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Z652

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Metadata scheme for *Stamps and Space Men*

Context, content, and users

The creator's background in stamp collecting affects what metadata fields are deemed necessary for this scheme while their background in library science affects the input for these fields. The collection's content consists of stamps depicting early space missions by the US and the USSR, the space race and what people thought about space travel as depicted in stamps issued during the 60s and 70s. Stamps are a popular type of ephemera, with many collectors and independent scholars producing in-depth books and articles about this form of ephemera. The primary intended users of this collection are those interested in the history of astronauts, space travel and the space race, especially as it is depicted in public media as well as those interested in astrophilately, the collection and study of stamps depicting space and space travel.

Functional requirements

- String search
    - Title
    - Country
- Sort search results
    - Title (A-Z, Z-A)
    - Country (A-Z, Z-A)
    - Date (ascending, descending)
- Filter results (post-search)
    - Date (specific year or range)
    - Series
- Browse
    - Country
    - Series
    - Size (see format)
    - Subject
    - Date

Available elements and input guidelines[1]

What follows are the available elements and input guidelines for the collection. They are first displayed as a table providing a quick overview of their mapping to Dublin Core, their

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[1] As my layout closely follows the one used by Alex Wingate in her metadata scheme for *Las novelitas: Popular reading in early 20th-century Spain*, the formatting of these guidelines is loosely based on the OCLC RDA guide the same as hers is.

obligation, cardinality, visibility to users, as well as a brief description.[2] Each element is then described in more detail in the numbered section that follows the table.

Name	DC mapping	Obligation	Cardinality	Visible to users?	Description
Title	Title	Required	1 or more	Yes	Title of the work
Identifier	Identifier	Required	1	No	Unique identifier of the resource
Country	Creator	Required	1 or more	Yes	Creator of the work
Date	Date	Required	1	Yes	Date of publication
Format	Format	Required	2	Yes	Describes physical and digital format
Series	Type	Required	1	Yes	Series stamp belongs to
Subject	Subject	Required	1 or more	Yes	Subject Stamp deals with

1. **Title**
   a. *Description*: The title is the name of the stamp.
   b. *Where to obtain:* The main name of a stamp is not always clear. It usually does not appear on the stamp itself. One has to search through official stamp catalogs printed by the country that issued the stamp in question. Even then no name might be given; just a catalog number or issue number identifying that particular stamp. A surrogate name created to describe the stamp will often be necessary. Many stamps in this collection come from countries using Cyrillic script or are Arabic speaking countries which contributors to the collection might not be able to read even on the off chance that a stamp catalog from one of these countries is accessible to them.
   c. *Obligation*: Required
   d. *Cardinality*: 1 or 2. An initial surrogate title shall be created to describe the stamp for viewers and for search and browse functionality. In the event that an official title for the stamp is discovered later on it can be introduced as the second title. The rational for placing the official title second is the assumption that an official title will not be found for most of the stamps and having the first title be a mix of official and unofficial titles would be confusing to viewers. Sometimes stamps have words or sentences describing what they portray. If these are deemed

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[2] Fore more information on Dublin Core, see: (https://www.dublincore.org/specifications/dublin-core/dces/)

suitable, they may be used as the surrogate title.

    e. *Formatting*: The first word and proper names should be capitalized for surrogate titles. Official titles should appear as shown in catalogs; if transliterated, follow the original language's capitalization scheme where possible. If part of a series; the series shall be part of the name

    f. *Examples*:

        i. History of Space: Apollo 2

2. Identifier

    a. *Description*: A unique identifier for each stamp in the collection.

    b. *Obligation*: Required

    c. *Cardinality*: 1

    d. *Formatting*: Identifiers should be formatted as: country_title. The identifier should be all lower caps. The country name follows the TGN (see country section below).

    e. *Examples*:

        i. ajman_history of space apollo 2

3. Date

    a. *Description*: Date of issue of the stamp.

    b. *Where to obtain:* Check the front of the stamp. Dates are not always shown on stamp.

    c. *Obligation*: Required if available

    d. *Cardinality*: 1

    e. *Formatting*: Give the year only, e.g., 1972. If a date is uncertain, place a c for circa before the date e.g., c1974.

4. Format

    a. *Description*: Provides information on the physical size of the stamp to the nearest millimeter as well as the file type of the digital image. All images should be in jpg format

    b. *Where to obtain:* Measure height by width in centimeters and millimeters.

    c. *Cardinality*: 2

    d. *Obligation*: required

    e. *Formatting*:

        i. *Format (Size):* e.g., 2.3x1.4cm

        ii. *Format (File type):* e.g., image/jpg

5. Series

    a. *Description*: The series in which a stamp was issued

    b. *Where to obtain:* If stamp is still connected to a roll; it will be visually obvious that it is part of the same series. Information may also be acquired from a catalog or (though not preferred) inferred based on appearance.

    c. *Obligation*: Required when available

    d. *Cardinality*: 1

    e. *Formatting*: Variable as information may be missing, but the format of the name

of a series must uniform for all stamps in the series once a series name is decided upon.

    f. *Examples*:

        i. History of Space (instead of HISTORY OF SPACE as found in original)

6. **Country:**
   a. *Description*: The country that issued the stamp and serves as creator.
   b. *Where to obtain*: Check the front of the stamp.
   c. *Obligation*: Required
   d. *Cardinality*: 1 or more
   e. *Formatting*: Give the name of the country in English (required) and any additional names found on the stamp in its original language or otherwise (optional). The English name shall be drawn from the Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names (TGN).[3]
      i. The longitude and latitude of each country's capital will also be given and mapped using collection builder's mapping feature to help visualize the geographic range of the collection.
   f. *Examples*:
      1. Required: *Ajman* (as given in TGN)[4]
      2. Optional: *Ajman State* or *Ajman State and its Dependencies* (as found on stamp)

7. **Subject:**
   a. *Description*: the subject matter of the stamp; what it portrays
   b. *Obligation*: Required
   c. *Cardinality*: 1 or more
   d. *Formatting*: FAST (Faceted Application of Subject Terminology) shall be used to provide standard identifiers for subjects covered within the stamps. A link to FAST along with an example is given in the link in the footnotes.[5]

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[3] https://www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/tgn/
[4] https://www.getty.edu/vow/TGNFullDisplay?find=ajman&place=&nation=&prev_page=1&english=Y&subjectid=7000270
[5] http://fast.oclc.org/searchfast/?&limit=keywords&facet=all&query=Apollo%2017%20(Spacecraft)&sort=usage+desc&start=0#&single=fst00688208&fullview=simple&sep=click