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# Special Bulletin #2: Standard Abbreviations for Image Descriptions for Use in Fine Arts Visual Resources Collections

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### **Abstract**

The size of slide labels has always presented visual resources curators with dilemmas. Each image of art or architecture carries with it a large body of data that is useful to the image users. Most curators attempt to provide as much of this information as possible on each slide label. However, in order to do so, the use of abbreviations is often necessary. In many cases, these abbreviations, with the exception of a very few more or less accepted standards, have been developed separately in each collection by individuals as they composed the labels.

Standards for abbreviations used in data descriptions for works of art are justifiable for several reasons. Initially they are useful because they conserve space in a context that requires the communication of a maximum amount of information. However, it is necessary to standardize the forms of abbreviations used in order to make communication consistent and accurate, and to thereby make use of space and communication more efficient.

### **Keywords**

slides, classify, classification, categorize, labels, labeling, abbreviations, standardized, controlled vocabulary

### **Author Bio & Acknowledgements**

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# SPECIAL BULLETIN



for Photographic Documentation of the  
VISUAL ARTS

A Publication of the Visual Resources Association

*No. 2, 1987*

## Standard Abbreviations for Image Descriptions for use in Fine Arts Visual Resources Collections

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# VRA Special Bulletin No.2 1987

## Standard Abbreviations for Image Descriptions for use in Fine Arts Visual Resources Collections

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# STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS FOR IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS FOR USE IN FINE ARTS VISUAL RESOURCE COLLECTIONS

## INTRODUCTION

The increasing use of computerized data bases for visual resources collections with their requirement of standardized data collection formats is stimulating the development of standards for data descriptions, i.e., what information is collected and how it is expressed. In order to make data retrieval effective, there must be a uniform method for expressing the data: uniform titles and proper names, locations, media terminology, and because of space constrictions, both in data collection format fields and on the slide labels, standardized forms for abbreviations.

Standards for abbreviations used in data descriptions for works of art are justifiable for several reasons. Initially they are useful because they conserve space in a context that requires the communication of a maximum amount of information. However, it is necessary to standardize the forms of abbreviations used in order to make communication consistent and accurate, and to thereby make use of space and communication more efficient.

The size of slide labels has always presented visual resources curators with dilemmas. Each image of art or architecture carries with it a large body of data that is useful to the image users. Most curators attempt to provide as much of this information as possible on each slide label. However, in order to do so, the use of abbreviations is often necessary. In many cases, these abbreviations, with the exception of a very few more or less accepted standards, have been developed separately in each collection by individuals as they composed the labels. Since personnel changes in slide and photograph collections are as frequent as in any other work place, consistency in the use of abbreviations has been lacking: the abbreviation for drawing might be "dwg." for one

typist and "drwg." for the next.

For the computer to be able to retrieve information related to drawings, the searcher will need to know how the term for drawing has been expressed in the data base. Not only does the exact term need to be entered consistently (i.e., always "dwg."), but also the inclusion of a period following the abbreviation must be consistent. Therefore, if abbreviations are to be utilized in data entry, it is absolutely necessary that a standard form be established and used uniformly.

In the Slide Collection at The University of Texas at Austin, abbreviations have always been used on slide labels, although not consistently. The notion of establishing a standard list was considered, but until now, never undertaken. In proofreading slide labels before they were affixed, it was possible to revise some abbreviation usage in order to promote consistency, however, the ordeal of having to completely retype numerous slide labels to adjust slight differences in abbreviated terms from one label to the next prevented strict adherence to a standard form. However, with the change to computer produced slide labels which provide a proofing sheet prior to label printing, correcting minor inconsistencies is greatly facilitated.

Additional incentive to compile a standard authority list was supplied when Julie Hausman at The University of Iowa made their abbreviations list available to the profession through an article in the Fall 1986 issue of Art Documentation (Vol.5, No.3, pg.123). This furnished a "core" group of term abbreviations, a starting point. We took Iowa's list, altered the abbreviations that we were already using to our preferred forms, adopted Iowa's abbreviations for some of the terms that were not used here and added many new terms. The Iowa list included a limited list of museum locations which we omitted since a complete authority list for museum and city abbreviations is already the project of the Visual Resources Association Standards Committee.

Abbreviations for states of the United States (two letters in upper case) are those from the Standard U.S. Postal Services list. The limited country and nationality

abbreviations that are included are used in our data entry only when necessary in general descriptions, never in the specific "country field" on our data entry form where the complete form is required.

The authority list of photographic processes and techniques developed at the George Eastman House International Museum for Photography (See Image, Vol.21, No.4, December 1978) was also a valuable resource. The abbreviations for these photographic processes and formats are four or more letters and appear in upper case in the list.

In utilization of this list of standards for abbreviations, the question of when to use the full word and when to abbreviate arose. For the convenience of our collection's users we have designated a restricted group of terms which we will always abbreviate. These terms and abbreviations are marked with an asterisk (\*) in the list. All others are to be used at the discretion of the staff member entering the data and when space is limited. Periods separate abbreviations from words and other abbreviations, except when "/" or "&" are used. Periods, but not spaces, are used to separate strings of abbreviations. (Examples: o/c; o/bd; pl.i.wa&ck) Because the media abbreviations appear in brackets on our labels, periods are not necessary at the end of a single abbreviation or a string of abbreviations. However, an abbreviation used in the context of a title, or with a present location would end with a period. (Examples: Natl.Gall.; Ch.of S.John the Divine.Int.Vw.of sanct.furn.) Our goal is an easily readable label that does not appear crowded, but also one that does not require a glossary for every translation. (However, for the benefit of our users, we do provide several copies of our abbreviations authority list in the slide study and storage area.)

In order to make this list efficient for our staff translating terms into abbreviations, as well as for our collection users, we have arranged it in two parallel lists. The left side of each page displays the alphabetical arrangement of the abbreviations with their corresponding terms. The right side of the page contains the alphabetical listing of the terms with designated abbreviations. The objective is to make the reference as compact



as possible.

The list is by no means complete. We continuously update our own list and reprint new editions about three or four times per year. It is our hope that you will find this list useful either as it is, or as a basis for creating your own authority list which will meet the specific needs of your collection and users. At the back of the publication is information for submitting new terms for updating our master list. We plan to update and reissue this master list periodically.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This list would have been impossible without the participation of my entire staff at The University of Texas at Austin, all of whom have added terms in the process of entering descriptive data for thousands of slides during the three years since we began building our data base. I am particularly grateful to former staff member Gary Seloff for setting up our abbreviations program, to Terry Arzola for following Gary's lead in continually making revisions in our report. Susannah Frishman has been of valuable assistance to me with corrections and additions to the list. And finally, we owe our initial inspiration for the project to Julie Hausmann at The University of Iowa whose list was the basis for ours.

