

the land of *səlilwatał*



Tsleil-Waututh Nation
PEOPLE OF THE INLET



A complex network diagram with various sized nodes (black, blue, grey) connected by thin grey lines. Some nodes are highlighted with larger circles. The background is white with faint grey circles.

LINKING DATA & ETHICS

B.M. Watson (@brimwats) | ALA IRRT Webinar Series | 21-06-17 | CC-BY-NC

INTRODUCTIONS!

- bri watson (they/m) @brimwats
- **MA** History of the Book & Sexuality; **MLIS** Archives, Digital Humanities, Knowledge Organization
- **PhD.** Information Science @ University of British Columbia iSchool; focusing on equitable cataloging in GLAMS & how they should use community supported & developed vocabularies
- Archivist-Historian for APA Consensual Nonmonogamy Committee, Director of [HistSex.org](https://www.histsex.org)

www.brimwats.com



A BRIEF HISTORY OF HARM:

- Library of Congress Subject Headings (1898-present) :

LIBRARY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress > Linked Data Service > LC Subject Headings (LCSH)

Indians of North America

URI(s)
- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85065184>
- [info:loc.gov/authorities/sh85065184](http://info.loc.gov/authorities/sh85065184)
- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85065184#concept>

- **Squatter settlements**
- URI(s)
- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85127101>
- [info:loc.gov/authorities/sh85127101](http://info.loc.gov/authorities/sh85127101)
- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85127101#concept>

Label
1. Savants (Savant syndrome)
Idiot savants ; Idiot savants
Savant syndrome
Idiot savant syndrome

Developmentally disabled

URI(s)

- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85037362>
- [info:loc.gov/authorities/sh85037362](http://info.loc.gov/authorities/sh85037362)
- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85037362#concept>

“GENERIC”
HEADING

“GENDERED”
HEADING

- Eskimo artists
- Artists, Eskimo ; Artists, Eskimo
- Eskimo languages
- Eskimo language ; Eskimo language
- Eskimo art
- Art, Eskimo ; Eskimo art, Modern ; Eskimo
- Eskimo architecture

Illegal aliens

URI(s)

- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85003553>
- [info:loc.gov/authorities/sh85003553](http://info.loc.gov/authorities/sh85003553)
- <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/subjects/sh85003553#concept>

DEWEY

.891 8

*Slavs

Including Bulgarians and Macedonians; comprehensive works on south Slavs; Serbs and Montenegrins; people of Serbia as a national group; people of former Serbia and Montenegro as a national group; people of former Yugoslavia as a national group; Croats and Bosnians; people of Croatia as a national group; Slovenes; west Slavs; Poles; Czechs and Moravians; Czechoslovaks; Slovaks; Wends (Lusatians, Sorbs)

For east Slavs, Cossacks, see 305.8917. For citizens of Serbia of other ethnic groups, citizens of Croatia of other ethnic groups, see the ethnic group, e.g., Serbian citizens of Hungarian descent 305.894

LCC

JN2202.A69H6


- Political institutions and public administration.
Croatia.
Executive branch.
Civil service.
Special topics.
Homosexual men and women.

LCSH

11.	Hymns, Serbo-Croatian Serbo-Croatian hymns	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
12.	Encyclopedias and dictionaries, Serbo-Croatian Serbo-Croatian encyclopedias and dictionaries	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
13.	Folk songs, Serbo-Croatian Serbo-Croatian folk songs	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
14.	Jota (The Serbo-Croatian letter)	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
15.	Serbo-Croatian philology	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
16.	Serbo-Croatian language Croato-Serbian language ; Dalmatian language (Slavic) ; Illyrian language (Slavic)	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
17.	Folk dancing, Croatian Croatian folk dancing ; Folk dancing, Serbo-Croatian ; Folk dancing, Serbo-Croatian	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
18.	Kajkavian dialect Serbo-Croatian language--Dialects--Kajkavian ; Serbo-Croatian language--Dialects--Kajkavian	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
19.	Štokavian dialect Serbo-Croatian language--Dialects--Stokavian ; Shtokavian dialect ; Serbo-Croatian language--Dialects--Stokavian	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic
20.	Čakavian dialect Chakavian dialect ; Serbo-Croatian language--Dialects--Čakavik ; Serbo-Croatian language--Dialects--Čakavik	LC Subject Headings (LCSH)	Topic

