Design for Digital Humanities Project Management

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Framing Questions

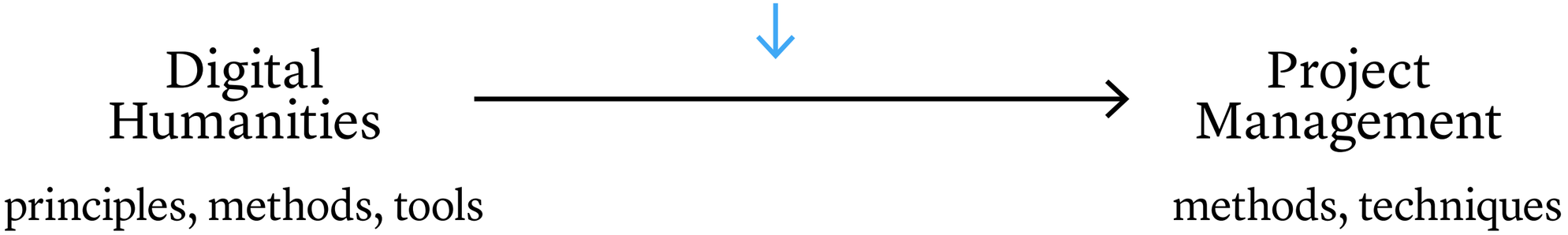
PM methodology at CDH

1. *Transparent Documentation*
2. *Critique Culture*
3. *Self-Reflective Processes in Design and DH*
4. *Communication Facilitation as a Social Process*

Q & A

What does DH teach us about PM?

inform and transform



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What's different about PM for DH?

- **Process-oriented**:
  Generating new knowledge
- **Self-reflexive**:
  Thinking about how we think
- **Dialectic**:
  Moving between the real and the preferable

How do we adapt PM techniques to DH projects?

- Consider the PM process as essential to knowledge production
- Preserve free space for experimentation
- Conceptualize PM as inherently social

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PM methodology at CDH

1 *Transparent Documentation*

PROJECT TEAM

Faculty Project Director(s)

Graduate Student Project Manager

Student Research Assistant(s)

+

CDH STAFF

Technical Lead

Database Specialist

Designer

Developer(s)

Project Manager

...

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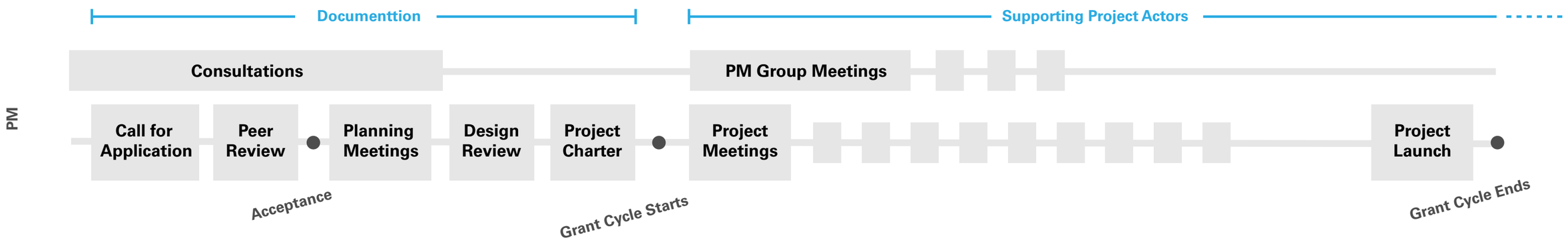
1 Transparent Documentation



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Evolving Role of Design

Problem-solver → Author, Activist → Facilitator, Integrator

form *content* *context*

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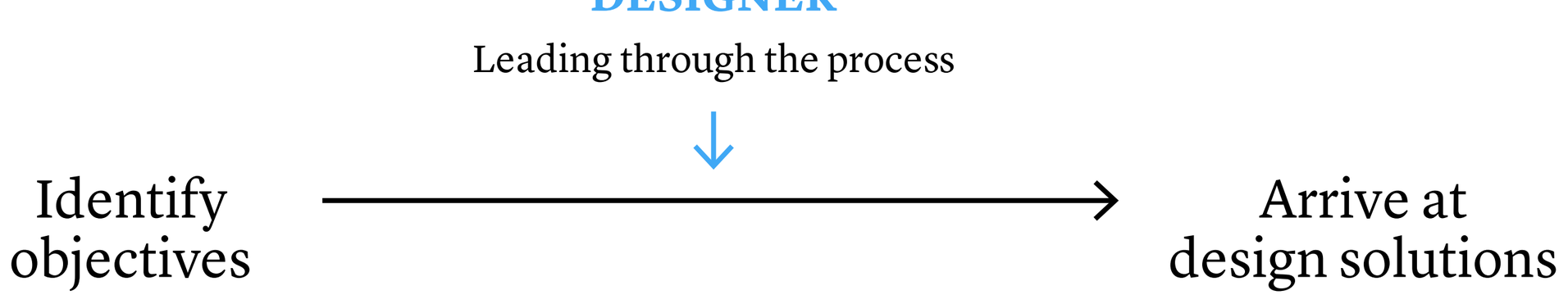
Design Today



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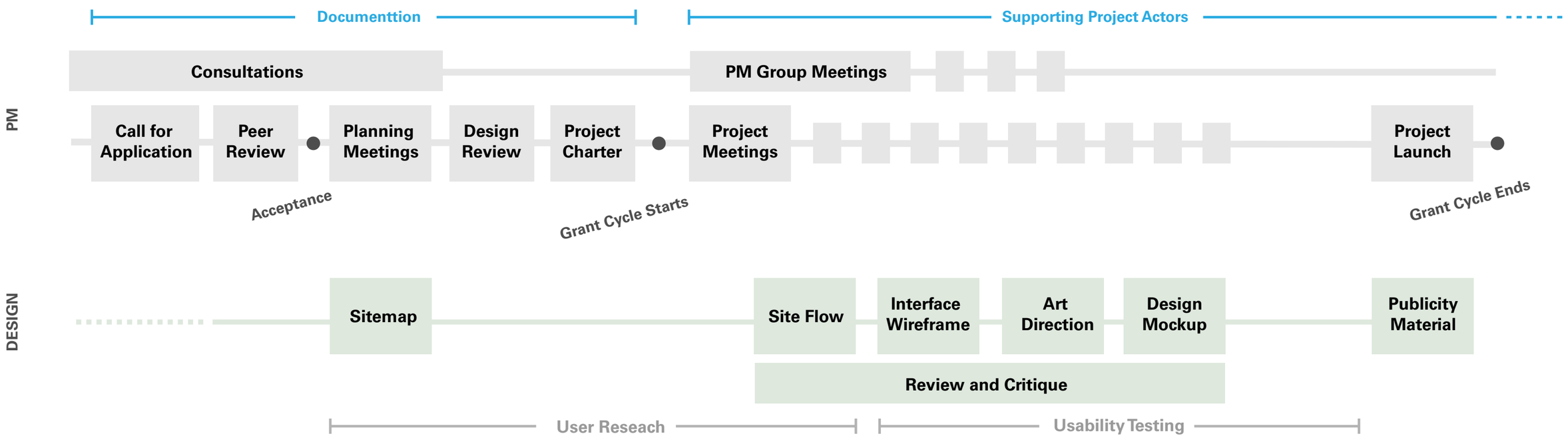

