

# DIGITAL DESCRIPTION

## Metadata for Digital Collections

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## Overview

- Defining metadata
- Metadata and DPLA
- Metadata tools and resources
- Examples (if time)

## Metadata: What is it?



Wisconsin Historical Society WHI-69022

## Metadata: What is it?

“Data about data”  
aka  
“Information about stuff”

**Administrative metadata:**

Information necessary to manage a resource  
(technical information, preservation activities)

**Descriptive metadata:**

Information that supports discovery and  
identification of a resource

## Descriptive metadata

Information about the content and context of a resource  
(document, book, photograph, audio file, etc.)

- What am I looking at?
- Who created it? When? Where?
- Who owns it?
- How can I use it?

## Metadata in the wild

Audio file:

- Song name
- Artist
- Album
- Run time
- Genre

Name	Time	Artist	Album
Serenata notturna D-dur, K. 239	4:25	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Disc 1)
Serenata notturna D-dur, K. 239	3:57	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Disc 1)
Serenata notturna D-dur, K. 239	3:57	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Disc 1)
Serenata notturna D-dur, K. 239	4:19	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Disc 1)
Rondo: Allegro	5:04	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik - Serenata N...
Rondo: Allegro	5:04	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik - Serenata N...
Rondeau: Allegro Ma Non Troppo	6:12	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Mozart: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik - Serenata N...

# Metadata in the wild

Narrow Your Choices

Shop All SALE ITEMS  
SHOW SALE ITEMS

WOMEN'S SIZE

4 4.5 5 5.5 6  
6.5 7 7.5 8 8.5  
9 9.5 10 10.5 11  
11.5 12 13 14 16

WOMEN'S WIDTH

N M W WW 2A  
B C D EE

STYLES

Comfort (47)  
 Wedges (20)  
 Platform (11)  
 Euro (4)  
 Slide (2)  
 Ring Back (2)  
 Mary Jane (1)

OCCASION

YOUR SELECTIONS: SHOES CLOGS & MULES MULTI WOMEN COMFORT 7

CROCS  
Classic Bitzen III Animal  
\$49.99

Klogs Footwear  
Portland  
\$109.95

SoftWalk  
Mendith Sport  
\$119.95

# Metadata in the wild

<b>Nutrition Facts</b>	
Serving Size 1/2 cup (115g)	
Servings Per Container About 4	
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 250	<b>Calories from Fat</b> 130
% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 14g	<b>22%</b>
Saturated Fat 9g	<b>45%</b>
<b>Cholesterol</b> 55mg	<b>18%</b>
<b>Sodium</b> 75mg	<b>3%</b>
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 26g	<b>9%</b>
Dietary Fiber 0g	<b>0%</b>
Sugars 26g	
<b>Protein</b> 4g	
Vitamin A 10%	Vitamin C 0%

# Metadata in the wild

The screenshot shows a search results page from WISCAT. The search term is 'hamilton', and 61 of 89 resources are returned. The results are displayed in a grid format with various media types like books, audiobooks, and music recordings. The left sidebar contains filters for format, language, date, subject, author, title, and publisher.

# Metadata in the wild

## Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin



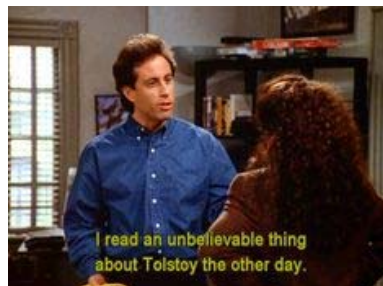
Get full image from University of Wisconsin Digital Collections

Created Date	1930-01-01/1939-12-31
Partner	Recollection Wisconsin
Contributing Institution	University of Wisconsin Digital Collections
Description	PHOTO DESCRIPTION: A postcard of Howard White Thunder, a Riverview guide, standing on and pointing forward on an excursion boat on the river in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin in the 1930s.
Location	Wisconsin--Wisconsin Dells
Type	image
Subject	Cities and towns Excursion boats
Rights	This image cannot be copied or reproduced without the permission of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Murphy Library, Special Collections
URL	<a href="http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/SSRecIDSearch?repl1=LaCrosseSteamboat&amp;repl2=LaCrosseSteamboat.steam27577.bib">http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/SSRecIDSearch?repl1=LaCrosseSteamboat&amp;repl2=LaCrosseSteamboat.steam27577.bib</a>

## Metadata: What is it good for?

Structured, standardized metadata:

- Enables discovery
- Provides context
- Supports interoperability



## Metadata enables discovery

*Is there anything here about the history of the shipbuilding industry in Superior?*

