

THE GEDCOM STANDARD

DRAFT Release 5.0

25 September 1991

Prepared by the
Family History Department
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Suggestions and Correspondence:

GEDCOM Coordinator - 3T
Family History Department
50 East North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
USA

Telephone (USA) 801-240-5225.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	3
Purpose and Content of Document	3
Changes in Version 5.0.....	4
GEDCOM Product Registration	5
GEDCOM Software Library.....	5
 Chapter 1	
Data Representation Grammar.....	6
Concepts.....	6
Grammar	7
 Chapter 2	
Lineage-linked Grammar	14
Introduction.....	14
Lineage-linked Grammar Organization	14
Record Structures of the Lineage-linked Form.....	15
Substructures of the Lineage-linked Form.....	19
Primitive Elements of the Lineage-linked Form.....	22
Compatibility with previous GEDCOM versions.....	23
 Chapter 3	
GEDCOM Transmission File	34
Introduction.....	34
Headers and Trailers in the GEDCOM Transmission	34
Why Headers and Trailers are used	35
How to use a Header	35
How to use a Trailer.....	38
Naming your Transmission File.....	38
 Chapter 4	
GEDCOM Values	39
Introduction.....	39
Why Values are used	40
Guidelines for using Values.....	41
How to record Names of Individuals	41
How to record Dates	42
How to record Places	44
How to record Events.....	45
How to record Time	45
How to record Pointers	46
How to use other Values	47
 Chapter 5	
Using Character Sets in GEDCOM	48
Why various Character Sets are used.....	48
How to change Character Sets	49
 Appendix A	
Lineage-linked GEDCOM Tag Definition	52

INTRODUCTION

GEDCOM was developed by the Family History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to meet the data communication requirements of the Family History Department and other institutions wishing to exchange computerized genealogical data. GEDCOM is an acronym for GENEalogical Data Communication. GEDCOM is provided to foster the exchange of genealogical information and the development of a wide range of inter-operable software products to assist genealogists, historians, and other researchers in the exchange of genealogical information.

Purpose and Content of This Document

This technical document is written for computer programmers, system developers, and user specialists. It defines a flexible format for exchanging structured genealogical information between different computer systems.

The chapters in this document detail the following specifications:

- Data Representation Grammar
- Lineage-Linked GEDCOM Grammar
- GEDCOM Transmission File
- Values
- Character Sets

This document describes GEDCOM in two different levels. The lower level defines a general-purpose data representation language for representing any kind of structured information in a sequential media. This lower level is known as the GEDCOM data format. It deals with the syntax and identification of structured information in general, but does not deal with the semantic content of any particular kind of data.

The higher level defines specific content for a particular kind of data to be exchanged between a group of compatible systems. GEDCOM has been used for many different kinds of data. Each kind of data is referred to as a form of GEDCOM and has its own definition at this level. GEDCOM forms have been defined for lineage-linked, bibliographic, census, religious, and other kinds of data, including several that are not related to genealogy.

The first two chapters are presented as language grammars and are technically oriented. Chapter 1 presents basic GEDCOM concepts and then defines the lower-level GEDCOM format. This chapter will be useful to anyone using GEDCOM. Chapter 2 defines the higher-level, specific form of GEDCOM known as the lineage-linked form. The lineage-linked form is the form used by commercial genealogical software systems for exchanging compiled, linked information about individuals. The other forms of GEDCOM are not publicly exchanged at this time, and are not discussed in this document.

Chapters three and four discuss GEDCOM in a more tutorial fashion. If inconsistencies are present, they should be resolved in favor of the grammars presented in the first two chapters. The fifth chapter defines GEDCOM character sets. Appendix A defines tags used in the lineage-linked form of GEDCOM. Appendix B contains character tables that define the GEDCOM character set.

Changes in Version 5.0

Prior official versions of The GEDCOM Standard were released in October 1987 (3.0) and August 1989 (4.0). Versions prior to these were preliminary and were not established as a standard.

This GEDCOM release (5.0) includes the first standard definition of the lineage-linked form of GEDCOM, and also includes the first major expansion of the lineage-linked form since its initial use in GEDCOM 3.0. Products based on releases 3.0 and 4.0 versions should be upward-compatible. These existing registered GEDCOM-compatible systems should still be able to exchange data with newer systems that use this version, and will still be considered GEDCOM-compatible.

There are several purposes for the 5.0 release of GEDCOM:

- Re-define the GEDCOM data representation grammar in a shorter, more rigorous, and more precise format, for ease of understanding (see chapter 1). The GEDCOM format remains the same, even though the description of it is changed.
- Define the precise combinations of tags, values, and pointers allowed in the lineage-linked form (see chapter 2). This is the form of GEDCOM currently exchanged by commercial genealogical software systems, and it remains unchanged, other than adding new tags and the upward-compatible structural extensions listed below. (The lineage-linked form should not be confused with other forms of GEDCOM, which apply the basic GEDCOM data format with different tag, value, and pointer combinations for other purposes.)
- Define representations for supporting information such as source citations, submitter identification, and notes. (See chapter 2, <<SUPPORT_INFO>> structure in the lineage-linked grammar.)
- Define user-defined EVENTS.
- Define user-defined ASSOCIATIONS with INDIVIDUALS other than direct family relationships.
- Allow descriptive text to further qualify MARRIAGE, DIVORCE, and other event structures.
- Require SOURCE VERSION (product version) and GEDCOM VERSION information.
- Define DATE modifier (ABT, BEF, AFT, etc.) and a more rigorous regular date format.

GEDCOM Product Registration

Developers of GEDCOM-compatible products using the lineage-linked form of GEDCOM (see chapter 2) should register their product by submitting the following information to the GEDCOM coordinator:

- A sharable, brief, representative sample of GEDCOM output from their product, on diskette, for registration review and for compatibility testing by other developers
- A proposed unique SOURce name to identify the product (not the company), up to 40 characters long, allowing mixed upper and lower case, with no embedded spaces (use underscore "_" instead), for inclusion in the product's GEDCOM output HEADer record
- An optional text file containing relevant technical documentation about the product's GEDCOM implementation.

GEDCOM Software Library

A library of public domain source code, in the C programming language, is available to help reduce the work required to achieve GEDCOM compatibility.

Chapter 1

DATA REPRESENTATION GRAMMAR

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the core GEDCOM data representation language, which provides a general purpose way to represent items of related information using a sequential stream of characters. At this generic level, GEDCOM may be used to represent any form of structured information, not just genealogical data.

CONCEPTS

A GEDCOM transmission represents a database in the form of a sequential stream of related records. A record is represented as a sequence of tagged, variable-length lines, arranged in a hierarchy. A line contains a hierarchical level number, a tag, and a value. The GEDCOM line is terminated by a carriage return and/or line feed character.

The tag identifies the value of a line in the same sense as a field name identifies a field in a database record. The data is self-defining. Tags allow a field to occur any number of times within a record, including zero, and allow the use of different or new fields without otherwise penalizing compatibility between different systems exchanging data.

The hierarchical relationships are indicated by a hierarchical level number. Subordinate lines have a higher level number. The hierarchy allows a line to have sub-lines, which in turn may have their own sub-lines, etc. A line and its sub-lines constitute a context or enclosure, that is, a cluster of information pertaining directly to the same thing. This hierarchical arrangement corresponds with the natural hierarchy found in most structured information.

The beginning of a record is indicated by a line whose level number is zero.

A GEDCOM receiver system scans the input for expected information by looking for specific tags and processing the associated values. Unrecognized tags (perhaps from a sending system whose database contains some different information) are handled by not processing the associated value nor its enclosed sub-lines, i.e, the entire context is ignored. These are treated as exceptions by printing them in an exception report or saving them in some generic way.

In addition to hierarchical relationships, GEDCOM defines inter-record references which allow a record to be logically related to other records, without introducing redundancy. These are represented by two additional, but optional, parts of a line: a cross-reference pointer and a cross-reference identifier. The cross-reference pointer "points at" a related record, identified by a required matching cross-reference identifier.

GRAMMAR

The GEDCOM data format, a data representation language, is defined in the grammar in this chapter. The grammar is a set of rules that specify what sequences of characters constitute valid GEDCOM expressions. The rules are expressed as a set of pattern definitions, where each pattern is defined in terms of more primitive patterns. Pattern definitions consist of the pattern name, a separator ":", and a list of sub-patterns from which one alternative is selected. To read the grammar, components of the selected pattern are substituted recursively by other patterns or constants, continuing until all patterns are resolved into constants. Pattern names are in bold print. Constants are the actual symbols that appear in the complete expressions and are not bolded.

A GEDCOM transmission consists of a sequence of physical records, each of which consists of a sequence of `gedcom_lines`, all contained in a sequential file or stream of characters. The beginning of a new physical record is designated by a line whose level number is 0. Physical records are intended to be small enough to fit within available memory, though absolute limits are not established. A `gedcom_line` has the following syntax:

gedcom_line:=

level delimtr xref_id delimtr tag delimtr line_content terminator

- The `gedcom_line` represents one piece of information. One `gedcom_line` corresponds to one field in traditional database or file terminology, or to a grouping of fields as in a record or subrecord. The concepts of fields, records, and subrecords merge together in GEDCOM.
- The total length of a GEDCOM line does not exceed 255 characters.
- Leading white space (tabs, spaces) to a GEDCOM line should be ignored by the reading system. Systems outputting GEDCOM should not have any white space in front of the GEDCOM line (at least for the near future).
- The `xref_id` and `line_content` are optional.

The following are examples of valid (though unrelated) GEDCOM lines:

```
0 @1234@ INDI
```

```
1 AGE 13
```

```
1 CHIL @1234@
```

The first line has a level number 0, a `xref_id` of `@1234@`, an `INDI` tag, and no `line_content`.

The second line has a level number 1, no `xref_id`, an `AGE` tag, and a `line_content` value of 13.

The third line has a level number 1, no xref_id, a CHIL tag, and a line_content of a pointer to a xref_id named @1234@.

level:=

digit
digit level

The level number works the same way as the level of indentation in an indented outline, where indented lines provide detail about the item under which they are indented. A line at any level L is enclosed by and pertains directly to the nearest preceding line at level L-1. The Level L may only increase by at most 1.

The enclosed subordinate lines at level L are said to be in the context of the enclosing superior line at level L-1. The meaning of a tag (see tag below) is interpreted in the context of the tags of the enclosing line(s). Take the following record about an individual's birth and death dates, for example:

```
0 INDI
  1 BIRT
    2 DATE 12 MAY 1920
  1 DEAT
    2 DATE 1960
```

In this example, the expression DATE 12 MAY 1920 is interpreted within the INDI BIRTH context, representing the INDIVIDUAL'S BIRTH DATE. The second DATE is in the INDI DEAT (death) context. The complete meaning of DATE depends on the context. (Note: the above example is indented according to the level numbers to make the concept more obvious. In the actual GEDCOM data there is no indentation, just level numbers lined up vertically on the left margin.)

xref_id:=

@xref_text@

The xref_id (cross reference identifier) is the target for pointers, allowing physically separate records to reference each other logically. The at signs "@" delimit the xref_text. The xref_text is unique within a GEDCOM transmission, and is between 1 and 15 characters in length.

The purpose of the xref_text is to uniquely identify a record in the transmission. Receiving systems typically map xref_text into their own internal record identifiers, maintaining the relationships between records but not necessarily the xref_text values used in the transmission. The xref_text typically consists of some form of the internal record identifier from the database of the sending system.

A record with a matching `xref_id` must exist for every pointer in the transmission, unless the colon ":" character is present in the pointer, indicating a network reference (future) to a permanent record that might not be in the transmission. The colon ":" character is therefore reserved within `xref_ids` and pointers. The colon ":" character restriction does not apply to the other parts of a `GEDCOM_line`.

delimtr:=

space

The `delimtr` (delimiter), (a single space character), terminates both the variable-length level number and the tag. Note that space characters may also be present in a value.

tag:=

letter

tag letter

tag digit

A tag consists of a variable length sequence of letters and digits, beginning with a letter. The tag represents the meaning of the `line_content` within the context of the enclosing lines. Specific tags are defined in Appendix A.

Although existing tags are only three or four characters long, systems should prepare to handle tags from 1 to 15 characters in length, terminated by a `delimtr`.