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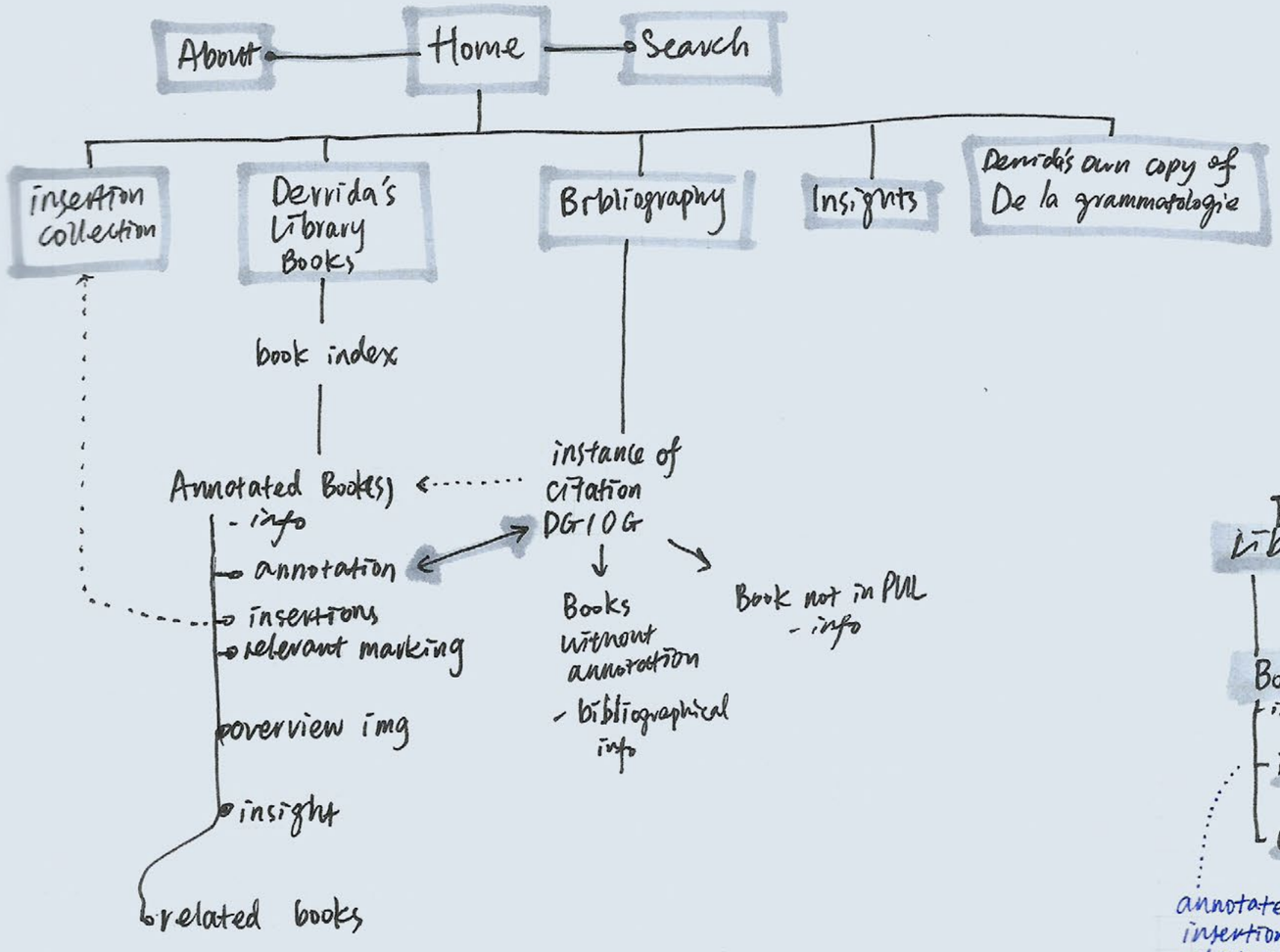
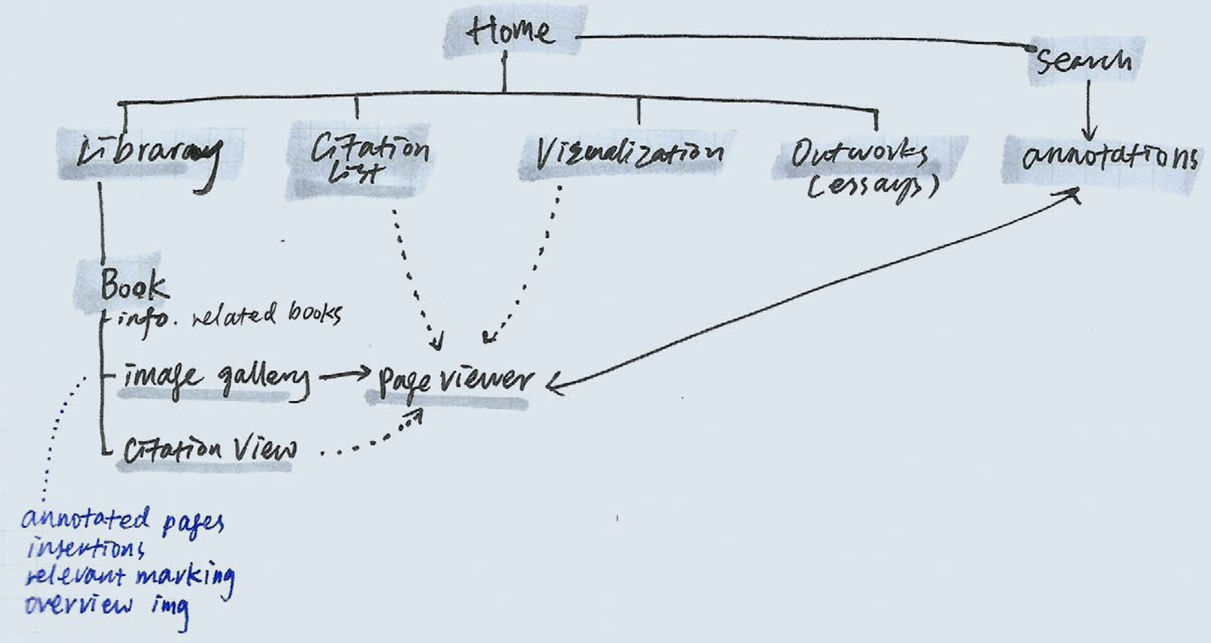
Derrida's Margins Sitemap V1





Derrida's Margins Sitemap V2

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1 Transparent Documentation

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Only show cited books that:

Extant in Derrida's Library ○ Contianing annotation ○ Containing corresponding annotation ○

Author | Subject | Language of Publication | Original Language | Place of Publication

Author

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

- Abraham, Karl 2
- Ajuriaguerra 8
- Aubenque, Pierre 8
- Axelos, Kostas 8
- Adolf, Stender-Petersen 4
- Aristote 3
- Author 3
- Barthes, Roland 3

Clear Selection

Subject

- History 30
- Philosophy 34
- Psychoanalysis 11
- Literature and Literary Criticism 30
- Linguistics 8
- Anthropology 12
- Reference 11
- History and Theory of Writing 56

Clear Selection

Language of Publication

- English 56
- French 34
- German 11
- Italian 30
- Latin 26

Clear Selection

Place of Publication

- France 56
- Belgium 34
- Germany 11
- U.S 30
- U.K 26
- Italy 26

Clear Selection

Original Publication Year | Edition Year | Printing Year | Citation Type | Cited by Derrida in *De la grammatologie*

Original Publication Year

to

1800 2017

Clear Selection

Edition Year

to

1800 2017

Clear Selection

Printing Year

to

1800 2017

Clear Selection

Citation Type

- Quotation 56
- Footnote 34
- Reference 11
- Epigraph 56

Clear Selection

Cited by Derrida in

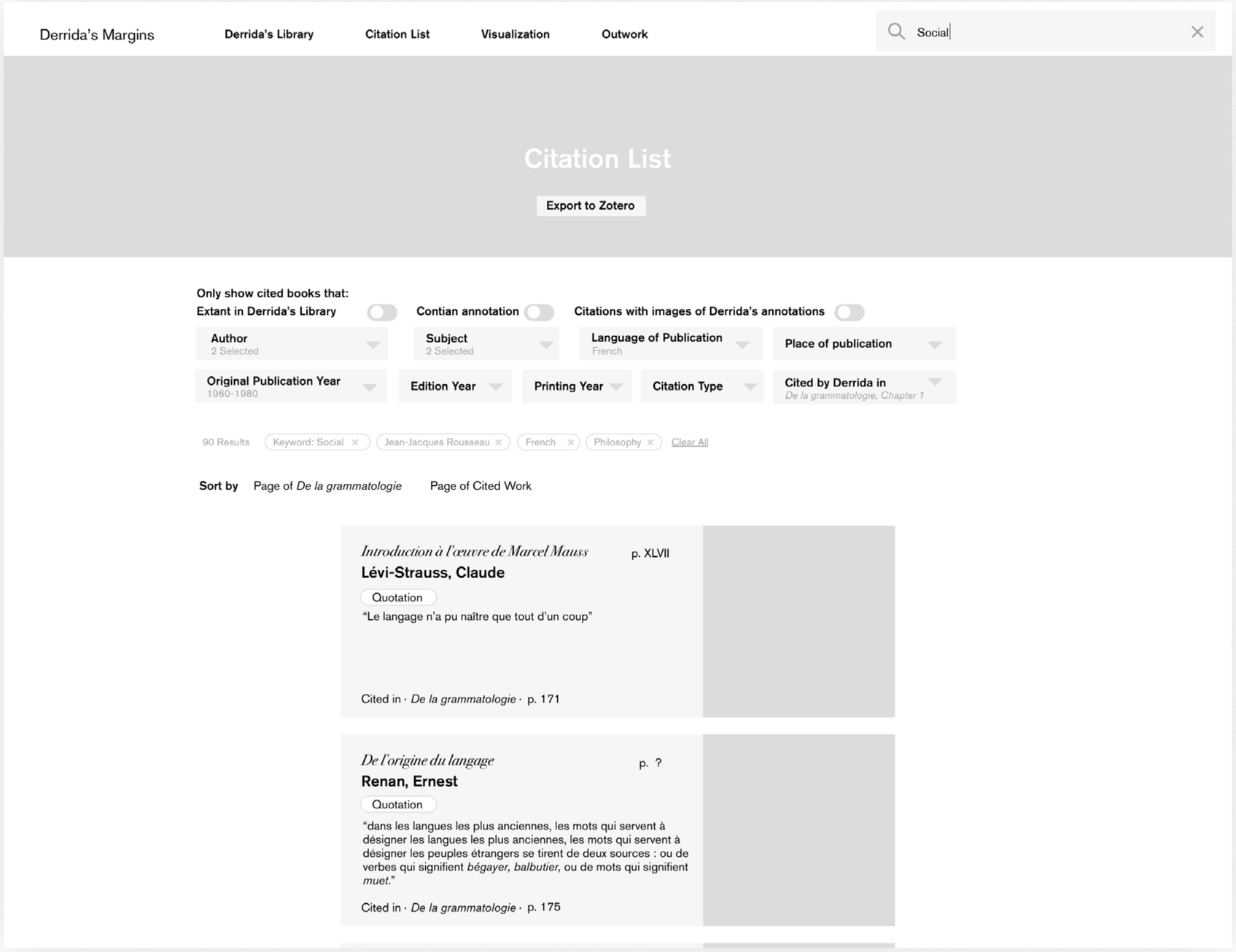
- De la grammatologie
- L'écriture et la différence

