INFO 6850 Archives II
Week Seven
http://hdl.handle.net/10222/64533

THEORY, STANDARDS, BEST PRACTICES

How do you encode the "context" of archival records?

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

AGENDA

- Announcements
- Review the role of provenance in archival description
- Discuss readings
- Introduce ISAAR(CPF) and EAC standards
- Demonstration of “History Research Tool”

ROLE OF PROVENANCE IN ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION

- “External” and “internal” factors of arrangement
- “Static” versus “dynamic” relationships between records
- Practical application of theoretical concept of *respect des fonds* has been challenged in recent literature

ROLE OF PROVENANCE IN ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION

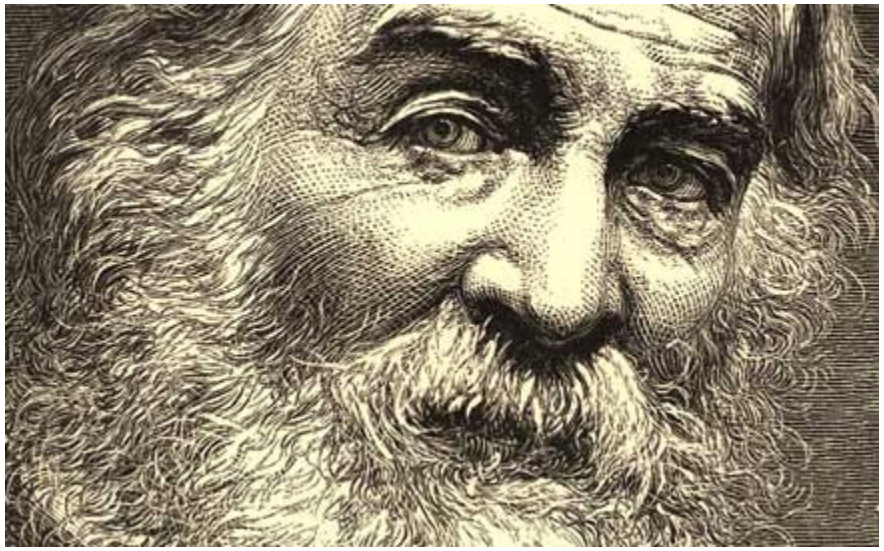
- Sandra Barr's "accession based" processing
- Australian "series system"
- Fonds vs. collection vs. hybrid
- Multiple contexts, multiple interpretations

ROLE OF PROVENANCE IN ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION

- Trend towards separate descriptions of creators
- “Authority records” created with new International Standard for Archival Authority Records (ISAAR-CPF)
- What does this mean for RAD’s rules for administrative histories and biographical sketches?

Barney et al.

ORDERING CHAOS



Walt Whitman Archive:
http://www.whitmanarchive.org/

WALT WHITMAN ARCHIVE

- How does the site integrate EAD XML finding aids and TEI transcriptions?
- How did archivists overcome the challenge of untitled manuscripts?
- How does the site integrate digital objects into the archival descriptions?
- How would you “rebuild” or “migrate” this site?

SONG OF THE UNIVERSAL
WALT WHITMAN

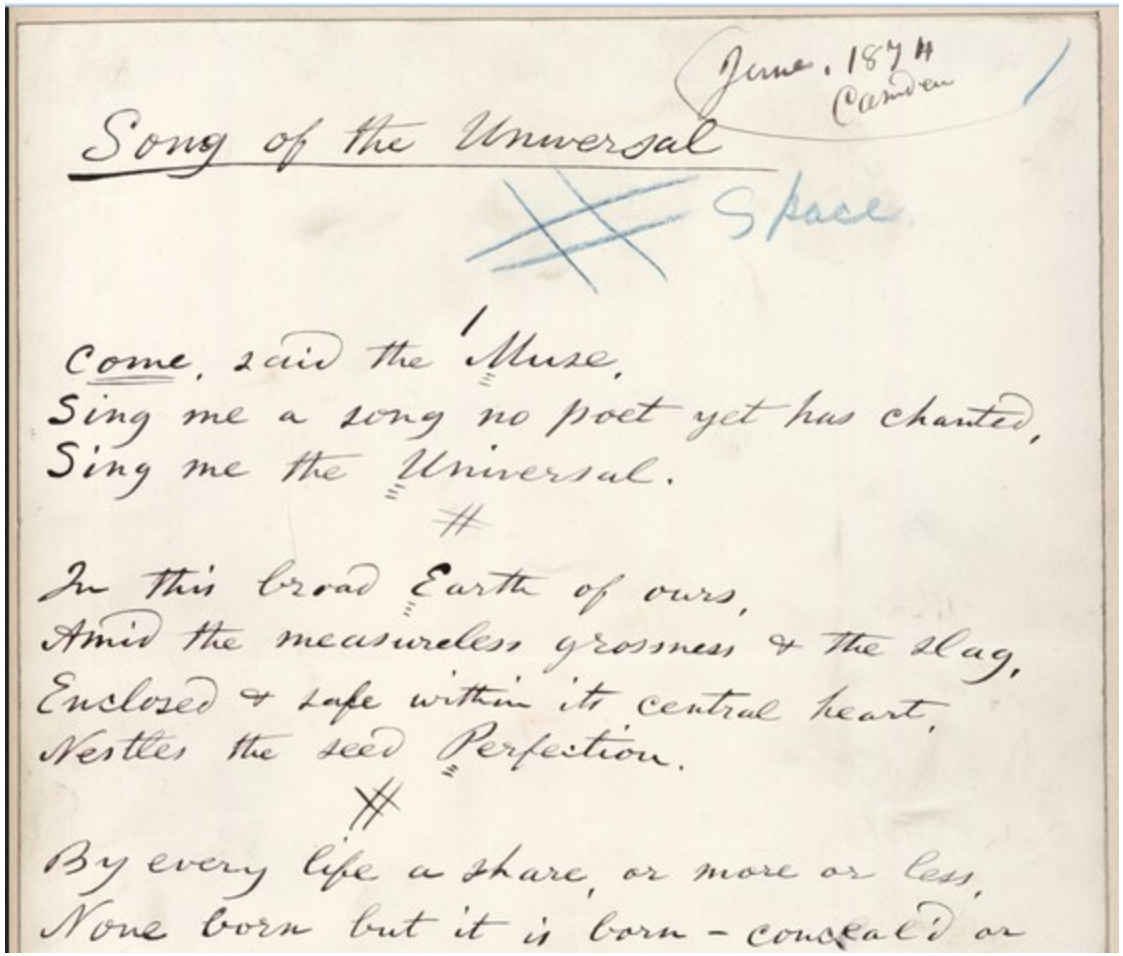
Come, said the Muse,
Sing me a song no poet yet has chanted,
Sing me the Universal.

In this broad Earth of ours,
Amid the measurelessc` grossness & the slag,
Enclosed & safe within its central heart,
Nestles the seed Perfection.

By every life a share, or more or less,
None born but it is born—conceal'd or
unconceal'd the seed is waiting.

