

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
From: John Attig, ALA Representative  
Subject: Revision of RDA 2.7.2.3, 2.8.2.3, 2.9.2.3, 2.10.2.3, Recording Place of  
Production [Publication, Distribution, Manufacture]

ALA thanks ACOC for raising this issue and proposing the addition of an option to supply the larger jurisdiction as part of the Place of [Production, etc.] elements.

ALA was strongly divided on whether to support this proposal. In the end, the decision was to support the proposal in order to provide useful information to users.

However, there was a strong sentiment that these transcribed elements should not include data supplied from outside the sources of information. One of the strengths of RDA is to provide a stronger separation between transcribed and supplied information. The purpose of the transcribed elements is to identify the resource from which they are transcribed; it is not (in this case) to identify the place. Although there are already instructions in RDA that call for supplying place name information (in the case of obsolete or fictitious place names, for example), we are concerned about extending this practice. If there is a need to identify a place used as Place of Production [etc.], the best way to do this is through an authorized access point for the place or an identifier that links to an unambiguous specification of the place. That is not the primary purpose of these elements.

That said, because of the clear usefulness of the information and the precedents for supplied place name information already in these instructions, ALA does support this revision.