LIBRARY OF CONGRESS RULE INTERPRETATIONS

Chapter 23

Geographic Names

October 2009

23.1. INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Ambiguous Entities

Treat the ambiguous entities (entities that could be treated as either name headings or subject headings) listed below as geographic names and establish them under the general provisions of chapter 23, AACR2, tagging them as X51.

City sections
Collective settlements
Communes
Conservation districts
Jurisdictions, Ancient (other than cities)
Military installations (Active; also all established after 1899)
Park districts
Recreation districts
Sanitation districts
Utility districts
Water districts

Military Installations

Treat military installations as local places. This means adding as a qualifier the country, state, province, etc., that would have been added to a city or town in the same place. Apply this even if the installation is located outside the country that controls it, i.e., add the heading for the larger place in which it is located in all cases. Make references from the name as a subheading of the country that controls it and as a subheading of the military branch to which it belongs. (Military installations that are treated as local places include forts, bases, camps, airfields, and Coast Guard stations but not shipyards.)

American Indian Tribes

The appropriate MARC 21 field for names of U.S. Indian tribes as legal entities in name authority records will henceforth be the 151 (Geographic name) field instead of the previously used 110 (Corporate name) field. This is in keeping with the guidance provided in rule 21.35 of AACR2

in regard to treating tribal entities as national governments.

Tribes recognized by the U.S. government are independent, autonomous political entities with inherent powers of self-government; they possess sovereignty and are equal to national governments. There are over 500 recognized tribes within the continental United States. Nearly all federally recognized tribes have jurisdiction over some delimited area of land, a geographic place, although land and area vary with each tribe.

When establishing headings for American Indian tribes of the United States, consult the official list created and maintained by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, published and updated in the *Federal Register*. The list of federally recognized tribes published biannually since 1979, entitled: *Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs* is available online at the Federal Register Web site at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/. Note that this site contains only the lists published since 1994. A copy of the most current list can be found on the CPSO Web site at: http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/biaind.pdf. Updated lists of tribal entities from the Federal Register will be posted as received. This source, the date of publication, and the date accessed should be recorded in a 670 field in the name authority record and may be cited as "BIA Indian Entities." If a name for a tribal entity is not found in the BIA list additional research may be conducted and/or the name may be established from information found on the work being cataloged, in this case the BIA list should be cited in a 675 field.

Example (complete name authority record fields not shown):

Some tribes have a federally approved name that sounds as if the name were for a populated place rather than a tribe. Confusion may result when there actually is a populated place of that name. In such cases, the tribe and the populated place are separate entities, and both may be established as needed.

```
151 ## $a Native Village of Nunapitchuk (Tribe)
```

151 ## \$a Nunapitchuk (Alaska) (Populated place)

23.2. GENERAL RULES.

Sources

Apply the following for current place names:

- 1) For names in the United States, base the heading on the form found in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), U.S. Geological Survey (United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) domestic names system). GNIS may be accessed through the World Wide Web (http://geonames.usgs.gov/). A recent edition of the Rand McNally Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide may also be used when access to the World Wide Web is not available.
- 2) For names in Australia, base the heading on the form found in the Geoscience Australia Gazetteer of Australia database (http://www.ga.gov.au/map/names/).
- 3) For names in Canada, use the heading provided by the National Library of Canada (NLC). Accept the NLC form, even if it differs from LC policy in such matters as abbreviations, diacritics, fullness, qualifiers, etc. Additional information on Canadian place names may also be found in Natural Resources Canada's Canadian Geographical Names Data Base (http://geonames.nrcan.gc.ca/search/search_e.php).
- 4) For names in Great Britain, base the name on a recent edition of The Ordnance Survey gazetteer of Great Britain. Online access may be found at http://www.ordsvy.gov.uk/>. The site for searching a place name is http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/site/help/index.html>
- 5) For names in New Zealand, base the heading on the form found in Land Information New Zealand's New Zealand Geographic Placenames Database (http://www.linz.govt.nz/placenames/find-names/macrons/index.aspx and http://www.linz.govt.nz/placenames/find-names/macrons/index.aspx (New Zealand names with macrons)).
- 6) For other names, base the heading on the form found in the work being cataloged together with a consideration of the form found on GNS (or an appropriate gazetteer if access to the World Wide Web is not available). In all cases, a gazetteer published within the last two years may also be used when access to the World Wide Web is not available.