Articles

Still a Lot to Lose: The Role of Controlled Vocabulary in Keyword Searching

Tina Gross , Arlene G. Taylor & Daniel N. Joudrey

Abstract

In their 2005 study, Gross and Taylor found that more than a third of records retrieved by keyword searches would be lost without subject headings. A review of the literature since then shows that numerous studies, in various disciplines, have found that a quarter to a third of records returned in a keyword search would be lost without controlled vocabulary.

CHANGE

When classifications are created, they inherently reflect the predominant biases of society. To categorize something is to define what it is not, yet what something *is* or *is not* is subject to change.

Vaughan, *The Language of Cataloguing: Deconstructing and Decolonizing Systems of Organization in Libraries.*

- Perspectives & Terminologies & Subject languages change over time
- Subject Representation—how to maintain access over time without obscuring or misrepresenting original context?
- Classification as retrospective diagnosis
- Offensive or confusing terminology
- Controlled vs. uncontrolled terminology

OPEN DATA



WIKIDATA



is interested in



Subject

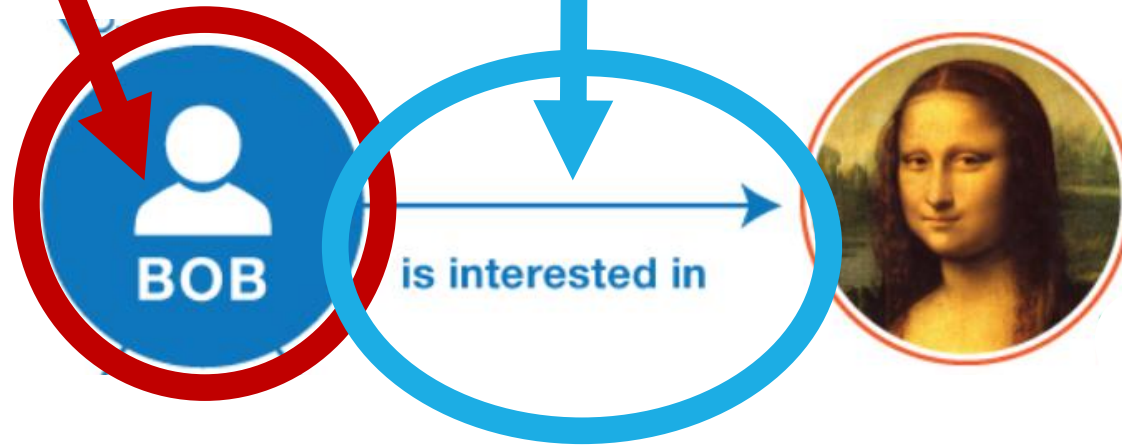


is interested in



Subject

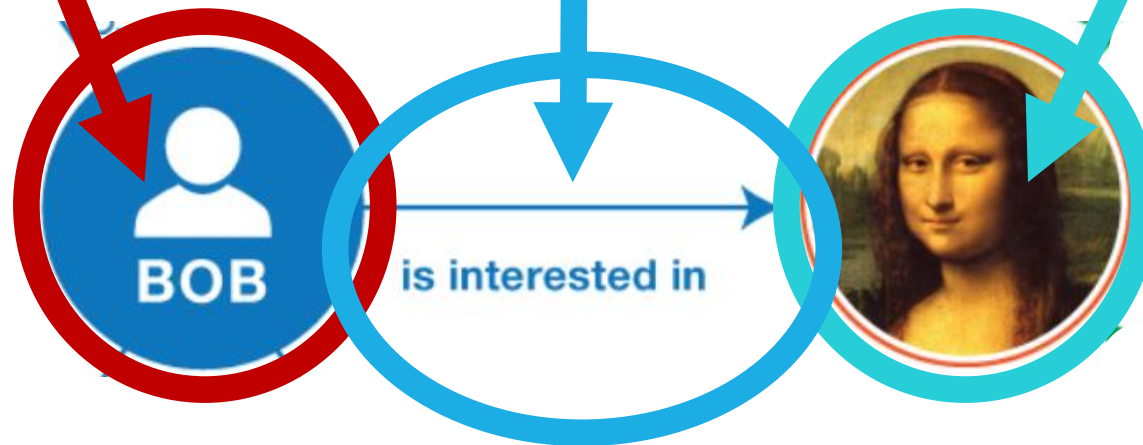
Predicate

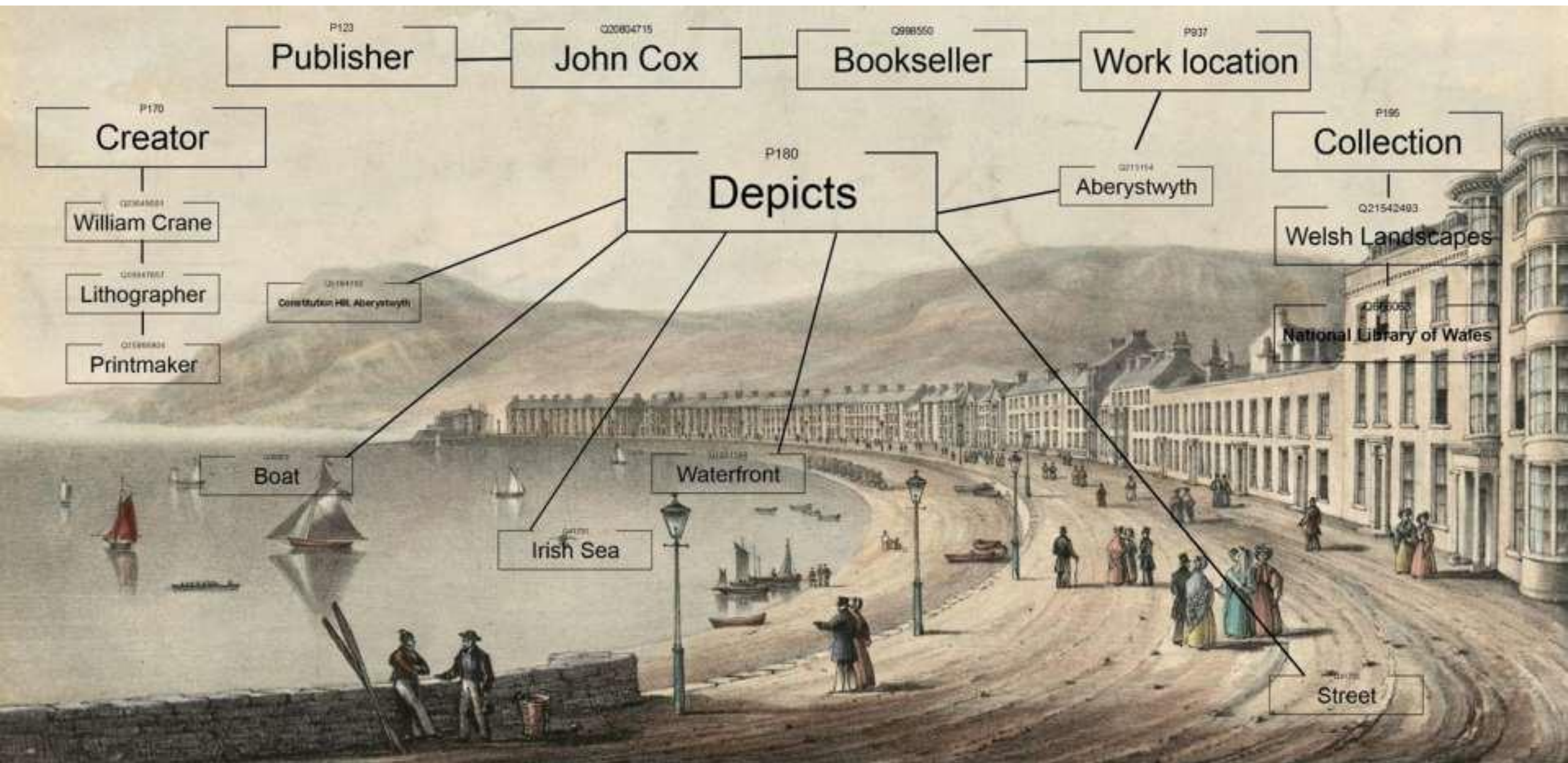


Subject

Predicate

Object





P123
Publisher

Q20804715
John Cox

Q988550
Bookseller

P937
Work location

P170
Creator

Q2364801
William Crane

Q2887607
Lithographer

Q1070703
Printmaker

Q1070703
Constitution Hill, Aberystwyth

Q10707
Boat

Q10707
Irish Sea

Q1021583
Waterfront

P180
Depicts

Q211114
Aberystwyth

P195
Collection

Q21542493
Welsh Landscapes

Q285055
National Library of Wales

Q10707
Street

lake (Q23397)

Subject

body of relatively still water, localized in a basin

In more languages

Language	Label	Description	Also known as
English	lake	body of relatively still water, localized in a basin	
Welsh	Llyn	corff o ddŵr croyw, eitha llonydd	
German	See	von Land umgebenes Stillgewässer mit oder ohne Zu- und Abfluss	Landsee Binnensee

Predicate

All entered languages

Statements

subclass of



still waters

edit

0 references

+ add reference



landform

edit

0 references

+ add reference

+ add

image



Bariloche- Argentina2.jpg

edit

0 references

+ add reference

+ add

Object(s)

