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A Scandinavian Standard for Museum Documentation? The objective and impact of the work of The Scandinavian Museum Association's Catalogue Committee, 1915-1917



CIDOC 2017 conference: Past, Present, and Future Issues in Documentation

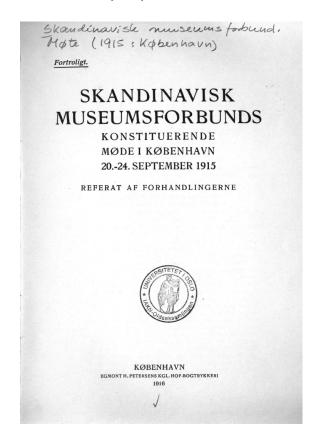
Janne W. Olsrud

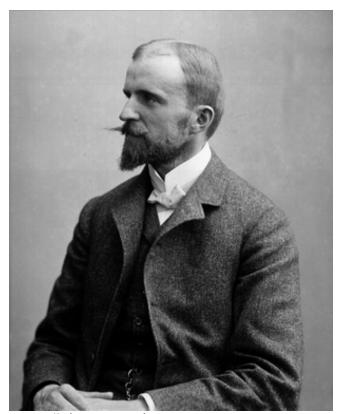
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PhD.-candidate in museology at the University of Oslo

The Scandinavian Museum Association, established in Copenhagen in 1915

Hans Aalls proposal: A Scandinavian standard for documenting museum collections





Hans Aall, (1869-1946)

Four requirements

- 1) It had to make it possible to quickly identify any object within the museum collection
- 2) In the process of acquiring new objects it should be easy to get an overview of the collections and what kind of objects that the collection might lack.
- 3) It should provide the visiting scholars an overview of the collections, preferably with references to relevant literature
- 4) Finally, the catalogue should, in case of fire or other forms of destruction of the collection, be a scientific substitute of the material collection (Museumsforbund 1915/1916).

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The "Catalogue committee"



Hans Aall, Norsk Folkemuseum



Sune Ambrosiani, Nordiska Museet



Jørgen Olrik, Dansk Folkemuseum







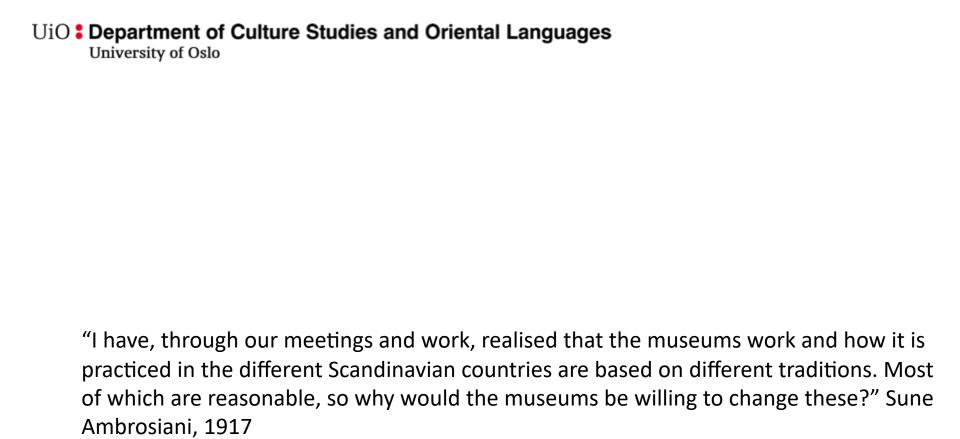


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Even if standardizing projects do not achieve their goals on a grand scale, they might have effects and repercussions on smaller, but even so important ideologies and practices.