English or Vernacular Forms

If BGN approves both a vernacular and an English form (called a conventional name in BGN terminology), use the English form.

For the following names, use the English form listed rather than the BGN-approved form:

Alma-Ata Ashkhabad Bavaria Bosnia and Hercegovina Brittany

Bruges

Burgundy

Carinthia

Crete

Crimea

Cuzco

East Flanders

Ghent

Hesse

Hokkaido

Istanbul

Jaffa

Kyoto

Louvain

Lower Austria

Lower Saxony

Malacca

Mantua

Mexico City

Navarre

North Brabant

North Holland

North Rhine-Westphalia

Nuremberg

Osaka

Padua

Picardy

Piraeus

Rabat

Rhineland-Palatinate

Saint Gall

Saxony

Saxony-Anhalt

Seville

Sicily

South Holland

Styria

Syracuse

Tehran [instead of Teheran]

Thuringia

Turin

Upper Austria West Flanders

Zurich

Note: If a foreign name is established in an English form, use the same form if the name is used by more than one jurisdictional level or is used as part of another name, whenever the same name occurs at the beginning of the name.

```
151 ## $a Kyoto (Japan)
151 ## $a Kyoto (Japan : Prefecture)
not 151 ## $a Kyōto-fu (Japan)

151 ## $a Cologne (Germany)
151 ## $a Cologne-Deutz (Cologne, Germany)
not 151 ## $a Köln-Deutz (Cologne, Germany)

but 151 ## $a Garching bei München (Germany)
not 151 ## $a Garching bei Munich (Germany)
```

Note: Before 1999, headings for the provinces and major cities of China were established in a conventionalized English-language form based on the Wade-Giles romanization system. After 1998, these geographic administrative areas of China are to be established in the BGN-approved pinyin form. Existing headings will be revised by LC on a project basis.

Modifications of the Name

- 1) *Initial articles*. Drop initial articles from the beginning of the entry element of geographic names in Arabic, Urdu, Hebrew, and Yiddish. Retain initial articles in other non-English geographic names when retention is supported by current gazetteers in the country's language. ("Non-English" is meant to include names in French, Spanish, etc., when these are used in the United States (e.g., Los Angeles) or other English-speaking countries.) Drop all other initial articles (e.g., drop "The" from "The Dalles").
- 2) *Gazetteers*. If the name is based on the form found in a recently published gazetteer, generally use in the heading the form found on the item being cataloged rather than a shortened form or unabbreviated form found in a gazetteer, unless 23.5A is applicable.

However, for the English-language terms "Saint" or "St." and "Mount" or "Mt.," always use the spelled out form regardless of the item being cataloged or other evidence *unless* the name is for a place or jurisdiction within the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, in which case the abbreviation "St." should be preferred to the spelled out form "Saint," *or* the name is for a place or jurisdiction in Canada, in which case the heading supplied by the National Library of Canada should be used. Make a reference from the form not used in the heading.

in source: St. Joseph

```
gazetteer: Saint Joseph
(GNIS: Saint Joseph)
heading: 151 ## $a Saint Joseph (Mo.)
451 ## $a St. Joseph (Mo.)

but in source: St. Andrews
gazetteer: St. Andrews
heading: 151 ## $a St. Andrews (Scotland)
451 ## $a Saint Andrews (Scotland)

in source: St. John's
NLC heading: St. John's (N.L.)
heading: 151 ## $a St. John's (N.L.)
451 ## $a Saint John's (N.L.)
```

