

recollection



RECOLLECTION WISCONSIN METADATA ESSENTIALS

A QUICK GUIDE TO METADATA

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This guide provides basic recommendations for creating or adjusting metadata in preparation for harvesting by the Recollection Wisconsin DPLA Service Hub and ingestion into the Digital Public Library of America.

METADATA FIELDS

REQUIRED FIELDS

These metadata fields must be present for new collections to be harvested by Recollection Wisconsin.

RIGHTS URI

Definition: Description of the copyright status of the resource, using the URI for the appropriate standardized rights statement.

Input Guidelines: Use the URI indicated in the standardized rights statements developed by DPLA and Europeana, available at RightsStatements.org. The most commonly used statements are:

1. <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC/1.0/> (In copyright)
2. <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/NoC-US/1.0/> (No copyright)
3. <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/UND/1.0/> (Copyright undetermined)

Notes: Additional information regarding copyright status, terms of use, permissions, etc. may be provided in separate, optional Rights fields.

SUBJECT

Definition: Topic of described resource. Generally, this field will contain terms that describe what is depicted in an image, or terms that describe what a text is about.

Input Guidelines: Use of a controlled vocabulary such as [Library of Congress Subject Headings](#) (LCSH), [Library of Congress Thesaurus for Graphic Materials](#) (LCTGM), [Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus](#) (AAT), or [Nomenclature 4.0](#) is strongly encouraged.

For multi-word subject terms, capitalize just the first word, unless other words are proper nouns. Enter multiple subject terms in separate fields, or separate multiple subject terms with a semicolon and space.

Example: Sailing ships; Rowboats; Pirates

TITLE

Definition: A name given to the resource.

Input Guidelines: Capitalize only the first word and proper names (place, personal and corporate names). Do not enter content in all capital letters except in the case of acronyms.

If the resource has been published, such as a book or article, transcribe the title exactly as it appears in its published form. For resources without published titles, such as most historic photographs, assign a brief descriptive title.

TYPE

Definition: A term broadly characterizing the type of resource being described.

Input Guidelines: Select the appropriate term from the [DCMI Type](#) vocabulary.

Example	Definition
Moving Image	A visual representation in motion, such as movies, television programs, animation
Sound	A resource primarily intended to be heard, such as oral history audio recordings, music
Still Image	A static visual representation other than text, such as photographs, postcards, maps, paintings, and images of three-dimensional objects
Text	A resource consisting primarily of words for reading, such as books, articles, letters, diaries, yearbooks

RECOMMENDED FIELDS

These metadata fields are strongly recommended by Recollection Wisconsin to facilitate end-user discovery through searching, faceted browsing and DPLA's metadata enrichments.

DATE

Definition: Date of the resource origination. Most often this will be the date that the resource was created, such as the publication date of a book or the date a photograph was taken.

Input Guidelines: If an exact date is known, use the format YYYY-MM-DD. Questionable or approximate dates should be expressed using “ca.” Do not use a question mark. If a date is uncertain but falls within a likely range, record the earliest and latest dates, separated by a hyphen.

Notes: Do not use this field for the date the resource was digitized or made available online.

Example	Explanation
1927	Date of a book published in 1927
1927-07	Date of a painting created in July 1927
1927-07-03	Date of a photograph taken on July 3, 1927
ca. 1927	Map likely created in 1927 or close to it
1910-1920	Photograph created between 1910 and 1920

DESCRIPTION

Definition: An account of the content of the resource.

Input Guidelines: Free text. The description should be written in complete sentences. Do not use abbreviations, ampersands or paragraph and line breaks. Maintain standard capitalization rules. Do not use all capital letters to set words or phrases apart or to denote importance.

CREATOR

Definition: The name of the creator of the item (e.g. photographer, author, artist), either an individual or an organization.

Input Guidelines: Use of [Library of Congress Name Authority File](#) (LCNAF) is encouraged. If the name is not provided in LCNAF, use the following format:

Last name, First name, Middle initial, Date-Date

Notes: If you have only a birth or death date, or an approximate date, use the following patterns: “b. date,” “d. date”, and “ca. date.” If the creator is still living, provide the date of birth followed by a hyphen. Question marks are allowed in this field.

For corporate body names (e.g. names of organizations, societies, government agencies, etc.), consult the [Library of Congress Name Authority File](#) and if no entry exists, enter the name as it appears.

Examples:

- Smith, Joe M., 1931-2002
- Smith, Joe M., b. 1931?
- Smith, Joe M., d. 2002
- Smith, Joe M., ca. 1930-2000
- Smith, Joe M., 1931-
- Smith Photography Studio, Madison, WI

PLACE

Definition: The location or area that is described or represented by the resource.

