

## **Abstract – “From Text to Technology: Hypertext and ‘Wilhelmina’”**

**Barbara K. Youel**

The text of Constance Fenimore Woolson’s “Wilhelmina” is well-suited for expansion into hypertext, a non-linear electronically-linked environment. “Wilhelmina” one of sixty entries in the 1992 *Anthology of Western Reserve Literature*, edited by David Anderson and Gladys Haddad, stands out as an exceptional example of text that can be further enriched by hypertext. Situated among works from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, written by native and non-native sons and daughters of the Western Reserve, “Wilhelmina” is replete with historical, cultural and religious references. There are links to Woolson’s literary contemporaries such as Howells and James, as well as to biographical information, and places key to the author in both Ohio and Florida. Questions which encourage analysis, synthesis, and evaluation are presented, as well as interdisciplinary project ideas, and online discussion opportunities. There are four basic reasons for moving this text and others into hypertext: 1) to enrich a suitable text, 2) to exploit the loss of “center,” 3) to open creative opportunities for students and teachers, and 4) to capture attention and focus on careful reading, thinking, and writing as a process. This website has only begun to demonstrate the many possible resources available to compilers, wishing to move text into hypertext and hypermedia.