**FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY**

**A.I.I.S. PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE INDEX PROJECT**

**PROCEDURE MANUAL**

**PART I: INTRODUCTION**

The A.I.I.S. Photographic Archive Index Project was undertaken in the Autumn-Winter 1992-93 with the purpose of creating a reference index of the photographic resources in the American Institute of Indian Studies' Center for Art and archaeology, Varanasi. The Index was created from documentation of each photograph in the archives, and from firsthand examination of photographs with the intention of compiling a reference list of visually significant information. These data were input into a computer database for the first time in the archive's history. The project was initiated as a pilot project only, incorporating sample index material, on the basis of which guidelines for continued indexing of the entire photo archive were established.

The guidelines for the Photo Archive Index outlined in the following pages were established in accordance with the cataloguing guidelines already in use in the A.I.I.S. Photo Archives. The Photo-Archives Rules of Classification and

Cataloguing manual provides detailed information about the archive's cataloguing rules.

Because these guidelines were formulated on the basis of a pilot project, it may become necessary to amend these rules to accommodate unforeseen problems and new types of information which may arise through the duration of the Index Project. The pilot project databases were designed for demonstration purposes - to show how visual information can be organized for quick and systematic access. With this objective in mind, documentation information was organized into three general categories:

**(1) AIIS RECORD**

Information in the AIIS RECORD category is intended for in-house record-keeping purposes.

**(2) PROVENANCE & PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

PROVENANCE & PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION contains relevant information about provenance and the physical description of an object or monument.

**(3) PHOTO CHARACTERISTICS**

PHOTO CHARACTERISTICS includes specific details, views, and descriptions about items visible in a specific photograph. Only those items that can be seen are described. Any item not visible in the photograph is NOT included.

NOTE: Each photograph corresponds to ONE INDEX RECORD ONLY.

Using these three categories of information, four database demonstration models were created for the four media which constitute the archives: architecture, sculpture, painting, and numismatics.

(1) The **ARCHITECTURE** database model is designed to provide specific information about an architectural monument: structural details, decorative motifs, technical details, materials, etc. Any monument, structural or rock-cut, that possesses describable architectural features should be analyzed according to fields in this database model. In addition, sculptural and painted details in situ should be described along with the monument itself, using

the same architecture model. Rock-cut monuments containing elements that can be described in architectural, sculptural, and painting terms also should be indexed using the architecture model.

(2) The **SCULPTURE** database model is designed to provide detailed analysis of detached round and relief sculpture. The kinds of information contained in the sculpture database model include descriptions of the subjects and iconographical features (attributes, mudras, asanas, and subordinate elements). Detached sculpture from a known monument but now in a public or private collection should be analyzed using the sculpture model. In addition, sculpture lying loose at a site, which does not necessarily belong to a monument located at the site, also should be analyzed according to the sculpture model. In this latter case, the location should be noted in the PRESENT LOCATION field.

(3) The **PAINTING** database model includes specific fields for analysis of paintings and illustrated folios of manuscripts. Wall paintings (murals and frescoes) that have been removed to public or private collections should be described using the painting model. However, wall paintings in situ (such as those at Ajanta) should be described with the monument where they are located using the architectural model.

(4) The **NUMISMATICS** database model is designed to accommodate specific information about coins.

The specific structures of the above-mentioned databases are included in Appendix 3 of this manual.

Each of the demonstration databases is designed with the intention of including the maximum amount of information, yet mindful of the limitations of computer memory. If new categories of information are necessary for better understanding of a photograph, or conversely, certain categories of information already included in the database are redundant or not very useful, then these fields can be respectively added or deleted. By their nature, databases are flexible research tools and can be modified for the maximum benefit they can provide the researcher.

**HELP DATABASES**

The Photo Archives Index Project also provides three databases as reference tools for the user: (1) Abbreviations, (2) Bibliography and (3) Glossary.

(1) The Abbreviations database includes a list of abbreviations used in the Index. Abbreviations are generally capitalized.

