How to Read Call Numbers on a Shelf

The *Encyclopaedia of Indian Cinema*'s call number, PN 1993.5 .I8 R77 1999, shown on the shelf, has an additional line – I8 that identifies the country (India) – between the broad subject area of PN 1993.5 and the author (R77).

PN = “Literature (General)

1993.5 = “Motion Pictures -- History”

.I8 = “India”

R77 = “Rajadhyaksha”

1999 = “1999” (Date)

By the way, this book would be found on third floor of RBD in an area before Coopman’s *Public Speaking* – PN 1993 comes before PN 4129.

Here is an example where the decimal point comes into play.

Remember the first period always turns the following numbers into decimals with the exception of the dates.

The .C53 does not come before the other two books because they are decimal numbers: 513 and .515 are smaller than .53.
How to Navigate the Shelves

When facing a bookshelf or range, start in the upper left hand corner of the bookcase. Think of a backwards letter "S"

and read left to right, row by row, within a section.

Once you finish all the sections on a side; move to the other side of bookcase or range.

Start in the upper left hand corner then read left to right, row by row, within a section.

Move to the top of the next section of the shelves