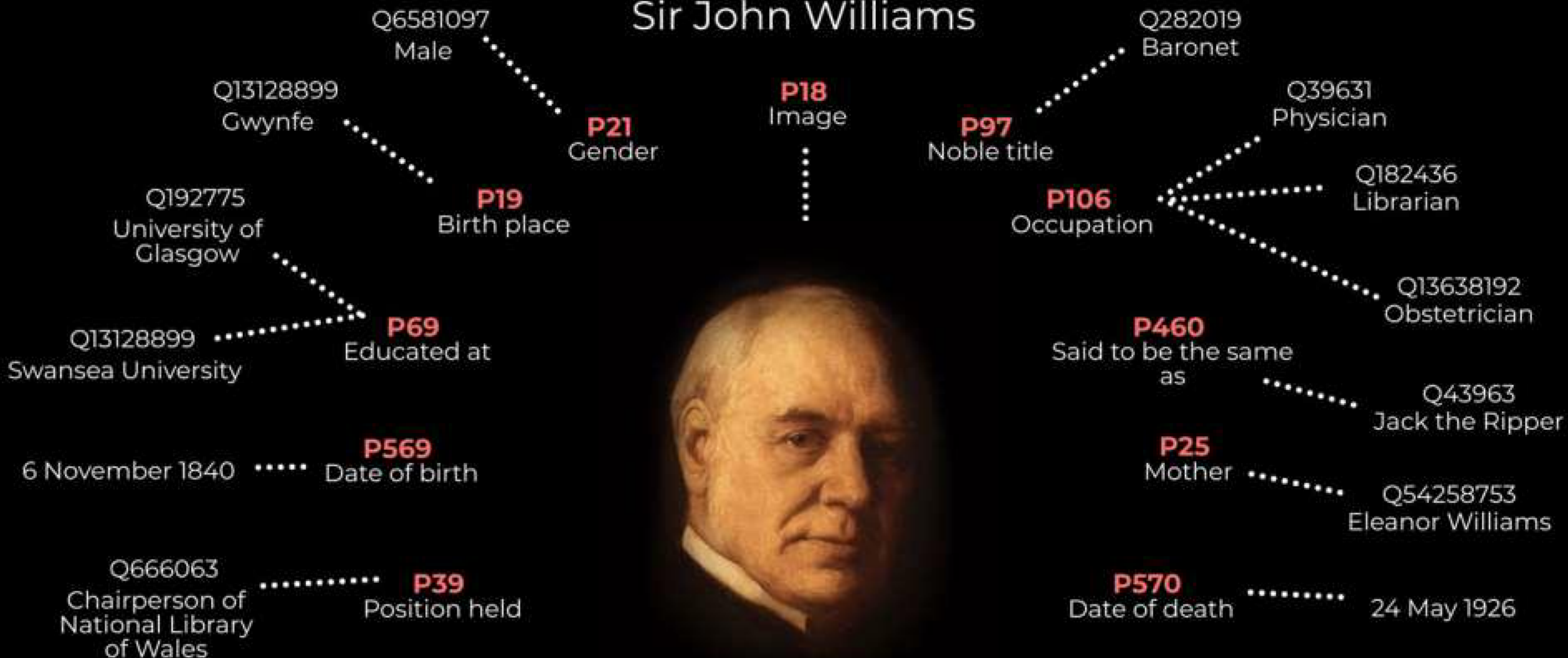
edit

Wikipedia (147 entries) edit

- ace Tasék
- af Meer
- am ሀይቅ
- an Laco (cheografía)
- arc بحطه
- ar بحيرة
- ast Llagu
- ay Quta
- azb گۆل
- az Göl
- bat_smg Ežers
- ba Күн
- bcl Danaw
- be_x_old Бозепа
- be Бозепа
- bg Езепо
- bh झील
- bjn Danaw
- bn হ্রদ
- br Lenn (dour)
- bs Jezero
- bxr Hyyp
- ca Llac
- cdo Hù
- ceb Lanaw
- ce lam
- cs Jezero
- cv Кӱл

