

# Use of Getty AAT and TGN in the Singapore National Collection Cataloguing Work

Ho Swee Ann (HO\_swee\_ann@nhb.gov.sg)
Heritage Resource Discovery Team
National Heritage Board, Singapore
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Pride in Our Past, Legacy for Our Future

**FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL** 



HERITAGE CONSERVATION CENTRE (HCC)



**REFLECTIONS AT BUKIT CHANDU (RBC)** 



**CHANGI CHAPEL & MUSEUM (CCM)** 







**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SINGAPORE** (NMS)



**ASIAN CIVILISATIONS MUSEUM** (ACM)





**SUN YAT SUN NANYANG MEMORIAL HALL** (SYSNMH)



**MALAY HERITAGE CENTRE (MHC)** 



**INDIAN HERITAGE CENTRE (IHC)** 



**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM SINGAPORE (CMSG)** 

### The Singapore National Collection

- 1. Size: more than 250,000 artefacts.
- 2. Very varied collection artefacts collected from late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Raffles Library and Museum days) till the present.
  - consists mainly of Singapore, Southeast Asian, East Asian, West Asian, South Asian and some European items.
  - consists of folklife items, ceramic, shipwreck items, textiles, jewellery, contemporary artworks, visual artworks, and many other categories.
- 3. Storage: Heritage Conservation Centre (more than 25 stores) and in museums.
- 4. URL for the National Collection online page: <a href="https://www.roots.gov.sg/">https://www.roots.gov.sg/</a>



A set of sireh items
XXXX-03144
Collection of Asian Civilisations Museum



Changsha Ovoid Jar
2005.1-00487
Collection of Asian Civilisations Museum
The Tang Shipwreck was acquired
through the generous donation of the
Estate of Khoo Teck Pugt.