Part I
- Exergue 34
- Chapter 1 11
- Chapter 2 56
- Chapter 3 56

Part II
- Introduction 34
- Chapter 1 11
- Chapter 2 56
- Chapter 3 56
- Chapter 4 56

Clear Selection

1 Transparent Documentation



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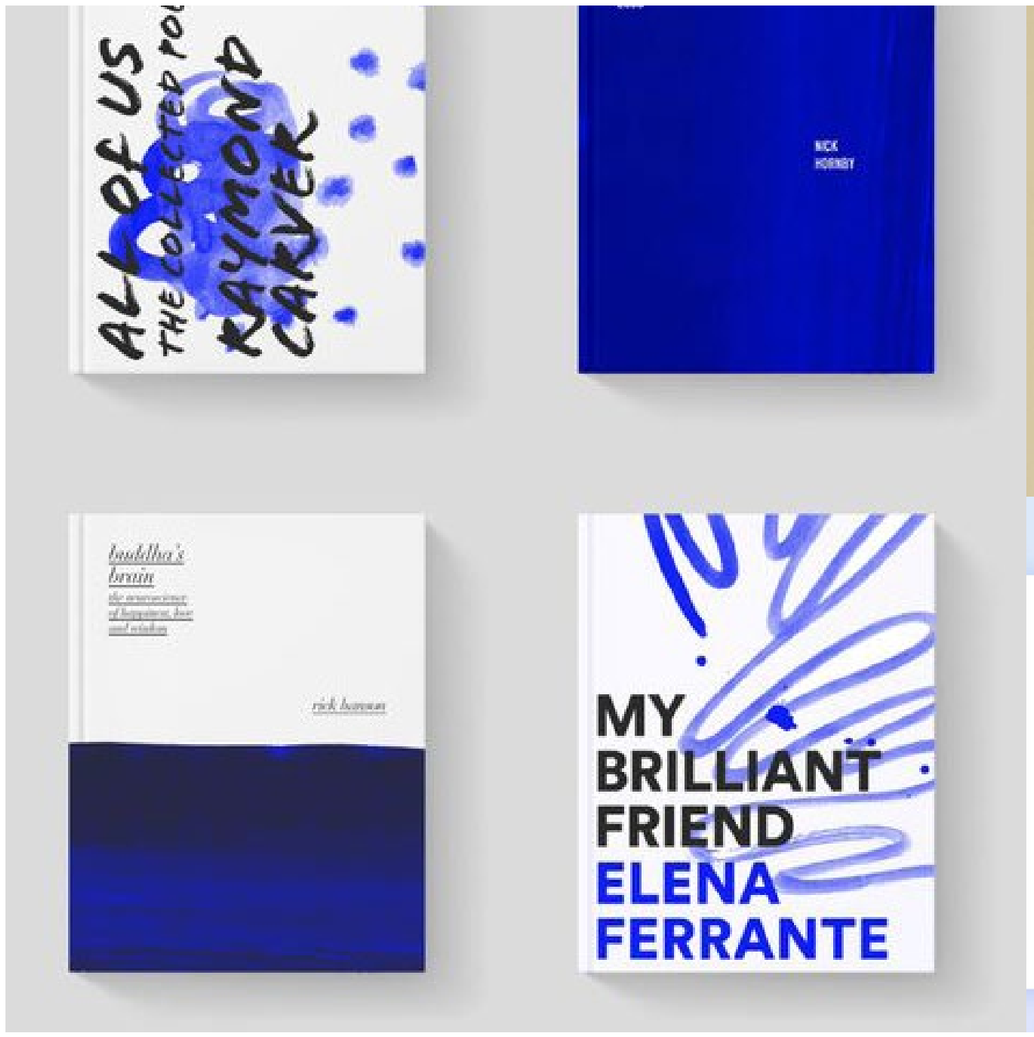

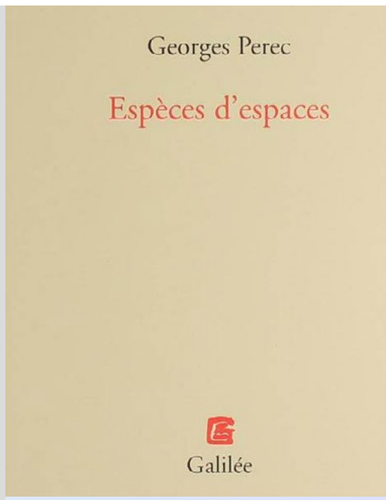

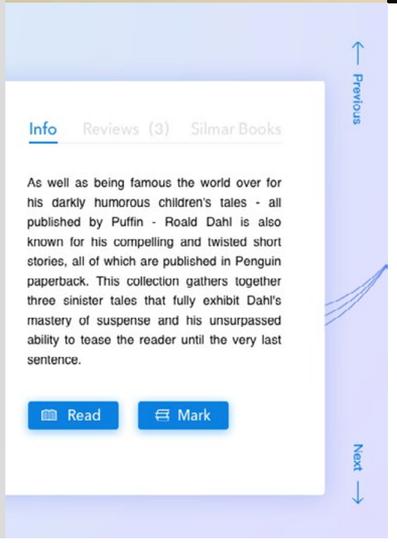

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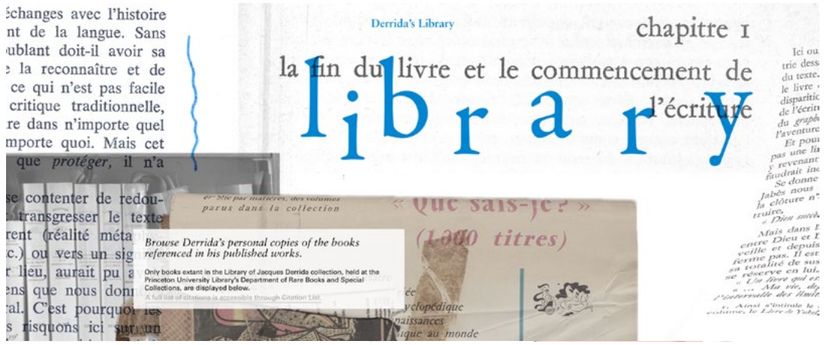

