A Collections Model in RDA

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A fuzzy concept ...

Collection
A curator’s role ...

An agent who conceives or manages the aggregation of an item in an exhibition or collection.

Item: curator agent
Describing a collection ...

A catalogue

Collection
Levels of archival description ...

Collection, Fonds, Record Group

Series, Sous-fonds, Subseries

Item

Item
How can descriptions of collections fit into our RDA descriptions?
Accrual methods and policies
Collection

Item
Collection

"held with"

Item

Item

NARDAC Forum

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Collection

Location of collection
Metadata describing a collection

“finding aid”
“catalogue”

Collection
“collector”

[old definition: A curator who brings together items from various sources that are then arranged, described, and cataloged as a collection]
Metadata describing a collection

“collection registrar”
“compiler”
“cataloguer”
A problem unearthed ...

(Work) augmented by work (Work)
- addenda work
- appendix work
- cadenza work
- **catalogue** work
- concordance work
- errata work
- **finding aid** work
- guide work
- illustrations work
- index work
- supplement work

Wrong hierarchy
Utilizing the existing hierarchy ...

- (RDA Entity) is subject RDA entity of (Work)
  - (RDA Entity) is RDA entity described by (Work)
  - (RDA Entity) is RDA entity evaluated by (Work)
Expanding the hierarchy under Manifestation described by

- Manifestation: *manifestation analysed in* →
- Manifestation: *manifestation commentary in* →
- Manifestation: *manifestation described with metadata by* →
  
  For narrower elements, see Manifestation: *finding aid* →

  For narrower elements, see
  
  - Manifestation: *catalogue* →
  - Manifestation: *hierarchic finding aid* →
Aspects of a collection resource

(Collection) work
(Collection) expression
(Collection) manifestation
(Collection) item
Aspects of a collection resource

The collection work is a plan for selecting items to be gathered together for some purpose.
Accrual method and policy

(Collection) work

Work: accrual method
loan
deposit
donation
license
purchase

Work: accrual policy
closed
passive
active
selective
Subcollections

(Collection) manifestation

Manifestation: subcollection

(Collection) manifestation
Individual items in a collection

(Collection) manifestation

Manifestation: holding

Item
Location of a collection

(Collection) manifestation

Place

Manifestation: location of collection
“Held with” and “Bound with”
Describing collection manifestations

(Collection) manifestation

Manifestation: manifestation described by metadata by [(metadata) Work]
- Manifestation: finding aid [(metadata) Work]
- Manifestation: catalogue [(metadata) Work]
- Manifestation: hierarchic finding aid [(metadata) Work]
“An agent who is responsible for creating a collection work by selecting and arranging items that exemplify the embodiment of other works.”
"An agent who is responsible for creating a metadata description set. A metadata description set includes a bibliography of works, expressions, or manifestations, a directory of agents and places, and an analytic finding aid."
“An agent who is responsible for creating an analytic finding aid.”
Alternate label: cataloguer agent
Thank you!

“Implementing the Collections Model in RDA” Dec. 31, 2021


RDA Steering Committee –
http://www.rda-rsc.org/

RDA YouTube channel –
https://www.youtube.com/c/RDAToolkitVideo

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