December 6, 2002

Dear GEDCOM Developer:

This letter accompanies a "beta" version of the GEDCOM XML Specification, Release 6.0. It is a complete specification and is suitable for use, with the understanding that its practical application may uncover some problems that necessitate change. It is believed that such changes will be minor and few.

If you have any comments or suggestions concerning this specification, please E-mail them to gedcom@gedcom.org. In the past we have received useful and significant comments from the genealogical community, and we welcome your suggestions.

There have been previous GEDCOM 6.0 drafts available at various times. This specification supercedes those.

Thank you for your continuing interest and support.
GEDCOM XML

Specification

Release 6.0

Beta Version

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

December 6, 2002

Suggestions and Correspondence:

Email: GEDCOM@gedcom.org

Mail:
Attn: GEDCOM CoordinatorC3T
Family and Church History Department
50 East North Temple Street, Room 599
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA

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Introduction

GEDCOM was developed by the Family and Church History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to provide a flexible, uniform format for exchanging computerized genealogical data. GEDCOM is an acronym for GEnealogical Data COMmunication.

To illustrate the advantages of GEDCOM, consider the data below, which is in a traditional fixed record format:

John Henry12 OCT 1954Los Angeles, Calif.

This might be data about a person named John Henry, with a date and place associated with him, perhaps when and where he received a driver’s license. Or it might be about the publication of a song called "John Henry." GEDCOM adds tags (labels) to the data that indicate meaning. It also indicates how data values are related. The same data in a GEDCOM file might look like:

0 INDI
1 NAME John Henry
1 BIRT
2 DATE 12 OCT 1954
2 PLAC Los Angeles, Calif.

or indented to make it more readable:

0 INDI
1 NAME John Henry
1 BIRT
2 DATE 12 OCT 1954
2 PLAC Los Angeles, Calif.

One familiar with GEDCOM knows that this is an individual’s name, birth date, and birthplace. The level numbers identify the date and place as being related to the birth. This is a more robust and flexible way to communicate information than the traditional fixed format records. Data can be rearranged and new data added without losing meaning. For example, the original data can still be easily identified in:

0 INDI
 1 ALIAS James Horning
 1 BIRT
    2 DATE 12 OCT 1954
    2 PLAC Los Angeles, Calif.
 1 NAME John Henry

Fixed format records are fragile in the sense that comparable changes can render them unusable by existing programs.

With the widespread use of the Internet, users recognized this same need for robust, flexible, structured data exchange. In response, the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) developed the Extensible Markup Language (XML). It serves the same purpose and has the same capabilities as GEDCOM. It uses tags but adds matching ending tags. It indicates the relationships or structure of data by nesting instead of level numbers. In XML, our original data might look like:
The line breaks and indentation are used for readability and would normally not be included. The data would likely be transmitted as:

<INDI><NAME>John Henry</NAME><BIRT><DATE>12 OCT 1954</DATE><PLAC>Los Angeles, Calif.</PLAC></BIRT></INDI>

Note: The example above is meant to show a comparison of traditional GEDCOM with XML. The XML code does not conform to the GEDCOM XML specification in the remainder of this document, and it is not an example of valid GEDCOM XML.

While GEDCOM and XML are both capable of transmitting genealogical data, XML has some advantages. First it is a widely recognized standard. With traditional GEDCOM, new users had to understand its peculiar syntax before they could understand its content. With an XML version of GEDCOM, a new user will likely already understand the syntax, and understanding the content is the only concern.

Being widely accepted, XML also brings with it readily available utilities, tools, and interfaces. For example, there are parsers, Internet interfaces, and graphic development tools. XML has established standards in areas where we have struggled in the past. This includes handling international character sets and "whitespace."

In short, XML has significant advantages over traditional GEDCOM. To move GEDCOM to an XML format is an obvious step in the right direction.

**Purpose of the GEDCOM XML Specification**

This specification is a technical document written so that computer programmers and advanced users can understand and use GEDCOM XML. These developers and users must already understand XML.

This document is available on the Internet at:

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) > FamilySearch Questions > GEDCOM

**Traditional GEDCOM**

For those interested in the traditional GEDCOM format, the GEDCOM 5.5 document is also on the site mentioned above.
Chapter 1
Comments and Examples

This chapter helps the reader understand GEDCOM XML content, use, and syntax before getting into the technical detail. Design objectives, examples, and data diagrams will be used to introduce the GEDCOM XML specification.

Extensibility

The primary strength of XML is in its extensibility. It allows application specific XML vocabularies. That is, it allows the definition of a well-defined set of tags and structure suitable for a specific type of application. The GEDCOM XML Specification is an XML vocabulary for genealogical data.

Design Objectives

XML serves two purposes:

- To facilitate the exchange of data in a structured, somewhat meaningful format.
- To allow the processing and presentation of data with Web tools.

GEDCOM XML is designed to serve the first purpose, which was the original intent of GEDCOM. The complexity and subtlety of genealogical data is best handled by genealogical specific applications, as opposed to generalized Web tools. This specification exclusively addresses the exchange of data between genealogical applications.

Consistency Between Traditional GEDCOM and XML GEDCOM

Traditional GEDCOM has evolved over 15 years. Technology, use, and understanding of genealogical data have changed in that time. The specification in this document is based on newer concepts. It is not upward compatible with traditional GEDCOM. It conveys largely the same content as traditional GEDCOM, but in a cleaner, less ambiguous, and more robust structure. Some of the content of traditional GEDCOM, which was marginal and seldom used, has been dropped. The dropped tags can be seen in Appendix A, "GEDCOM 5.5–GEDCOM XML Tag Comparison."

Although GEDCOM XML is different from traditional GEDCOM both in syntax and underlying logical structure, it is still considered as an evolution of GEDCOM. Thus the version of this document is 6.0 rather than GEDCOM XML 1.0.

Some Implementation Choices

Specifying Linkage

An important part of GEDCOM is its ability to link records according to family lineage and other data relationships.
XML's standard linkage method, using the ID and IDREF attributes, is equivalent to traditional GEDCOM linkage method and will be used in its place.

In traditional GEDCOM, links are bi-directional. For example, a CHIL tag in the FAM record connects a family to a child, and a FAMC tag in the INDI record connects a child to a family. Also, HUSB and WIFE tags in the FAM record connect to INDI records, and in the opposite direction, FAMS tags in the INDI record handle both spouses' connection to a FAM record. To specify a link in both directions is, of course, redundant and unnecessary. Some programs produce traditional GEDCOM with links in one direction, some the other, and some give both. That makes processing GEDCOM from a variety of sources difficult, and where both directions are specified, they may be inconsistent. In GEDCOM XML, all links are unidirectional and can be specified in only one way.

Attributes vs. Elements

In XML, information can be contained in elements or attributes. Elements can contain complex structure, while attributes cannot. Consequently, data contained in an attribute cannot be easily expanded into a more structured form as requirements change. To illustrate, if a person's name was given as an attribute, it might appear as:

```
Name="Sgt. Henry James Clay, Jr."
```

If changing requirements specify that the parts of the name must be explicitly shown, there is no simple way to make the change. However, if the name was given as an element:

```
<IndivName>Sgt. Henry James Clay, Jr.</IndivName>,
```

then it can be expanded in an XML compliant manner to show additional structure:

```
<IndivName><PersonalTitle>Sgt.</PersonalTitle> <GivenName>Henry James </GivenName> <SurName>Clay</SurName>, <NameSuffix>Jr.</NameSuffix></IndivName>.
```

Note: This code is used to illustrate a concept and is not an example of valid GEDCOM XML code.