N.S.  
January, 1988

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
" *	heliogravure(see Photogravure)	A.D. *	AD *
# *	inches *	abalone	abal
& *	number *	aburra	abu
' *	and *	academy	acad
/ *	feet,foot *	academy board	acad.bd
16MM	on *	acanthus	acant
35MM	sixteen millimeter (mot.pic)	acetate	acet
70MM	thirty five mm (motion pic.)	acropolis	acrpl
a-v	seventy millimeter	acroteria,um	acrt
abal	audio-visual	acrylic on canvas	ac/c
abu	abalone	active	act
ac/c	aburra	adobe	adb
acad	acrylic on canvas	advertisement,ing	adv
acad.bd	academy	aedicula	aed
acant	academy board	aerial view	arl.vw
acet	acanthus	Afghanistan	Afgh
acrpl	acetate	Africa	Afr
acrt	acropolis	after	aft
act	acroteria,um	agate	ag
AD *	active	agateware	agwr
adb	A.D. *	aggregate	agr
adv	adobe	airbrush	airbr
aed	advertisement,ing	airport	airpt
Afgh	aedicula	Alabama	AL
Afr	Afghanistan	alabaster	alab
aft	Africa	Alaska	AK
ag	after	Albania	Alb
agr	agate	album	alb
agwr	agateware	albumen,albumen print	ALPT
airbr	aggregate	alchemy	alch
airpt	airbrush	Algeria	Alg
AK	airport	allegory,ical	alleg
AL	Alaska	alloy	aly
alab	Alabama	altarpiece	altpc
Alb	alabaster	alternate	alt
alb	Albania	aluminum	alum
alch	album	amber,amberina	amb
Alg	alchemy	ambrotype	ATYP
alleg	Algeria	ambulatory	ambul
ALPT	allegory,ical	America,n	Amer
alt	albumen,albumen print	American Samoa	AS
altpc	alternate	amphitheater	ampth
alum	altarpiece	ancient	anc
aly	aluminum	and *	& *
amb	alloy	Andorra	And
ambul	amber,amberina	Anglo-Saxon	Ang.Sax
Amer	ambulatory	Angolia	Ang
ampth	America,n	anodized aluminum	anod.alum
anc	amphitheater	anonymous	anon
And	ancient	Antarctica	Antar
Ang	Andorra	anthropology,ical	anthrop
Ang.Sax	Angolia	Antilles,Lesser	L.Anti
anod.alum	Anglo-Saxon	antique	antq
anon	anodized aluminum	antler	atlr
Antar	anonymous	apartment	apt
anthrop	Antarctica	apocalypse	apcys
antq	anthropology,ical	apocrypha	apocph
ap	antique	apostle,s	ap
apcys	apostle,s	applied	appl
apliq	apocalypse	applique	apliq
apocph	aplique	approximate	appx
appl	apocrypha	aquatint	aqut
appx	applied	aqueduct	aqdt
apt	approximate	arabesque	arbsq
aqdt	apartment	Arabia	Arab
aqut	aqueduct	arch	arh
AR	aquatint	archaeology,ical	archo
ar/arm	Arkansas	architect	archt
Arab	arms & armor	architecture,al *	arch *
arbsq	Arabia	architrave	archtr
arch *	arabesque	archive,archival	archv
archo	architecture,al *	archivolt	arvlt
archt	archaeology,ical	Argentina	Arg
archtr	architect	argillite	argil
	architrave	Arizona	AZ

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
archv	archive, archival	Arkansas	AR
Arg	Argentina	armature	armt
argil	argillite	Armenia	Arm
arh	arch	arms & armor	ar/arm
arl.vw	aerial view	arricaccato	arric
Arm	Armenia	artificial	artif
armt	armature	artist's collection	artist coll
arric	arricaccato	asbestos	asb
artif	artificial	Asia	As
artist coll	artist's collection	Asia Minor	As.Min
arvlt	archivolt	assemblage	asmblg
AS	American Samoa	assistant,s	asst
As	Asia	associates,tion	assoc
As.Min	Asia Minor	atmosphere,ic	atmos
asb	asbestos	attributed	attr
asmblg	assemblage	audio-visual	a-v
assoc	associates,tion	auditorium	audit
asst	assistant,s	Aurignacian	Aurig
ATCH	autochrome	Australia	Austr
atlr	antler	Austria	Aust
atmos	atmosphere,ic	authentic,ated	authn
attr	attributed	author,ed	auth
ATYP	ambrotype	autochrome	ATCH
audit	auditorium	avant-garde	av-gd
Aurig	Aurignacian	avenue	ave
Aust	Austria	axometric	axon
Austr	Australia	Azerbaidzhan	Azerb
auth	author,ed	Azores	Azo
authn	authentic,ated	B.C. *	BC *
av-gd	avant-garde	background	bkgr
ave	avenue	Bactrian	Bactr
axon	axometric	Bahamas	Baha
AZ	Arizona	Bahrain	Bahr
Azerb	Azerbaidzhan	baldachino	baldc
Azo	Azores	balsa wood	bal.wd
b	born	balustrade	balstr
b	black	Bangladesh (E.Pakistan)	Bangl
b&w *	black & white *	baptist,baptistry,baptism	bapt
Bactr	Bactrian	Barbados	Barb
Baha	Bahamas	bark	brk
Bahr	Bahrain	barkcloth	brkcth
bal.wd	balsa wood	Baroque	Barq
baldc	baldachino	barrel vault	bar.vlt
balstr	balustrade	bas relief	barlf
Bangl	Bangladesh (E.Pakistan)	basalt	bst
bapt	baptist,baptistry,baptism	basilica	basl
bar.vlt	barrel vault	basket,ry,work	bskt
Barb	Barbados	basswood	baswd
barlf	bas relief	bathroom	bathrm
Barq	Baroque	batik	btk
basl	basilica	beads,beaded,beading	bea
baswd	basswood	beadwork	beawk
bathrm	bathroom	bedroom	bedrm
BC *	B.C. *	beech,beechwood	becwd
bcksk	buckskin	before	bef
bd	board	before present	BP
bdrm	board room	beginning,begun	beg
bdyco	bodycolor	Belgium	Belg
bea	beads,beaded,beading	bentwood	bntwd
beawk	beadwork	between	bet
becwd	beech,beechwood	bevel,ed	bev
bedrm	bedroom	Bhutan	Bhu
bef	before	bibliotheque	bibl
beg	beginning,begun	bichromate	BICH
Belg	Belgium	billboard	bilbd
bet	between	binder	bndr
bev	bevel,ed	birch	bir
Bhu	Bhutan	bistre	bist
bibl	bibliotheque	black	b
BICH	bichromate	black & white *	b&w *
bilbd	billboard	blackware	bwr
bir	birch	block	blk
bist	bistre	block print	blkpr
bk	book	bloodstone	bldst
bkgr	background	blue	bl

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
bl	blue	board	bd
bldg	building	board room	bdrm
bldr	builder	board,particle	parti.bd
bldst	bloodstone	bodhisattva	bodh
blk	block	bodycolor	bdyco
blkpr	block print	Bokhara	Bokh
blt	built	Bolivia	BoI
blvd	boulevard	book	bk
bndr	binder	born	b
bntwd	bentwood	Borobudur	Boro
bodh	bodhisattva	Botswana	Botsw
Bokh	Bokhara	bottega	btga
BoI	Bolivia	bottom	bot
Boro	Borobudur	boulevard	blvd
bot	bottom	box	bx
Botsw	Botswana	boxwood	bxwd
boz	bozzetto	bozzetto	boz
BP	before present	brass	bs
br	burl,ed	brazed,brazing	braz
Braz	Brazil	Brazil	Braz
braz	brazed,brazing	breviary	brev
brcd	brocade	brick	bri
brev	breviary	briquettes	briq
bri	brick	Britain	Brit
briq	briquettes	British Honduras	Brit.Hond
Brit	Britain	brocade	brcd
Brit.Hond	British Honduras	bromoil print	BRPT
brk	bark	bronze	bz
brkcth	barkcloth	brown,ish	brn
brn	brown,ish	brush,ed	bru
BRPT	bromoil print	buckskin	bcksk
bru	brush,ed	builder	bldr
bs	brass	building	bldg
bstk	basket,ry,work	built	blt
bst	basalt	Bulgaria	Bulg
btga	bottega	burl,ed	br
btk	batik	burlap	bur
Bulg	Bulgaria	burnished	burn
bur	huriap	Burundi	Buru
burn	burnished	buttress	butr
Buru	Burundi	Byzantine	Byz
butr	buttress	cabinet card	CABN
bwr	blackware	cabochon	cabo
bx	box	caldarium,calidarium	caldm
bxwd	boxwood	calendar	cal
Byz	Byzantine	California	CA
bz	bronze	calligraphy,er	calig
c	canvas	callitype	calit
c *	circa *	calotype	CALOT
c *	century *	Cambodia	Camb
C.Rica	Costa Rica	cameo	cmo
CA	California	camera	cam
CABN	cabinet card	camera obscura	cam.obs
cabo	cabochon	Cameroon	Camer
cal	calendar	campanile	cmpnl
caldm	caldarium,calidarium	Canada	Can
calig	calligraphy,er	Canal Zone	CZ
calit	callitype	canvas	c
CALOT	calotype	canvas,unsized	unsz.c
cam	camera	capital,ol	cap
cam.obs	camera obscura	carbonprint,carbongraph	CBPT
Camb	Cambodia	carborondum	carbor
Camer	Cameroon	card	cd
Can	Canada	card stock	cdst
cap	capital,ol	cardboard	cdbd
carbor	carborondum	carnelian	carnl
carnl	carnelian	Caroline Islands	TT
Carth	Carthage	carpet	cpt
cas	casein	Carte-de-visite	CDVT
cashm	cashmere	Carthage	Carth
cat	catalog	cartoon	crtn
cath	cathedral	cartouche	crtch
CBPT	carbonprint,carbongraph	carved	crv
cd	card	caryatid	crytd
cdbd	cardboard	casein	cas