3) *U.S. Board on Geographic Names*. If BGN approves a romanized form that conflicts with LC's policy for the romanization of that language, use the LC form of romanization in the heading. If the BGN response indicates both a brief and a long form of the place name, generally select the long form as the heading, unless 23.5A is applicable.

```
GNS: Borno State
heading: 151 ## $a Borno State (Nigeria)

GNS: Coast Province
heading: 151 ## $a Coast Province (Kenya)

GNS: Sulz am Neckar
heading: 151 ## $a Sulz am Neckar (Germany)

GNS: Villefranche-sur-Mer
heading: 151 ## $a Villefranche-sur-Mer (France)

GNS: Wimmera Shire
heading: 151 ## $a Wimmera Shire (Vic.)

GNS: Kōra-chō
heading: 151 ## $a Kōra-chō (Japan)
```

heading: 151 ## \$a Kōra-chō (Japan)
e of conflicts 23 4F1 mandates a preference for long.

Note that in the case of conflicts, 23.4F1 mandates a preference for long forms found in sources (including BGN "variants"), rather than adding "an appropriate smaller place" within parentheses after the conflicting name.

GNS: Münster

sources: Münster in Westfalen

but GNS: Sundern

sources: Sundern (Sauerland)

heading: 151 ## \$a Sundern (Hochsauerlandkreis, Germany)

- 4) Districts of India. In order to have consistent headings for the districts of India, establish all of them with the word "District" (or its equivalent in non-English) omitted. If the resulting heading conflicts, as in the case of the city's bearing the same name, add "District" as an element of the parenthetical qualifier (24.6).
- 5) *U.S. Townships*. For U.S. townships (called "towns" in some states) that encompass one or more local communities and the surrounding territory, do not include the term "township" or "town" as part of the name. Instead, add the term after the name of the state.

These non-local jurisdictions are called "townships" in Arkansas, California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and South Dakota; they are called "towns" in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin. If there is more than one township with the same name in the same state, apply LCRI 23.4F1.)

- *Note 1*: For the period 1980-1990, the term "Township" or "Town" was added only if the name conflicted. Change existing headings for U.S. townships lacking the term "Township" or "Town" when the headings are needed for post-1990 cataloging.
- *Note* 2: Before May 2007 as the result of differing instructions, some towns or townships that were coextensive with the populated place were not separately established but subsumed under the heading for the populated place. As these civil jurisdictions are encountered, they will be separately established as called for in this LCRI.

Special Decisions

1) *China*. For all the governments that have controlled the mainland of China, use "China" for all periods except 1931-1945. For the government headquartered in Nanking, 1931-1937, and in Chungking, 1937-1945, use "China." For the government headquartered in Jui-chin, 1931-1937,

use "China (Soviet Republic, 1931-1937)." For the government headquartered in Peking, 1937-1940, use "China (Provisional government, 1937-1940)." For the governments headquartered in Nanking, 1938-1945, use "China (Reformed government, 1938-1940)" for 1938-1940, and use "China (National government, 1940-1945)" for 1940-1945. For the post-1948 government on Taiwan, use "China (Republic: 1949-)." For the province of Taiwan, use "Taiwan."

