

## EAC

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for the Society of American Archivists  
Description Section, 2007

## Context

I should venture to assert that the most  
pervasive fallacy of philosophic thinking  
goes back to neglect of context.

*--John Dewey*

## Context

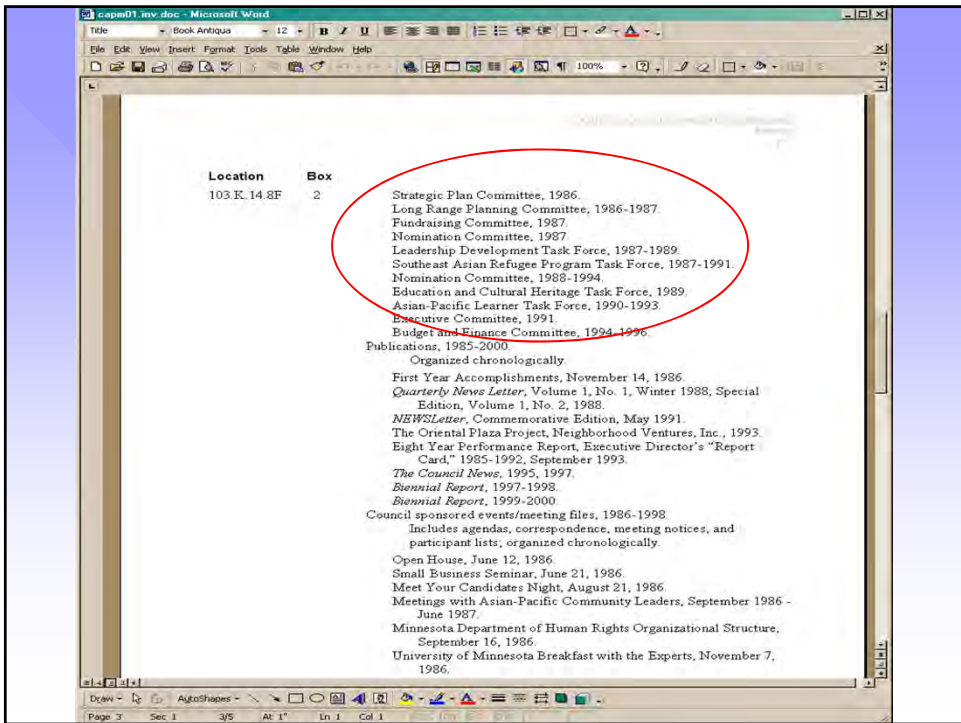
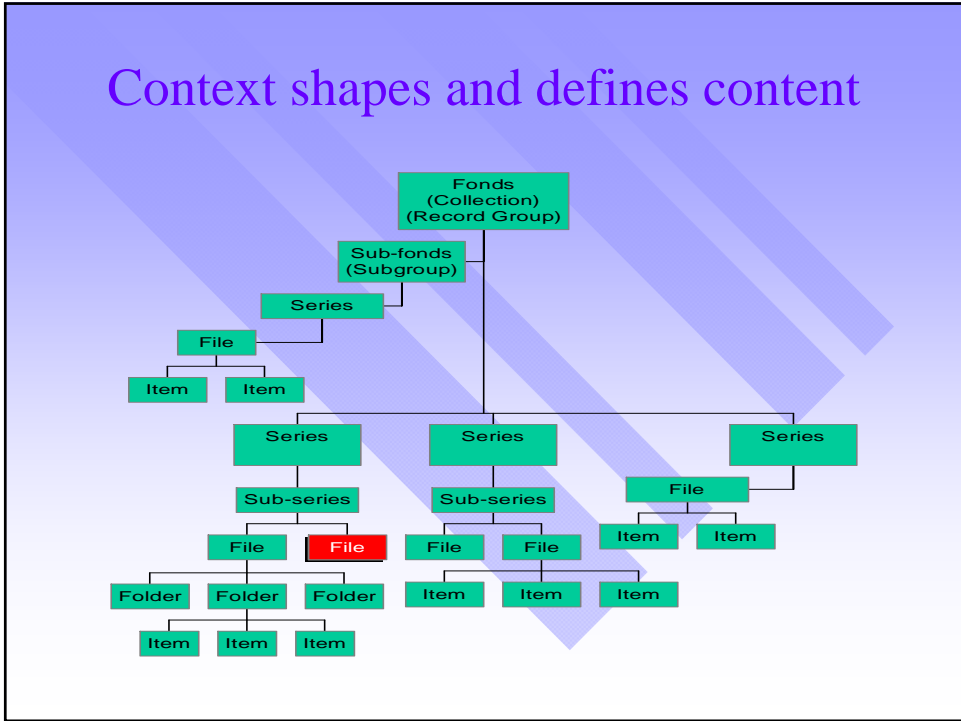
I should venture to assert that the most pervasive fallacy of archival thinking lies in under-appreciating the *primary* importance of context.

