

10-2015

Find Your Park Metadata

Rachel Wittmann

Clemson University, rwittma@clemson.edu

Christopher Vinson

Clemson University, vinsonc@clemson.edu

Joshua Morgan

Clemson University, jmorga3@clemson.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib_pres



Part of the [Cataloging and Metadata Commons](#), and the [Collection Development and Management Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Wittmann, Rachel; Vinson, Christopher; and Morgan, Joshua, "Find Your Park Metadata" (2015). *Presentations*. 55.
https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib_pres/55

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the University Libraries at TigerPrints. It has been accepted for inclusion in Presentations by an authorized administrator of TigerPrints. For more information, please contact kokeefe@clemson.edu.

Metadata Mountains National Park Trail Map

Rachel Wittmann, National Parks Metadata Specialist
Joshua Morgan, Digital Projects Manager
Christopher G. Vinson, Head of Library Technology

<http://openparksnetwork.org>
#FINDYOURPARK



open parks
network

Open Parks Network Metadata Methodology

Since 2010, Clemson University and the National Park Service (NPS) have collaborated on the Open Parks Network (OPN), an IMLS-funded project that’s resulted in the digitization of over 350,000 cultural heritage objects and 1.5 million pages of gray literature housed in the libraries, museums, and archives of our nation’s parks, historic sites, and other protected areas—all made freely available at <http://openparksnetwork.org>.

More than 20 national parks and other protected sites are represented in this diverse collection, as well as 2 state park systems and 3 university libraries. The metadata schemas, management systems, and levels of descriptive information available for collection items vary widely from organization to organization. The trails that traverse Metadata Mountains National Park symbolize this variance in supplied metadata.

Rough Terrain:

The OPN team faces many unique challenges in ensuring that adequate metadata is available for park materials, even though all NPS units are provided with the Interior Collections Management System (ICMS) software to manage, accession, and document archival and museum collections. Those challenges include the following:

- Extensive backlog of items for metadata application.
- Large collections averaging 5,000 to 20,000 items, with highest collection peaking at 140,000.
- Metadata funding and time constraints.
- Working remotely with NPS sites to coordinate retrieval of existing metadata from ICMS, an effort that includes crosswalking their data to the OPN schema and normalizing the data to meet accepted cataloging standards.
- ICMS metadata does not include all required OPN elements, including item-level titles, subject terms, and geographic locations.
- The amount of item-level ICMS metadata varies greatly from park to park, collection to collection, and even item to item.

Climbing the Mountain:

- Clemson implemented CollectiveAccess, an open-source solution, for metadata management and application. CollectiveAccess allows our team of student metadata technicians to batch apply metadata elements, including title, geographic location, and subject terms.
- Level of OPN metadata application based on the park-supplied metadata and content of items.
- Implement tactics from “more product, less process” to metadata application on a series-level when needed.

Trail Descriptions:

The trails included in this map represent a series of digital items with varying amounts of park-supplied metadata. The metadata application process provided by Clemson University Libraries depends on the scenario. A collection could be comprised of multiple series or just one, depending on the material. See “Trail Key.”

Trail Amenities:

Each trail has a reoccurring set of metadata elements (title, subject terms, etc.), see “Legend” for full list of icon representation. The more frequent occurrence of such icons indicates more item-level metadata, thus more labor intensive.

Typical scenarios include:

- Robust item-level metadata provided via ICMS export. This includes descriptions, dates created, and creators.
- Series-level metadata, basic series information, including: date range, subject terms, format, and general location.
- No metadata, items minimally processed by the park archives.

*Note: The list of metadata elements included in the legend does not represent all elements used in the OPN schema, only the most used in item-level description.

Legend*

- Contributing Park
- Rights Statement
- Title
- Subject Terms - LCSH
- Date Created
- Creator
- Description - Park
- Location - GeoNames

Trail Key

- Easy: Minimal park-supplied metadata
- Moderate: Some park-supplied metadata
- Difficult: Robust park-supplied metadata
- Experienced Hikers Only: Adding locations to GeoNames

0 5 10 15 20 Miles

This map created using ArcGIS® software by Esri. ArcGIS® and ArcMap™ are the intellectual property of Esri and are used herein under license. Copyright © Esri. All rights reserved. For more information about Esri® software, please visit www.esri.com.