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
cdst	card stock	cashmere	cashm
CDVT	Carte-de-visite	cast	cst
ceil	ceiling	catacomb	ctmb
cel	celadon	catalog	cat
celph	cellophane	cathedral	cath
celtx	celotex	ceiling	ceil
cem	cement	celadon	cel
cemet	cemetery, cemeteries	cellophane	celph
Cent.Afr.Rep	Central African Republic	celotex	celtx
Cent.Am	Central America	cement	cem
cer	ceramics	cemetery, cemeteries	cemet
Ceyl	Ceylon	centimeters *	cm *
CGNG	collodion glass negative	Central African Republic	Cent.Afr.Rep
ch	church	Central America	Cent.Am
cha	chasing,ed	central,center	cntr
champ	champleve	century *	c *
CHBR	chlorobromide print process	ceramics	cer
chbr	chamber	Ceylon	Ceyl
che	cherry	chaitya	chya
CHGR	chemogram	chalcedony	chldy
chiaro	chiaroscuro	chalk	ck
Chino	Chinoiserie	chamber	chbr
chl	charcoal	champleve	champ
chldy	chalcedony	chapel	cpl
ch lith	chromolithograph	chapter	chpt
chl r	chlorite	chapter house	chpt.hs
chpt	chapter	charcoal	chl
chpt.hs	chapter house	chasing,ed	cha
chr	chrome,atic	chasuble	chsb1
chr.scrn	choir screen	chemogram	CHGR
chsb1	chasuble	cherry	che
chstn	chestnut	chestnut	chstn
chvt	chevet	chevet	chvt
chya	chaitya	chiaroscuro	chiaro
CIBCH	cibachrome	Chinoiserie	Chino
cibr	ciborium	chlorite	chl r
ck	chalk	chlorobromide print process	CHBR
ckcl	crackle	choir screen	chr.scrn
cl	clay	Christian	Xian
clg	college	chrome,atic	chr
clm	column	chromolithograph	ch lith
clois	cloisonne	church	ch
CLPT	collodion print	cibachrome	CIBCH
clr	color,ed,s	ciborium	cibr
CLRP	color prints (not tinted)	circa *	c *
clst	clerestory	clay	cl
clstr	cloister	clerestory	clst
CLVR	cliche verre	cliche verre	CLVR
CM	Mariana Islands	cloisonne	clois
cm *	centimeters *	cloister	clstr
cmo	cameo	cloth	cth
cmpnl	campanile	cobalt	cob
cnte	conte crayon	codex,codices	cod
cnte	conte	collaboration	colab
cntr	central,center	collage	col
cntrps	contrapposto	collection, collezione *	coll *
co	county	college	clg
CO	Colorado	collodion glass negative	CGNG
cob	cobalt	collodion print	CLPT
cod	codex,codices	Collotype	COLTY
Col	Colombia	Colombia	Col
col	collage	colonnade	colnd
colab	collaboration	colony,ial	colo
coll *	collection, collezione *	color prints (not tinted)	CLRP
colnd	colonnade	color,ed,s	clr
colo	colony,ial	Colorado	CO
COLTY	Collotype	column	clm
comb	combination,ed	combination,ed	comb
comp	comparison,ative	comparison,ative	comp
compbd	composition board	completed	compl
compd	compound	composition	comps
compl	completed	composition board	compbd
compr	computer	compound	compd
comps	composition	computer	compr
concep	conceptual	conceptual	concep

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
concr	concrete	concrete	concr
condo	condominium	condominium	condo
conj	conjunction	conjunction	conj
CONPR	contact print	Connecticut	CT
consr	consecrated	consecrated	consr
constr	construction	construction	constr
cont	contemporary	contact print	CONPR
Copt	Coptic	conte	cnte
Corin	Corinthian	conte crayon	cnte
corp	corporate,ion	contemporary	cont
corr	corresponding	contrapposto	cntrps
Cors	Corsica	copper	cu
cot	cotton	copperplate	cuplt
cpl	chapel	Coptic	Copt
cpt	carpet	Corinthian	Corin
cray	crayon	corner	crnr
CrMg	Cro-Magnon	cornhusks	crnhs
crmwr	creamware	corporate,ion	corp
crnhs	cornhusks	corresponding	corr
crnltn	crenellation,ed	Corsica	Cors
crnr	corner	corten steel	crtnstl
crsg	crossing	Costa Rica	C.Rica
crtch	cartouche	costume	cstu
crtn	cartoon	cotton	cot
crtnstl	corten steel	country	ctry
crv	carved	county	co
crys	crystal,crystalline	court	ct
crytd	caryatid	courthouse	cths
cst	cast	courtyard	ctyd
cstu	costume	cover,ed	cv
ct	court	crackle	ckcl
CT	Connecticut	crayon	cray
cth	cloth	creamware	crmwr
cths	courthouse	crenellation,ed	crnltn
ctmb	catacomb	Cro-Magnon	CrMg
ctry	country	cross section	xsect
ctyd	courtyard	crossing	crsg
CTYP	cyanotype	crystal,crystalline	crys
cu	copper	cubicle,cubiculum	cub
cub	cubicle,cubiculum	cuneiform	cunif
cunif	cuneiform	cyanotype	CTYP
cuplt	copperplate	cylindrical	cyl
bv	cover,ed	cyprus	cyp
cyl	cylindrical	Cyprus	Cyp
Cyp	Cyprus	Czechoslovakia	Czech
cyp	cyprus	daguerreotype	DTYP
CZ	Canal Zone	Dahomy	Dah
Czech	Czechoslovakia	damask	dmsk
d	died	dark	dk
D/M *	Dr. & Mrs. *	debris	dbrs
Dah	Dahomy	decorative,ion,ed	dec
dbl	double	dedicated	ded
dbrs	debris	Delaware	DE
DC	District of Columbia	delftware	delfwr
dc	duck	Denmark	Den
DE	Delaware	department	dept
dec	decorative,ion,ed	depicting	depict
ded	dedicated	depth	dp
delfwr	delftware	design,ed	des
Den	Denmark	destroyed	destr
depict	depicting	detached	detch
dept	department	detail	det
des	design,ed	diagram	diag
destr	destroyed	diameter *	dia *
det	detail	diamond,s	dmd
detch	detached	didactic *	did *
dia *	diameter *	died	d
diag	diagram	different,ence	dif
did *	didactic *	dimension	dim
dif	different,ence	diptych	dpty
dim	dimension	dispersion	disp
disp	dispersion	distant,ance	dist
dist	distant,ance	distemper	temp
distr	district	distribute,ed	distrb
distrb	distribute,ed	district	distr