Valid combinations of specific tags, values, `xref_ids` and pointers are further constrained by the `GEDCOM` form defined for representing a given kind of information (see Chapter 2 for the Lineage-Linked form grammar).

line_content:=

value

pointer

value pointer

escape_sequence

escape_sequence value

The `line_content` identifies an object within the domain of possible values allowed in the context of the tag. The combination of the tag, the `line_content`, and the `line_content` of the preceding superior line (level `N - 1`) is a 3-tuple that defines an association between the two objects. A pointer stands in the place of the context identified by the matching `xref_id`. Theoretically, a receiving system should be prepared to follow a pointer to find any needed value in a manner that is transparent to the logic of the subsystem that is looking for specific tags. This highly-flexible facility will probably be used more in the future. For the time being, however, the use of pointers is explicitly defined within the `GEDCOM` form. The value pointer combination is used to indicate what kind of association or relationship exists between the current record and the record being pointed to. (See chapter 2). The `escape_sequence` grammar is used to

specify special processing, such as switching character sets or calendars for date interpretation, and for indicating an inclusion of a non_gedcom data form into the GEDCOM structure.

terminator:=

carriage_return
line_feed
carriage_return line_feed
line_feed carriage_return

The terminator delimits the variable-length line_content and signals the end of the line.

NOTE: Some existing systems provide an option to produce an indented GEDCOM output for user readability, using space or tab characters between the terminator and the level number of the next line to visibly show the hierarchy. Also, some have suggested allowing extra blank lines to visibly separate physical records. These features may be incorporated into the GEDCOM standard at some future time, but for now, such a change would render some existing systems incompatible. Therefore, we recommend that new systems be prepared to discard extra carriage returns, line feeds, spaces and tabs immediately preceding the level number during input, though output for now should normally be constrained as specified above, without indentation or blank lines.

xref_text:=

letter
digit
punctuation
space
xref_text xref_text

The xref_text is any arbitrary combination of characters, except for the at-sign "@" and the terminator. The xref_text is not retained by the receiving system, and may therefore be formed from any convenient combination of identifiers from the sending system. No meaning is attributed by the receiver to any part of the xref_text, except for its unique association with the corresponding record. The use of the colon ":" character is reserved. To avoid confusion with the escape sequence prefix "@#", a xref_text must not begin with a pound sign "#".

value:=

letter
digit
punctuation
space
colon
value value

The value represents an object within the domain of the full context of the accompanying tag. This domain is defined by a specific grammar for representing a given GEDCOM form (see Chapters 2 for Lineage-Linked grammar).

Values are not encoded in binary or other schemes for reducing space requirements, and they are generally constrained to be understandable by a typical user without decoding. This is intended to reduce the decoding burden on the receiving software. A GEDCOM-optimized data compression standard will be defined in the future to reduce space requirements. Meanwhile, users may agree to compress GEDCOM files using any compression system available to both sender and receiver.

pointer:=

xref_text

The pointer represents the association between two objects that reside in different physical records. Complex logical records are divided into smaller physical records to accommodate memory constraints, many to many relationships, and independent record creation.

The pointer must match a corresponding xref_id within the transmission, unless the colon ":" character is present (future network reference to a permanent record). A pointer is given instead of duplicating the object identified in the value of the line pointed at, though the logical result is equivalent. An expanded traversal of a record tree includes following the pointers to related records to some depth, and splicing those records (logically) into the resultant expanded tree. Pointers may refer to either records which have not yet appeared in the transmission (forward reference) or to records that have already appeared earlier in the transmission (backward reference). This arrangement usually requires a preliminary pass to construct a lookup table to support random access by xref_id during subsequent passes.

A few GEDCOM structures allow the sending system to use either a pointer or a value within the same context (with the same tag and enclosing tags), and sometimes the line will contain both a value and pointer. In all cases, the pointer will be at either the beginning or the ending of the line_content, never in the middle. GEDCOM receiving systems should be prepared in certain cases to follow pointers recursively and "splice" either text or compound GEDCOM structures into the position occupied by the pointer. Assembling pointer-based structures into large segments of text may require staging the text in disk-based files to accommodate memory constraints. Specific requirements are defined in lower-level GEDCOM grammars for a particular form of GEDCOM data (see Chapter 2 for Lineage-Linked grammar).

letter:=

One of the letters A-Z, a-z, plus all diacritic and special characters from the GEDCOM character set.

digit:=

One of the digits 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

punctuation:=

One of the non-letter and non-digit characters from the GEDCOM character set, except the space and colon ":" characters. The colon ":" character may be used within a value.

The at sign "@" is used for an escape mechanism to identify pointers, xref_id, character set changes, calendar changes, or other shifts in representation rules. To include the at sign "@" as data in a value, two of them should be sent together "@@", which represent a single at sign "@" as data.

escape_sequence:=

@#Dcalendar_type@
@#Ccharacter_set@
@#Lescape_codes_with_length@ inclusion_data
@#Ffile_reference_escape_codes@

calendar_type :=

A reserved name indicating which calendar base should be used to interpret the associated date value (see section in chapter 4 on "How to Record Dates").

character_set :=

A reserved name indicating which character set should be used to interpret the codes contained in the associated value.

escape_codes_with_length :=

data_type_code delimtr data_length
This escape sequence indicates the inclusion of data of a non-gedcom structure is to be enclosed within the context of the GEDCOM structure. The data_length defines the length of the data being included (note: this length is not constrained by the 255 character line limit adopted for standard GEDCOM form and may be arbitrarily long). The data_type_code defines the form of the inclusion data. The specific rules and type codes have not yet been standardized. Reading systems should skip over the length of data indicated if they are not prepared to process the indicated data type.

data_type_code :=

A reserved one-letter code indicating what data form is contained in the inclusion data.

data_length :=

digit
digit digit
A decimal number in ASCII digits, indicating the count of characters contained in the inclusion_data.

inclusion_data :=

This data becomes the line content value whose type and size are defined by the associated escape sequence.

file_reference_escape_codes :=

file_type_code file_path_name

This escape sequence allows both GEDCOM and NON-GEDCOM data to be transmitted in a separate file for a logical inclusion within this GEDCOM context. Note: the data length of the file is not constrained by the 255 character line limit adopted for standard GEDCOM form. Systems not prepared to process the indicated type of file should skip past the filename to continue processing.

file_type_code :=

A reserved one letter code indicating what type of data is contained in the inclusion file. Specific types have not yet been standardized.

file_path_name :=

This is the path name required for accessing the inclusion file from within the current directory. In PC-DOS terms, this means either that a path must be fully specified, including the root directory and optional drive, or that a partial path refers to a file within the same directory as the GEDCOM transmission file or within a directory subordinate to the current directory.

Chapter 2 LINEAGE-LINKED GRAMMAR

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes specific tag, value, and pointer combinations for exchanging lineage-linked information in the GEDCOM format. Lineage-linked data pertains to individuals linked in family relationships across multiple generations.

This lineage-linked grammar is based on the general framework of the GEDCOM data representation grammar defined in the previous chapter. These two layers define the GEDCOM format used by commercial genealogical software systems to exchange data. Other specialized GEDCOM-based grammars have been created for different purposes. Other uses of the general-purpose GEDCOM data representation should not be confused with this specific usage for lineage-linked genealogical data, as defined in this chapter, which is the only form of GEDCOM exchanged by commercial genealogical software systems at this time.

LINEAGE-LINKED GRAMMAR ORGANIZATION

This lineage-linked GEDCOM grammar is organized into three levels: structure components, substructure patterns, and primitive elements. Structures and substructures are indicated by enclosing the structure name within double angle <<brackets>>. Primitive element patterns are enclosed in single angle <brackets>. The definition of each structure consists of the structure name, a "!=" separator, and the structure's component pattern. This pattern is an enclosure of GEDCOM lines composed of primitive elements and/or substructure enclosures.

The record structures of the lineage-linked form are shown in the section 'RECORD STRUCTURES OF THE LINEAGE-LINKED FORM'. The supporting substructures contained that make up each of the record types are shown in alphabetic sequence in the section 'SUBSTRUCTURES OF THE LINEAGE-LINKED FORM'. The primitive elements are the lowest level (terminal) components that are not further divided and are shown in the section 'DEFINITION OF PRIMITIVE ELEMENTS' in alphabetic sequence.

Some elements have optional sub-pattern choices. These choices are shown by listing the alternative sub-patterns between opening and closing square brackets "[]" and separating each choice with a vertical bar "|", meaning that exactly one of the alternate substitutions must be selected.

The number of occurrences of a sub-pattern allowed within a pattern is defined in an occurrence definition in braces "{ }" on each line. This number indicates the minimum and maximum number of occurrences allowed for a pattern component in the form {minimum:maximum}. Note that minimum and maximum occurrence limits are defined relative to the enclosing superior line. The enclosing line may prescribe zero, one, or many possible occurrences, which, in effect, is multiplied by the occurrences allowed for any of its subordinate lines. This means that a required line (minimum = 1) is not required if an optional enclosing line is not given. Similarly a line occurring only once (Maximum = 1) may occur multiple times as long as each occurs under its own multiple-occurring superior line.

The level numbers for any sub-structure are represented as "n", "+1", "+2", etc. so

that they may be used in more than one place at different starting level numbers. In these cases, "n" equals the same level number where the pattern first appears, and the "+1" means level n+1, "+2" means level n+2, etc.

Unless stated otherwise, the only ordering imposed on GEDCOM lines within an enclosure arises when multiple opinions or other items are presented for which only one may be expected by a receiving system. For example, a person may have been known by more than one name, or evidence may suggest either a birth in 1840 in New York or in 1837 in Pennsylvania. In this case, the most credible or preferred information is listed first, followed by less credible or less preferred items of conflicting or alternate information. Receiving systems that can only use one item of a given kind should use the first-listed value. The same is true for output documents that can only display one value, such as family group records, pedigree charts, and others.

Conflicting dates or places of an event should be represented in separate event structures to provide a place for the corresponding source citations, rather than place multiple dates or multiple places under the same enclosing event line.

Even though no other ordering is defined beyond the one described above, some GEDCOM programming tools optimize performance based on the assumption that tags generally appear in a typical order. Performance will be better in these circumstances when a common sequence is followed. Therefore, sending systems are encouraged to present GEDCOM structures in the same general order as the one given in these patterns, unless there is a sufficient reason to use a different sequence.

RECORD STRUCTURES OF THE LINEAGE-LINKED FORM

LINEAGE_LINKED_GEDCOM:=

This is a model of the Lineage-Linked Gedcom structure for submitting data to other lineaged-linked GEDCOM processing systems. A header and a trailer record are required and they enclose any number of data records. A data record is either a SUBMitter, INDIVIDual, FAMily, NOTE, or SOURce record structure.

0 <<HEADER>>	{1:1}
0 <<RECORD>>	{0:M}
0 TRLR	{1:1}

NOTE:

There are certain subordinate structures that may occur under any tag, at any level. These structures are contained within a structure called SUPPORT_INFO. The SUPPORT_INFO structure should be considered as subordinate to any GEDCOM line, even though it is not shown (for readability). The SUPPORT_INFO structure may occur from zero to many times {0:M}. Each occurrence of the SUPPORT_INFO structure contains exactly one logical choice of one of the subordinate SUPPORT_INFO structure components. This means that from none to all of the structures from SUPPORT_INFO could appear as subordinate to any GEDCOM line, however, some may not be logical, for instance one would not expect to see a DATE tag as subordinate to another DATE tag.