Programs that do not understand the new tags can still get the same data as before by just ignoring the new tags. So elements are the more robust way of representing data.

Because of these considerations, GEDCOM XML uses attributes sparingly. One notable use of attributes is in the ID/IDREF record linkage mentioned earlier. Attributes are also used for some simple, unstructured data, such as Type.

Language Attribute

A language attribute is needed for names, places, and so on. Rather than specifying an attribute for language in GEDCOM XML, the standard XML language attribute is used, specifically "xml:lang." If this is found to be inadequate for genealogical work, a new language attribute may be added.

Items in Traditional GEDCOM Which Are Not Carried Over to XML

Character Set

In the past, ANSEL has been specified as the preferred character set for GEDCOM. In GEDCOM XML, the UNICODE character set is used.
User Defined Tags

In traditional GEDCOM, users could add their own "user defined" tags by starting them with an underscore, such as _UTAG. Such tags and their content would be recognized as nonstandard, and a parser could handle them appropriately. In XML, elements in a document can come from multiple namespaces. If a user wants to add his or her own tags, he or she can create his or her own namespace, declare it, and use a tag prefix to distinguish the tags. A parser would recognize them as not belonging to the GEDCOM XML vocabulary. The use of the underscore convention is, therefore, no longer needed.

Linked Record Structure of GEDCOM XML

A GEDCOM XML file contains a collection of related records which are linked together. For example, an individual record would be linked to the event records for that individual. Each individual may also be linked to ordinance records and so forth. As was mentioned earlier, the XML ID/IDREF mechanism is used for linking related records. The following is an example of a husband and wife linked to a marriage event:

```xml
<IndividualRec Id="I0001">
  <IndivName>John Smith</IndivName>
</IndividualRec>

<IndividualRec Id="I0002">
  <IndivName>Jane Doe</IndivName>
</IndividualRec>

<EventRec Id="E0001" Type="marriage">
  <Participant>
    <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="I0001"/>
    <Role>husband</Role>
  </Participant>
  <Participant>
    <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="I0002"/>
    <Role>wife</Role>
  </Participant>
  <Date>7 NOV 1891</Date>
  <Place>Cove, Cache, Utah, USA</Place>
</EventRec>
```

In this example, the event is linked to the two individuals who were married. The record IDs must be unique within the GEDCOM file. Using a different prefix for each record type can make this easier. A genealogy application that imports a GEDCOM file would generally not keep the record IDs from the GEDCOM file, but would assign primary key values consistent with its database structure. In fact, keeping the GEDCOM IDs as primary keys in the application database would likely lead to duplicate keys after multiple imports.
Data Structure Diagram

The data diagram below shows the various GEDCOM record types and how they are linked to one another.

Source and Contact records are referenced by most other records, so their connections are not shown.
Use of XML Document Capabilities

There is a significant difference between "data" and "text." This is an example of data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>John Henry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth Date</td>
<td>12 OCT 1954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth Place</td>
<td>Los Angeles, Calif.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This example contains discreet pieces of structured, standardized data. An example of text is:

"The prominent citizen of San Francisco, John Henry, was actually born in Los Angeles. According to his sister, Jane Franklin, he was born on the morning of October 12, 1954, at Grand View hospital."

Data oriented applications, such as genealogy programs, easily handle data but have had more difficulty handling text adequately. But text, such as an excerpt from a source, is important in genealogy. XML came from the document processing world, so it is more text aware. XML tags can be embedded in text to highlight meaningful data embedded within the text. We will take advantage of this in addresses, names, and places.

For example, the address:

Mr. John Henry  
HIQ Corp.  
1234 Pleasant Dr., Suite 26  
Denver, CO USA  
84095-0034

is text formatted appropriately for postal requirements. One approach to storing an address in a computer file is to break the it into discreet fields, such as addressee, street address, apartment, mail stop, city, state, and so on, and then reconstruct the postal address when it is used. However, addresses can vary a great deal in format, particularly when international addresses are needed. An address might be broken into lines, maintaining the postal format and tagging meaningful data within each line:

```
<MailAddress>
  <AddrLine><Addressee>Mr. John Henry</Addressee></AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>HIQ Corp./AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>1234 <Street>Pleasant Dr.</Street>, Suite 26</AddrLine>
  <AddrLine><City>Denver</City>, <State>CO</State> <Country>USA</Country></AddrLine>
  <AddrLine><PostalCode>84095-0034</PostalCode></AddrLine>
</MailAddress>
```

This tagged address preserves the postal format and identifies the data elements which might be useful for sorting, searching, building directories, and so forth.

The tagging above is still biased toward United States geography and culture. By using a neutral tag for parts of the address and level numbers, multinational data can be handled. The cultural name of the address parts can be given in an attribute. This gives the following:
<MailAddress>
  <AddrLine>
    <Addressee>Mr. John Henry</Addressee>
  </AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>
    HIQ Corp.
  </AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>
    1234 <PlacePart Type="street" Level="6">Pleasant Dr.</PlacePart>, Suite 26
  </AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>
    <PlacePart Type="city" Level="4">Denver</PlacePart>,
    <PlacePart Type="state" Level="2">CO</PlacePart>
    <PlacePart Type="country" Level="1">USA</PlacePart>
  </AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>
    <PlacePart Type="postal code" Level="5">84095-0034</PlacePart>
  </AddrLine>
</MailAddress>

This last example is how GEDCOM XML handles addresses. (The PlacePart structure is also used in event places.) The PlacePart is culturally dependent, gives meaning in terms the user understands, and could be used for labels in a user interface. The smaller level numbers represent the larger geographic entities. Countries are always level 1, and cities or towns are always level 4. In the United States, states are level 2 and counties are level 3. In other countries, that will vary. Postal codes are level 5. Higher levels may be used for localities, farms, streets, and so on, but are not standardized.

This specification does not suggest how an application will store the data in a database. (For example, an application may store the address lines and the discreet data values of interest in separate fields.) But regardless of how data is stored, GEDCOM XML can transmit both the format and content in a nonredundant manner.

Note: While the PlacePart Type and Level give a mechanism to span cultures, they are not mandatory. The following is valid GEDCOM XML code:

<MailAddress>
  <AddrLine>Mr. John Henry</AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>HIQ Corp.</AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>1234 Pleasant Dr., Suite 26</AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>Denver, CO USA</AddrLine>
  <AddrLine>84095-0034</AddrLine>
</MailAddress>

A similar approach is taken with personal names. In some cultures, names are customarily broken into given names and surnames. However, particularly in non-European cultures, this system may not be used. To give flexibility in representing names, the name:

   Duchess Neta Eskelson von Allen

is marked up as:
The "levels" here indicate the logical structure of the name parts and are useful in sorting, creating indexes, processing, and so on. Since family names and maiden names have genealogical value and given names are used in ordinances, levels 1 through 3 are reserved for them: 1 = surname, 2 = maiden name, and 3 = given name. Other name pieces can be given numeric level numbers, starting with 4 for the most important. The NamePart Type is culturally dependent, is understandable by users in that culture, and may be used for labels in a user interface.

