

Transcription Assignment 1: Exploring the (Digital) Archive

Skill: *digital archives, transcription*

Individual

Due: 10 pm Tuesday, January 24th to Profs. Bankhurst and Roberts

In this assignment you will get the chance to learn about eighteenth-century manuscript culture -- and its fantastic handwriting. Historians are very grateful that letters, journals, addresses, memoranda survive, but they can often be difficult to use. Putting a transcription in a digital archive makes these documents far more accessible. In the first part of this assignment, you will try your hand at transcribing a document from the Friendly Association Papers on the Digital Paxton site (url: <http://digitalpaxton.org/works/digital-paxton/friendly-association>). In class you will select one page from one of the manuscripts in this collection that is online. After class you will complete your transcription. You will also write a three-paragraph (750 word) essay response on your experience and how this relates to the Carter article “Of Things Said and Unsaid” and Will Fenton’s talk to us in class.

Step 1: Transcribe a manuscript/page from the the Digital Paxton website

- Locate your manuscript on the Digital Paxton site (URL) above, scroll through all the pages in it. See how much of it you can read.
- Locate your page by clicking on the link of the manuscript page (under “Contents”).
- Look at the “Details” tab to see the metadata of the document.
- Click on the “Source” tab and the image will open the document in a new tab.
- Click on the image to bring up a magnified page
- Open a new Microsoft Word file or a new Google Doc file.
 - Write at the top the name of the document, the page number, and paste the url for the source page.
- Transcribe line-by-line.
 - Aim for fidelity: retain original spellings, capitalizations, and punctuation. (You might need to turn off autocorrect!)
 - Start a new line in your document for each new line in the manuscript
 - Note it is ok to ignore 20th century pencil writings.
- After you have done your transcription, put it aside and then read it over again later. Or have a friend read it over.
- When complete, go to step 2.

Step 2: Write a three paragraph summary of your experience

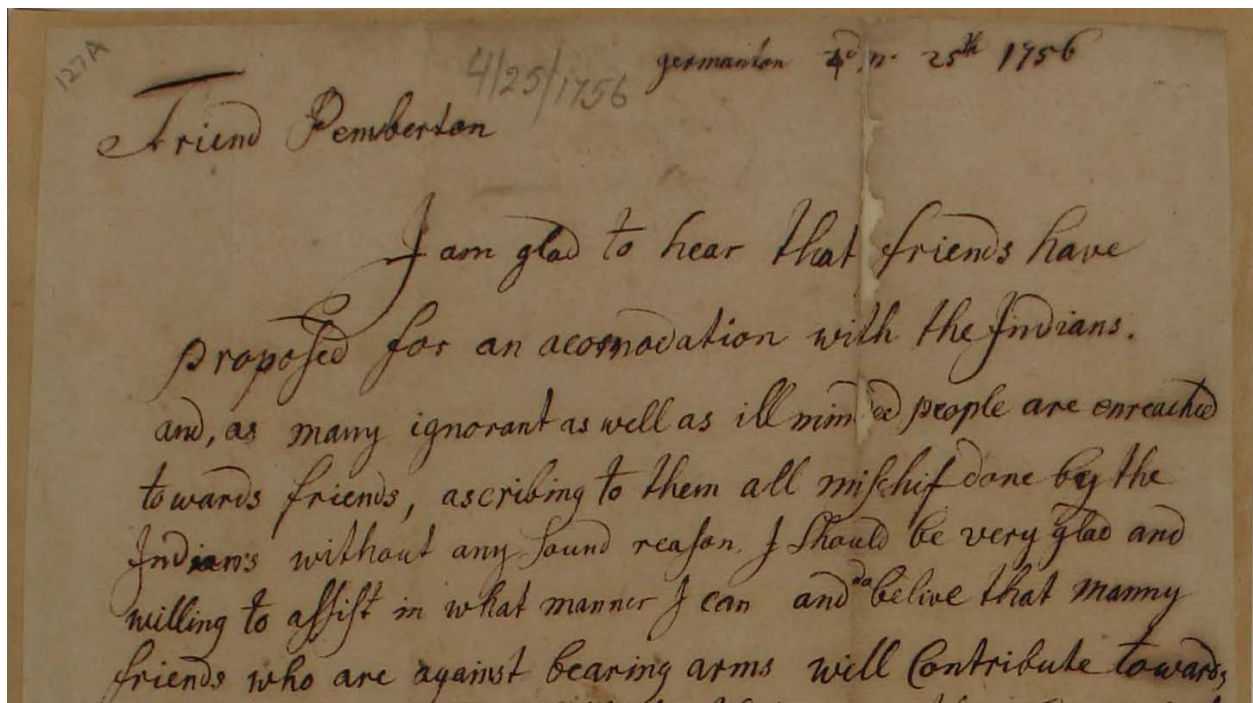
1. First: what was contained in the manuscript/page you transcribed?
2. Second: whose voice is represented in this manuscript/page? Thinking back to the “Of Things Said and Unsaid” essay, what silences are there here? What workings of power?
3. Third: what was the experience of working with this source? Was it easy to engage with? Difficult? Can you imagine writing a whole paper around these sources?