FAMILY_RECORD:=

```

n @xref:FAM@ FAM
+1 HUSB @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+1 WIFE @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+1 CHIL @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+1 <MARR_EVENT_TAG> <MARRIAGE_DESCRIPTOR> {0:M}
+2 DATE <DATE_VALUE> {0:1}
+2 PLAC <PLACE_VALUE> {0:1}
+1 <DIVORCE_EVENT_TAG> <DIVORCE_DESCRIPTOR> {0:M}
+2 DATE <DATE_VALUE> {0:1}
+2 PLAC <PLACE_VALUE> {0:1}
+1 ASSO <ASSOCIATION_DESCRIPTOR> @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+1 <<LDS_FAM_ORDINANCE_EVENT>> {0:M}

```

INDIVIDUAL_RECORD:=

```

n @XREF:INDI@ INDI
+1 RFN <PERMANENT_RECORD_FILE_NUMBER> {0:1}
+1 <<INDIVIDUAL>> {1:1}
+1 <<LDS_INDI_ORDINANCE_EVENT>> {0:M}
+1 ANCI @XREF:SUBM@ {0:M}
+1 DECI @XREF:SUBM@ {0:M}
+1 FAMC @XREF:FAM@ {0:M}
+2 <<CHILD_FAMILY_EVENT>> {0:M}
+1 ASSO <ASSOCIATION_DESCRIPTOR> @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+1 ASSO <ASSOCIATION_DESCRIPTOR> @XREF:FAM@ {0:M}
+1 ALIA @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+1 FAMS @XREF:FAM@ {0:M}
+1 NAMS @XREF:INDI@ {0:M}
+2 REL <RELATIONSHIP_DESCRIPTOR> {0:M}
+1 REFN <USER_REFERENCE_NUMBER> {0:M}
+1 AFN <ANCESTRAL_FILE_NUMBER> {0:1}

```

NOTE_RECORD:=

```

n @XREF:NOTE@ NOTE [<TEXT> | <NULL> ]
+1 <<NOTE_STRUCTURE>> {0:1}

```

REPOSITORY_RECORD:=

```

n @XREF:REPO@ REPO
+1 NAME <REPOSITORY_NAME> {0:1}
+1 ADDR <ADDRESS_LINE> {0:1}
+2 CONT <ADDRESS_LINE> {0:3}

```

SOURCE_EVENT_RECORD:=

This structure represents event-oriented information that may be used as evidence for submitter' opinions or conclusions expressed in INDIVIDUAL and FAMILY records.

```
n  @XREF:EVEN@ <EVENT_TAG> <EVENT_DESCRIPTOR>
+1 DATE <DATE_VALUE>                                {0:1}
+1 PLAC <PLACE_VALUE>                                {0:1}
+1 <ROLE_TAG> <ROLE_DESCRIPTOR>                      {0:M}
  +2 <<INDIVIDUAL>> {0:1}
  +2 AGE <AGE_VALUE>                                  {0:1}
```

SOURCE_RECORD:=

```
n  @XREF:SOUR@ SOUR [<TEXT> | <NULL> ]
+1 <<SOURCE_STRUCTURE>>                              {0:1}
```

SUBMITTER_RECORD:=

The submitter record identifies individuals or organizations that contributed the information contained within the GEDCOM transmission. All records are assumed to be submitted by the SUBMITTER referenced in the HEADER, unless a SUBMITTER reference inside a specific record points at a different SUBMITTER.

```
n  @XREF:SUBM@ SUBM
+1 NAME <NAME_VALUE>                                 {1:1}
+1 ADDR <ADDRESS_LINE>                               {1:1}
  +2 CONT <ADDRESS_LINE>                             {0:3}
+1 PHON <PHONE_NUMBER>                              {0:1}
+1 CHAN                                              {0:1}
  +2 DATE <CHANGE_DATE>                              {1:1}
```

SUBSTRUCTURES OF THE LINEAGE-LINKED FORM

BURIAL_INFO:=

This structure is valid only if enclosed in the PLACe of a BURIAL event.

n	CEME <CEMETARY_NAME>	{1:1}
+1	ADDR <ADDRESS_LINE>	{0:1}
+2	CONT <ADDRESS_LINE>	{0:3}

CHILD_FAMILY_EVENT:=

[
n	ADOP <CHILD_FAMILY_EVENT_DESCRIPTOR>	{1:1}
+1	DATE <DATE_VALUE>	{0:1}
+1	PLAC <PLACE_VALUE>	{0:1}
n	<<LDS_CHILD_SEALING_EVENT>>	{0:1}
]		

INDIVIDUAL:=

n	NAME <NAME_VALUE>	{0:M}
n	NAMR <NAME_VALUE>	{0:M}
n	SEX <SEX_VALUE>	{0:1}
n	<INDIV_EVENT_TAG> <EVENT_DESCRIPTOR>	{0:M}
+1	DATE <DATE_VALUE>	{0:1}
+1	PLAC <PLACE_VALUE>	{0:1}
+2	<<BURIAL_INFO>>	{0:1}
n	TITL <TITLE>	{0:M}
+1	DATE <DATE_VALUE>	{0:1}
+1	PLAC <PLACE_VALUE>	{0:1}
n	RELI <RELIGIOUS_AFFILIATION>	{0:M}
n	OCCU <OCCUPATION>	{0:M}
n	PROP <POSSESSIONS>	{0:M}
n	DSCR <PHYSICAL_DESCRIPTION>	{0:M}
+1	CONT <PHYSICAL_DESCRIPTION>	{0:M}
n	SIGN <SIGNATURE_INFO>	{0:M}
n	NMR <COUNT_OF_MARRIAGES>	{0:1}
n	NCHI <COUNT_OF_CHILDREN>	{0:1}
n	NATI <NATIONALITY>	{0:M}
n	CAST <CASTE_NAME>	{0:M}
n	ADDR <ADDRESS_LINE>	{0:M}
+1	CONT <ADDRESS_LINE>	{0:3}
+1	DATE <DATE_VALUE>	{0:1}
+1	PHON <PHONE_NUMBER>	{0:1}

LDS_CHILD_SEALING_EVENT:=

n	SLGC	{1:1}
+1	DATE <DATE_VALUE>	{0:1}
+1	TEMP <TEMPLE_VALUE>	{0:1}

LDS_FAM_ORDINANCE_EVENT:=

n SLGS {1:1}
 +1 DATE <DATE_VALUE> {0:1}
 +1 TEMP <TEMPLE_VALUE> {0:1}

LDS_INDI_ORDINANCE_EVENT:=

n <LDS_INDI_ORD> {1:1}
 +1 DATE <DATE_VALUE> {0:1}
 +1 TEMP <TEMPLE_VALUE> {0:1}

NOTE_STRUCTURE:=

This structure allows comments about the information originated by the submitter.

n CONT <SUBMITTERS_TEXT> {1:M}
 n NOTE @XREF:NOTE@ {0:1}

REPOSITORY_STRUCTURE:=

n NAME <REPOSITORY_NAME> {0:1}
 n ADDR <ADDRESS_LINE> {0:1}
 +1 CONT <ADDRESS_LINE> {0:3}
 n PHON <PHONE_NUMBER> {0:1}
 n CNTC <CONTACT_PERSON> {0:M}

SOURCE_STRUCTURE:=

n TYPE <SOURCE_CLASSIFICATION_CODE> {0:1}
 n EVEN <EVENT_CLASSIFICATION_CODE> {0:1}
 n NAME <DESCRIPTIVE_TITLE> {0:1}
 n PAGE <PAGE_DESCRIPTION> {0:1}
 n EDTR <EDITED_BY_NAME> {0:1}
 n CPLR <COMPILED_BY_NAME> {0:1}
 n XLTR <TRANSLATED_BY_NAME> {0:1}
 n INFT <INFORMANTS_NAME> {0:1}
 n INTV <INTERVIEWERS_NAME> {0:1}

[
 n AUTH <AUTHOR_NAME> {0:M}
 |
 n AUTH @XREF:SUBM@ {0:1}
]

n PERI <SOURCE_TIME_PERIOD> {0:M}
 n DATE <ENTRY_RECORDING_DATE> {0:1}
 n PLAC <SOURCE_JURISDICTION_PLACE> {0:1}
 n TEXT <SOURCE_TEXT> {0:1}
 +1 CONT <SOURCE_TEXT> {0:M}
 n RECO <SOURCE_RECORDER_CODE> {0:1}
 n FIDE <SOURCE_FIDELITY_CODE> {0:1}
 n INDX <SOURCE_INDEXED_CODE> {0:1}
 n PUBL {0:1}
 +1 NAME <PUBLICATION_NAME> {0:1}
 +1 DATE <PUBLICATION_DATE> {0:1}
 +1 PLAC <PUBLICATION_PLACE> {0:1}
 +1 PUBR <PUBLISHER_NAME> {0:1}
 n SERS <SERIES_VOLUME_DESCRIPTION> {0:1}
 n LCCN <LIBRARY_CONGRESS_CALL_NUMBER> {0:1}

n	QUAY <QUALITY_OF_DATA>	{0:1}
n	REFS @XREF:SOUR@	{0:M}
n	SOUR @XREF:ANY@	{0:M}
n	SUBM @XREF:SUBM@	{0:M}
[
n	NOTE <SUBMITTERS_TEXT>	{1:1}
	+1 <<NOTE_STRUCTURE>>	{0:1}
n	NOTE @XREF:NOTE@	{0:M}
]		
[
n	REPO	{0:1}
	+1 <<REPOSITORY_STRUCTURE>>	{1:1}
n	REPO @XREF:REPO@	{0:1}
]		
	+1 MEDI <MEDIA_TYPE_CODE>	{0:M}
	+1 CALN <SOURCE_CALL_NUMBER>	{0:1}
	+1 REFN <MANUAL_FILING_IDENTIFICATION>	{0:1}
	+1 FILM <SOURCE_FILM_NUMBER>	{0:1}
	+2 ITEM <FILM_ITEM_IDENTIFICATION>	{0:1}
[
	+1 NOTE @XREF:NOTE@	{0:1}
	+1 NOTE <SUBMITTERS_TEXT>	{1:1}
	+2 <<NOTE_STRUCTURE>>	{0:1}
]		
n	STAT <SEARCH_STATUS>	{0:1}
	+1 DATE <SEARCH_STATUS_DATE>	{1:1}

SUPPORT_INFO:=

This structure provides information pertaining to the enclosing item, i.e., information about the information. It may occur within any context.

[
n	DATE <DATE_VALUE>	{0:1}
n	PLAC <PLACE_VALUE>	{0:1}
n	SOUR [<SOURCE_TEXT> @XREF:SOUR@]	
	+1 <<SOURCE_STRUCTURE>>	{0:1}
n	NOTE [<SUBMITTERS_TEXT> @XREF:SOUR@]	{0:1}
	+1 <<NOTE_STRUCTURE>>	{1:1}
n	SUBM @XREF:SUBM@	{0:1}
n	QUAY <QUALITY_OF_DATA>	{0:1}
n	CHAN	{0:M}
	+1 DATE <CHANGE_DATE>	{1:1}
	+2 TIME <TIME_VALUE>	{0:1}
]		

PRIMITIVE ELEMENTS OF THE LINEAGE-LINKED FORM

ADDRESS_LINE:= {Size=1:40, Type=CHARACTERS}
Address information which, when combined with a NAME and CONTInuation lines, meets postal requirements for sending communications through the mail.

AGE_VALUE:= {Size=1:30, Type=CHARACTERS}
A number indicating the age in years, months, and/or days. Any labels must come after their corresponding number, i.e. 4 yr 8 mo 10 da. The year is required, listed first, even if 0 (zero).

ANCESTRAL_FILE_NUMBER:= {Size=1:8, Type=CHARACTERS}
This is a record number of an individual record contained in the Ancestral File maintained by the Family History Department. This number simplifies the matching process when submitting records that are intended to add additional data or to change data for a specific record contained in the Ancestral File.

ASSOCIATION_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
This is a word or phrase that describes the association between this individual and the other individual in the context pointed to. (e.g., n ASSOC great grandfather @XREF:SUBM@ would be read, this person is a great grandfather of the individual found in submitter record.)

AUTHOR_NAME:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}
<NAME_VALUE>
This is the name of the person who authored or co-authored the referenced material.

CASTE_NAME:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
A name assigned to a particular group that this person was associated with, such as a particular racial group, religious group, or a group with an inherited status.

CEMETARY_NAME:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
The name of the cemetary associated with a burial.

CHANGE_DATE:= {Size=10:11, Type=CHARACTERS}
<EXACT_DATE>
The date that this data was last changed.

CHARACTER_SET:= {Size=1:8, Type=CHARACTERS}
A code value representing the character set to be used in interpreting this data. The default character set is ANSEL. Other options are not defined.

CHILD_FAMILY_EVENT_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
A word or phrase that describes or modifies the adoption event being reported. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

CALENDAR_ESCAPE_SEQUENCE:= {Size=4:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
[@D#HEBREW@ | @D#ROMAN@ | @D#FRENCH_R@ | @D#GREGORIAN@ |
@D#JULIAN@ | @D#UNKNOWN@]

An escape sequence which allows date from one of the indicated calendars to be represented. The default calendar is the Gregorian calendar.

COMPILED_BY_NAME:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}
The name of the person who compiled an information source.

CONTACT_PERSON:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}
<NAME_VALUE>
The name of the person to whom communications should be addressed.

COPYRIGHT_STATEMENT:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
A copyright statement needed to protect the rights of the owner(s) of this data.

