

MARKDOWN FORMATTING GUIDE — AUTHORIZING FOR THE DOCX RENDERER

Working document

Corpus	02_STAC_8_203_38
Source	markdown_formatting_guide.md
Integrity	sha256 203edbd6c866 · rendered 2026-07-09
Status	<i>Derived render for review. The markdown source file governs; the modernized layer is never quotable; all readings are provisional pending the commissioned professional transcription (names above all). Canonical apparatus: _PRECISION_PASS_LEDGER.md; method: TRANSCRIPTION_AND_ANALYSIS_METHODOLOGY.md.</i>

HOW TO READ THIS RENDER (CONVENTIONS LEGEND)

strikethrough	struck in the manuscript (source: ~text~)
^{superscript}	scribal interlineation or raised letters (source: ^text^, m^r)
serif (Cambria) span	diplomatic text quoted inline (source: `text`); the type shift marks the source-text voice; conventions inside are rendered too
boxed serif panel	diplomatic transcription block
gray italic [[...]]	pass-annotation — editorial apparatus, NOT manuscript text
CONFIRM UPGRADE LEAN CONFLICT	delta-log verdict class: green = confirmed/convergent · blue = upgraded/new · amber = lean/open/variant · red = retraction/conflict
[?] / [...] / [] · « » · ·  ✓ eB X	sigla printed verbatim per methodology §6/§9
★	

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Scope: every working/reviewer markdown file in this corpus directory. **Renderer:** `../_working_docx_renderer.py` (shared across manuscript corpora: STAC_8_203_38, HLS_MS149_Floyd_ff81r-83v). **Output:** `docx_exports/<name>.docx`, with a legend page and a source-sha256 footer.

```
python3 ../_working_docx_renderer.py <file.md> [more.md ...] [-o OUTDIR]
python3 ../_working_docx_renderer.py <corpus_dir>      # batch: renders the whole
# reviewer set (_WORKING_*.md, READING_COMPANION*, ledger, concordance,
# corrections log, READMEs, hand atlases, this guide)
python3 ../_working_docx_renderer.py --pdf <corpus_dir> [...] # + silent PDF
# into docx_exports/pdfs/. Word takes NO focus and shows NO window
# (launch + hidden document, per the kirchner_tools pattern); your own
# open Word documents are untouched.

# THE STANDING WORKFLOW (two-step): after a formatter change, TEST-PREVIEW
# one or two representative files first; on approval, reconvert everything —
python3 ../_working_docx_renderer.py --pdf <one-file.md> # preview
python3 ../_working_docx_renderer.py --pdf "01_HLS_MS149_Floyd_ff81r-83v"
"02_STAC_8_203_38" # approved: full
```

Governing rules (before any formatting question):

- 1. The markdown source governs.** The DOCX is a derived render; never edit content in Word and never treat a render as authority. The footer's sha256 pins each render to the exact source state — a stale render is detectable, not dangerous.
- 2. Never rewrite the evidence layer to please the renderer.** Existing `_WORKING_*` files are the transcription record; the renderer adapts to THEM (Mode B below). New reviewer-facing documents may be authored in the explicit tag format (Mode A).
- 3. The diplomatic conventions are semantics, not style** (methodology §6, §9). The renderer's job is to make them *visible* (real strikethrough, real superscript) without ever *altering* them.

1. INLINE CONVENTIONS (WORK EVERYWHERE: PARAGRAPHS, TABLES, PANELS, CELLS)

You write	Renders as	Meaning
text	strikethrough	struck in the manuscript (scribal deletion)

You write	Renders as	Meaning
word	superscript	scribal interlineation
m ^r , vj ^{te} , Ex[?] ^[?]	superscript cluster	raised letters / superscript abbreviation
text	superscript and struck	struck interlineation (revision stack)
text	shaded Cambria span	diplomatic text quoted inline — conventions inside the backticks are rendered too (Edwardes = shaded + struck)
[[4B: note]]	gray italic, brackets kept	pass-annotation — editorial apparatus, NOT manuscript text
bold , <i>italic</i>	bold / italic	emphasis (apparatus voice)
[?] [...] [] « » <x> Λ	verbatim	uncertain / supplied / illegible / insertion / expansion / cuts & seams / caret — printed as-is, they ARE the record
△ △ △ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ eB X ★ ● ○ □	verbatim	status codes per methodology §9