WALT WHITMAN ARCHIVE

WALT WHITMAN ARCHIVE


June. 1874
Camden

Song of the Universal

Space

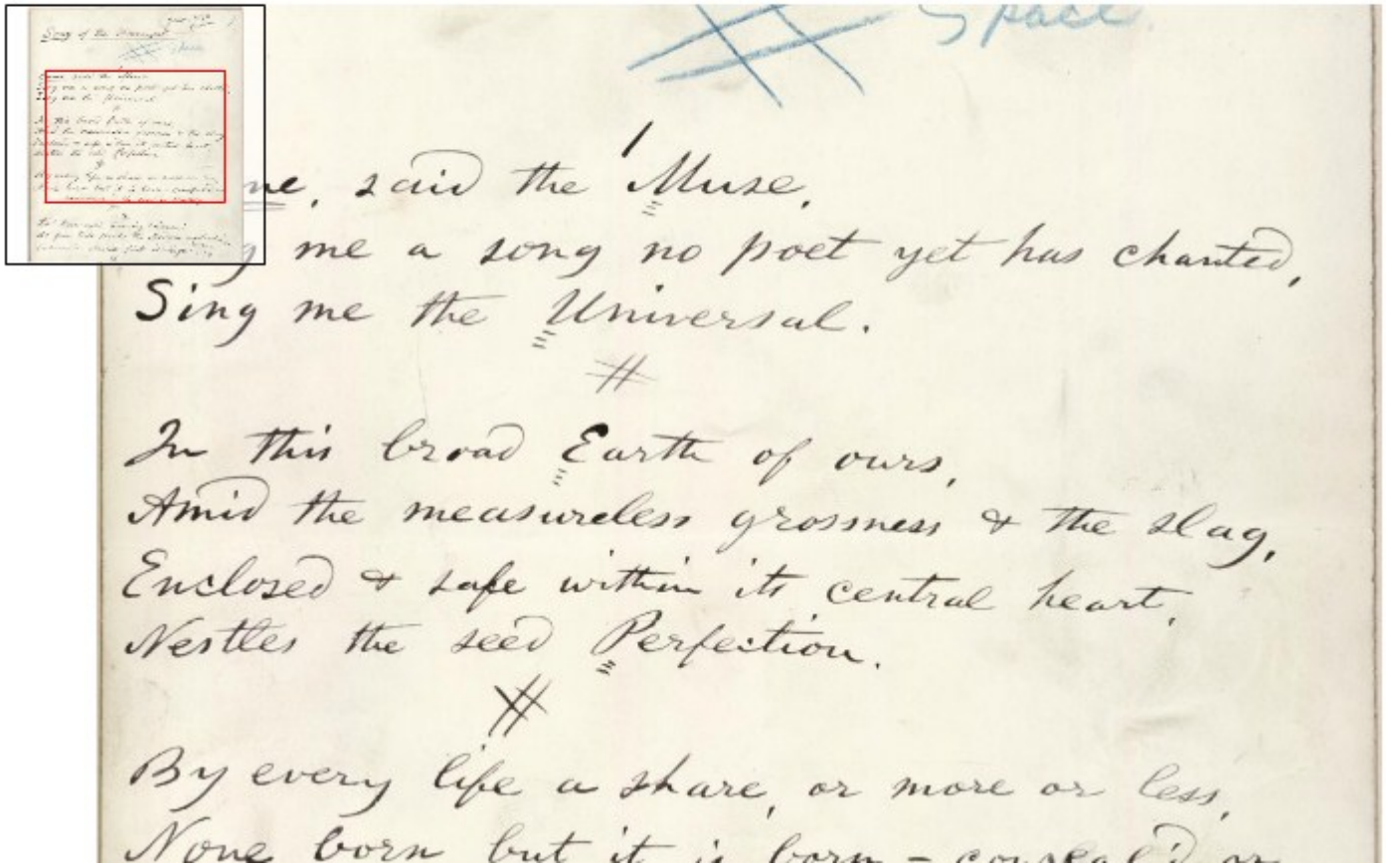
Come, said the Muse,
Sing me a song no poet yet has chanted,
Sing me the Universal.

In this broad Earth of ours,
Amid the measureless grossness & the slag,
Enclosed & safe within its central heart,
Nestles the seed Perfection.

By every life a share, or more or less,
None born but it is born - conceal'd or

WALT WHITMAN ARCHIVE

Zoomable Page Image



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Pitti et al.

SOCIAL NETWORKS AND ARCHIVAL CONTEXT (SNAC)

SOCIAL NETWORKS AND ARCHIVAL CONTEXT (SNAC)

- Why is it a good idea to separate authority records from the archival descriptions?
- How has SNAC “set the stage” for international collaboration?
- What standards are used in the SNAC project?

DESCRIPTION OF DIGITAL RECORDS

- Digital information increases tenfold every five years
- 90% of the data in the world are said to have been created in the last two years
- By 2020, there will be 5,2000 GB of data per person

DESCRIPTION OF DIGITAL RECORDS

- What are some of the approaches to archival description that Geoffrey Yeo describes?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages to each approach?
- Can you think of other approaches to help archivists describe digital records?

