

SNACSchool 4.0

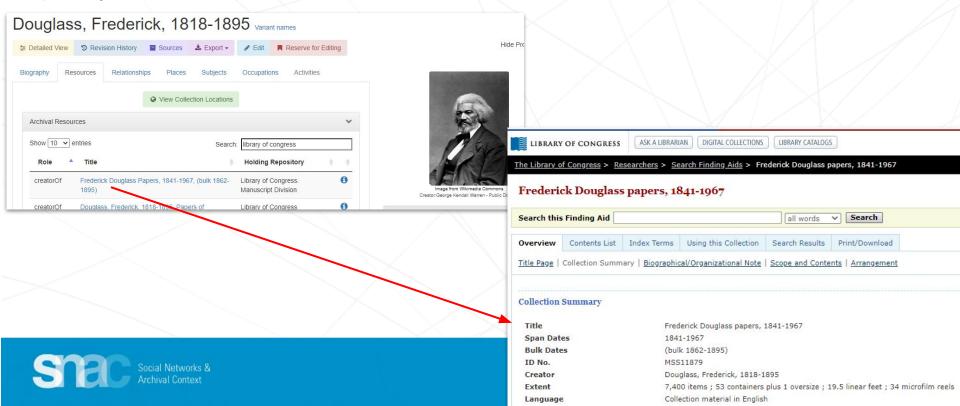
SNAC History 101

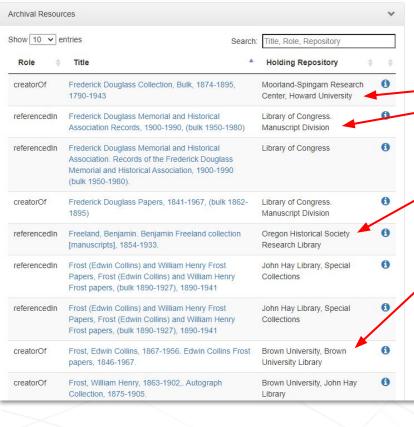




Welcome to Social Networks and Archival Context!

SNAC demonstrates the separation of the description of corporate bodies (organizations) persons, and families, along with their socio-historical contexts, from the description of the historical resources that are the primary evidence of their lives and work.







From Frederick Douglass's SNAC record, we can easily discover links to his archival collections, no matter the custodial institution.

A key objective of SNAC is to provide researchers with convenient, integrated access to historical collections held by multiple private and public archives and libraries around the world. This effort also sets the stage for a cooperative program for maintaining information about the people documented in the collections.

Description in SNAC helps resolve the challenge of **archival diaspora** by offering search and discovery through one central system of description.

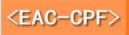


SNAC History: Research and Development

The vision for SNAC began in its research and development phase in 2010. It depended on the creation of two other standards for use in the archival world that developed in the preceding twenty years: Encoded Archival Description (EAD), an encoding standard for machine-readable finding-aids developed in the 1990's, and Encoded **Archival Context-Corporate Bodies, Persons,** and Families (EAC-CPF), a standard for encoding and exchanging authoritative information about the context of archival materials. With the latter's release in March of 2010, the building of linked archival description systems allowing for the separation and independent maintenance of the corporate body, person, and family contextual data from the archival description of records became possible.



Encoded Archival Description



Encoded Archival Context Corporate Bodies, Persons, and Families



Rationale

It was evident that there is a usefulness in developing a resource discovery tool that could ...

- create archival authority records (entity descriptions in SNAC)
- do machine extraction of CPF entities from EAD finding aids
- serve as a linking device for all the collections that referenced such entities

EAD from the John Bigelow Papers finding aid:

<controlaccess>

- <persname source="naf">Bigelow, John, 1817-1911</persname>
- <persname source="naf">Bryant, William Cullen,
- 1794-1878</persname>
- <persname source="naf">Bunau-Varilla, Philippe,
- 1859-1940</persname>
- <persname source="naf">Fre'mont, John Charles,
- 1813-1890</persname>
- <persname source="naf">Hay, John, 1838-1905</persname>
- </controlaccess>

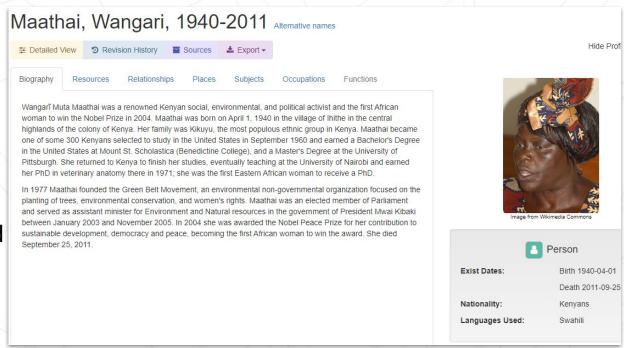






SNAC Authority Records ...