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
dk	dark	District of Columbia	DC
dmd	diamond,s	Dominican Republic	Dom.Rep
dmsk	damask	door	dr
Dom.Rep	Dominican Republic	dormitory	dorm
dorm	dormitory	double	dbl
dp	depth	Dr. & Mrs. *	D/H *
dpty	diptych	drawing *	dwg *
dr	door	drypoint	dryp
dryp	drypoint	duck	dc
DTYP	daguerreotype	duotone	DUTN
dup	duplicate	duplicate	dup
DUTN	duotone	dwelling,s	dwl
dwg *	drawing *	dye transfer print	DYTRPT
dwl	dwelling,s	early	ea
DYTRPT	dye transfer print	earthenware	erthwr
E	east,eastern	earthwork	erthwk
E.Sal	El Salvador	east,eastern	E
ea	early	Eastman Kodak Inst.Print Film	EKIP
ebn	ebony, ebonized	ebony, ebonized	ebn
eccles	ecclesiastical	ecclesiastical	eccles
Ecu	Ecuador	Ecuador	Ecu
ed	edition	edition	ed
educ	education,al	education,al	educ
efg	effigy	effigy	efg
Egy	Egypt	egg tempera	temp
EKIP	Eastman Kodak Inst.Print Film	Egypt	Egy
EKT	Ektachrome	Ektachrome	EKT
elctr	electronic, electric	El Salvador	E.Sal
elctrpl	electroplate	elder	eld
eld	elder	electronic, electric	elctr
elem	element,s	electroplate	elctrpl
elmwd	elmwood	electrostatic print	ELSTPT
ELSTPT	electrostatic print	element,s	elem
elv	elevation	elevation	elv
embr	embroidery,ed	elmwood	elmwd
embrs	embrasure	embossed,ing,ment	embs
embs	embossed,ing,ment	embrasure	embrs
eml	emulsion	embroidery,ed	embr
emp	emperor	emerald	emrl
emrl	emerald	emperor	emp
enc	encaustic	emulsion	eml
Eng	England	enamel,led	enl
engr	engraving,ed	encaustic	enc
enl	enamel,led	England	Eng
enlgmnt	enlargement,ed	engraving,ed	engr
ensb	ensemble	enlargement,ed	enlgmnt
entbl	entablature	ensemble	ensb
entr	entrance	entablature	entbl
envir	environment,al	entrance	entr
erthwk	earthwork	environment,al	envir
erthwr	earthenware	especially	esp
esp	especially	established	est
est	established	Estonia	Esto
Esto	Estonia	etching	etch
etch	etching	Ethiopia	Eth
Eth	Ethiopia	Etruria	Etru
Etru	Etruria	Europe	Eur
Eur	Europe	evangelist,s	evang
evang	evangelist,s	example,s	ex
ex	example,s	exhibit,ed,ion	exh
exh	exhibit,ed,ion	exposition	expo
exp	exposure	exposure	exp
expo	exposition	extension	extns
ext *	exterior *	exterior *	ext *
extns	extension	fabric	fab
f	folio	facade	fac
fab	fabric	factory,ies	fact
fac	facade	faience	fai
fact	factory,ies	fascimile	fasc
fai	faience	favrile glass	fvrl.gls
fasc	fascimile	feathers	fthrs
fbr	fiber	feet,foot *	' *
fdtn	foundation	felt,ed,ing	flt
fe	iron	fenestration	fnstr
fewd	ironwood	ferrotype(tintype)	TTYP



ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
fibd	fiberboard	fiber	fbr
fibgl	fiberglass	fiberboard	fibd
fig	figure,ine,s	fiberglass	fibgl
fin	finish,ed	figure,ine,s	fig
Finl	Finland	filmstrip	fs
firwd	firwood	finish,ed	fin
FL	Florida	Finland	Finl
fl	flourished	fired,ing	frd
flamby	flamboyant	firwood	firwd
flan	flannel	fixative	fxt
Fland	Flanders	flamboyant	flamby
Flem	Flemish	Flanders	Fland
flok	flocked,ing	flannel	flan
flour	flourescent	Flemish	Flem
flr	floor	flocked,ing	flok
flt	felt,ed,ing	floor	flr
fly.butr	flying buttress,es	Florida	FL
fm	foam	flourescent	flour
fndobj	found object	flourished	fl
fnstr	fenestration	flying buttress,es	fly.butr
fnt	front	foam	fm
fntpc	frontispiece	folio	f
foesh	foreshorten,ed,ing	foreground	forgr
forg	forged	foreshorten,ed,ing	foesh
forgr	foreground	forged	forg
form	form,ed	form,ed	form
fount	fountain	fortification, fort	ft
Fr	France	fossil,s	fsl
fr	from	found object	fndobj
Fr.Soma	French Somaliland	foundation	fdtn
fra	frame	fountain	fount
frag	fragment	four by five inches	FRFV
frd	fired,ing	fragment	frag
FRFV	four by five inches	frame	fra
frsc	fresco	France	Fr
frutwd	fruitwood	French Somaliland	Fr.Soma
frz	frieze	fresco	frsc
fs	filmstrip	frieze	frz
fsl	fossil,s	from	fr
ft	fortification, fort	front	fnt
fthrs	feathers	frontispiece	fntpc
furn	furniture	fruitwood	frutwd
fus	fuse,ed,ing	furniture	furn
futr	futurism,ist	fuse,ed,ing	fus
fvrl.gls	favrile glass	futurism,ist	futr
fxt	fixative	gallery,erie,ia	gall
GA	Georgia	galvanized	galv
gall	gallery,erie,ia	garden	gard
galv	galvanized	garment	grmt
gard	garden	gateway	gtwy
gel	gelatin	gelatin	gel
gen	general	gelatin glass negative	GGNG
Ger	Germany	gelatin silver print	SGPT
ges	gesso	general	gen
GGNG	gelatin glass negative	Georgia	GA
glit	glitter	Germany	Ger
glo	gloss	gesso	ges
gls	glass	gilt,gilding	glt
glsn	glassine	glass	gls
glt	gilt,gilding	glassine	glsn
gly	glyph,s	glaze,ed	glz
glypto	glyptotheca,glyptotek	glitter	glit
glz	glaze,ed	gloss	glo
GMPT	gum print(gum bichromates)	glyph,s	gly
go	gold	glyptotheca,glyptotek	glypto
go.lf	gold leaf	gold	go
Goth	Gothic	gold leaf	go.lf
gou	gouache	Gothic	Goth
gov	government	gouache	gou
gp	group	government	gov
gra	graphics	granite	gran
gran	granite	granulation	grnl
grd	ground	graphics	gra
Gre	Greece	graphite	grph
gris	grisaille	gravure	grv

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
Grld	Greenland	Greece	Gre
grmt	garment	green	grn
grn	green	Greenland	Grld
grnln	granulation	grisaille	gris
grph	graphite	ground	grd
grv	gravure	group	gp
gtwy	gateway	Guam	GU
GU	Guam	Guatemala	Guat
Guat	Guatemala	Guinea	Guin
Guin	Guinea	gum print(gum bichromates)	GMPT
gym	gymnasium	gymnasium	gym
HALF	half-plate	hair	hr
halfmb	half-timber	half-plate	HALF
ham	hammered	half-timber	halfmb
handmd	handmade	halftone	HLFTN
handscr	handscroll	hammered	ham
hardbd	hardboard	hand colored	HDCOL
HDCOL	hand colored	handmade	handmd
hdwe	hardware	handscroll	handscr
her	heraldry	hanging	hng
HI	Hawaii	hanging scroll	hngscr
hick	hickory	hardboard	hardbd
hiergl	hieroglyph,s	hardware	hdwe
hist	history,ical,isches	Hawaii	HI
HLFTN	halftone	heavy	hv
hng	hanging	height *	ht *
hngscr	hanging scroll	heightened,ing	htnd
holgr	hologram	heliogravure(see Photogravure)	
Holl	Holland	heliotype(modified collotype)	HTYP
Hond	Honduras	heraldry	her
hosp	hospital	hickory	hick
hr	hair	hieroglyph,s	hiergl
hs	house	history,ical,isches	hist
ht *	height *	Holland	Holl
htnd	heightened,ing	hologram	holgr
HTYP	heliotype(modified collotype)	Honduras	Hond
Hung	Hungary	hospital	hosp
hv	heavy	house	hs
hypst	hypostyle	Hungary	Hung
i	ink	hypostyle	hypst
IA	Iowa	Iceland	Icel
Icel	Iceland	icon	icn
icn	icon	iconostasis	iconst
iconst	iconostasis	Idaho	ID
ID	Idaho	Illinois	IL
IL	Illinois	illuminated manuscript,s *	mss *
illum	illuminated,ion	illuminated,ion	illum
illus	illustration	illustration	illus
illus.mat	illustrative material	illustrative material	illus.mat
Impr	Impressionism	impasto	impst
imprm	imprimatura	Impressionism	Impr
impst	impasto	imprimatura	imprm
IN	Indiana	inch,inches	in
in	inch,inches	inches *	" *
inc	incised,ing	incised,ing	inc
ind.i	india ink	india ink	ind.i
Indon	Indonesia	Indiana	IN
infra	infrared	Indonesia	Indon
inl	inlay,aid	infrared	infra
ins	instant	ink	i
inscr	inscription,s	inlay,aid	inl
inst	institution, institute	inscription,s	inscr
instl	installation	installation	instl
instr	instrument,s	instant	ins
int *	interior *	institution, institute	inst
intg	intaglio	instrument,s	instr
intl	international	intaglio	intg
intr	intarsia	intarsia	intr
intr-md	inter-media	inter-media	intr-md
Ire	Ireland	interior *	int *
irid	irridescant	international	intl
iso	isometric	Iowa	IA
Isr	Israel	Ireland	Ire
It	Italy	iron	fe
iv	ivory	ironwood	fewd

