Bibliography in the Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine

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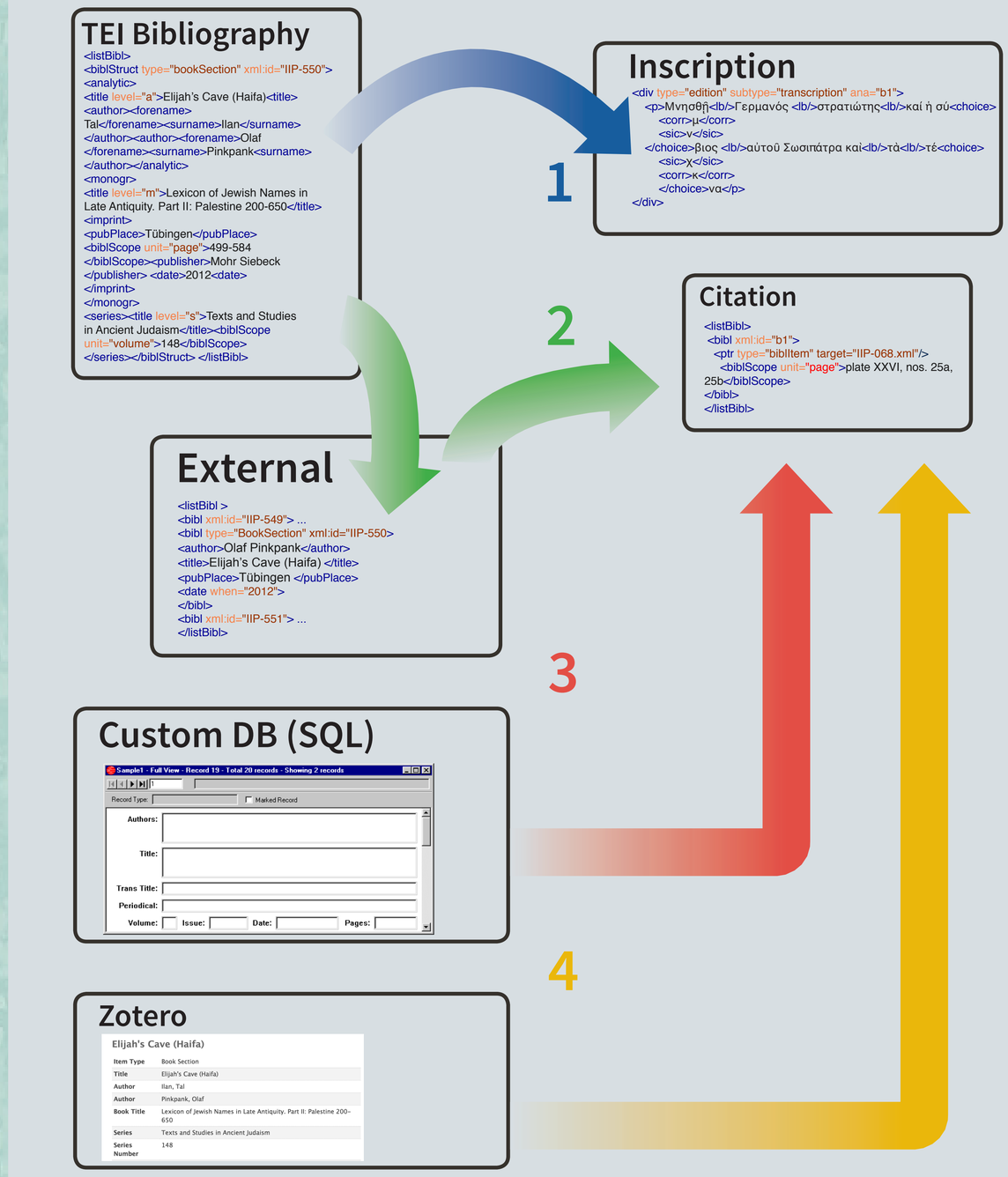

The Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine project has been aggregating and transcribing previously published inscriptions and translations from Israel/Palestine from the Persian period through the Islamic conquest (ca. 500 BCE - 640 CE). There are about 15,000 inscriptions, written primarily in Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek and Latin, by Jews, Christians, Greeks, and Romans. Inscriptions are encoded using the Epidoc Guidelines, and have extensive metadata in the TEI header.

Following the Epidoc Guidelines [http://www.stoa.org/epidoc/gl/latest/supp-bibliography.html], IIP maintains a master bibliography, referring to it from the citations in each inscription file. Since IIP is an ongoing project and employs non-specialist student encoders, many of the selection criteria cited by Banski [Banski et al. 2012] apply to this project as well: bibliographic data entry and editing has to be collaborative, web based and unambiguous.

Strategy	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. The simplest way to handle bibliography in a TEI or Epidoc document is to enter it explicitly into each file.	Each encoded inscriptions contains all the information it needs in one place, producing a robust archival format Single, complete files make interchange easier.	Encoders may have to enter the same reference multiple times, potentially introducing inconsistencies. Formatting code for bibliography is complicated.
2. Maintaining a separate TEI bibliography is more efficient. It can either be part of the XML file via XInclude, which allows validation, or called as an external reference.	This is easier for encoders. It allows one person to maintain the bibliography, which is likely to increase consistency, although not solve it completely.	Formatting code for bibliography is complicated. If the bibliography isn't included in the file, the references could get separated from the file.
3. IIP originally used a different solution – bibliography was stored externally in a custom SQL database and citations referred to it using database keys.	Encoders entered bibliography as needed. The database provided authority lists for journal names and abbreviations. The database had custom features such as specialized geographic tagging that contextualized the citations.	The database handled a limited number of bibliographic types. Formatting code for bibliography is complicated. The locally developed database required maintenance and its user interface was simplistic.
4. IIP considered using option 2, and maintaining its bibliography in TEI form. However, it became clear that using Zotero would be a better solution	Software designed for handling many kinds of bibliographic objects. API that allows search and returns formatted bibliographic entries. Web accessible for editing and browsing. Zotero groups allow more than one person to edit. The bibliography is re-usable	Zotero is not part of the Epidoc schema; bibliographic information can be lost. Zotero entries don't have persistent, addressable and exportable IDs. Zotero isn't XML, although it does export TEI.

Piotr Bański, Stefan Majewski, Maik Stührenberg, and Antonina Werthmann. (2012). Building and Maintaining the TEI LingSIG Bibliography, Journal of the Text Encoding Initiative [Online] Issue 3 | November 2012. URL : http://jtei.revues.org/486 ; DOI : 10.4000/jtei.486

Citation Style Language. http://citationstyles.org

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Rotger, Carlos. (2015). "Using the Zotero API to Render Formatted Bibliography on a Webpage." Center for Digital Scholarship News. http://library.brown.edu/cds/2015/06/29/zotero-api-web/ (Accessed: May 12, 2016)

Michael Satlow (ed.), (2002-2016) Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine Available: http://www.brown.edu/iip (Accessed: May 12, 2016)

TEI Consortium, eds. "3.11 Bibliographic Citations and References" TEI P5: Guidelines for Electronic Text Encoding and Interchange. 3.0.0. 29th March 2016 TEI Consortium. http://www.tei-c.org/release/doc/tei-p5-doc/en/html/CO.html#COBI (Accessed: May 12, 2016)

Zotero. http://www.zotero.org

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Background Inscription Image:
Rehov Synagogue, Beth Shean Valley (Halakhic text, 5th-6th century CE)
Daniel Ventura https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ktovet_recov_AA.jpg