

# PROJECT FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE BIBLIOTECA DE CATALUNYA MAP CATALOGUE

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## 1. Introduction

The cartographic holdings of the Biblioteca de Catalunya began to be formed in 1918. They are held mainly in the Prints, Maps and Engravings Section, as was usual in major Spanish and European libraries at the beginning of the century, when the Biblioteca de Catalunya was founded.

The Prints, Maps and Engravings Section has a separate index for all its own material. There is also a separate index for the wood engraving blocks, metal engravings plates and photogravures. Reference works regarding cartography or the section's other holdings - prints, bookplates, illustrated broadsides, *goigs* (illustrated religious poems), *auques* (illustrated stories), portraits etc. - have an index number from the library's main index.

The Prints, Maps and Engravings Section also has its own classification system, which follows the guidelines of the German librarian H.W. Singer<sup>1</sup>. This system divides the section's holdings into 24 subject areas. Doctors J. Rubió i Balaguer and A. Durán i Sanpere gave Roman numerals to each of these 24 areas: the number XV corresponds to maps. This is followed by an Arabic number indicating the printing or engraving method and a letter indicating the size. The location mark ends with a number identifying each individual item. eg:

XV	.3	B	RE	2408
Maps	Metal engravings	Size	Print Index	index number

A computerised catalogue was set up in 1991 and the cataloguing of new cartographic material has been computerised since then.

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<sup>1</sup> Hans W. Singer. Handbuch für Kupferstichsammlungen: Vorschläge zu deren Anlage und Führung. Leipzig: W. Hiersemann, 1916.

## 1.1 Cartographic holdings

These consists of four groups:

- a) 4,432 maps and charts, catalogued on index-cards and indexed 15 folders containing an unknown number of maps, most of which come from the holdings bought from the Barcelona bookseller, Josep Porter.
- b) The Mossen Colomer Collection<sup>2</sup>, ceded to the library via the Institut d'Estudis Catalans, with an index given by the Institut. It has about 7,000 maps, 3,977 of which are indexed.
- c) 103 atlases, not including those held in the rest of the library. Some of the most valuable bear the book plate of the Fundació Patxot<sup>3</sup>.
- d) The section's reference library, comprising 385 works, which will expand considerably when the several hundred reference works at present in the rest of the library are recuperated.

## 1.2 Collections

Prior to about 1978 the following collections had been formed from the library's cartographic holdings:

- "Mapa geográfico catastral de España, 1:50.000"
- "Mapa geológico y minero de España, 1:50.000"
- Coello's "Atlas de España y sus posesiones de Ultramar, 1:1.000.000"
- "Mapa general de España, 1:500.000"
- "Atlas Historique de la France, 1:2.850.000"
- "Mar Mediterrani" (showing the naval domains of European countries with possessions in the Mediterranean)
- "Mar Atlántico" (A collection of maps published by the Dirección de Hidrografía)
- "Mapa geológico de Portugal, 1:50.000"

Since then, about 20 more Spanish collections have been formed, from the XVIII and XIX centuries in particular.

The first steps have also been taken in the process of gathering together, in the Prints, Maps and Engravings Section, all the atlases held in other sections of the library. Those from the XVII and XVIII century have already been recovered, and will be followed by those from the XIX and XX centuries.

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<sup>2</sup> Ignasi Maria Colomer. See bibliography.

<sup>3</sup> Founded by Rafael Patxot i Jubert (1872-1964)

### 1.3 Catalogues

The section's holdings can be accessed via the card-index catalogues. These catalogues were up-dated until 1991 when computerised cataloguing started.

## 2. The Computerisation of Map Cataloguing

The Biblioteca de Catalunya computerised its catalogue in 1990 and joined the SICAB system (Sistema d'Informació per a Catàlegs Automatitzats de Biblioteques), run by the Generalitat de Catalunya's Servei de Biblioteques and Patrimoni Bibliogràfic. This database system allows different types of document in various bibliographic and print media to be included, with standardised descriptions based on ISBD norms. The norms for this database are: ISBD norms, the AACR2 and the Llista d'Encapçaments de Matèries en Català<sup>4</sup>.

The inclusion of cartographic material in the SICAB system started in 1991.

