

Nanopublication – A given/instituted split holds for one sentence; the repatriation itself has no vocabulary here

by Arnaud Quercy

The given/instituted split in P3a holds for the one sentence where the article itself separates the object from what its inscription asserts under an anti-literacy law – a non-trivial, source-forced match. But the article's actual content – a repatriation agreement, descendant recognition, museum ownership transfer – sits in a domain the proposition set has no terms for; the lens grips a single clause and is silent on everything else the piece reports.

CONTEXT

☒ **Thin page** – the source itself is thin (teaser, notice, paywalled preamble). Distinct from truncation: nothing was cut by the pipeline.

WHAT THE SOURCE SAYS ^[1]

The Milwaukee Art Museum has transferred ownership of two 19th-century stoneware jars made by the enslaved potter David (Dave) Drake to his descendants, under an agreement that keeps the objects on long-term display. Drake, working in Edgefield, South Carolina, inscribed his pots with his name and original rhyming couplets at a time when the Negro Act of 1740 criminalized Black literacy and the money-earning or movement of enslaved people. A descendant's statement frames the agreement as recognition of Drake's ancestry and of a voice that has persisted for over 175 years. The article notes a second Virginia museum made a parallel return announcement the same week, and stops short of its full argument behind a paywall.

WHERE THE LENS GRIPS

P3a's split between a given invariant (the material fact of the vessel – stoneware, dimensions, the incised surface itself, which 'the receiver cannot dissolve') and an instituted invariant (what that surface asserts – Drake's name and verses as a claim of authorship) maps cleanly onto the article's own distinction between the jars as 'examples of ceramic mastery' and the act of inscribing them 'during a time when Black literacy was criminalized.' The historical fact that decodes the inscrip-

tions – the Negro Act of 1740 – functions exactly as P3a's disclosed rule: without it, the incised letters read as decoration; with it, they read as a deliberate claim of personhood. P3a's clause that the instituted invariant 'exists as soon as its rule is met and recognized – including by whoever refuses it' fits a case where the rule-makers were precisely those who refused the claim, and recognition arrives generations later through the descendants' statement.

WHERE IT BREAKS

The grip stops at that one clause. Everything the article is actually ABOUT – an ownership-transfer agreement, a museum's legal decision, a family's claim of ancestry, a second museum's parallel announcement the same week – has no counterpart anywhere in the proposition set. The framework describes emitters encoding and receivers diffracting; it has no vocabulary for custody, descent, or repatriation as a legal-ethical act. P14a's picture of a codex reconstructed by induction 'across the body of work' brushes against the article's admission that 'little is known about Drake's early life' – but the article never attempts that reconstruction itself; it reports a legal transfer, not an interpretive one, so the near-fit stays an open question rather than a confirmed one. The edge is real: one sentence of P3a holds, and the article's actual subject does not reach the framework at all.

PROPOSITIONAL GRID ^[2]

Read this grid. “Not evaluated” does **not** mean the source has nothing to say about that proposition. It means **the reading did not instruct it**. That is not a result, and it counts in no denominator. A silence, by contrast, is a finding: the reading touched the proposition without concluding, or noted its absence itself.

Evaluated

proposi-tion		audit status	relational verdict
P3a	Double Structure of the In-variant	audited	evidence-for
P14a	The Proto-Codex	not audited	open-question

What was instructed. These propositions have been judged and carry a current statement: it is **that** statement the reading tested, not the founding one.

- **P3a** – judged in Note 05 · current statement : say GIVEN invariant and INSTITUTED invariant, never 'physical' and 'intentional' – the axis is MODE OF EXISTENCE, read as regime of access: the given is what a sensor measures on the surface WITHOUT the codex; the instituted is the rule that elects relations in that surface and that only the disclosed codex deciphers

Not evaluated (35) – P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11, P12, P13, P14, P14b, P15, P16, P16a, P17, P18, P18a, P19, P19a, P20, P21, P22, P23, P24, P25, P26, P27, P28, P29, P30, P31

Overall verdict: Bounded – taxonomy of the August 2026 pass, predating the move to relational verdicts. Kept as metadata: the gap between the two forms is data, not residue. This reading's judgement is in the grid above.

Reading of 2026-10-01 · model claude-sonnet-5
· source 3,720 chars · 2 attempt(s)

REFERENCES

- [1] Milwaukee Art Museum Returns Two Jars to David Drake's Descendants. Hyperallergic, 2026-10-01. <https://hyperallergic.com/milwaukee-art-museum-returns-two-jars-to-david-drakes-descendants/>
- [2] Quercy, A. (2026). The 31 Propositions of Ideamorphism. <https://ideamorphism.org/en/publications/2026/03/the-31-propositions-of-ideamorphism.html>

EPISTEMIC PROFILE

Claim type	boundary reading
Voice	third person analysis
Epistemic status	bounded grip
Methodology	Boundary-finding lens applied to one source, model claude-sonnet-5, 2 attempt(s), traceability check passed.

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

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