

## 215 AUTHORIZED ACCESS POINT – TERRITORIAL OR GEOGRAPHICAL NAME

### Field Definition and Scope

Preferred form of a territorial or geographic name.

It is formulated in accordance with the cataloguing rules or subject system in use by the agency which created it.

Territorial names alone or only with subject subdivisions as additions are considered territorial names (field 215); territorial names followed by a corporate body subdivision are considered corporate body names (field 210).

Field is repeatable for alternative script forms.

### Subfields & Occurrence

Field/Subfield	Field/Subfield Name	Repeatability	Occurrence
215	AUTHORIZED ACCESS POINT – TERRITORIAL OR GEOGRAPHICAL NAME	R	O
a	Entry Element	NR	MA
b	Intermediate Location	R	O
c	Broader Location	NR	O
d	Addition to Name or Qualifier	R	O
j	Form Subdivision	R	O
x	Topical Subdivision	R	O
y	Geographical Subdivision	R	O
z	Chronological Subdivision	R	O
7	Script of Cataloguing and Script of the Base Access Point	NR	O
8	Language of Cataloguing and Language of the Base Access Point	NR	O

### Indicators

Indicator	Value	Description
1	#	blank (not defined)
2	#	blank (not defined)

### Subfields Description

#### \$a Entry Element

Portion of the name used as the entry element in the access point; that part of the name by which the name is entered in ordered lists.

This subfield must be present when the field is present. Not repeatable.

#### \$b Intermediate Location

Intermediate location, such as a district, county, state, or other geographic subdivision within the broader location recorded in \$c.

Repeatable if multiple intermediate locations need to be recorded. (EX [11](#), [13](#))

**\$c Broader Location**

Broader location of the territorial or geographical name, such as the country or continent to which the territorial or geographical name belongs.

Not repeatable.

**\$d Addition to Name or Qualifier**

Addition to the name of the territorial or geographical name added by the cataloguer.

Repeatable. (EX [10](#), [12](#)).

**\$j Form Subdivision**

Term added to a subject access point to further specify the kind(s) or genre(s) of material (EX [5](#)).

Agencies not using this subdivision should use \$x instead (EX [2](#)). Repeatable.

**\$x Topical Subdivision**

Term added to a subject access point to further specify the topic the subject access point represents.

Repeatable. (EX [1](#), [3](#))

**\$y Geographical Subdivision**

Term added to a subject access point to specify a place in relation to the territory or geographical name that the subject access point represents.

Repeatable. (EX [6](#))

**\$z Chronological Subdivision**

Term added to a subject access point to specify the period in time in relation to a territory or geographical name that the subject access point represents.

Repeatable. (EX [3](#))

**\$7 Script of Cataloguing and Script of the Base Access Point**

See specification of [Control Subfield 7](#). Not repeatable.

**\$8 Language of Cataloguing and Language of the Base Access Point**

See specification of [Control Subfield 8](#). Not repeatable.

**Related Fields**

415 VARIANT ACCESS POINT – TERRITORIAL OR GEOGRAPHIC NAME
515 RELATED ACCESS POINT – TERRITORIAL OR GEOGRAPHIC NAME
715 AUTHORIZED ACCESS POINT IN OTHER LANGUAGE AND/OR SCRIPT – TERRITORIAL OR GEOGRAPHIC NAME

**Examples**

EX 1
215 ##\$aUnited States\$xHistory
EX 2
215 ##\$aOntario\$xGuidebooks
EX 3

215 ##\$aOntario\$xHistory\$z1801-1900
EX 4
215 ##\$aRocky Mountains
EX 5
215 ##\$aParis (Texas)\$jGuidebooks
EX 6
215 ##\$aUnited States\$xBoundaries\$yCanada
EX 7
215 ##\$aПа-де-Кале, пролив
EX 8
215 ##\$aМарс, планета\$xГеология
EX 9
215 ##\$aЕгипет Древний\$xИстория
EX 10
215 ##\$7ba0yba0y\$8frefre\$aDenali (Alaska, États-Unis)\$dmontagne
EX 11
215 ##\$7ba0yba0y\$8frefre\$aDenali\$bAlaska\$cÉtats-Unis\$dmontagne
For geographical names in the United States, the state level is used in \$b to disambiguate between different names. The field is structured with \$b and \$c instead of using only \$a with punctuation.
EX 12
215 ##\$7ba0yba0y\$8frefre\$aNuits-Saint-Georges (Côte d’or, France)\$dvignoble
215 ##\$7ba0yba0y\$8frefre\$aNuits-Saint-Georges (Côte d’or, France)\$dville
Nuits-Saint-Georges in France is the name of a city, but also the name of a vineyard.
EX 13
215 ##\$7ba0yba0y\$8fre\$aNuits-Saint-Georges\$bCôte d’or\$cFrance\$dvignoble
For geographical names in France, the intermediate “département” level is used in \$b to disambiguate between different names within the wider location “France”.

## History

1994	Text errata.
2009	New paragraphs: Notes on Field Contents, Subfields forming the base access point.
2025	New subfields (\$b, \$c, \$d) and examples (10-13).