Input Guidelines: Enter the most specific element of the location known (e.g. city, municipality) followed by the state name. Avoid abbreviations. Use of the [Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names](#) (TGN) is encouraged.

Notes: Do not use this field to record the place of publication of a text. The location of a publisher can be added to the Publisher field.

Examples:

- Wisconsin
- Marathon County, Wisconsin
- Mount Horeb, Wisconsin

AUTO-POPULATED FIELDS

DATA PROVIDER

Definition: The organization or entity submitting the digital object and its accompanying metadata to Recollection Wisconsin and DPLA.

Input Guidelines: No input needed. Data Provider is applied at the collection level when records are harvested.

OPTIONAL FIELDS

These metadata fields are not required, but can be present to increase discoverability. Additional qualified and unqualified Dublin Core fields not mentioned in this document may also be provided.

LANGUAGE

Definition: The language in which a text is written or the spoken language(s) of an audio or video resource.

Input guidelines: Indicate language using the two- or three-letter language codes defined by [ISO 639](#).

Examples: en (English); fr (French); de (German); hmn (Hmong); oj (Ojibwa); sp (Spanish)

PUBLISHER

Definition: Name of the person, organization, or service responsible for publishing the original resource. Publishers can be a corporate body, museum, historical society, university, project, repository, etc.

Input Guidelines: This field may also contain the place of publication in addition to the publisher name. If including the place of publication, enter as "Location: Publisher name," e.g. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Notes: Do not use this field to indicate the creator of the digital reproduction.

RIGHTS

Definition: Natural language description of the access rights, copyright holder, and/or usage restrictions associated with the resource, as long as this information does not repeat or contradict the standardized rights statement.

Input Guidelines: DPLA converts the Rights URI into a natural language expression of usage rights and discourages content contributors from entering text that duplicates such language. If it is required by your organization, please input that information into an unmapped field.

Examples:

Copyright 2002, Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System.

For information regarding permissions and reproductions, please contact the Albertson Memorial Library.

This material may be protected by copyright law (e.g., Title 17, US Code). For more information about the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Murphy Library's copyright, fair-use, and permissions policies, please see <https://digitalcollections.uwlax.edu/>.

METADATA MAPPING

Fields that are to be shared via OAI-PMH for harvesting should be mapped to Qualified Dublin Core (QDC) or Simple Dublin Core (DC). Recollection Wisconsin harvests QDC from servers where QDC is provided, and DC from other servers.

LOCAL LABEL	OBLIGATION	DUBLIN CORE EQUIVALENT	DPLA MAP EQUIVALENT
Creator	Recommended	dc:creator	.sourceResource.creator
Date	Recommended	dc:date or dcterms:created	.sourceResource.date
Description	Recommended	dc:description	.sourceResource.description
Language	Optional	dc:language	.sourceResource.language
Place	Recommended	dcterms:spatial	.sourceResource.spatial
Publisher	Optional	dc:publisher	.sourceResource.publisher
Rights URI	Required	dc:rights	.sourceResource.rights
Subject	Required	dc:subject	.sourceResource.subject
Rights	Optional	dcterms:accessRights	.sourceResource.rights
Title	Required	dc:title	.sourceResource.title
Type	Required	dc:type	.sourceResource.type

GENERAL METADATA ENTRY GUIDELINES

AVOID ABBREVIATIONS

Avoid the use of abbreviations. Spell out the full names of communities and states. For example, use “Mount Horeb,” not “Mt. Horeb” and “Wisconsin,” not “WI.” Exceptions where the use of abbreviations is acceptable include terms used with dates (such as “b.” for “born”), distinguishing terms added to names of persons (such as “Mrs.”), or widely accepted terms (such as “St.” for “Saint”).

CAPITALIZATION

Capitalize all proper names. Capitalize only the first word in titles and subject terms. Capitalize content in the description field according to normal rules of writing. Do not enter content in all caps except in the case of acronyms.

CHARACTERS TO AVOID

Do not use ampersands (&) or ellipses (. . .). Do not use HTML tags. For example, do not use
 or
 within metadata fields to force a line break.

UNKNOWN DATA

Fields for which there is no available information should be left blank. Avoid using “unknown,” “anonymous,” etc.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

[Best Practices for Shareable Metadata](#) (Digital Library Federation)

[DPLA Metadata Application Profile](#) (MAP)

[DPLA Geographic and Temporal Guidelines](#)

[Dublin Core Metadata Initiative](#) (DCMI)

[Introduction to the DPLA Metadata Model](#)

[RightsStatements.org](#)

Gregory, Lisa and Stephanie Williams. [On Being a Hub: Some Details behind Providing Metadata for the Digital Public Library of America](#). *D-Lib Magazine*, July/August 2014.