

# The Repository view: opening up medieval charters (and everything else)



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A repository may contain more than one collection. At Durham we look after:

- Durham Cathedral Archives
- Records of the Sudan
- Miscellaneous collections
- Durham University Records
- Antiquarians' papers
- Family records
- Literary papers
- And many
- Many
- Many
- More
- Not to mention books, recordings, photographs, objects



A single data structure that can cope with simple or complex objects needs to be:

- Elastic
- Adaptable
- Deployable

From simple lists of documents to full descriptions.



# EAD: Simple or complex

```
<c02 level="item"><did>  
<unitid id="A1">REC 1</unitid>  
<unitdate normal="1856xxxx">1856</unitdate></did>  
<scopecontent><p>Staff wages ledger.</p></scopecontent></c02>
```

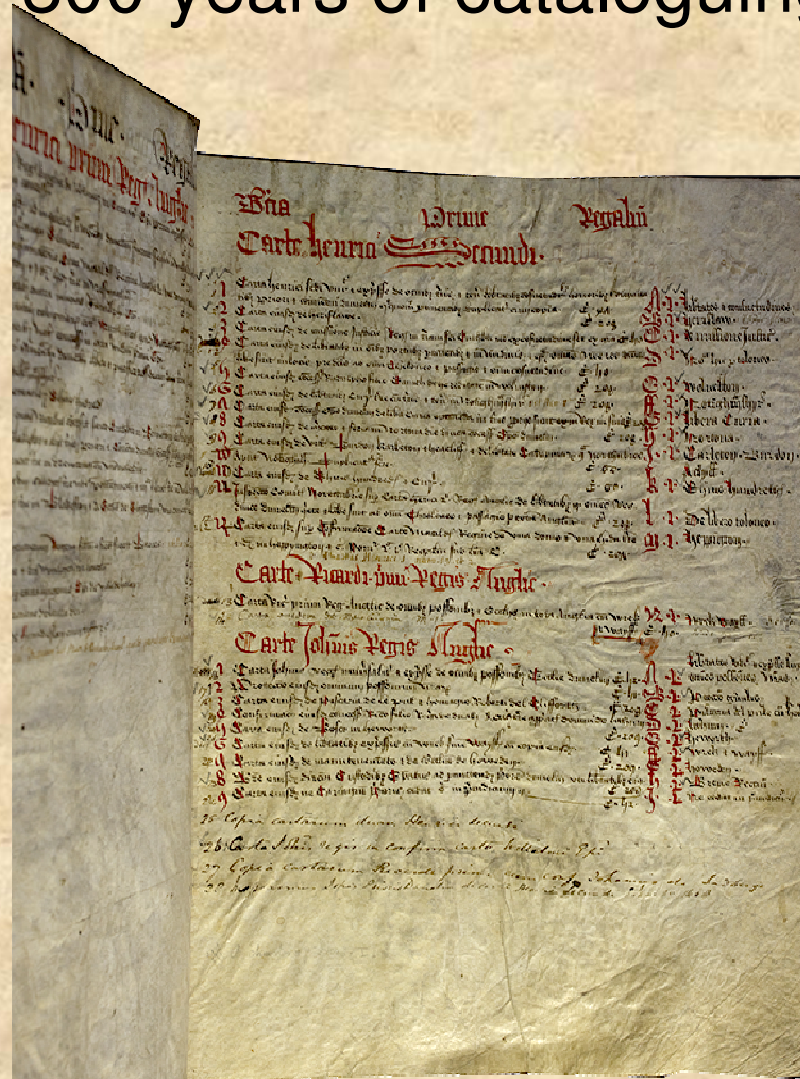
---

```
<c03 level="item"><did>  
<unitid countrycode="GB" repositorycode="GB-UkDhU" id="R-1-1-14">1.1.REG.14</unitid>  
<unitdate normal="113602xx-113802xx">[February 1136 or January - February 1138 (First  
seal)]</unitdate>  
<physdesc><physfacet type="seal">G&B No. 3019, tongue, part of  
tie</physfacet></physdesc></did>  
<scopecontent><p><genreform>Confirmation</genreform>, by <persname>S[tephen], king of  
England</persname>, to the monks of Durham, of all their possessions in <geogname>  
Nottinghamshire</geogname>, and specifically the <geogname>two ploughlands in  
Normanton[-on-Soar]</geogname> which they dereigned against <persname>Fulk de  
Lusoris</persname> in the court of <persname>King Henry [I]</persname> and for which  
they render 4s. a year, holding with sake and soke, toll and team, infangthief and all  
freecustoms as in the time of King Henry [I].</p>  
<p altrender="ddcwit">Witnesses: <persname role="witness">Chancellor</persname>;  
<persname role="witness">[Walter Espec] (W Esp')</persname>; <persname  
role="witness">Robert Musard</persname>.</p><p>Dated: <geogname  
role="issue">Durham</geogname>:</p></scopecontent>  
<altformavail><p>Copy: DCD Cat.Vet. f.50r.</p></altformavail>  
<altformavail><p>Printed: <title render="italic">Regesta Regum Anglo-Normannorum III 1135-  
1154</title>, ed H.A. Cronne & R.H.C. Davis (Oxford 1968)  
no.256.</p></altformavail></c03>
```