- the nodal point for the description of a corporate body, an individual, or a family
- similar to a traditional authority record (preferred name, variant name(s), etc.)
- contains all the components of the entity's description



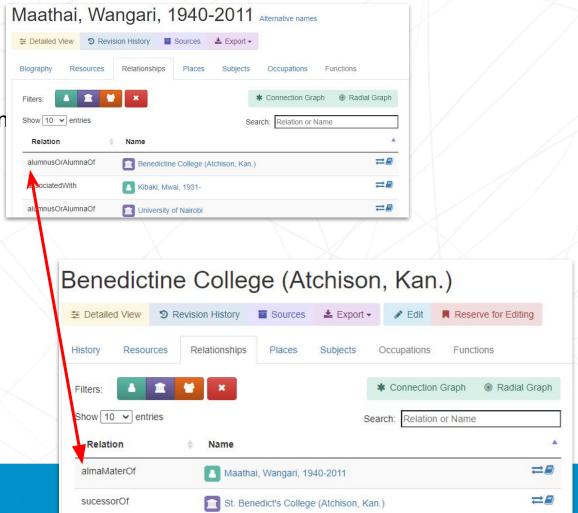


SNAC authority record features ...

 enables sharing, discovery and display of standardized information in an electronic environment

 facilitates discovery of contextual relationships amongst record-creating entities

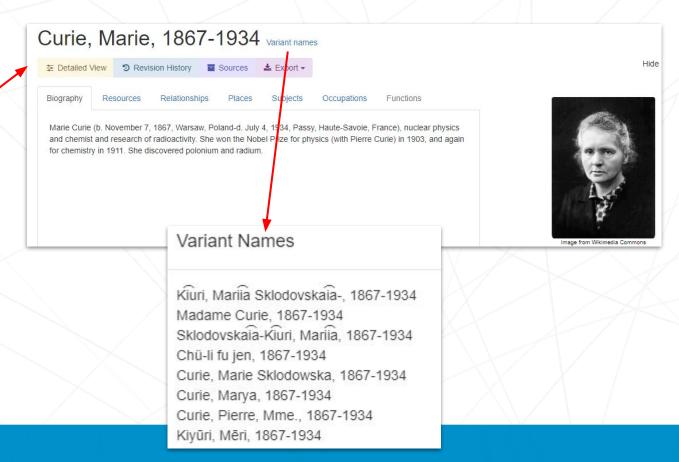
 facilitates linking descriptions of creators to descriptions of records and other entities in context





SNAC authority record features:

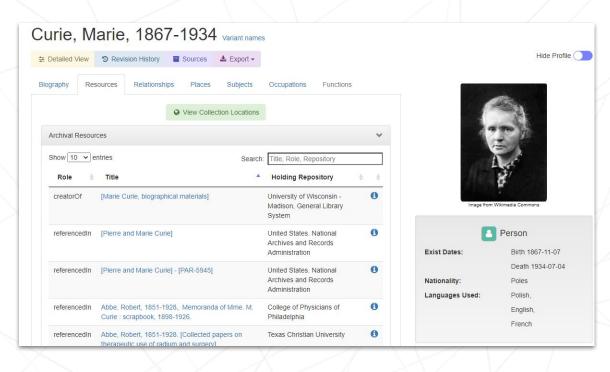
Each identity constellation prominently displays the entity's preferred form of name, and in some cases, life dates, variant forms of names, and a biographical note or administrative history.





SNAC authority record features:

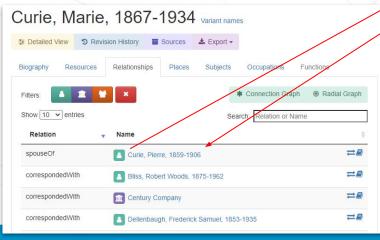
Each identity constellation also organizes an entity's links to related resources, both archival and bibliographical, and links to related entities found in SNAC.

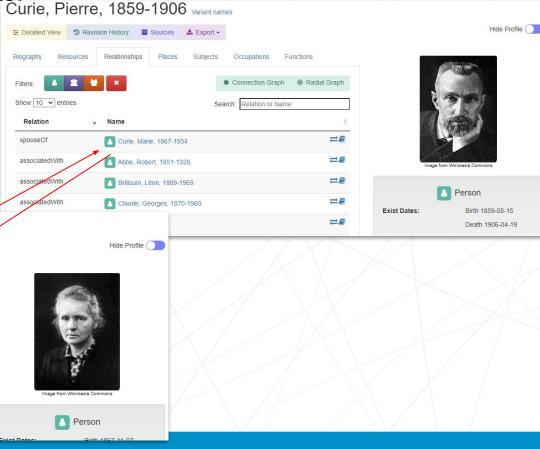




SNAC authority record components:

Each identity constellation also organizes an entity's links to related corporate bodies, persons and families also described in SNAC.