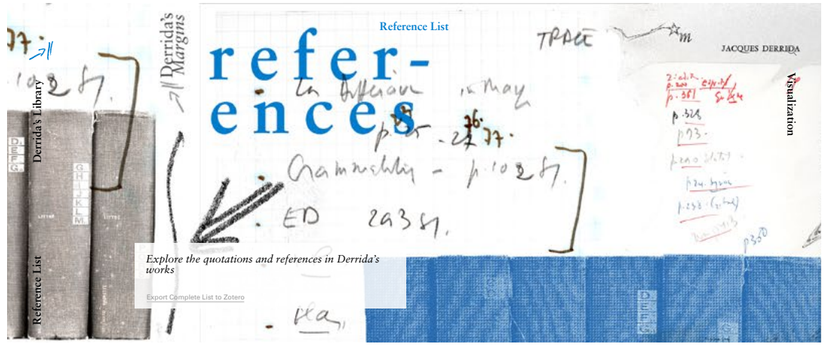

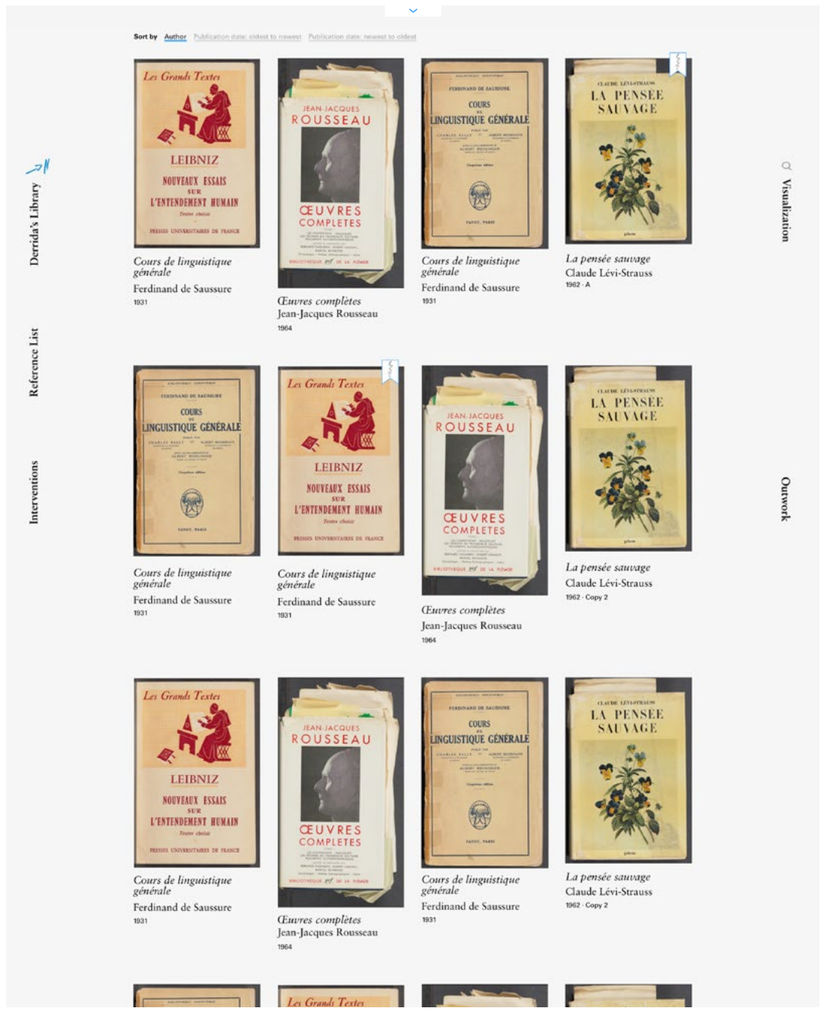

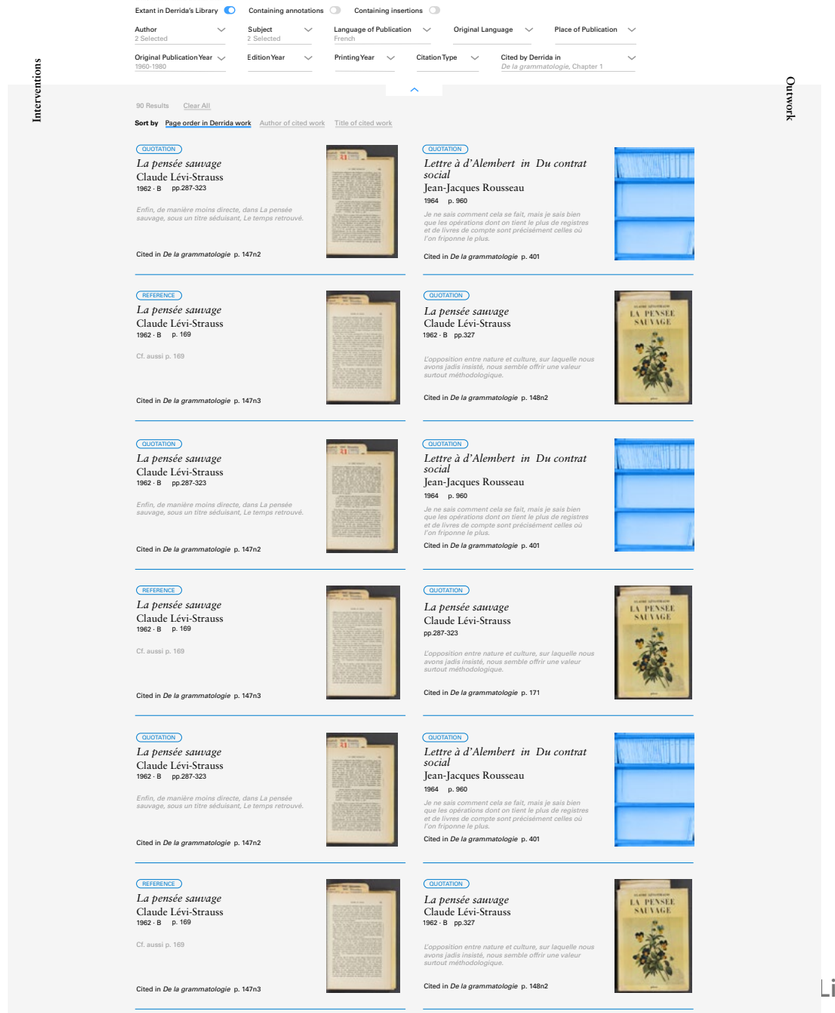

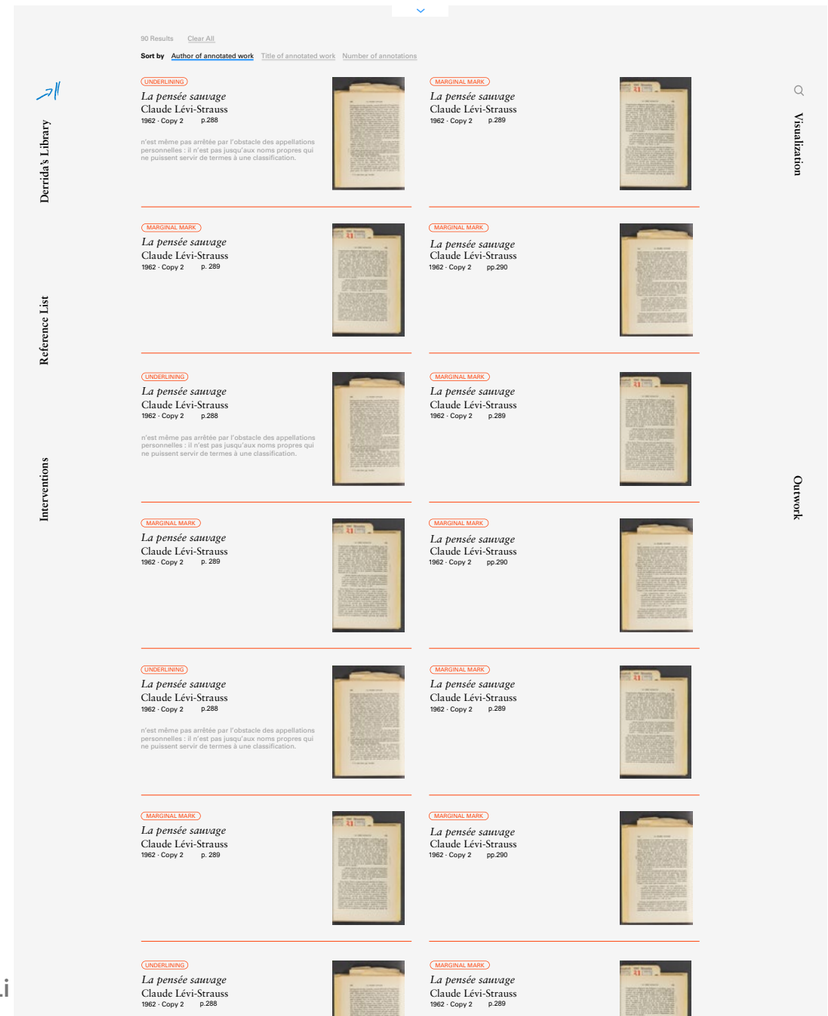

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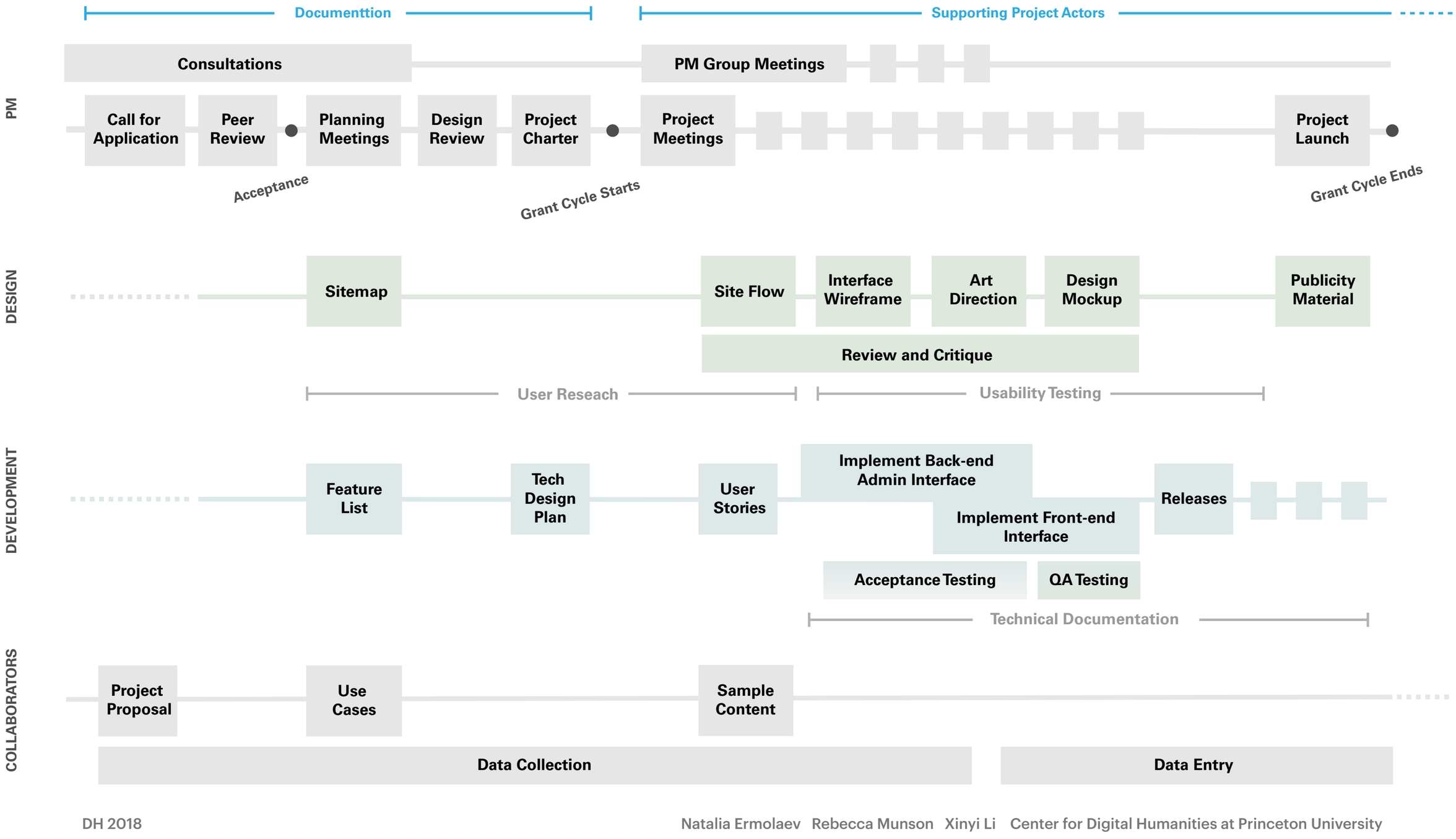

