

APPENDIX E: TIME PERIOD CODE

Introduction

The purpose of the Time Period Code is to allow access to a range of materials covering a particular era or related to a particular date. In UNIMARC, the code is entered in field 661. The code was developed at the U.S. Library of Congress for use in the USMARC format, now the MARC21 format, and was originally called the Chronological Coverage Code.

Code List

The Time Period Code consists of four alphanumeric characters assigned according to the tables given below. For B.C. dates, a lowercase alphabetic character represents the millennium and a digit represents the century. If the century is not known, a hyphen '-' is used instead of a number. For A.D. dates, a lowercase alphabetic character represents the century and a digit represents the decade. If the decade is not known, a hyphen is used instead of a number. If a single year or a period within a decade is recorded, the appropriate two-character code is repeated to create the four-character code.

B.C. TABLE

1- 99	d9
100- 199	d8
200- 299	d7
300- 399	d6
400- 499	d5
500- 599	d4
600- 699	d3
700- 799	d2
800- 899	d1
900- 999	d0
1000-1099	c9
1100-1199	c8
1200-1299	c7
1300-1399	c6
1400-1499	c5
1500-1599	c4
1600-1699	c3

A.D. TABLE

2000-	y
1900-1999	x
1800-1899	w
1700-1799	v
1600-1699	u
1500-1599	t
1400-1499	s
1300-1399	r
1200-1299	q
1100-1199	p
1000-1099	o
900- 999	n
800- 899	m
700- 799	l
600- 699	k
500- 599	j
400- 499	i

1700-1799	c2	300- 399	h
1800-1899	c1	200- 299	g
1900-1999	c0	100- 199	f
2000-2099	b9	1- 99	e
2100-2199	b8		
2200-2299	b7		
2300-2399	b6		
2400-2499	b5		
2500-2599	b4		
2600-2699	b3		
2700-2799	b2		
2800-2899	b1		
2900-2999	b0		
3000-	a0 (i.e. before 2999)		

In the B.C. table, the letter equals the millennium and the number equals the century. In the A.D. table, the letter equals the century and the number, which must be added, equals the decade.

Examples

661 ##\$aw5
Work on the period 1828-1859

661 ##\$ao6r2
Work on the period 1066-1328

661 ##\$ax8x8
Work on 1984

661 ##ax-x-
Work on the 20th century

661 ##\$ae-e-
661 ##\$ax-x-
Work comparing the 1st century A.D. with the 20th century

661 ##\$ad5d6
Work on the period 423 B.C. to 390 B.C.

661 ##\$aa0d6
Work on the period to 300 B.C.

661 ##\$ap-r-
Work on the 12th to 14th centuries

661 ##\$ad9e3

Work on 42 B.C.-A.D. 37

661 ##\$ax2x2

Work on 1928

661 ##\$av4w1

Work on 1740-1810