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
Iv.Co	Ivory Coast	iridescent	irid
ja	jade	isometric	iso
Jacbn	Jacobean	Israel	Isr
jadt	jadeite	Italy	It
Jama	Jamaica	ivory	iv
Jap	Japan	Ivory Coast	Iv.Co
jlry	jewelry	Jacobean	Jacbn
Jor	Jordan	jade	ja
jr	junior	jadeite	jadt
jsp	jasper	Jamaica	Jama
kakm	kakemono	Japan	Jap
Kash	Kashmir	jasper	jsp
KATYP	kallitpe	jewelry	jlry
kd1th	kodalith	Jordan	Jor
Ken	Kenya	junior	jr
kin	kinetic	kakemono	kakm
km	kilometer	kallitpe	KATYP
kn	known	Kansas	KS
KODCH	Kodachrome	Kashmir	Kash
Kor	Korea	Kentucky	KY
KS	Kansas	Kenya	Ken
Kush	Kushan	keystone	kyst
Kuw	Kuwait	kilometer	km
KY	Kentucky	kinetic	kin
kyst	keystone	known	kn
L.Anti	Antilles, Lesser	Kodachrome	KODCH
L.Anti	Lesser Antilles	kodalith	kd1th
LA	Los Angeles	Korea	Kor
la	late, r	Kushan	Kush
LA	Louisiana	Kuwait	Kuw
lac	lacquer	lacquer	lac
lam	laminated	laminated	lam
lat	lateral	landscape, ing, ed	ldscp
Latv	Latvia	lantern slide	LTRN
ldscp	landscape, ing, ed	lapis lazuli	ll
lea	leather	laser	lsr
Leb	Lebanon	late, r	la
lectn	lectionary	lateral	lat
lekyt	lekythos	latex	ltx
lf	leaf	Latvia	Latv
lf.sz	life size, d	layout	lyot
lft *	left *	leaf	lf
lgd	legend	leather	lea
lgth	length	Lebanon	Leb
Liber	Liberia	lectionary	lectn
libr	library	left *	lft *
Liecht	Liechtenstein	legend	lgd
lin	linen	lekythos	lekyt
lindwd	lindenwood	length	lgth
lino	linocut, linoleum cut	Lesser Antilles	L.Anti
litg	liturgy, ical	level	lvl
Lith	Lithuania	Liberia	Liber
litho	lithograph, y	library	libr
ll	lapis lazuli	Liechtenstein	Liecht
lmst	limestone	life size, d	lf.sz
lmwd	limewood	light, ing, lit	lt
ln	line	limestone	lmst
lnsd	linseed oil	limewood	lmwd
loc	location	lindenwood	lindwd
log	loggia	line	ln
longit	longitudinal	linen	lin
low	lower	linocut, linoleum cut	lino
lqtx	liquitex	linseed oil	lnsd
lsr	laser	liquitex	lqtx
lstwx	lost wax	lithograph, y	litho
lt	light, ing, lit	Lithuania	Lith
LTRN	lantern slide	liturgy, ical	litg
ltx	latex	location	loc
lun	lunette	loggia	log
lus	lustre	longitudinal	longit
Lux	Luxembourg	Los Angeles	LA
lvl	level	lost wax	lstwx
lyot	layout	Louisiana	LA
m *	meters *	lower	low
M/M *	Mr. & Mrs. *	lunette	lun

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
MA	Massachusetts	lustre	lus
Madag	Madagascar (Malagasy Republic)	Luxembourg	Lux
Madag	Malagasy Republic	Madagascar (Malagasy Republic)	Madag
mag	magazine	magazine	mag
Magdl	Magdalenian	Magdalenian	Magdl
magns	magnesium	magnesium	magns
mah	mahogany	mahogany	mah
maj	majolica	Maine	ME
makm	makimono	majolica	maj
Malay	Malaysia	maker	mkr
mandl	mandorla	makimono	makm
manif	manifesto	Malagasy Republic	Madag
maq	maquette,s	Malaysia	Malay
marb	marble	mandorla	mandl
mark	market,s	manifesto	manif
marq	marquetry	Mannerism,ist	Mnrsm
mas	masonry	manuscript,s *	ms *
masn	masonite	maple	mpl
mat	material	maquette,s	maq
Maurti	Mauritania	marble	marb
mauso	mausoleum,s	Mariana Islands	CM
MD	Maryland	mark,s	mrk
mdvl	medieval	market,s	mark
ME	Maine	marquetry	marq
med	medal,s	Marshall Islands	TT
medi	media,medium	martyrdom	mtydm
medi.gen	media generated (from TV,etc.)	Maryland	MD
medln	medallion	masonite	masn
meg	megaron	masonry	mas
memrl	memorial,s	Massachusetts	MA
MesoAm	Meso American	mastaba	mstb
Mesol	Mesolithic	master	mstr
Mesop	Mesopotamia	material	mat
met	metal,lic,s	Mauritania	Maurti
metpt	metalpoint	mausoleum,s	mauso
metwk	metalwork	medal,s	med
Mex	Mexico	medallion	medln
mez	mezzotint	media generated (from TV,etc.)	medi.gen
mezn	mezzanine	media,medium	medi
mgrd	middleground	medieval	mdvl
MI	Michigan	megaron	meg
mi *	mile,miles *	memorial,s	memrl
mid *	middle *	Meso American	MesoAm
min	minute	Mesolithic	Mesol
minat	miniature	Mesopotamia	Mesop
mirr	mirror,s	metal,lic,s	met
mkr	maker	metalpoint	metpt
mld	mold,ed	metalwork	metwk
mm *	mixed media *	meters *	m *
MN	Minnesota	Mexico	Mex
mnr1	mineral, minerals	mezzanine	mezn
Mnrsm	Mannerism,ist	mezzotint	mez
mnrt	minaret	Michigan	MI
MO	Missouri	middle *	mid *
mob	mobile,iary	middleground	mgrd
mochwr	mochaware	mile,miles *	mi *
mod	model,ed,ing	minaret	mnrt
mod.pst	modeling paste	mineral, minerals	mnr1
Mona	Monaco	miniature	minat
monch	monochrome	Minnesota	MN
Mongo	Mongolia	minute	min
monpr	monoprint	mirror,s	mirr
mont	monument,al	Mississippi	MS
montg	montage	Missouri	MO
montp	monotype	mixed media *	mm *
mopr1	mother-of-pearl	mobile,iary	mob
Moro	Morocco	mochaware	mochwr
mos	mosaic	model,ed,ing	mod
Mozam	Mozambique	modeling paste	mod.pst
mpl	maple	mold,ed	mld
mrk	mark,s	Monaco	Mona
MS	Mississippi	Mongolia	Mongo
ms *	manuscript,s *	monochrome	monch
mss *	illuminated manuscript,s *	monoprint	monpr
mstb	mastaba	monotype	montp

