Challenges in the Nursery: Linking a Finding Aid with Online Content

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Image display with METS Navigator

- Made use of existing DLP delivery system for multi-page digital objects

- METS, a Digital Library Federation initiative, attempts to … provide an XML document format for encoding metadata necessary for both management of digital library objects within a repository and exchange of such objects between repositories (or between repositories and their users).*

*from <http://www.loc.gov/standards/mets/METSOverview.v2.html>

Fitting Jane Johnson into the METS Navigator model

- Worked well with existing model
  - Look and feel configurable
  - EAD finding aid served as external source of intellectual access
  - "Return to Finding Aid" link
  - Multiple image sizes for each page
- Presented new challenges
  - Notion of "sets"
  - Navigation for many 2-sided items
  - Dynamic description

METS file for each set

```
- <mets:structMap TYPE="physical">
  - <mets:div ORDER="1" TYPE="set" LABEL="Set 1. A B C. Set of alphabet cards with letters, vowels, syllables, words,
        and four line verses. Nos. 1-23, 25-52. With ink-drawn borders. Pasted on verso, printed hand-colored pictures
        of people, animals, and birds. 1738. 51 items.">
    - <mets:div ORDER="1" TYPE="page">
        <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-1-full" />
        <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-1-screen" />
        <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-1-thumb" />
      </mets:div>
    - <mets:div ORDER="2" TYPE="page">
        <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-2-full" />
        <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-2-screen" />
        <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-2-thumb" />
      </mets:div>
```

```
- <mets:structMap TYPE="logical">
  - <mets:div ORDER="1" TYPE="set" LABEL="Set 1. A B C. Set of alphabet cards with letters, vowels, syllables, words,
        and four line verses. Nos. 1-23, 25-52. With ink-drawn borders. Pasted on verso, printed hand-colored pictures
        of people, animals, and birds. 1738. 51 items.">
    - <mets:div ORDER="1" TYPE="item" LABEL="Item 1 (Recto and verso)">
      - <mets:div ORDER="1" TYPE="page">
          <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-1-full" />
          <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-1-screen" />
          <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-1-thumb" />
        </mets:div>
      - <mets:div ORDER="2" TYPE="page">
          <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-2-full" />
          <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-2-screen" />
          <mets:fptr FILEID="LL-JJC-01-01-2-thumb" />
        </mets:div>
      </mets:div>
```

Additions to the EAD finding aid

```
<dsc type="in-depth">
  <head>Contents List (In-Depth)</head>
  <!-- unittitle is the only required element within component  -->
  <!-- use <scopenote> instead of <abstract> when describing materials in container lists  -->
- <c01 level="otherlevel" otherlevel="set" id="LL-JJC-01">
  - <did>
      <unittitle>Set 1. A B C</unittitle>
      <dao href="http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/lilly/janejohnson/LL-JJC-01" linktype="simple" />
    </did>
  - <scopecontent>
      <head>Scope Note:</head>
    - <p>
        Set of alphabet cards with letters, vowels, syllables, words, and four line verses. Nos. 1-23, 25-52. W
        printed hand-colored pictures of people, animals, and birds.
        <date type="single" normal="1738" era="ce" calendar="gregorian">1738</date>
        . 51 items.
      </p>
    </scopecontent>
- <c02 level="item" id="LL-JJC-01-01">
  - <did>
      <unittitle>1. Alphabet A-O</unittitle>
    - <note label="Description of item:">
        <p>Upper case letters</p>
      </note>
    - <note label="Transcription:">
        <p>A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O</p>
      </note>
    - <physdesc label="Dimensions:">
        <dimensions>6.3 x 9.5 cm</dimensions>
      </physdesc>
      <dao href="http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/lilly/janejohnson/LL-JJC-01&pn=1" linktype="simple" />
    </did>
  </c02>
```

Online display of finding aid

- Our current finding aids delivery system can't handle EAD linking elements
  - Therefore, Jane Johnson finding aid currently available in 2 places, with different content!
- Modified a pair of XSLT stylesheets from the EAD Cookbook
  - Adopted look and feel of IU Finding Aids site
  - Ensured linking elements were handled
- Transformed offline and loaded resulting HTML to Web server as a static page
- Resulting page links to online images at set and item levels

Linking issues

- Early decision to link to external content rather than embed content in finding aid display
- PURLs needed at set and item level
  - http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/lilly/janejohnson/LL-JJC-01
  - http://purl.dlib.indiana.edu/iudl/lilly/janejohnson/LL-JJC-01&pn=1
- Filenaming
  - Made use of existing structure of finding aid
  - Allow for 2-sided items
- Act of linking allowed us to find small errors in finding aid, digitization, and filenaming

Metadata creation issues

- Pre-existing EAD finding aid beneficial
- Enhancements to EAD made manually
- METS generation partially scriptable, but still labor-intensive

Future improvements needed

- Digitize remainder of collection
- Metadata creation
  - Streamlining EAD data entry
  - METS generation tool
- Finding aids delivery system
  - More flexibility with display & linking
  - Ability to address specific points in online version
- METS Navigator
  - More flexible item description
  - Handle deeper hierarchies
  - "Container" METS documents

Back to Elizabeth…

For more information

- Jane Johnson's Manuscript Nursery Library: http://www.dlib.indiana.edu/collections/janejohnson/

- These presentation slides: http://www.dlib.indiana.edu/~jenlrile/presentations/bbspr06/janejohnson/jj.ppt

- Elizabeth Johnson: johnson1@indiana.edu

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