

HRE – GENERIC OBJECT TYPES - OVERVIEW

Revision history

2018-06-02	Robin Lamacraft	Original draft
2018-06-05	Robin Lamacraft	Added new tables in Occasions
2019-02-12	Robin Lamacraft	Rename Contains to Entities, add Geologicals and add ability to have Individuals and Groups of Generic Object types. Add Evidence as a similar object type with restrictions on its use.
2023-07-15	Don Ferguson	Aligned with current HRE terminology

SCOPE

All user research data within HRE is stored in database tables that are associated with one of the HRE data Base Types. The Base Types are divided into sub-types. The Types are classified on their distinguishing data properties or their behaviour within the HRE data model. Much of the code within HRE can be shared for common aspects that these generic data types have. The classification of these generic research data types is:

1. **PERSON** – example sub-type - *Aboriginal, etc*
Person types always represent people and are a special case of the Life Form type
2. **LIFE FORMS** – example sub-types - *Animals, Plants, etc*
Life Form types always represent non-divisible objects that can reproduce
3. **THINGS** – example sub-types - *Art Works, Furniture, Grave Stones, etc*
Thing types always represent non-divisible object that cannot reproduce and have a physical form
4. **LOCATIONS** – example sub-types – *Address, Archaeological sites, Astronomy etc*
Location types are object that represent a position in a space
5. **DIGITALS** – example sub-types - *Images, Videos, Audio, DNA tests, XML, etc*
Digital object types always represent non-divisible objects that cannot reproduce and have a digital form
6. **ASSEMBLIES** – example sub-types – *Companies, Military Units, Clubs, etc*
Assemblies are objects that can split and merge and which can be members of hierarchies
7. **EVENTS** – example sub-types - *Events and Tasks*
Event objects represent data about an action in time to which other research data objects can be linked. Events are in historical time space, while Tasks are in the researcher's time space (now). They may also form hierarchies
8. **EVIDENCE** – example sub-types – *Sources, Repositories, etc*
Contain objects represent objects which can be members of hierarchies.

GENERIC OBJECT TYPES and SUB-TYPES

Database table **T169** holds a type and sub-type dictionary over all generic object types over 4 levels. Hence more sub-types can be added to HRE without major modifications of the database schema. These are likely to be created by plugins.