Email both transcription and essay to Profs. Bankhurst and Roberts by 10 pm on Tuesday, January 24th.

Sample:

Christopher Towne to Israel Pemberton, April 25, 1756, page 1

http://digitalpaxton.librarycompany.org//media/manuscripts/haverford/HC11-21035_01.jpg



germantown 4th m 25th 1756

Friend Pemberton

I am glad to hear that friends have
proposed for an acomodation with the Indians.
and, as many ignorant as well as ill minded people are enreached
towards friends, ascribing to them all mischief done by the
Indians without any Sound reason, I should be very glad and
willing to assist in what manner I can and^{do} believe that manny

Shepherd Student Sign-up Sheet

Friends' Address to the Governor, April 1756 (4 pgs)

Page 1: _____

Page 2: _____

Page 3: _____

Page 4: _____

Account of the Return of three white prisoners, May 20 1760 (4 pages – though at best 3)

Page 1: _____

Page 2: _____

Page 3: _____

Account of conference between the Indians and the Friendly Association (4 pages – though at best 3)

Page 1: _____

Page 2: _____

Page 3: _____

The Indians' Letter to the Representatives of Pennsylvania May 16, 1760 (1 page)

Page 1: _____

Account of the Indian Murders Dec. 27, 1763. (2 pages)

Page 1: _____

Page 2: _____

Message to the Governor, October 12, 1761 (3)

Page 1: _____

Page 2: _____

Page 3: _____

Loyola Student Sign-Up

Conversation with the Indians April 19 1756 (3 pgs)

<http://digitalpaxton.org/works/digital-paxton/conversation-with-the-indians-april-19-1756>

Page 1: __Kelly Schmidt_____

Page 2: __Marie Pellissier_____

Page 3: __Kate Johnson_____

Journal of Christian Frederick Post, June 20, 1758 (5 pgs)

<http://digitalpaxton.org/works/digital-paxton/journal-of-christian-frederick-post-june-20-1758>

Page 1: __Nick Mokodanski_____

Page 2: __Alexa Ishibashi_____

Page 3: __Cat Litten_____

Governor Hamilton to Papuneham, October 12, 1761 (5)

<http://digitalpaxton.org/works/digital-paxton/governor-hamilton-to-papuneham-october-12-1761>

Page 1: __Dylan Reel_____

Page 2: __Kenny Sweezey_____

Page 5: __Nick Kimble_____

Page 6: __Jordan Henderson_____

Page 7: __Ethan Kieser_____

Various Memorandum, 1760

<http://digitalpaxton.org/works/digital-paxton/various-memoranda-1760?path=friendly-association>

Page 1: __Emina Hadzic_____