COUNT_OF_CHILDREN:= {Size=1:2, Type=NUMBER}
The number of children that this person (all marriages) or these parents were known to have been the parent(s) of.

COUNT_OF_MARRIAGES:= {Size=1:2, Type=NUMBER}
The number of times that this person was known to have been married.

DATE_MODIFIER :=
[ABT | AFT | BEF | BET | EST | <CALENDAR_ESCAPE_SEQUENCE>]

DATE_PHRASE:= {Size=1:90, Type=TEXT}
<text>
Any date statement which adds understanding to when an event occurred. Does not include a numerical year equivalent.

DATE_RANGE:=
[BET <REGULAR_DATE> AND <REGULAR_DATE>]

DATE_VALUE:= {Size=1:90, Type=TEXT}
[<REGULAR_DATE> | <DATE_PHRASE> | <DATE_RANGE> | <DATE_WITH_BC> |
<DATE_MODIFIER> <REGULAR_DATE>]
(See Chapter 4 on "How To Record Dates".)

DATE_WITH_BC:= {Size=1:90, Type=TEXT}
[<DATE_PHRASE> <YEAR> B.C.]
This represents a B.C. date.

DAY:= {Size=1:2, Type=DIGIT}
dd
This field represents the day of the month where dd is a numeric digit whose value is within the valid range of the days for the particular month in which this day is for. A leading zero is optional.

DESCRIPTIVE_TITLE:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

A descriptive title of the information source, such as a description of:

- A title of an article published in a periodical.
- A letter, showing who sent the letter to whom, and when.
- A transaction between a buyer and seller, naming them, and when.
- A Family Bible containing genealogical information, who owned it, and some additional description of the book.
- A description of a personal interview.

DIVORCE_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

A word or phrase that commonly describes the type of separation that took place between husband and wife. The separation descriptor should use the same word or phrase and in the same language, whenever possible, that was used by the recorder of the event. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

DIVORCE_EVENT_TAG:= {Size=3:4, Type=CHARACTER}

[ANUL | DIV | DIVF]

A family event tag. The preferred usage is to use the DIV tag with the <DIVORCE_DESCRIPTOR> value which describes the separation event. For example, use DIV Annulment rather than ANUL. The separation event tags shown above were defined in The GEDCOM Standard 4.0 and are included here for the sake of compatibility.

ENTRY_RECORDING_DATE:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

<DATE_VALUE>

The date that the entry was entered into the source record by the recorder.

EVENT_CLASSIFICATION_CODE:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

[<INDIV_EVENT_TAG> | <EVENT_DESCRIPTOR>]

This code classifies the source as to the primary event that caused this source record to be created.

EVENT_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

This primitive must be used whenever the EVEN tag is used in order to define the event being cited. For example, if the event was a purchase of a primary residence, one would show this by using the EVEN tag followed by the phrase "Purchased Residence". When the event descriptor primitive is used with any of the defined event tags, it is to modify the basic definition of the associated tag. For example the BIRT tag could be used in connection with an EVENT_DESCRIPTOR of 'Stillborn' to modify the birth event as a stillborn birth. The event descriptor should use the same word or phrase and in the same language, when possible, that was used by the recorder of the event. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

EVENT_TAG:= {Size=3:4, Type=CHARACTERS}

[<INDIV_EVENT_TAG> | <MARRIAGE_EVENT_TAG>]

An event tag that chosen from the tags which comprise those identifying individual events or from those identifying marriage type events, including EVEN and MARR with event descriptors.

EXACT_DATE:= {Size=10:11, Type=CHARACTERS}

<DAY> <MONTH> <YEAR>

A formatted date with one space between the date parts.

FILE_NAME:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

The source file name as specified on the source operating system. It must include the path, file name, and file extension.

FILM_ITEM_IDENTIFICATION:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

This identifies a particular book or unit of material which may have been filmed with other books or units on the same microform. The convention used in the Family History Department microfilms is to include a separator frame with an item number to separate multiple books on a film.

GEDCOM_FORM:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}

[LINEAGE-LINKED | (others to be registered)]

Identifies the GEDCOM form used to construct this transmission.

INDIV_EVENT_TAG:= {Size=3:4, Type=CHARACTERS}

[BIRT | BAPM | BARM | BASM | BLES | BUR I | CENS | CHR | CHRA |
CONF | DEAT | EVEN | GRAD | NATU | ORDN | RETI | PROB | WILL]

The EVEN tag must be followed by an <EVENT_DESCRIPTOR> which describes the event. The <EVENT_DESCRIPTOR> is optional for the other types of events.

INTERVIEWERS_NAME:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

The name of the person who conducted the interview for information.

INFORMANTS_NAME:=

A persons name that contributed information during an interview.

LANGUAGE_OF_TEXT:= {Size=1:25, Type=CHARACTERS}

[<LANGUAGE_TABLE>]

This indicates the language used in describing the data about an event or person. It is placed in the header indicating that the values contained in the transmission are generally written in the indicated language.

LANGUAGE_TABLE:= {Size=1:25, Type=CHARACTERS}

The valid values must be selected from the table of languages shown in the Encyclopaedia Britannica 1989 Britannica Book of the Year.

LDS_INDI_ORD:= {Size=3:4, Type=CHARACTERS}

[BAPL | CONL | WAC | ENDL]

This field is a choice of religious events associated with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. (See Appendix A for a definition of these tags.)

LIBRARY_CONGRESS_CALL_NUMBER:= {Size=1:20, Type=CHARACTERS}

Call number assigned to this item by the U.S. Library of Congress.

MANUAL_FILING_IDENTIFICATION:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

A description of where the source is manually filed at this repository. Personal genealogical archives should be organized and filed so that items can be specifically identified and retrieved. This field allows the entry of a filing number or description of where the genealogical source material is located within the private or public archives. i.e. "Probate file Drawer 83, File D, Number 18".

MARR_EVENT_TAG:= {Size=3:4, Type=CHARACTERS}

[MARR | MARB | MARC | MARL | MARL | MARS | ENGA | EVEN]

The preferred usage is to use the MARR tag with the <MARRIAGE_DESCRIPTOR> value which describes the family event. For example, use MARR License rather than MARL. These marriage event tags shown above were defined in The GEDCOM Standard 4.0 and are included here for the sake of compatibility.

MARRIAGE_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

A word or phrase that best describes the event that created this family. The marriage descriptor should use the same word or phrase and in the same language, when possible, that was used by the recorder of the event. Possible descriptors include "Childbirth-unmarried", "Common Law", "Tribal Custom", etc. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

MEDIA_TYPE_CODE:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}

[AUDIO | BOOK | ELECTRONIC | FICHE | FILM | VIDEO | MANUSCRIPT]

This code is selected from one of the media classifications above. The code selected is based on the type of media that the referenced source is stored on.

MONTH:= {Size=3:3, Type=CHARACTERS}

[JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN |
JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC]

NAME_OF_SOURCE_DATA:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

The name of the data source that was used to obtain the data in this transmission. For example, the data may have been obtained from a CD-ROM disc that was named "CD-ROM U.S. 1880 CENSUS vol. 13".

NAME_VALUE:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}

[
<TEXT> |
<TEXT>/<TEXT>/ |
</TEXT>/<TEXT> |
<TEXT>/<TEXT>/<TEXT>
]

The surname of an individual, if known, should be between two slash / characters. The order of the pieces of the name should be the order which the person would customarily have used the name when giving it to a recorder. (See Chapter 4, "How To Record Names Of Individuals" section)

NATIONALITY:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

Indicates the common national origin of this person and his or her grandparents.

OCCUPATION:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

The kind of activity or vocation that one does to earn a living.

PAGE_DESCRIPTION:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

Identifies the page within the source. This may be a page number range, a specific page number, or another way of defining how to find the specified information within the source.

PERMANENT_RECORD_FILE_NUMBER:= {Size=1:18, Type=CHARACTERS}

<REGISTERED_RESOURCE_IDENTIFIER>:<RECORD_IDENTIFIER>

The record number that uniquely identifies this record within a registered network resource (future). The number will be usable as a cross reference pointer. The use of the colon ":" is reserved to indicate the separation of the 'registered resource identifier' which precedes the colon and the unique 'record identifier' within that resource which follows the colon.

PHONE_NUMBER:= {Size=1:25, Type=CHARACTERS}

A phone number formatted to provide international phone access.

PHYSICAL_DESCRIPTION:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

An unstructured list of the attributes which describes the physical characteristics of a person, place, or object.

PLACE_VALUE:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}

[
<TEXT> |
<TEXT>, <PLACE_VALUE>
]

The jurisdictional name of the place where the event took place. Jurisdictions are separated by commas. ie. town, county, state or village, parish, country. Receiving systems cannot assume that the nth locality position is necessarily a specific level of jurisdiction. Missing intermediate jurisdictions, if known to exist, should be represented by adjacent placeholder commas.

POSSESSIONS:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

A list of possessions (real estate or other property) belonging to this individual, separated by commas.

PUBLICATION_DATE:= {Size=10:11, Type=CHARACTERS}

<DATE_VALUE>

The date this source was published or compiled.

PUBLICATION_NAME:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}

The name of a publication such as a book, pamphlet, periodical, newspaper, or other monographic publication.

PUBLICATION_PLACE:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}
The name of the place (City, State) where an item was published or the location of the main office of the publisher.

PUBLISHER_NAME:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}
The name of the publisher of the referenced publication.

QUALITY_OF_DATA:= {Size=1:1, Type=DIGIT}
[0 | 1 | 2 | 3]

Submitter's assessment of the reliability of the information:

0 = Unreliable evidence or data was estimated.

1 = Direct or primary evidence with some question of reliability or potential for bias (e.g., an autobiography).

2 = Secondary evidence.

3 = Direct and primary evidence used, or a preponderance of evidence.

REGULAR_DATE:= {Size=1:90, Type=TEXT}
[<DATE_MODIFIER>] [<EXACT_DATE> | <MONTH> <YEAR> | <YEAR]

RELATIONSHIP_DESCRIPTOR: {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
An English word or phrase that describes the relationship between this individual and the individual pointed to. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

RELIGIOUS_AFFILIATION:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
A name of the religion that this person or record was affiliated with.

REPOSITORY_NAME:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
The official name of the archive in which the stated source material is stored.

ROLE_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
Used in connection with the ROLE tag, this descriptor is a word or phrase that identifies the role of each person in the event being described. This should be the same word or phrase, and in the same language, that the recorder used to define the role in the actual record. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

ROLE_TAG:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
[BUYR | CHIL | FATH | HDOH | HEIR | HUSB | INFT | MOTH | OFFI | RECO | REL | ROLE | SELR | TXPY | WIFE | WITN]
These tags indicate the various roles of individuals mentioned in a source event record. If the role being cited is different than one of the above defined roles then use the ROLE tag followed by a <ROLE_DESCRIPTOR> to define the role.

SEARCH_STATUS:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
[ACTIVE | INFO_FOUND | INFO_NOT_FOUND | ON_ORDER | PLANNED | RECONCILLED]

This status field shows the status of using the specified source for the enclosing information where:

ACTIVE	=	This source is currently being searched.
INFO_FOUND	=	Part or all of the expected information was found.
INFO_NOT_FOUND	=	Indicates that this source is no longer in use because this information could not be found.
ON_ORDER	=	Request for source has been sent to the Repository.
PLANNED	=	Source recommended for examination.
RECONCILLED	=	The data in this record has been reconcilled with the indicated resource data record.

SEARCH_STATUS_DATE:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}
<EXACT_DATE>

The date on which a SEARCH_STATUS was set.

SERIES_VOLUME_DESCRIPTION:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

A description of a successive publication. The description should include an identification of timing of the publication such as Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, etc. Volume numbers of periodicals or of multivolume books are also stated.

SEX_VALUE:= {Size=1:7, Type=CHARACTERS}

The following code indicates the sex of the individual:

M = Male
F = Female

SIGNATURE_INFO:=

[YES | NO | SYMBOL_NAME]

Identifies the type of signature used by this person.

YES	=	This person knew how to sign his or her name.
NO	=	This person did not use a signature or know how to sign.
SYMBOL_NAME	=	The descriptive name of the sybol used as a signature by this person.

SOURCE_CALL_NUMBER:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

An identification number used to file and retrieve items from the holdings of a repository.