### 2.1 Cataloguing

- Modern map cataloguing has a clear, up-to-date set of rules: ISBD (CM)<sup>5</sup>, in conjunction with those of other documents, eg. ISBD (M), ISBD (S), ISBD (NBM), and ISBD (A). In case of doubt, these cataloguing rules are the first points of reference.

The cartography section of the Prints, Maps and Engravings Section has produced a set of further specifications "Concrecions de l'aplicació de l'ISBD (CM) a la Biblioteca de Catalunya" (May 1993). A number of problems were encountered when applying the cataloguing rules to the Biblioteca de Catalunya's holdings, and this document describes the solutions adopted. Some go beyond ISBD (CM) and others clarify certain aspects.

These further specifications included the following:

- The main source of information is, in order of preference:
  - the map frame
  - the sheet
  - the recto
  - the verso
  - the cover or container

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<sup>4</sup> Subject Headings in Catalan. Llista d'Encapçaments de Matèries en Català. Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya. Institut Català de Bibliografia, 1991.

<sup>5</sup> ISBD (CM) International Standard Bibliographic Descriptions for Cartographic Materials. Revised ed. London: British Library Bibliographic Services: IFLA, 1987.

- Additional information in the title. In the case of generic titles additional information is added between square brackets. eg:

[Mapa militar: España 1:20.000]

As this information is taken from the document, the language of the original is maintained.

- Sizes. It was decided to give the size of the map per se, rather than that of the sheet or plate. This applies to printed maps, engravings and lithographs.
- As most of the maps are pre-1900, we have chosen to include a note (in tag 531), giving the printing or engraving method used.

It should be mentioned that this section deals with much more historic material than modern, and could be described as an historic maps section. Amongst the problems in the cataloguing process we would like to mention the following:

- 1) cases where responsibility for a document is difficult to define:
  - a) it is often difficult to establish whether a statement of responsibility refers to the draughtsman, the engraver, the mapmaker or to whom.
  - b) the mapmakers responsible for some reproductions have not been identified and responsibility is assigned to the original mapmaker. Ptolemy (II century), for example, is still considered the mapmaker of XV century reproductions of his maps by anonymous mapmakers.
  - c) some important cartographers also published other people's work. Examples include Hondius and Jansonius.

The statement of responsibility has become increasingly more complicated from the XVIII century onwards, when institutions began to make maps or commission them from private companies, It is often difficult to establish the role played by these institutions in the making of a given document. This is one of those areas where acknowledge of the history of mapmaking is essential.

- 2) The scale of the maps in the Biblioteca de Catalunya is often given in old units of measurements. No conversion is made, the scale being given as in the document, followed by the equivalent of the old unit in the unit used in the document. eg:

- 100 canas malloquinas = 3,3 cm

Where no scale is given the following note is added:

- No scale given

- 3) In many maps, particularly antique maps, the role of the person named as the printer is not always clear. This person is, in fact, sometimes the engraver, the draughtsman or the mapmaker. These different functions are often confused.
- 4) Dates are also a common problem as they are often lacking in historic maps. Maps must be looked up in specialist reference works in order to discover their date. If this is not possible an approximate date is given.

## 2.2 Classification

We have kept to the UDC (5<sup>th</sup> Spanish edition) in order to stay in line with other documents in the Biblioteca de Catalunya, entered in the library's database from 1990. Thus, in UDC 912 we find all documents that describe a geographic area in a form other than text. eg:

912 (467.1) "17"  
Map of Catalonia (XVIII century)

## 2.3 Alphabetical catalogue by subject

We use, as does the rest of the library, the Llista d'Encapçalaments de Matèries en Català, published by the Institute Català de Bibliografia. This catalogue is a particularly useful reference work for cartographic material, as many users request material concerning a particular geographical area rather than by author or title. This makes it especially important to use a comprehensive list of subject headings which give ample scope to readers requesting documents by geographical area. The mapmaker and the title are also important in historic maps, but not in modern and contemporary ones. In both the card-index catalogue and the library database, we include the year of publication with the subject headings, as we have found that this is very useful for readers.