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
mstr	master	montage	montg
mt	mountain,s	Montana	MT
MT	Montana	monument,al	mont
mtd	mount,ed,ing,s	Morocco	Moro
mtydm	martyrdom	mosaic	mos
mur	mural	mother-of-pearl	moprl
mus *	museum,museo,musee,museen *	mount,ed,ing,s	mtd
musi	musical	mountain,s	mt
musl	muslin	Mozambique	Mozam
N	north,northern	Mr. & Mrs. *	M/M *
N.Am	North America	mural	mur
N.Zea	New Zealand	museum,museo,musee,museen *	mus *
nat	natural	musical	musi
natl *	national *	muslin	musl
Natl	Naturalism	narthex	nhx
NB	Nebraska	national *	natl *
NC	North Carolina	natural	nat
nd	undated	Naturalism	Natl
ND	North Dakota	Neanderthal	Ndthl
nd	no date	near	nr
ndlwk	needlework	Nebraska	NB
Ndthl	Neanderthal	necropolis	necrp
ne	neon	needlework	ndlwk
necrp	necropolis	negative	neg
neg	negative	negative print	NEGPT
NEGPT	negative print	Neolithic	Neol
Neol	Neolithic	neon	ne
Nep	Nepal	Nepal	Nep
neph	nephrite	nephrite	neph
Nethl	Netherlands	Netherlands	Nethl
NH	New Hampshire	Nevada	NV
nhx	narthex	New Hampshire	NH
ni	nickel	New Jersey	NJ
Nic	Nicaragua	New Mexico	NM
niel	niello	New York	NY
Nigr	Nigeria	New York City	NYC
NINE	ninth-plate	New Zealand	N.Zea
NJ	New Jersey	newspaper	nwsps
NM	New Mexico	Nicaragua	Nic
nonpoly	nonpolychrome	nickel	ni
Nor	Norway	niello	niel
nr	near	Nigeria	Nigr
NTMP	nitrate motion picture	ninth-plate	NINE
NTNG	nitrate negative	nitrate motion picture	NTMP
NV	Nevada	nitrate negative	NTNG
nwsps	newspaper	no date	nd
NY	New York	nonpolychrome	nonpoly
NYC	New York City	North America	N.Am
nymphm	nymphaeum	North Carolina	NC
o	oil	North Dakota	ND
o/bd *	oil on board *	north,northern	N
o/bur *	oil on burlap *	Norway	Nor
o/c *	oil on canvas *	number *	# *
o/cdbd *	oil on cardboard *	nymphaeum	nymphm
o/p *	oil on panel *	object	obj
o/pa *	oil on paper *	obscura	obs
obj	object	odalisque	odlsq
obs	obscura	office	ofc
odlsq	odalisque	offset	ofst
ofc	office	Ohio	OH
ofst	offset	oil	o
OH	Ohio	oil on board *	o/bd *
OK	Oklahoma	oil on burlap *	o/bur *
onx	onyx	oil on canvas *	o/c *
OPTYP	opalotype	oil on cardboard *	o/cdbd *
OR	Oregon	oil on panel *	o/p *
orig	origin,ally,ate	oil on paper *	o/pa *
orm	ormolu	oilstick	ostk
ornam	ornament,s,ation	Oklahoma	OK
orthg	orthogonals	on *	/ *
ostk	oilstick	onyx	onx
oth	other	opalotype	OPTYP
outl	outline,ed	Oregon	OR
ov	over	origin,ally,ate	orig
ox	oxides	ormolu	orm

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
p	panel	ornament,s,ation	ornam
pa	paper	orthogonals	orthg
PA	Pennsylvania	other	oth
Pak	Pakistan	outline,ed	outl
pal	palette	over	ov
pala	palace,palazzo	oxides	ox
Pale	Palestine	page, pages *	pg *
Paleol	Paleolithic	paint	pt
Pan	Panama	painted	ptd
PANA	panorama	painter	ptr
panchr	panchromatic	painting *	ptg *
pap	papyrus	paintstick	ptst
PAPT	palladium print	Pakistan	Pak
Par	Paraguay	palace,palazzo	pala
parc	parchment	Paleolithic	Paleol
part	partial	Palestine	Pale
parti.bd	particle board	palette	pal
parti.bd	board,particle	palladium print	PAPT
pat	patina	Panama	Pan
pav1	pavilion	panchromatic	panchr
pc	piece,s	panel	p
pch	porch	Panno type	PNTYP
pdm	podium	panorama	PANA
pdst1	pedestal	paper	pa
pe	pen	paper negative, oth.than CALO	PRNG
pe/i *	pen and ink *	papier(paper)mache	pm
pearwd	pear tree wood	papyrus	pap
pedm	pediment	Paraguay	Par
pend	pendant	parchment	parc
Pent1	Pentelic	park	pk
pentu	pentateuch	partial	part
per	period,s	particle board	parti.bd
Per	Persia	paste	pst
perf	performance	pasteboard	pstbd
peric	pericope,s	pastel	ps
perp	perpendicular	patina	pat
persp	perspective	pavilion	pav1
petrgly	petroglyph	pear tree wood	pearwd
pew	pewter	pearl,s	pr1
pg *	page, pages *	pedestal	pdst1
PGRV	photogravure	pediment	pedm
PHENG	photoengraving	pen	pe
PHET	photoetching	pen and ink *	pe/i *
PHGNDWG	photogenic dwg,Fox Talbot only	pencil	pl
PHGRM	photogram(Rayogram,etc.)	pendant	pend
Phil	Philippines	pendentive	pndnt
PHLITHO	photolithographic	Pennsylvania	PA
photmur	photo mural	pentateuch	pentu
photo	photograph,y	Pentelic	Pent1
photomon	photomontage	performance	perf
pictg	pictograph	pericope,s	peric
pig	pigment	period,s	per
pil	pilaster	peristyle	pstyl
PITYP	pinatype	perpendicular	perp
pk	park	Persia	Per
pl	plaza,s	perspective	persp
pl	place,s	petroglyph	petrgly
pl	pencil	pewter	pew
pl	platz	Philippines	Phil
pl	piazza,s	photo mural	photmur
pla	plaster	photoengraving	PHENG
plas	plastic	photoetching	PHET
plat	plate,s,ed,ing	photogenic dwg,Fox Talbot only	PHGNDWG
platn	platinum(metal)	photogram(Rayogram,etc.)	PHGRM
plexg	plexiglass	photograph,y	photo
plr	poplar	photogravure	PGRV
PLRD	Polaroid	photolithographic	PHLITHO
Pltrsq	Plateresque	photomechanical	PTMC
PLTYP	plumbeotype	photomontage	photomon
ply	plywood	piano nobile	pn.nb
plyc	polychrome	piazza,s	pl
plyes	polyester	pictograph	pictg
plym	polymer	piece,s	pc
plypt	polyptic	pigment	pig
plyst	polystyrene	pilaster	pil

