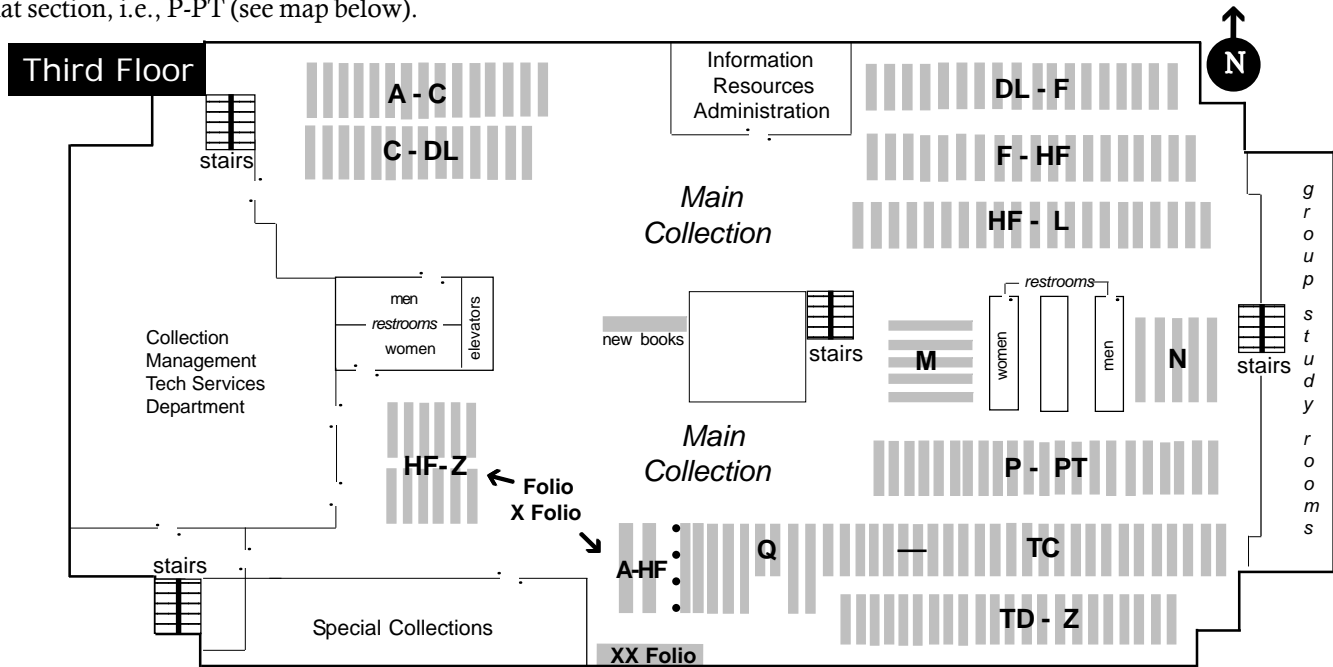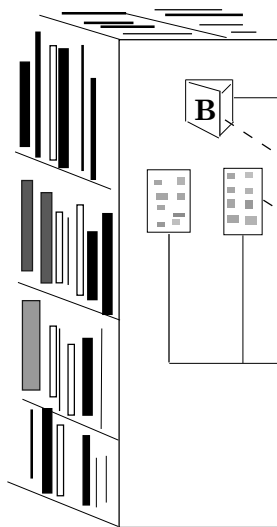# Locating Books in the Meriam Library
California State University ∼ Chico

Main Collection books are located on the **third floor of the Meriam Library** and may be checked out at the Circulation desk on the 1st floor. Books are shelved in Library of Congress Classification number order (see other side for an outline of the classification system). Above each group of book stacks is a sign indicating the call number range of the books located in that section, i.e., P-PT (see map below).

