

EnvSci 360

Computer and Analytical Cartography

Lecture 1

Course overview

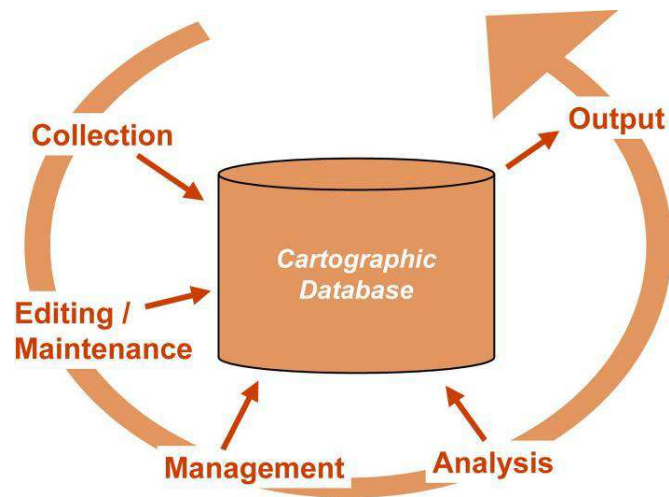
History of cartography

Basic map design and layout



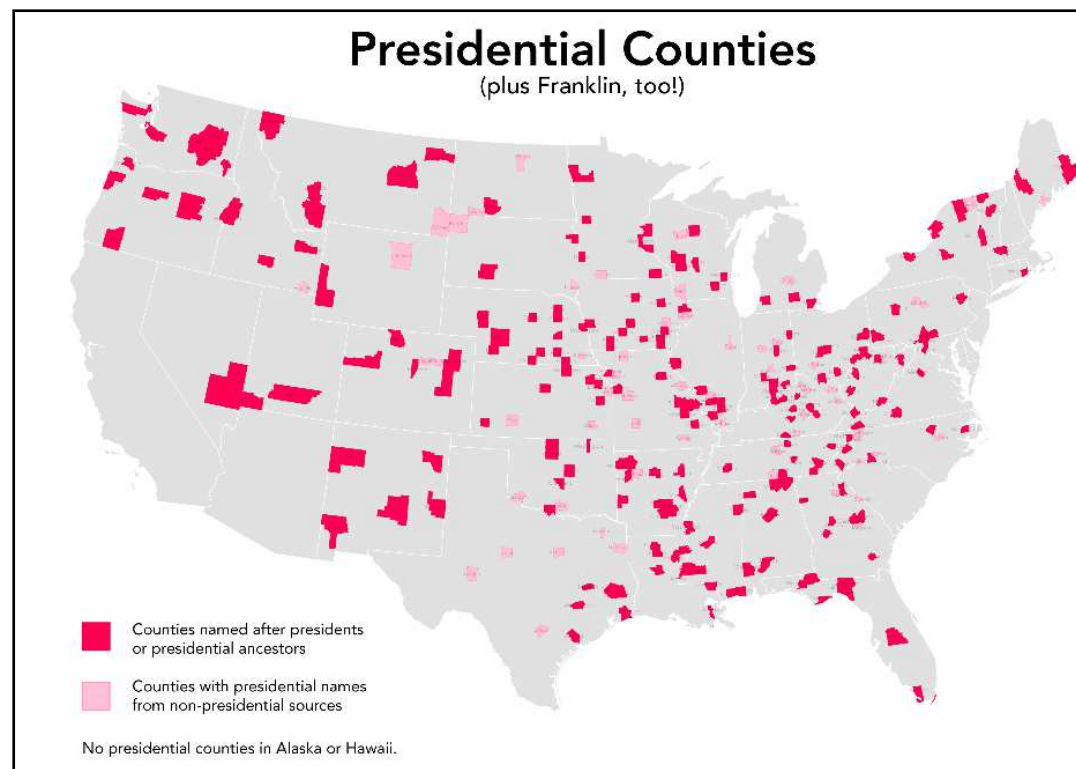
Course Overview

- ✦ This course is about what goes into making maps -- good maps -- the most recognizable feature of a GIS (Geographic Information System)



Defining "Cartography"

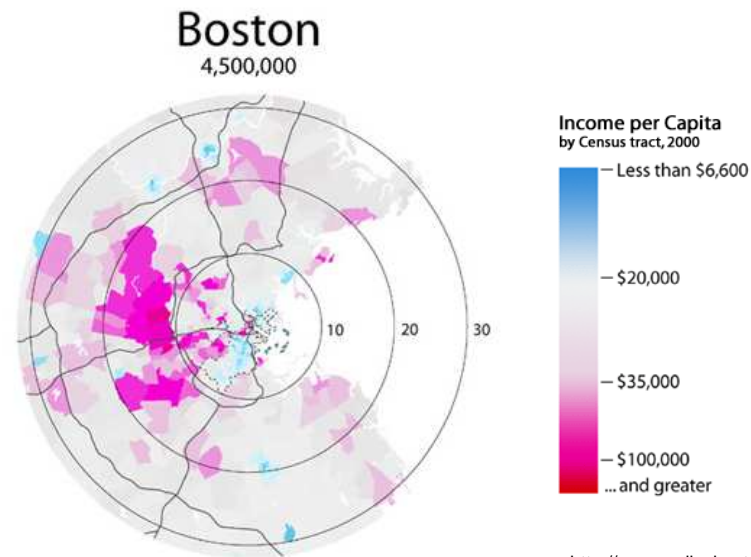
✦ *How do you define cartography?*



<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?presidential>

Defining "Cartography"

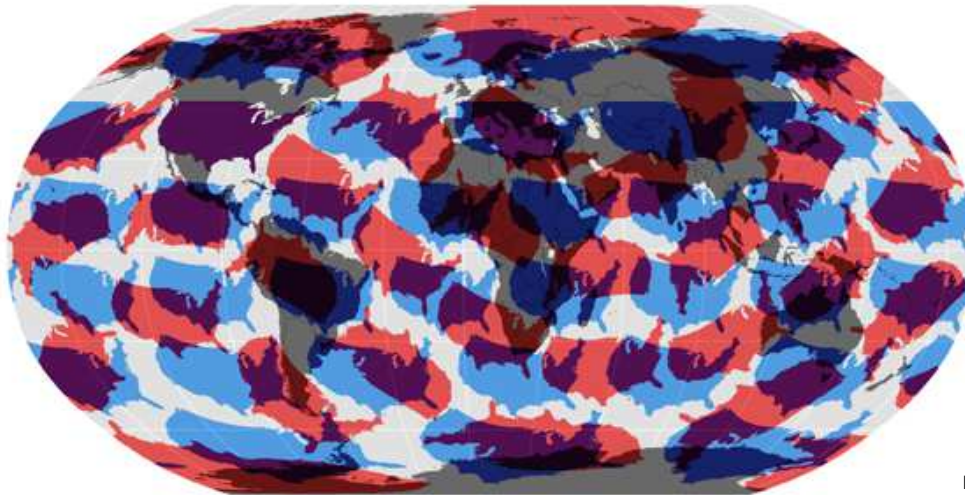
- ✦ "The making and study of maps in all their aspects" - Elements of Cartography
- ✦ "The art, science, and technology of making maps" - International Cartographic Association
- ✦ "The creation, production, and study of maps"
 - <http://science.jrank.org/pages/1258/Cartography.html>



<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?cityincome>

Defining "Cartography"

- ✦ The art and science of expressing graphically, usually through maps, the natural and social features of the earth
 - <http://support.esri.com/en/knowledgebase/Gisdictionary/term/cartography>
- ✦ "The production of maps, including construction of projections, design, compilation, drafting, and reproduction"
 - <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/cartography>
- ✦ In French: carte = map
- ✦ In Greek: chartis = map and graphein = write



<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?wandering>

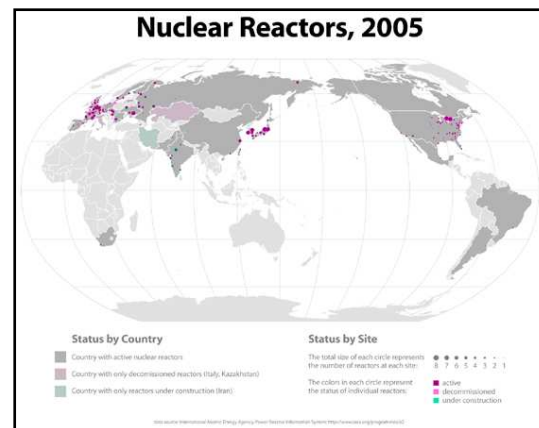
Defining "Map"

✦ **How would you define a map?**

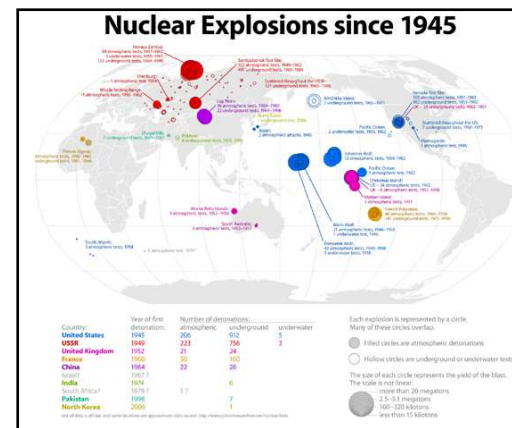


Defining "Map"

- ✦ "A graphic representation of the spatial relationships of entities within an area"
- ✦ "Any graphical representation of geographic or spatial information"
- ✦ "The document used in ArcMap (MXD) to display and work with geographic data. In ArcMap, a map contains one or more layers of geographic data, contained in data frames, and various supporting map elements, such as a scale bar."
 - <http://support.esri.com/en/knowledgebase/GISDictionary/term/map>