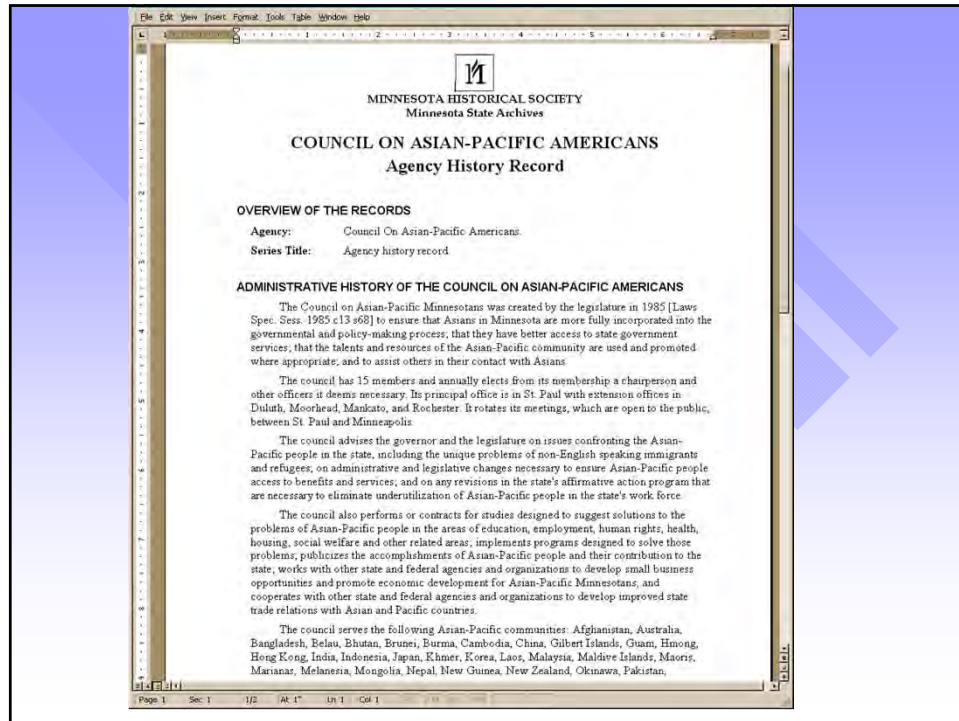
--Dennis Meissner

“The purpose of archival description is to identify and explain the **context** and **content** of archival material in order to promote its accessibility.”

--ISAD(G)

# Context shapes and defines content





## Different Roles

### ■ Bibliographic Name Authorities

- Differentiate Names

### ■ Archival Context

- Differentiate Names
- Provide biographical information
- Explain relationship to records

## Archival Authority Record ISAAR (CPF)

- **Identity** (forms of name)
- **Description** (dates, history, places, legal status, mandates, internal structure, other contexts)
- **Relationships**

## Minnesota Photographers Database

- 5000 individuals and businesses
- Doing business in MN 1850-1920s (bulk)
- Very popular resource for MN photographic history
- 25% have images cataloged in art & photo database (300,000 images)

## Minnesota Photographers Database: Data Sources

- Staff research files (1940s-- )
- 74 research notebooks
- Databases (1994-2000)
- Homemade XML syntax (2002-- )