Text extracted from a source can be stored in a citation. The extract can be more meaningful and more easily understood if some basic text formatting is preserved. For that we could use the XHTML namespace. However, our intent is to preserve formatting as in a printed document, not for displaying on a Web page. For example, italics, underlining, and bold should be preserved. In the Web world, levels of emphasis and style sheets are being stressed. Tags for specific formatting such as those just mentioned are being de-emphasized or removed from XHTML. GEDCOM XML includes these tags to avoid their loss as XHTML evolves. For example, we might extract:

**John Henry 1878 - 1934**

The prominent citizen of San Francisco, John Henry, was actually born in Los Angeles. According to his sister, Jane Franklin, he was born on the morning of October 12, 1878 at Grand View hospital. *(Underlining added for emphasis.)*

This would be coded as:

```xml
<Extract>
  <p><b>John Henry 1878 - 1934</b></p>
  <p>The prominent citizen of San Francisco, <u>John Henry</u>, was actually born in Los Angeles. According to his sister, <u>Jane Franklin</u>, he was born on the morning of <u>October 12, 1878</u> at Grand View hospital. *(Underlining added for emphasis.)*</p>
</Extract>
```

Notes are meant to be short comments where some explanation is needed for unusual situations. Therefore, formatting tags should not be used for notes. Notes should not contain lengthy supplementary or enrichment material, such as life histories.
Sample GEDCOM XML

The following is a sample GEDCOM XML file that illustrates most common content and structures. To see all the allowed content and structure, refer to the GEDCOM XML Document Type Definition (DTD) in the following chapter.

For the sake of clarity, line breaks, indentation, and bolding that are not a part of the actual XML data stream are used. Also, ellipses (…) indicate places where data may or should be included but is omitted to keep the example as simple and short as possible.

The hypertext links in the example connect to the DTD entries for the elements. From there, green hypertext links connect to narrative descriptions of the intended purpose and content of the elements.

<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!DOCTYPE GEDCOM SYSTEM ". . .">  

<GEDCOM>  p. 25  

<!-- Header Record -->  

<HeaderRec>  p. 26  
   <FileVersion Date="2 OCT 2000" Time="15:20:2.3">  p. 31  
      <ProductId>DAS</ProductId>  p. 33  
      <Version>6.3</Version>  p. 34  
      <Name>Deluxe Ancestral System</Name>  p. 32  
      <Supplier>  p. 34  
         <Link Target="ContactRec" Ref="CN001"/>  p. 32  
      </Supplier>  
   </Product>  
   <Copyright>Copyright 1999 So . . .</Copyright>  p. 30  
</FileVersion>  
</HeaderRec>

<!-- Family Records -->  

<!-- This citation is useful if the data in a file is from a single source. -->  

<FamilyRec Id="FM001">  p. 26  
   <HusbFath>  p. 31  
      <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="IN001"/>  p. 32  
   </HusbFath>  
   <WifeMoth>  p. 34  

</FamilyRec>
<!-- Individual Records -->

<IndividualRec Id="IN001"> p. 26

...<IndividualRec>

<IndividualRec Id="IN002"> p. 26

<IndivName> p. 31

<IndivName> <NamePart Type="title">Duchess</NamePart> <NamePart Type="given name" Level="3">Neta</NamePart> <NamePart Type="maiden name" Level="2">Esckelson</NamePart> <NamePart Type="surname" Level="1">Allen</NamePart> p. 32

<IndNameVariation Method="romanji"> p. 31

...<IndNameVariation>

<IndivName>
<IndivName Type="alias"> p. 31

...<IndivName>

<IndivName Type="nickname"> p. 31

...<IndivName>

<Gender>F</Gender> p. 31

<DeathStatus>dead</DeathStatus> p. 30

<PersInfo Type="occupation"> p. 33

<Information>seamstress</Information> p. 31

<Date>FROM 1835 TO 1875</Date> p. 30

</PersInfo>

<PersInfo Type="residence"> p. 33

<Date>FROM 10 JUL 1845 TO 25 MAY 1880</Date> p. 30

</PersInfo>

<PersInfo Type="attribute"> p. 33

<Information>5 ft. 4 in. tall, blond hair, blue eyes, well mannered</Information> p. 31

</PersInfo>

<AssocIndiv> p. 29

<Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="..."/> p. 32

<Association>first ancestor</Association> p. 29

<!--
This shows how the associated person is related to this person. For example, the linked individual is my great uncle. The example shown is an oriental cultural requirement.
--><Note>...</Note> p. 32

<Citation>...</Citation> p. 30

</AssocIndiv>

<DupIndiv> p. 30

<Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="..."/> p. 32

</DupIndiv>
<Note>... </Note>  p. 32
<Citation>... </Citation>  p. 30
</DupIndiv>
<ExternalID Type="..." Id="..."/>  p. 30
<Submitter>... </Submitter>  p. 34
<Note>... </Note>  p. 32
<Evidence>... </Evidence>  p. 30
<Enrichment>... </Enrichment>  p. 30
<Changed>... </Changed>  p. 29
</IndividualRec>

<IndividualRec Id="IN003">  p. 26
...
</IndividualRec>

<!-- Event Records -->

<EventRec Id="EV001" Type="marriage" VitalType="marriage">  p. 26

<Participant>  p. 32
  <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="IN001"/>  p. 32
  <Role>husband</Role>  p. 34
  <Age>26</Age>  p. 29
</Participant>

<Participant>  p. 32
  <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="IN002"/>  p. 32
  <Role>wife</Role>  p. 34
  <Age>21</Age>  p. 29
</Participant>

<Date Calendar="Julian">ABT 7 NOV 1834</Date>  p. 30
<Place>  p. 33
  <PlaceName>  p. 33
    <PlacePart Type="town" Level="4">Cove</PlacePart>,
    <PlacePart Type="county" Level="3">Cache</PlacePart>,
    <PlacePart Type="state" Level="2">Utah</PlacePart>,
    <PlacePart Type="country" Level="1">USA</PlacePart>  p. 33
  </PlaceName>
</Place>

<Religion>Reformed Christian</Religion>  p. 34
<ExternalID Type="..." Id="..."/>  p. 30
<Submitter>... </Submitter>  p. 34
<Note>... </Note>  p. 32
<Evidence>  p. 30
  <Link Target="SourceRec" Ref="SR001"/>  p. 32
</EventRec>

This would print as Cove, Cache, Utah, USA. In the data stream, each comma is followed by a blank, which can't be seen here. The line breaks that we have used for clarity are not in the actual data stream.
<OrdStat>
    <!-- Other examples: -->
    <OrdStat Code="dns"/>
    <OrdStat Code="bic"/>
    -->
    <TempleCode>CHICA</TempleCode> p. 34
    <Place>...<Place> p. 33
    <BasedOn> p. 29
        <Link Target="EventRec" Ref="..."/> p. 32
        <Note>...<Note> p. 32
    </BasedOn>
    <ExternalID Type="..."> Id="...">// p. 30
    <Submitter>...<Submitter> p. 34
    <Evidence>...<Evidence> p. 30
    <Enrichment>...<Enrichment> p. 30
    <Changed>...<Changed> p. 29
</LDSOrdRec>

