

## Event Metadata

### Record and Fields

Version 2

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## Record Background

The following metadata fields capture information about an **EVENT** that led to the registration or recording of data about participants in the historical slave trade.

**PERSON** data, recorded in a different group of fields, will be connected to an **EVENT** in which the individual participated.

Other metadata documentation specifies fields for the **PLACE** or location where an **EVENT** occurred. Provenance information about the primary and/or secondary documents that are the sources for the extracted data is included in **SOURCE**.

There is a subset of **PERSON** fields that captures information about an individual at a specific point in time. Enslaved.org identifies these as **PERSON-EVENT** fields and recognizes that this data could be captured in either a **PERSON** record or in an **EVENT** record. Both approaches make sense. Enslaved.org however has decided to include **PERSON-EVENT** fields in **PERSON**. To learn more about these fields, please consult the **PERSON** metadata documentation.

## EVENT Record

Information about a single event that led to the recording of data about participants in the historical slave trade (as captured in an historical document or secondary source)

## \* Strongly Recommended Fields

Event Identifier

Name

Event Type

## Fields for Enslaved.org Linked Data Platform (Discovery Hub)

1. **Event Identifier\*** – Unique reference for each event in the dataset
  - a. *Enslaved.org* strongly recommends listing this Event Identifier in the Event Associator field of the related **PERSON** records
2. **Name\*** – Label or name given to a single event
  - a. Important to connect the **EVENT** to **PERSON**, for example, Baptism of Dandeson Coates Crowther, especially for display on website
  - b. Consistent titling recommendation for Events
    - i. Event Type [term/phrase] of Person [Name]
    - ii. For example, Birth of Dandeson Coates Crowther
  - c. For group events, like a voyage or inventory, use Event Type or similar term plus brief description of event, for example
    - i. Voyage of Orestes Ship
    - ii. Inventory of Enslaved People in the Estate of Alemdia (1767)
3. **Event Type\*** – Type or category that captures an event's overarching impact or purpose (select one)
  - a. The Event Type determines a person's Role within Event (Role)
  - b. Role is granular for the primary or main **PERSON**(s) involved in the event.
  - c. Other **PERSON**s will be connected to the **EVENT** as a generic "Participant." "Participant" asserts a **PERSON** is involved in the **EVENT** in an unspecified way.
  - d. See the current version of the **Enslaved.org Controlled Vocabularies** documentation for the most up to date terms and definitions
4. **Description** – Brief summary that captures a single event
  - a. Could be use to record compelling data about the event, including extracts from testimony, for example for an Enslavement/Capture event, "Kidnapped by Esin people" or "three years in the hand of a Portuguese" would provide additional context for the event.
  - b. Could be used to record more granular Event Type data from partner projects. For example, a project might use Embarkation, Interception, Disembarkation as Event Types in dataset and map these to Voyage at the Enslaved.org discovery hub. The more granular data could be added to the Description field.
5. **Start Date** – Point in time when an event took place or when an event started

- a. Use Start Date for an event that began and ended on the same date
  - b. For events that took place over a span of time, use State Date to record the beginning of the time span and End Date to record the end of the time span
  - c. Include specific dates (YYYYMMDD) or more general dates (such as month year: YYYYMM or year only: YYYY)
6. **End Date** -- Date when an event ended, for events like voyages that occurred over a span of time
- a. For events that took place over a span of time, use State Date to record the beginning of the time span and End Date to record the end of the time span
  - b. Include specific dates (YYYYMMDD) or more general dates (such as month year: YYYYMM or year only: YYYY)
7. **Place Associator** -- Connection, link, or reference to the **PLACE** where the event occurred
- a. Creates a direct link from the **EVENT** to a **PLACE** record that describes the location where the event happened
  - b. It is possible to have an **EVENT** without an associated **PLACE** record... for events with vague places identified (for example a ship that was intercepted at sea at coordinates). These events would NOT have Place Associator data but could have latitude and longitude coordinates recorded in the Coordinates field in **EVENT** record
  - c. Enslaved.org strongly recommends listing the Place Identifier from the related **PLACE** record
  - d. In some instances, this Place Associator field may be included in another type of record depending on the organization and focus of the dataset, for example in the **PERSON** record (i.e. Person connected to Place with Place Type=Plantation in *Legacies of British Slave-ownership*)
8. **Coordinates** -- A specific set of points on the Earth's surface defined by latitude and longitude that establishes a spatial location for the **EVENT**
- a. Include Coordinates if you will NOT use Place Associator
  - b. In the Enslaved.org discovery hub, this will be represented as a **PLACE** record
  - c. Use <http://www.latlong.net/> for coordinate pairs
  - d. Recommended formatting
    - i. Latitude,Longitude (no spaces), for example: 41.255678,-13.435335
    - ii. For multiple pairs, put SpacePipeSpace " | " between pairs, for example: "41.255678,-13.435335 | 8.980603,38.757761"
      - 1. Point = 1 coordinate pair
      - 2. Multiple coordinate pairs can be a line or a polygon
        - a. Line = 2 or more coordinate pairs with different coordinates in the first and last positions
        - b. Polygon = 3 or more coordinate pairs with the SAME coordinates in the first and last positions

- e. Partner projects could use this field for project websites -- in case the project does not want to create a **PLACE** record for every set of coordinates that might be in the project (i.e. "At Sea" for Liberated Africans)
9. **Source Associator** – Connection, link, or reference to the **SOURCE** record that captures information about the historical document or secondary resource from which **EVENT** data was extracted
- a. Creates a direct link from the **EVENT** to a **SOURCE** record that describes the primary/secondary source document
  - b. Enslaved.org strongly recommends listing the Source Identifier from the related **SOURCE** record
  - c. In some instances, this Source Associator field may be included in another type of record depending on the organization and focus of the dataset, for example in the **PERSON** record

## Change Log V.2

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The following list describes changes made to the Enslaved.org Event Metadata between Version 1 (July 19, 2019) and Version 2 (March 24, 2023).

### Required Field designation

- Dropped designation

### Strongly Recommended Field designation

- Added for three fields: Event Identifier, Name, and Event Type