## Minnesota Photographers Database: Data Elements

- **Personal name** (last, first, middle, prefix, suffix)
- **Corporate name** (business name, principal)
- **Variant names**
- **Demographics** (birthplace, birth date, death place, death date, gender, ethnicity)
- **Business information** (place, name, place-date, location, address, flourish dates, predecessor, successor, moved to)
- **Notes**

## Minnesota Photographers Database

Microsoft Access - [frmMinnesotaPhotographers]

Minnesota Photographers Biographical Data

Last Name	Scobie
First Name	Hi
Middle Initial	Frank
Alternate Name	
Birth Place	Slough, England
Birth Date	March 16, 1875
Death Place	Sleepy Eye
Death Date	November 23, 1947
Gender	Male
Minnesota Work Dates	1900s; 1910s; 1920s; 1930s; 1940s
Studio Name	
Ethnicity	English-American
Location	Chicago, Illinois; Minneapolis; Sleepy Eye
Address	Sleepy Eye 528 West Main
Predecessor	Bang's Studio
Successor	
Moved To	
Notes	Employed by Brush Studio, Minneapolis
Holdings	

Record: 111 of 626 of 1427  
Form View

## Homemade XML DTD

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no" ?>
<!-- PUBLIC IDENTIFIER OF THIS DTD IS
~/Monty/Harry/Pa1son/MS/DTD/microcreator.dtd (microcreator)/? -->
<!NOTATION gpc PUBLIC "ISO/IEC 15924:2004/NOTATION digital compression and clating of continuous-tone still images (gpc)/?/" -->
<!NOTATION gif PUBLIC "ISO 8832:1999/NOTATION graphic notation/NOTATION composite graphic interchange format/?" -->
<ELEMENT microcreator ((creator+))
<ELEMENT creator ((persname | copname), namevariation*, demographics*, businessdata*)
<ATTLIST creator
  role CDATA #REQUIRED (person | corporate) #REQUIRED
  type ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT persname ((lastname, firstname?, middlename?, prefix?, suffix?))
<ATTLIST persname
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT lastname ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST lastname
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT firstname ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST firstname
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT middlename ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST middlename
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT prefix ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST prefix
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT suffix ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST suffix
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT copname ((businessname, principal*))
<ATTLIST copname
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT principal ((persname))
<ATTLIST principal
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT namevariation ((persname | businessname))
<ATTLIST namevariation
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT demographics ((birthplace?, birthdate?, deathplace?, deathdate?, sex?, ethnicity?))
<ATTLIST demographics
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT birthplace ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST birthplace
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT birthdate ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST birthdate
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT deathplace ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST deathplace
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT deathdate ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST deathdate
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
<ELEMENT sex ((PCDATA))
<ATTLIST sex
  ID #IMPLIED
  ID #IMPLIED
  
```

## Homemade XML DTD: Structure

**Single Person Example:**

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes" ?>
<creator role="photographer" type="person"> MR
  <persname> M
    <lastname> </lastname> M
    <firstname> </firstname> O
    <middlename> </middlename> O
    <prefix> </prefix> O
    <suffix> </suffix> O
  </persname>
  <namevariations> OR
    <persname> M
      <lastname> </lastname> M
      <firstname> </firstname> O
      <middlename> </middlename> O
      <prefix> </prefix> O
      <suffix> </suffix> O
    </persname>
  </namevariations>
  <demographicdata> O
    <birthplace> </birthplace> O
    <birthdate> </birthdate> O
    <deathplace> </deathplace> O
    <deathdate> </deathdate> O
    <sex> </sex> O
    <ethnicity> </ethnicity> O
  </demographicdata>
  <businessdata> O
    <businessplace> OR
      <businessname> </businessname> O
      <placelate> </placelate> O
      <location> </location> O
      <address> </address> O
    </businessplace>
    <workedminnesota> </workedminnesota> O
    <businessname> </businessname> OR
      <predecessor> OR
        either <spname></spname> or <pname></pname> M
      </predecessor>
      <successor> OR
        either <spname></spname> or <sbname></sbname> M
      </successor>
      <associative> OR
        either <apname></apname> or <abname></abname> M
      </associative>
    </businessdata>
  <auxineselata>
    <note> O
      <sp> </sp> MR
    </note>
  </auxineselata>
</creator>
  