## 3. The Map Catalogue Conversion Project

### 3.1 Objectives

- a) The creation and maintenance of a single, on-line, database catalogue for the Biblioteca de Catalunya, in order to achieve greater efficiency in access to documents.
- b) Greater access to information about the section's holdings.
- c) The protection and conservation of the section's indices.
- d) To contribute to Universal Bibliographical Control. (UBC)

### 3.2 Procedures and methods

Before the catalogue is computerised a comprehensive study of the material to be converted will be carried out.

Following this study the conversion of the map catalogue (formed between 1918 and 1991) will begin. This conversion, subject of this paper, forms a part of the project of conversion of the library's general catalogue. It has been decided to contract a company which specialises in coding and transferring data. This decision was based on the conclusion that this procedure will result in:

- minimum interference with the section's day-to-day work.
- a high level of quality in the cartographic description (99.5% reliability)
- a lower total cost

The work will be carried out in the following way:

- 1) Study of the catalogue
- 2) Writing of the specifications governing the codification of the entries in machine-readable language.
3. Micro-filming of the index-cards to be converted.
- 4) The micro-films and specifications will be sent to the company.

#### 3.2.1 Current state of the library's card-index map catalogues

They comprise index-cards in wooden drawers, grouped as follows:

- a) General
- b) Europe
- c) Spain
- d) Catalonia
- e) Asia, Africa, America
- f) Military maps

These are all main index-cards classified in accordance with the UDC.

#### g) Atlases and reference library

These are main index-cards ordered by author.

#### h) Mapmakers

This catalogue could be obtained from the main entries if they contained all the required information. Unfortunately, this is not the case. A comprehensive study was undertaken of atlases and other works which include maps, the entries of which only give the classification number and the translators or co-authors listed in the original work.

Approximately 70% of the index-cards to be converted present problems due to the legibility of the handwriting, the use of antiquated local cataloguing systems or awkward classification systems. On the other hand, we have holdings which are remarkably rich in historic documents and in maps of Catalonia, which should be made more accessible.

### 3.2.2 Volume of entries

There are about 6,500 index-cards in total, some of which relate to collections.

### 3.2.3 Types of index-cards:

- a) Incomplete main entries: those which lack some of the elements which make up the minimum information to be entered in the database. 18%.
- b) Main entries with ISBD standard descriptions: complete. 2%.
- c) Handwritten component cards: fairly complex, with slight problems of conversion due to the hand-writing. 22%.
- d) Handwritten component part cards: complete. 4%.
- e) Collection index-cards: old control cards with list of the elements in collections. 1%.
- f) Handwritten main entries: with the necessary information but often with hand-writing that is difficult to read. 50%.

### 3.2.4 Problems with the location marks

As the section's location marks include both classification number and index number, conversion presents some problems which were almost certainly not imagined when the system was designed. The location marks include elements which tend to group similar items together (the subject area, in this case maps, the printing or engraving method employed, and the size) and elements which separate (the index number, which results in material being kept in numerical order in folders, cupboards, boxes etc., thus splitting up collections). This problem affects 70% of the index-cards to be converted, i.e. all the entries with the section's own location mark.

### 3.2.5 CATMARC coding

The index-cards will be coded in CATMARC format, the Catalan version of UKMARK 1<sup>6</sup>. The recent, second edition of the handbook<sup>7</sup> will be used,

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<sup>6</sup> Lluís M. Anglada i Ferrer. *El format MARC i l'intercanvi d'informació bibliogràfica a Catalunya*. Barcelona: Escola Universitària Jordi Rubió i Balaguer de Biblioteconomia i Documentació, 1988, p.12.

<sup>7</sup> *Manual CATMARC*. 2<sup>a</sup> ed. rev. i augm. Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya, 1992.

as it is for the computerised cataloguing of maps.

### 3.2.5.1 'Mandatory' CATMARC tags and subfields marks

These tags are recommended for the successful conversion of entries regarding post-1801 maps.