<!-- Contact Records -->

<ContactRec Id="CN001" Type="business"> p. 27
    <Name>Genealogical Technology Corp.</Name> p. 32
    <MailAddress> p. 32
        <AddrLine>GTC</AddrLine> p. 29
        <AddrLine>Bldg 10, mail stop 2A</AddrLine>
        <AddrLine>345 S. State Street</AddrLine>
        <AddrLine> p. 29
            <PlacePart Level="4" Type="city">Salt Lake City</PlacePart>,
            <PlacePart Level="2" Type="state">UT</PlacePart>,
            <PlacePart Level="1" Type="country">USA</PlacePart> p. 33
        </AddrLine>
        <AddrLine> p. 29
            <PlacePart Level="5" Type="postal code">84050-3400</PlacePart> <PlacePart> p. 33
        </AddrLine>
    </MailAddress>
    <!-- This would print as:
         GTC
         Bldg 10, mail stop 2A
         345 S. State Street
         Salt Lake City, UT, USA
         84050-3400
    -->
</ContactRec>

<ContactRec Id="CN002" Type="person"> p. 27
    <Name>Joseph Tate</Name> p. 32
    <MailAddress> p. 32
        <AddrLine> p. 29
            <Addressee>Mr. J. T. Tate</Addressee> p. 29
</MailAddress>
1025 Pleasant Dr. p. 29

1025 Pleasant Dr. p. 29

Smithtown, CA, USA p. 33

p. 29

93502 p. 33

940 345-6789 p. 33

joeqpublic@mycorp.com p. 30

http://www.mypage.org p. 34

Y p. 33

Note... p. 32

Changed... p. 29

SameIndiv p. 34 <-- This links a contact with his individual record, if there is one -->

Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="..." p. 32

Title Marriage Registry p. 34

Author... p. 29 <-- Used for titles of articles in magazines, periodicals, and so on. -->

California State Board of Health p. 29

<SourceRec Id="SR002" Type="video tape" xml:lang="de"> p. 28

Kunzle Family Reunion p. 34

Author... p. 29

http://www.kunzlefarm.org/famreun.mov p. 34

Publishing... p. 33

Note... p. 32

Changed... p. 29

<SourceRec>

<SourceRec Id="SR003" Type="book"> p. 28

Prominent Families of Early Boston p. 34

Publishing Lynn, Mass.: The Stuart Little Co., 1936 p. 33

...
... 

<!-- Repository Records -->

<RepositoryRec Id="RP001" Type="government">  p. 28  
   <Name>California Department of Vital Records</Name>  p. 32  
   <MailAddress>  p. 32  
      <AddrLine>P. O. Box 2406</AddrLine>  p. 29  
   </MailAddress>  p. 32  
   <Phone>...</Phone>  p. 33  
   <Email>...</Email>  p. 30  
   <URI>...</URI>  p. 34  
   <Note>...</Note>  p. 32  
</RepositoryRec>  p. 29

<!-- Group Records -->

<GroupRec Id="GR001" Type="household">  p. 28  
   <Name>Smith Home</Name>  p. 32  
   <Contact>  p. 30  
      <Link Target="ContactRec" Ref="..."/>  p. 32  
   </Contact>  p. 32  
   <Member>  p. 32  
      <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="IN001"/>  p. 32  
      <Role>head</Role>  p. 34  
   </Member>  p. 32  
   <Member>  p. 32  
      <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="IN002"/>  p. 32  
      <Role>spouse</Role>  p. 34  
   </Member>  p. 32  
   <Member>  p. 32  
      <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="IN003"/>  p. 32  
      <Role>son</Role>  p. 34  
   </Member>  p. 32  
   <Member>  p. 32  
      <Link Target="IndividualRec" Ref="..."/>  p. 32  
      <Role>nanny</Role>  p. 34  
   </Member>  p. 32  
   <ParentGroup>  p. 32  
      <Link Target="GroupRec" Ref="..."/>  p. 32  
   </ParentGroup>  p. 32  
</GroupRec>  p. 32

<Submitter>...</Submitter>  p. 34  
<Note>...</Note>  p. 32  
<Evidence>...</Evidence>  p. 30
The Group record can be used for any type of group. It could be used for unconventional familial groups such as tribes, communes, and so on, which are not the basis for sealing ordinances.

</GroupRec>

</GEDCOM>
Chapter 2
GEDCOM XML Document Type Definition (DTD)

Introduction

This chapter contains the specification for GEDCOM XML in the Document Type Definition (DTD) format.

In traditional GEDCOM, the order of data was not considered important. For example, in a family, information about parents could come first, or children information could come first. XML definitions usually do specify and enforce the order of data. Order can be relaxed, but it requires extra specification, makes the definition more confusing, and loses precise cardinality specification. For example, in a family, you can specify that parents and children can be specified in any order, but then you cannot specify that there can only be one father and one mother but any number of children. The document definition below specifies and enforces the order of GEDCOM elements.

In the DTD below, hypertext links have been added to make it easier to find related information. The blue links connect to an element level definition; the green hypertext links connect a narrative description of the content of an element.

GEDCOM XML Document Type Definition (DTD)

<!-- GEDCOM Root -->

<!ELEMENT GEDCOM       p. 40
   (HeaderRec,       p. 26
    FamilyRec*,       p. 26
    IndividualRec+,       p. 26
    EventRec*,       p. 26
    LDSOrdRec*,       p. 27
    ContactRec*,       p. 27
    SourceRec*,       p. 28
    RepositoryRec*,       p. 28
    GroupRec*)>       p. 28

<!ELEMENT GEDCOM     p. 40
   (HeaderRec,       p. 26
    FamilyRec*,       p. 26
    IndividualRec+,       p. 26
    EventRec*,       p. 26
    LDSOrdRec*,       p. 27
    ContactRec*,       p. 27
    SourceRec*,       p. 28
    RepositoryRec*,       p. 28
    GroupRec*)>       p. 28

<!ENTITY % RecordCom
"ExternalID*,       p. 30
Submitter?,       p. 34
Note*,       p. 32
Evidence*,       p. 30
Enrichment*,       p. 30
Changed*>"       p. 29

<!ENTITY % RecordCom
"ExternalID*,       p. 30
Submitter?,       p. 34
Note*,       p. 32
Evidence*,       p. 30
Enrichment*,       p. 30
Changed*>"       p. 29

25
<!-- Header Record -->

<!ELEMENT HeaderRec p. 41
(FileCreation, p. 31
Citation?, p. 30
Submitter, p. 34
Note?)> p. 32

<!-- The citation is useful when all the data in the file comes from a single source -->

<!-- Family Record -->

<!ELEMENT FamilyRec p. 40
(HusbFath?, p. 31
WifeMoth?, p. 34
Child*, p. 29
BasedOn?, p. 29
%RecordCom;)> p. 25

<!ATTLIST FamilyRec
Id ID #REQUIRED>

<!-- Individual Record -->

<!ELEMENT IndividualRec p. 41
(IndivName*, p. 31
Gender?, p. 31
DeathStatus?, p. 30
PersInfo*, p. 33
AssocIndiv*, p. 29
DupIndiv*, p. 30
%RecordCom;)> p. 25

<!ATTLIST IndividualRec
Id ID #REQUIRED>

<!-- Event Record -->

<!ELEMENT EventRec p. 38
(Participant+, p. 32
Date?, p. 30
Place?, p. 33
Religion?, p. 34
%RecordCom;)> p. 25

<!ATTLIST EventRec
Id ID #REQUIRED
Type CDATA #REQUIRED
VitalType (birth | marriage | death ) #IMPLIED>
<!-- LDS Ordinance Record -->