```

*M = Mandatory  
O = Optional  
R = Repeatable*

## Homemade XML DTD: Structure

**Corporate Firm Example:**

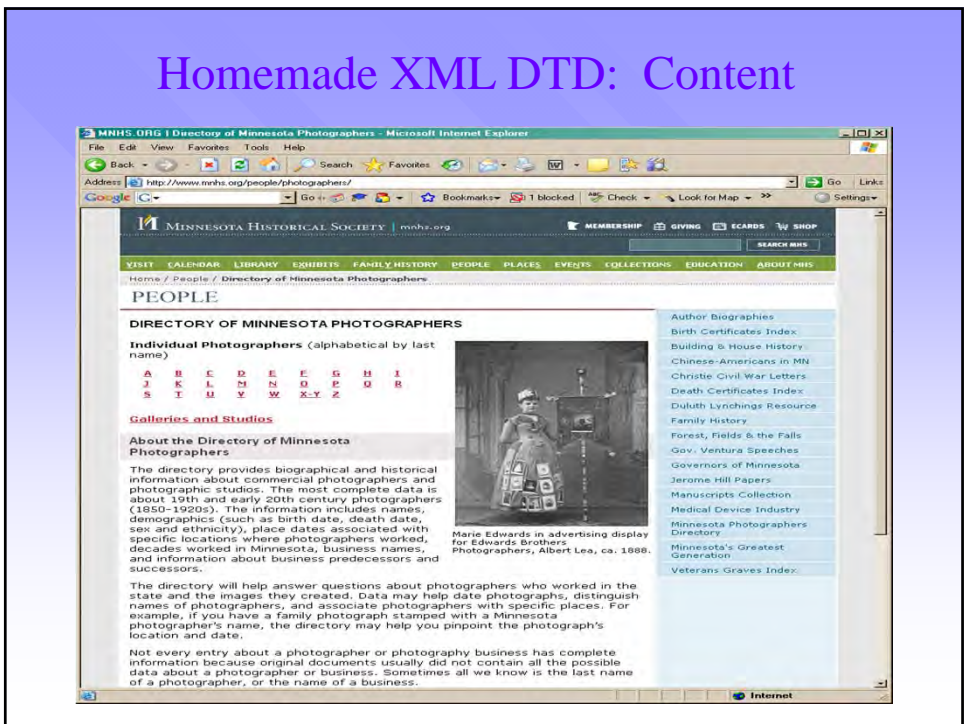
```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes" ?>
<creator role="photographer" type="corporate"> MR
  <corpname> M
    <businessname> </businessname> M
    <principal> OR
      <persname> M
        <lastname> </lastname> M
        <firstname> </firstname> O
        <middlename> </middlename> O
        <prefix> </prefix> O
        <suffix> </suffix> O
      </persname>
    </principal>
  </corpname>
  <namevariations> OR
    <businessname> </businessname> M
  </namevariations>
  <businessdata> O
    <businessplace> OR
      <placelate> </placelate> O
      <location> </location> O
      <address> </address> O
    </businessplace>
    <workedminnesota> </workedminnesota> O
    <predecessor> OR
      either <spname></spname> or <pname></pname> M
    </predecessor>
    <successor> OR
      either <spname></spname> or <sbname></sbname> M
    </successor>
    <associative> OR
      either <apname></apname> or <abname></abname> M
    </associative>
  </businessdata>
  <auxineselata>
    <note> O
      <sp> </sp> MR
    </note>
  </auxineselata>
</creator>
  