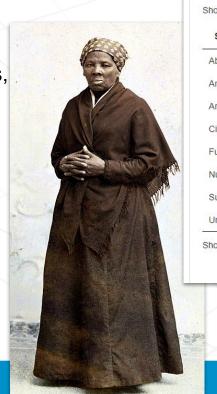


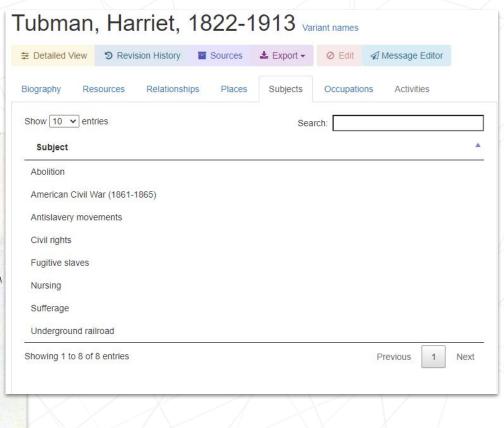




Other features ...

In many cases, SNAC records contain metadata used to describe the entity, like subject and occupation headings describing persons, and function headings describing corporate bodies.

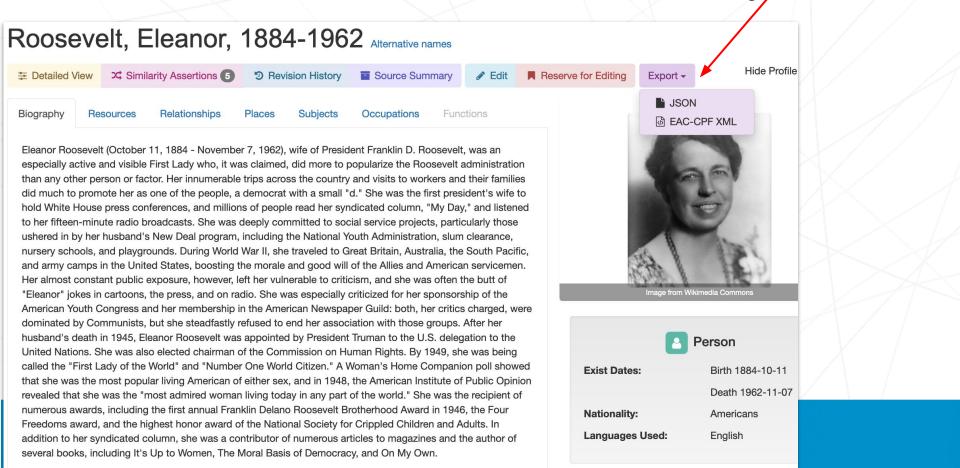




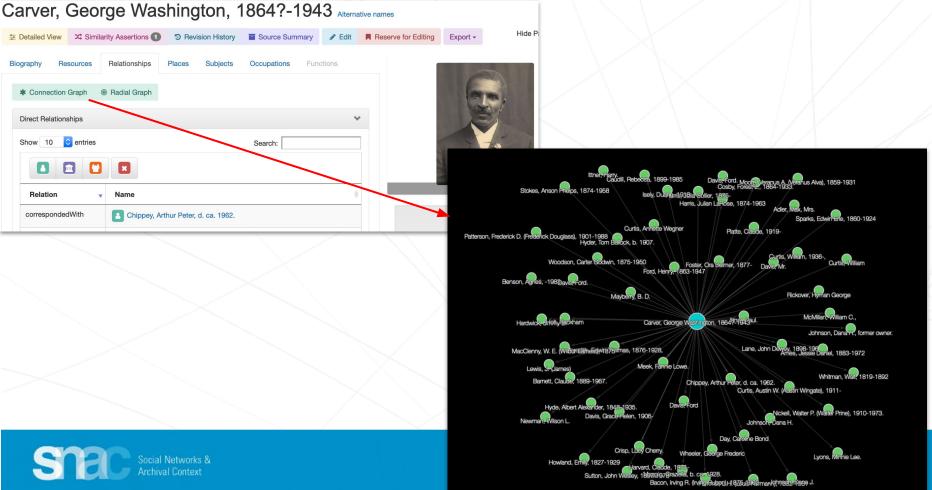


Other features ... Visualizations / Export options / Constellation actions

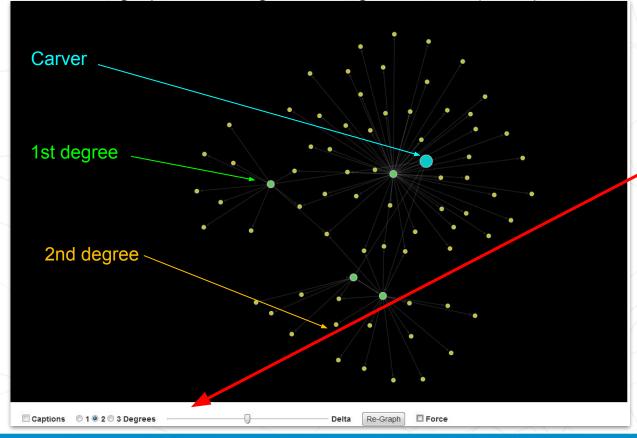
Options for exporting and sharing SNAC data.



Other features ... Visualizations / Export options / Constellation actions



Connection graph for George Washington Carver (detail)



Change the defaults to ...

Add captions

Change degrees to show more or fewer "dots" (just 1st degree, 2nd degree, etc.)

Make graph bigger or smaller in size of connections

Click the "dots" to navigate to related SNAC records.