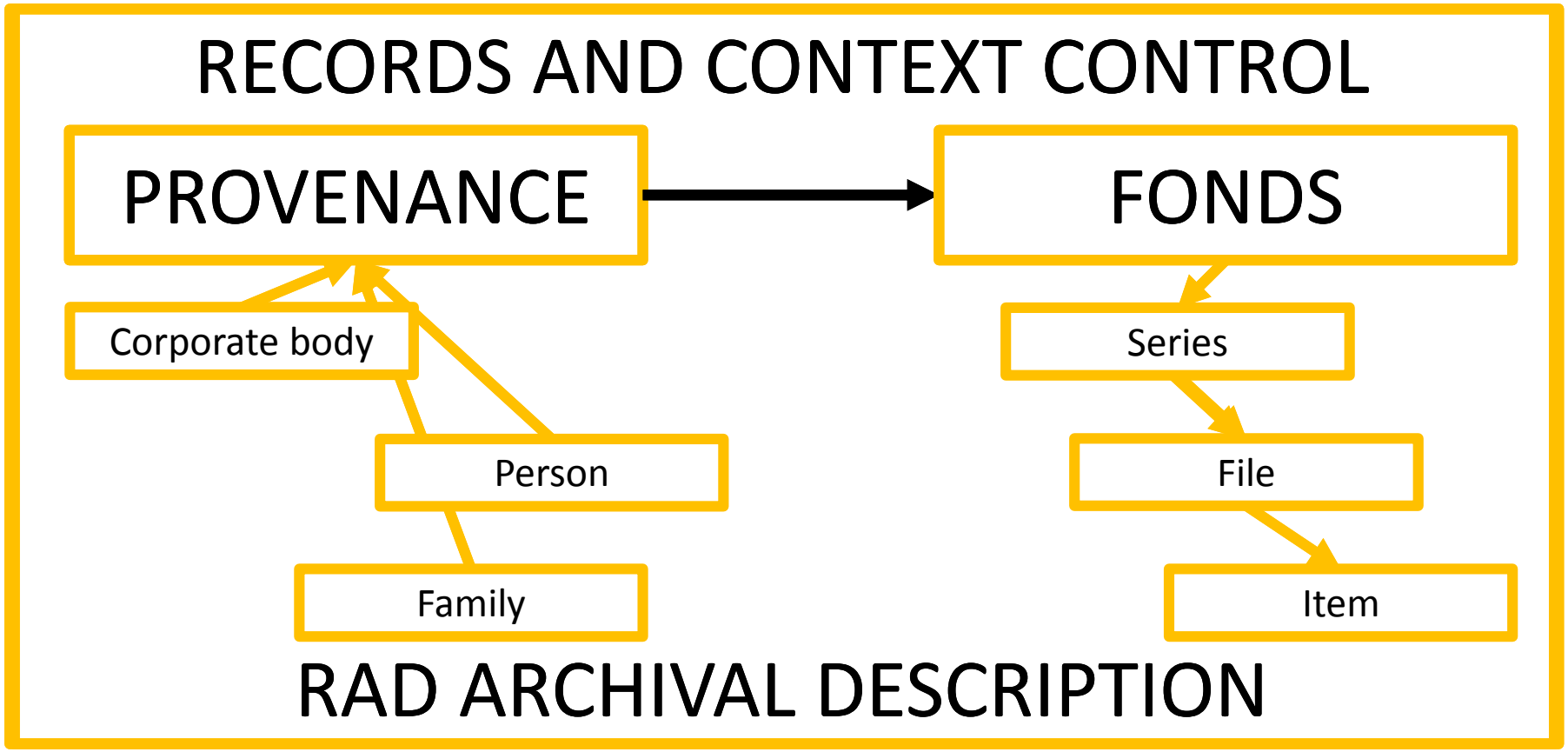
DESCRIPTION OF DIGITAL RECORDS

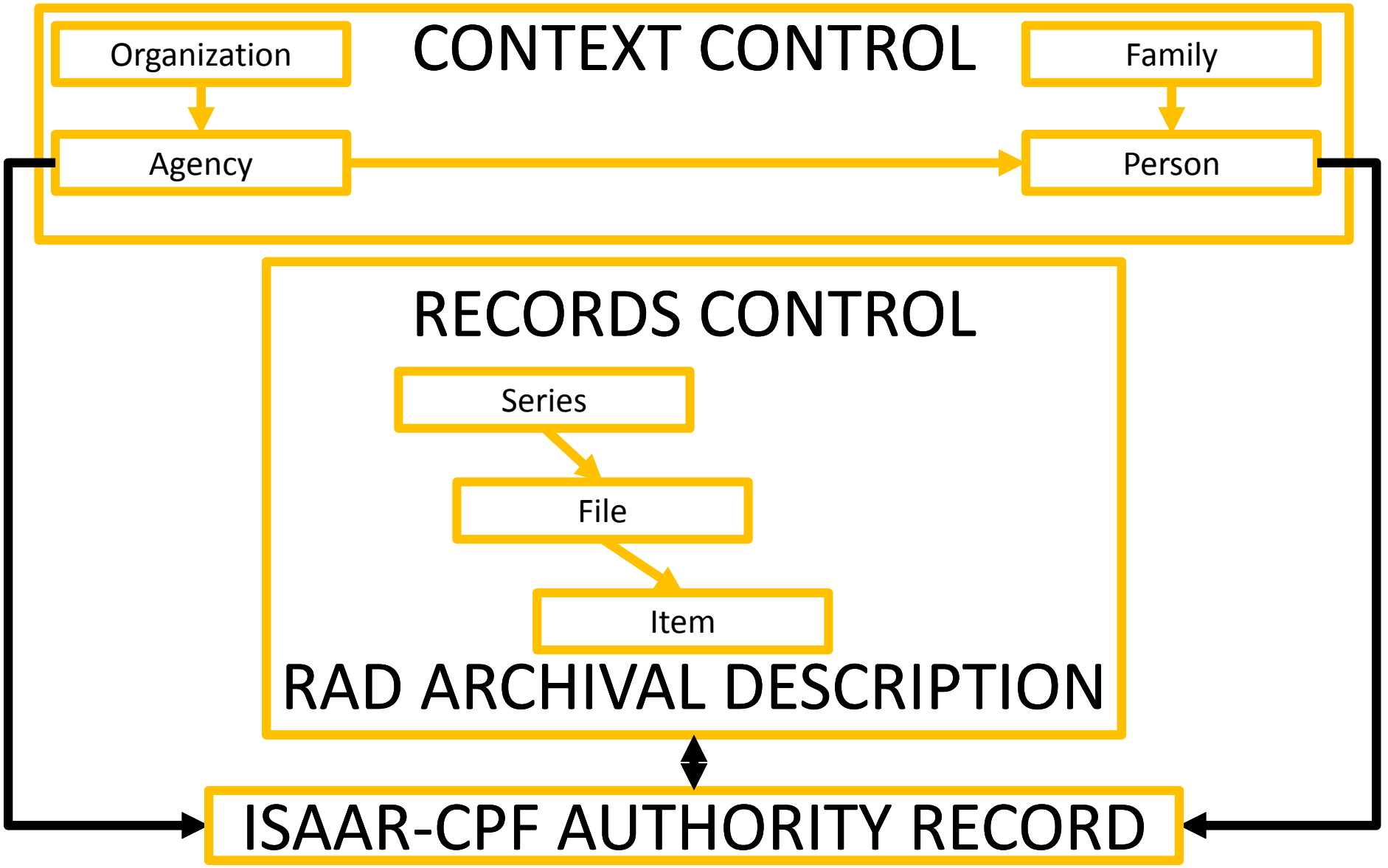
- Minimal processing
- Reuse of metadata supplied by creator
- User contributions
- Automated capture of descriptive information

ISAAR(CPF)

International Council on Archives

- First edition published in 1996
- Second edition published in 2004
- Provides guidance for preparing authority records
- How can authority records be used in archival description systems?

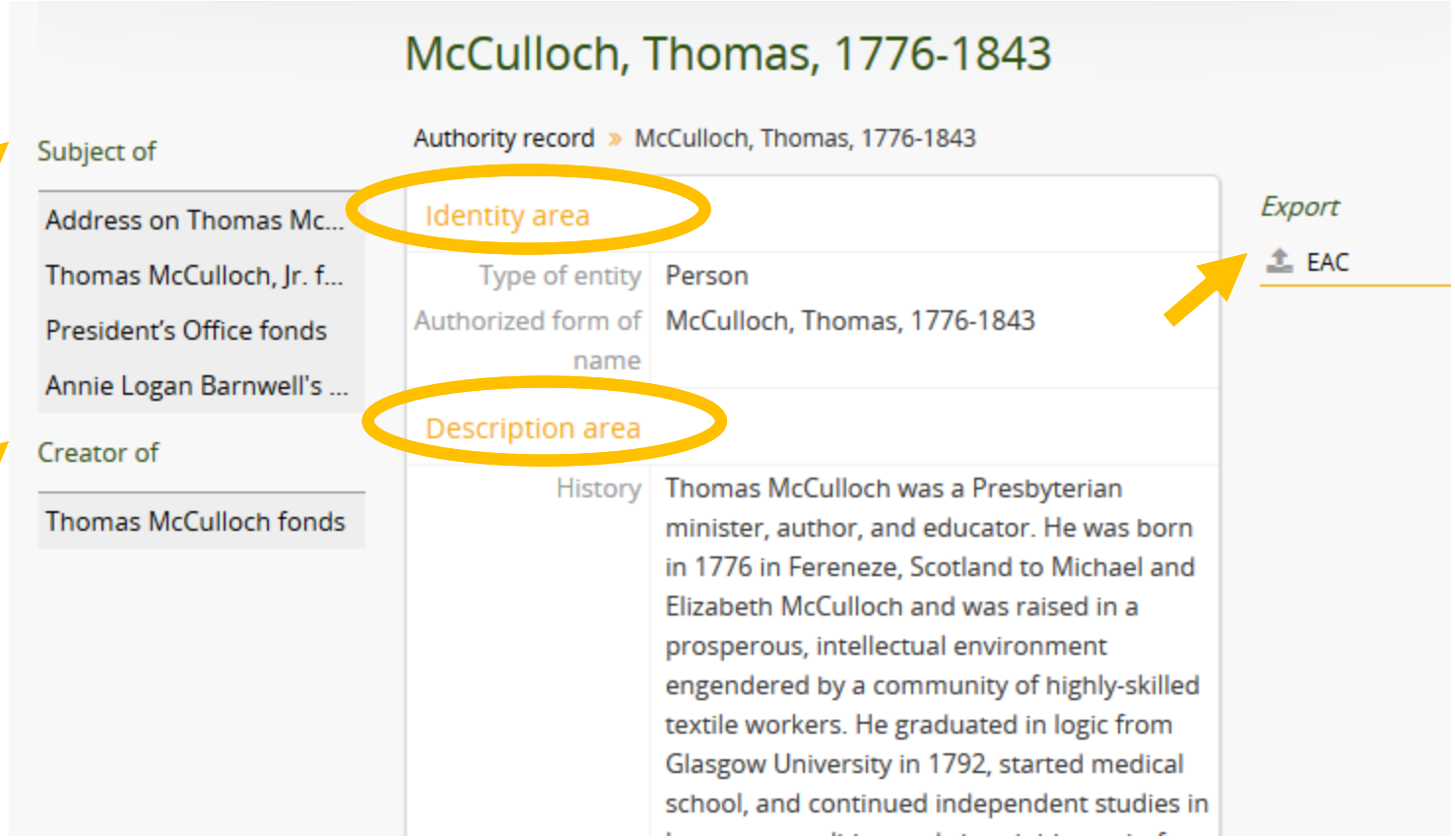

RECORDS AND CONTEXT CONTROL
PROVENANCE
FONDS
Corporate body
Person
Family
Series
File
Item
RAD ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION


CONTEXT CONTROL
Organization
Agency
Family
Person
RECORDS CONTROL
Series
File
Item
RAD ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION
ISAAR-CPF AUTHORITY RECORD