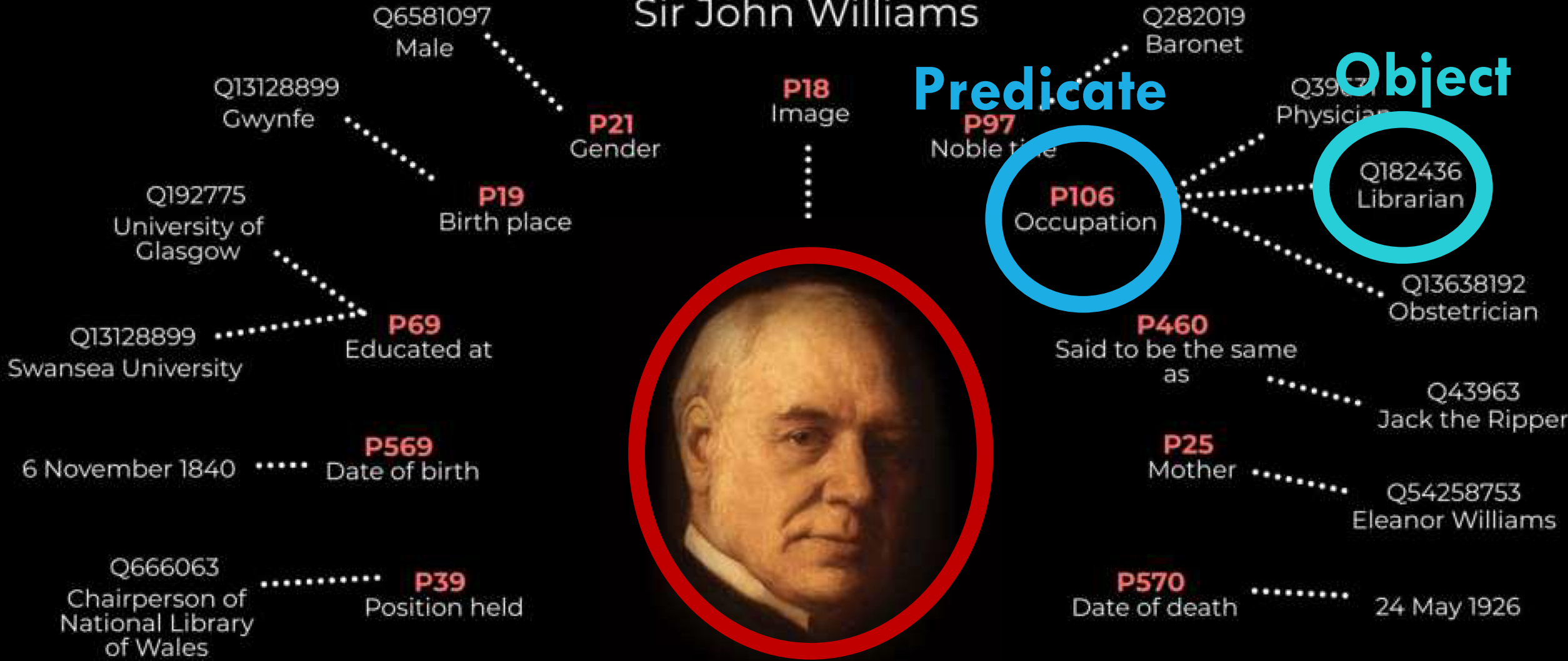
Q7528143

Sir John Williams



Q7528143

Sir John Williams



Predicate

Object



Subject



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Miroslav Krleža



Miroslav Krleža in 1953

Born	7 July 1893 Zagreb, Kingdom of Croatia-Slavonia, Austria-Hungary
Died	29 December 1981 (aged 88) Zagreb, SR Croatia, SFR Yugoslavia
Occupation	Novelist, playwright, poet, philosopher, essayist, cultural critic
Language	Croatian
Nationality	Croat
Period	1915–77
Literary movement	Expressionism, Socialist realism
Notable works	<i>Gospoda Glembajevi</i> <i>Hrvatski bog Mars</i> <i>Balade Petrice Kerempuha</i> <i>Povratak Filipa Latinovicza</i> <i>Banket u Blitvi</i> <i>Zastave</i>
Spouse	Bela Krleža



Mirogoj Cemetery

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference

+ add value

languages spoken, written or signed

Croatian

edit

▶ 1 reference

Serbo-Croatian

edit

▶ 1 reference

+ add value

occupation

writer

edit

▶ 2 references

poet

edit

▶ 1 reference

journalist

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference

said to be the same as



Central South Slavic diasystem

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference



Serbian

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference



Croatian

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference



Bosnian

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference



Montenegrin

edit

▼ 0 references

+ add reference

+ add value

WHAT CAN WE DO?


- Local action
 - Update inaccurate or offensive terminology in your own records
- Alternative vocabularies
 - Use vocabularies like the Homosaurus, Disability Thesaurus, etc—Devon's presentation to cover more!