(2) The Bibliography database contains the full bibliographic citation for each reference work cited in abbreviated form in the DOC REF (Documentation Reference) field.

(3) The Glossary database contains a list of terms and names used in the Index that are known to the specialist, but may be unfamiliar to the non-specialist.

**PART II: FIELDS OF INFORMATION**

Each category or field of information described below includes examples of types of information. For a more complete understanding of the specific types of data and the range of visually significant information, the indexer is referred to the demonstration database models themselves.

Documentation information about the architectural monument, sculpture, painting, or coin should be prioritized according to its importance. The indexer should be economical, compiling a list of only the most important information about the monument or object and, in addition, only those features that are clearly visible in the photograph. The types of information that can be included in the Index are those which illustrate visually significant elements in the photograph such as a building technique, an iconographical feature or a stylistic element.

Abbreviations used in the Index are included in Appendix 1 of this manual or by consulting the Abbreviations database.

(Fields of information are arranged alphabetically)

**ACC NO Accession Number**

Accession numbers are assigned by the AIIS Photo Archivist and are recorded as part of the permanent record of each photograph. One accession number corresponds to one photograph. Accession numbers are theoretically unique numbers (no duplicates) except in the case of numismatics, where it has been a practice to assign one accession accession number to one card mount, on which

are mounted wo photographs (obverse and reverse sides of a coin). In these cases, each numismatic accession number is distinguished by adding a decimal number (.1 and .2) after the number, corresponding to each photographic negative.

**AIIS CODE**

The AIIS Code is a classification defined and used by AIIS staff for organizational purposes. Consult the cataloguing rules manual to decipher this code.

**AIIS PERIOD**

Roman Numerals I through VIII represent the art historical periods as defined by AIIS Cataloguing Rules are used for organizational purposes.

**ARTIST (Painting only)**

Enter the name of the artist (painter or calligrapher), if known. In the case of an attribution, the attribution can be designated by (ATTR) following the name. In the case of two or more artists (for example, in Mughal paintings), separate the names with a comma.

**CA = Circa**

Used in conjunction with the CE DATE (INSC DATE) field, enter "ca" if the date corresponds to a circa or approximate date.

**CE DATE (INSC DATE) = Christian Era Date (Inscribed Date)**

The Christian era equivalent date should be recorded, followed by the inscribed year and era, in paretheses, of the monument or object (or manuscript colophon), if known.

Enter the numeric date, by year or century(-ies), followed by a "c" for century when applicable. Omit all suffixes like -st, -th or -nd. BC and AD are indicated after the date.

Examples:

15 c AD = 15th century A.D.

2 c AD = 2nd century A.D.

2-3 c AD = 2nd to 3rd centuries A.D.

5 c BC = 5th century B.C.

5 c AD (mid) = Mid 5th century A.D.

411 AD = 411 A.D.

1304 AD = 1304 A.D.

474 AD (GE 154) = 474 A.D. (Gupta Era 154)

1596-97 AD (AH 1005) = 1596-97 A.D. (Hijra Era 1005)

1465 AD (VS 1522) = 1465 A.D. (Vikrama Samvat 1522)

**COIN TYPE (Numismatics only)**

Enter the coin type according to the accepted classification.

**COMPLEX (Architecture only)**

If a monument is part of a larger complex, enter the name of the complex in this field.

**CONTEXT**

CONTEXT is the field used to explain the specific context or location of a sculptural, architectural, or painted detail.

Examples:

SUBJECT: arched entrance CONTEXT: west facade

SUBJECT: jamb CONTEXT: south facade, center

SUBJECT: spandrel CONTEXT: veranda, entrance arch

SUBJECT: corridor CONTEXT: second story, west side

SUBJECT: Siva Nataraja CONTEXT: second story, rear

SUBJECT: Buddha CONTEXT: stupa base

**COUNTRY**

The Country field designates the country of origin.