```

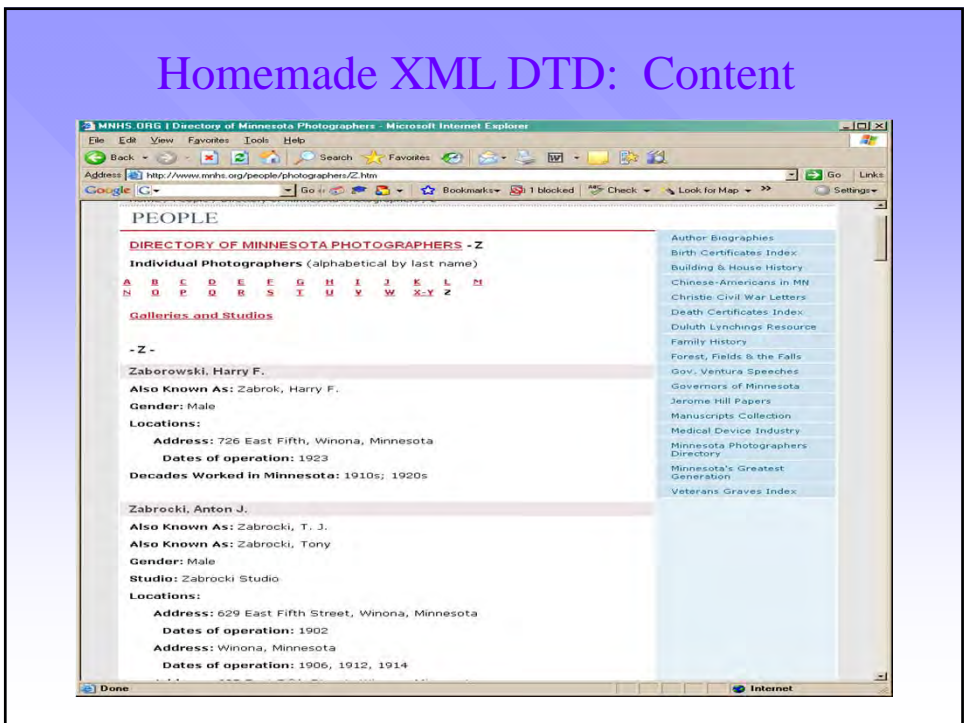
*M = Mandatory  
O = Optional  
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# Homemade XML DTD: Content



# Homemade XML DTD: Content



# Migration to EAC

## ■ 2006 Data Conversion and Migration Project (Monica Ralston)

- Modified both DTD and data to more closely parallel EAC
- Created DTD to EAC data map
- JAVA transformation script
- Batch process
- Converts each XML instance (photographer or studio) into an EAC instance
- Output log products
  - Index between biographical entries and EAC filenames
  - Generates individualized URL for each name that can search images in VRDB

```

1: <?xml version="1.0"?>
2: <!DOCTYPE eac PUBLIC "-//Ad Hoc EAC Working Group/PTD eac.dtd [Encoded Archival Context (EAC) Beta Version]/EN" eac.dtd"!
3: <ENTITY VRDB SYSTEM "http://collections.mhs.org/VISUALRESOURCE/" NDATA html>
4: <ENTITY locb SYSTEM "http://authorities.loc.gov/" NDATA html>
5: ]>
6: <eac type="personname">
7: <eacheader status="edited" languagencoding="iso639-2b" scriptencoding="iso15924" dateencoding="iso8601" countryencoding="iso3166-1"
8: ownerencoding="iso15111">
9: <eacid system="Eac002000.xml" countrycode="US" ownercode="MnHl">Eac002000.xml</eacid>
10: </eacheader>
11: <mainevent mainstype="import">
12: <maindate normal="20061227">December 27, 2006</maindate>
13: </mainevent>
14: </maininst>
15: <languagecode>
16: <language languagecode="eng" scriptcode="latn">English in latin script</language>
17: </languagecode>
18: </eacinst>
19: <rule countrycode="US" ownercode="MnHl" id="VRDB">local (Visual Resources Database)</rule>
20: </ruleinst>
21: <sourcecode>
22: <source countrycode="US" ownercode="MnHl"><title>Research Notebooks on Minnesota Photography and Photographers</title>
23: <sourceinfo>Compiled by Alan Woolworth</sourceinfo>
24: </source>
25: <source countrycode="US" ownercode="MnHl"><title>Minnesota Photographer's Biographical Database</title>
26: <sourceinfo>Minnesota Historical Society</sourceinfo>
27: </source>
28: <source countrycode="US" ownercode="MnHl" system="VRDB"><title>Visual Resource Database</title>
29: <sourceinfo>Minnesota Historical</sourceinfo>
30: </sourcecode>
31: </eacheader>
32: <eacinst>
33: <identity>
34: <personal authorized="MnHl" languagecode="eng" scriptcode="latn" type="preferred" rule="VRDB">
35: <part type="surname" id="name1">Brown</part>
36: <part type="firstname" id="name2">Bert</part>
37: <part type="middlename" id="name3">L.</part>
38: </personal>
39: </identity>
40: </eacinst>
41: <date>
42: <existence>
43: <existence>
44: <existence scope="begin">unknown</existence>
45: <existence scope="end">unknown</existence>
46: </existence>
47: <sex type="m"></sex>
48: <location>
49: <location type="Business">
50: <address><addressline type="street">405 Chamber of Commerce Building</addressline></address>
51: <date scope="active" form="single" normal="1912">1912</date>