- Taking a more holistic approach to subject representation by using historic & current terms
 - Capture terminology change over time/space/community
 - Capture additional facets: gender, age, relationship, ethnicity/country, time period, occupation

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Leveraging Multiple Subject Languages

Image: *The Wild Men of Borneo, Midgets*



Individual depicted (LCNAF)	Waino, 1825-1905
Individual depicted (LCNAF)	Plutano, 1827-1912
Groups depicted (LCSH)	Circus performers
Groups depicted (LCSH)	Men
Groups depicted (21st century terminology)	Little people
Groups depicted (21st century terminology)	Dwarfs
Groups depicted (19th century terminology)	Midgets
Conditions depicted (MeSH)	Dwarfism
Conditions depicted (SNOMED CT)	Short stature disorder
Relations depicted (LCSH)	Brothers
Nationalities depicted (LCSH)	Americans
Places referenced (19th century terminology)	Borneo
Time period depicted (LCSH)	Nineteenth century

<https://journals.lib.washington.edu/index.php/nasko/article/download/15615/12997>

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Archival / Historical

- Consider perspective of catalog vs history
 - What does “Black” mean in 19thC? Now?
- Use “radical empathy”
 - Put yourself “in their shoes”
- Accurately describe relationships of power
 - “Enslaver” “Enslaved”

Library / Contemporary

- Outreach to living authors
 - “[Authority Work as Outreach](#)” Tina Gross & Violet B. Fox
- Consult local communities on preferred language/terminology
- Use local authority or term over national

- Consider consequences and potential harm
 - Respective descriptive language