SOURCE_CLASSIFICATION_CODE:= {Size=7:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

[<INDIV_EVENT_TAG> | <MARR_EVENT_TAG> | <DIV_EVENT_TAG> | GENEALOGY | ORAL_GENEALOGY | NEWSPAPER | PERIODICAL | CORRESPONDENCE | INTERVIEW | CIVIL_REC | CENSUS | MILITARY | BIOGRAPHY | HISTORY | FAMILY_REC | TRADITION | PERSONAL_KNOWLEDGE | JOURNAL | <SOURCE_CLASS_DESCRIPTOR>]

This classifies the source citation as to whether it is citing a document of a primary event or citing events from:

<INDIV_EVENT_TAG>	=	A source documenting an individual type event.
<MARR_EVENT_TAG>	=	A source documenting a marriage type event.
<DIV_EVENT_TAG>	=	A source documenting a divorce type event.
GENEALOGY	=	A compiled genealogical work.

ORAL_GENEALOGY	=	A recited genealogy, such as a tribal or clan genealogy.
NEWSPAPER	=	A newspaper account.
PERIODICAL	=	An account published in a periodical.
CORRESPONDENCE	=	A letter or other written communication.
INTERVIEW	=	An interview with another person.
CIVIL_REC	=	A record from a court or other government organization.
CENSUS	=	A official census.
MILITARY	=	A military record.
BIOGRAPHY	=	A published biographical compilation.
HISTORY	=	A published historical account.
TRADITION	=	A source that was compiled from accounts handed down by word of mouth from one generation to another.
KNOWLEDGE	=	An accounting by a person having personal memory of an event.
JOURNAL	=	A personal record or diary.

Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

SOURCE_CLASS_DESCRIPTOR:= {Size=1:25, Type=CHARACTERS}

A descriptive word or phrase that helps to classify the type of source that is being cited. This descriptor is used only after examining the controlled descriptors as defined under <SOURCE_CLASSIFICATION_CODE> and finding that none of the classifications fit this source type. Systems that display data from the GEDCOM form should be able to display the descriptor value in their output, possibly inside of parenthesis ().

SOURCE_FIDELITY_CODE:= {Size=7:17, Type=CHARACTERS}

[ORIGINAL | PHOTOCOPY | TRANSCRIPT | EXTRACT]

This code is a selection of one of the above choices designed to provide an assessment of the fidelity (the exactness) of this source material.

ORIGINAL	=	This source is the original record being cited.
PHOTOCOPY	=	This source is a photocopy of the cited record.
TRANSCRIPT	=	This source is a transcribed record of the original record.
EXTRACT	=	This source is an abridgement and/or interpretation of the original record.

SOURCE_FILM_NUMBER:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}

A unique number assigned to by the repository to identify the specific microfilm containing information about the event of interest recognized by the repository.

SOURCE_INDEXED_CODE:= {Size=1:1, Type=CHARACTERS}

[Y | N]

An indication of whether this source has been indexed by names.

Y = This source contains an index.

N = This source does not contain an index.

SOURCE_JURISDICTION_PLACE:=

<PLACE_VALUE>

The highest level place name that covers all of the event places contained as in this information source. For example, "United States of America" would be used when referencing the U.S. 1880 Census.

SOURCE_RECORDER_CODE:= {Size=1:25, Type=CHARACTERS}

[PERSONAL | CIVIL | CHURCH | COMMERCIAL | INSTITUTIONAL]

A classification of the type of authority the person or institution responsible for making the record possessed.

PERSONAL	=	Recorder of record was acting as an individual or family record keeper.
CIVIL	=	Recorder of record was acting as a civil officer or clerk.
CHURCH	=	Recorder of record was acting as a church officer or clerk.
COMMERCIAL	=	This record was produced by a business enterprise.
INSTITUTIONAL	=	This record was produced by an institution such as a genealogical society, school, prison, or other institution.

SOURCE_TEXT:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

<TEXT>

A verbatim copy of any description or verbage contained within the source. This indicates notes that are actually contained in the source document, not someones opinion notes about the source.

SOURCE_TIME_PERIOD:= {Size=1:25, Type=CHARACTERS}

<DATE_VALUE> - <DATE_VALUE>

The time period covered by this source. Either end of the date range may be missing, indicating an indefinite past or future.

SUBMITTERS_TEXT:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

Comments or opinions originated by the submitter.

SYSTEM_NAME:= {Size=1:40, Type=CHARACTERS}

Identifies the product that sent or will receive the GEDCOM output. The system name was obtained when the product was registered as a GEDCOM-compatible product. All GEDCOM transmissions must be so identified.

TEMPLE_VALUE:= {Size=5:5, Type=CHARACTERS}

A 5 character abbreviation of the temple in which LDS temple ordinances are performed. (See LDS Church publication, 'Come unto Christ through Temple Ordinances and Covenants' for a table of valid abbreviations.)

TEXT:= {Size=1:247, Type=CHARACTERS}

A string composed of any valid character or string of characters in the GEDCOM character set.

TIME_VALUE:= {Size=1:10, Type=CHARACTERS}

[hh:mm:ss.fs]

The time of a specific event, usually a computer timed event where:

hh = hours on a 24 hour clock

mm = minutes

ss = seconds

fs = decimal fraction of a second, 2 digits.

TIME_PERIOD:=

[FROM <REGULAR_DATE> TO <REGULAR_DATE> | FROM <REGULAR_DATE> |
TO <REGULAR_DATE>]

The choice "FROM <REGULAR_DATE>" indicates a range from a beginning date to an indefinite future date. The choice "TO <REGULAR_DATE>" indicates from an indefinite beginning to a specified date.

TITLE:= {Size=1:90, Type=CHARACTERS}

A descriptive, general name or formal designation used by an individual.

TRANSLATED_BY_NAME:= {Size=1:120, Type=CHARACTERS}

The name of the person that translated someone else's words into the language as it appears in the source being cited.

TRANSMISSION_DATE:= {Size=10:11, Type=CHARACTERS}

<EXACT_DATE>

The date that this transmission was created.

USER_REFERENCE_NUMBER:= {Size=1:20, Type=CHARACTERS}

A user-defined number or text that the submitter uses to identify this record.

For instance it may be a record number within the submitter's automated or manual system, or a page and position number on a pedigree chart.

VERSION_NUMBER:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}

An identifier which represents the version level assigned to the associated product. It is defined and changed by the creators of the product.

XREF:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}

A XREF is either of type pointer or of type cross reference identifier. If the enclosed value appears before the tag in a GEDCOM-line, then it is a cross reference identifier type. If it appears after the tag in a GEDCOM-line, then it is a pointer type. The method of delimiting a pointer or cross reference identifiers in a GEDCOM-line is to enclose the pointer or cross reference identifier within at-signs "@", i.e. @I123@. A XREF may not begin with a pound sign "#". This is to avoid confusion with an escape sequence prefix "@#". The colon ":" is reserved for future network reference.

XREF:ANY:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}

<XREF>

This pointer is a universal pointer meaning that it may point to any other cross reference identifier type.

XREF:EVEN:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to, or a cross reference identifier of, a source event record.

XREF:FAM:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to, or a cross reference identifier of, a family record.

XREF:INDI:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to, or a cross reference identifier of, an individual record.

XREF:NOTE:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to, or a cross reference identifier of, a note record.

XREF:REPO:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to a REPOsitory, a SUBMitter, or an INDIndividual record, or a cross reference identifier of a repository record.

XREF:SOUR:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to a SOURce, a SUBMitter, or an INDIndividual record, or a cross reference identifier of a source record.

XREF:SUBM:= {Size=1:15, Type=CHARACTERS}
<XREF>
A pointer to a SUBMitter, or an INDIndividual record, or a cross reference identifier of a submitter record.

YEAR:= {Size=3:4, Type=NUMBER}
A numeric representation of the calendar year in which an event occurred.
Years less than 3 digits long will be treated as a number in a phrase.

COMPATIBILITY WITH PREVIOUS GEDCOM VERSIONS

Roots III and GRIOT Alternative products implemented a source citation structure prior to GEDCOM release 5.0 which is slightly incompatible. Compatibility with these products may be maintained by doing the following:

1. Treat a TITL tag as if it were a SOUR tag.
2. Treat the text value of a TITL tag at level 0 as if it were the value of the NAME tag within the SOURce enclosure.

Chapter 3 GEDCOM TRANSMISSION FILE

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains information you need to implement GEDCOM transmissions. This includes examples for creating header and trailer records, and for the conventions in naming your transmission file.

HEADERS AND TRAILERS IN THE GEDCOM TRANSMISSION

An example of how the header and trailer records appear in GEDCOM lineage-linked format is shown below:

Level	Cross-Ref. Identifier	Tag	Value
0		HEAD	
1		SOUR	PAF
2		VERS	2.1
1		GEDC	
2		VERS	5.0
2		FORM	LINEAGE-LINKED
1		DEST	ANSTFILE
1		SUBM	@R1@
0	@1@	INDI	
1		NAME	John Ouentin/Doe/
1		SEX	Male
1		BIRT	
2		DATE	1836
2		PLAC	Illinois
1		DEAT	
2		DATE	24 Oct 1905
2		PLAC	Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
1		FAMS	@4@
0	@2@	INDI	
1		NAME	Mary Ann/Wilson/
1		SEX	Female
1		BIRT	
2		DATE	1838
1		FAMS	@4@
0	@3@	INDI	
1		NAME	Joe /Doe/
1		SEX	Male
1		BIRT	
2		DATE	11 June 1861
2		PLAC	Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
1		FAMC	@4@
0	@4@	FAM	
1		HUSB	@1@
1		WIFE	@2@
1		MARR	License
2		DATE	Dec 1881
1		CHIL	@3@
0		TRLR	

The example on the preceding page is a sample transmission of genealogical information about three individuals who are members of the same family (lineage)--husband, wife, and child. The lines making up the information appear between the header (HEAD) and trailer (TRLR) records.

WHY HEADERS AND TRAILERS ARE USED

GEDCOM data format is used to transfer a wide variety of data to a wide variety of computer systems. The Family History Department's Receiving and Routing System uses header and trailer records to route the information in each GEDCOM transmission to the right place. In the sample at the beginning of this chapter, PAF (SOUR) 2.1 (VERS)--the sending system name and version--is routing the information to ANSTFILE (Ancestral File)--the destination (DEST). To enable processing of GEDCOM transmission at any family history centers, the SOUR system name must be registered with the Family History Department GEDCOM coordinator. Destination system names will depend on the purpose for the transmission and can also be obtained from the GEDCOM coordinator. (See GEDCOM Coordinator's address on the title page.)

Header and trailer records also include other information to help an application software system process the data in the transmission. For example, a character set default for the entire transmission is set in the header using the appropriate escape sequence for selecting the desired character set (see chapter 5). The header and trailer are separate from any other protocols attached to the transmission by an electronic communications network.

HOW TO USE A HEADER

Use a header to begin every GEDCOM transmission. A header has both required and optional GEDCOM lines. Each line begins with a level number and a tag (in capital letters) and may be followed by a value.

Required Lines

The following are the lines required in all GEDCOM transmission headers.

Example:

Level	Tag	Value	
0	HEAD		
1	SOUR	PAF	
2	VERS	2.1	
1	DEST	ANSTFILE	
1	SUBM	@R1@	note: @R1@ is a pointer to a submitter record.
1	GEDC		
2	VERS	5.0	

- **HEAD**
The first line of a transmission always has the level number 0 and contains the tag HEAD. No value is specified. All other lines in the header are at subordinate levels--level 1 in the example above.

- **SOUR**
At level 1 a transmission always contains the tag SOUR. The value for the SOURce line is the resource identifier (the name of the system or file that sends the transmission) A source resource identifier can be in upper and lower case with a length of from 1 to 40 characters. At level 2 below SOUR is a VERS tag to specify the version level of the source system. (A resource identifier is a single string of alphanumeric characters that identify any system, file, etc. that may participate in a GEDCOM transmission as either a sender or a receiver.) The value (name of the sending file) for the sample SOURce line above is PAF 2.1 (Personal Ancestral File, release 2.1).

The receiving and routing function of the Family History Department associates the resource identifier with the actual locations of sender and receiver. This permits relocation of systems and files without modification of the systems that initiate transmissions, or of data containing pointers to records in other systems. The resource identifier is assigned by the Data Administration section of the Family History Department.