NOTE: The current Photo Archives Rules include Pakistan and Bangladesh under the country code "IND." In the index, Pakistan is designated PAK and Bangladesh as BAN.

**DIMENSIONS**

Dimensions of objects and monuments should be entered in the sequence of height, width, depth. If a dimension does not conform to this sequence, then indicate which measurement is provided within parentheses after the number, for example: 12 cm (diam) = 12 centimeters in diameter. Metric measurements are used in accordance to AIIS Cataloguing Rules. Dimensions of small objects (less than a meter) should be noted in centimeters.

**DIRECTION (Architecture only)**

Enter the direction from which the photograph was taken.

**DISTRICT (TALUK)**

List the name of the district first, followed by the name of the taluk (or tehsil), if known, in parentheses.

**DO = Documentation Officer**

Enter the initials of the Documentation Officer who catalogued

the photograph.

**DOC REF = Documentation Reference**

Cite the bibliographical source of the reference work(s)consulted for cataloguing purposes, especially if catalogue information (such as chronology or iconographical interpretation) is derived from a source outside the Documentation Officer's field of expertise. In the case of multiple sources consulted, enter only the primary reference used for the specific photograph.

For bibliographic references, cite only the author's last name (include first initial, if necessary to distinguish authors with identical surnames), the year of publication (in parentheses), followed by a colon, the volume number and page number(s). To distinguish multiple books and articles written by the same

author in the same year, the letter a, b, c, etc., should follow the year, as for example: Smith (1992a), Smith (1992b), Smith (1992c), etc. In citing encyclopedias or ASI reports, abbreviations may be more suitable, as for example ASIAR = Archaeological Survey of India Annual Report, or EITA = Encyclopedia of Indian Temple Architecture.

The full bibliographic citation, according to rules of the Chicago Manual of Style, should then be added to the bibliographic database where it can be consulted.

**DR = Draughtsman (Architecture only)**

If architectural plans, elevations, or drawings were recorded for

a monument during the documentation tour, record the initials of

the draughtsman who did them.

**EXT/INT = Exterior or Interior (Architecture only)**

Enter EXT or INT to designate, respectively, exterior or interior

views of the monument.

**FOLIO (Painting only)**

Enter the folio number of a manuscript and "r" of "v," indicating

recto or verso, if known.

**GEN CATEG = General Category**

The GEN CATEG field classifies a photograph according to type of object:

AR = architecture, including structural and rock-cut

CA = calligraphy

NU = numismatics

PT = painting and illustrated manuscripts

SC = sculpture, including terracotta

**INDEX CATEGORY**

The INDEX CATEGORY field is the key field for indexing the primary subject of the photograph. Information should be entered in hierarchical order. For example, the identity of a deity should first note the name of the deity followed by the avatar or particular form (murti).

Examples:

Sculpture:

Siva Bhiksatana

Visnu Narsimha

Ganesa

Durga Mahisasuramardini

Male figure

Female figure

Visnu - Krisna

Buddha (= historical Buddha, unless otherwise noted)

Buddha - life (life scene of the Buddha)

Buddha - jataka

Bodhisattva Maitreya

Bodhisattva (if specific identity is not known)

Jina Mahavira

Architecture:

West facade - entrance

Mandapa - interior

Prayer chamber - central mihrab

For architectural details, enter the specific location of the detail in the CONTEXT field described above.

NOTE: To standardize terminology and assure consistency, consult the glossary database to determine equivalent terms or alternate spellings of a name or term.

Painting:

Because painting encompasses a diversity of subjects, enter first a general classification of the subject, followed by the specific subject or name of the manuscript. (Examples: history, poetry, fable, portrait, durbar, court, botanical study, animal study, religious, ragamala, nayaka/nayika)

For religious manuscripts, cite the name of the religious text in the INDEX CATEGORY field and identify the major deity, if illustrated. Identify additional deities in the individual SUBJECT fields. For depictions of major deities in single folio paintings (that are not part of a manuscript), cite the name of the deity in the INDEX CATEGORY field, followed by the specific avatar or form. Because of the popularity of Krisna and Krisna-related subjects in Indian painting, Krisna is listed separately as a principal deity (not as an avatar of Visnu), followed by the specific form or narrative subject.