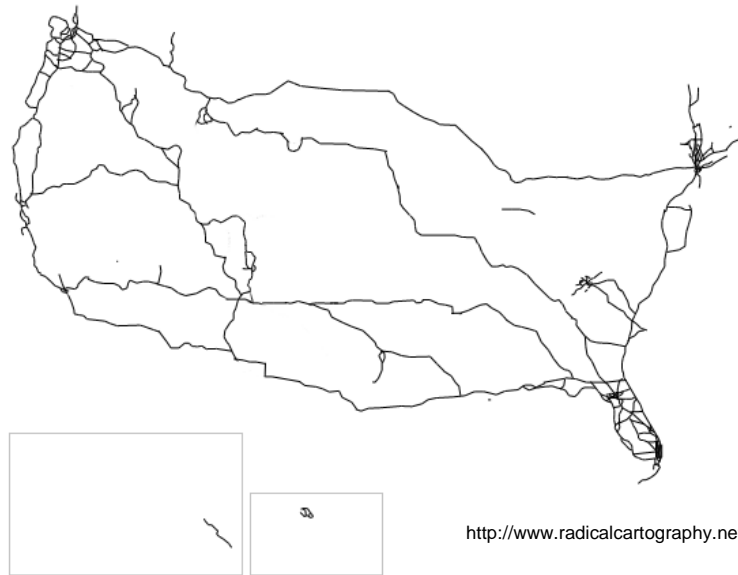
<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?reactors>



<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?nuclear>

Defining "Map"

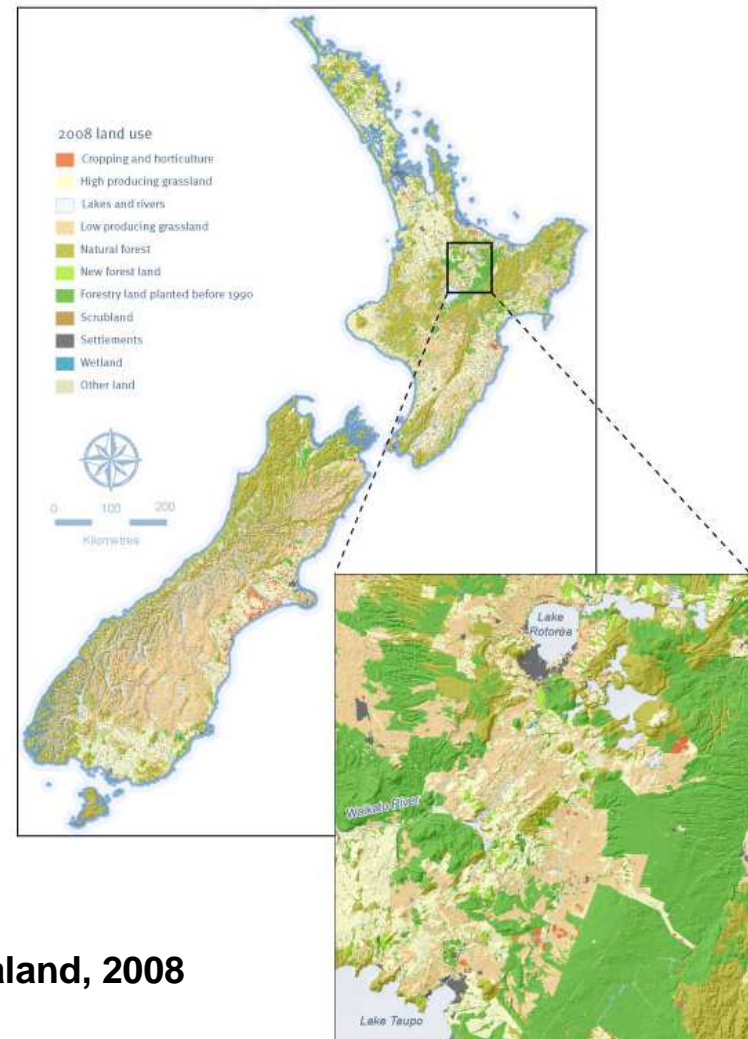
- ✦ "A graphic representation of a geographical setting, communicating information about its cultural and/or physical environment" - Elements of Cartography
- ✦ "A kind of statement locating facts" – Making Maps 2nd Edition
- ✦ They are communication vehicles, a type of "visual psychology" using colors and symbols



<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?erikamerica>

Why Create and Use Maps?

- ✦ Show what features are in that particular place (roads, geology, open space, water resources, etc.) so that someone else - the map user - can understand something about that place



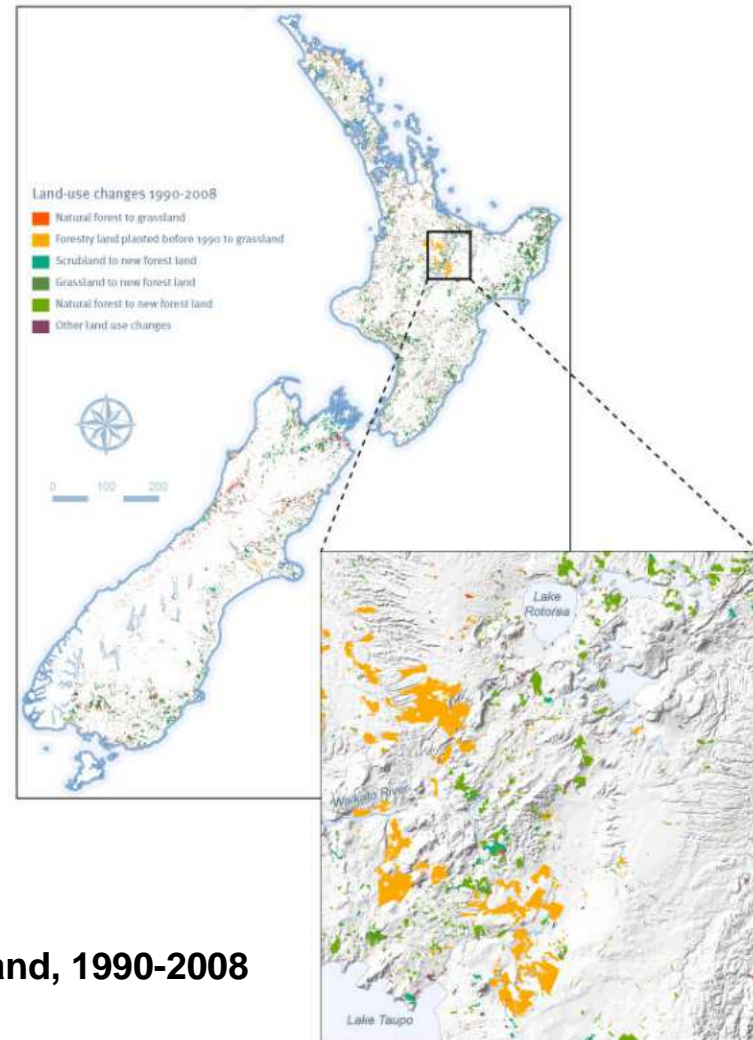
Land use in New Zealand, 2008

Why Create and Use Maps?

- ✦ Show change over time (temporal change)

Land-use changes 1990-2008

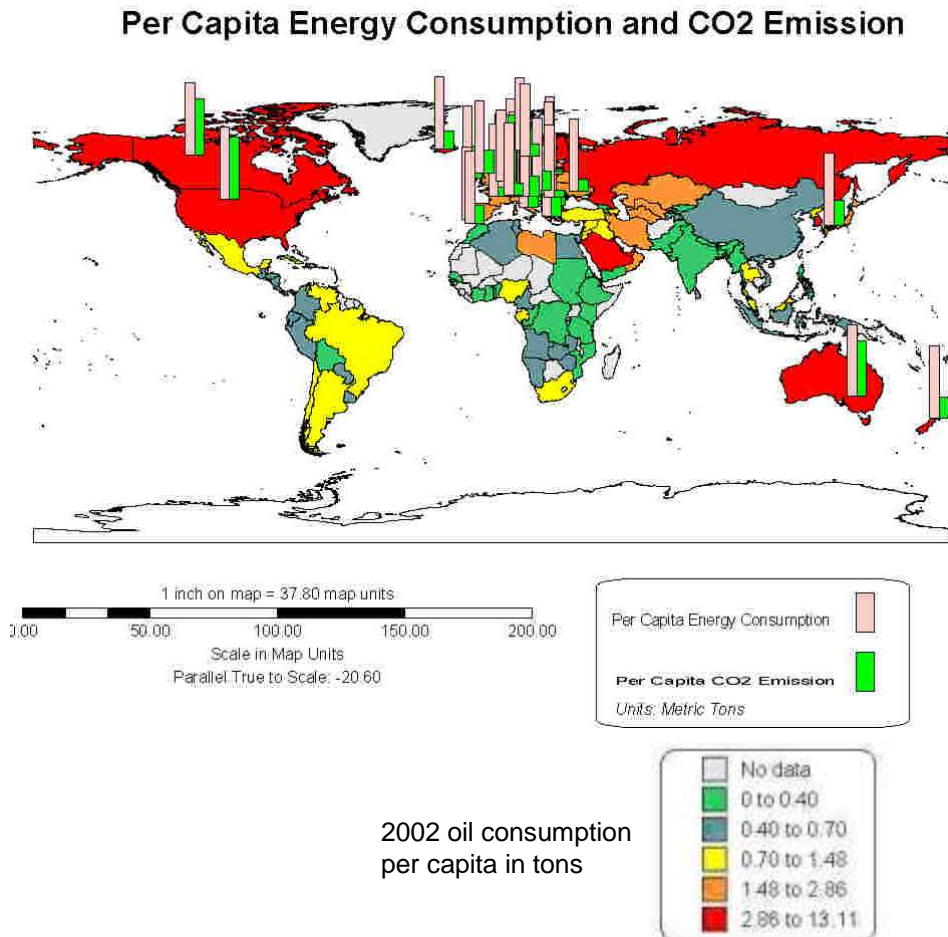
- Natural forest to grassland
- Forestry land planted before 1990 to grassland
- Scrubland to new forest land
- Grassland to new forest land
- Natural forest to new forest land
- Other land use changes