- **VERS**
Under SOURce, VERSion is a short phrase identifying which release of the product generated the transmission. The phrase is defined by the creator of the product. i.e., VERS 2.1.
- **DEST**
The value for the DESTination line is required when sending data to the Family History Department for adding records to the ancestral file or for submitting records to TempleReady processing. This tag value is the resource identifier (the name of the system or file to which the transmission is being sent). A source resource identifier can be in upper and lower case with a length of from 1 to 40 characters. For example, the value (name of the receiving file) for the sample DESTination line in the preceding examples is ANSTFLE, indicating that this transmission is destined for the Ancestral File. The value for submitting data to the TempleReady system is "TempleReady".
- **SUBM**
This tag is required and points to a submitter record that is included in the transmission. The submitter record should be in the form as prescribed by the Submitter structure in chapter 2.
- **GEDC**
 - **VERS**
VERSION under the GEDC tag is a short phrase identifying which release of the GEDCOM Standard document was used for the specification for the product's GEDCOM implementation. For this release the VERS line is "VERS 5.0".

Optional Header Lines

You may include optional lines in GEDCOM transmission headers, depending on your need or preference for additional information. One or more optional lines would immediately follow the DEST line. The four optional lines shown below are possible optional lines for the sample transmission on page 3-1. They can occur in any order.

Example:

Level	Tag	Value
1	DATE	3 APR 1989
1	TIME	13:01
1	CHAR	@#ANSEL@
1	FILE	YOUNG.GED

- **DATE**
This line contains the date the sender generated the GEDCOM transmission. (For more information about the date value, see chapter 4, "How To Record Dates".)
- **TIME**
This line contains the time the sender generated the GEDCOM transmission. The value is the time (military time) the file was created. (For more information about the time value, see chapter 4 "How To Designate Time" section.)
- **CHAR**
This line is used to change the default character set of an entire transmission to another character set.

Example:

Lvl	Tag	Value
0	HEAD	
1	SOUR	PAF 2.1
1	DEST	ANSTFILE
1	CHAR	ANSEL

The value is the name of the character set. The designation ANSEL is the name (value) for the GEDCOM default character set "8-Bit ANSEL". (See chapter 5 for more information about character sets.)

If you use the default character set, the required lines of your GEDCOM transmission (the header and trailer) will be coded in 8-Bit ANSEL characters restricted to decimal codes 10 (line feed), 13 (carriage return), and 32 through 126 (printable characters). The characters specified will be identical to those in the 7-Bit ASCII (USA version) character set.

If the computer you are using to send the transmission cannot accommodate the default character set, you must convert all required header lines to it (8-Bit ANSEL) before sending the transmission to a computer that can accommodate the default character set.

A change of character sets, whether in the header or in the body of the data, is effective only for a single transmission. All subsequent transmissions will be in the default character set unless it is changed.

- **FILE**
This line contains the name of the GEDCOM transmission file generated by the sender. The value is the name of the file.

HOW TO USE A TRAILER

Use a trailer to end your transmission. A GEDCOM transmission must always be terminated by one line containing the tag TRLR (trailer) with the level 0. No value is specified for this line.

NAMING YOUR TRANSMISSION FILE

The GEDCOM transmission data are normally created on DOS compatible diskettes. By convention the filename extension (the 3 characters after the period ".") is "GED". Macintosh filenames does not use any file extension in their naming.

MULTIPLE DISKETTE FILE NAMES

When the GEDCOM file is too large to fit on a single diskette, the file is divided after any whole-line (last character is the terminator), and the filename extension is changed from "GED" to "G##" where "##" is "00" for the second disk, "01" for the third, etc. (See example below.) This allows the receiving software to ensure that disks are read in the correct sequence.

By convention, Macintosh filenames use parens "(") to set apart each diskette with a different consecutive filename. Therefore, Macintosh filenames consist of just the user-supplied name for the first disk, then the user-supplied name concatenated with "(##)" for subsequent disks where "##" is "00" for the second disk, "01" for the third disk, etc. (See example below.)

Given that the user- supplied portion of the file name is "SMITH", complete filenames for a three-disk transmission would be:

Disk	DOS Filename	Macintosh Filename
1	SMITH.GED	SMITH
2	SMITH.G00	SMITH(00)
3	SMITH.G01	SMITH(01)

The GEDCOM TRLR (trailer) record appears only on the final disk (see Chapter 2).

Chapter 4 GEDCOM VALUES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains information you need to implement GEDCOM values. You will find an explanation about the purpose of these values and how to use them when creating a transmission. An example of how they appear in GEDCOM lineage-linked format is shown here.

Example:

		Cross-Ref.		
Level	Identifier	Tag		Value*
0		HEAD		
1		SOUR		PAF
2		VERS		2.1
1		DEST		ANSTFILE
0	@1@	INDI		
1		NAME		John Quentin/Doe/
1		SEX		Male
1		BIRT		
2		DATE		1836
2		PLAC		Illinois
1		DEAT		
2		DATE		24 Oct 1905
2		PLAC		Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
1		FAMS		@4@
0	@2@	INDI		
1		NAME		Mary Ann/Wilson/
1		SEX		Female
1		BIRT		
2		DATE		1838
2		PLAC		Iowa
1		FAMS		@4@
0	@3@	INDI		
1		NAME		Joe/Doe/
1		SEX		Male
1		BIRT		
2		DATE		11 June 1861
2		PLAC		Idaho Falls, Bonneville, Idaho
1		FAMC		@4@
0	@4@	FAM		
1		HUSB		@1@
1		WIFE		@2@
1		MARR		
2		DATE		Dec 1881
1		CHIL		@3@
0		TRLR		

The preceding example is a sample transmission of genealogical information about three individuals who are members of the same family (lineage)--husband, wife, and child.

WHY VALUES ARE USED

Values provide the actual raw data that is put in context by the proper use of the GEDCOM-tags so that the data can be properly represented. In the example on the preceding page, "Joe/Doe/" is the value specified by the tag NAME under the INDI tag which is identified as "@3@". Other values in other lines, such as the birth date and place, provide additional information about Joe Doe. The values "@4@" specified by the FAMC tag is a pointer to the FAMily record identified by "@4@" of which Joe Doe is a child.

The following value types have been defined so as to represent information about individuals, families, events, and relationships in a standard way: (Other value types will be defined as the need develops.)

- Names Values
Enclosed by the NAME tag.
- Dates Values
Enclosed by the DATE tag.
- Places Values
Enclosed by the PLAC tag.
- Events Values
Enclosed by the DEAT, BURI, BIRT, CHR, MARR, EVEN, and other event tags.
- Descriptor
 - Event Values
Used to further define the kind of event.
 - Relationship Values
Used to define a relationship.
 - Association Values
Used to define an association.Systems designed to display data from a GEDCOM format should display the descriptor values as well as the subordinate context values.
- Information Values
Text values enclosed by SOURce and NOTE enclosures to provide supporting facts about the enclosing information or values enclosed by tags that were defined to provide additional facts pertaining to an individual, i.e. RELIgion and OCCUpation tag values.
- Pointers Values
A marker within a value field which points to other enclosures (structures) of the same value time.
- Miscellaneous Values
Used to support routing, processing, and routing.
- Resource Identifier Values
Uniquely identifies SOURce or DESTination systems or products. Resource identifiers are recommended by the systems creator and registered by the GEDCOM coordinator.

This chapter explains how to record these different value types in a lineage-linked format, to preserve the relationship of the individuals and to properly format the support information included in the GEDCOM transmission.

GUIDELINES FOR USING VALUES

Values are optional and of variable length upto a maximum GEDCOM-line length of 255 (this includes the length of the non-value components of a line). Place each value in the line with its tag. The value must appear after the space following the tag. End each value by using a terminator as described later in this chapter.

The value component may consist of any alpha, numeric, or other characters, except the escape-sequence prefix symbol "@#" or the escape-delimiter "@". These symbols have reserved meanings to the GEDCOM processor defined in the "ESCAPE SEQUENCES" section below. The at sign "@" is used for an escape mechanism to identify pointers, character set changes, calendar changes, or other shifts in representation rules. To include the at sign "@" as data, two of them should be sent together "@@", which represent a single at sign "@" as data.

Corresponding structures or lines (same tag structure) are used to record information that contains different opinions about the same item. The preferred data is listed first so that systems or reports that only accomodate a single value will show the preferred occurrence. The existence of other possible values may be indicated in system output with a leading plus "+" sign, if desired.

ESCAPE SEQUENCES

The escape-sequence symbol "@#" allows for special processing including the inclusion of non-GEDCOM data. Currently four classes of escape sequences have been defined (see chapter 1 for exact grammar):

- "@#C....." for character-set changes.
- "@#D....." for calendar date changes.
- "@#L..XXX" for indicating a non-GEDCOM inclusion of XXX bytes.
- "@#F..file name" for indicating a inclusion of data from a file.

HOW TO RECORD NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS

Use the name value with the NAME tag to provide the actual name of an individual. The following example shows how name values provide the information indicated by the tag. These values can appear with varying level numbers.

Example:

Lvl	Tag	Value
1	NAME	John Quentin/Doe/

A name consists of a string of one or more name parts, separated by spaces, or by a slash "/" in the case of the surname. Capitalize the name of a person or place in the conventional manner--capitalize the first letter of each part and lowercase the other letters, unless conventional usage is otherwise. For example: McMurray.

Record the name pieces in the order they are spoken; the surname follows the given name(s), unless the name is traditionally spoken in some other order. The surname is immediately preceded and followed by a slash "/". In cultures where there is no distinction between surnames and given names, slashes "/" should not be used.

Examples:

William Lee/Parry/	(Parry is surname)
William/Parry/Lee	(Surname Parry spoken in middle)
/Parry/	(No given names)
William	(No surname)
William/Lee Parry/	(Lee Parry is surname)

If diacritics or special characters are present in a name, preserve them in the manner referred to in chapter 5, "GEDCOM Character Sets."

Use ellipses--three periods "..."--to indicate missing or illegible name pieces.

Examples:

William Lee/Pa.../	(Part of surname is illegible)
William .../Parry	(Second given name is illegible)

Names of individuals who were known by different names should be recorded in the manner shown below:

Example:

Lvl	Tag	Value
0	INDI	
1	NAME	George/Lowther/
1	NAME	Geoff/Louder/

HOW TO RECORD DATES

Calendar

You specify a calendar for a date by following these three steps:

1. Start with the escape sequence indicator "@#" and a "D".
2. Type the name of the calendar.
3. End the designation with the terminator "@".

Example:

@#DARABIC@	Arabic calendar
@#DHEBREW@	Hebrew calendar
@#DFRENCH R@	French Republic calendar
@#DGREGORIAN@	Gregorian calendar
@#DJULIAN@	Julian calendar
@#DROMAN@	Roman calendar
@#DUNKNOWN@	date from unknown calendar

For further information about approved calendars, contact the GEDCOM coordinator, see GEDCOM Coordinator's address on the title page.

DATES

Place the date in the same line as the DATE tag, immediately after the space following the tag. Dates are of two kinds: regular and irregular.

Regular dates are bonafide dates in a controlled format from the conventional Gregorian calendar. Follow this procedure to record these dates:

29 FEB 1960 10 JAN 1802
1 JUN 1802 1802

Type the day (one or two characters) first, then the month (capitalize the first three letters of the English name of the month; do not use a period at the end), and then the year (four-character numeric year). The day and month may be omitted if unknown.

Irregular dates or dates that cannot fit the controlled date format. Irregular dates are typically treated as unformatted strings of characters. Record them exactly as they appear in the source. The following are some of the irregular date types and examples:

- A date from a calendar other than the conventional Gregorian calendar. Identify this date with "@#D" and the name of the calendar.

Examples:

@#DRoman@MDCCCXV
@#DHebrew@26TAM5742

- Pre-1752 English calendar

Examples:

4/5 January 1751/52
24 7ber 1725

- Partial date (except where only the year is known; a year alone constitutes a regular date)

Example:

5 June (year missing)

- Illegible date.

Example:

5 June... (year present but illegible)

- Ambiguous date

Example:

7-12-84 (July 12th or December 7th?; 1984 or 1884?)

- Approximate date

Examples:

ABT 1850
BEF 3 MAR 1913
BET 1904 AND 1905

- Date range

Example:

FROM 1904 TO 1905
FROM 1904 (indefinite future)

TO 1905 (indefinite beginning)

- Feast date
Example:
2 days after Easter, 1690
- Dates for eras B.C. (before Christ) are recorded with the indicator B.C. appended after the date. A.D. (anno domini) dates are assumed if the B.C. indicator is missing.

Example:
600 B.C.

