

The benefit of the translated Art & Architecture Thesaurus for us

Fachgruppe Dokumentation

Margot Langelaan

Project Manager AAT

Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie,
Den Haag

The benefit of the translated AAT for us

1. *AAT translation into Dutch*
2. *Requirements for a thesaurus and a translation*
3. *Contents of the AAT*
4. *What would be the users and their needs?*
5. *How is the translation organised?*
6. *What difficulties are encountered?*
7. *What is the present state of affairs?*
8. *The greatest overall challenge*

1. The AAT translation into Dutch

- *AAT started by J. Paul Getty Center*
- *1990 / 1994 published as a book*
- *1994 digital form*
- *1996 world wide web*

- *1994 initiative RKD / Netherlands Institute of Art History*
- *partner RDMZ / State Service of Monuments*
- *first phase: translation*
- *second phase: check , correct , adapt*

2. The requirements for a thesaurus and a translation

Linguistic phenomena in information retrieval

- Spelling variations

vissen, visschen

icoon, iconen, ikoon, ikonen

- Synonyms

reproduction, illustration, picture

- Homonyms

bank (same spelling, different meanings)

thesaurus

- original: storeroom, treasury, treasure
- in information retrieval: a 'documentary' thesaurus

controlled vocabulary with three types of relationships

- generic (broader term - narrower term)
- equivalents, synonyms (use - used for)
- associative (related term, see)

Presentation of a record: types of terms, relations and added information

DESCRIPTOR	preferred term	beakers
NON-DESCRIPTOR USE FOR TERM ALTERNATE DESCR.	non-preferred term alternate term preferred term	mint julep cups beaker
BROADER TERM NARROWER TERM TOPTERM	more general term more specific term 'highest' term	drinking vessels sturzbechers containers
RELATED TERM	associated term	church plate, flip glasses
SCOPE NOTE	to identify the concept	drinking vessels without handles, cylindrical or....
<guide term>	to create logical subdivisions	<containers by function or context>

Engelse term	funerary sculpture
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Visual Works
Use	
Used for	sculpture , funerary
Broader Term	sculpture by function
Narrower Term	aloalo ; brasses (memorials) ; effigies ; haniwa ; mintadi ; mma ; niombo ; tomb slabs ; ushabti
Related Term	funerary objects
Alternatieve Term	
Britse vertaling	
Britse alternatieve Term	
Scope note	Sculpture used in or associated with the rites of burial.
Termnummer	184644
Termnotatie	V.VC.AFU.AXC.HIK.ALO.BCW

● **sculpture by function**

● ● consular diptychs ↑

● ● fetish figures ↑

● ● ● minkisi ↑

● ● ● ● minkondi ↑

● ● ● bocio ↑

● ● funerary sculpture ↑

● ● ● brasses (memorials) ↑

● ● ● effigies ↑

● ● ● ● gisants ↑

● ● ● ● ● transis ↑

● ● ● haniwa ↑

● ● ● tomb slabs ↑



AAT: indexing of collections



- objects are central
- in museums
- in monuments
- in archives
- in libraries
- in photo collections

3. The contents of the AAT

7 facets from abstract to concrete

Associated concepts

Abstracte begrippen

Physical attributes

Fysieke kenmerken

Styles and periods

Stijlen en perioden

Agents

Personen en organisaties

Activities

Activiteiten

Materials

Materialen

Objects

Objecten

associated concepts

physical attributes

attributes and properties
conditions and effects
design elements
colour

styles and periods

agents

people
organisations

activities

disciplines
functions
events
physical activities
processes and techniques

materials

objects

built

environment

settlements and landscapes

built complexes and districts

single built works

open spaces and site elements

furnishings and

equipment

furnishings

costume

tools and equipment

weapons and ammunition

measuring devices

containers

sound devices

recreational artifacts

transportation vehicles

visual and verbal

communication

visual works

exchange media

information forms

follow up objects

object groupings and systems

object genres

components

Engelse term	altarpieces
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Visual Works
Use	
Used for	
Broader Term	religious visual works
Narrower Term	reredoses ; retables
Related Term	altars ; dossals ; predellas ; superfrontals
Alternatieve Term	altarpiece
Britse vertaling	
Britse alternatieve Term	
Scope note	Religious images on, above, or behind the altar of a Christian church. THDAT
Termnummer	75940
Termnotatie	V.VC.AFU.ALO.CFS.ALO

Term	altaarstukken
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Beeldmateriaal {TOPTERM}
Use	
Used for	
Semantische Factoren	
Semantische Factor van	
See	
Seen from	
Broader Term	religieus beeldmateriaal
Narrower Term	reredoses; retabels
Related Term	predella's; altaren; dorsalen; superfrontals
Alternatieve Term	altaarstuk
Engelse Term	altarpieces; altarpiece
Scope note	Religieuze beeldende werken op, boven of achter altaren van christelijke kerken.
Bron	Van Dale groot woordenboek der Nederlandse taal. (Van Dale Lexicografie - Utrecht/ Antwerpen; 1994)
Termnummer	75940

