INAC File Examples Cheat Sheet

(please consult FA 10-376 for subject and code lists)

1872-1923: Red and Black Series

The Red and Black Series used various filing registry systems that with few exceptions did not correlate to subject or location codes.

Example file numbers:

- 0 10,055
- o **10,077**

1923-1949: Duplex Numeric System

Subject-based duplex numeric headquarters central registry filing system Consisted of 5 independent subject-based filing systems

1. First Series files

First Series file numbers are composed of a subject code followed by an agency code;

Example;

75-18

- 75 is the subject code for Agent's Reports
- 18 is the agency code for the Maniwaki Agency

75-18, then, pertains to agent's reports from the Maniwaki agency.

2. Thousand Series

Thousand Series file numbers consist of the thousand series subject block + the agency code.

Example 1;

8153

- 8000 is the file block for Enfranchisements
- 153 is the Agency code for New-Westminster Agency

8153, then, pertains to Enfranchisements from the New-Westminster Agency.

Example 2;

23027

- 23000 is the file block for Roads
- 27 is the Agency code for the Scugog Agency

23027, then, pertains to Roads under the administration of the Scugog Agency.

3. School File Series

The School File Series did not use a consistent file classification system. Earlier files dating to the late 19th/early 20th centuries appear to consist of an Agency code + School number + subject block. Later files dating to the 1940s and 50s appear to consist of a two part file number with a different set of responsibility centre and subject codes. Since LAC's holdings from this series are all available electronically, the researcher should rely on keyword searches to locate records of interest.

4. Land Sale Series

Land sale file numbers are comprised of four elements;

Agency responsibility centre code + sale + reserve # + land parcel

Example:

131A-9-46

- 131 is the agency code for Lesser Slave Lake Agency
- "A" indicates this is a first sale (B would be the second sale, C would be the third, etc.)
- 9 is the reserve number for Beaver Reserve
- 46 is the parcel of land

131A-9-46, then, relates to sales of surrendered Indian lands from Beaver Reserve.

LAC has a list of the Agency responsibility centre codes available to researchers in FA 10-376.

5. Engineering and Construction File Series

Construction and engineering files consist of file IA 1000 to IA 1872

File examples:

IA-1145-1 IA-1156-3

1950-1980s: Modified Duplex Numeric System

Modified duplex numeric file numbers are comprised of two parts:

Agency or District responsibility centre code + subject code

Example:

157/25-1

- 157 is the responsibility centre code for the Queen Charlotte Agency
- 25-1 is the subject code for Indian Education-General

157/25-1 then, relates to general files on Indian Education related to the Queen Charlotte Agency

In 1966, INAC switched from using Agency responsibility codes to District responsibility codes.

1980s- Present day: Block Numeric System

A subject block numeric system file is comprised of a subject primary number, a secondary subject number, and sometimes a tertiary subject number. The subject primary number is preceded by a prefix, identifying the program to which the file relates. These prefixes are also commonly referred to as series. ie., the "e-series" refers to records created under this system relating to the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Prefixes:

A- Administrative

E- Indian and Inuit Affairs Program

N-Northern Affairs

B- Office of Native Claims

Example:

E4332-15

E= Indian and Inuit Affairs Program 4332= Housing, On Reserve -15 = Housing Policy Review

This file relates to Housing Policy Review of the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program on Reserve Housing activities.