# Non auctor sed compilator ...

over 800 years of cataloguing so far



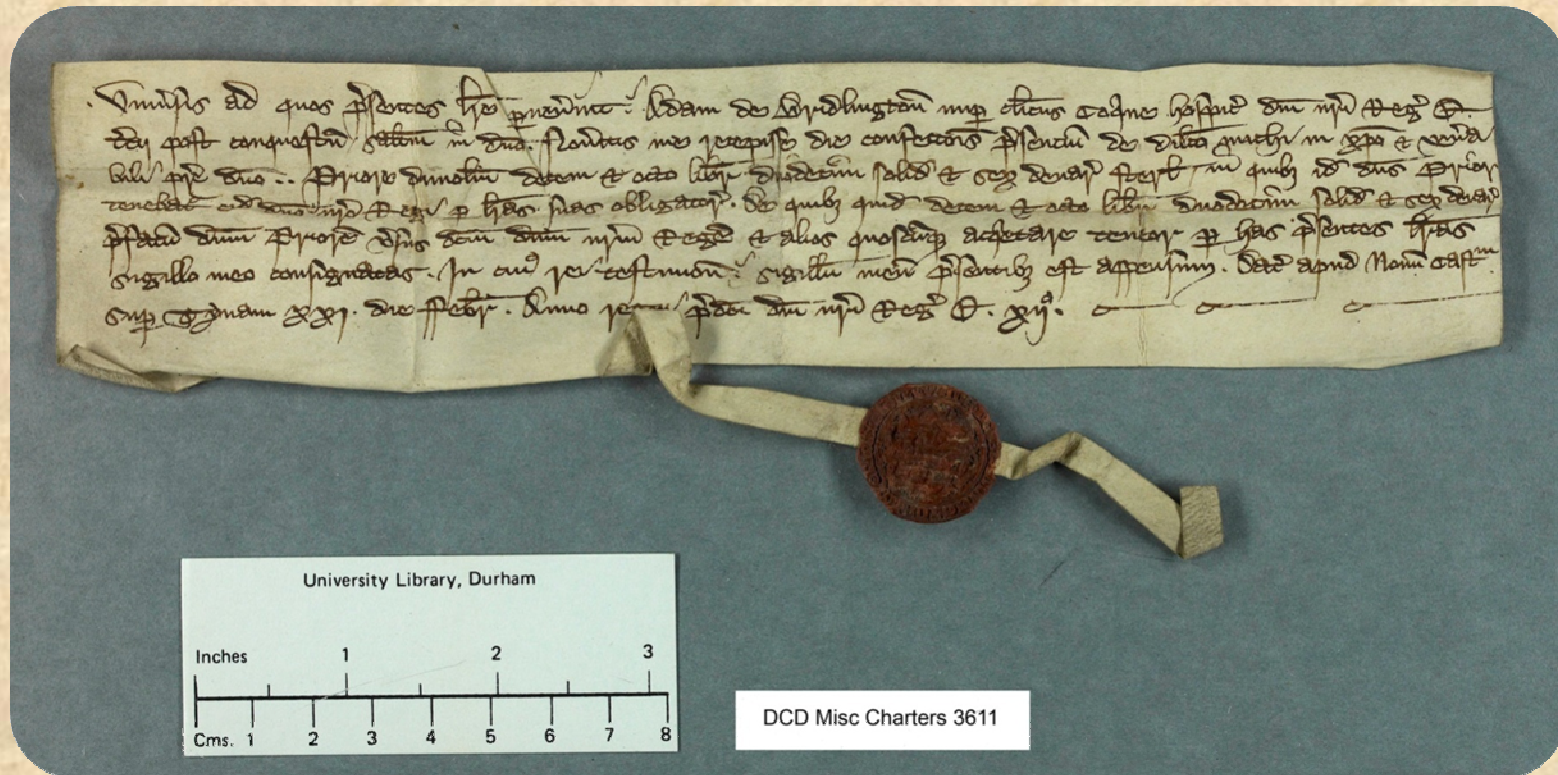


# Make it available

- XML – open data
  - XSLT – turn XML into something else
  - METS – record relationships between parts of “document”
  - RDF – record links between digital objects
- 
- XTF – search and display XML simply
  - Fedora-Commons – digital repository framework



# Opening up the documents



And next ... editions, transcriptions, interpretation





Links and examples: <http://tinyurl.com/4yvolll>