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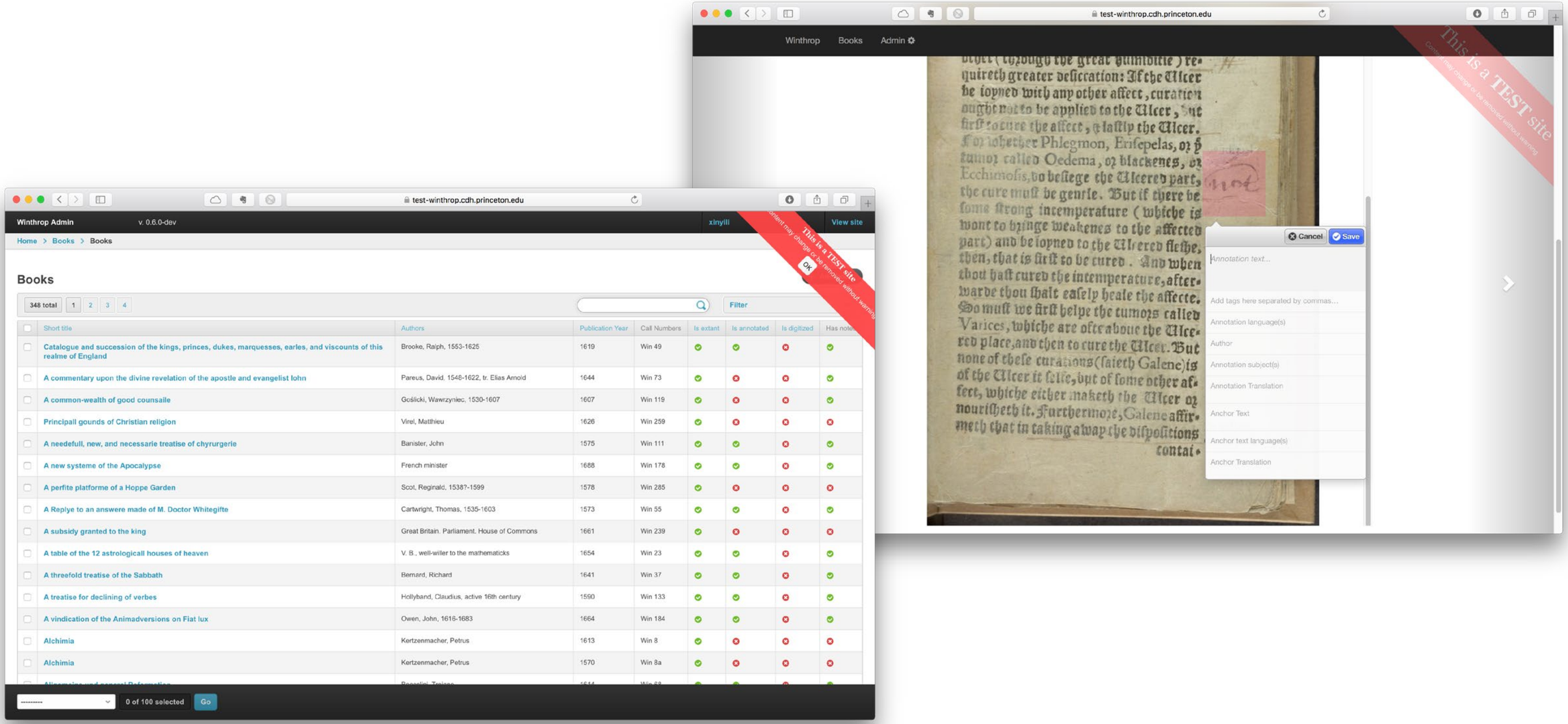

The Winthrop Family on the Page, Data managing interface

The Winthrop Family on the Page, Annotation editing interface

DH 2018

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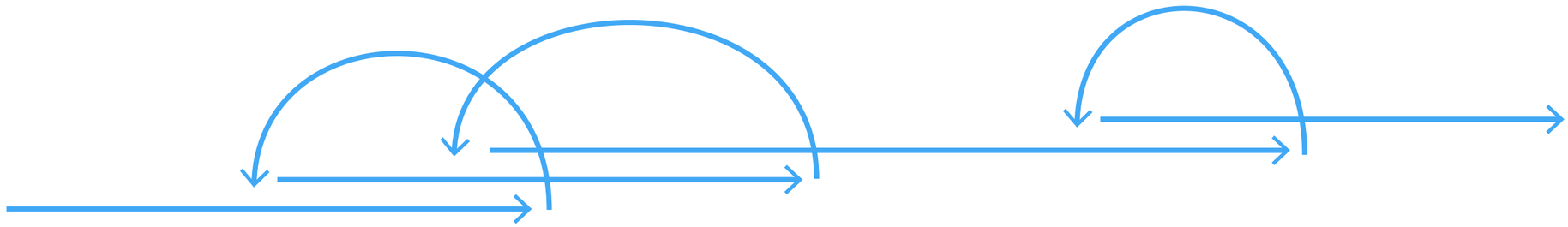

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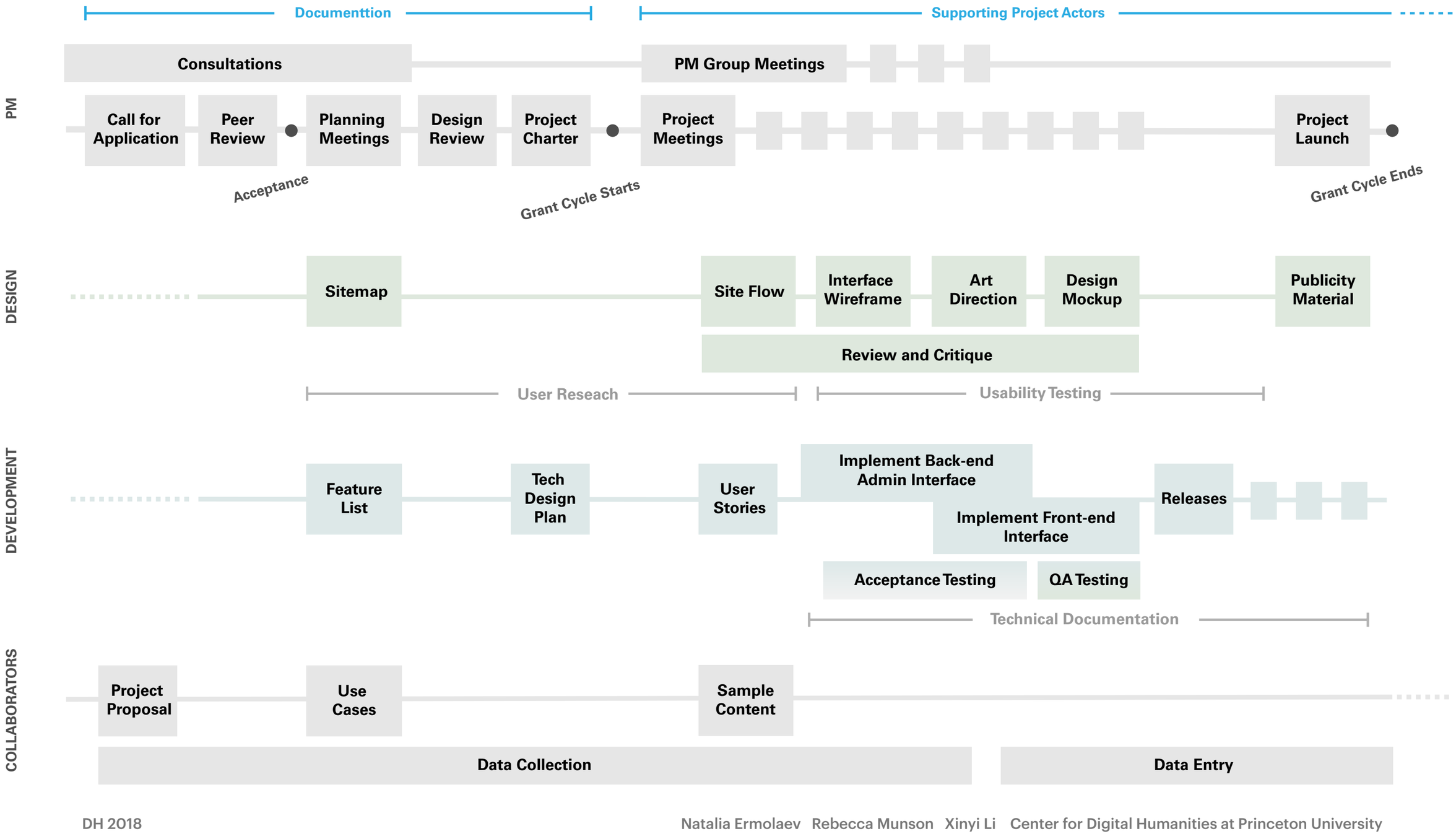
PM methodology at CDH