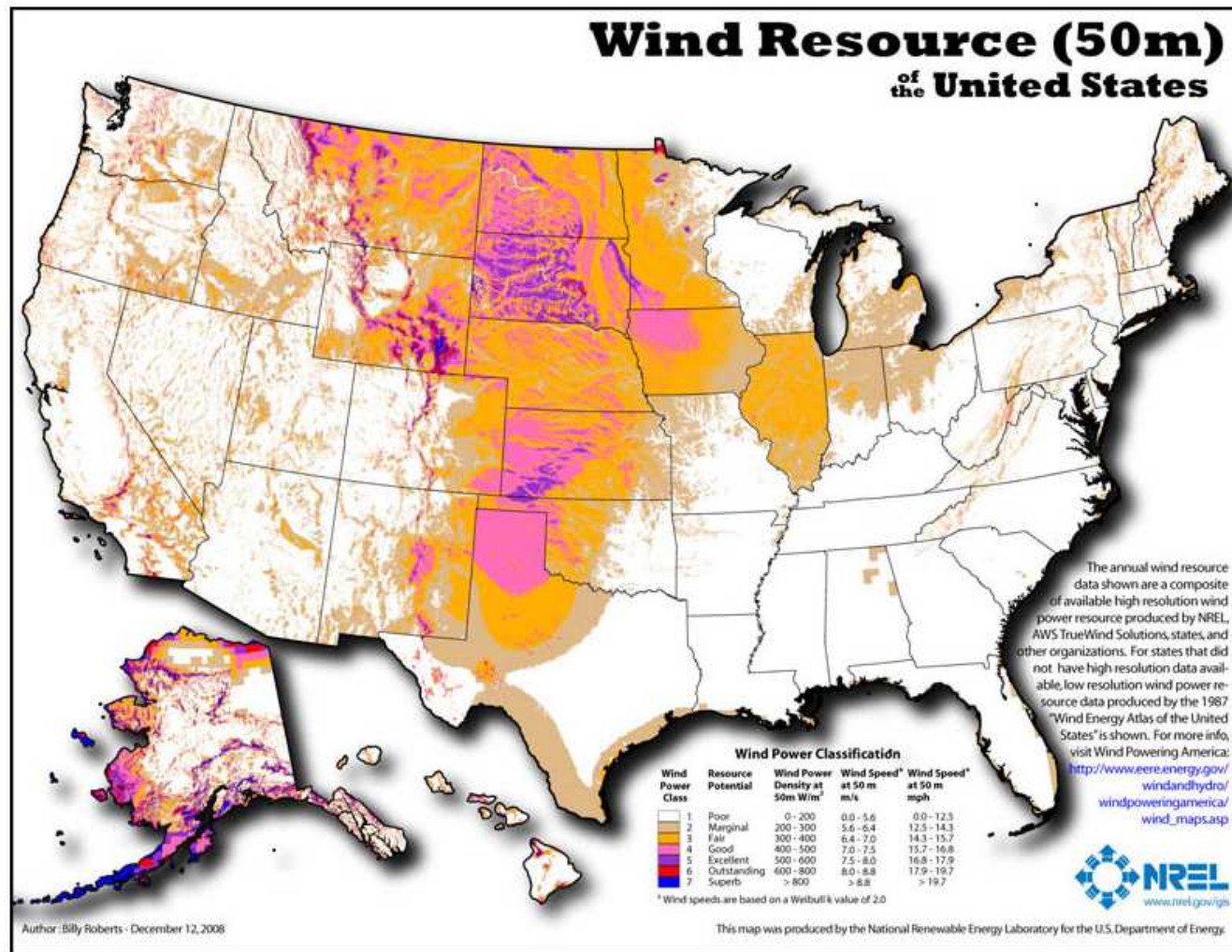
Land use change in New Zealand, 1990-2008

Why Create and Use Maps?

- ✦ Communicate spatial relationships and forms among different aspects and features in an area, and how they depend on each other
 - Distances, patterns, adjacency, distribution...

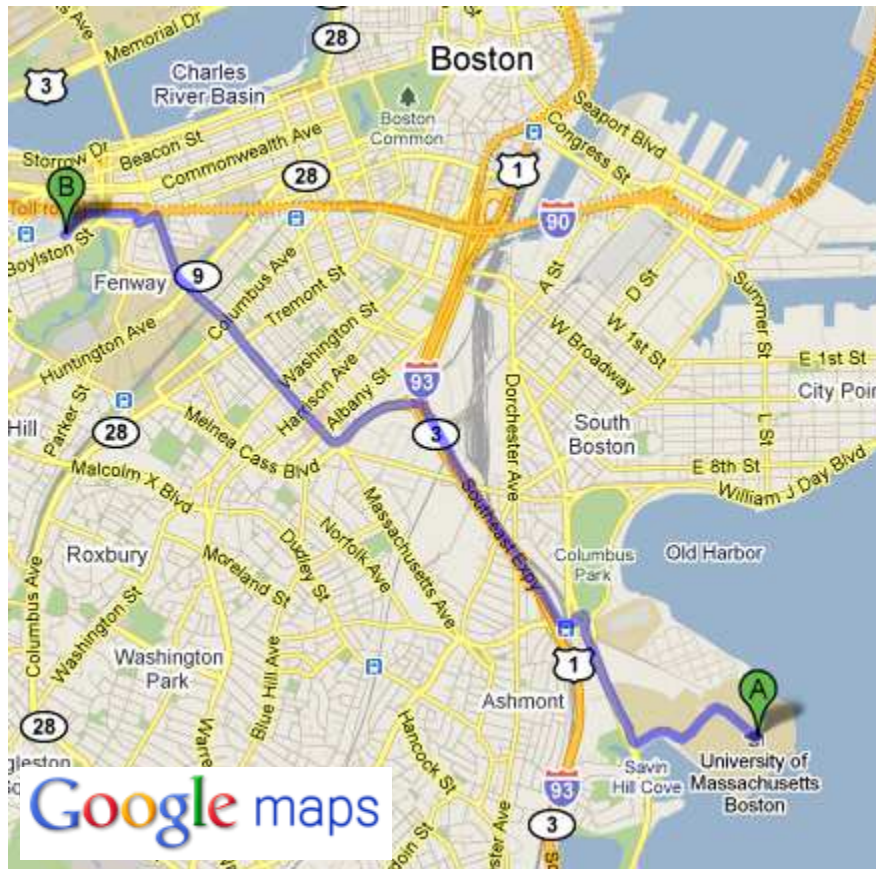


Why Create and Use Maps?



Why Create and Use Maps?

