Resource Sharing Alliance NFP 715 Sabrina Drive East Peoria, IL 61611 866-940-4083

## **Pagination Considerations in Cataloging**

Revised May 7, 2020

#### Questions?

Please contact the RSA Help Desk at <u>rsahelp@railslibaries.info</u> or 1-866-940-4083.

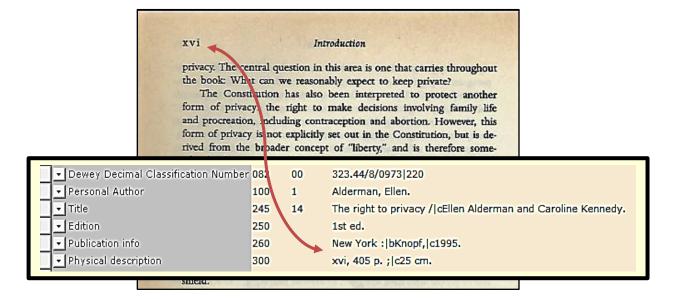
## **Pagination**

A consecutive sequence of numbers or letters assigned to pages in a book.

For cataloging purposes, pagination is relevant when a sequence of page numbers ends. Page numbers are recorded in the 300 field (physical description) of a bibliographic record, based on the last printed page number in every sequence. A sequence of page numbers may include preliminary information, main text, and/or supplemental pages. How page numbers are assigned to sections of a book may differ, but what is relevant to catalogers is the last printed page number of every sequence.

# **Preliminary Pages**

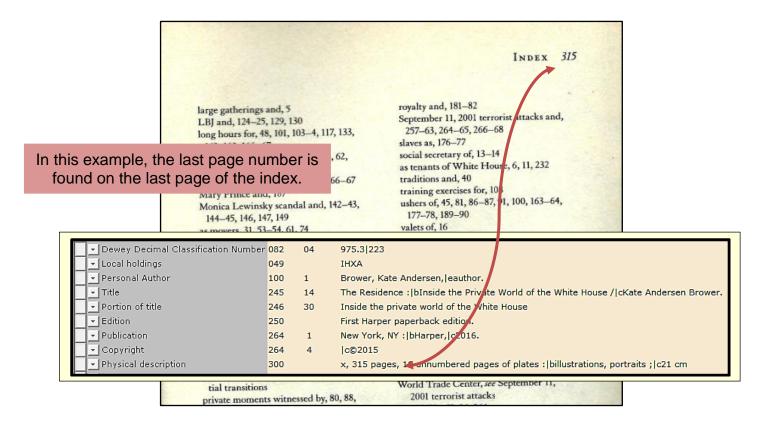
Pages at the beginning of a book, often found in introductions or forewords, which have a separate sequence of page numbers before the main text. Preliminary pages often use lower case Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, etc.), but may also use Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.) or letters (a, b, c, etc.). The bibliographic record will note the last page number in the preliminary sequence first, as in the example below.



Page 1 www.rsanfp.com

## **Last Page Number**

Usually in Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.). Most often refers to the final numbered page for the sequence of pages that include the main text of a book. The last page number may, however, extend beyond the main text into an index, bibliography, or other bonus content. The last page number may also appear several pages before the main text ends. What is relevant to cataloging is the last printed page number in the sequence.



## **Supplemental Pages**

Pages at the end of a book that may include a discussion guide, references, an index, or an excerpt from the author's next book. Supplemental pages that use a separate sequence of page numbers from the main text are included in the bibliographic record. Supplemental page numbers may appear in lower case Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, etc.), Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.), or letters (a, b, c, etc.). The bibliographic record will note the last page number in the supplemental sequence last, as in the following example.