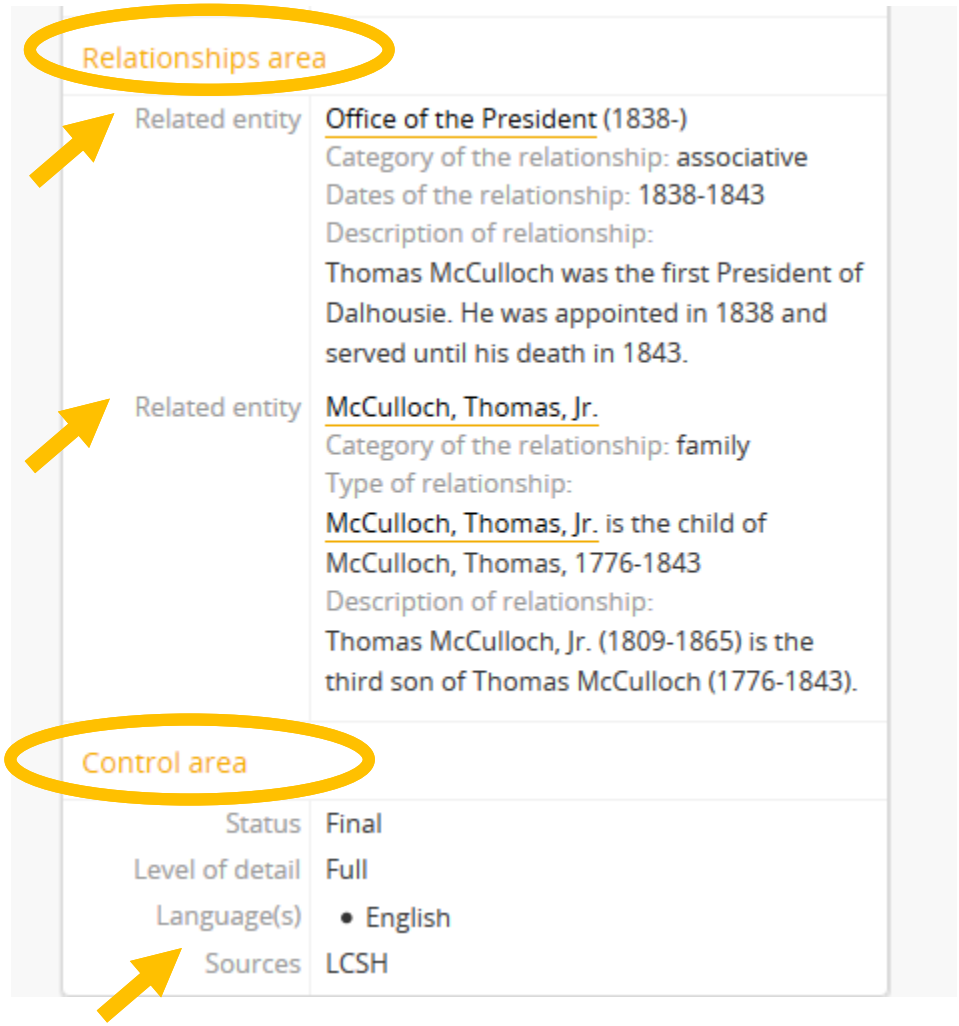
ELEMENTS OF AN AUTHORITY RECORD

- Identity area
- Description area
- Relationships area
- Control area

AUTHORITY RECORD



AUTHORITY RECORD



Relationships area

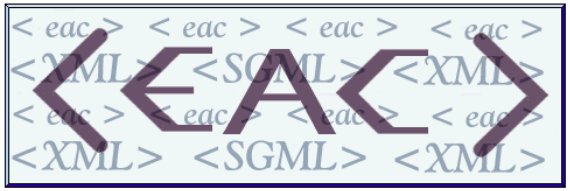
Related entity
Office of the President (1838-)
Category of the relationship: associative
Dates of the relationship: 1838-1843
Description of relationship:
Thomas McCulloch was the first President of Dalhousie. He was appointed in 1838 and served until his death in 1843.

Related entity
McCulloch, Thomas, Jr.
Category of the relationship: family
Type of relationship:
McCulloch, Thomas, Jr. is the child of McCulloch, Thomas, 1776-1843
Description of relationship:
Thomas McCulloch, Jr. (1809-1865) is the third son of Thomas McCulloch (1776-1843).

Control area

Status: Final
Level of detail: Full
Language(s): • English
Sources: LCSH

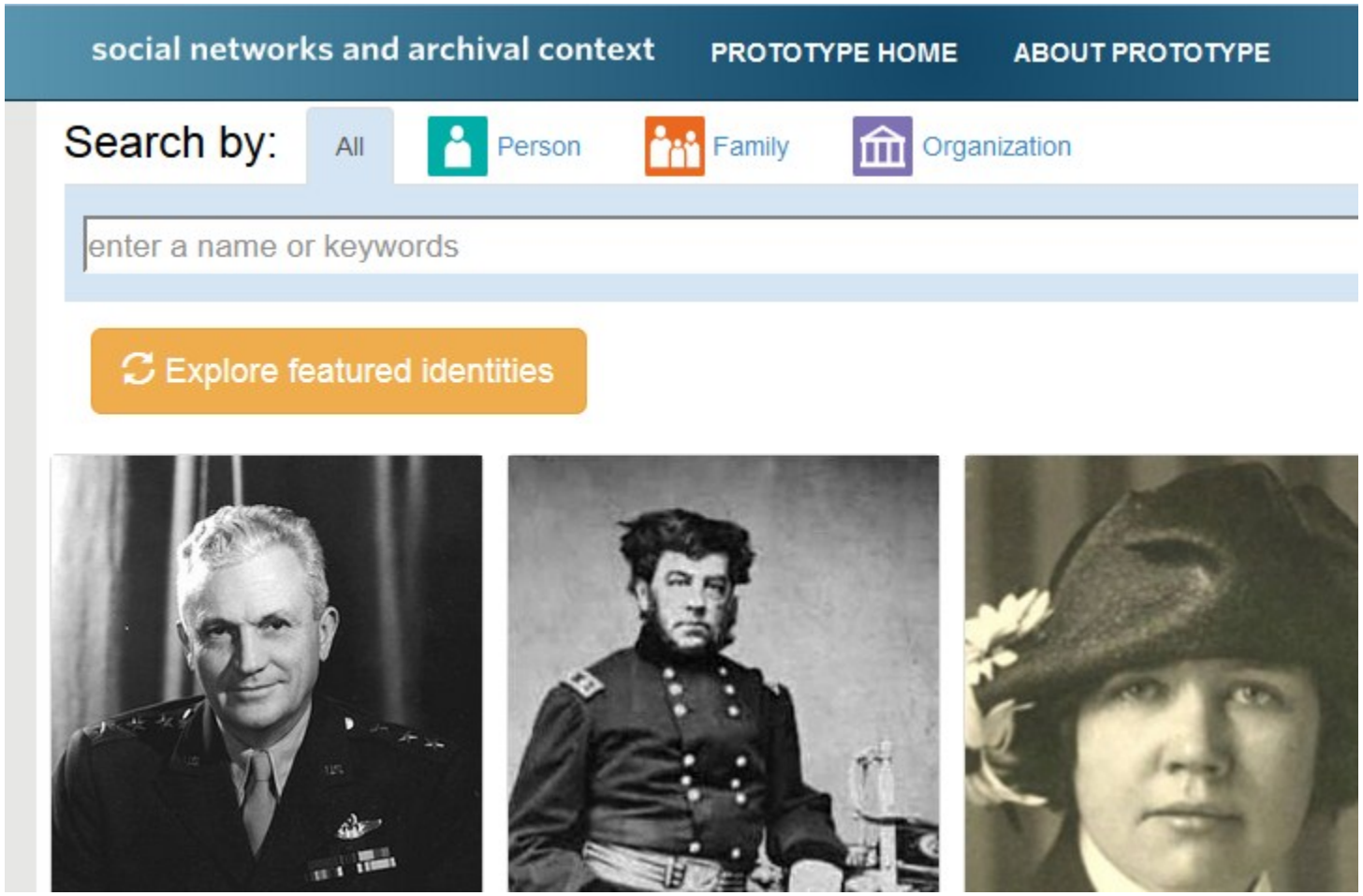
EAC



- Approved in January 2011
- Maintained by the Society of American Archivists in partnership with the Berlin State Library
- Supports the exchange of ISAAR (CPF) compliant authority records
- We will revisit the EAC standard during Week Eleven “Archives Technology”