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
plyur	polyurethane	pinatype	PITYP
plyvn	polyvinyl	pine	pn
pm	papier(paper)mache	place,s	pl
pn	pine	plaster	pla
pn.nb	piano nobile	plastic	plas
pndnt	pendentive	plate,s,ed,ing	plat
PNTYP	Panno type	Plateresque	Pltrsq
pol	polished	platinum print	PTPT
Pol	Poland	platinum(metal)	platin
Polyn	Polynesia	platz	pl
porc	porcelain	plaza,s	pl
porph	porphyry	plexiglass	plexg
PORT	presentation portfolio	plumbeotype	PLTYP
Port	Portugal	plywood	ply
posb	possibly	podium	pdm
post	poster	Poland	Pol
post ofc	post office	Polaroid	PLRD
powd	powder	polished	pol
PR	Puerto Rico	polychrome	plyc
pr	print	polyester	plyes
Pram	Prambanam	polymer	plym
prdl	predella	Polynesia	Polyn
prec	precious	polyptic	plypt
prelm	preliminary	polystyrene	plyst
prep	preparatory	polyurethane	plyur
presby	presbytery	polyvinyl	plyvn
presen	presentation	poplar	plr
prf	proof	porcelain	porc
prin	principle,principal,s	porch	pch
prl	pearl,s	porphyry	porph
PRNG	paper negative, oth.than CALO	portal	ptl
prob	probably	portrait	ptrt
proc	process	Portugal	Port
prod	production	possibly	posb
prof	profile	post office	post ofc
proj	project	Postcard	PSCD
projt	projector,ion	poster	post
prosp	prospective	pottery	ptry
prov	provenance	powder	powd
prpym	propylaeum	Prambanam	Pram
prsmc	prismacolor	precious	prec
prtd	printed	predella	prdl
prv	private	preliminary	prelm
prv.coll *	private collection *	preparatory	prep
ps	pastel	presbytery	presby
PSCD	Postcard	presentation	presen
pslt	psalter	presentation portfolio	PORT
pst	paste	principle,principal,s	prin
pstbd	pasteboard	print	pr
pstyl	peristyle	printed	prtd
pt	paint	prismacolor	prsmc
ptd	painted	private	prv
ptg *	painting *	private collection *	prv.coll *
ptl	portal	probably	prob
PTMC	photomechanical	process	proc
PTPT	platinum print	production	prod
ptr	painter	profile	prof
ptrt	portrait	project	proj
ptry	pottery	projector,ion	projt
ptst	paintstick	proof	prf
pub	public	propylaeum	prpym
pulpbd	pulpboard	prospective	prosp
pulpwd	pulpwood	provenance	prov
pur	purple	psalter	pslt
pyrm	pyramid,s	public	pub
pyrox	pyroxiline	Puerto Rico	PR
QRTR	quarter-plate	pulpboard	pulpbd
qtfl	quatrefoil	pulpwood	pulpwd
qto	quarto	purple	pur
qtr	quarter	pyramid,s	pyrm
qtz	quartz	pyroxiline	pyrox
quilwk	quills,quillwork	quarter	qtr
R *	recto *	quarter-plate	QRTR
rblt	rebuilt	quarto	qto
rbr	rubber	quartz	qtz

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
rby	ruby	quatrefoil	qtf1
rdwd	redwood	quills,quillwork	quilwk
rdymd	readymade	railroad station	RR sta
recon	reconstruction,s	rathaus, town hall	town ha
refty	refectory	rawhide	rwhi
reg	region,al	readymade	rdymd
REGE	regular eight (motion picture)	rebuilt	rb1t
rel	relief	reconstruction,s	recon
relig	religion,iou	recto *	R *
reliq	reliquary	redwood	rdwd
Renais	Renaissance	refectory	refty
repl	replica	Regency	Rgcy
reprd	reproduction	region,al	reg
repres	representation,al	regular eight (motion picture)	REGE
repu	repousse	reinforced	rnfd
res	resin	relief	rel
resco	resin-coated	religion,iou	relig
resid	residence,s	reliquary	reliq
rest	restored,ation	Renaissance	Renais
RETO	retouched	rendering	rndr
rev	reverse	replica	repl
rf	roof	repousse	repu
Rgcy	Regency	representation,al	repres
Rhod	Rhodesia	reproduction	reprd
RI	Rhode Island	residence,s	resid
rib.vlt	ribbed vault	resin	res
ribnw	ribbonwork	resin-coated	resco
rm	room	restaurant,s	rstrau
Rmsq	Romanesque	restored,ation	rest
rndr	rendering	retouched	RETO
rnfd	reinforced	reverse	rev
Rom	Romania	revival	rvt
roswd	rosewood	Rhode Island	RI
rplx	rhoplex	Rhodesia	Rhod
RR sta	railroad station	rhoplex	rplx
rstrau	restaurant,s	ribbed vault	rib.vlt
rt *	right *	ribbonwork	ribnw
rub	rubbing	right *	rt *
Rum	Rumania	Romanesque	Rmsq
Rus	Russia	Romania	Rom
rustc	rustication	roof	rf
rvt	revival	room	rm
rwhi	rawhide	rosewood	roswd
S	saint,santa,san,santo,sankt	rubber	rbr
S	south,southern	rubbing	rub
s&d	signed & dated	ruby	rby
S.Afr	South Africa	Rumania	Rum
S.Am	South America	Russia	Rus
S.Arab	Saudia Arabia	rustication	rustc
sanct	sanctuary	safety base motion picture	SBMP
sandst	sandstone	safety base negative	SFNG
sangu	sanguine	saint,santa,san,santo,sankt	S
sarc	sarcophagus,sarcohagi	saints	SS
Sard	Sardinia	Salted paper print	SLPT
sat	satin	saltglaze	sltgz
satwd	satinwood	sanctuary	sanct
sawdu	sawdust	sandalwood	sndlwd
SBMP	safety base motion picture	sandstone	sandst
SC	South Carolina	sanguine	sangu
sch	school	sarcophagus,sarcohagi	sarc
schm	schematic	Sardinia	Sard
schst	schist	satin	sat
scl	scroll	satinwood	satwd
Scot	Scotland	Saudia Arabia	S.Arab
script	scripture	sawdust	sawdu
scrn	screen	schematic	schm
scrnpr	screenprint	schist	schst
sculp *	sculpture, sculptor *	school	sch
Scyt	Scythia	Scotland	Scot
SD	South Dakota	screen	scrn
sdv	study	screenprint	scrnpr
sect	section	scripture	script
sep	sepia	scroll	scl
seri	serigraph	sculpture, sculptor *	sculp *
sfm	sfumato	Scythia	Scyt



ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
SFNG	safety base negative	section	sect
sft	soffit	Senegal	Sngl
SGPT	silver gelatine print	sepia	sep
SGPT	gelatin silver print	seraph, seraphim	srph
sgrf	sgraffito	serigraph	seri
shl	shell,s	seventy millimeter	70MM
sht	sheet	sfumato	sfm
si	silver	sgraffito	sgrf
Sib	Siberia	sheet	sht
Sic	Sicily	shell,s	shl
SILPT	silhouette print	Siberia	Sib
sim	simulated	Sicily	Sic
sipt	silverpoint	signed & dated	s&d
SIXT	sixth-plate	silhouette print	SILPT
sk	sketch	silk	slk
skyscr	skyscraper	silkscreen	slksc
sla	slate	silver	si
slk	silk	silver gelatine print	SGPT
slksc	silkscreen	silverpoint	sipt
SLPT	Salted paper print	simulated	sim
sltgz	saltglaze	sinopia	snpa
sm	small	sixteen millimeter (mot.pic)	16MM
sndlwd	sandalwood	sixth-plate	SIXT
sngl	senegal	size,ed,ing	sz
snpa	sinopia	sketch	sk
soapst	soapstone	skyscraper	skyscr
Soltr	Solutrean	slate	sla
Spa	Spain	small	sm
spr	spruce	soapstone	soapst
spy	spray	soffit	sft
sq	square	Solutrean	Soltr
srph	seraph, seraphim	South Africa	S.Afr
SS	saints	South America	S.Am
ss	stainless steel	South Carolina	SC
st	street	South Dakota	SD
st	stone	south,southern	S
sta	station	Spain	Spa
stdgls	stained glass	spray	spy
steat	steatite	spruce	spr
ster	stereo	square	sq
STER	stereoview	St.Croix Island	VI
sti	stich,ed,ing	St.John Island	VI
stk	stock	St.Thomas Island	VI
stl	steel	stained glass	stdgls
stncl	stencil,ing	stainless steel	ss
stret	stretcher,s	station	sta
strg	string	steatite	steat
strgcr	stringcourse	steel	stl
strl.si	sterling silver	stencil,ing	stncl
strm	store room,s	stereo	ster
stu	stucco	stereoview	STER
stwr	stoneware	sterling silver	strl.si
sty	stylus	stich,ed,ing	sti
Sumat	Sumatra	stock	stk
sumpt	sumptuary	stone	st
SUPE	super eight(motion picture)	stoneware	stwr
sur	surface	store room,s	strm
Swe	Sweden	street	st
Switz	Switzerland	stretcher,s	stret
Swzld	Swaziland	string	strg
SX70	SX-70	stringcourse	strgcr
SYMGR	sympalmograph	stucco	stu
synt	synthetic	study	sdv
Syr	Syria	stylus	sty
sz	size,ed,ing	Sumatra	Sumat
Taiw	Taiwan	sumptuary	sumpt
Tanz	Tanzania	super eight(motion picture)	SUPE
tap	tapestry	surface	sur
tarp	tarpaulin	Swaziland	Swzld
tb	tomb	Sweden	Swe
tbtle	tabernacle	Switzerland	Switz
temp	tempera	SX-70	SX70
temp	distemper	sympalmograph	SYMGR
temp	egg tempera	synthetic	synt
tepid	tepidarium	Syria	Syr