<!ELEMENT LDSOrdRec  p. 42
   (Participant+,  p. 32
    OrdStat*,  p. 32
    TempleCode?,  p. 34
    Date?,  p. 30
    Place?,  p. 33
    BasedOn?,  p. 29
    %RecordCom;)>  p. 25

<!ATTLIST LDSOrdRec
   Id ID #REQUIRED
   Type (B | C | E | SM | SP | SS | TO | W) #REQUIRED>

<!-- Contact Record -->

<!ELEMENT ContactRec  p. 37
   (Name,  p. 32
    MailAddress*,  p. 32
    Phone*,  p. 33
    Email*,  p. 30
    URI*,  p. 34
    Public?,  p. 33
    Note*,  p. 32
    Changed*,  p. 29
    SameIndiv*)>  p. 34

<!ATTLIST ContactRec
   Id ID #REQUIRED
   Type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!-- Subrecord Elements in Alphabetical Order-->

<!ELEMENT Addressee (#PCDATA)>       p. 35

<!ELEMENT AddrLine       p. 35
  (#PCDATA |
   Addressee | p. 29
   PlacePart)*>       p. 33

<!ELEMENT Age (#PCDATA)>       p. 35

<!ELEMENT Article (#PCDATA)>       p. 35

<!ELEMENT Association (#PCDATA)>       p. 35

<!ELEMENT AssocIndiv       p. 35
  (Link,       p. 32
   Association,       p. 29
   Note*,       p. 32
   Citation*)>       p. 30

<!ELEMENT Author (#PCDATA)>       p. 35

<!ELEMENT b (#PCDATA)>       p. 35

<!ELEMENT BasedOn       p. 35
  (Link*,       p. 32
   Note*)>       p. 32

<!ELEMENT blockquote (#PCDATA)>       p. 36

<!ELEMENT br EMPTY>       p. 36

<!ELEMENT CallNbr (#PCDATA)>       p. 36

<!ELEMENT Caption (#PCDATA) >       p. 36

<!ELEMENT center (#PCDATA)>       p. 36

<!ELEMENT Changed       p. 36
  (Contact?,       p. 30
   Note?)>       p. 32

<!ATTLIST Changed
  Date CDATA #REQUIRED
  Time CDATA #REQUIRED>

<!ELEMENT Child       p. 36
  (Link,       p. 32
   ChildNbr?,       p. 30
   RefToFath?,       p. 34
   RefToMoth?)>       p. 34
<!ELEMENT PersInfo        p. 45        
  (Information?,        p. 31
   Date?,        p. 30
   Place?))>     p. 33

<!ATTLIST PersInfo
  Type CDATA #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT Phone (#PCDATA)>        p. 46

<!ATTLIST Phone
  Type CDATA #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT Place        p. 46        
  (PlaceName?,        p. 33
   Coordinates?,        p. 30
   PlaceNameVar*)>      p. 33

<!ELEMENT PlaceName        p. 46        
  (#PCDATA |        p. 33
   PlacePart)*>

<!ATTLIST PlaceName
  Method CDATA #IMPLIED
  xml:lang NMTOKEN #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT PlaceNameVar        p. 46        
  (#PCDATA |        p. 33
   PlacePart)*>

<!ATTLIST PlaceNameVar
  Method CDATA #IMPLIED
  xml:lang NMTOKEN #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT PlacePart (#PCDATA)>        p. 47

<!ATTLIST PlacePart
  Type CDATA #IMPLIED
  Level (1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7) #IMPLIED>

<!ELEMENT Product        p. 47        
  (ProductId?,        p. 33
   Version,        p. 34
   Name,        p. 32
   Supplier?)>    p. 34

<!ELEMENT ProductId (#PCDATA)>        p. 47

<!ELEMENT Public (#PCDATA)>        p. 47

<!ELEMENT Publishing (#PCDATA)>        p. 47
Chapter 3
Element Descriptions

This chapter explains the intent and content of the GEDCOM XML elements. They are arranged in alphabetical order. Since the meaning and content of attributes depend on the element that contains them, the attributes are described within the elements to which they belong.

**Addressee**

The name of the person to whom correspondence is sent as it would appear in the mailing address, such as:

Mr. John J. Jones, Jr.

**AddrLine**

One line of a mailing address as it would appear on the envelope.

**Age**

A person's age in the format YY y MM m DD d, where YY is the full number of years, MM is the number of months, and DD is the number of days. For example, 26 y 4 m 21 d. If only years is specified, the "y" is not needed.

**Article**

The title of an article from a larger publication, such as a newspaper, magazine, and so on, as used in a citation.

**Association**

The way in which associated individuals are connected, such as "brother in law," "long time friend," "godfather," and so on. The association is in terms of the association of the linked individual to the referencing individual. For example in a godfather/godson association, if the reference is in the child's record, the association is "godfather."

**AssocIndiv**

Contains descriptive data and a link from an individual to another individual who is in some way associated. This is meant to document associations or relationships between Individuals that cannot be documented in the normal lineage relationships.

**Author**

The name of the author of a book, article, recording, and so on.

**b**

Text within this element should be bolded when printed.

**BasedOn**

Descriptive information and a link to an event, which justifies creating a family, placing an individual in a
family, or performing an ordinance.

**blockquote**

Text within this element should be indented when printed.

**br**

Causes a line break in text when printed.

**CallNbr**

A reference number or code used to file and retrieve a source in a specific repository.

**Caption**

Explanatory comment accompanying a multimedia object, particularly a picture, which is displayed with the object.

**center**

Text in this element should be centered on a page when printed.

**Changed**

Information on when and by whom a record was changed.

**Attributes**

**Date**

The date the record was changed in this format:

DD MMM YYY.

(one or two digit day, 3 letter month abbreviation in upper case, and 4 digit year, using the Gregorian calendar. For example, 3 MAR 1842 or 14 JAN 1890.)

**Time**

The time at which the record was changed in 24-hour clock format, including hours, minutes, and optionally seconds, separated by a colon (:). Fractions of seconds are shown in decimal notation.

**Child**

Contains information about a child within a family and a link to the individual who is the child.

**ChildNbr**

A number indicating the order of children in a family, "1" being the oldest child, and so on. Generally used when birth dates are not known but the order of birth is known.

**Citation**

Contains information about a source citation and a link to the source.
Contact

Link to a contact person or organization.

ContactRec

Contains information about a person or organization that can be contacted for various reasons.

Attribute:

Id
A unique alphanumeric value used to identify and link records. This value must be unique across all records of all types within an XML file. Since this identifier may not be unique across other GEDCOM files or genealogical systems, it would not normally be used as the key value in the importing system. It may be kept as an external ID for the sake of communicating about specific records with the submitter.

Type
The types of contacts are:

person
business
organization

Since this is not critical genealogical data, other contact types may be added as needed.

Coordinates

The latitude and longitude of a place, separated by a space, in degrees and decimal fractions of degrees, such as:

N35.6756 W67.8967.

Copyright

A statement that data is copyrighted and the owner of the copyright.

Date

In order to accommodate the complexities of historical dates and partially known or approximate dates, the date element must be flexible. However, wherever possible and appropriate, dates should be in the form:

DD MMM YYYY

For example, 3 MAR 1832 or 23 APR 1923.

