

Proposal for DCRM(G)
Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Graphics)
Submitted to Randal S. Brandt, Chair,
ACRL/RBMS Bibliographic Standards Committee
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We propose that the second edition of *Graphic Materials: Rules for Describing Original Items and Historical Collections* be developed as part of the DCRM suite. The Library of Congress's Cataloging Policy and Support Office (CPSO) has expressed support of this change.

As a first step, we are drafting a review of the current state of *Graphic Materials* and its relationship with DCRM(B) in time for the June 2008 RBMS Preconference in Los Angeles. Our goal is to provide suitable background and context for the Bib Standards Committee to begin naming a DCRM(G) editorial team at that time.

Background:

Descriptive cataloging of prints, drawings, and photographs in special collections currently relies on *Graphic Materials: Rules for Describing Original Items and Historical Collections*, compiled by Elisabeth W. Betz and published by the Library of Congress in 1982. A revised version, with cumulated updates, appeared in 1997. In 2002, a list of areas to update for a second edition was made available. Work on the second edition was put on hold pending the publication of *Describing Archives: A Content Standard* (DACS), *Cataloging Cultural Objects: A Guide to Describing Cultural Works and Their Images* (CCO), and *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books)*.

Now that DACS, CCO, and DCRM(B) have appeared, it has become clear that DCRM(B) is the appropriate direction for graphic materials collections in research libraries and special collections. The research community continues to need descriptive records for visual materials that emphasize published and documentary characteristics, and do so with a format and vocabulary that align well with bibliographic cataloging.

We approached Deborah J. Leslie at the 2007 RBMS Preconference with the idea that the second edition of *Graphic Materials* not just take DCRM(B) into account, but that it become part of the DCRM suite as *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Graphics)*. With Deborah's encouragement, we believe that DCRM(G) will logically and successfully join the other formats in the series.

Initial plan of action:

An initial team is available to review existing materials, identifying the following:

- areas of conflict between *Graphic Materials* and DCRM(B)
- lacunae in *Graphic Materials*, whether or not they are addressed in DCRM(B) (note that a preliminary list already exists; see "issues to consider for second edition" on pages iii–iv of <http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/gm/GraMatWP8.pdf>)
- areas where existing guidance from DACS, CCO, *Photographs: Archival Care and Management*, etc. usefully addresses conflicts and lacunae.

The initial team includes:

- Erin C. Blake, Chair (Curator of Art & Special Collections, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC)
- Mary Mundy (Cataloger, Pictorial Collections, Prints & Photographs Division, Library of Congress)
- Helena Zinkham (Acting Chief, Prints & Photographs Division, Library of Congress)

Our review schedule is structured around portions of DCRM(B), with monthly deadlines:

November:	General rules
December:	Title and statement of responsibility area Appendix F: Title access points
January:	Edition area Publication, distribution, etc. area Appendix E: Variations requiring a new record
February:	Physical Description area
March:	Series area
April:	Note area Standard number and terms of availability area
May:	Remaining Appendixes
June:	RBMS Preconference

As the review progresses, results will be posted to a password-protected “Wiki for Proposed DCRM(G).” Although anyone will be able to read the wiki, only people with a password will be able to edit pages, add to discussions, and upload files. Using a wiki will allow the initial review team to collaborate without additional face-to-face meetings, and will make the information (and the history of its development) easily accessible to the editorial team.

We propose that the eventual editorial team include the three members of the initial team named above, plus the following:

- representation from the rare book cataloging community
- representation from the Cataloging Policy and Support Office of the Library of Congress
- Marcy Flynn (Photographic Archives Consultant, Silver Image Management, Scottsdale, AZ; DACS liaison)