✦ To help you get somewhere

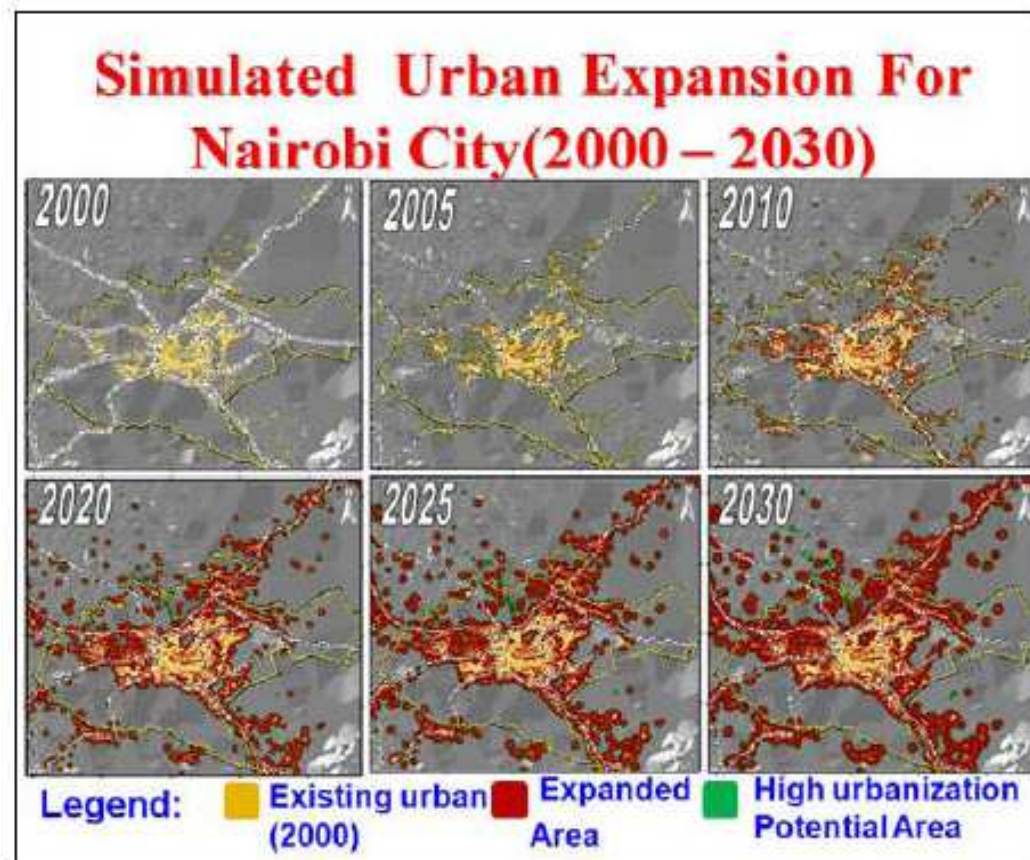


Driving directions from UMass Boston to Fenway Park

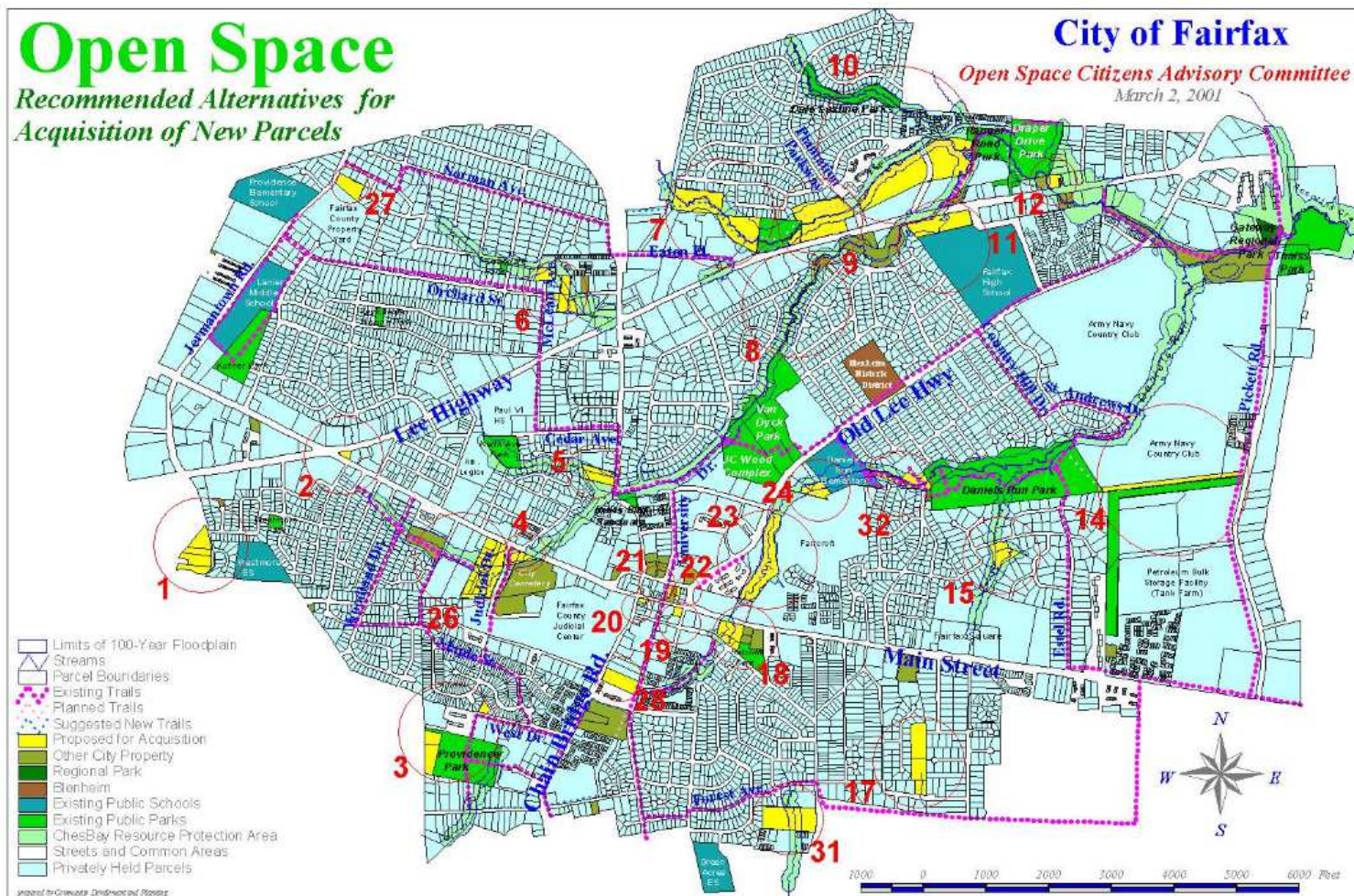
1. Head northwest on University Dr N toward Bianculli Blvd 0.4 mi
2. At the traffic circle, take the 1st exit onto Bianculli Blvd 0.2 mi
3. Turn right at William T Morrissey Blvd 0.6 mi
4. At the traffic circle, take the 2nd exit onto Columbia Rd 0.2 mi
5. Merge onto I-93 N/US-1 N via the ramp to Boston 0.8 mi
6. Take exit 18 for Frontage Rd toward Mass Ave/Roxbury 17 ft
7. Merge onto I-93 Frontage Rd 0.3 mi
8. Turn left at Mass Ave Connector 0.4 mi
9. Take the 1st right onto Massachusetts Ave 1.3 mi
10. Turn left at Boylston St 430 ft
11. Take the 1st right onto Ipswich St 0.4 mi

Why Create and Use Maps?

- ✦ As a planning aid - "what-if" scenarios



Why Create and Use Maps?



Why Create and Use Maps?

- ✦ Does this map do its job?
- ✦ Do you like this map?



Who Makes Maps

- ✦ It is important to understand how to make effective maps, because, due to computer technology, mapmaking is shifting from traditional “cartographers” to everyone.



Who Makes Maps

- ✦ Professional cartographers are losing some of the control that they had of the field, and how maps were designed and distributed
- ✦ The process of mapmaking is being decentralized
- ✦ ***Do you make maps?***



Who Makes Maps

- ✦ Mapping software is becoming cheaper (or free!), faster and easier to use.
- ✦ With easier access to technology, however, there is a danger that those not trained can make mistakes and mislead map readers.
 - You can still make bad maps on a computer, certainly worse than one hand-drawn, if you don't know what you're doing.



“The Golden Age of Baseball”
1903 and 1952
<http://billsportsmaps.com/?p=366>

Who Uses Maps?

- ✦ Maps are now used by more people in more fields than ever before:
 - **Government, military**

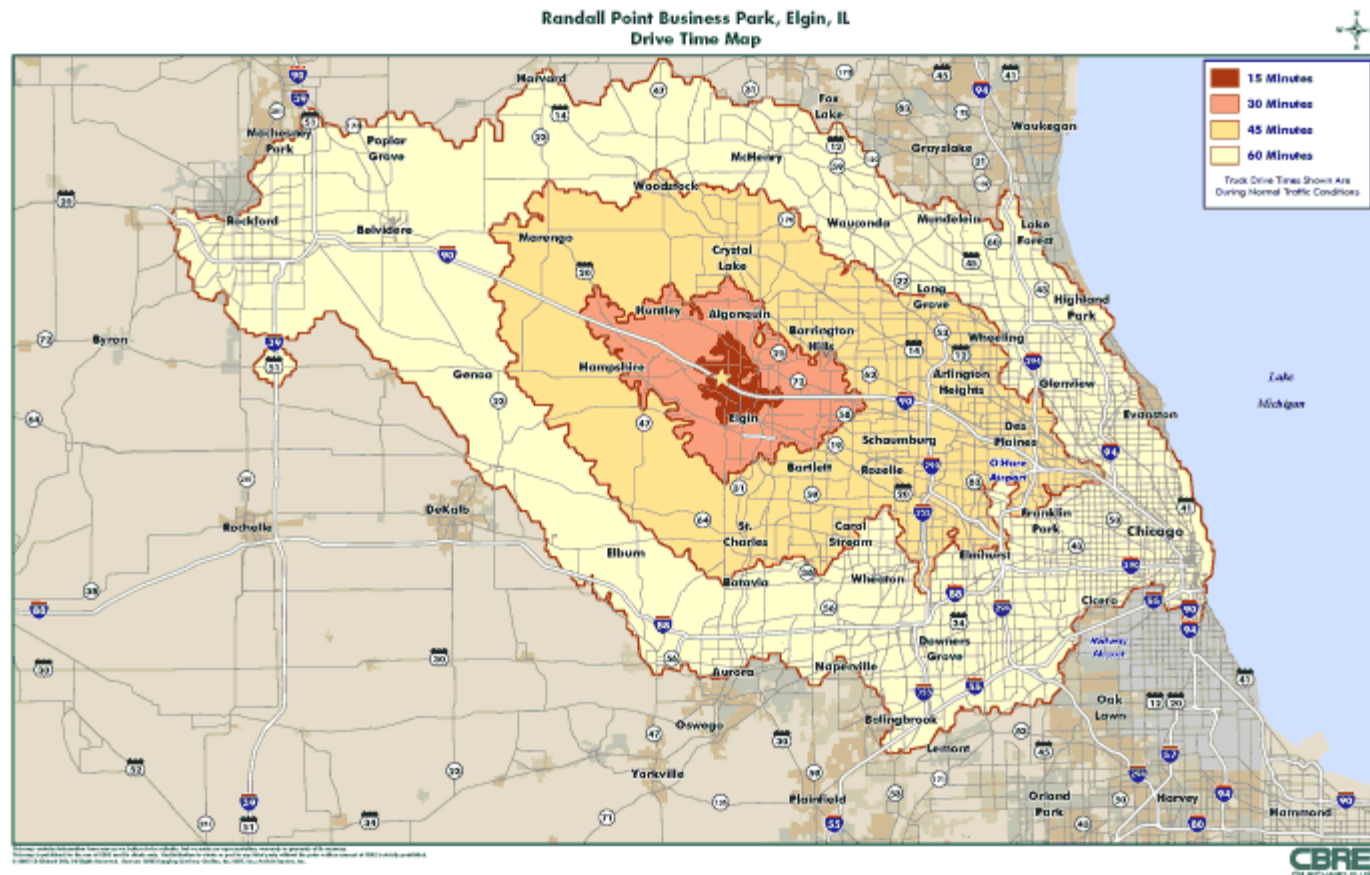
Confirmed military action
in and around Iraq
April 9, 2003

