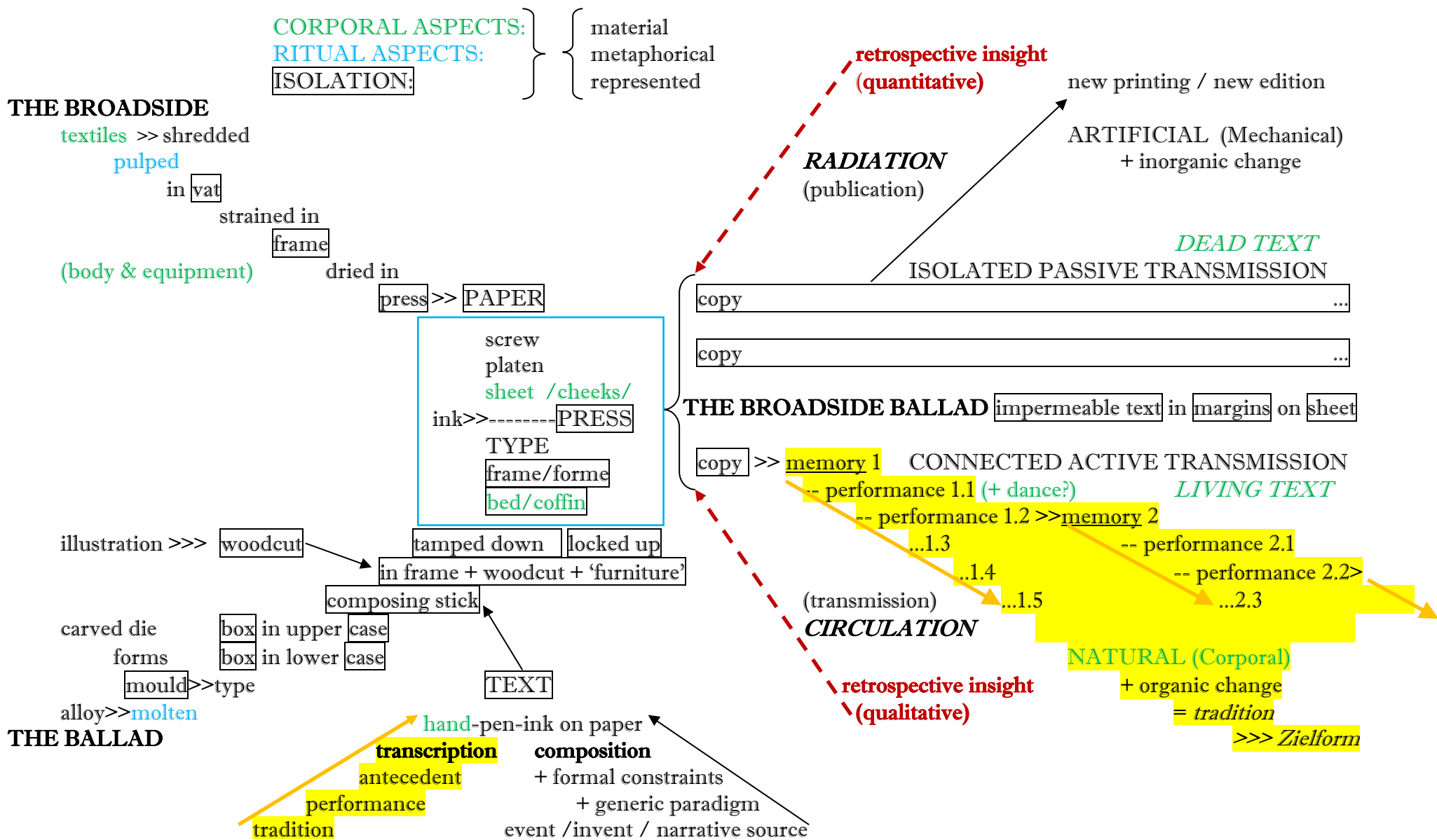
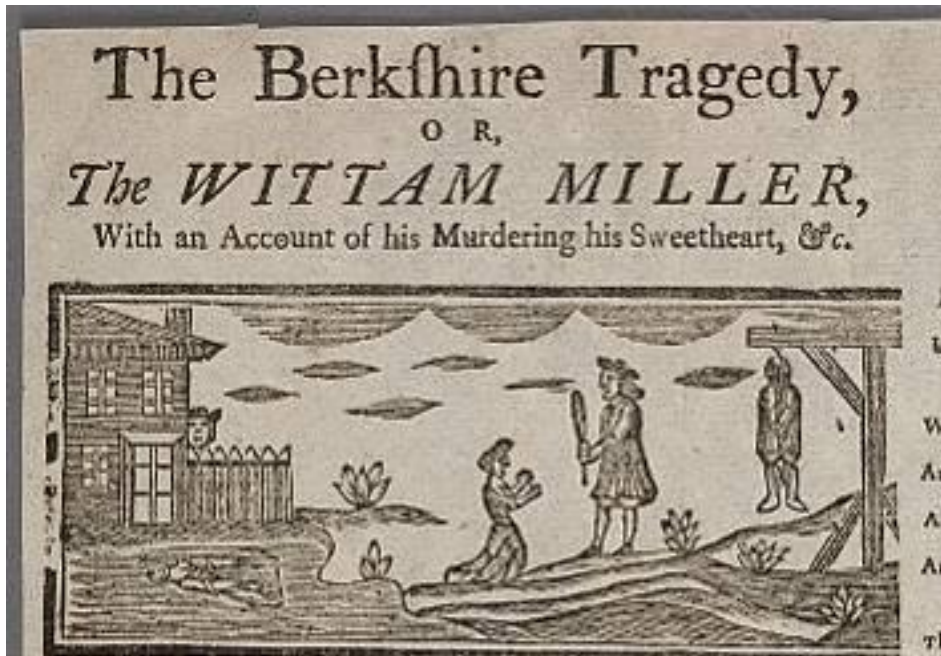


