BACKGROUND: *A museum is an institution or a building where works of art, scientific specimens, or other objects of permanent value are exhibited. This instruction sheet provides guidelines for assigning headings to works about museums. For instructions on assigning the subdivision* **–Catalogs** *to lists of types of objects, see H 1360. For instructions on assigning headings to works on private collections of objects, see H 1427. For instructions on assigning the subdivision* **–Exhibitions**, *see H 1593.*

1. General. Assign the heading **Museums** *(May Subd Geog)* to general works on museums not limited to a particular subject. *Example:*

> *Title:* *A directory of unusual museums in New England.*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a Museums $z New England $v Directories.
> ```

2. Special types of museums.

a. Phrase headings. Search the subject authority file to determine whether a phrase heading has been established for the type of museum discussed in the work being cataloged. If a phrase heading exists, assign this heading. *Examples:*

```
650 #0 $a Archaeological museums and collections.
650 #0 $a Art museums.
650 #0 $a Historical museums.
650 #0 $a Medical museums.
650 #0 $a Naval museums.
650 #0 $a Sports museums.
```

Existing phrase headings may continue to be used but new ones should not be established.

b. –Museums. Assign the free-floating subdivision **–Museums** *(May Subd Geog)* under wars, classes of persons, ethnic groups, individual corporate bodies, including individual educational institutions, and under topical headings not covered by sec. 2.a to works on museums devoted to these topics or operated by these institutions. *Examples:*

```
650 #0 $a Hispanic Americans $x Museums.
650 #0 $a Indians of North America $x Museums.
650 #0 $a Soccer $x Museums.
650 #0 $a World War, 1939-1945 $x Museums.
610 20 $a Harvard University $x Museums.
```

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3. Individual persons and families.   Assign the free-floating subdivision **–Museums**   *(May Subd Geog)* under names of individual persons or families to works on museums or collections devoted to the person or family.

4. Individual museums.   To works on individual museums, assign the name heading for the museum.

```
610 20 $a National Gallery of Art (U.S.)
610 20 $a Philadelphia Museum of Art.
```

If a museum is located in a historic building originally constructed for another purpose, assign headings for both the museum and the building if the work being cataloged discusses both. *Examples:*

> *Title: The Old Stone Fort.*
> ```
> 610 20 $a Stone Fort Museum (Nacogdoches, Tex.)
> 610 20 $a Old Stone Fort (Nacogdoches, Tex.)
> 651 #0 $a Nacogdoches (Tex.) $x Buildings, structures,
>          etc.
> ```

> *Title: The Louvre palace and museum.*
> ```
> 610 20 $a Louvre (Paris, France)
> 610 20 $a Musée du Louvre.
> 651 #0 $a Paris (France) $x Buildings, structures,
>          etc.
> ```

5. Museum techniques.   Assign phrase headings or appropriate subdivisions under the heading **Museums** to works on the acquisition, conservation, and exhibition of objects, the financing of museums, museum attendance, etc.   *Examples:*

```
650 #0 $a Museum attendance.
650 #0 $a Museum curators.
650 #0 $a Museum labels.
650 #0 $a Museums #x Educational aspects.
650 $0 $a Museums and schools.
```

6. *Assigning additional headings.*   To works about museums assign several headings, if appropriate, to bring out the most important topics discussed.   *Examples:*

Title: *Oriental carpets in the Philadelphia Museum of Art.*
```
650 #0 $a Rugs, Oriental $v Catalogs.
650 #0 $a Rugs $z Pennsylvania $z Philadelphia $v Catalogs.
610 20 $a Philadelphia Museum of Art $v Catalogs.
```


Title: *Ancient and Near Eastern glass.*
```
650 #0 $a Glassware, Ancient $v Catalogs.
650 #0 $a Islamic glassware $z Middle East $v Catalogs.
650 #0 $a Glassware $z Ohio $z Toledo $v Catalogs.
610 20 $a Toledo Museum of Art $v Catalogs.
```


Title: *The design of educational exhibits.*
```
650 #0 $a Museums $x Educational aspects.
650 #0 $a Museum exhibits.
```


Title: *Reconstructing archaeology.*
```
650 #0 $a Archaeology $x Philosophy.
650 #0 $a Social archaeology.
650 #0 $a Material culture.
650 #0 $a Archaeological museums and collections $z Great
         Britain.
650 #0 $a Archaeological museums and collections.
```