

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative to the JSC
Subject: Revision of 9.8.1.3, 9.9.1.3, 9.10.1.3, 9.11.1.3, 10.5.1.3, 11.3.1.3, 11.13.1.3, 16.2.2.4, 16.2.2.9.2, B.1, B.11 to eliminate use of abbreviations for places

ALA thanks the British Library for this proposal, which we support. We believe that the elimination of abbreviations and the simplification of punctuation proposed are in the spirit of RDA, and that concerns about extra work are outweighed by the benefits in terms of data consistency and user comprehension. We offer the following additional comments, suggestions, and corrections:

Punctuation conventions

While we understand the rationale for this proposal, embedded parentheses are less eye-friendly than using a comma. Instead, we would support separating the larger place with a comma, and reserving the use of parentheses to situations when a local jurisdiction is used as a qualifier. For example:

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Sydney, New South Wales
Moscow, Russia
Redcar and Cleveland, England

but:

Winterbourne House (Winterbourne, New South Wales)
Space Needle (Seattle, Washington)
Normanby (Redcar and Cleveland, England)

However, our response does not contain specific proposals for this approach, and the following recommendations continue to use the punctuation conventions from the original BL proposal.

Change 2 (p. 14-16):

The marked up and clean copy of 16.2.2.4 in this proposal do not reflect the current wording in RDA, which has made it more difficult for ALA to assess the actual proposal. Differences include:

- Omission of the 2nd paragraph and related examples
- Omission of the alternative and related examples
- Different phrasing of the first paragraph after the alternative (“Record as part of the name of a place...”)
- Introduction of two new paragraphs (“For a state ...”) and (“For England ...”)
- Slightly different wording of the following paragraph (“Enclose the name...” – BL proposal vs. “When the place name...” – current RDA text)

We offer the following substitute marked up version based on the current RDA text. We assume that the omissions and rephrasings noted above were unintentional.

16.2.2.4 Recording the Preferred Name

[Initial instructions and examples through the Alternative unchanged]

Record as the preferred name of a place the form most commonly found in gazetteers or other reference sources. If an instruction at 16.2.2.8–16.2.2.14 indicates otherwise, apply the specific instruction instead.

~~When the place name is being used as the conventional name for a government (see 11.2.2.5.4),~~ Enclose the name of the larger place in parentheses.

EXAMPLE

Budapest (Hungary)

Normanby (Redcar and Cleveland (England))

~~Precede the name of the larger place by a comma when the place name is used in the following elements:~~

~~the location of a conference, etc., (see 11.3.2 RDA)~~

~~the location of the headquarters of a corporate body (see 11.3.3 RDA)~~

~~the place of origin of a work (see 6.5 RDA)~~

~~a place associated with a person (see 9.8 RDA–9.11 RDA), family (see 10.5 RDA), or corporate body (see 11.3 RDA).~~

EXAMPLE

~~Budapest, Hungary~~

~~Place name recorded as the location of the corporate body with the preferred name:~~

~~Rumbach Utcai Zsinagóga~~

Clean copy:

16.2.2.4 Recording the Preferred Name

[Initial instructions and examples through the Alternative unchanged]

Record as the preferred name of a place the form most commonly found in gazetteers or other reference sources. If an instruction at 16.2.2.8–16.2.2.14 indicates otherwise, apply the specific instruction instead.

Enclose the name of the larger place in parentheses.

EXAMPLE

Budapest (Hungary)

Normanby (Redcar and Cleveland (England))

Other affected instructions:

6.5.1.3 (Recording Place of Origin of the Work): If this proposal is approved, we assume that a similar change should be made to remove the third sentence of the first paragraph of this instruction as well:

Record the place of origin of the work. Record the place name as instructed in chapter 16. ~~Abbreviate the names of countries, states, provinces, territories, etc., as instructed in Appendix B (B.14), as applicable.~~

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

Removing other place abbreviations:

- 1) Because the focus of this proposal is to remove abbreviations associated with places, we recommend replacing “U.S.S.R.” with “Soviet Union” in the following:
 - 16.2.2.9 (Places in Australia, Canada, the United States, the former U.S.S.R., or the former Yugoslavia)
 - 16.2.2.9.1 (States, Provinces, Territories, Etc.)
 - 16.2.2.12 (Places in Other Jurisdictions)
 - Index entry: U.S.S.R., place names, 16.2.2.9
- 2) In relation to the review of the examples affected by this proposal, ALA suggests removing the use of “Washington, D.C.” until the U.S. constituencies can address the appropriate form of this place name.

RDA Index: We assume that the following references should be removed from the index:

Australian place names, 16.2.2.9, ~~B.14~~

Canada, place names, 16.2.2.9, ~~B.14~~

Cities and towns See also Political jurisdictions
~~abbreviations, B.14~~

[remainder of entry unchanged]

Countries See also Jurisdiction, larger, in place names; Political jurisdictions
~~abbreviations, B.14~~

[remainder of entry unchanged]

Place names, 16 See also entries beginning, Place of
~~abbreviations, B.11~~
abbreviations in names, 16.2.2.9, 16.2.2.12, B.2,~~B.11~~
[remainder of entry unchanged]
States, names of See also Jurisdiction, larger, in place names
~~abbreviations, B.11~~
[remainder of entry unchanged]

Typographical corrections (beyond the one already reported by ACOC). Unless otherwise noted, the changes apply to both the marked up and clean copies:

p. 2, final background paragraph:

The reference to Appendix B.10 should be to Appendix B.11.

p. 2-5 (changes 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 & 1.4, first sentence):

In all cases, change the reference to deleting the second sentence of the first paragraph to deleting the third sentence. (We note that the desired outcome is clear.)

p. 3, clean copy, 1st paragraph:

Add a period to the end of the 1st paragraph.

p. 3, spacing between the examples (9.8.1.3):

Add a blank line between each of the examples.

p. 4, clean copy, 1st paragraph:

Add a period to the end of the 1st paragraph.

p. 4, 2nd example in both marked up and clean copy for 9.9.1.3:

The markup is reversed, with the clean copy appearing under the marked up version, and vice versa. Also, add a blank line between the two examples.

p. 5, spacing between the examples (9.10.1.3):

Add a blank line after the Canada example.

p. 6, marked up version of 9.11.1.3:

Several of the examples show the beginning parenthesis crossed out when it is being added to the example.

p. 6, spacing between the examples (9.11.1.3):

Add a blank line after the Jackson (Mississippi) example.

p.7, marked up copy, example block (10.5.1.3):

Jamestown, ~~Wash.~~ Washington *should be* Jamestown, ~~Wash.~~ (Washington)

p. 7, spacing between the examples (10.5.1.3):

The different examples are no longer clear because of the line spacing in the proposal. The current spacing in RDA 10.5.1.3 should be maintained (blank lines between Philippines and Sydney; between Sydney and Armagh; between Armagh and Jamestown; and between Jamestown and Quebec).

p. 9, correction of spelling of 8th entry in the example for 16.2.2.9.2:

San Juan (Puerto Rica) *should be* San Juan (Puerto Rico)

p. 9, spacing between the examples (16.2.2.9.2):

Add spaces between each line in the example.

p. 15 and 16, correction of spelling and placement of parentheses in new example under 16.2.2.4:

Normandy ((Redcar and Cleveland) England) *should be* Normanby (Redcar and Cleveland
(England))

p. 16, clean copy (16.2.2.4)

Remove struck-through text in 2nd paragraph.