We have established the following tags and subfield marks for this project:

- 008 \$a (information re publication date)
- \$b (country of publication)
- \$o (illustration code) : b (maps)
- \$p (type of material) : A (cartographic document)
- \$e (government publication)
- \$f (Conference indicator)
- \$g (Festschrift indicator)
- \$i (heading repeated in title indicator)
- \$j (literary text code or type of publication) : c (cartographic documents)
- \$k (biography code)
- \$l (language code)
- \$q cataloguing source code) b
- 043 \$a (geographic zone code)
- 090 \$b (index number)
- \$d (classification number)
- \$j (source of entry) : conversion
- 245 \$a (title)
- \$z (type of material) cartographic document
- 256 \$a (mathematical data) : scale (for post-1801 maps)
- 260 (area of publication)
- 300 (area of the physical description)
- 600/651 (subject headings: subject/geographical name)
- We follow the Llista d'Encapçaments de Matèries en Català, as indicated in 2.3..
- There are two further tags which we would like to include whenever the information is given on the index-card:
- 440/490 (aera of the collection)
- 531 note re the physical description) printing or engraving method used in the maps

### 3.2.5.2 CATMARC tags for component parts cards

- 008 (information code) complete

100/110 (main heading: author or body)  
/245.3  
245 \$a (title)  
773 \$t (title of document source)  
\$d (document source imprint)  
\$g (related information: volume, part, pages etc)

#### 4. Bibliography

Colomer, Ignasi Maria. Els cent primers mapes del Principat de Catalunya s. XVI-XX. Barcelona: Rafael Dalmau, 1966.

Colomer, Ignasi Maria. Els mapes antics de les terres catalanes des del segle XI. Granollers: Montblanc, 1967.

Colomer, Ignasi Maria. Cartografia peninsular s. XI-XIX. Granollers: Montblanc, 1969.

Colomer, Ignasi Maria. Cartografia de Catalunya i dels Països Catalans. Barcelona: Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya, 1989.

Colomer, Ignasi Maria. Cartografia peninsular s. VIII-XX. ed. rev. i augm. Barcelona: Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya, 1992.

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For the annexes see the Spanish version of this paper.



Biblioteca de Catalunya

EJEMPLOS DE CATALOGACION

DADES EN FORMAT M.A.R.C.

PROCEDÈNCIA:

ET. I.

VALORS DE L'ETIQUETA

ACCH: 000027071

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008 00 \$x 921002\$a c1706 \$b Irto b6c \$p ASD \$e OSI 06q 06h OSI 15j \$k \$l fre\$a  
\$q b  
040 00 \$a BCSb cat\$c BC  
043 00 \$a e-spc--  
080 00 \$a 912(467.1)  
090 00 \$b N.Col. 5sc Ex. estripat. taques d'òxid i humitat, ex. acolorit a mà p  
osteriorment\$d R.M.Col. 56j Donatiu  
092 2l \$a Colomer i Presensh Ignasi M.  
100 10 \$a SansonSh GuillaumeSr /1703  
245 10 \$a Principauté de Catalogne ou sont compris les comtés de Roussillon et  
de Cerdagne divisés en leurs vigueriesSz Document cartografic\$d par le S  
r. Sanson ...\$e Cordier sculptit  
256 00 \$a Echelle 30 milles pas geometriques, ou milles d'Italie. 12 lieues com  
munes de France. 8 lieues communes d'Espagne. 7 lieues communes d'Allema  
gne. 10 lieues d'une heure de chemin 18,5 cat.  
260 00 \$a A Paris\$b chez le S. Jaillot ...\$c 1706  
300 00 \$f 18n mapa\$b col.\$c 54x74,5 cm  
531 00 \$a Gravat calcoqr., sobre paper verjurat  
534 00 \$a Colomer (1966) 16-11  
65j 00 \$a Catalunya\$a Xapesy Obres de 1706  
700 01 \$a CordierSr S. XVIII\$y grav.

PRENEU: - PF2 CONSULTA DEL MÒDUL D'AUTORITATS - PF7 PANTALLA ANTERIOR  
- PE1 AMELIAR L'ESPAI DE LA LÍNIA - PF8 PANTALLA POSTERIOR  
- PE5 REPETIR L'ÚLTIMA LÍNIA - PF12 CANCEL·LAR EL PROCÉS  
- PE6 CANVI ORDRE DE LES REPETICIONS - PF3 GRAVAR EL DOCUMENT



