Your suggestion to publish my typography programs tends to solve the vexing question of how this should be written up, because it would be difficult to put the ideas into a normal technical paper without losing too much detail. . . . One problem is that such a book would delay volume 4 yet again, but on the other hand this research will need to be properly published if it turns out as well as I hope.

D.E. Knuth, letter to C.A.R. Hoare
16 November 1977