SNAC PROJECT

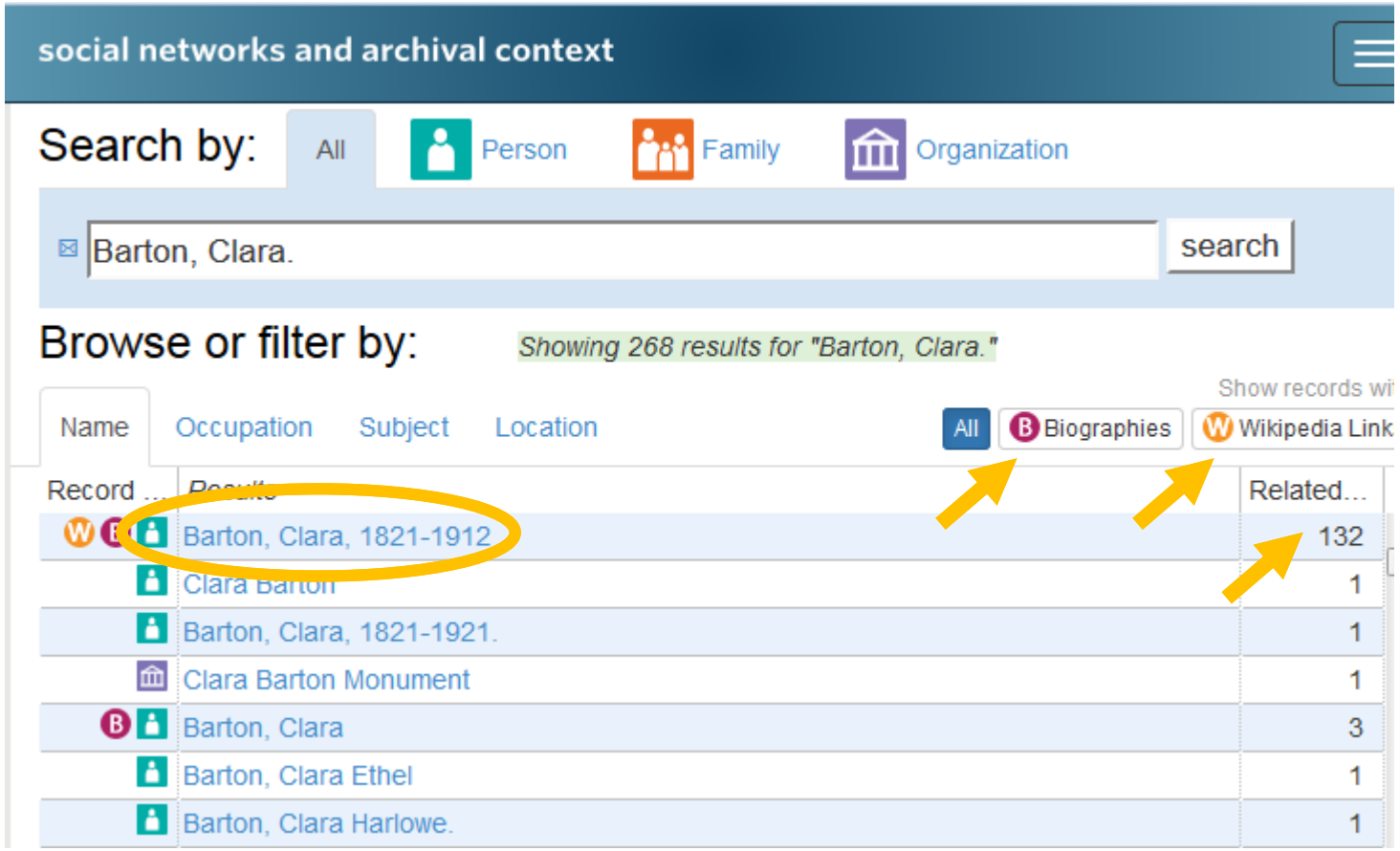
HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL



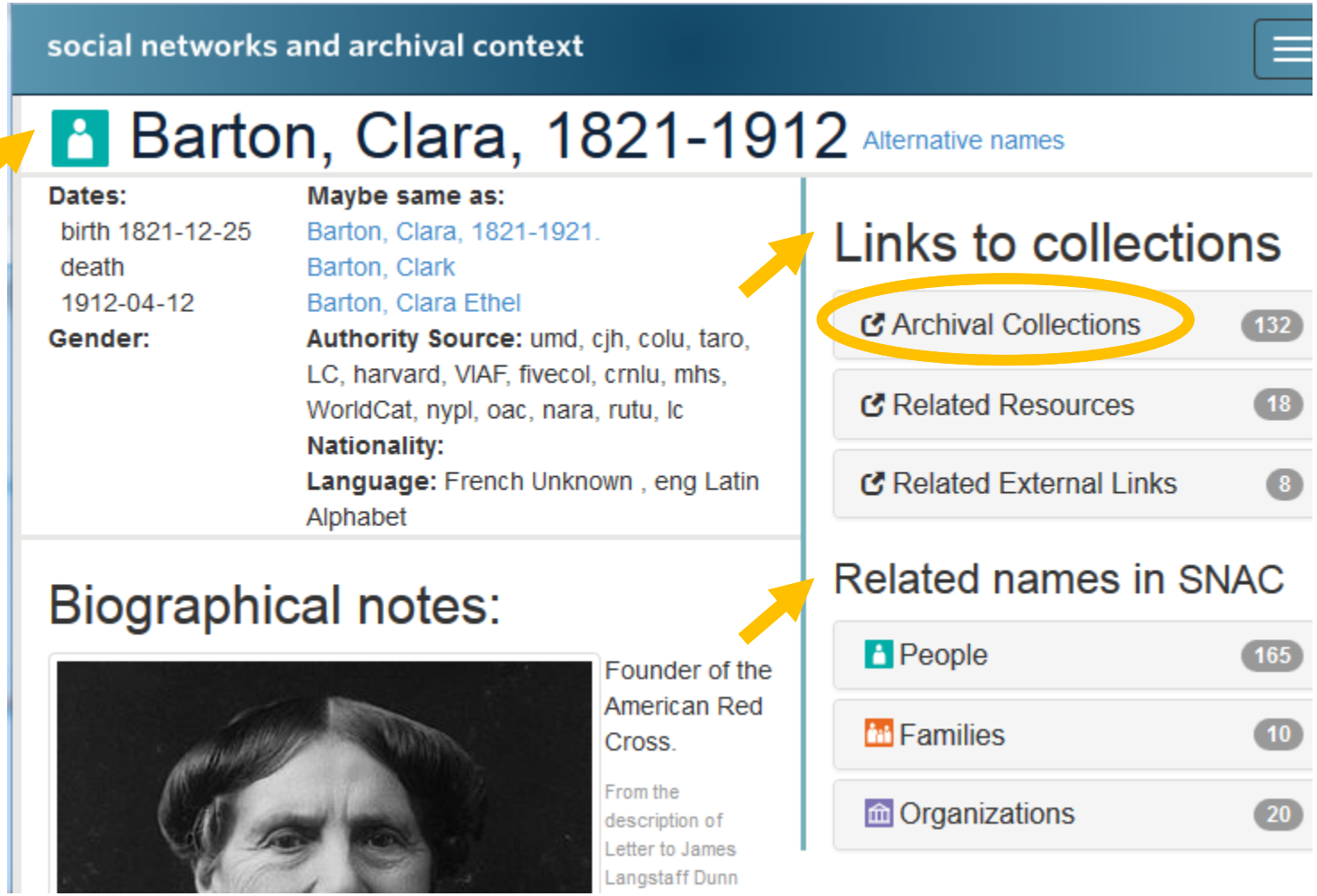
HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL

- What are some of the challenges associated with maintaining an international standards-based bank of names?
- How can the SNAC “History Research Tool” support archival reference and research services?

HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO

Founder of the American Red Cross.

From the description of Letter to James Langstaff Dunn [manuscript], 1865 September 22. (University of Virginia). WorldCat record id: 647813309

Nurse and organizer of the American National Red Cross, of Washington, D.C.

From the description of Papers, 1869. (Duke University Library). WorldCat record id: 19241558

Clara Barton (1821-1912) was the founder and for twenty-three years president of the American Red Cross. She was born in North Oxford, Mass.

Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906. Collection of material pertaining to American women of the 19th and 20th century.
Copley Press. J.S.Copley Library

Bancroft, George, 1800-1891. Papers, 1816-1890.
Massachusetts Historical Society

Barton, Clara, 1821-1912,. Typescript letter signed from Clara Barton, Washington, D.C., to Augustin Daly [manuscript], 1894 November 26.
Folger Shakespeare Library