The following are standard qualifiers used for dates (the qualifiers generally precede the date):

ABT  = About, meaning the date is not exact (ABT 12 JUN 1842, ABT 1812).
CAL  = Calculated mathematically, for example, from an event date and age.
EST  = Estimated based on an algorithm using some other event date.
AFT  = Event happened after the given date.
BEF  = Event happened before the given date.
BET  = Event happened some time between date 1 and date 2.
(BET 12 MAR 1836 AND 06 MAY 1836)
FROM = Indicates the beginning of a happening or state.
TO   = Indicates the ending of a happening or state.

Partial dates can be used, such as JUL 1856 or 1856. These are equivalent to between (BET) dates. For example, JUL 1856 is the same as BET 1 JUL 1856 AND 31 JUL 1856. Partial dates such as 17 MAR can be
used, but are less valuable.

To show date imprecision, MAY 1890 is better than ABT 12 MAY 1890 because ABT or EST do not have assigned limits.

The slash (/) year modifier can be used to show the possible date alternatives for pre-1752 dates brought about by changing the beginning of the year from March to January in the English calendar, such as, 15 FEB 1699/00.

A "B.C." appended to the date indicates a date before the birth of Christ.

Attribute:

Calendar
The calendar used for the given date. The valid values are:
- Gregorian
- Julian
- Hebrew
- French
- Roman
- unknown

DeathStatus
An indicator in the individual record that the person is dead. Valid values are:
- dead
- stillborn
- infant
- child

When a person is known to be dead, but no events establish the death, this indicator allows proper handling of ordinances that depend on age at death. "Infant" indicates a death before a child is one year old; "child" indicates a death before age eight.

DupIndiv
This element contains information about and a link to another individual record for a person who appears to be the same person.

Email
An electronic mail address.

Enrichment
A citation of source material that provides interesting or useful information but is not evidence to support conclusions.

EventRec
Contains information about an event and links to related records (participants, evidence and enrichment sources, submitter).
Attributes:

Id
   See Id under ContactRec. p. 37

Type
   A large number of different types of events are worth recording. Some, such as birth, are important to
genealogy. Others, such as Eagle Scout court of honor, are primarily of social or historical interest. The
following are common values and should be used whenever appropriate:
   birth
   death
   marriage
   annulment
   baptism
   baptism-LDS
   bar mitzvah
   bat mitzvah
   blessing
   burial
   census
   christening
   christening-adult
   confirmation
   confirmation-LDS
   cremation
   divorce
   divorce filed
   emigration
   endowment
   engagement
   first communion
   graduation
   immigration
   marriage bans
   marriage contract
   marriage license
   marriage settlement
   naturalization
   ordination
   probate
   retirement
   will

VitalType
   This attribute indicates that an event record is considered as proof of a birth, marriage, or death. For
example, a christening is normally performed near the time of birth, so it is considered as proof of a birth
and gives an approximate birth date. The allowed values are:
   birth
   marriage
   divorce
   death

Although it seems redundant, a birth event record would have Type = "birth" and VitalType = "birth"
(and similarly for marriage, divorce and death event records).

Evidence

A citation of source material that provides evidence to support conclusions and actions, such as the formation
of a family, the performance of an LDS ordinance, the creation of an individual record, and so on.

ExternalID

This element contains information about a record ID for this record from some other system. It can be useful in
accurately identifying a record when communicating with the user of the other system.

Attributes:

Type
   This indicates which system produced the external ID. Valid values are:
   User = Unique identifier generated by the originator of the GEDCOM file, whether computer
   or manually assigned. A manual identifier could be something like a document description,
   page, and line number.
   AFN = Identifier of this record in the Ancestral File of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
day Saints.

Over time, other values can be added as needed.
Id
The value of the ID from the external system. p. 37

Extract
Free form text copied verbatim from a source. Interpretations, paraphrasing, observations, opinions, and so on, should be placed in notes. Tags that allow basic formatting (bolding, underlining, centering, and so on) are allowed.
Attribute:
xml:lang
Standard XML language attribute indicating the language of the extracted text.

FamilyNbr
In a family record, this indicates the number of the current family for a particular spouse. For example, if the FamilyNbr for the wife is 3, this is the third family in which she was the wife or mother, in chronological order.

FamilyRec
Contains information about a family and links to individuals who are family members and to events that justify the formation structure of a family.
Attributes:
Id
See Id under ContactRec attributes. p. 37

FileCreation
Contains information about the creation of the GEDCOM file containing this element.
Attributes:
Date
The date the record was changed in the format:
   DD MMM YYYY
(one or two digit day, 3 letter month abbreviation in upper case, and 4 digit year, using the Gregorian calendar). For example, 3 MAR 1832 or 23 APR 1923.

Time
The time at which the record was changed in 24-hour clock format, including hours, minutes, and optionally seconds, separated by a colon (:). Fractions of seconds are shown in decimal notation.

GEDCOM
The root or container element for the entire GEDCOM file.

Gender
An individual's gender. The valid values are:
   F = Female
M = Male
U = Unknown

**GroupRec**

Contains information about any group of people. A group can be of genealogical, historical, or general interest. Examples of groups that might be useful in genealogy research are households and neighborhoods as found in a census. A biological or legal traditional family (father, mother, children) is documented in a Family record rather than a Group record. Family-like groups such as communes, orphanages, group homes, and so on are documented here.

**Attributes:**

- **Id**
  - See Id under ContactRec. p. 37

- **Type**
  - Since groups are not core genealogical data and there are an unlimited number of group types, this value is not controlled.

**HeaderRec**

Contains information about the creation and source of the GEDCOM file.

**HusbFath**

Contains information about a husband or father in a family, including a link to the individual record of the father. The tag HusbFath is used rather than Husband alone or Father alone, since some husbands are not fathers and some fathers are not husbands.

- **i**
  - Text within this element should be italicized when printed.

**IndividualRec**

Contains information about an Individual.

**Attribute:**

- **Id**
  - See Id under ContactRec. p. 37

**IndivName**

A person's full name as it is normally written in his culture, or for translated names, in the natural order of the culture into which it is being translated. The name may contain titles, prefixes, suffixes, or whatever is normally included in a personal name within a culture. Tags within the name (NamePart and Level) identify recognizable parts of a name, such as surname and title.
Attributes:

Type
Valid values are:
- nickname
- alias
- aka
- married
- maiden
Others that prove useful may be used.

Method
Some translations can be done in more than one way. This specifies which variation was used.

xml:lang
Specifies the language in which the name is stored, in terms of XML standard languages.

IndNameVariation

This element contains a variation of a name already contained in an IndivName element, which is useful for processing or handling the record. It is not meant to be another name by which a person is known in the world. Examples might be, standardized, nondiacritic, translated, phonetic, Romanized, and so on.

Attributes:

Type
This gives the type of the name variation, such as standardized, translated, and so on.

Method
Specifies the translation method or the standardization method.

xml:lang
Specifies the language in which the name variation is stored, in terms of XML standard languages.

Information

Text describing an Individual's personal information.

LDSOrdRec

This element contains information about an LDS ordinance, links to the Individual participants, and links to the events that justify it.

Attributes:

Id
See Id under ContactRec. p. 37
Type

The type of ordinance. Valid values are:
- **B** = Baptism
- **C** = Confirmation
- **E** = Endowment
- **SM** = Sealing to spouse and marriage
- **SP** = Sealing to parents
- **SS** = Sealing to spouse
- **W** = Initiatory ordinances

Link

Establishes a connection or link between two records. The link is embedded in one record and references the other.