2 *Critique Culture*

1 Transparent Documentation



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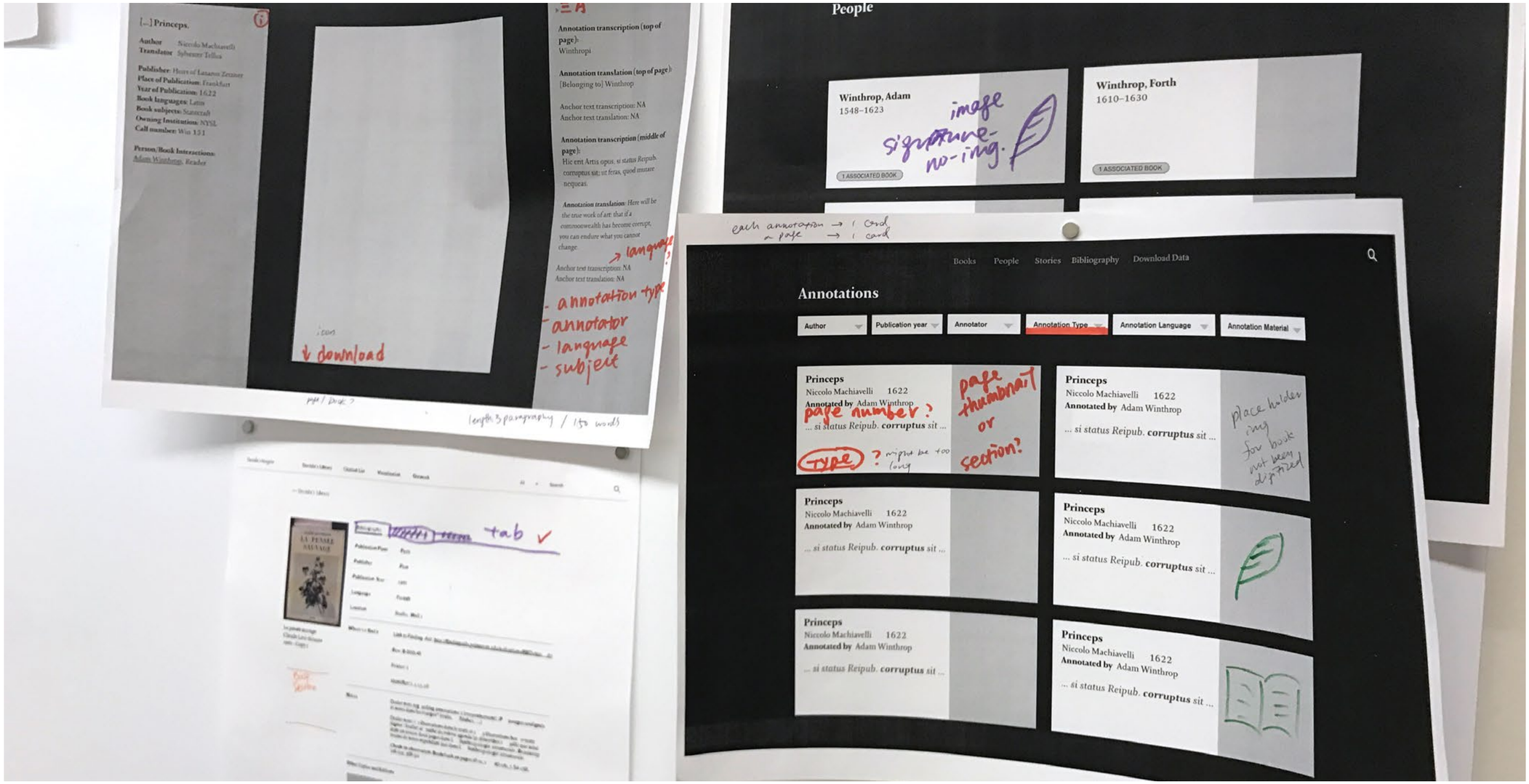
Spatialized Memory



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Types of Feedback

Judgemental Feedback
to express opinions

I don't like it.

This feedback is a particular subjective observation and reaction of a project, and is evaluative assessments.

Directive Feedback
on design choices

A book will be a more appropriate medium for this project.

Directive feedback is specific advice about an aspect of design. It is purposeful, and most of it focuses on the formal aspect of design.

Interpretative Feedback
on design semantics

This image has negative connotations. This reads as…

This feedback is also subjective but the reason behind is given. It also provides interpretations form the angle of audience.

Investigative Feedback
to understand or questing

Why did you…

To better understand the intention and design decisions of a project, investigative feedback could be used to question certain aspects of project. Direct answers of the question are expected from the students.

Suggestive Feedback
on designer approach

I would suggest…
You should try…

While directive feedback is specific and direct, suggestive feedback focuses more on the design approach and process.

Associative Feedback
to suggest examples

It reminds me of…

This feedback is free associations the critics come up with upon viewing the project with less strategic address.

Ethical Feedback
on designer ethos

What is the intended impact?
How do you relate this to…
What motivates you to…

This feedback prompt thoughts about the role as designer, especially in a larger context.

Generative Feedback
to diverge or converge

What about…
What if…
How might we…

This feedback provides future possibilities of the project. It is open-ended suggestion and is intended to trigger thoughts rather than giving answers.

Comparative Feedback
to situate the design

How does it relates to…
What is the difference between…

Comparative feedback makes the reason and logic of why bringing in examples apparent. It is more strategic than free association. Comparative feedback provides student an opportunity to see their project in relation to others' design.

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MEMBERS

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Abreu, Simone (Bretteville) de
Alderman, Pauline
Aldington, Richard
Alexandre
Alvear, Elvira de
Aragon, Louis
Arvanon, Cyrille
Auger, Pierre
Baker
Baldwin, Helen (Green)
Baltrusaitis, Hélène (Focillon)
Bazin de Jessey, Fiamette (de Thierry)
Beach
Beach, Sylvia
Beaulieu, Benoit de
Beauvoir, Simone de
Bedouret, Lionel
Benjamin, Walter
Bernheim, Antoinette
Bernheim, Françoise
Bidoire, (Boulenger)
Bird, William
Blackner, Alan
Blaess, Madeleine
Bloch, Marguerite (Herzog)

Type
- Member with extant card
- Member in logbook only
- Other

Sex
- Female
- Male
- Other

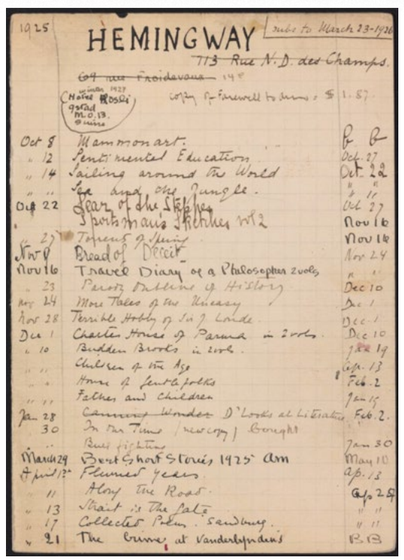
Nationality

Subscription years
The library was open for normal borrowing from 1919–1941
1919 to 1941

Profession

Arrondissement

Books Borrowed
- Poets Two Painters
- Being Geniuses Together
- Listen the Wind
- Young Cosima
- Monarchy
- Aqua Eliters
- Midas Touch
- Death of a Heart
- Impressions Monuments
- Three Marriages
- I think added in America



DH 2018

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Blackner, Alan
Blaess, Madeleine
Bloch, Marguerite (Herzog)
Bonnerot, Louis
Bos, Charles Du
Boscq, Marie
Bouniols, Louise Olga
Bourassin
Bourdet, Claude