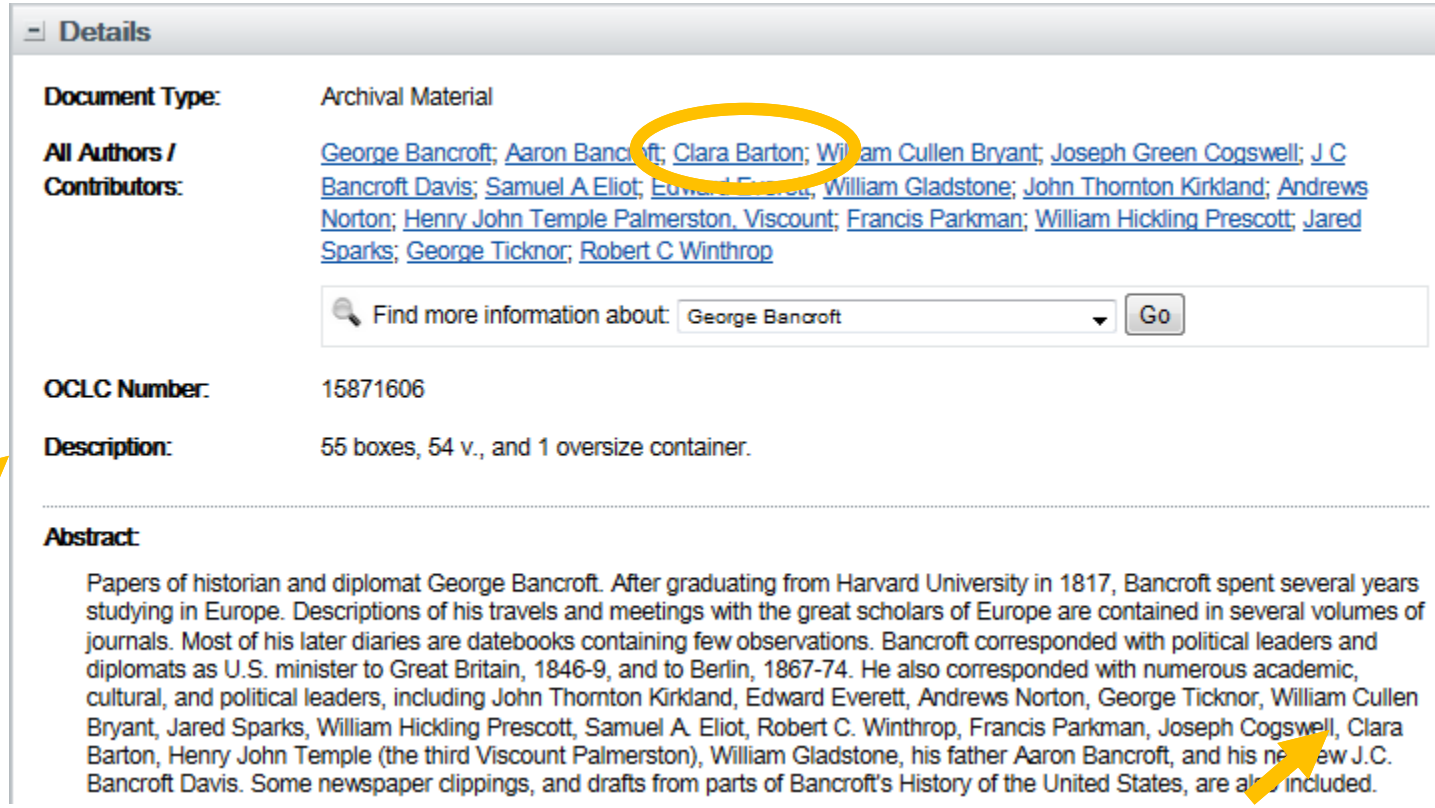
Barton, Clara, 1821-1912. ALS : Glen Echo, [MD], to Roscoe [Wells] and Mary [Kensel], 1906 April 27.
Boston Public Library

Barton, Clara, 1821-1912. ALS : Red Cross Park, Ind., to "my dear cousin," 1895 Oct. 31.
Boston Public Library

Barton, Clara, 1821-1912. ALS : Washington, D.C., to "my dear cousin,"

HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO

HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



Details

Document Type: Archival Material

All Authors / Contributors: George Bancroft; Aaron Bancroft; Clara Barton; William Cullen Bryant; Joseph Green Cogswell; J C Bancroft Davis; Samuel A Eliot; Edward Everett; William Gladstone; John Thornton Kirkland; Andrews Norton; Henry John Temple Palmerston, Viscount; Francis Parkman; William Hickling Prescott; Jared Sparks; George Ticknor; Robert C Winthrop

Find more information about: George Bancroft Go

OCLC Number: 15871606

Description: 55 boxes, 54 v., and 1 oversize container.

Abstract:

Papers of historian and diplomat George Bancroft. After graduating from Harvard University in 1817, Bancroft spent several years studying in Europe. Descriptions of his travels and meetings with the great scholars of Europe are contained in several volumes of journals. Most of his later diaries are datebooks containing few observations. Bancroft corresponded with political leaders and diplomats as U.S. minister to Great Britain, 1846-9, and to Berlin, 1867-74. He also corresponded with numerous academic, cultural, and political leaders, including John Thornton Kirkland, Edward Everett, Andrews Norton, George Ticknor, William Cullen Bryant, Jared Sparks, William Hickling Prescott, Samuel A. Eliot, Robert C. Winthrop, Francis Parkman, Joseph Cogswell, Clara Barton, Henry John Temple (the third Viscount Palmerston), William Gladstone, his father Aaron Bancroft, and his nephew J.C. Bancroft Davis. Some newspaper clippings, and drafts from parts of Bancroft's History of the United States, are also included.

HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO

schema:contributor	<http://viaf.org/viaf/13104930>
	rdf:type: schema:Person
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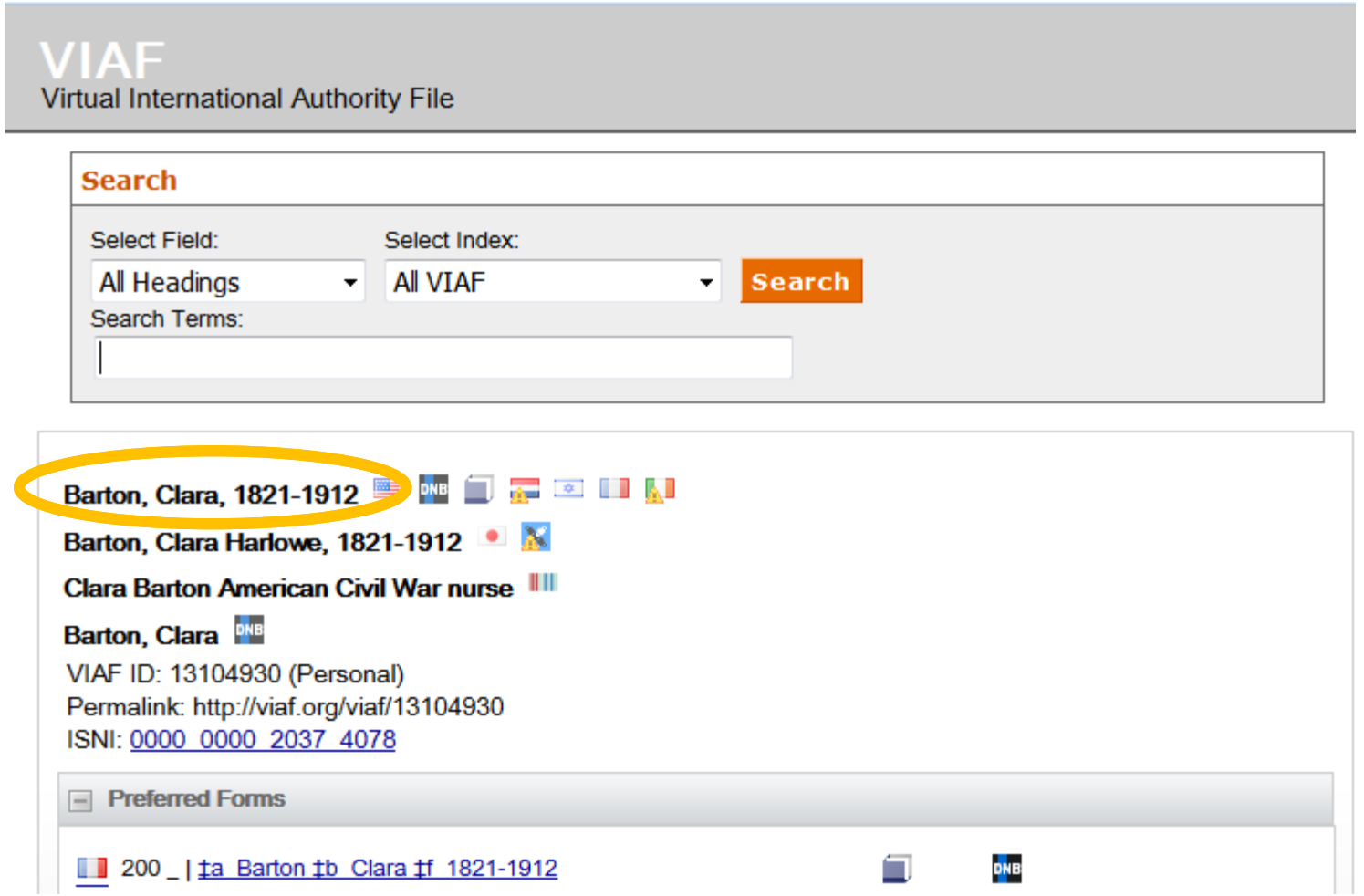
	schema:deathDate: "1912"
	schema:familyName: "Barton"
	schema:givenName: "Clara"
	schema:name: "Barton, Clara, 1821-1912."
schema:contributor	<http://viaf.org/viaf/51698419>
	rdf:type: schema:Person
	schema:birthDate: "1784"
	schema:deathDate: "1865"
	schema:familyName: "Palmerston"
	schema:givenName: "Henry John Temple"
	schema:name: "Palmerston, Henry John Temple, Viscount, 1784-1865."

HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO

Preferred Forms

200 _ | ‡a Barton ‡b Clara ‡f 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara (undifferentiated) (sparse)

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara Harlowe ‡d 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara Harlowe, ‡d 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara ‡d 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara, ‡d 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara, ‡d 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara, ‡d 1821-1912

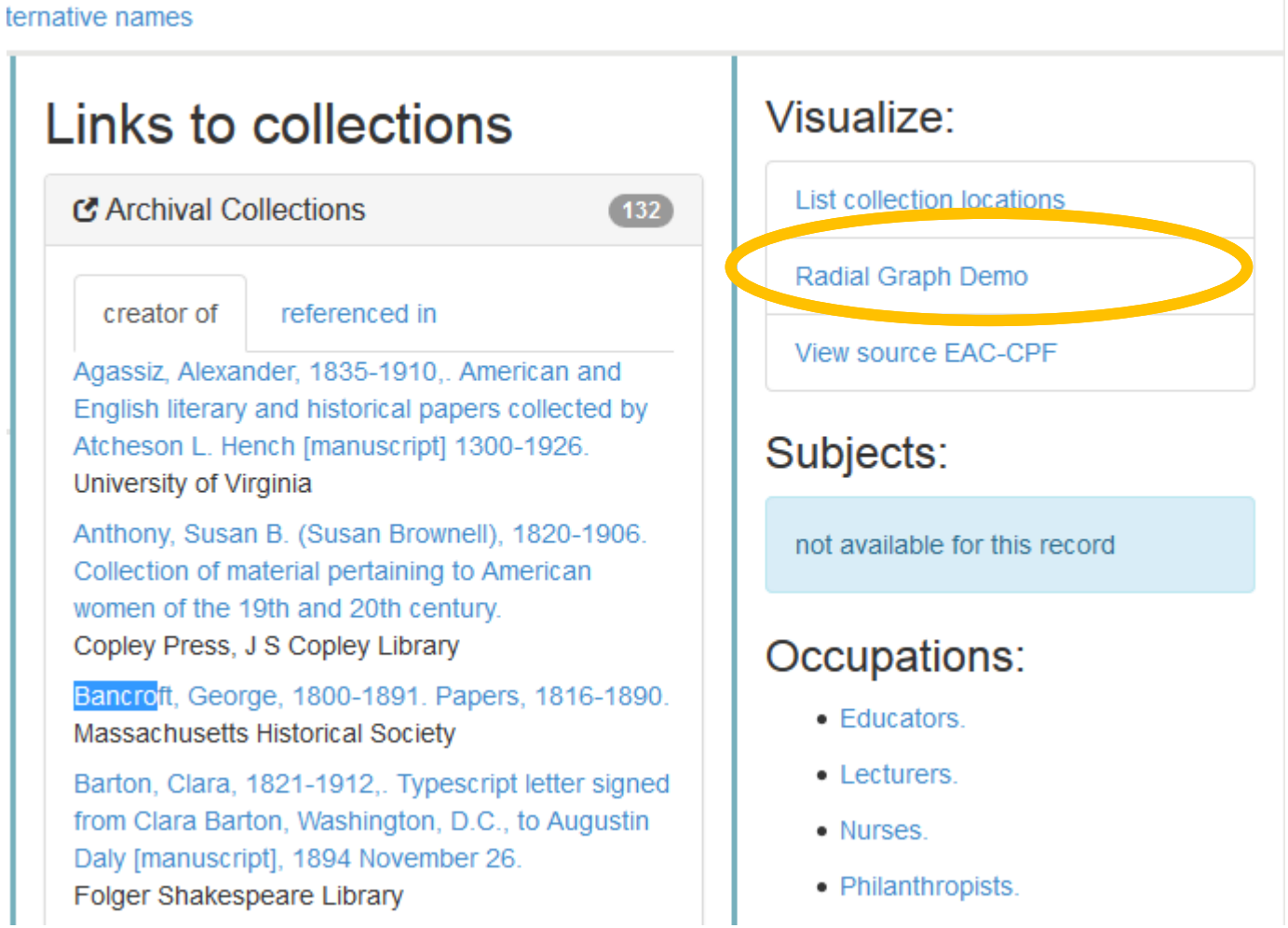
100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara, ‡d 1821-1912