Caret disambiguation (only subtle rule in the grammar): a caret directly after a word/bracket character opens a SHORT raised cluster (m^r → superscript r); a caret after a space/start opens a PAIRED interlineation and needs its closer (^{said}). If an interlineation follows a word with no space, put a space before the caret. Paired interlineations must close within ~90 characters — longer insertions belong in a [[...]] note or their own line.

Escaping: there is none. If you need a literal ~ or ^ (almost never — the legend documents syntax by example), rephrase or wrap in a [[...]] note.

2. MODE B — THE WORKING-FILE RECOGNIZER (EXISTING ` \_WORKING\_ \*` CONVENTIONS)

The renderer detects these exact shapes. Keep new working files inside them and the render is automatic.

2.1 Headings → banners

```
# FILE TITLE          -> dark title banner (page 1; first # only)
## LEFT HALF-COLUMN (x 0.05-0.55) -> full-width DARK section banner
## Band 3 (src y 1062-1698) — ... -> LIGHT sub-banner ("Band N" prefix triggers it)
### / ####           -> ordinary bold headings
---                  -> horizontal rule
```

2.2 Census-line bullets → three-column Lines table

```
- L12: `w[i]th him a greate[?] |` — note text here
- c3: `R[?]u[?]l[...] |`
- b7: `[?]o[?]nte[?] of the bill ...`
```

Shape: - LABEL: \diplomatic\ — apparatus-note. Labels matching c/L/b/R + number (+letter) (e.g. L12, c3, L1b, L8–L9) become the bold anchor column; the backticked text becomes the Cambria column; anything after — becomes the gray apparatus column. Consecutive census bullets merge into ONE table — a caption line immediately above (e.g. **CAPTION BLOCK (...)** / **DEPOSITION LINES (...)**) becomes the table caption.

Generic form (any corpus's label convention): - LABEL: \diplomatic\ — note — ANY bold label up to ~64 chars ending in a colon, immediately followed by a backticked span, is a census row; the label prints verbatim (qualifiers included). This is how the HLS folio.line labels work: - **81r.6 L (¶ opener, big swash majuscule):** \<(T/S)he <plt> ...\ — THREE questions.... The label column widens automatically for long labels. Bold-opener bullets WITHOUT a following backtick span stay ordinary bullets (safe for **eB queue after L b1-2:** ... and similar).

2.3 Band records → two-column table

```
- **b1 (caption):** `xam[inati]o capt~...` · `[An]no regni ...`
```

- **bN ...:** tokens rows merge into a band table (anchor | tokens).

2.4 Blockquotes — three renders by content

```
> **ffrom. / W[ho]e gave you Instruciones ...**      -> boxed diplomatic PANEL
>                                                    (warm off-white, Cambria)
> ★ (1) commentary sentence ...                     -> indented apparatus commentary
> [[PHASE 4B FOLD-IN ...]] ...                       -> bordered gray note panel
```

Blank > lines split panels. Inside one panel, a new line starting with (*margin ...*), **N**, a digit+./:, or ★ begins a new visual paragraph.

2.5 Stitched composites → anchor/text table

```
> **L1** John Towneley of [C]raue[n?] ... · **L1b** (right half only) ... ·
> **L2** To the 3[d?] Interr[ogatorie] ...
```

The chain separator · immediately before **Ln** splits rows; each **anchor** gets its own left cell. The manuscript's own / virgules are untouched.

2.6 Census summaries → shaded box

Any paragraph beginning **Census:** renders as a shaded summary box.

