Library Registry

A library is, by definition, a directory segment which contains a collection of text and ~~link~~ associated link files, and which is used as ~~some of~~ the object of a search when a segment is needed by an executing program. There may be any number of libraries in a system. Multics is delivered with one standard library, the Multics common library. There may, in addition, be any number of locally maintained public libraries at an installation, and any user may develop a private library for himself or a small group of cooperating users.

As with, ~~a system~~ the operating system itself, ~~administration~~ maintenance of a library must be carried on in an organized way, and with regard to the users of that library. Two basic facilities are needed for any library, a

Log, giving textual information on implications of library changes, or a version identifier with an associated record of the precise copy of every segment which made up that version of that library. To this end, Multics provide a library registry mechanism, which is used for all public libraries, and which may be used for private or group libraries if desired.

Under this mechanism, every library has an assigned _librarian_, a human user.

"Standard" system

In the above comments, the term "standard delivery system" has been used or alluded to in several places. ~~This term refers to those~~ ~~which are supported or part of a standard Machine installation, and~~ ~~can be expected to be found in any~~ The standard system is that one described in the various sections of the MSPM.