EXAMPLES:

Fable - Iyar-i Danish

Portrait - Shah Jahan

Botanical study - tulip

History - Akbar Nama

Bhagavata Purana

Siva - Nataraja

Visnu - Varaha

Krisna - Govardhana

Buddha - life scene

**INSC LANG (SCRIPT) = Inscription language & script (Numismatics only)**

Enter the language, and script (in parentheses) of the coin.

**MATERIALS**

The materials field describes the specific materials of an object or monument.

Examples:

schist

basalt

red sandstone

chunar sandstone

bronze

gilt bronze

inlaid bronze

**MEDIUM**

The MEDIUM field allows for quick indexing by general media type.

Examples:

ME = Metal (includes bronze, brass, etc.)

SO = Stucco

ST = Stone (includes schist, chunar, sandstone, etc.)

TC = Terracotta

**MON TYPE = Monument Type (Architecture only)**

Enter the type of monument.

Examples:

mosque

tomb

palace

stepwell

**MONUMENT (2ND NAME) (Architecture only)**

Enter the name of the monument in this field. If a monument has a second name, enter the second name in parentheses.

**MS NAME (LABEL) = Manuscript name (painting only)**

The field records the name of a manuscript:

Examples:

Akbarnama

Anwari Suhaili

Gita Govinda

Ramayana

Bhagavata Purana

**MUSEUM NO = Museum Number**

This field records the museum number of the object. Along with PRESENT LOCATION, it serves to identify the present whereabouts of an object. The museum number is essential when searching for multiple photographs, details, and different views of a museum object.

**NEG NO = Negative Number**

Negative numbers are assigned by the photographer. In the case of donated photographs, the PHOTO SOURCE field must be consulted to determine the identity of the donor/photographer.

NOTE: Negative numbers may not necessarily be unique.

**PATRON**

The PATRON field includes the name of the patron, if known. If the patron is known by inscription, then the parenthetical note (INSC) can be included after the name. In cases of multiple donors or lay dedications, for example at Ajanta, use only the primary patron or name of ruling monarch if more appropriate.

**PERIOD**

The period refers to the commonly accepted art historical or archaeological period name in common usage. In some cases, this corresponds to the name of the ruling dynasty.

Examples:

Mughal

Vijayanagara

Chola

Early Western Chalukya

Pala

**PHOTO DATE**

PHOTO DATE is a record of the year that the photograph was taken.

NOTE: In cases of donated photographs, record the year the photograph was taken, not the year of donation.

**PHOTO SOURCE**

The PHOTO SOURCE field contains the name of individual(s) who donated the photograph to the Photo Archive. The names of contributors can be obtained from the A.I.I.S. Archivist. The initials AAB designates the American Academy of Benares, the former name of the American Institute of Indian Studies. The initials AAB are retained.

**PH = Photographer**

Enter the initials of the photographer.

NOTE: The photographer may be someone other than the donor

(PHOTO SOURCE).

**POS = Position**

The POS field indicates the position of the main figure of a

sculpture. In cases where several figures of equal importance

are included, leave the field blank.

SE = Seated

ST = Standing

**PRESENT LOCATION (Sculpture and Painting only)**

Enter the name of the city and museum where the object is

presently located.

Examples:

Calcutta, Indian Museum

New Delhi, National Museum

NOTE: In case of detached sculpture lying loose at a site, record the name of the site. In cases of detached sculpture from a known site now in museums, identify the original site in the SITE field.

**PROTECTED**

If a monument is protected by the Archaeological Survey of India, enter ASI. In cases of protection under other agencies, enter the abbreviations of the agency.

**PUB = Publication**

If a photograph has been published, enter Y for yes. A record of the publications that include A.I.I.S. photographs are kept by the Library.