2.7 Delta logs → chip-classified entries

```
1. **CONFIRM (eyes-on, independent):** body ...
2. **UPGRADE — baseline `[bringing]` (supplied) → eyes-read** `bring[in]g[e][?]` ...
10. **RETRACTIONS (my own in-pass leads):** ...
```

Numbered items whose bold text OPENS with a verdict word get a colored chip:

Chip color	Verdict words
------------	---------------

Chip color	Verdict words
green	CONFIRM, CONVERGENCE
blue	UPGRADE, NEW, STRUCTURE
amber	LEAN, OPEN, VARIANT
red	RETRACTION(S), CONFLICT

Use these words as the FIRST word of the bold opener; anything else renders as a plain numbered entry (no chip — fine for non-verdict lists).

2.8 Markdown tables

Standard | a | b | tables render with shaded header row and full conventions inside cells.

3. MODE A — THE EXPLICIT MS-TAG FORMAT (NEW REVIEWER DOCUMENTS)

For newly authored documents (reviewer summaries, crux sheets, collation reports), write the structure explicitly — same grammar family as the DDC exhibit format. Tags sit alone on their line.

```
[TITLE: MEMBRANE 009 — REVIEWER CRUX SHEET]

[META]
Corpus: TNA STAC 8/203/38 (record copy RC8368179)
Leaf: membrane 009 (Articles 13-16)
Status: readings provisional pending professional transcription
[/META]

[SECTION: THE STRUCK REWARD QUESTION]

[DIPLOMATIC]
~~[Did they give?] anie r[e]ward, [tendred?] or [pro]mised [__] [to/by?]
the ^said^ M[r] Barker [__] / and[?] what was the[?] cause the[re]of[?]~~
[/DIPLOMATIC]

[COMMENT]
Two cramped lines squeezed between L8 and the Art-14 opener — an
afterthought insertion, then struck entire. [[multispectral target]]
[/COMMENT]

[HEADER: WHAT THE REVIEWER SHOULD CHECK]

[LINES: Art-13 zone, membrane 009]
L8 | `name him or them that did soe doe.` | precedes the struck zone
L8a | `~~anie r[e]ward [tendred?] or [pro]mised~~` | the struck insertion
[/LINES]

[CENSUS]
31 lines + rotated 4-line endorsement; foot otherwise blank; unsigned.
[/CENSUS]
```

```
[DELTA: 3 | OPEN]
The party-styling cluster "Adfe[c/r]t" leads "ad sect[am] Barker" — not
asserted anywhere; USER + TNA arbitration first.

[FOOTNOTE: Tiles: crops/stac_p4b/_manifest.jsonl; ledger item D12.]

[END]
```

Tag	Renders as
[TITLE: ...]	cover title (also drives the banner if no # heading)
[META] key: value ... [/META]	boxed two-column metadata table
[SECTION: NAME] ... [/SECTION]	dark banner; closing tag draws a rule
[HEADER: NAME]	light sub-banner
[LINES: caption] rows [/LINES]	Lines table; each row LABEL text note (text column may use backticks; conventions render)
[DIPLOMATIC] ... [/DIPLOMATIC]	boxed diplomatic panel (Cambria)
[COMMENT] ... [/COMMENT]	indented apparatus commentary
[CENSUS] ... [/CENSUS]	shaded census box
[DELTA: n VERDICT] body	numbered entry with verdict chip (vocabulary in §2.7)
[FOOTNOTE: ...]	gray apparatus note
[END]	stop rendering (anything after is ignored)

Both modes may be mixed in one file; the tag form wins wherever it appears.