http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/EC22Ak02.html



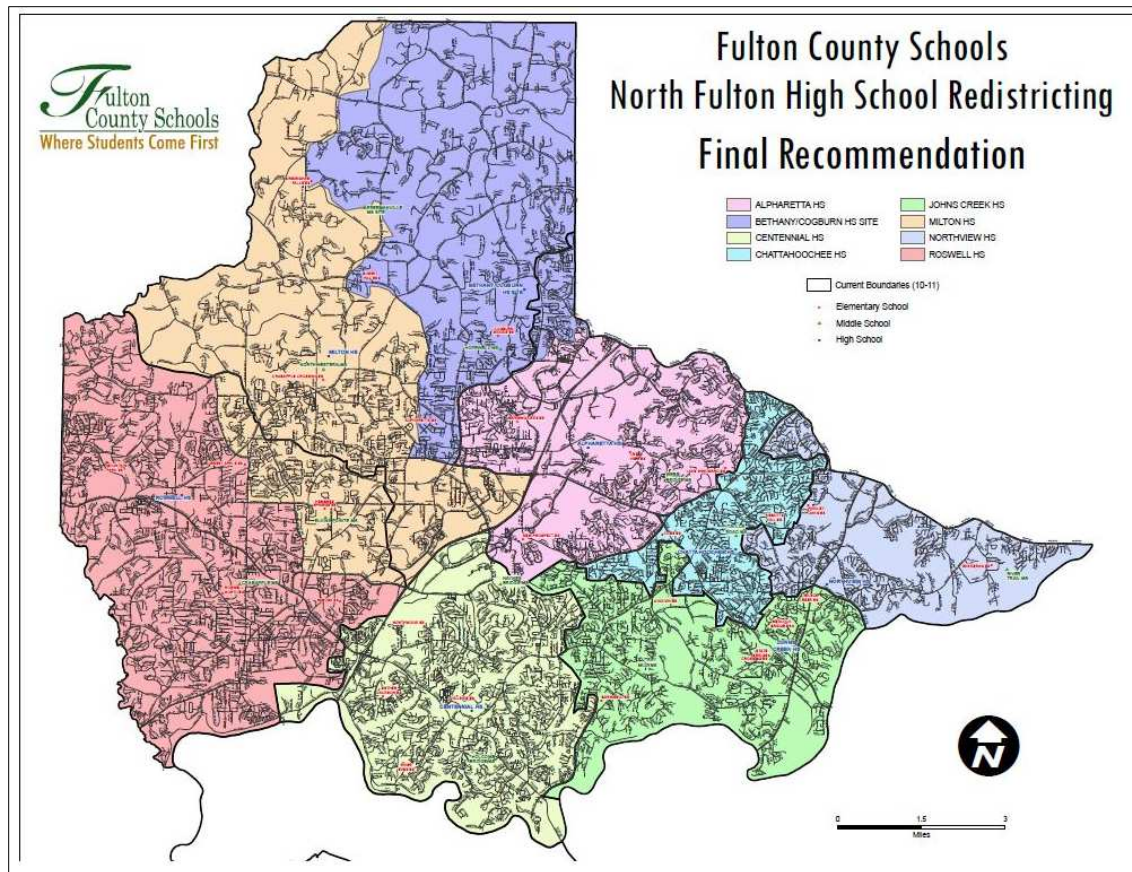
Who Uses Maps?

– Business and industry



Who Uses Maps?

– Education



How to Create Maps

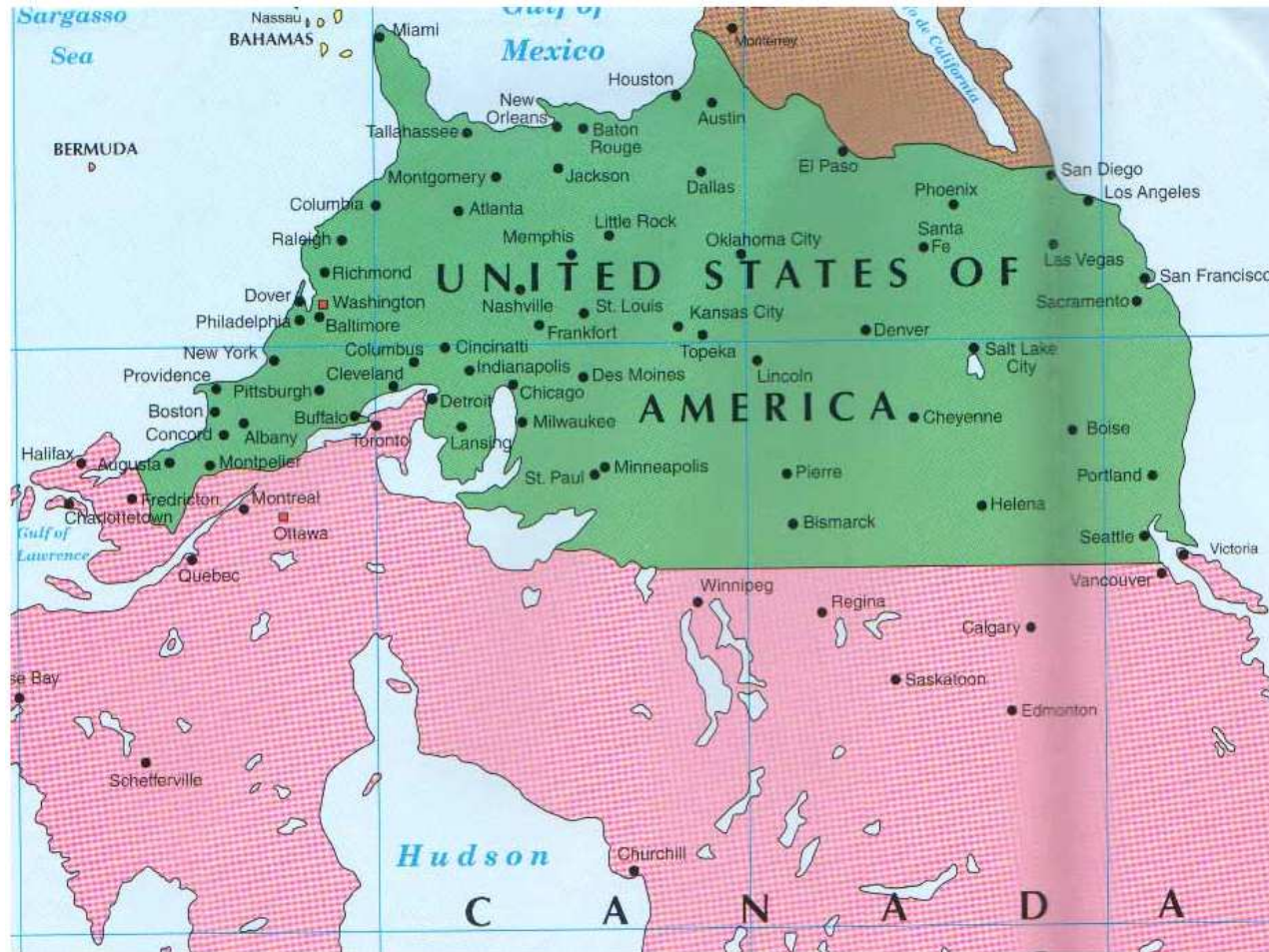
- ✦ **Paper and ink** (or other hardcopy material)
- ✦ **Computer and software** – often (but not always) part of a GIS



Mapping Conventions

- ✦ Mapmaking is both an **art and science**
 - Conform to scientific standards and conventions
 - **Colors** (blue water, green forest, etc.)
 - Fit in **supporting elements** around shape of feature (legend, title, scale bar, logos, images, text, etc.)
 - Placement of **labels** (upper-right of points as default; avoid overlapping other features)
 - A bit of white space allows layout to “breathe”
 - But ... **be creative**

Mapping Conventions??



Mapping Conventions??



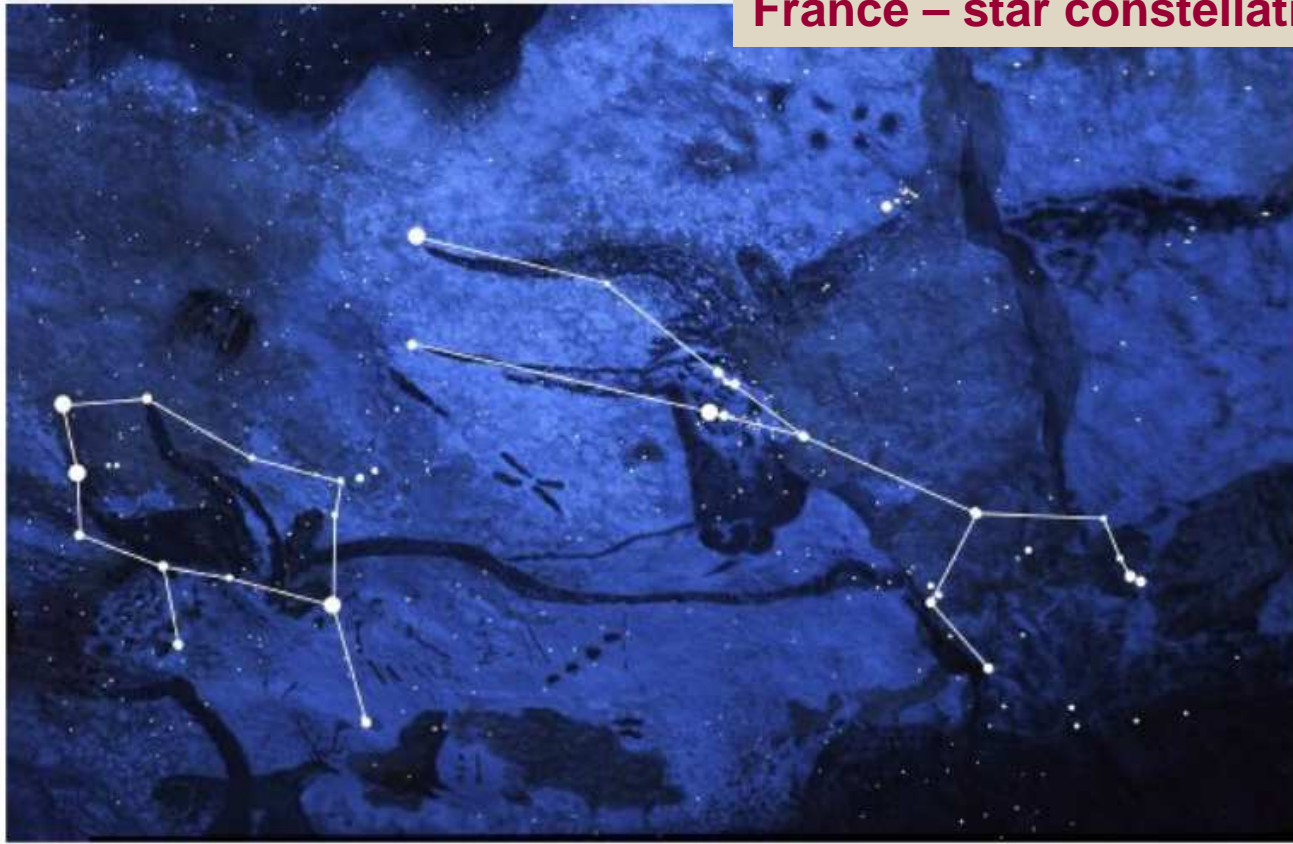
Limitations of Paper Maps

- ✦ Fixed scale
- ✦ Fixed extent
- ✦ Static view
- ✦ Flat and hence limited for 3D visualization
- ✦ Appears to present a 'complete' world view
- ✦ Map producer-centric