**REL/SECT AFF = Religious and Sectarian Affiliation**

Enter the religious affiliation followed by the sectarian affiliation.

Examples:

Hindu

Hindu, Saivite

Hindu, Pasupata

Jain, Svetambara

Buddhism

Islam

Jain

Christian

NOTE: In exceptional cases, Hindu subjects are produced for Islamic patrons, such as a manuscript of the Razmnama (Persian translation of the Mahabharata) produced for a Mughal patron. In these cases, enter the religious affiliation of the patron, followed by religious affiliation of the subject in parentheses.

EXAMPLE:

MS NAME: Razmnama REL/SECT AFF: Islam (Hindu subject)

SUBJECT: Virgin & Child REL/SECT AFF: Islam (Christian subject)

**SCHOOL**

Enter the name of the painting school.

**SEC FIG = Secondary figures (sculpture only)**

The SEC FIG field includes the names of secondary figures of a sculptural group or relief such as bodhisattvas, consorts, attendant figures, devotees, donors, mythical figures, vidyadharas, etc. Separate each name with a comma and space.

NOTE: Abbreviations should be avoided as a rule. But, when space limitations are reached, abbreviations such as the following may be used. For purposes of searching (in Paradox software language), the abbreviation should comprise the first sequential letters of the word. As a general rule, abbreviations should be capitalized.

EXAMPLES:

ATT = ATTendant figure (s)

CAU = CAUri bearer (s)

DEV = DEVotee (s) - figures displaying anjali mudra

OTH = OTHer figures

VID = VIDyadharas

**SHAPE (Numismatics only)**

Indicate the shape of the coin in accordance with accepted terminology.

**SITE (SUB-SITE)/2ND NAME**

Record the name of the site according to the spelling determined by the Documentation Officer. Include sub-site names in parentheses. Include any alternate site name, 2ND NAME, after the SITE (SUBSITE), separated by an

oblique /.

NOTE: In rare instances, a monument has been relocated from its original site to a new site. In these cases, enter the new site location first, followed by the original site name in parentheses: (orig. site: name of site)

**STATE**

List the state of origin according to the list of abbreviations in Appendix 2.

**STATE OF PRES = State of Preservation (sculpture only)**

Because the physical condition of a figurative sculpture often requires a lengthy detailed description, this field is intended to provide only a general note about its state of preservation. If the figurative sculpture survives relatively intact (that is, it has a head and a torso), then leave this field blank. Otherwise note its condition according to the following abbreviations. Broken hands and minor losses are not noted.

Abbreviations:

AF = Architectural Fragment

BU = Bust (head and upper torso only)

HE = Head only

SF = Sculptural Fragment (for example, a pedestal or a cattra)

TO = Torso (head is missing, torso intact)

**STYLE**

Style is the art historical or archaeological classification of the object or monument. In some cases, the style corresponds to the name of the dynasty. In instances when more than one style designation is in common usage, then the second style designation can be listed in parentheses. The name of a school as a style designation is also acceptable.

Examples:

Gandhara Rajput

Pala Pahari

Gupta N. India

Early Western Chalukya S. India

Pre-Mughal W. India

Mughal Orissa

**SUBJECT (2 - 8)**

\* For SUBJECT (LABEL), see next entry.

SUBJECT fields are lists of visually important information visible in each photograph. List ONLY items that are visible in the photograph, not items that are assumed to exist or are not distinct in the photograph. Prioritize the information according to importance. List items of equal importance in a random

sequence.

Subjects listed in the SUBJECT field are those of architectural, iconographical, or anthropological importance. Style is specified in the STYLE field, however, significant stylistic features may be recorded in the SUBJECT field.

Elements that reveal the nature of the deity (their supernatural aspects like a halo, an attribute, or a narrative element) are included. Likewise, any element that aids in the identification of the image or narrative event should be included.

Examples:

Buddha - First Sermon cakra, deer, dharmacakra mudra

Buddha - Maravijaya bodhi tree, bhumisparsa mudra, etc.