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
ter	terracotta	tabernacle	tbnlc
terc	terrace	Taiwan	Taiw
tes	tessera,e	Tanzania	Tanz
text	texture	tapestry	tap
Thai	Thailand	tarpaulin	tarp
thrd	thread	tempera	temp
thry	theory	temple	tmp1
thtr	theatre	Tennessee	TN
Tib	Tibet	tepidarium	tepid
tik	ticking	terrace	terc
tis	tissue	terracotta	ter
tlp	tulip	tessera,e	tes
tmp1	temple	Texas	TX
TN	Tennessee	textile	txt1
tn	toned,r	texture	text
tnt	tint,ed,ing	Thailand	Thai
tort	tortoise	theatre	thtr
towd	toward,s	theory	thry
town ha	rathaus, town hall	thirty five mm (motion pic.)	35MM
town ha	town hall, rathaus	thread	thrd
tpyt	triptych	Tibet	Tib
tr	traces,ing	ticking	tik
tr.l'o	trompe l'oeil	tint,ed,ing	tnt
trab	trabated	tintype(ferrotype & melainotyp	TTYP
trac	tracery	tissue	tis
trans	transparency	tomb	tb
transf	transfer,red	toned,r	tn
transl	translucent	tortoise	tort
transp	transportation	toward,s	towd
trap	trapping,s	tower	twr
treas	treasury	town hall, rathaus	town ha
tricl	triclinium	trabated	trab
trifr	triforium	tracery	trac
trim.arh	triumphal arch	traces,ing	tr
trsp	transept	transept	trsp
trum	trumeau,x	transfer,red	transf
trvtn	travertine	translucent	transl
TT	Trust Territories	transparency	trans
TT	Caroline Islands	transportation	transp
TT	Marshall Islands	trapping,s	trap
TTYP	tintype(ferrotype & melainotyp	travertine	trvtn
TTYP	ferrotype(tintype)	treasury	treas
tub	tubing, tubular	triclinium	tricl
Tun	Tunisia	triforium	trifr
Turk	Turkey	triptych	tpyt
turq	turquoise	triumphal arch	trim.arh
twr	tower	trompe l'oeil	tr.l'o
TX	Texas	trumeau,x	trum
txt1	textile	Trust Territories	TT
tymp	tympanium	tubing, tubular	tub
typogr	typography	tulip	tlp
UAR	United Arab Republic	Tunisia	Tun
Ugan	Uganda	Turkey	Turk
undglz	underglaze	turquoise	turq
unglz	unglazed	tympanium	tymp
un id	unidentified	typography	typogr
uniq	unique	Uganda	Ugan
univ	university	ultraviolet	uv
unk	unknown	undated	nd
unsz.c	unsized canvas	underglaze	undglz
unsz.c	canvas,unsized	unglazed	unglz
unt	untitled	unidentified	un id
untemp	untempered	Union of Soviet Socialist Rep	USSR
uphol	upholstry,upholstered	unique	uniq
Uru	Uruguay	United Arab Republic	UAR
US	United States of America	United States of America	US
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Rep	university	univ
UT	Utah	unknown	unk
utns1	utensil,s	unsized canvas	unsz.c
uv	ultraviolet	untempered	untemp
v	video	untitled	unt
v *	verso *	upholstry,upholstered	uphol
VA	Virginia	Uruguay	Uru
van.pt	vanishing point	Utah	UT
var	varnish	utensil,s	utns1

ABBREVIATION	TERM	TERM	ABBREVIATION
varf	various	vanishing point	van.pt
Vat	Vatican	various	vari
vel	velvet	varnish	var
Venez	Venezuela	Vatican	Vat
ver	version	vault	vlt
verfx	verifax	vellum	vlm
ves	vessel	velvet	vel
vgnt	vignette	veneer	vnr
VI	St.Croix Island	Venezuela	Venez
VI	Virgin Islands	verifax	verfx
VI	St.John Island	Vermont	VT
VI	St.Thomas Island	version	ver
vlm	vellum	verso *	v *
vlt	vault	vessel	ves
vn	vinyl	vestibule	vstib
vnr	veneer	vestment,s	vstmt
vol	volume	video	v
volc	volcanic	videotape	vtp
vsrs	voussoirs	Vietnam	Vtnm
vstib	vestibule	view	vw
vstmt	vestment,s	vignette	vgnt
VT	Vermont	vinyl	vn
Vtnm	Vietnam	Virgin Islands	VI
vtp	videotape	Virginia	VA
vw	view	volcanic	volc
W	west,western	volume	vol
w	white	voussoirs	vsrs
W.Ind	West Indies	wainscot	wnsct
W.Sam	Western Samoa	walkway	wlkwy
w/ *	with *	wall paper	wapa
wa	wash,ed	walnut	wal
WA	Washington	walrus	wlrs
wal	walnut	ware	wr
wapa	wall paper	warehouse,s	wrhs
Wash.DC	Washington, D.C.	wash,ed	wa
wc	watercolor	Washington	WA
wc/pa	watercolor on paper	Washington, D.C.	Wash.DC
wd	wood	water	wtr
wd	wide,width	watercolor	wc
wdbl	woodblock	watercolor on paper	wc/pa
wdct	woodcut	wax,ed	wx
web	web,bing	weave,ing,woven	wv
wha	whale	web,bing	web
wi	wire	welded,ing	wld
WI	Wisconsin	West Indies	W.Ind
wkr	wicker	West Virginia	WV
wl	wool	west,western	W
wld	welded,ing	Western Samoa	W.Sam
wlkwy	walkway	westwork	wwk
wlrs	walrus	whale	wha
wndw	window	white	w
wnsct	wainscot	wicker	wkr
wr	ware	wide,width	wd
wrhs	warehouse,s	window	wndw
wrt	wrought	wire	wi
wtr	water	Wisconsin	WI
WV	West Virginia	with *	w/ *
wv	weave,ing,woven	wood	wd
wwk	westwork	woodblock	wdbl
wx	wax,ed	woodcut	wdct
WY	Wyoming	wool	wl
Xian	Christian	wrought	wrt
XOGP	xograph	Wyoming	WY
xsect	cross section	xograph	XOGP
ya	yarn,s	yarn,s	ya
yel	yellow	yellow	yel
ygr	younger	younger	ygr
yuc	yucca	yucca	yuc
Yugo	Yugoslavia	Yugoslavia	Yugo
Zam	Zambia	Zambia	Zam
Zanz	Zanzibar	Zanzibar	Zanz
zi	zinc	ziggurat	zig
zig	ziggurat	zinc	zi
zpmhm	zoomorphism	zoomorphism	zpmhm

## **ADDITIONS TO ABBREVIATIONS STANDARDS LIST**

The authority list for standard abbreviations will be updated periodically. Please send terms and suggested abbreviation forms you would like to see included in the next edition to:

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If the terms you wish to add are of a highly specialized nature, please include brief definitions. In addition, please include your name, address and telephone number. Your interest in this project is important, insuring that the list be useful to a wide range of users.