

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee

CC: Anne Welsh, Secretary, RDA Steering Committee

From: Jessica Grzegorski, RDA Examples Editor

Subject: Formal response to RSC/ExtentWG/2025/2, Proposal for Manifestation: **extent of unitary structure**

Recommendation 1.1: Create the element Manifestation: **extent of unitary structure**. Associate the **RDA Carrier Type** vocabulary encoding scheme and the new **RDA Unitary Structure** vocabulary encoding scheme with this element.

Approve.

Recommendation 1.2: Refer the issue of using terms from the vocabulary encoding scheme **RDA Format of Notated Music** for a possible source of values for Manifestation: **extent of unitary structure** to the RSC Music Working Group.

Approve.

Recommendation 2.1: Create a new vocabulary encoding scheme, **RDA Unitary Structure**, with several terms moved from **RDA Carrier Extent Unit** and definitions updated. When all the terms have been moved or removed, delete the vocabulary encoding scheme **RDA Carrier Extent Unit**. Some of those terms are proposed to be moved to other extent vocabulary encoding schemes.

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2: Adopt the following list of recommended terms for **RDA Unitary Structure** derived from the current **RDA Carrier Extent Unit** vocabulary.

Approve, with some additional considerations and suggested amendments below.

Recommendation 2.2.1: activity card

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.2: coin

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.3: collage

Approve, with additional considerations.

The revised definition narrows the definition of *collage*. Although the introduction of *sheet* in the new definition brings clarity in one sense (i.e., explicitly names the relevant carrier type), it potentially invites confusion in a different sense. Collages are made on many different types of base materials (e.g., paper, balsa wood, canvas, acetate, etc.). The current definition of *sheet* in the glossary may not necessarily accommodate these, particularly the word “thin” in the definition. A possible revision for the glossary term *sheet* follows:

Marked-up copy for glossary term *sheet*

A carrier type that consists of a flat, ~~thin~~ piece of paper, plastic, etc.

Clean copy for glossary term *sheet*

A carrier type that consists of a flat piece of paper, plastic, etc.

Recommendation 2.2.4: diorama

Approve, with suggested amendment.

The inclusion of “painted” in reference to the background seems too specific. I suggest omitting the word.

Marked-up copy

A unit of unitary structure that is an object embodying a three-dimensional representation of a scene created by placing objects, figures, etc., in front of a two-dimensional ~~painted~~ background.

Clean copy

A unit of unitary structure that is an object embodying a three-dimensional representation of a scene created by placing objects, figures, etc., in front of a two-dimensional background.

Recommendation 2.2.5: drawing

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.6: flash card

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.7: folded sheet

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.8: game

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.9: globe

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.10: jigsaw puzzle

Approve, with suggested amendment.

Is a jigsaw puzzle actually a sheet rather than an object? The revised definition seems to refer specifically to the still image embodied on a separate sheet that is adhered to another base material rather than the puzzle as a whole. Jigsaw puzzles may fall into a similar gray area as collages, in which some are clearly two-dimensional and others are arguably three-dimensional. I suggest revising the definition, replacing “sheet” with “object.”

Marked-up copy

A unit of unitary structure that is a sheet an object embodying a still image, usually on pasteboard or wood, which has been cut into interlocking shapes intended to be reassembled.

Clean copy

A unit of unitary structure that is an object embodying a still image, usually on pasteboard or wood, which has been cut into interlocking shapes intended to be reassembled.

***Recommendation 2.2.11:* medal**

Approve.

***Recommendation 2.2.12:* mock-up**

Approve.

***Recommendation 2.2.13:* model**

Approve.

***Recommendation 2.2.14:* painting**

Approve, with additional considerations.

Similarly to the definition for *collage*, the inclusion of *sheet* as it is currently defined in the glossary could introduce confusion. Is a canvas or wood panel a sheet, for example?

***Recommendation 2.2.15:* photograph**

Approve.

***Recommendation 2.2.16:* postcard**

Approve.

***Recommendation 2.2.17:* poster**

Approve, with suggested amendment.

The phrase “decorate a room” seems too narrow in scope. I suggest the following revision:

Marked-up copy

A unit of unitary structure that is a sheet embodying text or still images intended to advertise, promote, or publicize an activity, cause, product or service, or ~~decorate a room to serve a decorative function.~~

Clean copy

A unit of unitary structure that is a sheet embodying text or still images intended to advertise, promote, or publicize an activity, cause, product or service, or to serve a decorative function.

Recommendation 2.2.18: print

Approve, with suggested amendment.

The revised definition is too narrow and suggests that all prints are art reproductions. A woodcut, for example, is printed from a carved wood block. This technique is not the same as drawing. I suggest retaining a portion of the original definition as follows:

Marked-up copy

A unit of unitary structure that is a sheet embodying a still image that is ~~intended to reproduce a painting or drawing produced by transferring an image by means of a matrix such as a plate, block, or screen, using any of various printing processes.~~

Clean copy

A unit of unitary structure that is a sheet embodying a still image that is produced by transferring an image by means of a matrix such as a plate, block, or screen, using any of various printing processes.

Recommendation 2.2.19: sculpture

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.20: specimen

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.21: study print

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.22: toy

Approve.

Recommendation 2.2.23: wall chart

Approve.

Recommendation 2.3: Adopt the term *exhibit* for **RDA Unitary Structure** from **RDA Carrier Extent Unit**. Update the definition to refer to a collection manifestation.

Approve, with suggested amendments.

An *exhibit* really is not a singular object, and the phrase “set of items” could invite confusion. Additionally, many exhibits do not make use of cases (e.g., art hung on a wall in a gallery). I suggest rewording the proposed definition for clarity:

Marked-up copy

A unit of unitary structure that is an object consisting of a set of items resources that is intended for display, often with cases, labels, and other explanatory text and still images content to support educational and promotional activities.

Clean copy

A unit of unitary structure that is a set of resources that is intended for display, often with labels and other explanatory content to support educational and promotional activities.

Recommendation 2.4: Delete the term *atlas* from the **RDA Carrier Extent Unit** vocabulary encoding scheme.

Approve.

Recommendation 2.5 – 2.5.1: Adopt recommended new term *sketchbook* for the **RDA Unitary Structure** vocabulary.

Approve.