3.1 CANONICAL TRANSCRIPTS (TRANSCRIPT_MONN.md — the edition layer)

The transcript document class (methodology §18.4; edition tier over the working audit stratum). Renderer support is first-class: filename prefix TRANSCRIPT_ sets the document-class subtitle, and three tags carry the entry structure:

```
[ENTRY: 001.L26-28 | tiles: canon_m001_L_b07_nat | as-read: crop_s1_b7 · crop_p4d001L_b7
| ledger: 4D-1 #7]
  -> entry head: bold anchor + small gray metadata, thin rule above,
    keeps with its content. First pipe-field is the anchor; the rest
    print verbatim as the citation line.

[TILE: canon_m001_L_b07_nat | membrane 001, left half-column, band 7 (natural render)]
  -> cites a coded tile by name (caption optional after |). With the
  --tiles flag the image itself is EMBEDDED above the caption,
  resolved from the corpus crops/ tree (crops/canon/ first, then
  any crops subdir) — the court/professional copy shows the
  manuscript beside the reading. Without --tiles it renders as a
  one-line citation.

[DIPLOMATIC] ... [/DIPLOMATIC]  -> the determination, boxed serif panel,
                                ALL conventions render (strikes,
```

```
interlineations, sigla)
[MODERNIZED] ... [/MODERNIZED] -> the modernized aid: indented, italic,
auto-labeled "Modernized (editorial
aid — not quotable)" — never
confusable with the diplomatic layer
```

Order per entry: [ENTRY:] → optional [TILE:](s) → [DIPLOMATIC] → [MODERNIZED] → optional [COMMENT]. Batch rendering picks transcripts up automatically (TRANSCRIPT_*.md is first in the batch patterns). Rendering with embedded tiles:

```
python3 ../_working_docx_render.py --tiles --pdf 02_STAC_8_203_38/TRANSCRIPT_M001.md
```

Publication caution: embedded tiles reproduce the archive's images — fine for court/professional copies (litigation/verification use), but check TNA reuse terms before posting tile-embedded renders publicly; the no---tiles render (coded citations only) is always publishable.

4. WHAT THE RENDERER ADDS AUTOMATICALLY (DO NOT AUTHOR THESE)

- **Title block:** dark banner from the first #/[TITLE:], document-class subtitle (inferred from the filename: LINE_INDEX / TRANSCRIPTION / LEDGER / COMPANION), Source/Integrity/Status metadata box, and the provisionality rubric.
- **Conventions legend** with live exemplars (real strike, real superscript, real chips).
- **Contents inventory** (documents with ≥ 6 sections): a compact section/band list after the legend. No page numbers by design — banners are real Heading-styled paragraphs, so **Word's navigation pane (View → Sidebar → Navigation) gives live jumps**; the printed list is the inventory for PDF readers.
- **Pagination hygiene:** banners never split across pages and stay with their content; table rows never split mid-row; multi-page Lines tables repeat their header row.
- **Monochrome sigla:**  is pinned to a symbol font in amber ink so it renders as a scholarly glyph, never a color emoji — author it as the plain  character and let the renderer handle presentation.
- **Footer on every page:** <source>.md · sha256 <12 hex> · p. N of M. After editing a source file, re-run the renderer; a reviewer can always detect a stale render by hashing the .md.

5. AUTHORING CHECKLIST (RUN BEFORE RENDERING ANYTHING NEW)

- [] Diplomatic text is inside backticks (inline) or panels/Lines rows — never bare in apparatus prose.
- [] Every ~~, ..., *[[...]]* pairs off (grep-count the delimiters; odd counts = a leak).
- [] Census bullets follow - LABEL: \text\ — note exactly (colon after label, backticks, spaced em-dash).
- [] Delta verdicts use the §2.7 vocabulary as the first bold word.
- [] Modernized-layer text is clearly labeled and never inside backticks or [DIPLOMATIC] (it must not look quotable).

- [] Render, open the DOCX, and check the ONE thing machines miss: that nothing which is *your* voice ended up styled as *manuscript* voice (Cambria/panel/shaded), or vice versa. Voice confusion is the only render error that can mislead a reviewer.

Cross-references: conventions & status codes — ../TRANSCRIPTION_AND_ANALYSIS_METHODODOLOGY.md §6, §9; renderer source (rendering contract in its docstring) — ../_working_docx_render.py; reviewer package — README_FOR_REVIEWERS.md.