HOW TO RECORD PLACES (Localities)

A place name consists of one or more jurisdiction names (indicating one or more units in a political, ecclesiastical, or geographical hierarchy). Each jurisdiction name may consist of one or more name pieces (separated by spaces, such as Idaho Falls). Each name making up the full name is separated from the other by a comma (a space following each comma is optional).

The following examples show how place names appear in a GEDCOM transmission.

Examples:

Lvl	Tag	Value
2	PLAC	Illinois
2	PLAC	Idaho Falls,Bonneville,Idaho
2	PLAC	Chicago, Illinois
2	PLAC	Iowa

Follow these three steps to record the names of places:

1. Place the actual name of the place or locality in the same line as the PLAC tag, after the space that immediately follows the tag.
2. List the jurisdictions in order of increasing size, smallest first. The number of jurisdictions varies, depending on the source.
 - If an intermediate jurisdiction is known to exist, but its name cannot be determined, indicate its absence by using adjacent commas. For example, a city and state may be given, but not a county.

Example:
Green,, New York

- If the country referred to in the data, and the countries in which the data is prepared or used, are different, be sure the place name includes the country jurisdiction or an internationally recognized abbreviation, without periods.

Example:
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, USA

3. Spell the name Pieces exactly as they appear in the source.
 - Use the capitalization that appears in the source.
 - If a name listed on the original record appears to be misspelled, be sure to preserve this spelling. Do not change it.

Example:

Green, Chenango County, Now York
(Do not change Now to New; leave it Now.)

- If part or all of a place name is illegible, use ellipses--three periods "..."--to indicate exactly what part of the name is illegible.

Example:

Green, ...ango County, New York

HOW TO RECORD EVENTS

Use the tag that is the name of the event you want to record, if the tag for that event is in the appendix. For example, use BIRT for birth. If the tag is not in the appendix, use the event tag--EVEN. Then specify the name of the event as the value. Dates and places of events are usually recorded as related GEDCOM lines. Here is an example of an event and related Information:

Example:

Lvl	Tag	Value
1	BIRT	
2	DATE	1836
2	PLAC	Illinois
1	EVEN	Service in World War II
2	DATE	12 Oct 1942 to 5 Aug 1945

HOW TO DESIGNATE TIME

Use the time value to identify when a request was sent or when the event occurred. Use this value with the TIME tag. Time information is part of the header record (see chapter 3 for more information about the header). Follow these steps to designate time:

1. Place the time value--the time local to the event--in the same line as the TIME tag, after the space immediately following the tag.
2. Be sure to use 24-hour clock (military time) notation. Put the hour of the day first, then the number of minutes into the hour, and optionally the number of seconds into the minute. Separate each level with a colon ":" character.

Examples:

Lvl	Tag	Value
0	HEAD	
1	SOUR	PAF
1	TIME	13:25:10
0	INDI	
1	BIRT	
2	DATE	12 June 1950
3	TIME	14:53

HOW TO USE POINTERS

Use pointers to show how information in one or more lines of a GEDCOM transmission is related to information in another line of the same transmission. Each pointer must contain exactly the same characters as its corresponding cross-reference identifier (which occurs only once in the cross-reference identifier component in order to "point" to the desired relationship. Multiple (identical) pointers can appear in any record to point to the same cross-reference identifier.

- Use each pointer with the tag and level number that corresponds to the appropriate line of information.
- Be sure that the pointer follows the tag in the same line and that it appears after the space immediately following the tag.
- Begin and end each pointer with the delimiter symbol "@".

Examples:

```
@121@      @DE@
@X-x@      @F1-1@
```

In the example below the pointer "@1@" in the HUSBAND tag in the second line of the family record refers to the individual whose name is John Quentin Doe in the first individual record. The pointer "@1@" points to the cross-reference identifier "@1@" to show this relationship. The characters for the pointer and the corresponding cross-reference identifier are identical.

Example:

Lvl	Identifier	Tag	Value
0	@1@	INDI	
1		NAME	John Quentin/Doe/
0	@4@	FAM	
1		HUSB	@1@

You can use most alpha, numeric, or other characters to create pointers--including your computer's own native keys, or record numbers from its internal data base structure. You cannot, however, use the following three characters:

- "@" (the delimiter symbol)
- "#" (the number sign, also known as the U.S. pound sign, which is ASCII code 35)
- The terminator symbol (see the Terminator section later in this chapter.)
- The colon character ":" usage within pointers is reserved (See the syntax for xref_id and pointer in chapter 1).

HOW TO USE OTHER VALUES

Character Set

Two standard character sets are used most often for GEDCOM transmissions: 8-Bit ANSEL and ASCII. The default character set is 8-Bit ANSEL--Extended Latin Alphabet Coded Character Set for Bibliographic Use (American National Standards [ANSI] Z39.47-1985)--because it handles a wider variety of diacritics and special characters than any other character set.

If your transmission does not require diacritics, you may wish to use ASCII (USA version--ANSI 8 Bit), if your computer already supports it. In the future, you will be able to use the binary character set to facilitate transmission of photographs and other bit-mapped graphics. Other character sets can also be used for the transmissions. You will find more information about character sets in chapter 5, "Using Character Sets in GEDCOM".

You can change the character set any time in any system associated with any data. To change the character set, follow the procedure outlined in chapter 5.

A GEDCOM line must contain a terminator which cannot occur as data in a value.

Terminator

The terminator marks the end of a GEDCOM line--it separates one line from another. A terminator (not visible on the screen) produces a line feed. In ANSEL, the terminator symbol is the line feed (decimal code 10 or hex code 0A) or carriage return (decimal code 13 or hex code 0D), or a combination of the two. The terminator is an invisible carriage-return character in the examples used in this document.

Chapter 5

USING CHARACTER SETS IN GEDCOM

INTRODUCTION

This chapter lists and explains the character sets that can be used with GEDCOM. It also provides the escape sequences and conventions required to change from one character set to another during a transmission.

This specification does not include implementation methods for multilingual processing, such as keyboard arrangements, sorting sequences, or character and graphic representations (font styles, proportional spacing, etc.) on the CRT or Printers.

WHY VARIOUS CHARACTER SETS ARE USED

GEDCOM accommodates several standard character sets to facilitate the sharing of diverse genealogical data in many different languages, and to meet different user needs. These character sets are listed and explained below.

8-Bit ANSEL--The Default Character Set

The 8-Bit ANSEL (American National Standard for Extended Latin Alphabet Coded Character Set for Bibliographic Use, Z39.47, 1985 copyright) is the default character set for GEDCOM. It is used for all transmissions of information, unless another character set is specified.

The 8-Bit ANSEL is a standard of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). It is the only character set that will handle a wide variety of diacritics and special characters for Romanized languages. (A diacritic is a graphic mark, Point, or sign used with alphabetic graphic characters to distinguish them by form or sound.) GEDCOM accommodates all diacritics that are included in Family History Department computer systems text and bibliographic information. Use the 8-Bit ANSEL character set when your transmission must preserve the full integrity of original Roman-alphabetic languages, including diacritics and special characters.

The 8-Bit ANSEL is also known by two other names: (1) the American National Standard for Extended Latin Alphabet Coded Character Set for Bibliographic Use (American National Standards [ANSI] Z39.47-1985) and (2) the American Library Association character set, widely used in library systems, including the MARC (Machine-Readable Catalog) format.

You will find the standard for 8-Bit ANSEL on the last five pages of this chapter. It is reproduced with permission from the American National Standards Institute. Copies of this character set may be purchased from the American National Standards Institute at 1430 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10018.

The standard 8-Bit ANSEL includes the following which is shown in table form in Appendix B of this document:

- An 8-Bit Code Table consisting of ANSEL and ASCII codes, page B-1
- An explanation of the codes, page B-2
- ANSEL Nonspacing Graphic Characters, page B-3
- ASCII Control Characters, page B-4
- ASCII Graphic Characters, page B-5

Character-set codes 0 through 127 are the same for 8-Bit ANSEL and 8-Bit ASCII (USA version--ANSI 8 Bit). Character-set codes 128 through 255 are unique to the ANSEL character set.

ASCII (USA version) (ANSI 8 Bit)

If you have no need for diacritics or special characters, and if you are not transmitting binary data, you will find it convenient to use ASCII (USA version--ANSI 8 Bit) if your computer already supports it. This is a standard of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Most of the normal printable characters of ANSEL and ASCII (USA version--ANSI 8 Bit) are identical.

Binary and Other Character Sets

When requested, binary formats for transmission of photographs and other bit-mapped graphics will be defined or adopted.

How to Change Character Sets

The procedure for changing character sets depends on whether you wish to change the character set for an entire transmission, or for just part of a transmission.

For an Entire Transmission

To change the character set for an entire transmission, do two things:

1. Specify the new character set in the character set line of the header record. (For more information about the header record, see chapter 3.)
2. Use the one-word name of the character set you want, following the CHAR tag in the same line.

The example below shows the specification in the header record.

Example:

Lvl	Tag	Value
0	HEAD	
1	SOUR	PAF
2	VERS	2.1
1	DEST	ANSTFILE
1	CHAR	ASCII

For Part of a Transmission

To change the character set for part of a transmission, follow this procedure:

1. Select the registered one-word name approved for the character set you want for your transmission. GEDCOM transmissions are automatically sent in 8-Bit ANSEL, unless you specify another character set. Following are the one-word names already registered for this designation the character set being used:
 - ANSEL. 8-Bit ANSEL character set (default)
 - ASCII. ASCII (USA version--ANSI 8 Bit)
 - BINARY. Binary data (future use)
2. Make sure the character set appears on the same line as the rest of the data for the character set.

Example:

@#ASCII@. This is the designation for the character set for ASCII (USA version--ANSI 8 Bit) with the symbols that begin and end it.

3. Designate the character set. Begin with the escape-sequence symbol followed by "C" (C for character set). The escape-sequence symbol is a combination of a "C", an "@" and a "#" to form "@#C". Then type the name of the character set. End the designation with a "@" (the terminator for the escape-sequence), as shown in the examples below:

Examples:

@#CANSEL@ 8-Bit ANSEL character set (default)
@#ASCII@ ASCII (USA version) (ANSI 8 Bit)
@#CBINARY@ Binary data (future use)

The first three characters "@#C" alert the computer that information will be sent or received in a new character set. The actual change in character set starts with the first character that follows the closing "@". This change is in effect until the length indicated has been reached, the end-of-transmission symbol (TRLR) has been encountered, or another change in character set is specified.

If you are using the default character set (8-Bit ANSEL), make sure that all diacritic and special characters immediately precede the character they are to be associated with. If you are using a character set other than ANSEL, or if the data must change from one character set to another, indicate the change by using a character-set change escape sequence.

Example:

(space)@#ASCII@

The escape sequence is context insensitive and may appear anywhere, as many times as needed.

For more information about character sets, see the following:

- Genealogical Department Internal Memorandum, from GIS Administrative Council to GIS User's Committee Regarding Diacritics and the Genealogical Information System. 13 January 1986.
- Extended Latin Alphabet Coded Character Set for Bibliographic Use. American National Standards (ANSI) Z39.47, 1985.
- 8-Bit ASCII--Structure and Rules." American National Standards (ANSI)X3.134.1-198x.
- "7-Bit and 8-Bit ASCII Supplemental Multilingual Graphic Character Set (ASCII Multilingual Set)" (manuscript). American National Standards (ANSI), X3.134.2-198x.

Appendix A LINEAGE-LINKED GEDCOM TAG DEFINITION

Introduction

Appendix A is a glossary of the tags approved for use with Lineage-Linked GEDCOM. (See chapter 2 for an example of the tags in context that describes the Lineage-Linked structure.) Every tag must be used within the context shown to ensure uniformity in the identification of all information transmitted by means of GEDCOM.

The tags are of various types, depending on their role or use in a transmission. They are used to identify individuals, families, names, dates, places, events, roles, sex, sources, relationships, control codes and other kinds of data for computers, computer programs, and computer systems.

The definition for each tag is generally broad enough to cover all uses of the tag. Other tags have been defined for structures other than those used in the Lineage-Linked Grammar. These tags were not included in Appendix A. For a list of these, contact the GEDCOM Coordinator.