Manuscript painting
1999-02698
Collection of Asian Civilisations Museum



Woman's Kibla Compass 2019-00424 Collection of Indian Heritage Centre

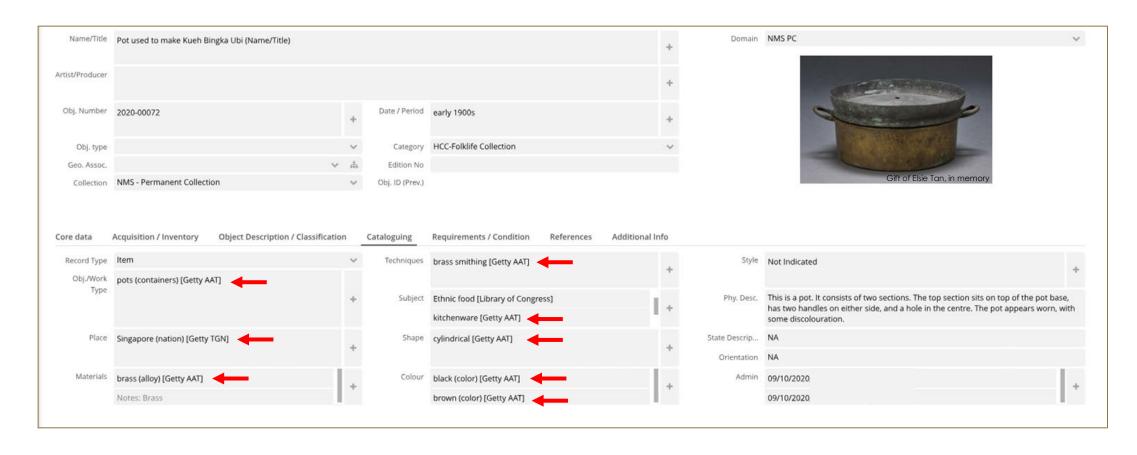


Not Quite A Total Eclipse 2011-01606 Collection of Singapore Art Museum

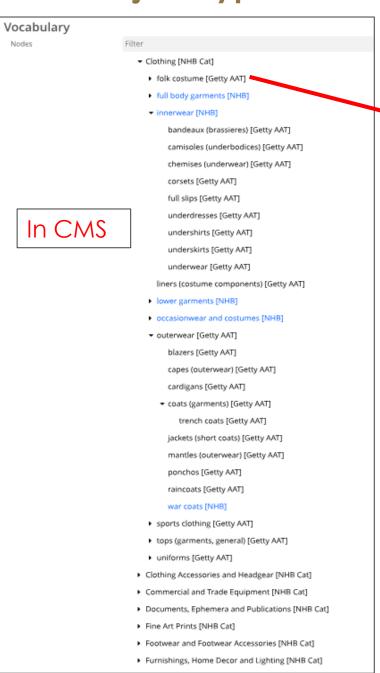


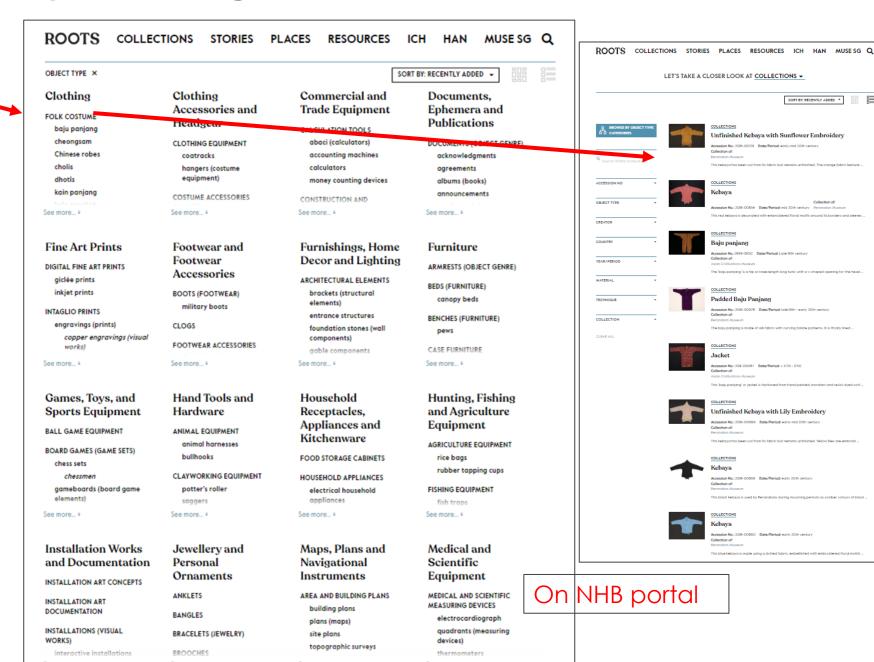
# Organizing and structuring the Singapore National Collection (NC)

- 1. Two of the core thesauri used to standardize metadata in the NC.
  - ∞ imported directly into the CMS to avoid typos.
  - ∞ discussions are held within the team to decide on terms used.
- 2. AAT terms are included in NHB Object Type Taxonomy
- 3. TGN terms are included in NHB Place Taxonomy: in-progress.
- 4. AAT terms are included in dataset used for Al-assisted cataloguing pilot project.
- 5. Pilot the use of Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) with Getty AAT terms to generate terms for our archaeology collection.



## NHB Object Type Taxonomy on Roots.sg - https://www.roots.gov.sg/filter/collectionresearch





LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT COLLECTIONS .

Kebaya

Baju panjang

Padded Baju Panjang

Unfinished Kebaya with Lily Embroidery

Jacket

Kebaya

SORT BY: RECENTLY ADDED \*

Unfinished Kebaya with Sunflower Embroidery

#### pots/jars



2009-03061 **Kamcheng** Collection of Asian Civilisations Museum Gift of Sunny Chan Hean Kee

#### food carriers



2010-00799 **Tiffin carrier | Tingkat** Collection of the Peranakan Museum

#### baskets



2014-00928 **Bakul siah** Collection of the Peranakan Museum

#### coins



N-3636 **Coin Tree**Collection of the National Museum of Singapore



2000-08290 Cane **Dowry Basket** with Wooden Pole Collection of the National Museum of Singapore



1997-03647 **Stamped coin | Piloncitos** Collection of the Asian Civilisations Museum Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Ng



2009-01543 Kasut Manek | Peranakan Beaded Slippers Collection of the Peranakan Museum

coins

baskets

shoes/slippers

#### Contribution of NHB local terms to Getty AAT

ID: 300451701 Record Type: concept

Page Link: http://vocab.getty.edu/page/aat/300451701

👗 hampatongs (fetish figures, <sculpture by function>, ... Visual and Verbal Communication (hierarchy name))

**Note:** Carved, wooden sculptures or figures created by the Dayaks, a group of indigenous people of Borneo, primarily as guardian spirits protecting the living from evil and illness. Additionally, hampatong are sometimes used as funerary sculptures to house the spirits of those who had passed on or as commemorative sculptures for events or celebrations. Depending on the purpose, the anthropomorphic figures are carved to mimic an ancestor or display hostile features like that of demons and fearsome animals.

#### Terms:

hampatongs (preferred, C, U, , Malayo-Polynesian-P, D, U, PN) hampatong (C, U, , Malayo-Polynesian, AD, U, U) kepatong (C, U, Malayo-Polynesian, UF, U, U) tempatong (C, U, Malayo-Polynesian, UF, U, U)

#### **Motivations**

- 1. Southeast Asian regional collection in the Singapore National Collection.
- 2. Same terms can have different scope or meaning for different region. For example: Slippers, Peranakan.
- 3. Possibility of starting a working group with other Southeast Asian collecting institutions or documentation professionals to standardize/link (different) terms for the same/similar artefacts
  - a. knowledge sharing and exchange
  - b. to contribute (collectively) to Getty AAT platform for international sharing



2015-00477 Hampatong post with tiger guardian figure Collection of Asian Civilisations Museum



#### Swee Ann Ho

Asst Director (Heritage Resource Discovery), SPDM - Data Management & Analytics



# Thank You

(HO\_swee\_ann@nhb.gov.sg)