Visnu sankha, padma, gada, cakra

NOTE: Be mindful of computer memory limitations. Exercise discretion when determining visual information to be included. Memory limitations of databases in some cases may preclude comprehensiveness. Avoid abbreviations whenever possible. But, if a photograph has copious information to be recorded, use

abbreviations or include two subjects within one SUBJECT field (separate by a comma). Paradox software has a "wild card" search feature which permits retrieval of the desired subject from a list.

The following list represents examples of types of information that can be included in the SUBJECT field.

*Architecture:*

structural elements sikhara, pillar, facade, arcade, arch,

squinch, pendentive, west facade, iwan,

east entrance, interior chamber, veranda,

qibla wall, mihrab, etc.

architectural motif torana, candrasala, blind arch, etc.

decorative motif vinescroll, carved relief, chevron, etc.

inscription language, script, dates and names mentioned

morphology Dravida, Nagara

*Sculpture:*

Primary subjects:

attributes lotus, sankha, gada, etc.

[each entry folowed by (a)]

asana padmasana, lalitasana, etc.

mudra dharmacakra mudra, bhumisparsa mudra, etc.

vahana Nandi, Garuda, lion, peacock, etc

[each entry followed by (v)]

inscription language, script, date, names

Secondary subjects:

unusual forms 4 arms, 10 arms, 4 heads, etc.

[exclude forms with 1 head and 2 arms]

animals (not vahanas) lion, bull, elephant, etc.

type of halo prabhamandala, lotus halo, etc.

plant forms bodhi tree, lotus, etc.

landscape elements landscape, garden, etc.

architecture palace, fortress, court, etc.

throne lion throne, lotus pedestal, etc.

musical instruments vina, drum, flute, etc.

unusual headgear crown with Amitabha, jatamukha, Saka cap, etc.

foreign/unique costume Iranian costume, Roman tunic, etc.

patterns and designs geometric, arabesque, floral, etc.

extraneous elements waterpot, cakra, etc.

activity dance, battle, construction, etc.

mythological figures kinnaras, makaras, kirttimukha, etc.

[include under SEC FIG field unless

space is not available]

*Painting*

Primary subjects:

setting landscape, architecture, court, palace

interior, etc. (If a setting can be

identified, then include name of place,

such as Fortress at Ranthambhor)

main figures Krisna, Radha, Rama, Laksmana, Akbar, etc.

secondary figures gopis, musicians, attedants, etc.

elements identifying mudras, attributes (a), buck (Todi Ragini),

the subject swing (Hindola Ragini), vahanas (v), etc.

colophon/calligraphy language, script, dates, names

Secondary subjects:

activity battle, dance, construction, enthronement,

etc. (can include more than one)

temporal aspect night scene, season, storm, etc.

illumination shamsa, arabesque, etc.

borders/margins floral, figurative, ornamental, illuminated

space/composition perspective, compartmental comp.,

registers, etc.

designs/patterns ornamental, floral, arabesque, carpet, etc.

musical instrument vina, drum, trumpet, etc.

extraneous elements boat, waterwheel, hourglass throne, weaponry,

fortification, etc.

fauna elephant, horse, tiger, waterfowl, etc.

flora tulip, planar tree, bodhi tree, etc.

(include species, if known)

mythological figures makaras, kinnaras, Garuda, etc.

foreign elements Christian elements, Greek capital,

European elements, etc.

**SUBJECT (LABEL)**

The SUBJECT (LABEL) field includes the specific information to be contained on the descriptive label attached to the photo mounts. The description should be brief, succinct and limited to 40 characters. Label information requiring in excess of 40 characters should be manually typewritten.

**VIEW**

The VIEW field records the selected view of the photograph. For sculpture, the view is assumed to be a frontal view unless otherwise specified.

Abbreviations used:

*Sculpture:*

BAK = Back view

DET = Detail (includes all angles)

OV = Overview

REL = Relief sculpture

*Architecture and Painting:*

OV = Overview

DE = Detail

**VIEW (OBV/REV) = Obverse or reverse of coin (Numismatics only)**

Enter OBV or REV to indicate, respectively, the obverse or

reverse side of a coin.

