

# The Models of Authority Project (MoA)

## Extending the DigiPal Framework for Script and Decoration

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### What is the MoA Project?

The project's research questions lie in the contents, script and physical appearance of the surviving corpus of **Scottish royal charters** from 1100–1250. Through close examination of the **diplomatic and palaeographic features** of the charters, the project team are exploring evidence for developments in the **perception of royal government** during a crucial period in Scottish history by looking at the **choice of visual models** behind royal and local documents. Funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council, it finishes on **31 July 2017**.

### Bringing Text to MoA/DigiPal

Features of handwriting depend not only on the type of manuscript and social context of production, but also on the text itself. In order to address the research questions, the **DigiPal framework** has been extended by adding a **generalised textual component**, such that **arbitrary marked-up texts** (transcription, translation, codicological description, etc.) may be **associated with image segments**, in parallel to the structured palaeographical markup. This allows one to **explore relationships between script and text**, such as

- **View samples of script** according to diplomatic function (address clause, witness list, ...)
- Present an **image of the page** alongside and **synchronised with corresponding texts** (transcription, translation, codicological description...)
- Leverage existing **visualisations** to explore elements in diplomatic formula

Result Type (7)	Cat. Num.	Document Type	Repository City	Repository	Shelfmark	MS Date	Text Type
Manuscripts	ND App., no. 167 POMS	Charter	Durham	Durham Cathedral Archives	DDO 1.1.Sacr.12	1198 x 1233	Transcription
Images	Document 3/93/2						
Scribes							
Texts							
Graphs							
Clauses							
Titles							
Document Type (5)	ND App., no. 172 POMS	Charter	Durham	Durham Cathedral Archives	DDO 4.3.Sacr.1 (previously, Misc. Ch. 715)	1189 x 1207	Transcription
Charter	Document 3/586/1						
Brieve							
Settlement							
Brieve-Charter							
Notification							
Repository City (3)							
Edinburgh	109						

### Filtering Images by Text Type

Linking text, image region and document metadata allows **complex searches according to project-specific criteria** which in turn enable (for instance) comparison of the **visual form of different parts of the text**. For instance, the address clause at the start of the charter is often written in a distinctive style, with characteristic elongation and additional decoration of letters. The new MoA framework allows one to **view and compare these portions of the document**, filtering and ordering results according to date, type of document, the role of the person issuing the document (royal, ecclesiastic), repository and so on. This then allows the project team to **trace the dissemination of new developments in the visual appearance of charters**.

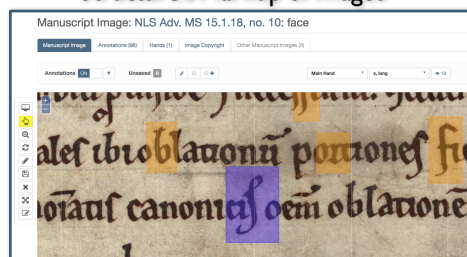
### Presenting Texts and Images

A **new editor/viewer** allows one to select from a range of different texts and images that are associated to each other, such as an image of a page, a transcription of the text, a translation of the text, or a codicological description of the page. Texts can be marked up to **highlight segments**, and these in turn can be **linked to image regions**. The user can **alter the display** (eg. highlighting clauses, showing or hiding expanded abbreviations etc.), can **synchronise panes** (so moving to a new page image automatically updates the text and translation), and so on. The range of texts, images and markup can all be **customised according to the needs of the project**.

The screenshot shows the MoA editor/viewer interface. It includes a search bar at the top with filters for 'Transcription' and 'Display'. Below the search bar is a list of results, including 'Edgar rex scottorum' and 'Omnibus per regnum suum scottis & anglis'. The main view shows a detailed view of a document, including the manuscript image, its transcription, and a translation. The interface is designed to allow users to explore the relationship between the text and the image segments.

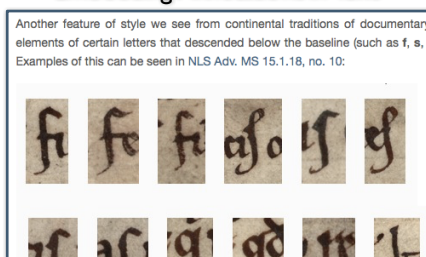
### Annotation

#### Structured Markup of Images



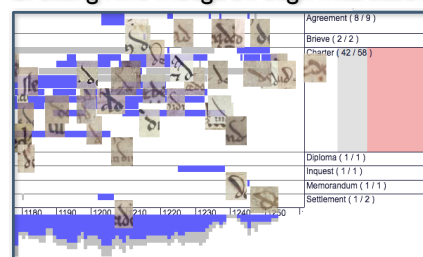
### Description

#### Embedding Annotations in Text



### Contextualisation

#### Creating Knowledge through Interaction



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