Double Take Webinar Series
“How Should We Index This Image?”

Welcome! We’ll get started at 4PM ET.
Welcome! We’re glad you’re here!

Use the chat box to introduce yourselves:

➢ Your first name
➢ Where you’re joining us from
Double Take: How Should We Index This Image?

Arden Alexander and Libby McKiernan, Technical Services Division
Prints and Photograph collections include:

Photographs

Posters
Drawings

Prints
Prints & Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC)

- Prokudin-Gorskii Collection
- Stereograph Cards
- Tissandier Collection
- World's Transportation Commission
- Sikkim Photos (Kandell Collection)
- Thesaurus For Graphic Materials
- Van Vechten Collection
- Wright Brothers Negatives
The Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (TGM) is a tool for indexing visual materials by subject and by genre/format. The thesaurus includes more than 7,000 subject terms and 650 genre/format terms to index types of photographs, prints, design drawings, ephemera, and other pictures. In 2007, the subject and genre/format vocabularies, previously maintained separately, were merged into a single list and migrated to new software, MultiTes. Other minor changes are clarified in the links below. For questions about the thesaurus, contact TGM editors at: tgmتقدم@loc.gov.
History of the TGM
TGM terms include:

Objects: Trucks

Activities: Running
Structures: Skyscrapers

People: Photographers
Format/Physical characteristics:
Architectural drawings
Genres:
Landscape photographs
Poll

What TGM *subject term* appears the most often in the Prints & Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC)?
A. Gardens
B. Children
C. Dwellings
C. Dwellings
Why did the Prints and Photographs Division need its own thesaurus? Some examples:

Peace signs
Visual conventions, for example:

Ball & chain
Happiness
New Terms:

Mangoes

Picket signs
TGM “Bucket” in the Prints and Photographs Online Catalog

https://www.loc.gov/pictures/
Search

Thesaurus For Graphic Materials: Search Results

4 results containing "Pumpkins"

- Larger image available anywhere
- Larger image available only at the Library of Congress
- Not Digitized (4)

1. Pumpkins
2. Jack-o-lanterns
Pumpkins

Term: Pumpkins
[check for pictures with this index term]

Facet Note:
- --[country or state]--[city]

Broader Term(s):
- Squashes
  [check for pictures with this index term] [thesaurus term(s) only]

Related Term(s):
- Jack-o-lanterns
  [check for pictures with this index term] [thesaurus term(s) only]
- Melons
  [check for pictures with this index term] [thesaurus term(s) only]
Advanced search

Search All

Pumpkins

Search the subject fields ▼ Match exact phrase ▼ No variants ▼

Results Per Page: ▼ records.
Subject Indexing Principles

- Subject analysis
- Selection of terms from a thesaurus
Subject Analysis

✓ Examine image carefully

✓ Look for major focus

✓ People, structures, activities, objects

✓ Use captions and other text for clues to subjects

✓ Well-known people, events, and organizations

✓ Keep in mind popular research topics
Index for both what the image shows and the context: “of” and “about”
Choose the most specific term: “Roses,” not “Flowers”
Title: [Nuns clamming on Long Island]
Creator(s): Frissell, Toni, 1907-1988, photographer
Date Created/Published: [1957 Sept.]

Subjects:


Format:

Example #2
Title: [High school locker room gloom] / World Telegram & Sun photo by Walter Albertin.
Creator(s): Albertin, Walter, photographer
Date Created/Published: 1950 Nov. 25.
Title: [High school locker room gloom] / World Telegram & Sun photo by Walter Albertin.
Creator(s): Albertin, Walter, photographer
Date Created/Published: 1950 Nov. 25.

Subjects:
Teenagers--1950.
Football--New York (State)--Freeport--1950.
Football players--New York (State)--Freeport--1950.
Sadness--1950.

Format:
Photographic prints--1950.
Example #3
Title: Oprah / B. Woosley.
Creator(s): Woosley, Brigitte, artist
Date Created/Published: 1998.

Subjects:
- Winfrey, Oprah, --Trials, litigation, etc.--Texas.

Format:
Example #4
Title: Ringling Bros, world's greatest shows Raschetta brothers, marvelous somersaulting vaulters / / Courier Company Lith. Dept., Buffalo, N.Y.

Date Created/Published: Buffalo : Courier Litho Co., c1900.
Title: Ringling Bros, world's greatest shows Raschetta brothers, marvelous somersaulting vaulters // Courier Company Lith. Dept., Buffalo, N.Y.
Date Created/Published: Buffalo: Courier Litho Co., c1900.

Subjects:
Ringling Brothers--People--1900.
Circuses & shows--1900.
Circus performers--1900.
Acrobats--1900.

Format:
Chromolithographs--Color--1900.
Circus posters--American--1900.
Example #5
Subjects:
Boys.
City & town life.
Gambling.

Format:
Glass negatives.
Photographic prints.

Title: Game of Craps. Cincinnati, Ohio. Aug. 1908. Location: Cincinnati, Ohio / Photo by Lewis W. Hine.
Creator(s): Hine, Lewis Wickes, 1874-1940, photographer
Date Created/Published: 1908 August.
Example #6
Title: [Kittens crawling on Representative Peter Kostmayer in his congressional office]
Date Created/Published: [26 June 1991]
Subjects:
Kostmayer, Peter H.

Format:
Film negatives--1990-2000.

Title: [Kittens crawling on Representative Peter Kostmayer in his congressional office]
Date Created/Published: [26 June 1991]
Thank you!

Questions? Post them in the Q&A!

Thesaurus For Graphic Materials (TGM): www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/tgm

Ask a Librarian: ask.loc.gov/prints-photographs

TGM in LC Linked Data Service: id.loc.gov/vocabulary/graphicMaterials.html

LC Authorities: authorities.loc.gov