**Location, Subject:** Superior, Wisconsin; Shipbuilding industry

*Is there video of Civil Rights events from 1968 that I can show my class?*

**Subject, Type, Date:** Civil rights movements; Moving image; 1968

Slide adapted from DPLA Public Library Partnerships Project  
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## Metadata provides context

- Springfield, IL
- Springfield, South Australia
- Springfield, Ontario
- Springfield, MA
- Springfield, VA
- Springfield, OR
- Springfield, FL



Slide courtesy of DPLA Public Library Partnerships Project  
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## Metadata standards (a few)

- Dublin Core - Simple and Qualified
- MARC
- MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema)
- EAD (Encoded Archival Description)
- PREMIS (Preservation Metadata: Implementation Strategies)
- EDM (Europeana Data Model)
- Application Profiles e.g. DPLA MAP

## Controlled vocabularies

- Definition: a limited set of terms or phrases
- Facilitate searching and browsing
- Group and connect related content within a local collection and across disparate collections

By Location <span>▲</span>	
United States - Texas - Hemphill County - Canadian	1363
South Central Montana	560
USA	548
California	389
United States	363
<a href="#">More »</a>	

By Subject <span>▲</span>	
Portraits	6766
Photographs	4008
People	2538
Chair	2130
Children--Portraits	2007
<a href="#">More »</a>	

## Controlled vocabularies - Examples

- Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)
- Library of Congress Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (LCTGM)
- Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus (AAT)
- Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names (TGN)
- DCMI Type
- Schema.org
- Rightsstatements.org



# Metadata & DPLA

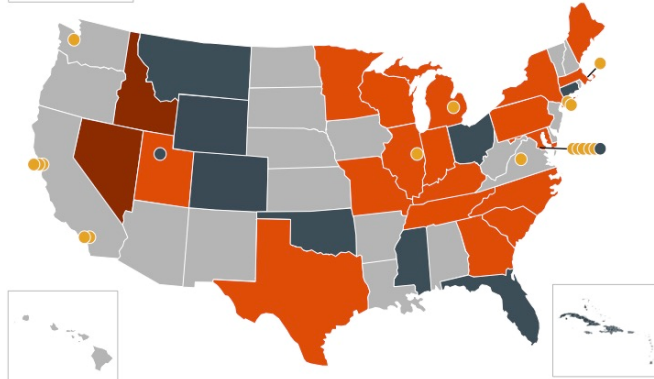


## PONDS → LAKES → OCEAN



### DPLA Hubs Locations

- Service Hubs
- Service Hub partner states
- Content Hubs
- Hubs in active development





# Metadata harvesting

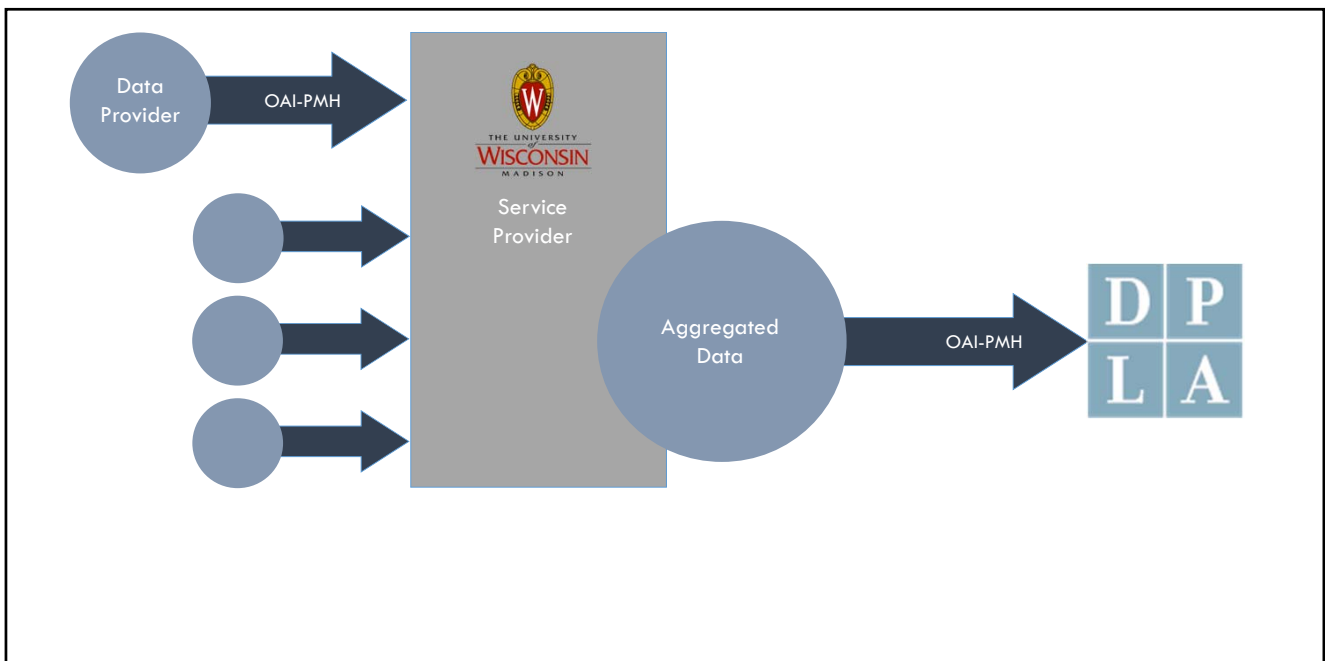
## Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)