**Attributes:**

- **Target**
  - The type of record being referenced.
- **Ref**
  - The record ID of the referenced record.

Living

Indicates whether a person was living when an ordinance was performed. Valid values are:
- **Y** = Yes
- **N** = No

MailAddress

A mailing address as it appears on a posted item. Can include tags to mark the parts of the address, such as country, city, and so on.

**Attributes:**

- **xml:lang**
  - The language of the address in using the standard XML language attribute.

Member

This element contains information about an Individual who is a member of a group, including a link to the individual record of the member.

Name

The name of anything other than an individual.

**Attributes:**

- **Type**
  - The type of entity whose name is given. Possible values are:
person
business
organization
government agency
Other appropriate values may be used.

xml:lang
Language of the name using the standard XML language attribute.

NamePart
A part of an individual's name that is important enough to be marked for meaning. It may be useful for sorting, indexing, or searching for individuals.

Attributes:

Type
This is the type of the name part in the culture of the intended audience. For example, in the United States, the name part type may be "surname." In another language or culture, the appropriate term for a family name would be used. In non-European cultures, naming customs may be very different. For example, in Africa a person is given a "day name" based on the day he was born. The name part should be a term that would be appropriate as a label in a user interface.

Level
The level number gives an indication of meaning and importance of the parts of a name. Because of their importance in genealogy, a surname (or equivalent) has a value of 1, a maiden name has a value of 2, and a given name as used in the temple is level 3. Other name parts can be given numbers of 4 and above to indicate their relative importance, with lower numbers being considered more important. The level numbers can be useful in sorting, indexing, and searching names.

Note
Text giving a short explanation of an unusual circumstance or an interesting fact. Extensive material, such as a life story, should be contained in a source (which may be a publication or a URI to a word processing document).

Attribute:

xml:lang
The language of the place-name in terms of the XML standard language code.

OrdStat
Contains information about the status of an LDS ordinance, including the date of the status change.
Attribute:

Code
A code indicating the status of an LDS ordinance. Valid values are:
- **bic** = Born in the covenant.
- **canceled** = An ordinance was performed, but has been canceled.
- **cleared** = The ordinance has been cleared to be performed.
- **completed** = The ordinance has been performed.
- **dns** = A sealing ordinance should not be performed.
- **qualified** = An ordinance request was qualified by authorized criteria.
- **submitted** = An ordinance has been submitted.
- **uncleared** = An ordinance was cleared, but the clearance has been revoked.

The codes of child and stillborn which were used in traditional GEDCOM are now contained in the individual record.

P
The text within this element should be printed as a separate paragraph.

ParentGroup
Contains information about the parent group (including a link to the parent group, when the group is a member of a larger group). For example, a household (considered as a group of type "household") in a census belongs to a canvassing district (the parent group).

Participant
Information about and a link to an individual who participated in an event or LDS ordinance.

PersInfo
This element contains text describing an individual which is not core genealogical data but is interesting or useful in research. Examples might be a residence, an occupation, military service, unusual physical characteristics, and so on. Date and place elements are allowed in personal information. A residence, for example, would include a place and a date.

Attribute:

Type
Indicates the type of personal information contained in the element. The possibilities are unlimited, but the following are common examples:
- occupation
- residence
- attribute (meaning physical attribute, such as height)
- military
- education
- nationality
- SSN (meaning social security number)
- national ID
- marriage (information about and number of marriages)
- children (information about and number of children)
- property
- religion
title (meaning nobility title)

Phone

A telephone number

Attribute:

Type
   The type of phone, for example:
      home
      business
      cell

Place

The Place element contains information about the place of an event or an LDS ordinance or personal information. A place differs from a mailing address in several ways. A mailing address is the necessary information on mail to ensure successful delivery. A place refers to a geographic location, perhaps as known at an earlier time in history. It may have several translations or variations to serve various people and uses. This element contains a place-name, variations of the name, and geographic coordinates. The place-name may be as precise as a complete street address, but it is often just the town, state or equivalent, and country.

PlaceName

The PlaceName contains a name of a place. It may be a translation of the local name. For example, an English-speaking user with Japanese ancestors would probably need to work with a translation of place-names.

Attributes:

Type
   If a translated name, the type of translation.

Method
   The translation method within the translation type, if appropriate.

xml:lang
   The language of the place-name in terms of the XML standard language code.

PlaceNameVar

Variations of a place-name due to differences in language, changes over time, uncertainty, disagreement, and so on.

Attributes:

Type
   If a translated name, the type of translation.

Method
   The translation method within the translation type, if appropriate.
xml:lang

The language of the place-name in terms of the XML standard language code.

PlacePart

A part of a place-name or address important enough to be given recognition and meaning. For example, the name of a city, state, region, country, tribe, and so on.

Attributes:

Type

The type of place-name part, such as city, country, and so on. This method of handling place-names makes them culturally neutral. The type can be in any language and can conform to any manner of geographic configuration. It should be usable as a label that is meaningful to the user.

Level

The level is meant to give the order of importance of place parts. Level 1 is the largest geographic entity, and successive values are for progressively smaller units. Level 1 is reserved for the country (by whatever name) and 4 is reserved for the city or town level. Levels 2 and 3 are used for levels intermediate to country and city or town, such as state and county. Level 5 is reserved for a postal code. Levels 6 and higher can be used for areas, boroughs, neighborhoods, street names, or whatever are useful place-names in a particular place or culture. The basic purpose of the level is to allow processing of place-names such as sorting, indexing, searching, and so on.

Product

This element contains information about the computer software used to produce the GEDCOM file. It contains the product name, version, and so on.

ProductId

The product ID is the common acronym by which a product is known. For example, The Personal Ancestral File system is known as PAF.

Public

Indicates whether or not a contact has given permission for his or her information to be made public. Valid values are:

Y = Yes
N = No

If no value is present, No is the default.

Publishing

The Publishing element contains the customary publishing information, such as publisher, publisher's location, date of publication, and so forth.

Religion

Specifies the sponsoring religion of a religious event.
RelToFath

Specifies the relationship a child has to the father in a family. Valid values are:
   biological
   adopted
   foster
   sealing

Other types of relationships might be documented if useful. If no value is specified, biological is the default.

RelToMoth

Specifies the relationship a child has to the mother in a family. Valid values are:
   biological
   adopted
   foster
   sealing

Other types of relationships might be documented if useful. If no value is specified, biological is the default.

Repository

Contains information about a repository that contains a source, and the call number of the source within the repository.

RepositoryRec

Contains information about a facility that houses a source or sources.

Attributes:

Id
See Id under ContactRec. p. 37

Type
   The type of repository. For example:
   library
   government
   home
   Additional types may be appropriate.

Role

The role a participant played in an event or ordinance. The significant roles for genealogy are father, mother, child, husband, and wife. Some events or ordinances that center on an individual do not have a natural name for his or her role. For example, what is the role of a person being baptized? In these cases, "principle" can be used. The following are importance roles:
   Birth, sealing to parents:
   father
   mother
   child

   Marriage, sealing to spouse:
   husband
   wife
Baptism, endowment, initiatory: principle

Roles are not limited to those listed. One might, for example, record witnesses and officiators in ordinances. In events, roles are very numerous.