NOTE: For manuscript folio, use the FOLIO field to indicate

recto or verso side of the folio.

**PART III: SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION**

Information about objects and monuments can be retrieved from the database in a number of ways. Each "field," or category, of information listed above can be sorted in such a way that information can be quickly searched.

The commands required for the search process, that is, the commands specific to Paradox software, are contained in the Paradox software manual. The user is referred to the manual or advised to seek assistance from the computer specialist at the Center.

The following examples are provided to demonstrate types of searches possible with the database index. Each field contains specific types of information that is not normally repeated in other fields. Therefore, identification of the appropriate field to use in searching for information is essential. The heading or label of each field should be self-explanatory but if not, refer to the above listed fields.

NOTE: The computer software has a "wild card" search option available. If the user is unclear about the specific spelling of a name or term, then the wild card option permits greater latitude in retrieving information.

Also, multiple conditions can be established for each search, that is, combinations of chronological, geographical, religious affiliation, monument types, etc., can be specified.

Examples:

**Example 1 - To search by site**

Field to search: SITE (SUB-SITE)/2ND NAME

The SITE field contains the name of each site included in the Photo Archives.

**Example 2 - To search by geographical region**

Fields to search: COUNTRY

STATE

DIST(TALUK)

To search for objects or monuments within a geographical region, use the COUNTRY, STATE, DIST/TALUK fields to specify the geographical area, country, state, district and taluk.

**Example 3 - To search by date**

Field to search: CE DATE (INSC DATE)

The date of an object or monument is contained in both the CE DATE(INSC DATE) field. The inscribed era and date follows the equivalent Christian era date. All Christian era dates are AD unless BC is indicated.

**Example 4 - To search by deity**

Fields to search: INDEX CATEGORY

SEC FIG

SUBJECT

To search for a Hindu deity, the INDEX CATEGORY provides the quickest means of identifying individual gods and goddesses depicted as main subjects in Indian sculpture and painting.

The name of the deity is listed first, followed by the name of the murti (form) or avatar. Avatars of Visnu are listed as Visnu - Narsimha; Visnu - Krisna; etc. Different forms of deities are listed according to the same hierarchy: Siva Andhakasuramurti; Durga Mahisasuramardini; etc.

Deities may also be searched in the individual SUBJECT fields, especially in cases when the deity is not the main subject of a sculpture. Search the SEC FIG and SUBJECT fields to locate images of a deity which are subordinate to the main subject.

**Example 5 - To search by the name of an individual**

Fields to search: INDEX CATEGORY

SEC FIG

SUBJECT

To search for an individual, list the individual's name (Buddha) or his role and name (Jina - Parsvanatha) in the INDEX CATEGORY field. If the figure is not the main subject, then search the SEC FIG and SUBJECT fields.

**Example 6 - To search by subject**

Fields to search: INDEX CATEGORY

SUBJECT

SEC FIG

Any subject can be searched using the INDEX CATEGORY field. In addition, each of the SUBJECT fields may contain the particular subject desired, especially if the subject not the main subject depicted in the photograph. Subjects that are part of sculpture or painting of an architectural or rockcut monument can be

searched in these same fields (See Example 12 below)

A separate SEC FIG field was created for sculpture to distinguish secondary figures of a sculptural ensemble from the main image. This iconographical information is generally not repeated in the general SUBJECT fields.

**Example 7 - To search by religious affiliation**

Field to search: REL/SECT AFF

Using the REL/SECT AFF field, specify the name of the religion and/or sect, if known.

**Example 8 - To search for detached objects**

Fields to search: PRESENT LOCATION

MUSEUM NO

INDEX CATEGORY

Since detached objects are, in most cases, part of public and private collections, a search of the PRESENT LOCATION field will yield a particular museum's holdings. List the name of the city followed by the name of the museum.