Brief History of Cartography

✦ Earliest maps

17,000 years ago: Lascaux cave paintings, in southwestern France – star constellation maps?



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Earliest maps

14,000 years ago: Cave rock etchings in Spain – area around the cave?



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Earliest maps

**River with dwellings
along a river, on a
mammoth tusk --
12,000 B.C., Ukraine**



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Earliest maps

Babylonian Map of the World -- on a clay tablet, with Babylon at its center, ca. 600 BC. Found in southern Iraq



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Earliest maps

Ptolemy's world map -- the known world to Western society, ca 150, based on the description in his book *Geographia*. Reconstructed by cartographers when the manuscript was re-discovered around 1300 AD.



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Also see:

- <http://www.ancient-wisdom.co.uk/cartography.htm>
- http://academic.emporia.edu/aberjame/map/h_map/h_map.htm

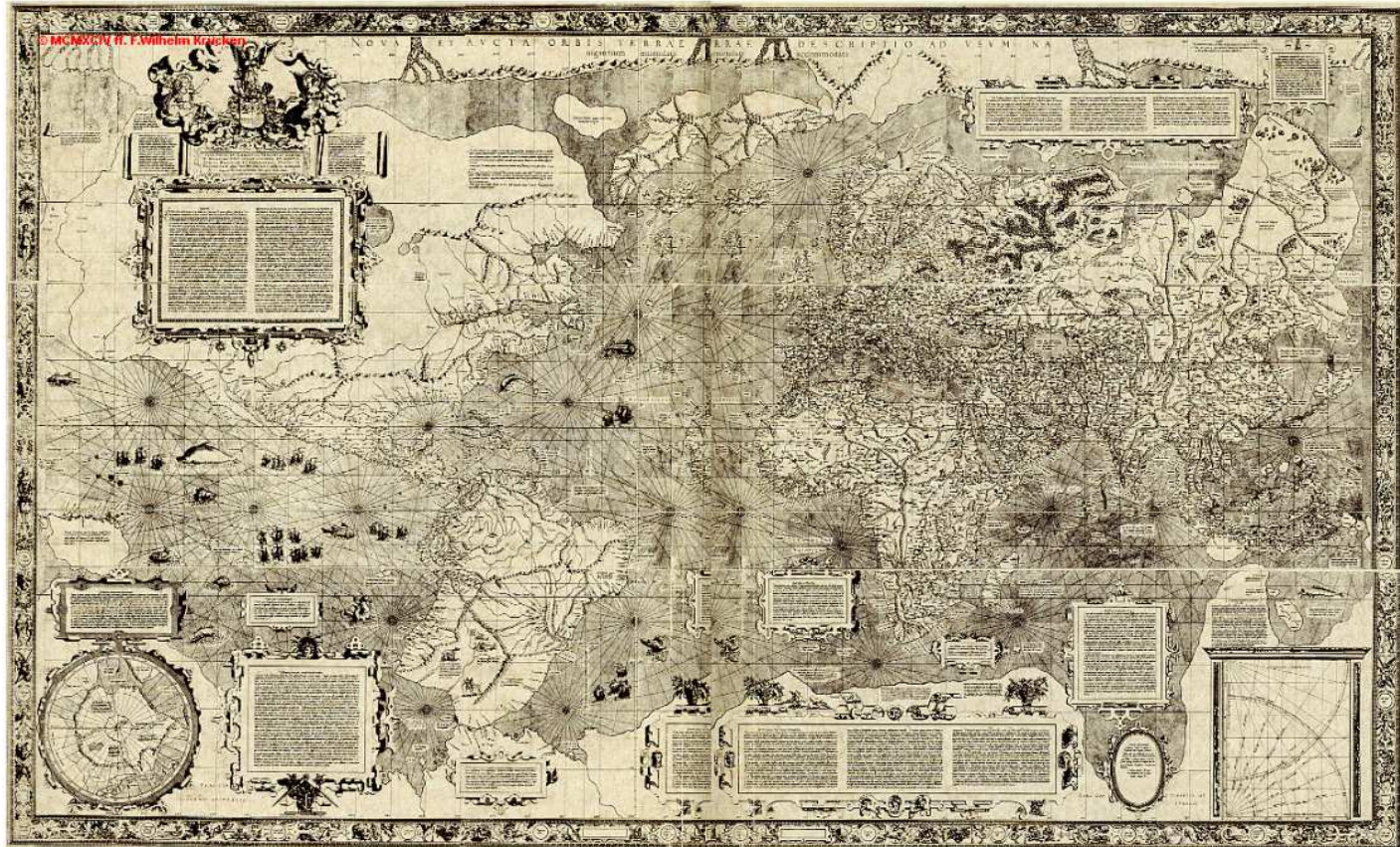
**“Hereford mappamundi”
(European Medieval
map) -- ca 1290 (with
East at the top)**



Brief History of Cartography

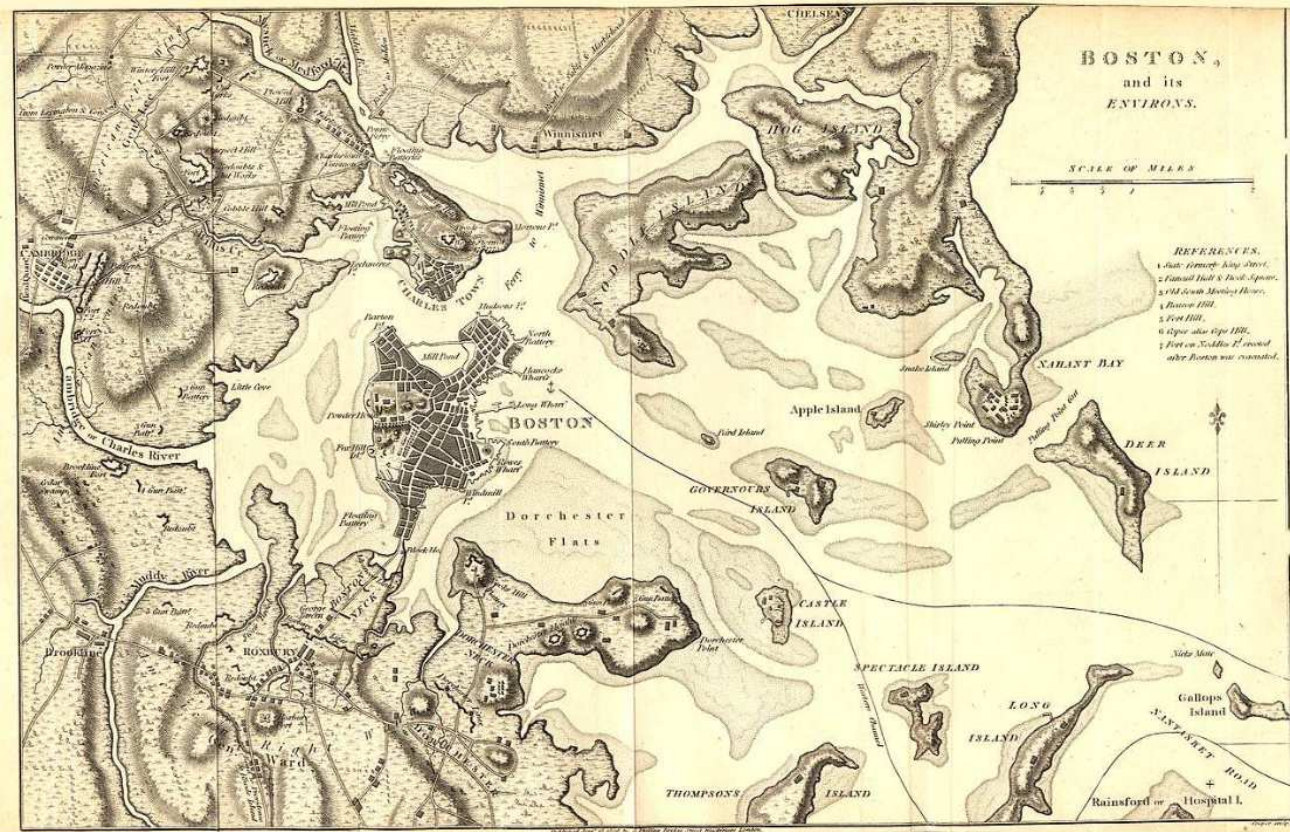
✧ Renaissance

Mercator's world map, 1569.