- 2) *Germany*. For the Federal Republic of Germany, use "Germany (West)" for 1949-1990 and "Germany" after 1990. For the German Democratic Republic, use "Germany (East)."
 - 3) Great Britain. For the United Kingdom, use "Great Britain."
- 4) *Korea*. For Korea until September 1945, including the Japanese occupation (1910-1945), use "Korea." For Nam Chosŏn Kwado Chŏngbu (South Korean Interim Government, 1947-1948), the American occupation government (1945-1948), and the Republic of Korea, use "Korea (South)." For the Soviet occupation government (1945-1948) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, use "Korea (North)."
 - 5) London. In dealing with London, use the following headings:
 - a) Use "City of London (England)" for items from the 677-acre entity.
- b) Use "Greater London Council" for items from the former entity bearing this name that had administrative control over the 32 London boroughs that made up "Greater London" (excluding the City of London). (The entity ceased April 1, 1986.)
- c) Use "London (England)" as the qualifier added to corporate headings for a body located in the City of London or in an inner borough. Use "London (England)" also as the qualifier added to a corporate heading for a body located in an outer borough when the body is commonly associated with London rather than with the name of the particular outer borough. Otherwise, use the heading for the particular outer borough. (The inner London boroughs are Camden, Greenwich, Hackney, Hammersmith and Fulham, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Wandsworth, and the City of Westminster.)
 - 6) Soviet Union. For the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, use "Soviet Union."

For the republics that constituted the Soviet Union, use the following headings:

Before 1992	After 1991
-------------	------------

Armenian S.S.R.
Azerbaijan S.S.R.
Byelorussian S.S.R.
Estonia
Georgian S.S.R.
Kazakh S.S.R.
Kirghiz S.S.R.
Armenia (Republic)
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Estonia
Georgia (Republic)
Kazakh S.S.R.
Kyrgyzstan

Latvia Latvia Lithuania Lithuania

Moldova

Moldova

(*Before 1990*: Moldavian S.S.R.) Russian S.F.S.R. Russia (Federation)

Tajik S.S.R. Turkmen S.S.R. Tajikistan Turkmenistan Ukraine Ukraine Uzbek S.S.R. Uzbekistan

7) Washington, D.C. For Washington, D.C., use "District of Columbia" as the heading for the government of this name. Use "Washington (D.C.)" only as a location qualifier or as the entry element for cross references from place.

23.4B. ADDITIONS. GENERAL RULE.

Islands and Island Groups

Add to the name of an island or island group that is a jurisdiction the name of its larger jurisdiction only when the island or island group is located near the larger jurisdiction and is commonly associated with it. Otherwise, do not add the name of the larger jurisdiction. In case of doubt, do not add the larger jurisdiction.

```
151 ## $a Crete (Greece)

151 ## $a Sicily (Italy)

151 ## $a Svalbard (Norway)

but 151 ## $a Greenland

not 151 ## $a Greenland (Denmark)

151 ## $a Madeira Islands

not 151 ## $a Madeira Islands (Portugal)

151 ## $a Réunion

151 ## $a Réunion (France)
```

For places on islands, see LCRI 23.4F2.

Choice of Larger Place

When adding the name of a larger place as a qualifier, use the heading for the current name of the larger place. If the smaller place existed when the larger place had an earlier name, and the name in the item pertains to the earlier period, make a reference from the form that shows the earlier name of the larger place if the qualifier is appropriate for the smaller place.

```
151 ## $a Minsk (Belarus)
451 ## $w nne $a Minsk (Byelorussian S.S.R.)

151 ## $a Charles Town (W. Va.)
451 ## $a Charles Town (Va.)
```

If the smaller place has changed its name or has ceased to exist, use as a qualifier the name the larger place had during the period in which the name of the smaller place is applicable.

```
151 ## $a Leningrad (R.S.F.S.R.)
not 151 ## $a Leningrad (Russia)
```

Form of Larger Place

If the heading for the larger place being added to the smaller place is established according to the provisions of 24.6, do not include in the qualifier the additions prescribed in 24.6.

```
151 ## $a Albany (N.Y.)
not 151 ## $a Albany (N.Y. (State))

151 ## $a Seoul (Korea)
not 151 ## $a Seoul (Korea (South))
```

Exception: For Berlin as a government, use "Berlin (Germany)" before 1949 and after 1990. For 1949-1990, use "Berlin (Germany: East)" or "Berlin (Germany: West)," as appropriate. However, use "(Berlin, Germany)" as the qualifier in all cases when Berlin is being added to a corporate name heading (24.4C), unless the corporate names conflict.

