

GLOSSARY

There are some terms used in cartographic cataloging that may be unfamiliar to you. Here are some commonly used terms.

Note: (AACR2) = Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd ed., revised; (CM) = Cartographic Materials

Ancillary map. A generic term for small supplementary or secondary maps located either inside or outside the neat line of the principal or main map. In a broader sense, an ancillary map is any map on an item that has not been considered the "main map" (i.e., not chosen to be described in the title statement, statement of responsibility, physical description area, etc.). See also Inset, Main map. (CM)

Bar scale. A subdivided line which shows distances at a given scale. (CM)

Base map. A map or chart showing certain fundamental information, used as a base upon which additional data of specialized nature are compile or overprinted. Also, a map containing all the information from which maps showing specialized information can be prepared. (CM)

Border. The area of a map which lies between the neat line and the outermost line of the surrounding frame. (CM)

Cartographic material. Any material representing the whole or part of the Earth or any celestial body at any scale. Cartographic materials include two- and three-dimensional maps and plans (including maps of imaginary places); aeronautical, navigational, and celestial charts; atlases; globes; block diagrams; sections; aerial photographs with a cartographic purpose; birds'-eye views (map views), etc. (AACR2)

Cartouche. A panel on a map, often with decoration, enclosing the title or other legends, the scale, etc. (CM)

Contour. A line joining points of equal vertical distance above or below a datum. Such a line on a map is a type of isoline. N.B.: This term, contour, is to be distinguished from outline (a line, or lines, bounding a discrete area on the face of a map) for which many languages use a cognate word. (CM)

Graticule. A network of lines, on the face of a map, that represents parallels and meridians (e.g., latitude and longitude). (CM)

Grid. 1. Two sets of parallel lines intersecting at right angles and forming squares; the grid that is superimposed on maps, charts, and other similar representations of the Earth's surface in an accurate and consistent manner to permit identification of ground locations with respect to other locations and the computation of direction and distance to other points. 2. A term used in giving the location of a geographic point by grid coordinates. It usually carries the name of the projection used for the map, e.g., Lambert grid, Transverse Mercator grid, Universal Transverse Mercator grid. See also Map projection. (CM)

Hachures. Short lines, following the direction of maximum slope, which indicate relief. (CM)

Index map. An index, usually based on an outline map, which shows the layout and numbering system of map sheets which cover an area. (CM)

Inset. A separate map positioned within the neat line of a larger map. (CM)

Location map. A small-scale map inset in, or placed in the margin of, a map at a larger scale to show the location of the area represented by the latter. (CM)

Main map. A map which is augmented by one or more smaller maps, inset or in the margin. (CM)

Map. A representation, normally to scale and on a flat medium, of a selection of material or abstract features on, or in relation to, the surface of the Earth or of another celestial body. (AACR2)

Map projection. Any systematic arrangement of meridians and parallels, portraying the curved surface of the sphere or spheroid upon a plane. (CM)

Meridian. A great circle arc of 180 degrees terminated by the geographic poles. (CM)

Neat line. A line, usually grid or graticule, which encloses the detail of a map. (CM)

Outline map. A map that presents just sufficient geographic information to permit the correlation of additional data placed on it. Such maps may depict rivers, political and/or administrative boundaries. (CM)

Parallel (of latitude). A small circle parallel to the equator, on which all points have the same latitude. (CM)

Recto. 1. The right-hand page of a book, usually bearing an odd page number. 2. The side of a map sheet intended to be read first. (AACR2)

Representative fraction. The scale, expressed as a fraction or ratio that relates unit distance on the map to distance, measured in the same units, on the ground. (CM)

Section (Cartography). A scale representation of a vertical surface (commonly a plane) displaying both the profile where it intersects the surface of the ground, or some conceptual model, and the underlying structures along the plane of intersection (e.g., a geological section). (AACR2)

Shaded relief. A cartographic technique that provides an apparent three-dimensional configuration of the terrain on maps and charts by the use of graded shadows that would be cast by high ground if light were shining from the northwest. Shaded relief is usually used in combination with contours. (CM)

Spot height A point on a map or chart whose height above a specified reference datum is noted, usually by a dot or a small sawbuck and elevation value. Elevations are shown, wherever practicable, for road forks and intersections, grade crossings, summits of hills, mountains, and mountain passes, water, surfaces of lakes and ponds, stream forks, bottom elevations in depressions, and large flat areas. (CM)

Verbal scale. The relationship which a small distance on a graphic bears to the corresponding distance on the Earth, expressed as an equivalence, such as 1 inch (on the graphic) equals 1 mile (on the ground). (CM)

Verso. 1. The left-hand page of a book, usually bearing an even page number. 2. The side of a printed sheet intended to be read second. (AACR2)