- 
- **object**
 - **sculpture**
 - **sculpture in the round**
 - **outdoor sculpture**
 - **statue**

4. What would be the (museum) users and their needs?

- *Concepts for and from the Dutch cultural heritage*
- *Stichting Volkenkundige Collecties Nederland*
- *Museum inventarisatie Project, MUSIP*
- *Internet Gelderse Musea, IGEM*
- *Musea Oost-Vlaanderen in Evolutie, MOVE*

5. How is the translation organised?

- Phase 1: translation in two parts by Vertaalbureau University of Amsterdam (1996-1997)
 - 26.000 descriptors, 17.500 scope notes, 2.000 guide terms
- Phase 2: adaptation, refining and extending of the translation by specialists and review groups (1998-2002)
 - web browser edition www.rkd.nl
 - CD-ROM test and educational version
- Continuation, updates, expansion (2002-2004)
- Implementation, maintain (2002-....)

update again

- *Starting point Dutch AAT was the version of 1995 from Getty*
- *The update with the version of 2000 contains about 1.500 descriptors and 2.500 new scope notes*
- *with 'styles and periods' (440 descriptors and 1.271 scope notes)*

Co-operation in finance and organisation

- *Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie*
- *Rijksdienst voor de Monumentenzorg*
- *Mondriaan Foundation*
- *Ministry of the Flemish Community*
 - *department museums and art*
 - *department of monuments and landscapes*
- *Divers projects in the field of cultural heritage*

6. What difficulties are encountered?

- *Many to one / one to many*
- *Lack of images, different levels of communication*
- *Editing and revising much time consuming*
- *Translators should be highly proficient*
- *Differences in the Dutch language*

Engelse term	caps (headgear)
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Costume
Use	
Used for	
Broader Term	headgear
Narrower Term	caps by form; caps by function; caps by material
Related Term	
Alternatieve Term	cap (headgear)
Britse vertaling	
Britse alternatieve Term	
Scope note	Brimless head coverings, usually made with a visor.
Termnummer	46094
Termnotatie	V.TE.AFU.ARI.ALO.EFQ.AXC.AFU

Term	petten en mutsen
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Kleding {TOPTERM}
Use	
Used for	mutsen en petten
Semantische Factoren	
Semantische Factor van	
See	
Seen from	
Broader Term	hoofddeksels
Narrower Term	mutsen ; petten ; petten en mutsen naar functie ; petten en mutsen naar materiaal ; petten en mutsen naar vorm
Related Term	
Alternatieve Term	pet en muts
Engelse Term	caps (headgear); cap (headgear)
Scope note	Randloze hoofddeksels; de pet is met een klep.
Bron	Van Dale woordenboek Engels-Nederlands. (Van Dale Lexicografie - Utrecht/Antwerpen; 1989)
Termnummer	46094

Term	mutsen
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Kleding {TOPTERM}
Use	
Used for	
Semantische Factoren	
Semantische Factor van	
See	
Seen from	
Broader Term	petten en mutsen
Narrower Term	
Related Term	petten
Alternatieve Term	mut
Engelse Term	
Scope note	Zie voor de guide terms en narrow terms onder petten en mutsen
Bron	
Termnummer	N1259

Term	naaigerei
Termstatus	gidsterm
Topterm	Gereedschap en Uitrusting {TOPTERM}
Use	
Used for	naaigereedschappen en benodigdheden
Semantische Factoren	
Semantische Factor van	
See	
Seen from	
Broader Term	textielbewerkingsgereedschap
Narrower Term	amarilletjes; speldenkussens; vingerhoeden; onvertaalde term
Related Term	naaien
Alternatieve Term	
Engelse Term	sewing tools and equipment
Scope note	
Bron	
Termnummer	247545

Term	kantwerk (patroon)
Termstatus	voorkeursterm
Topterm	Ontwerpelementen {TOPTERM}
Use	
Used for	
Semantische Factoren	
Semantische Factor van	
See	
Seen from	
Broader Term	rand- en oppervlaktepatronen
Narrower Term	
Related Term	
Alternatieve Term	
Engelse Term	dentelle
Scope note	Decoratief patroon dat op kant lijkt en vaak met goud is bewerkt, op boekomslagen.
Bron	Van Dale woordenboek Frans-Nederlands. (Van Dale Lexicografie - Utrecht/Antwerpen; 1988)
Termnummer	252996

If we could start all over again...

- *Work along the Getty AAT right*
- *Updates directly / if possible online connection*
- *Direct the editing team more rigidly*
- *Starting when maintaining is organised*

7. What is the present state of affairs?

- *Making official available in own software*
- *Creating the opportunity to download*
- *Editing the update with the 2000 Getty version*
- *Figure out a structure to prepare further updates*

8. The greatest overall challenge in the project

- *To persuade the people of the usefulness and necessity of the AAT as a standard tool for information retrieval*
- *To transform the project into a structural organisation, adequate and structural financial means and staff*