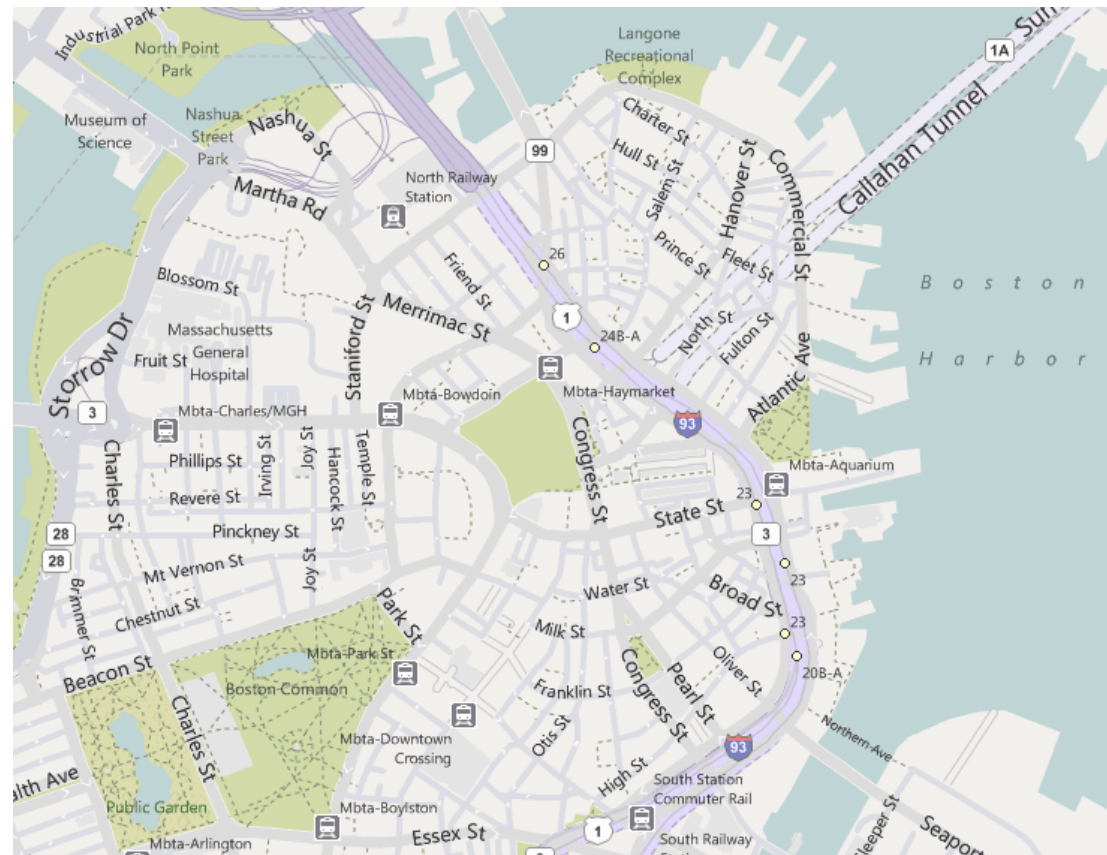
Brief History of Cartography

✧ Boston – ca. 1806



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Boston – 2010 (from bing.com)



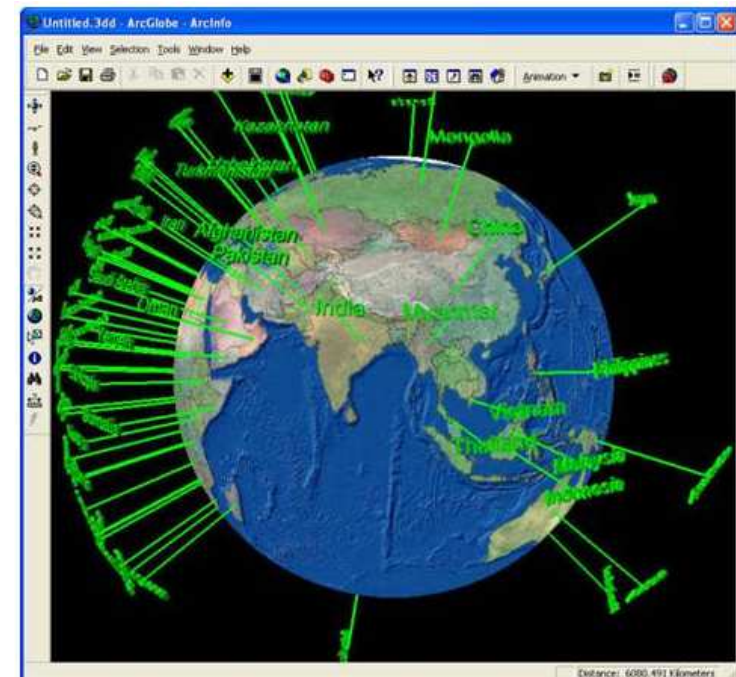
Brief History of Cartography

✦ Boston – 2010 (from bing.com)



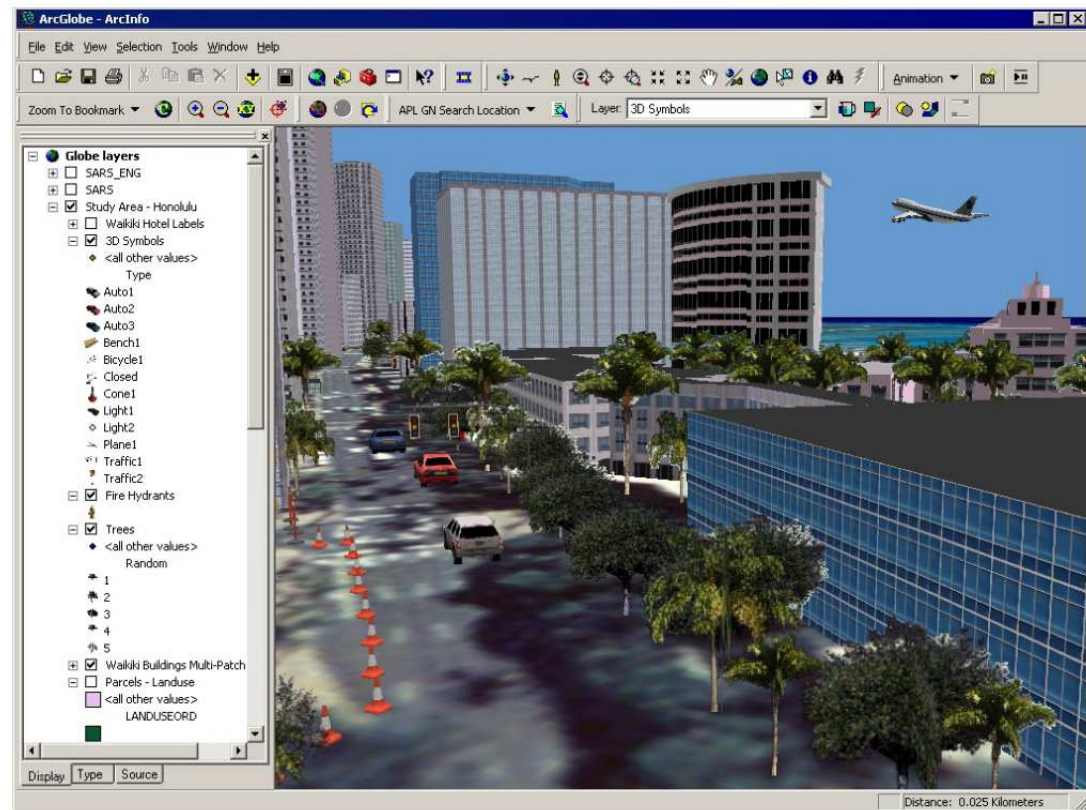
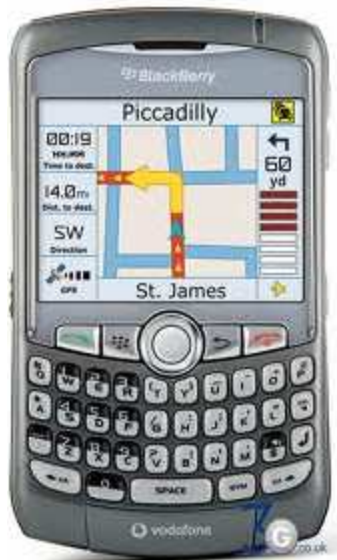
Brief History of Cartography

✦ Now -- GIS



Brief History of Cartography

✦ Now -- GIS



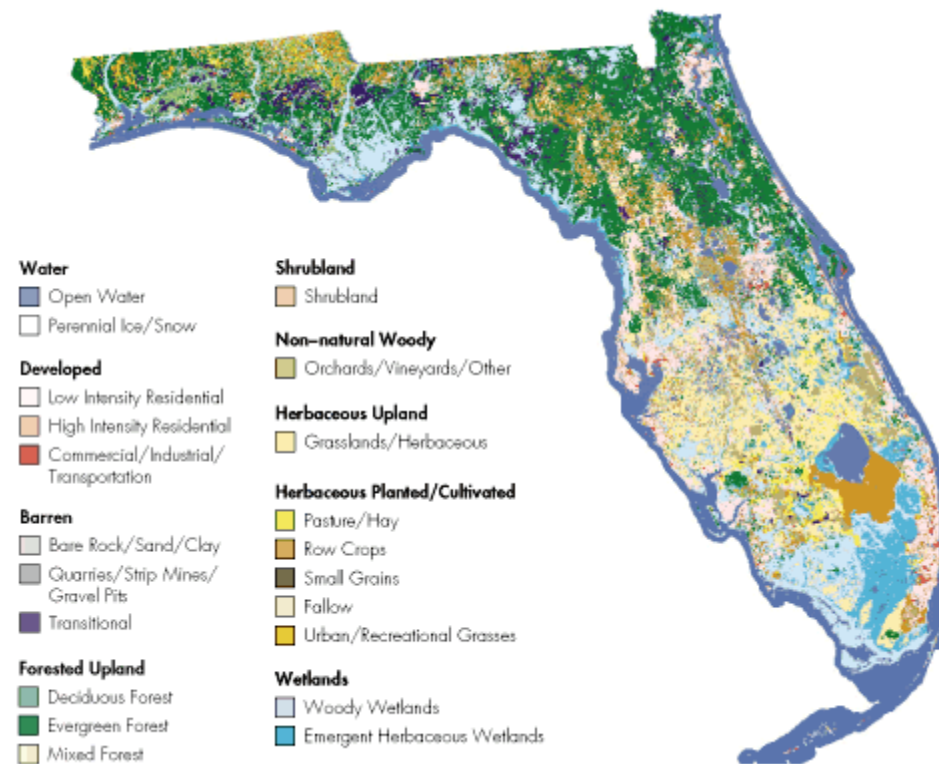
Map Design Factors

- ✦ Purpose
 - Why was the map produced?
- ✦ Reality (extent, shape of features)
- ✦ Available Data
- ✦ Map Scale
- ✦ Intended Audience
 - Specialists? General Public?
- ✦ Medium – hard or softcopy?
 - In a report?
 - On a wall?
 - On the Web?
 - Will map be static or interactive?
 - What is the page size or image dimensions?

