



Cataloging Cultural Objects: A Guide to Describing Cultural Works and Their Images

Murtha Baca, Patricia Harpring, Elisa Lanzi, Linda McRae, Ann Baird Whiteside

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In a visual and artifact-filled world, cataloging one-of-a-kind cultural objects without published guidelines and standards has been a challenge.

Now for the first time, under the leadership of the Visual Resources Association, a cross-section of five visual and cultural heritage experts, along with scores of reviewers from varied institutions, have created a new data content standard focused on cultural materials.

This cutting-edge reference offers practical resources for cataloging and flexibility to meet the needs of a wide range of institutions from libraries to museums to archives. Consistently following these guidelines for selecting, ordering, and formatting data used to populate metadata elements in cultural materials catalog records:

- * Promotes good descriptive cataloging and reduces redundancy
- * Builds a foundation of shared documentation
- * Creates data sharing opportunities
- * Enhances end-user access across institutional boundaries
- * Complements existing standards (AACR)

This is a must-have reference for museum professionals, visual resources curators, archivists, librarians and anyone who documents cultural objects (including architecture, paintings, sculpture, prints, manuscripts, photographs, visual media, performance art, archaeological sites, and artifacts) and their images



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