

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Judith A. Kuhagen, JSC Secretary  
**Subject:** Initial Articles in Place Names (RDA 16.2.2.3)

The text below reflects the decisions made by the Joint Steering Committee during its November 2012 meeting. This text will be merged with the reworded chapters before they appear in the 2013 RDA Update of the RDA Toolkit.

The change to the paragraph on appendix B in 0.5 is from 6JSC/CCC/10/Sec final.

Changes to 16.2.2.4 other than the new second paragraph and the alternative are from 6JSC/ALA/19/Sec final.

## **0.5 Structure**

*[1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> paragraphs unchanged]*

Supplementary guidelines and instructions are provided in appendices as follows:<sup>20</sup>

*[paragraph for appendix A unchanged]*

Appendix B provides instructions on the use of abbreviations when recording specified elements and on using symbols instead of abbreviations, when appropriate, as well as lists of abbreviations in a selected number of languages.

Appendix C lists articles that are to be omitted when applying the alternative instructions to record preferred titles for works and names of persons, corporate bodies, and places.

*[paragraphs for appendices D-L unchanged]*

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### **16.2.2.4 Recording the Preferred Name**

Record the name of a place in the form most commonly found in gazetteers or other reference sources used in choosing the name, unless the instructions given under 16.2.2.8-16.2.2.14 indicate otherwise.

When recording the preferred name of a place, include an initial article if present.

EXAMPLE

The Dalles  
Los Angeles  
El Centro  
Le Mans  
al-Ghardaqah  
Y Bala  
The Hague

**Alternative**

Omit an initial article (see appendix C) unless the name is to be accessed under the article.

EXAMPLE

Dalles  
**not** The Dalles  
Ghardaqah  
**not** al-Ghardaqah  
Bala  
**not** Y Bala  
Hague  
**not** The Hague  
**but**  
La Ronge  
Los Angeles

Record as part of the name of a place (other than a country or a state, etc., listed in 16.2.2.9.1, 16.2.2.10, or 16.2.2.11) the name of the larger place in which it is located or the larger jurisdiction to which it belongs applying the instructions given under 16.2.2.9-16.2.2.14.

If 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)

If the place name is being used to record the location of a conference, etc., (see 11.3.2), the location of the headquarters, etc., of a corporate body (see 11.3.3), the place of origin of a work (see 6.5), or a place associated with a person (see 9.8-9.11), family (see 10.5), or corporate body (see 11.3), precede the name of the larger place by a comma.

EXAMPLE

Budapest, Hungary

**Place name recorded as the location of the corporate body with the preferred name:** Rumbach Utcai Zsinagóga

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**16.2.3.3 General Guidelines on Recording Variant Names for Places**

[1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> paragraphs unchanged]

Apply the additional specific instructions given under 16.2.3.4–16.2.3.8 and those given in preceding sections of this chapter, as applicable.

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**16.2.3.4 Initial Articles**

If the name chosen as the preferred name of the place includes an initial article, record the name without the article as a variant name.

EXAMPLE

Dalles (Or.)

**Preferred form of name recorded as:** The Dalles (Or.)

If an initial article present in the name of the place has been omitted from the preferred name of the place, record the name with the initial article as a variant name.

EXAMPLE

The Dalles (Or.)

**Preferred form of name recorded as:** Dalles (Or.)

**16.2.3.5 Expanded Name**

*[paragraphs & examples unchanged]*

**16.2.3.6 Initialism / Abbreviated Form**

*[paragraphs & examples unchanged]*

**16.2.3.7 Alternative Linguistic Form of Name**

*[paragraphs & examples unchanged]*

**16.2.3.8 Other Variant Name**

Record as variant names other variants and variant forms of the name recorded as the preferred name not covered under 16.2.3.4–16.2.3.7 as required.

EXAMPLE

**Different name**

People's Republic of Albania  
People's Socialist Republic of Albania  
Republic of Albania  
República d'Albània  
Republika e Shqipërisë  
Republika Popullore e Shqipërisë  
Republika Popullore Socialiste e Shqipërisë  
**Name recorded as preferred name:** Albania

Pio 12 (Brazil)  
**Name recorded as preferred name:** Pio XII (Brazil)

*[remaining examples unchanged]*

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**C.0 Scope**

This appendix lists initial articles that are to be omitted when applying the alternative instructions to record preferred titles for works and names of persons, corporate bodies, and places.

**C.1 General Instructions**

Omit the articles listed under C.2 and C.3 as instructed in the alternative instructions at 6.2.1.7 (titles of works), 9.2.2.25 (characterizing word or phrase used as the name of a person), 9.2.2.26 (phrase naming another work by the person), 11.2.2.8 (names of corporate bodies), and 16.2.2.4 (names of places). Consider only those

definite and indefinite articles in the languages included in the lists under C.2 and C.3. The lists do not cover articles in all languages.

[2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> paragraphs unchanged]