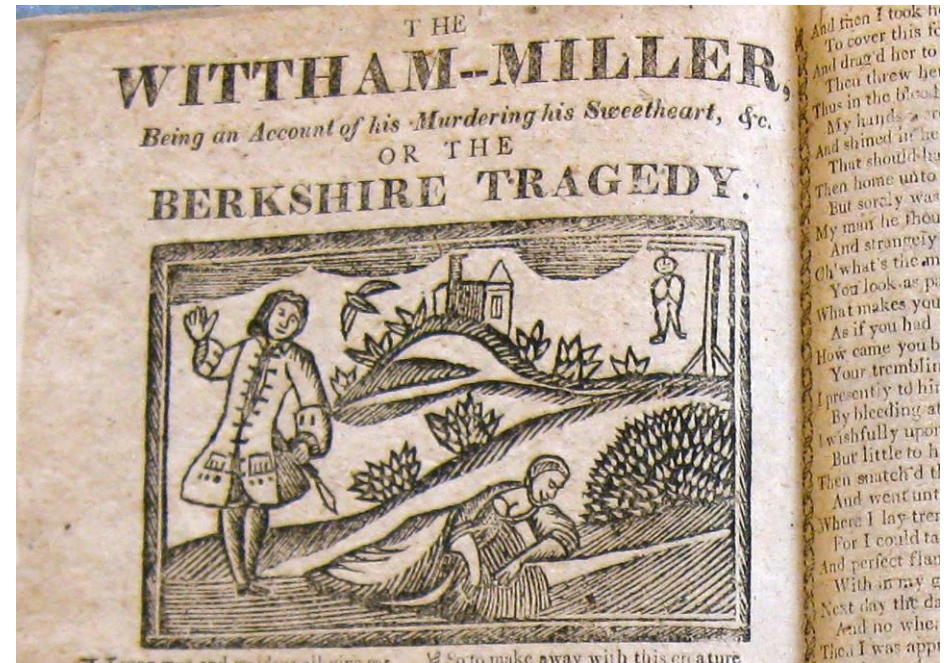
THE BIOGRAPHY OF A BALLAD





prob. Aldermay Churchyard, 1754-83
Huntington Library Miscellaneous 289727. EBBA. 32450

no specification of printer or date
Bodleian Douce 3(1b)



D Wrighton [sic] Birmingham (1811-1813)
Rare Book Collection, University of North Carolina Library

Bow-Church-Yard (before 1800?)
NLS Crawford 222: EBBA 33228 (note bird)

The Berkshire Tragedy,
OR,
The WITTAM MILLER,
With an Account of his Murdering his Sweetheart, &c.



Yong men and maidens all give ear,
unto what I shall now relate;

So to make away this creature,
a thought came in my mind.

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The Bloody GARDENER's Cruelty ;
Or, The Shepherd's Daughter Betrayed.



Was she as poor as Job, and I of Royal Robe,
And Lord of all the Globe, she should be mine.
His Mother said in Sober, thou art most nobly born,
And with a Beggar's Brat shalt never join.

He hearing of his Mother to say so,
His Eyes did then with Tears like Fountains flow,
Saying, a Promise I have made, and her Heart betray'd,
Therefore no other for my Bride I chuse.

A cruel Snare then for her Life she laid,
And for to set the Thing, Oh! then she did,
With her Gardiner she agreed, as do this bloody Deed,
And Butcher her forthwith, and dig her Grave.

To the bloody Gardiner she gave Forty-score Pound,
To murder her, and lay her under Ground,
All in a Grave to deep, in everlasting Sleep,
Hoping her fair Body would not be found.

She wrote a Letter, and sent it with speed,
Saying, my dearst, with Haste now proceed,
Meet me the Night my Dear, I've something to declare.