Search lending library member

Filters

Type
- Member with extant card
- Member in logbook only
- Other

Sex
- Female
- Male

Nationality

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Arrondissement

Books Borrowed
Search books
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- ☐ Being Geniuses Together
- ☐ Listen the Wind
- ☐ Young Cosima
- ☐ Monarchy
- ☐ Aqua Eliters
- ☐ Midas Touch
- ☐ Death of a Heart
- ☐ Impressions Monuments
- ☐ Three Marriages
- ☐ I think added in America

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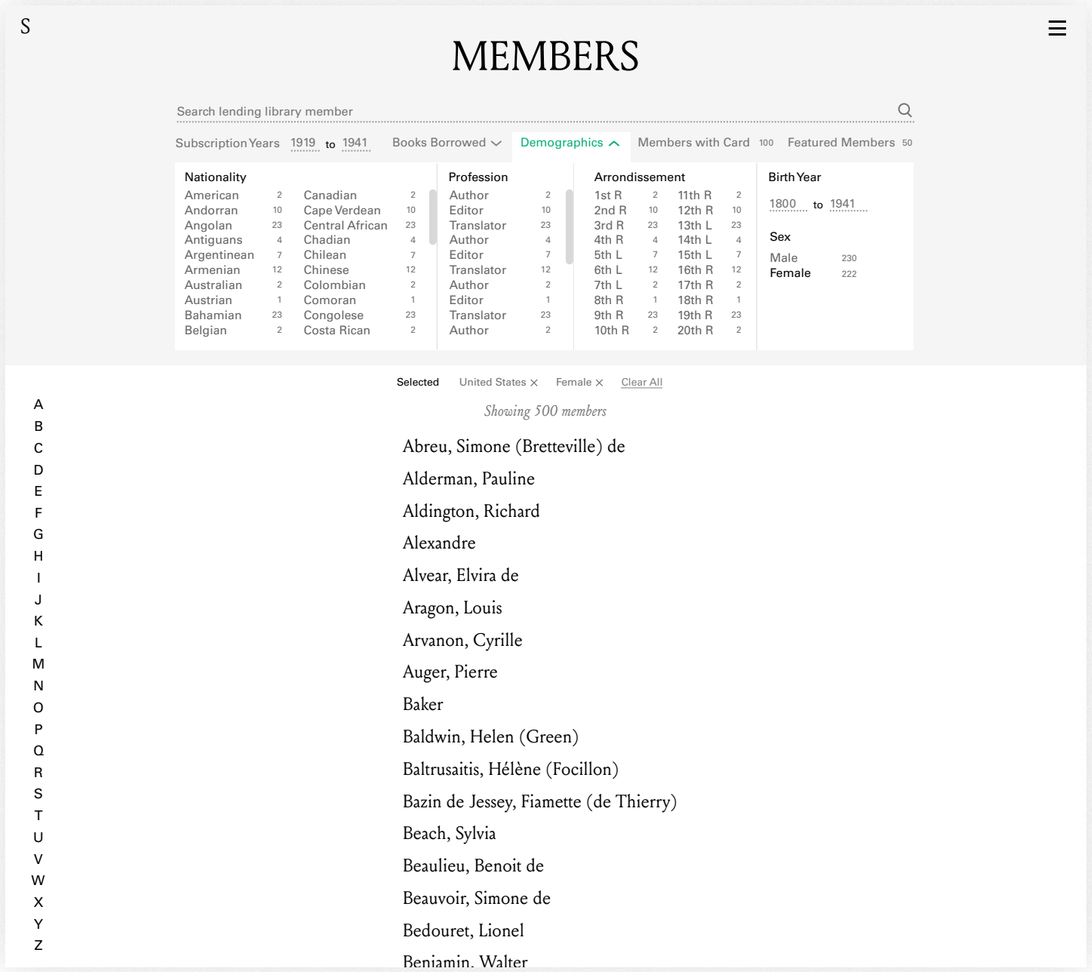
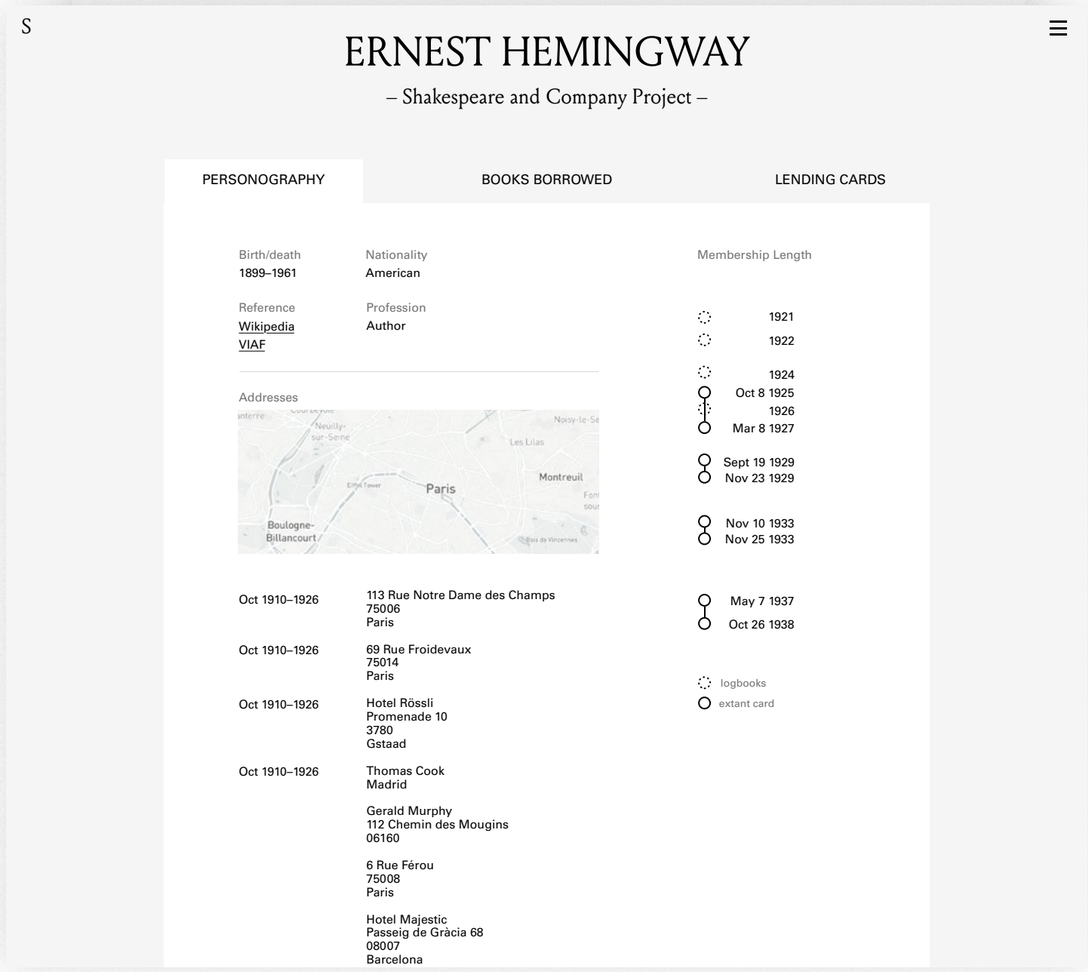
2 Critique Culture