A protocol for harvesting (collecting) descriptive metadata records from a repository so that services can be built using metadata from many sources.

### Roles:

*Data Providers* are repositories that expose structured metadata via OAI-PMH.

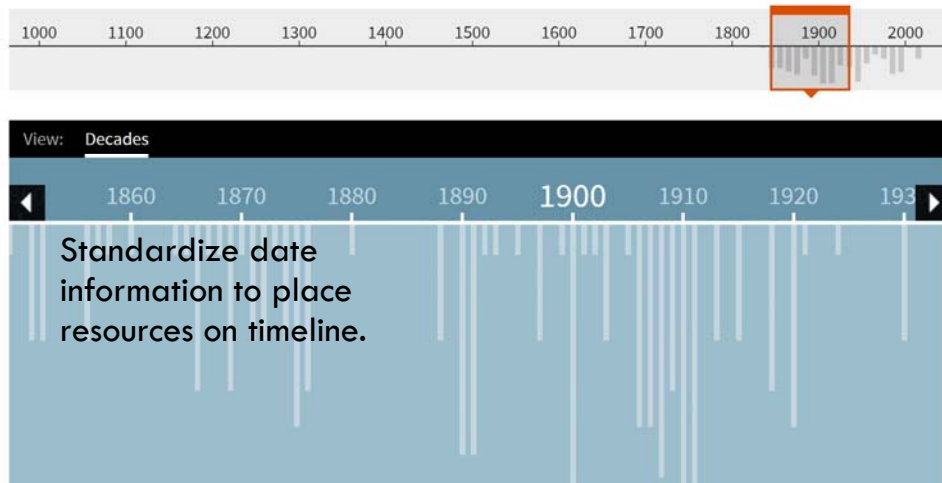
*Service Providers* then make OAI-PMH service requests to harvest that metadata.



## DPLA Metadata Enrichments



## DPLA Metadata Enrichments



# DPLA: Metadata as a platform



# Metadata Tools and Resources



Milwaukee Area Technical College

## Service Hub Resources

- Recollection Wisconsin Metadata Essentials
- RW to DPLA metadata map
- Metadata spreadsheet template
- Google Group
- Metadata Checker tool (adapted from North Carolina Digital Heritage Center)

### DPLA OAI Aggregation Tools

#### Required Data Checker

Check incoming oai\_dc for required data.

#### DC Mapping Checker

Check incoming oai\_dc feeds for correct Dublin Core mappings.

#### DC Facet Viewer

See the contents of Dublin Core fields in an incoming OAI feed according to frequency.

Example OAI Feeds for testing

<http://dcms.beloit.edu/oai/oai.php>

<http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/oai/oai.php>

DPLA OAI Aggregation Tools 1.0 (May 2014)

Developed by the [North Carolina Digital Heritage Center](#) · [Contact](#)

### Required Data Checker

Check incoming oai\_dc for required data.

cran — Wetherby C ▾

✕

**Wetherby Cranberry Library Digital Archives**  
[http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/oai/oai.php?verb=ListRecords&set=cran&metadataPrefix=oai\\_dc](http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/oai/oai.php?verb=ListRecords&set=cran&metadataPrefix=oai_dc)

Record	Required Fields Missing	Recommended Fields Missing
oai:content.wisconsinhistory.org:cran/5073		Creator Date Description
oai:content.wisconsinhistory.org:cran/348		Coverage Date
oai:content.wisconsinhistory.org:cran/863		Coverage Date
oai:content.wisconsinhistory.org:cran/894		Coverage Date

### DC Facet Viewer

See the contents of Dublin Core fields in an incoming OAI feed according to frequency.

cran — Wetherby C ▾
format ▾

✕

**Wetherby Cranberry Library Digital Archives**  
[http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/oai/oai.php?verb=ListRecords&set=cran&metadataPrefix=oai\\_dc](http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/oai/oai.php?verb=ListRecords&set=cran&metadataPrefix=oai_dc)