Third Floor

N

Information Resources Administration

A - C
C - DL
stairs

DL - F
F - HF
HF - L

Main Collection

Collection Management Tech Services Department

men *restrooms* women
elevators

new books

stairs

restrooms

M
women
men
N
stairs

g r o u p   s t u d y   r o o m s

HF-Z
← **Folio X Folio**

Main Collection

P - PT

stairs

A-HF
Q
—
TC

Special Collections
XX Folio

TD - Z

Book Stack End Panel

B

On the end panel of each book stack are several signs. The bold single letter sign is the first call letter of all the books shelved in that particular stack. The other signs indicate the call number range of the books located on each side of the stack.

EXAMPLE:

Assume you are looking for a book with the call number **BD 431 C465 1986**

• First locate the book stacks labeled **B**.

• Second find the detailed call number sign where the book should be located.

BD	BD
215	to 581
B44	A75
1986	1983

BD	BF
581	to 76.5
B8	K4
1982	1973

In this case, the book's call number falls between **BD 215 B44 1986** and **BD 581 A75 1983**. Therefore, it would be shelved on the left side of the stack.

Note about Library of Congress Call Numbers

The call number is composed of both letters and numbers. The first letter(s) and number(s) refers to the subject content (class) of the work. The second combination of letter(s) and number(s) usually refers to the author, except some subject class numbers are subdivided in greater detail. In those cases the third combination of letter(s) and number(s) refers to the author. An example of a shelving sequence is below. Read call numbers from top to bottom. Some call numbers may include decimals in the third line while others may not. This does not effect shelving.

B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
1	1	1	86	86	86	86.2	86.2
A25*	.A8	A86	.K57	K7	K8	.A24	A3
				1986			

*A25 comes before A8. From the third line onward, read the numbers decimally.

Library of Congress Classification System

Class

A **General Works**
               Encyclopedias, reference books

B **Philosophy, Psychology, Religon**
B	Philosophy (General)
BF	Psychology
BL-BX	Religion

C **Auxiliary Sciences of History**
CC	Archaeology
CS	Genealogy
CT	Biography

D **History (General)**
D	World history
DA-DZ	Individual countries

E-F History: America
E 11-143	America
E 151-889	United States
F 1-957	States and Local
F 1001-1140	Canada
F 1202+	Other countries

G **Geography, Anthropology, Recreation**
G-GB	Geography
GE	Environmental sciences
GN	Anthropology
GR	Folklore
GV	Recreation. Sports. Physical Education

H **Social Sciences**
HA	Statistics
HB-HJ	Economics. Business
HM	Sociology
HQ	Family. Marriage. Women

J **Political Sciences**
JA	Political science (General)
JF-JQ	Public administration
JS	Local government. Municipal government
JZ	International relations

K **Law**
KDZ	America. North America
KF	United States
KZ	Law of nations

L **Education**
LA	History of Education
LB	Theory and Practice

M **Music**
M	Musical works. Scores
ML	Literature on Music
MT	Musical instruction

N **Fine Arts**
NA	Architecture
NC	Drawing. Design. Illustration
ND	Painting

Class

P **Language and Literature**
P	Philology. Linguistics
P 87-96	Communication. Mass media
PA	Classical languages
PN	Literature (General)
PQ	Romance literature
PR	English literature
PS	American literature
PT	Germanic literature

Q **Science**
QA	Mathematics
QA 76	Computer Science
QB-QC	Astronomy. Physics
QD	Chemistry
QE	Geology
QH	Biology. Natural history
QK	Botany
QL	Zoology
QP	Physiology
QR	Microbiology

R **Medicine**
RA	Public health
RC	Internal medicine
RC435-571	Psychiatry
RT	Nursing

S **Agriculture**
SB	Plant science. Horticulture
SD	Forestry
SF	Animal Science
SK	Hunting sports. Wildlife

T **Technology**
TA	Engineering (General) & Civil
TC	Hydraulic engineering
TD	Environmental technology
TE	Highway engineering
TH	Building construction
TJ	Mechanical engineering
TK	Electric/onic engineering
TL	Motor vehicles. Aeronautics
TN-TP	Mining. Metallurgy
TP	Chemical technology. Plastics
TR	Photography
TS	Manufacturing. Production industries
TT-TX	Home economics

U **Military Science**

V **Naval Science**

Z **Bibliography and Library Science**