BACKGROUND: A gazetteer is a geographical dictionary in which names of places are given in alphabetical order with location and/or coordinates. In addition, entries sometimes include pronunciation and brief historical information. This instruction sheet provides guidelines for assigning the heading and the subdivision Gazetteers.

1. General. Assign the heading Gazetteers to general geographical dictionaries not limited to a particular place. Example:

   Title:  Webster's New geographical dictionary.  
   650 #0 $a Gazetteers.

Do not use the subdivision –Dictionaries under the heading Gazetteers.

2. By place. Use the free-floating form subdivision –Gazetteers under names of places for geographical dictionaries of these places. Examples:

   Title:  Survey gazetteer of the British Isles.  
   651 #0 $a British Isles $v Gazetteers.

   Title:  A gazetteer of New Hampshire, containing descriptions of all the counties, towns, and districts in the state.  
   651 #0 $a New Hampshire $v Gazetteers.
3. **Other.** Assign the heading **Names, Geographical (May Subd Geog)** to other types of works about place names, such as works that focus on the origin and meaning of geographical names or lists of places not arranged in alphabetical order. **Examples:**

- *Title:* California place names: the origin and etymology of current geographical names.
  650 #0 $a Names, Geographical $z California.
  651 #0 $a California $x History, Local.

- *Title:* Geographical names in ancient Indian inscriptions.
  650 #0 $a Names, Geographical $z India.
  650 #0 $a Inscriptions $z India.
  651 #0 $a India $x Historical geography.

Do not subdivide **Names, Geographical** by --Dictionaries.

4. **MARC 21 coding.** Select code **d, Dictionaries** for field 008/24-27 (the box labeled **Contents** on the 008 input screen in the LC ILS) for gazetteers and for works on geographical names in dictionary format.