Geographic subdivision in LCSH subject strings

LIS 606 (Chopey)
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Direct vs. Indirect Subdivision

• With a few exceptions, geographic subdivision in LCSH subject hdg. strings is *always* indirect.

• “Indirect” usually means that you subdivide to the subordinate locality *through* the country or U.S. state or Canadian province in which it is wholly located.
“Subordinate localities”

• “Subordinate localities” in this case include:
  – subordinate political jurisdictions, such as provinces, districts, counties, cities, etc.
  – historic kingdoms, principalities, etc.
  – geographic features and regions, such as mountain ranges, bodies of water, lake regions, watersheds, metropolitan areas, etc.
  – islands situated within the territorial limits of the country in question
Other “First-Order Political Divisions”

• In the case of the United States, Canada, subdivide not through the country, but instead through the “first-order political subdivision” shown here:
  
  • **United States**: the state in which the locality or feature is wholly located
  
  • **Canada**: the province in which the locality or feature is wholly located
“First-Order Political Divisions”

- In the case of Great Britain, subdivide through the constituent country (e.g., England, Scotland …) in which the locality or feature is wholly located
Some other rules for geographic subdivision

- Never include more than two levels of geographic subdivision
- Never subdivide to a level below that of a city, town, etc.
- When subdividing geographically, generally use the latest name of any entity whose name has changed during the course of its existence, regardless of the form of the name or period covered in the work cataloged.
- See other provisions in SHM H830.
Examples and Practice
Paris (France)

- 650 #0 $a Art
- 650 #0 $a Art $z France
- 650 #0 $a Art $z France $z Paris.
Elizabeth (N.J.)

- 650 #0 $a Education
- 650 #0 $a Education $z New Jersey
- 650 #0 $a Education $z New Jersey $z Elizabeth.
Lucerne (Switzerland)

• 650 #0 Cowbells
• 650 #0 Cowbells $z Switzerland
• 650 #0 Cowbells $z Switzerland $z Lucerne
Saint Louis Metropolitan Area (Mo.)

- 650 #0 $a Minorities
- 650 #0 $a Minorities $z Missouri
- 650 #0 $a Minorities $z Missouri $z Saint Louis Metropolitan Area.
Grass Valley (Lander County and Eureka County, Nev.)

- 650 #0 $a Trees
- 650 #0 $a Trees $z Nevada
- 650 #0 $a Trees $z Nevada $z Grass Valley
- 650 #0 $a Trees $z Nevada $z Grass Valley (Lander County and Eureka County)
Clear Lake (Iowa : Lake)

- 650 #0 $a Eutrophication
- 650 #0 $a Eutrophication $z Iowa
- 650 #0 $a Eutrophication $z Iowa $z Clear Lake
- 650 #0 $a Eutrophication $z Iowa $z Clear Lake (Lake)
Sydney (N.S.W.)

- 650 #0 $a Architecture
- 650 #0 $a Architecture $z Australia
- 650 #0 $a Architecture $z Australia $z Sydney
- 650 #0 $a Architecture $z Australia $z Sydney (N.S.W.)
Colca River (Arequipa, Peru)

- 650 #0 $a Stream measurements
- 650 #0 $a Stream measurements $z Peru
- 650 #0 $a Stream measurements $z Peru $z Colca River
- 650 #0 $a Stream measurements $z Peru $z Colca River (Arequipa)
Tibet (China)

- 650 #0 $a India $x Relations
- 650 #0 $a India $x Relations $z China
- 650 #0 $a India $x Relations $z China $z Tibet.
Pacific Coast (Peru)

- 650 #0 $a Zoology
- 650 #0 $a Zoology $z Peru
- 650 #0 $a Zoology $z Peru $z Pacific Coast.
Veracruz-Llave (Mexico : State)

- 650 #0 $a Land reform $z Mexico $z Veracruz-Llave (State)