Any new tag needed to enhance the Lineage_Linked form for system specific purposes may be used and will not violate the Lineage-Linked GEDCOM standard as long as the approved standard Lineage-Linked GEDCOM grammar context is not violated. System builders should register these tags and their definitions with the GEDCOM Coordinator at the address listed on the title page of this document. The Coordinator will evaluate the feasibility of including them as a part of the next release of the standard. Suggestions and proposed additions are welcome. Use the form "GEDCOM New Tag Proposal" (PFGS3709) provided at the end of the appendix. Be sure to check the appendix carefully first--the tag in question may already be defined.

Lineage-Linked GEDCOM Tag Definitions

In this section the standardized GEDCOM tag and its longer name appear prior to the delimiter ":= ". The long name of the tag is shown inside of the braces "{}". The definition of the GEDCOM tag is shown on a new line following the delimiter ":= ".

ADDR {ADDRESS} :=

The contemporary place, usually for postal purposes, of an individual, a submitter of information, a repository, a business, a school, or a company.

ADOP {ADOPTION} :=

The event of a legal creation of the child-parent relationship that does not biologically exist.

AFN {AFN} :=

A unique permanent record file number of an individual record stored in the Ancestral File.

AGE {AGE} :=

The age of the individual at the time an event occurred, or the age listed in the document.

ALIA {ALIAS} :=

Indicates, by a cross reference pointer, that another record is suspected of being the same person. When the suspicions are confirmed drop the alias line, combine all data into one record, and delete the other record.

ANCI {ANCES_INTEREST} :=

Indicates the submitter that has interest in research to identify additional ancestors of this individual. (See also DECI.)

ANUL {ANNULMENT} :=

An event declaring a marriage void from the beginning (never existed).

ASSO {ASSOCIATES} :=

Identifies friends, neighbors, or associates of an individual.

AUTH {AUTHOR} :=

The name of the individual who created or compiled information.

BAPL {BAPTISM-LDS} :=

The event of baptism performed at age eight or later by priesthood authority of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. (See also BAPM.)

BAPM {BAPTISM} :=

The event of baptism (not LDS), performed in infancy or later. (See also BAPL and CHR.)

BARM {BAR_MITZVAH} :=

The ceremonial event held when a Jewish boy reaches age 13.

BASM {BAS_MITZVAH} :=

The ceremonial event held when a Jewish girl reaches age 13, also known as "Bat Mitzvah".

BIRT {BIRTH} :=

The event of entering into life.

BLES {BLESSING} :=

A religious event of bestowing divine care, intercession, etc.

BURI {BURIAL} :=

The event of the proper disposing of the mortal remains of a deceased person.

BUYR {BUYER} :=

A person who purchased or purchases from another.

CALN {CALL_NUMBER} :=

The number used by a repository to identify the specific items in its collections.

CAST {CASTE} :=

The name of an individual's rank or status in society, based on racial or religious differences, or differences in wealth, inherited rank, profession, occupation, etc.

CEME {CEMETARY} :=

The name of the cemetery or other resting place where an individual is buried.

CENS {CENSUS} :=

The event of the periodic count of the population for a designated locality, such as national or state Census.

CHAN {CHANGE} :=

Indicates a change, correction, or modification. Typically used in connection with a DATE to specify when a change occurred.

CHAR {CHARACTER} :=

An indicator of the character set used in writing this automated information.

CHIL {CHILD} :=

The natural, adopted, or sealed offspring of a father and a mother.

CHR {CHRISTENING} :=

The religious event (not LDS) of baptizing and/or naming a child.

CHRA {ADULT_CHRISTNG} :=

The religious event (not LDS) of baptizing and/or naming an adult person.

CNTC {CONTACT_PERSON} :=

The name of a person that is listed as the contact person at an institution such as a repository, college, business, etc.

CONF {CONFIRMATION} :=

The religious event (not LDS) of conferring the gift of the Holy Ghost and, among protestants, full church membership.

CONL {CONFIRMATION_L} :=

The religious event by which a person receives the gift of the Holy Ghost and becomes a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

CONT {CONTINUED} :=

An indicator that additional value information follows and is to be concatenated with the value of the superior tag.

COPR {COPYRIGHT} :=

A statement that accompanies data to protect it from unlawful duplication and distribution.

CPLR {COMPILER} :=

The name of the person that compiled writings of others.

DATA {DATA} :=

Stored automated information.

DATE {DATE} :=

The time of an event.

DEAT {DEATH} :=

The event when mortal life terminated.

DECI {DESC_INTEREST} :=

Indicates the submitter that has interest in research to identify additional decendants of this individual. (See also ANCI.)

DESR {PHY_DESCRIPTION} :=

The physical characteristics of a person, place, or thing.

DEST {DESTINATION} :=

A place or system receiving data, material, or a person.

DIV {DIVORCE} :=

An event of dissolving a marriage through civil action.

DIVF {DIVORCE_FILED} :=

An event of filing for a divorce by a spouse.

EDTR {EDITOR} :=

The name of a person who edited information.

ENDL {ENDOWMENT} :=

A religious event where an ordinance for an individual was performed by priesthood authority in a LDS Temple.

ENGA {ENGAGEMENT} :=

An event of recording or announcing an agreement between two people to become married.

EVEN {EVENT} :=

A noteworthy happening related to an individual, a group, or an organization.

FAM {FAMILY} :=

Identifies a relationship of husband and wife and their children, if any.

FAMC {FAMILY_CHILD} :=

Identifies the family in which an individual appears as a child.

FAMS {FAMILY_SPOUSE} :=

Identifies the family in which an individual appears as a spouse.

FATH {FATHER} :=

Identifies the male parent in a family.

FIDE {FIDELITY} :=

An assessment of the exactness or trustworthiness of information. (An oppion of how close this information is to the original.)

FILE {FILE} :=

A storage place that is ordered and arranged for preservation and reference.

FILM {FILM_NUMBER} :=

An assigned, unique number used to identify film.

FORM {FORMAT} :=

An assigned name given to a consistent format in which information can be understood.

GEDC {GEDCOM} :=

A collection of records and fields tagged with standardized labels that provides the context and meaning of the enclosed data.

GRAD {GRADUATION} :=

An event of awarding an educational diplomas or degrees to individuals.

HDOH {HEAD_HOUSEHOLD} :=

Identifies a person whose role was recorded as "head of household" for an event such as a census.

HEAD {HEADER} :=

Identifies beginning information for the recognition and processing of data within a transmission.

HEIR {HEIR} :=

An individual who inherited or is entitled to inherit an estate.

HUSB {HUSBAND} :=

An individual in the family role of a married man.

INDI {INDIVIDUAL} :=

A person.

INDX {INDEXED} :=

Specifies information about an index.

INFT {INFORMANT} :=

An individual who reported facts concerning an event.

INTV {INTERVIEWER} :=

The person who facilitated, recorded, and obtained information during an interview.

ITEM {ITEM} :=

Refers to a unit within a set of things that belong together. The unit itself may be made up of other objects but collectively they are referred to as an unit (item) of the set. Such as a group of papers filmed together under one header page is referred to as an item on a film.

LANG {LANGUAGE} :=

The name of the language used in a communication or transmission of information.

LCCN {LIB_CONGRS_CALL} :=

The number assigned by the U.S. Library of Congress to a holding.

MARB {MARRIAGE_BANN} :=

An event of an official public notice given that two people intend to marry.

MARC {MARR_CONTRACT} :=

An event of recording a formal agreement of marriage, including the prenuptial agreement in which marriage partners reach agreement about the property rights of one or both, securing property to their children.

MARL {MARR_LICENSE} :=

An event of obtaining a legal license to marry.

MARR {MARRIAGE} :=

An event of creating a family unit of a man and a woman as husband and wife.

MEDI {MEDIA} :=

The medium used to store or transmit information.

MOTH {MOTHER} :=

Identifies the female parent in a family.

NAME {NAME} :=

A word or combination of words used to help identify an individual, title, or other item.

NAMR {NAME_RELIGIOUS} :=

A name given to an individual to be used in association with one's religious obligations.

NAMS {NAME_SAKE} :=

Identifies the person that an individual is named after to perpetuate the person's name.

NATI {NATIONALITY} :=

The national heritage of an individual.

NATU {NATURALIZATION} :=

The event of obtaining citizenship.

NCHI {CHILDREN_COUNT} :=

The number of children that this person is known to be the parent of.

NMR {MARRIAGE_COUNT} :=

The number of times this person has been married.

NOTE {NOTE} :=

Additional information provided for understanding the enclosing data. This information is either submitter opinion or other information foreign to the context of the enclosing data.

OCCU {OCCUPATION} :=

The type of work or profession of an individual.

OFFI {OFFICIATOR} :=

A person acting in an authorized capacity as voice in performing an ordinance or ceremony.

ORDN {ORDINATION} :=

A religious event of receiving authority to act in religious matters.

PAGE {PAGE} :=

A number or description to show the relationship of a specific data view (page) has in relationship to the beginning of a document.

PERI {PERIOD} :=

Indicates the range of time within which events that happened over time took place.

PHON {PHONE} :=

A unique set of numbers assigned to a given telephone.

PLAC {PLACE} :=

A jurisdictional name to identify the place or location of an event.

PROB {PROBATE} :=

An event of judicial determination of the validity of a will.

PROP {PROPERTY} :=

The name of land and/or other properties possessed by this individual.

PUBL {PUBLICATION} :=

A published work.

PUBR {PUBLISHER} :=

The name of the company or individual who published a work.

QUAY {QUALITY_OF_DATA} :=

An assessment of the reliability of information.

RECO {RECORDER} :=

A person responsible for recording identifying data about an event, place, or person.

REFN {REFERENCE} :=

A description or number used to identify an item for filing, storage, or other reference purposes.

REFS {REFERENCED_SOUR} :=

A source that was referenced by the cited source but was not examined by the submitter. Examined sources are listed using a SOUR tag.

REL {RELATION} :=

A name of a relationship indicating the kinship.

RELI {RELIGION} :=

A religious denomination to which a person is affiliated or for which a record applies.

REPO {REPOSITORY} :=

An institution that has the specified item as part of its collection(s).

RETI {RETIREMENT} :=

An event of exiting an occupational relationship with an employer after a qualifying time period.

RFN {REC_FILE_NUMBER} :=

A permanent number assigned to a record that uniquely identifies it within a known file.

ROLE {ROLE} :=

A name given to a role played by an individual in connection with an event.

SELR {SELLER} :=

A person who sold or sells to another.

SERS {SERIES} :=

Designates the volume within a series in which a given work is a part.

SEX {SEX} :=

Indicates the sex of an individual--male or female.

SIGN {SIGNATURE} :=

[YES | NO | SYMBOL_NAME]

Used to identify information about an individual: the type of signature this person used.

YES = This person knew how to sign his or her name.

NO = This person did not sign name or use a symbol.

SYMBOL_NAME = The name of the symbol this person used as a signature.

SLGC {SEALING_CHILD} :=

A religious event pertaining to the sealing of a child to his or her parents in an LDS temple ceremony.

SLGS {SEALING_SPOUSE } :=

A religious event pertaining to the sealing of a husband and wife in an LDS temple ceremony.

SOUR {SOURCE} :=

The initial or original material from which data originated or was obtained.

STAT {STATUS} :=

An assesment of the state of affairs.

STIL {STILLBORN} :=

An event of birth delivery of a child who was dead.

SUBM {SUBMITTER} :=

An individual or organization who contributes genealogical data to a file or transfers it from one file to another.

SUBN {SUBMISSION} :=

Refers to processing information pertaining to the data that was submitted within a transmission.

TEMP {TEMPLE} :=

The name or code that represents the name of a temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

TEXT {TEXT} :=

The exact wording of comments found in an original source document.

TIME {TIME} :=

A time value in a 24-hour clock format, including hours, minutes, and optional seconds, separated by a colon ":", fractions of seconds are shown in decimal notation.

TITL {TITLE} :=

A descriptive, general name or formal designation used for an individual, in addition to the individual's given and surnames.

TRLR {TRAILER} :=

At level 0, specifies the end of a GEDCOM transmission.

TXPY {TAX_PAYER} :=

A person who has been assessed a tax.

TYPE {TYPE} :=

A classification name given to identify a group of people or objects because they possess a set of similar attributes or characteristics.

VERS {VERSION} :=

Indicates which variation of an item, publication, or product is being used or referenced.

WIFE {WIFE} :=

An individual in the family role of a married woman.

WILL {WILL} :=

A legal document by which a person disposes of his or her estate, to take effect after death.

WITN {WITNESS} :=

An individual who attested that he or she saw an event take place.

XLTR {TRANSLATOR} :=

The name of a person who translated words from one language to another.