Combination of the PRESENT LOCATION field with a subject in the INDEX CATEGORY field should locate any museum object contained in the photo archive. The MUSEUM NO field, which identifies the unique museum number of the object, locates multiple photographs of the same object.

**Example 9 - To search for an architectural monument**

Fields to search: SITE (SUB-SITE)/2ND NAME

MONUMENT

Use the SITE (SUB-SITE)/2ND NAME and the MONUMENT fields to identify the name and location of a monument. Since monuments with identical names may occur at more than one site, it is necessary to search both of these fields.

**Example 10 - To search for an architectural detail**

Fields to search: INDEX CATEGORY

SUBJECT

To isolate the specific monument, refer to example 9 above. To search for further detailed information about the monument, use the INDEX CATEGORY and SUBJECT fields. To search for specific architectural details, like the "west facade" or "mihrab" or "dome," designate these terms accordingly.

**Example 11 - To search for multiple views of a monument**

Fields to search: SITE (SUB-SITE/2ND NAME)

MONUMENT

VIEW

PHOTO DATE

The SITE and MONUMENT fields must be consulted first to identify the monument. The VIEW field distinguishes photographs of overviews from detailed views included in the archive. The PHOTO DATE specifies the year that each photograph was taken, a factor especially important as a record of restoration work.

**Example 12 - To search for architectural sculpture or painting**

Fields to search: SITE (SUB-SITE)/2ND NAME

MONUMENT

INDEX CATEGORY

CONTEXT

To search for sculpture and painting that is part of an architectural monument, use the SITE and MONUMENT fields to identify the monument, then search the INDEX CATEGORY to identify the sculpture or painting by subject. The CONTEXT field provides the exact location on the monument where the sculpture is found.

**APPENDIX 1**

**List of Abbreviations**

(a) attribute

AF Architectural fragment

AH Anno Hijra (Islamic era)

AR Architecture

ATT Attendant(s)

BAK Back view

BU Bust (head & upper torso)

c century

ca circa

CA Calligraphy

CAU Cauri bearer(s)

DET Detail

DEV Devotee(s)

E East (eastern)

EXT Exterior

FNT Frontal view

GE Gupta Era

HE Head

INSC Inscribed

INT Interior

ME Metal

MS Manuscript

MUS Museum

N North (northern)

NE Northeast

NU Numismatics

NW Northwest

OT Other

OTH Other

OV Overview

PRO Profile view

PT Painting

REL Relief S South (southern)

SC Sculpture

SE Seated figure or Southeast (depends on context)

SF Sculptural fragment

SO Stucco

SW Southwest

ST Standing figure

TC Terracotta

TO Torso

(v) vahana

VID Vidyadhara(s)

VS Vikrama Samvat

W West (western)

**APPENDIX 2**

**Abbreviations for the States of India**

The state names, reflecting divisions in 1975, are from Joseph E. Schwartzberg (Editor), A Historical Atlas of South Asia, Chicago & London (University of Chicago Press), 1978, p. 79.

AN Andaman & Nicobar Islands (U.T.)

AP Andhra Pradesh

AR Arunachal Pradesh

AS Assam

BI Bihar

CH Chandigarh (U.T.)

DE Delhi

DN Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)

GD Goa, Daman & Diu

GU Gujarat

HA Haryana

HP Himachal Pradesh

JK Jammu & Kashmir

KA Karnataka

KE Kerala

LD Lakshadweep (U.T.)

MA Maharashtra

MP Madhya Pradesh

MG Meghalaya

MN Manipur

MZ Mizoram (U.T.)

NL Nagaland

OR Orissa

PO Pondicherry (U.T.)

PJ Punjab

RA Rajasthan

SK Sikkim

TN Tamilnadu

TR Tripura

UP Uttar Pradesh

WB West Bengal Pakistan

BA Baluchistan

ICT Islamabad Capital Territory (formerly included Rawalpindi)

NWF North West Frontier Provinces

PJ Punjab

SI Sind