Denmark, Norway, and Sweden

The systems of administrative divisions of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden have changed several times over the years. The same names may have been/are used either at different times or concurrently by different levels of government within each country. At times, the same name has been/is used for both a jurisdiction and an area. The extent of the geographic area covered by each name may be the same, nearly the same, or very different. Nearly all cities no longer exist as jurisdictions.

When different names have been/are used for jurisdictions or areas that are either the same or different in respect to geographic area covered, establish separate headings.

When the same name has been/is used, either at different times or concurrently, for more than one jurisdiction or area that are different in respect to geographic area covered, establish separate headings using appropriate qualifiers to identify each heading. Add the qualifier at the first instance, even if no conflict yet exists in the database.

Note: For subject cataloging, the heading appropriate for the geographic area covered in the work being cataloged is used. Only the latest name is used for jurisdictions whose territorial identity has remained essentially the same but whose name has changed. (Subject usage notes are added [following instructions in *Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings*, H 708] to name authority records for earlier names of jurisdictions that have undergone linear name changes to indicate that they are not valid for use as subjects.)

23.4C. PLACES IN AUSTRALIA, CANADA, MALAYSIA, UNITED STATES, U.S.S.R., OR YUGOSLAVIA.

Special Cross References for Malaysian Geographic Names

When a geographic name within Malaysia is qualified by the name of one of the states, routinely refer from the same name qualified by "(Malaysia)."

```
151 ## $a Kuching (Sarawak)
451 ## $a Kuching (Malaysia)
```

Make the same type of reference for the states themselves.

```
151 ## $a Sarawak
451 ## $a Sarawak (Malaysia)
```

23.4D. PLACES IN THE BRITISH ISLES.

Existing Headings

When changing the qualifier on a heading that was coded for AACR2 before April 1988, trace a see reference from the previous AACR2 form. Code the reference "e," to indicate that it was an earlier established form of heading. Retain a reference from the pre-AACR2 form if there is one.

23.4E. OTHER PLACES.

Israel, Jordan, Syria

Do not add the name of the country to places that prior to 1967 were in Jordan or Syria and that are currently within the administered territories of Israel.

For Jerusalem, use "Jerusalem."

South Africa

Add the qualifier "(South Africa)" to the headings for the South African homelands and to jurisdictions within the homelands. Apply this both to the homelands that South Africa has converted to sovereign nations (e.g., Bophuthatswana) and to those that are currently called self-governing territories within South Africa (e.g., Gazankulu).

23.4F1. FURTHER ADDITIONS.

Conflicts

Apply either 23.4F1 or 24.6B (depending on the situation) to resolve conflicts in headings for places (geographic names and names of governments) not already resolved by the additions called for by 23.4C-23.4E. Conflict in place names is not restricted to those already established or being established in the catalog (the file against which the searching and cataloging is being done). Instead, if there is no existing conflict in the catalog, search gazetteers, etc., to determine if two or more places within the same jurisdiction have the same name or if two or more places with the same name would bear the same qualifier for the larger place.

U.S. Townships

If a name of a U.S. township (called "towns" in some states) conflicts with the name of another township within the same state, add the heading for the county to each name before the term "Township" or "Town." (Consult Andriot's *Township Atlas of the United States* to determine if there is more than one township with the same name in the same state.)

```
151 ## $a Spring (Berks County, Pa. : Township)
151 ## $a Spring (Centre County, Pa. : Township)
```

Note: Before May 2007 as the result of differing instructions, some towns or townships that were coextensive with the populated place were not separately established but subsumed under the heading for the populated place. As these civil jurisdictions are encountered, they will be separately established as called for in this LCRI.

Hawaii

If local places in Hawaii conflict, add to each name the heading for the island on which the place is located rather than the heading for the county.

23.4F2. IDENTIFYING PLACES.