```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<person>
  <name>
    <givenname>
      <value>Brown</value>
    </givenname>
    <familyname>
      <value>Brown</value>
    </familyname>
  </name>
  <birthdate>
    <value>1894</value>
  </birthdate>
  <deathdate>
    <value>1966</value>
  </deathdate>
  <sex>
    <value>M</value>
  </sex>
  <location>
    <location type="Business">
      <address>
        <addressline type="street">405 Chamber of Commerce Building</addressline></address>
        <date scope="active" form="range" normal="1911-1913"></date>
        <place placetype="Juris">Saint Paul, Minnesota</place>
      </address>
    </location>
    <location type="Business">
      <address>
        <addressline type="street">300 Oppenheim Building</addressline></address>
        <date scope="active" form="range" normal="1914-1918"></date>
        <place placetype="Juris">Saint Paul, Minnesota</place>
      </address>
    </location>
    <location type="Business">
      <address>
        <addressline type="street">101 East Sixth</addressline></address>
        <date scope="active" form="range" normal="1920-1920"></date>
        <place placetype="Juris">Saint Paul, Minnesota</place>
      </address>
    </location>
    <location type="Business">
      <address>
        <addressline type="street">411 Newton Building</addressline></address>
        <date scope="active" form="range" normal="1923-1924"></date>
        <place placetype="Juris">Saint Paul, Minnesota</place>
      </address>
    </location>
  </location>
  <bioghist>
    <p>Brown was associated with multiple photography businesses. In the 1920s was associated with two businesses at same location (101 East Sixth): Brown's Photo Studio and Northwestern Photographic Studio, Inc. In 1924-1925 he was vice president of Northwestern Photographic Studio, Inc. and Kenneth H. Wright was secretary and treasurer. Sold out to Kenneth Melvin Wright in 1926.</p>
  </bioghist>
  <dece>
    <deceid>
      <releasetype="associative" ownercode="MHI"><corpname>Brown and Giroux</corpname></releasid>
      <releasetype="associative" ownercode="MHI"><corpname>Brown's Photo Studio</corpname></releasid>
      <releasetype="associative" ownercode="MHI"><corpname>Brown's Photo Craft Studio</corpname></releasid>
      <releasetype="associative" ownercode="MHI"><corpname>Brown Imp. Penny</corpname></releasid>
      <releasetype="associative" ownercode="MHI"><corpname>Northwestern Photographic Studio, Inc.</corpname></releasid>
      <releasetype="later" ownercode="MHI"><persname>Wright, Kenneth Melvin</persname></releasid>
    </deceid>
  </dece>
  <funactrel>
    <funactrel type="occupation" ownercode="MHI" system="leah" syskey="ah 185101179">
      <funact>Photographers</funact>
      <date type="decades" scope="active">1910s; 1920s; 1930s</date>
    </funactrel>
  </funactrel>
</person>
</dece>
</doc>
```