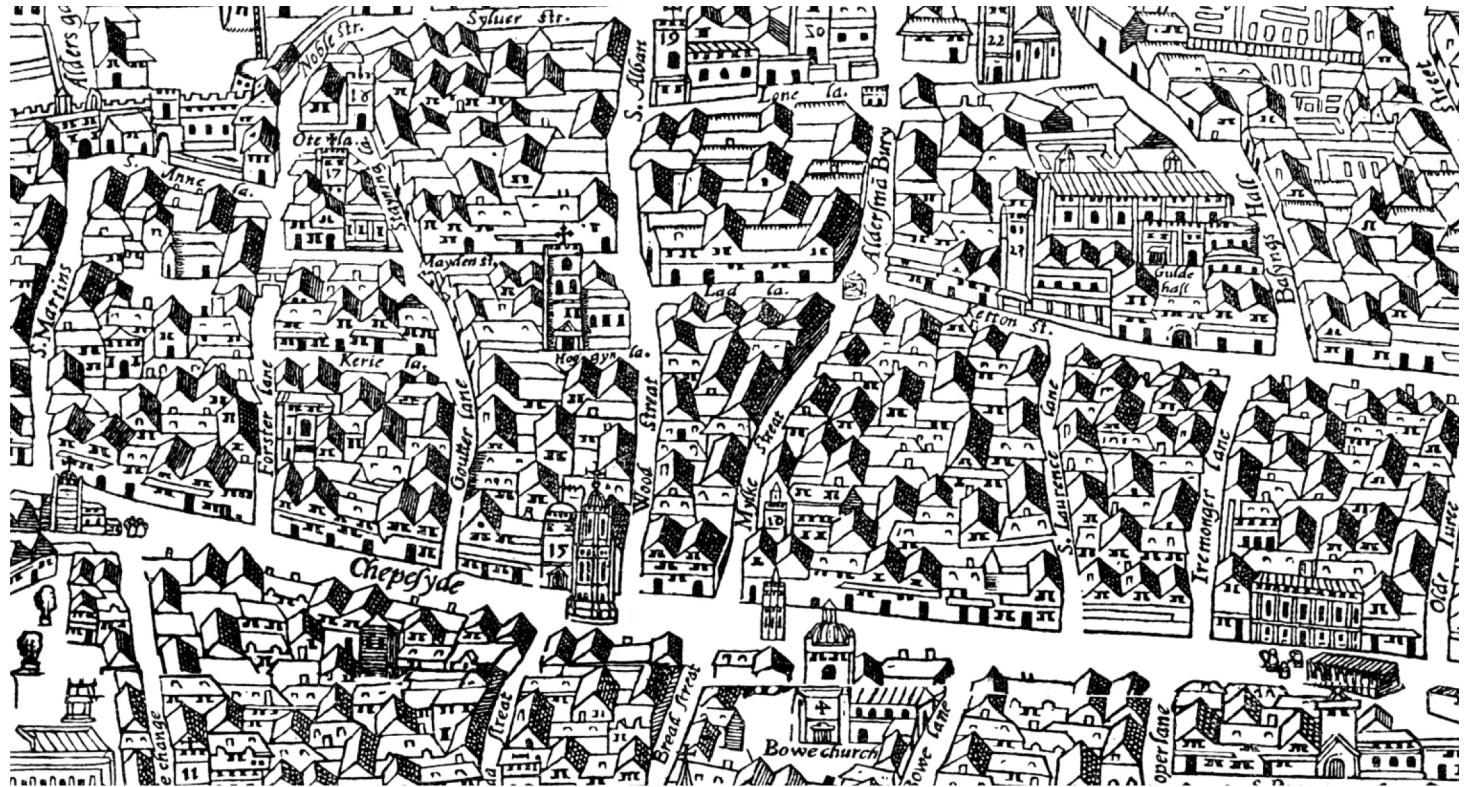
that vanishes among the reedless gates. —  
far, far above, piercing the infinite sky  
Mont Blanc appears, still, snowy & serene,  
its subject mountains their unearthly forms  
the round it - ice & rock - broad charms them  
of green waves, unfathomable deeps  
She as the overhanging Heaven, that spread  
her wind among the accumulated steeps,  
last desarts, peopled by the storms alone  
live when the eagle brings some hunting home  
and the wolf watches her - how hideously  
the rocks are heaped around, rude base & high  
hastly & scarred & riven - is this the same  
when the old Earthquake demon taught her  
man? were these their toys? or did a sea long  
ago envelope once this silent snow?  
One can reply - all seems eternal now.  
This wilderness has a mysterious tongue  
which teaches awful doubt, or faith so mid  
simple, so serene that man may be  
such a partner with Nature reconciled.

My own, my human mind - which has  
More renders & receives fast influence  
Between an unfeeling seeing intellect  
With the clear universe of things &  
A legion of swift thoughts, whose war  
Now float above thy darkness, & now  
Bear the still care of the watchful Poet  
Seeking among the shadows that  
Ghost of th things that are, some far  
Some spectre, some faint image; till  
From which they fled recalls them - tho'

Some say that gleams of a remoter  
Visit the soul in sleep - that death  
And that its shapes the busy thoughts  
Of those who wake & his. I look on  
Has some unknown omnipotence un-  
The veil of life & death? or do we  
In dream, & does the mighty hand  
Spread far around, & inaccessibly  
Its circles? - for the very spirit  
Driven like a homely cloud from steep

# THE MAP OF EARLY MODERN LONDON

---



# LE MARIAGE

Collection HENNIN tome 27.



*I'ay les crochets de mon mary, | Sil'en veult faire le marri,  
Son baston, ses larges bouteilles, | Ie luy froteray les oreilles.*

# HE DO THE POLICE IN DIFFERENT VOICES



# RESOURCES

The TEI's website: <https://tei-c.org>

TEI by Example: <http://teibyexample.org/>

Lou Burnard, *What is the Text Encoding Initiative?*:  
<https://books.openedition.org/oep/679?lang=en>

Teach Yourself TEI: <http://www.tei-c.org/support/learn/teach-yourself-tei/>

DHSI @ Uvic: <http://www.dhsi.org/courses.php>

# NEXT WORKSHOP

October 20, 2018

Focus will be on tools for working with and deploying TEI

Please bring a text (doesn't have to be a primary source text—it can be a journal article or an essay!)

# THANKS!

UBC Libraries, esp. Allan Cho for the invitation!

Martin Holmes, Janelle Jenstad, The Endings Project, and Uvic's Humanities Media and Computing Center