100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara, ‡d 1821-1912

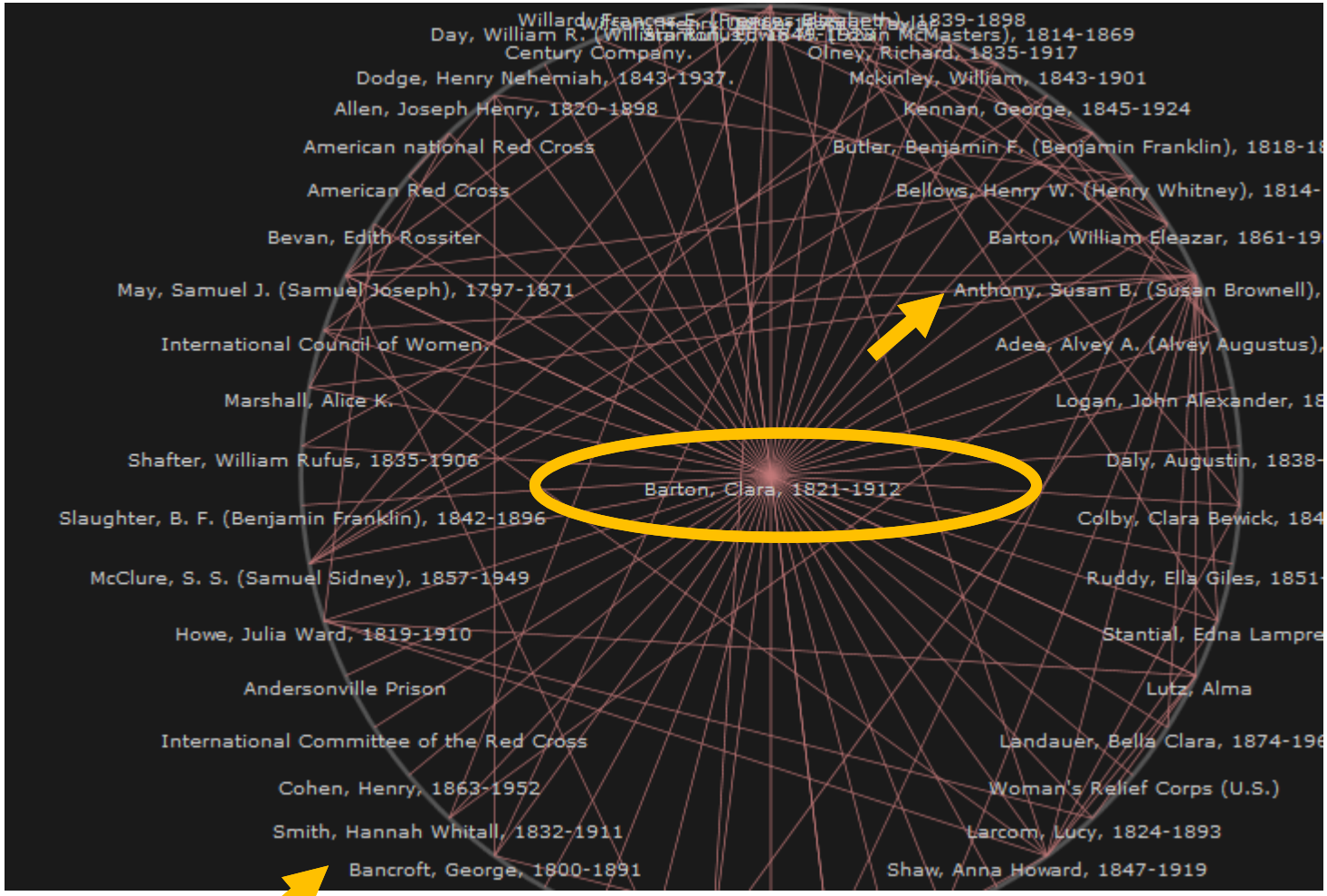
100 1 _ ‡a Barton, Clara, ‡d 1821-1912

100 0 _ ‡a Clara Barton ‡c American Civil War nurse

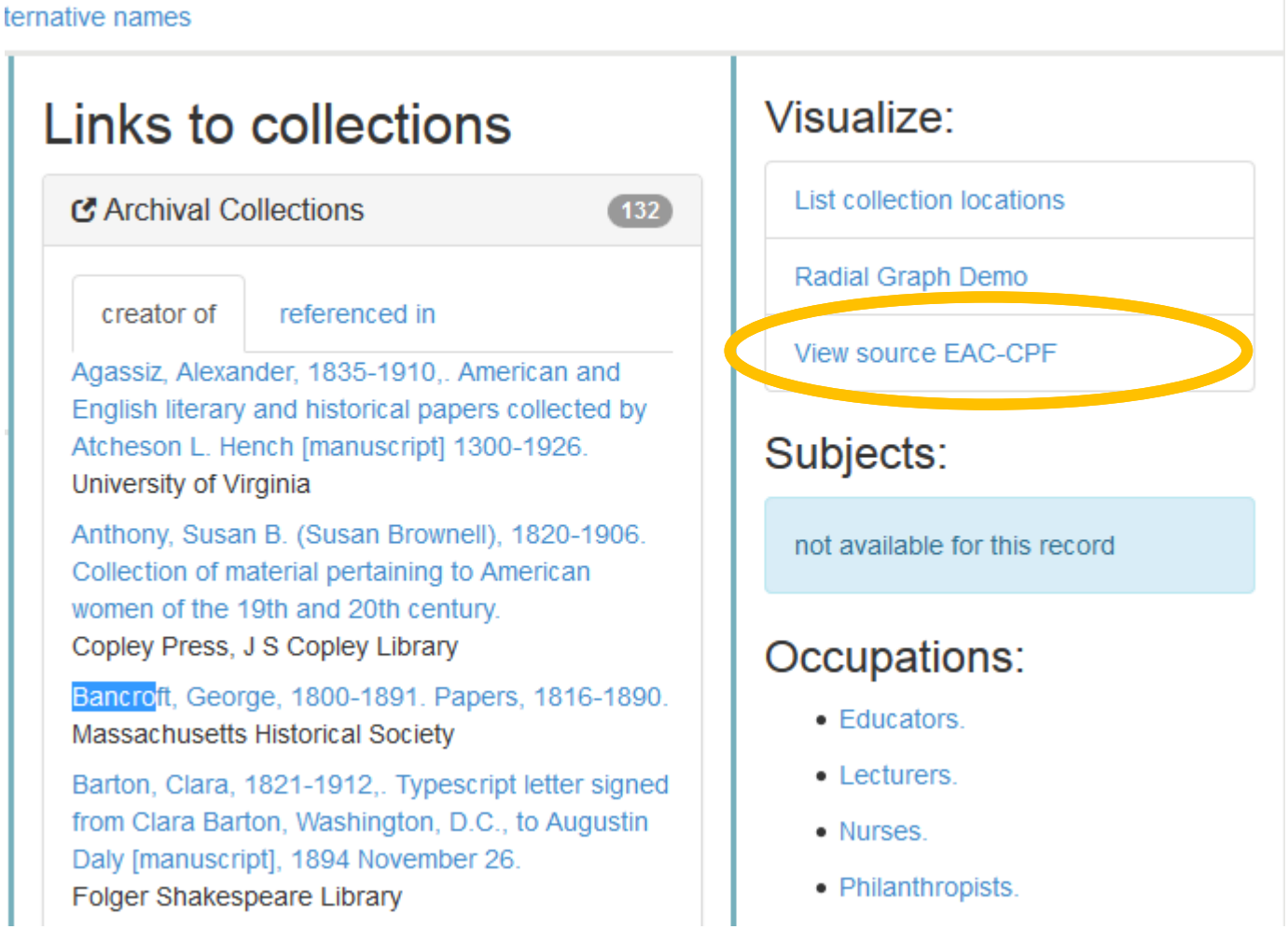
HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



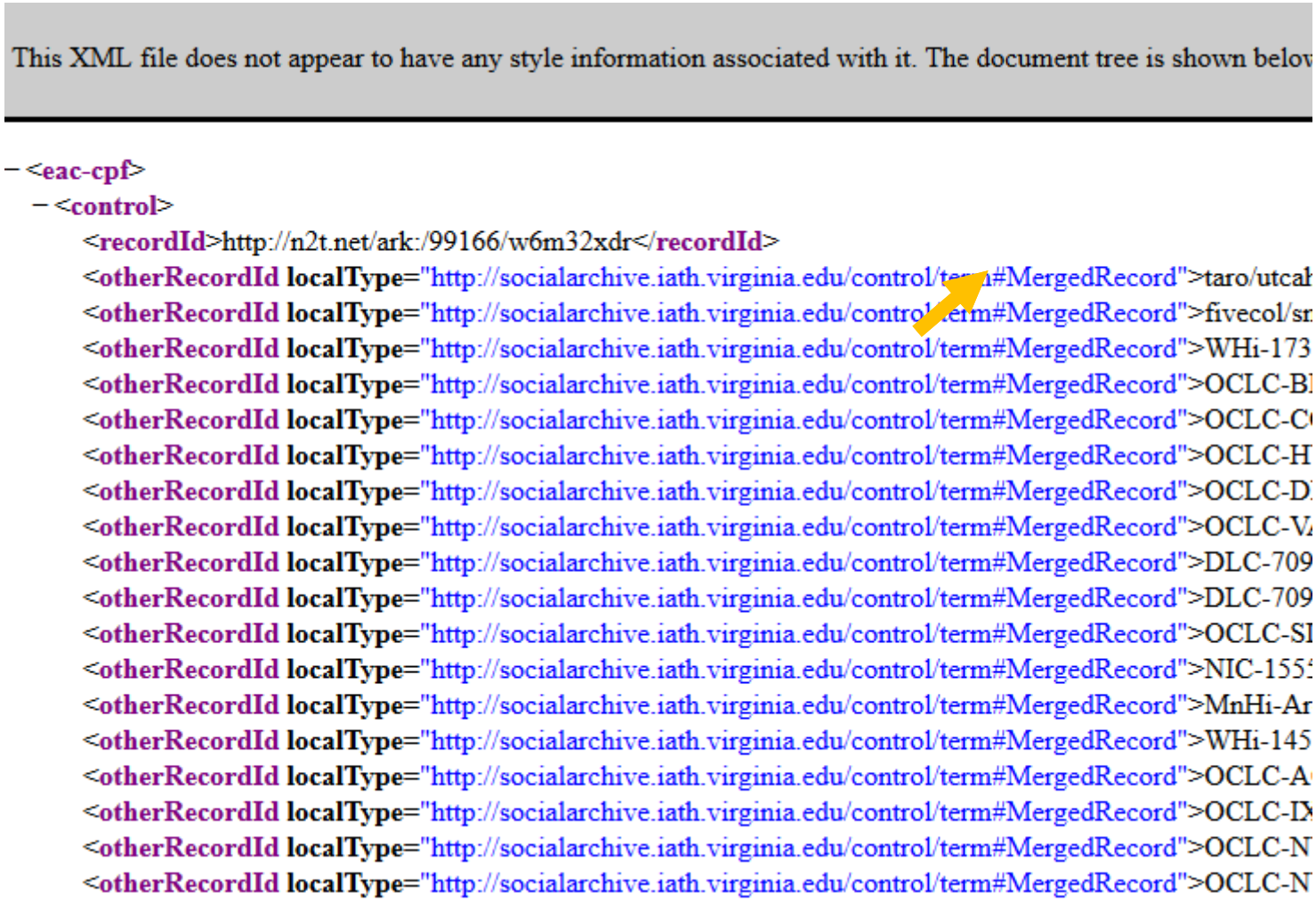
HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



HISTORY RESEARCH TOOL DEMO



READINGS

Barney, Brett et al. “Ordering Chaos: An Integrated Guide and Online Archive of Walt Whitman’s Poetry Manuscripts.” *Literary and Linguistic Computing* 20, no. 2 (2005): 205-217. http://llc.oxfordjournals.org.ezproxy.library.dal.ca/content/20/2/205.full.pdf+html.

Pitti, Daniel et al. “Social Networks and Archival Context: From Project to Cooperative Program.” *Journal of Archival Organization* 12, no. 1-2 (2014): 77–97. http://www.tandfonline.com.ezproxy.library.dal.ca/doi/abs/10.1080/15332748.2015.999544#.VRl5xuEl92A.

READINGS

"History Research Tool." Social Networks and Archival Context (SNAC) Project. http://socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/snac/search.

Yeo, Geoffrey. "Archival Description in the Era of Digital Abundance." *Comma* 2013, no. 2 (Spring 2015): 15-26. doi:10.3828/comma.2013.2.2. (available in course website).

IMAGES

Slides 9-11: Screenshots of the Walt Whitman Archive: http://www.whitmanarchive.org/

Slide 12: Screenshot of the SNAC website: http://socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/

Slides 21-22: Screenshot of authority record from Dalhousie Archives Catalogue and Online Collections

Slide 24, Slides 26-37: Screenshot of the SNAC History Research Tool and related sites: http://socialarchive.iath.virginia.edu/snac/search