Places on Islands

1) Places on islands in Australia, Canada, Malaysia, United States, Yugoslavia, or the British Isles. For places on islands covered by 23.4C or 23.4D, add the qualifier called for by 23.4C2 or 23.4D2.

```
151 ## $a Avalon (Calif.)
151 ## $a Beaumaris (Wales)
```

2) Places on other islands. For places on islands not covered by 23.4C or 23.4D, add the established form for the name of the island or island group if the heading for the island does not contain the name of the country as qualifier. (Headings for islands or island groups that are jurisdictions (cf. LCRI 23.4B) reside in the name authority file; headings for those that are not jurisdictions reside in the subject authority file.) If, however, the heading for the island is qualified by the name of the country, add only the name of the country to the place on the island.

```
151 ## $a Naujat (Greenland)
      151 ## $a Naujat (Denmark)
not
      151 ## $a Funchal (Madeira Islands)
      151 ## $a Funchal (Portugal)
not
      151 ## $a Grand Fond (Réunion)
      151 ## $a Grand Fond (France)
not
but
      151 ## $a Hērakleion (Greece)
not
      151 ## $a Hērakleion (Crete, Greece)
      151 ## $a Marsala (Italy)
      151 ## $a Marsala (Sicily, Italy)
not
      151 ## $a Longyearbyen (Norway)
      151 ## $a Longyearbyen (Svalbard, Norway)
not
```

City Sections

Before August 1996, city sections were established either as name or subject headings. After July 1996, establish all city sections, including city districts and neighborhoods, as name headings. (Headings for features in cities (e.g., plazas, circles, squares, monuments, and streets) will continue as subject headings.)

For city sections, add the established form for the name of the city. (Use the heading reflecting its current status for the entire period of the city section's existence (including any earlier

independent existence it may have had), provided the name remains constant.) Make a reference from the name of the city section as a subheading of the name of the city.

```
151 ## Ra Borgfelde (Hamburg, Germany)
410 1# Ra Hamburg (Germany). ‡b Borgfelde

151 ## $a Georgetown (Washington, D.C.)
410 1# $a Washington (D.C.). ‡b Georgetown

151 ## $a Greenwich Village (New York, N.Y.)
410 1# $a New York (N.Y.). ‡b Greenwich Village

151 ## $a Loop (Chicago, Ill.)
410 1# $a Chicago (Ill.). ‡b Loop

151 ## $a Rive gauche (Paris, France)
410 1# $a Paris (France). ‡b Rive gauche
```

If the city section once had an independent existence but changed its name when it was absorbed into the larger place, establish a heading for each name.

If the city section is within another city section, add the name of the city, not the name of the section.

```
151 ## $a Wahn (Cologne, Germany)
410 1# $a Cologne (Germany). ‡b Wahn
not 151 ## $a Wahn (Porz, Cologne, Germany)
```

LC practice: Convert headings for city sections existing in the subject authority file to name headings as needed. In converting subject authority records to name authority records, copy the subject authority record into the name authority file. Add the control number of the subject authority record as a 010\$z; evaluate existing references (revise¹ or delete), add additional references as

¹If a reference that is retained in the record contains value e in \pm w, position 3, change value e to value n.

appropriate, delete any 550 fields² (used on subject authority records for historic districts); retain any 670 field(s) as is (including "Work cat." preceding the citation) or add a 670 field (LC database citation), if none already present; and change FFD 8 to value n, code FFD 12 as appropriate, and add the cataloger's code in FFD 25. Submit a proposal to delete the record from the subject authority file to the Subject Headings Editorial Team, Cataloging Policy and Support Office in accordance with procedures in *Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings* H193, section 11, and H193.5. (*NACO libraries*: Submit the proposal to Cooperative Cataloging Team, Regional and Cooperative Cataloging Division.)

²Note that the order of fields when copying a subject authority record differs from the traditional order of fields for name authority records. Do not reorder the fields.