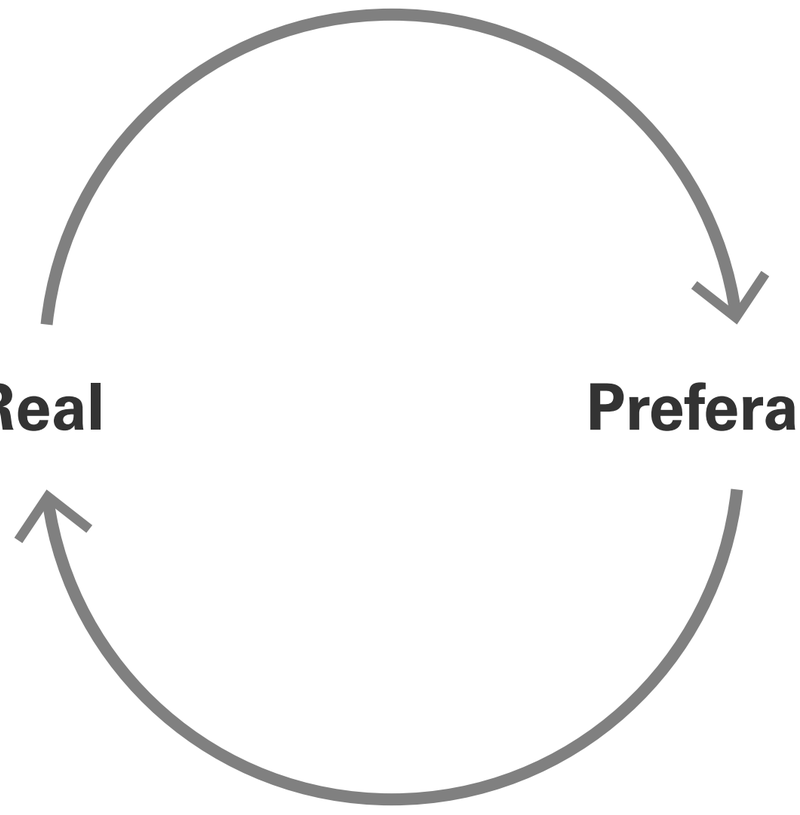




PM methodology at CDH

3 *Self-Reflective Processes in Design and DH*

Iteration and Agile



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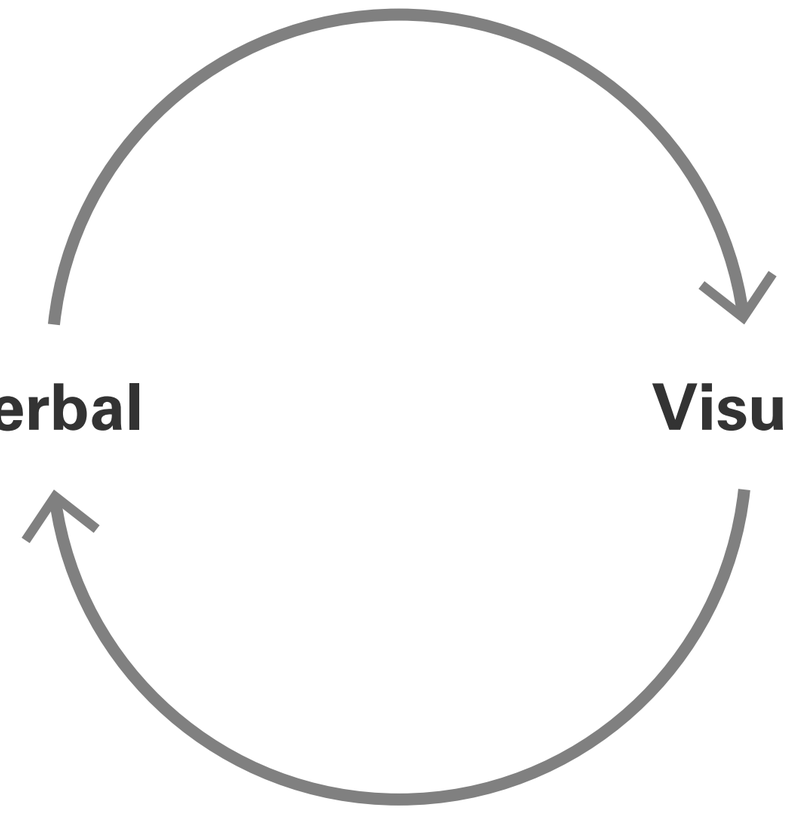
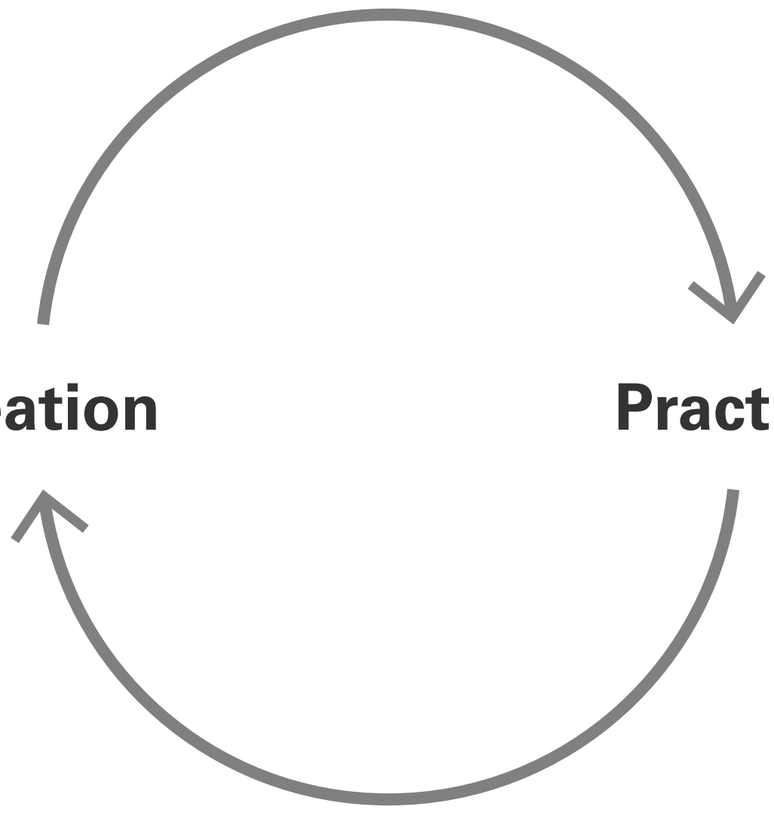
Iteration and Agile



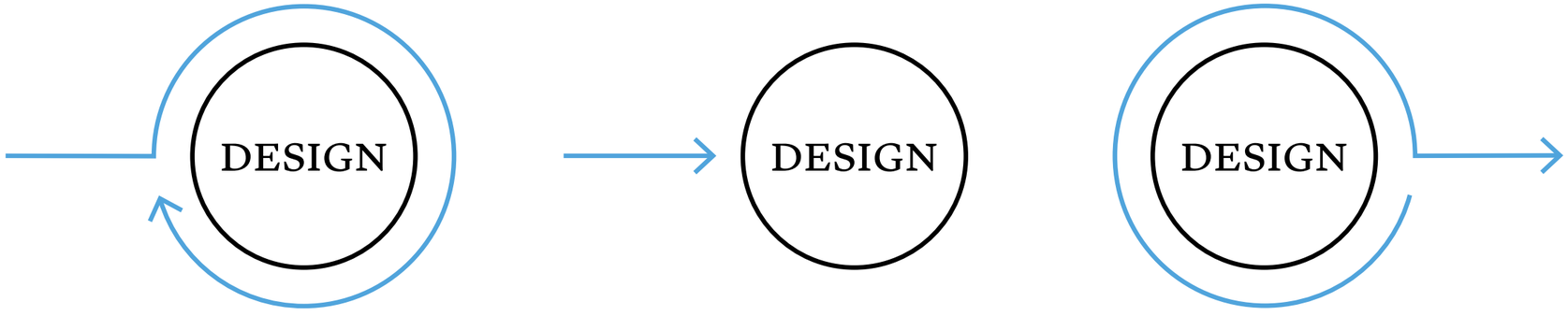
Iteration and Agile



Multistage of synthesis and refinement

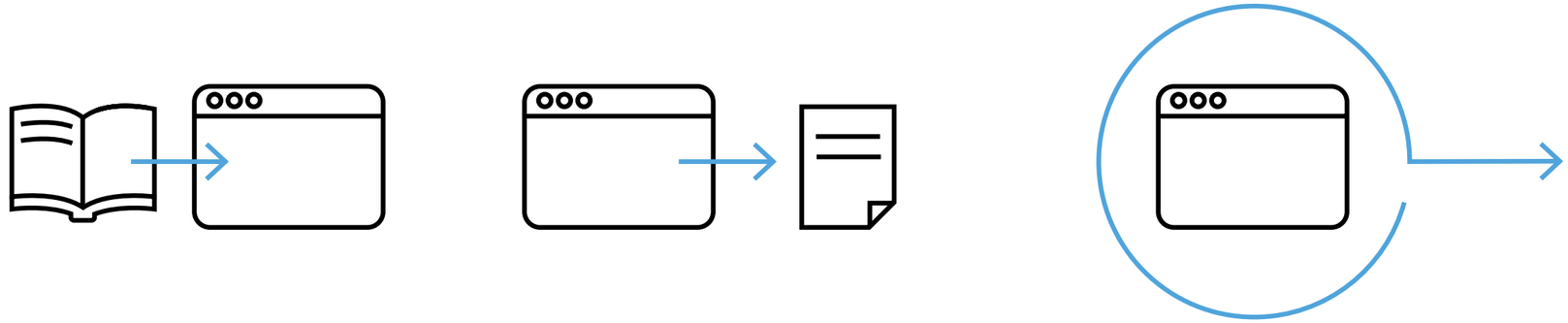
TYPES OF DESIGN RESEARCH

The Reflective Practitioner



Research into design | *Research for design* | *Research through design*

SCHOLARLY MERITS OF A DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECT



The built tool itself | Findings generated with the product | Reflections of the process working with the interdisciplinary team

Christopher Frayling, *Research in Art and Design*, 1993

Research through *doing*

"building as a distinct form of scholarly endeavor"

Ramsay, S., and Geoffrey R.. "Developing Things: Notes toward an Epistemology of Building in the Digital Humanities." In *Debates in the Digital Humanities*, edited by M.K. Gold and L.F. Klein, pgs. 75–84. Minneapolis, MN, USA: University of Minnesota Press, 2012.

"where the thinking is ... embodied in the artefact"

Frayling, C. "Research in Art and Design", Royal College of Art Research Papers, 1.1 (1993/4): pgs 1–5.

Tacit knowledge vs. Explicit knowledge

Externalization for production-based practice

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PM methodology at CDH

5 *Communication Facilitation as a Social Process*

PM for DH is an inherently social process.

- Majority of communication work is undocumented
- Relies on invisible “carework”
- Awareness of this labor places value on process of facilitation
- This shared knowledge becomes an outcome of a DH project

Thank you

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