**SameIndiv**

Contains a link from an individual to another individual who is thought to be the same person.

**SourceRec**

Contains information about a source. A source can be printed, audio, video, computerized, or any kind of material or media.

**Attributes:**

- **Id**
  
  See Id under ContactRec. p. 37

- **Type**
  
  Indicates the type of media of the source, such as videotape, CD, magazine, book, and so on.

- **xml:lang**
  
  The language of the source using the standard XML language codes.

**sub**

Text in this element should be printed as a subscript.

**Submitter**

Contains a link to the person who submitted information.

**sup**

Text in this element should be printed as a superscript.

**Supplier**

Contains a link to the supplier of the product that produced the GEDCOM file.

**TempleCode**

The standard LDS temple code.

**Title**

The title of a source.
Text within this element should be printed as underlined text.

**URI**

A Universal Resource Identifier as defined in World Wide Web usage.

**Version**

The version level of the product used to produce the GEDCOM file.

**WhenRecorded**

The date on which cited material was recorded.

**WhereInSource**

Gives where in a source the cited material is found, such as "p. 3, third paragraph" or "about 5 min. into the tape."

**WifeMoth**

This element contains information and a link to the individual record of the wife or mother in a family record.
Appendix A
GEDCOM 5.5–GEDCOM XML Tag Comparison

The following table shows where data in GEDCOM 5.5 tags would be placed in GEDCOM XML elements. While it is largely accurate, there will be some exceptions. This is a guideline rather than an absolute set of rules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GEDCOM 5.5</th>
<th>GEDCOM XML Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABBR</td>
<td>Dropped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADDR</td>
<td>ContactRec → MailAddress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADR1</td>
<td>ContactRec → MailAddress → AddrLine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADR2</td>
<td>ContactRec → MailAddress → AddrLine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADOP</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;adoption&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFN</td>
<td>IndividualRec → ExternalID → Type=&quot;AFN&quot; Id=&quot;...&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FamilyRec → ExternalID → Type=&quot;AFN&quot; ID=&quot;...&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGE</td>
<td>EventRec → Participant → Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGNC</td>
<td>SourceRec → Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALIA</td>
<td>IndividualRec → IndivName → Type=&quot;alias&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANCE</td>
<td>HeaderRec → Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANCI</td>
<td>IndividualRec → Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANUL</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;annulment&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSO</td>
<td>IndividualRec → AssocIndiv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUTH</td>
<td>SourceRec → Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAPL</td>
<td>LDSOrdRec → Type=&quot;B&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAPM</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;baptism&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARM</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;bar mitzvah&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASM</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;bas mitzvah&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIRT</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;birth&quot; VitalType=&quot;birth&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLES</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;blessing&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLOB</td>
<td>SourceRec → URI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURI</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;burial&quot; VitalType=&quot;death&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALN</td>
<td>SourceRec → Repository → CallNbr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAST</td>
<td>IndividualRec → PersInfo→ Type=&quot;cast&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAUS</td>
<td>EventRec → Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENS</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;census&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAN</td>
<td>xxxxxxRec → Changed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAR</td>
<td>Dropped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIL</td>
<td>FamilyRec → Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHR</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;christening&quot; VitalType=&quot;birth&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRA</td>
<td>EventRec → Type=&quot;adult christening&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>EventRec → Place → PlacePart → Type=&quot;city&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ContactRec → MailAddress → AddrLine → PlacePart → Type=&quot;city&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONC  Dropped
CONF  EventRec → Type="confirmation"
CONL  LDSOrdRec → Type="C"
CONT  Dropped
COPR  HeaderRec → FileCreation → Copyright
CORP  HeaderRec → FileCreation → Product → Supplier
CREM  EventRec → Type="cremation" VitalType = "death"
CTRY  EventRec → Place → PlacePart → Type="country"
ContactRec → MailAddress → AddrLine → PlacePart → Type="country"
DATA  Dropped
DATE  EventRec → Date
LDSOrdRec → Date
HeaderRec → FileCreation → Date
LDSOrdRec → OrdStat → Date
xxxxxRec → Changed → Date
DEAT  EventRec → Type="death" VitalType="death"
DESC  HeaderRec → Note
DESI  IndividualRec → Note
DEST  Dropped
DIV  EventRec → Type="divorce"
DIVF  EventRec → Type="filed for divorce"
DSCR  IndividualRec → PersInfo → Type="attribute"
xxxxxRec → Note
EDUC  IndividualRec → PersInfo → Type="education"
EMIG  EventRec → Type="emigration"
ENDL  LDSOrdRec → Type="E"
ENGA  EventRec → Type="engagement" VitalType="marriage"
EVEN  EventRec
FAM  FamilyRec
FAMC  FamilyRec → Child (See page 8 ‘Specifying Linkage’) 
LDSOrdRec → FamParticipant
FAMF  Dropped
FAMS  FamilyRec → HusbFath (See page 8 ‘Specifying Linkage’) 
FamilyRec → WifeMoth (See page 8 ‘Specifying Linkage’) 
FCOM  EventRec → Type="first communion"
FILE  Dropped (HEAD)
SourceRec → URI
FORM  Dropped
GEDC  Dropped
GIVN  IndividualRec → IndivName → NamePart → Type="given name"
GRAD  EventRec → Type="graduation"
HEAD  HeaderRec
HUSB  FamilyRec → HusbFath
IDNO  IndividualRec → PersInfo → Type="Canadian SSN" or whatever
IMMI  EventRec → Type="immigration"
INDI  IndividualRec
LANG  xml:lang
RESN   Dropped
RETI   EventRec → Type="retirement"
RFN    IndividualRec → ExternalID → Type="RFN" Id="..."
RIN    IndividualRec → ExternalID → Type="RIN" Id="..."
ROLE   EventRec → Participant → Role
SEX    IndividualRec → Gender
SLGC   LDSOrdRec → Type="SP"
SLGS   LDSOrdRec → Type="SS"
SOUR   SourceRec
       xxxxxRec → Evidence → Citation → Link → Target="SourceRec" Ref="..."
       xxxxxRec → Enrichment → Citation → Link → Target="SourceRec" Ref="..."
SPFX   IndividualRec → IndivName → NamePart → Type="surname prefix"
SSN    IndividualRec → PersInfo → Type="SSN"
STAE   EventRec → Place → PlacePart → Type="state"
       ContactRec → MailAddress → AddrLine → PlacePart → Type="state"
STAT   LDSOrdRec → OrdStat → Code="..."
SUBM   ContactRec
       xxxxxRec → Submitter
SUBN   Dropped
SURN   IndividualRec → IndivName → NamePart → Type="surname"
TEMP   LDSOrdRec → TempleCode
TEXT   xxxxxRec → Evidence → Citation → Extract
       xxxxxRec → Enrichment → Citation → Extract
TIME   xxxxxRec → Changed → Time
TITL   SourceRec → Title
       IndividualRec → IndivName → NamePart → Type="title"
       IndividualRec → PersInfo → Type="title" (if not a part of the Name)
TRLR   Dropped
TYPE   EventRec → Type
       xxxxxRec → ExternalID → Type
VERS   HeaderRec → FileCreation → Product → Version
WIFE   FamilyRec → WifeMoth
WILL   EventRec → Type="will" VitalType="death"