Biblioteca de Catalunya

FORMAT I.S.B.D. DEL DOCUMENT SELECCIONAT

ACCN: 000027071

Sanson, Guillaume

Principauté de Catalogne ou sont compris les comtés de Roussillon et de Cerdagne divisés en leurs vigueries (Document cartographique) / par le Sr. Sanson ... ; Cordier sculpt. -- Echelle 30 milles pas geometriques, ou milles d'Italie. 12 lieues communes de France. 8 lieues communes d'Espagne. 7 lieues communes d'Allemagne. 10 lieues d'une heure de chemin 18,9 cm. -- A Paris : chez le S. Jaillot .... 1706. -- 1 mapa : col. ; 5x74,5 cm  
Colomer (1966) 16-11. -- Gravat calcogr. sobre paper verjurat  
1. Cordier, grav. II. Títol I. Catalunya -- Mapes -- Obres de 1706 912(467.1)

R. M.Col. 5. Ex. estripat, taques d'oxid i humitat. ex. acolorit a mà posteriorment. Top.: R.M.Col. 5

PF7 - PANTALLA ANTERIOR

PF8 - PANTALLA POSTERIOR

PE12- CANCEL·LAR

NO HI HA MÉS DESCRIPCIÓ

PF2 - OBTENCIÓ DE FITXES

PF1 - CORREGIR

PE3 - GRAVAR·CONTINUAR



Biblioteca de Catalunya

DADES EN FORMAT M.A.R.C.      PROCEDÈNCIA: -

ET. I.                      VALORS DE L'ETIQUETA                      ACCN: 00004816

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008 00 \$z 930809\$z \$1883 \$b cat\$z b\$C \$p \$A\$d \$e \$O\$f \$O\$g \$O\$h \$O\$i \$I\$J \$k \$l \$pa\$z  
\$q \$b  
040 00 \$a BCS\$b cat\$C BC  
043 00 \$a e-spc--  
080 00 \$a 912(467.1)  
090 00 \$b M.Col. 48\$C Ex. entelat\$D R.M.Col. 48\$J Donatiu  
092 21 \$a Colomer i Freser\$H Ignasi M.  
100 10 \$a Brossa\$H Eduard\$R 1848/1924  
245 10 \$a Catalu\$H\$a\$z Document cartogràfic\$b descripció geogràfica de las cuatr  
o provincias catalanas indicándose las vias de comunicaci6n ...\$d Eduard  
o Brosa  
256 00 \$a Escala kilomètrica 50 km 1-13,6 cm  
260 00 \$a Barcelona\$b is.n. \$C 1883  
300 00 \$f 16n mapa\$b col.\$C 86.4x77,2 cm  
531 00 \$a Litogr. color, sobre paper  
557 00 \$a Index gràfic  
651 00 \$a Catalunya\$a\$K Kapes\$y Obres de 1883

PREMU: - PF2 CONSULTA DEL MÓDUL D'AUTORITATS - PF7 PANTALLA ANTERIOR  
- PF1 AMPLIAR L'ESPÀI DE LA LÍNIA - PF8 PANTALLA POSTERIOR  
- PF5 REPETIR L'ÚLTIMA LÍNIA - PF12 CANCEL·LAR EL PROCÉS  
- PF6 CANVI ORDRE DE LES REPETICIONS - PF3 GRAYAR EL DOCUMENT



Biblioteca de Catalunya

FORMAT I.S.B.D. DEL DOCUMENT SELECCIONAT

ACCM: 000044816

Brossa, Eduard

Cataluña [Document cartográfico] : descripción geográfica de las  
cuatro provincias catalanas indicándose las vías de comunicación ...  
/ Eduardo Brossa. -- Escala kilométrica 50 km (=13,6 cm). --  
Barcelona : ts.n.l, 1883. -- 1 mapa : col. ; 86,4x77,2 cm  
Litogr. color, sobre paper. -- [index gràfic  
1. Títol 1. Catalunya -- Mapes -- Obres de 1883  
912(467.1)

R. M.Col. 48. Em. entelat. Top.: R.M.Col. 48

PF7 - PANTALLA ANTERIOR  
PF8 - PANTALLA POSTERIOR  
PF12- CANCEL·LAR

NO HI HA MÉS DESCRIPCIÓ

PF2 - OBTENCIÓ DE FITXES  
PF1 - CORREGIR  
PF3 - GRAVAR-CONTINUAR