Field Value	Count
Magazine	800
image/pdf	789
image/jpeg	446
Photograph	239
Newspaper Clipping	33
Image/jpeg	31
Newsletter	29

## DPLA Resources

- Intro to DPLA MAP
- Self-Guided Curriculum
- DPLA for Developers

## Thank you!

**For more information:**  
[recollectionwisconsin.org](http://recollectionwisconsin.org)  
[dp.la](http://dp.la)

**Contact:**  
Emily Pfotenhauer  
[emily@wils.org](mailto:emily@wils.org)  
608-616-9756



## Metadata for RW & DPLA

### Required elements

- Title
- Rights
- Type
- Subject

### Recommended elements

- Date
- Description
- Creator
- Place

## Title

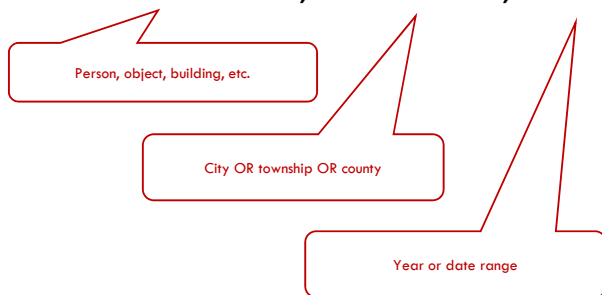
If the resource does not already have a title, you'll need to create one.

An effective title is...

- Descriptive and specific
- Brief
- Follows specific formatting rules
  - Capitalize first word and proper names (people, places, institutions)
  - Don't start with "A" or "The"
  - Period not needed at the end

## Basic formula for creating titles

### SUBJECT, LOCATION, DATE



Only include an element IF KNOWN

## Rights

- A. Indicate one of the three broad copyright categories (in copyright, no copyright, undetermined).
- B. Identify institution with “For more information” statement.

### Example: PUBLIC DOMAIN

- No copyright. For more information, contact the W. J. Niederkorn Library, Port Washington, Wisconsin.

### Example: UNKNOWN

- Copyright status undetermined. For more information, contact the W. J. Niederkorn Library, Port Washington, Wisconsin.

### Example: IN COPYRIGHT

- Copyright Tom McGinnis, 1978. Published with permission of the copyright holder. All rights reserved. For more information, contact the Kaukauna Public Library.

### Example: ORPHAN WORK

- Rights holder unlocatable. If you believe that you possess copyright to the material included here, please contact the Kaukauna Public Library.

## Type

Choose from DCMI Type Vocabulary.  
Assign only one Type (typically).

DCMI Type Term	Definition	Examples
<b>Still Image</b>	Static visual representation	Photos, maps, posters, artwork, images of three-dimensional objects, sheet music
<b>Text</b>	Resource consisting primarily of words for reading	Books, articles, clippings, letters, diaries, yearbooks, audio transcripts
<b>Sound</b>	Resource intended to be heard	Oral history audio interviews, musical performances, speeches
<b>Moving Image</b>	Visual representation in motion	Movies, TV programs, animation

## Subject

- Use a controlled vocabulary
- Aim for 1-5 terms.
- Input each term in a separate field, or separate multiple terms in the same field with semicolons.
- Avoid use of coordinated LCSH headings  
 EXAMPLE - Instead of the coordinated heading **Veterans--Medical care--Wisconsin--Milwaukee** use the uncoordinated terms **Veterans** and **Medical care**
- How did others do it? Look at similar materials in other digital collections for examples. There is no one right answer!

## Description

A free text field for all extra, relevant information that does not have a “home” in other fields.

### Recommendations:

- Include names of people whenever possible
- Remember your audience is broad. Provide enough information to add meaning for non-local users
- May include short transcriptions (i.e. handwritten note on back of a photo) but NOT full-text/OCR transcriptions
- You can provide historical information, but don't get bogged down in too much detail

## Description

- Not so good (too little):
  - People with apple trees.
- Not so good (too much):
  - A woman wearing a hat and dress and a man in overalls stand in front of an apple tree. Twelve barrels containing apples are lined up in a row in front of them. The roof of a barn is visible behind the trees. Apples were a popular crop in America in the 19<sup>th</sup> century thanks to Johnny Appleseed. The first commercial apple orchard in Wausau was established in . . .



## Description

- **Good:**
  - A woman and a man in an apple orchard with wooden barrels filled with apples. A child rides a tricycle at the right.
- **Great:**
  - Ida and Peter C. Swartz in Swartz Orchard with wooden barrels filled with newly picked apples. Peter L. Swartz rides a tricycle at right.

