Within this architecture, a website is *not* a repository. Conceptually, the repository is the Internet or the World Wide Web. The distinction matters. When a citation template within our data-management software asks us to identify a repository, we invoke a basic rule covered at 2.19: in published citations, repositories are cited only for manuscript material exclusive to the repository where we used it. Repositories are *not* cited for published sources. To enter a website's name as our *repository* would be to say that the website's name is not an essential part of the citation. Therefore, the software might automatically omit it in printing out reference notes.

Identification of authors, creators, and website titles may require careful scrutiny of not only the relevant page but also its root pages. At each site we use, we should thoughtfully consider its construction and meticulously record every piece of information that might help us or someone else relocate the material in the event of a broken link. When we cite material that is available at multiple websites, we should consider which provider is likely to be the most permanent.

2.34   Databases vs. Images vs. Essays

Web providers of historical content typically offer digital material in three forms: (*a*) images of original records; (*b*) databases that compile historical data from the original images or other sources; and (*c*) essays and other writings that interpret this material. The three types do not carry the same weight on any scale by which evidence is appraised. Thus our citations to websites should specifically state the type of digital file we are using, if the title itself does not state that information.

2.35   Multiple Offerings at One Site

Websites that offer multiple items (articles, databases, etc.) by different individuals are the online equivalent of books with chapters by different authors. Thus, our citation needs to cover not only the website and its creator and publication data but also the

• author/creator of item (when identifiable); and
• title of item.

2.36   Punctuation

Punctuation in online citations follows most rules for books and their chapters, or journals and their articles.

• Website titles (like book titles) appear in italics.
• Database titles (like article and chapter titles) appear in quotation marks.