You may need to produce several versions of a map, each catered to a different audience or for a different medium

Map Design Factors

✦ Good legend and layout



Mapmaking Principles

- ✦ A map should stand alone
 - Should present information without need for extraneous explanation or support
 - Along with data area (map body) a layout should include these *primary map elements*:
 - Good title
 - Subtitle (if appropriate)
 - Legend (** with “**English**” layer and item names, **not** names of files or fields **)
 - Scale (bar and or text)
 - North arrow
 - Date
 - Data source, citations
 - Author
 - Neatline (page border)

Mapmaking Principles

✦ Bad legend vs. Good legend

Layers

MGISDATA.TOWNS_POLYM **File name**

<all other values> **Turn this off**

TYPE **Field name**

C **Category data values**

T

TC

**Default legend
in ArcMap –
a no-no for
finished maps!!**

Layers

Massachusetts Municipalities

Type of Government

City

Town

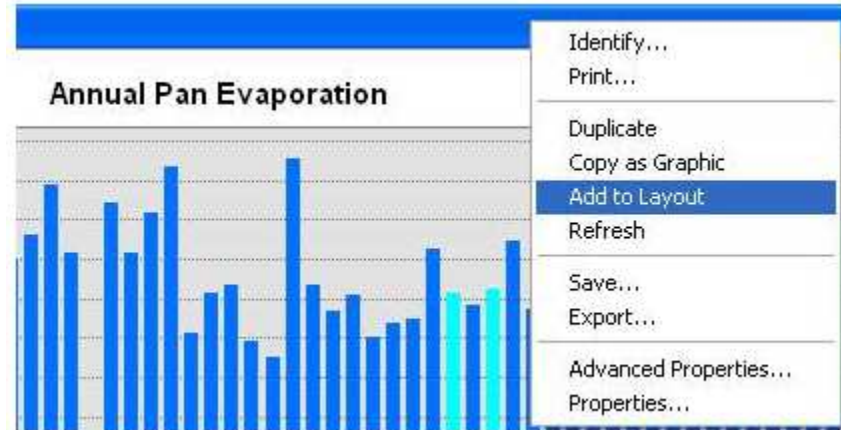
Town with City form of government

**Better!!
Look at metadata
for “English” text**

Mapmaking Principles

✦ *Secondary map elements:*

- Inset/locator map (use "Extent Rectangles" in ArcMap)
- Graticules
- Tables
- Charts
- Graphs
- Text boxes
- Projection
- Images, graphics, logos
- Map number, if series
- Copyright
- Disclaimer, "DRAFT"



Other Considerations

✦ Document

- Keep track of all details, big or small

✦ Evaluate

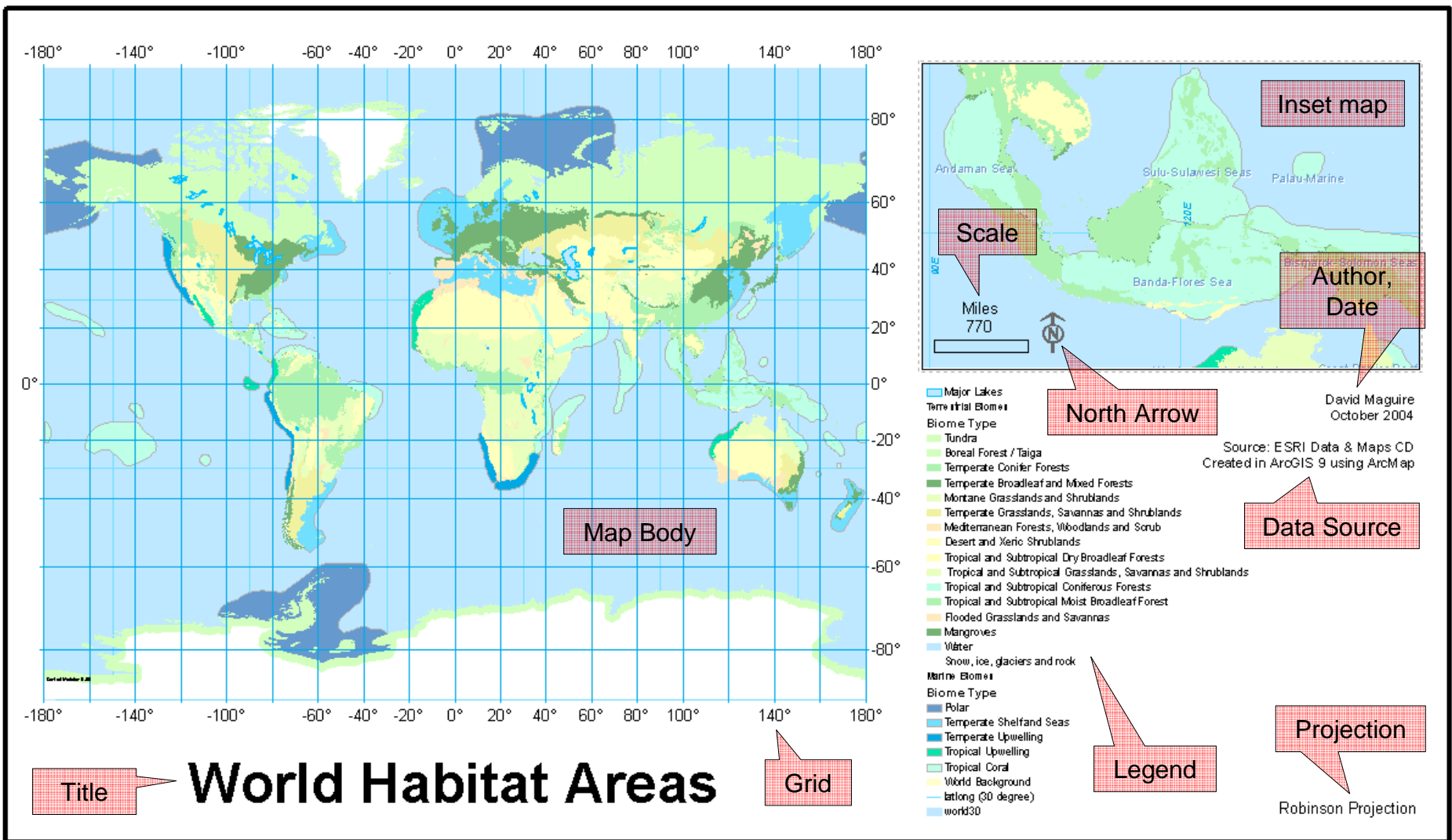
- Does the map accomplish its goal?

✦ Review

- Have others critique your map
- Re-design if necessary

See pages 24-25 and 46-47 in [Making Maps](#)

Principal Layout Components



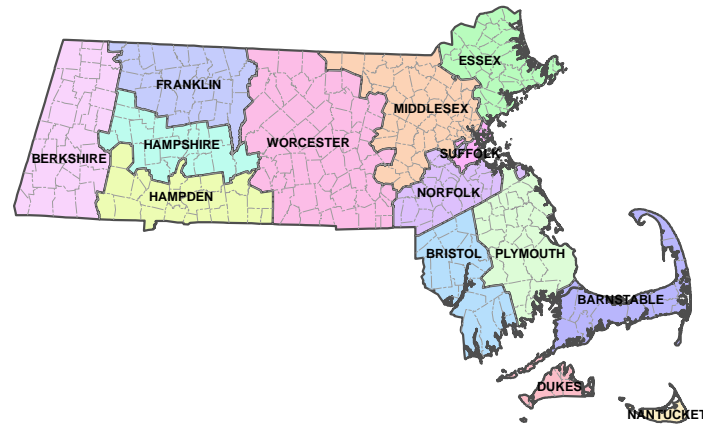
Mapmaking Principles

- ✦ **Visual balance** is important for all maps, regardless of purpose or audience
 - Visual harmony and symmetry among elements
 - Proper sizing of components – *visual hierarchy*
 - Colors should not clash and should be distinguishable; For more on color see:
 - <https://blogs.esri.com/esri/arcgis/2012/04/12/colors-in-arcgis-symbols/>
 - http://www.personal.psu.edu/cab38/ColorBrewer/ColorBrewer_intro.html
 - Figure-ground
 - Main features should stand out, not be lost among reference layers (which should fade to background)

Visual Balance

Poor balance
among
elements

Counties and Towns



Legend

--- MGISDATA.TOWNS_ARC

MGISDATA.COUNTIES_POLY

- <Null>
- BARNSTABLE
- BERKSHIRE
- BRISTOL
- DUKES
- ESSEX
- FRANKLIN
- HAMPDEN
- HAMPSHIRE
- MIDDLESEX
- NANTUCKET
- NORFOLK
- PLYMOUTH
- SUFFOLK
- WORCESTER

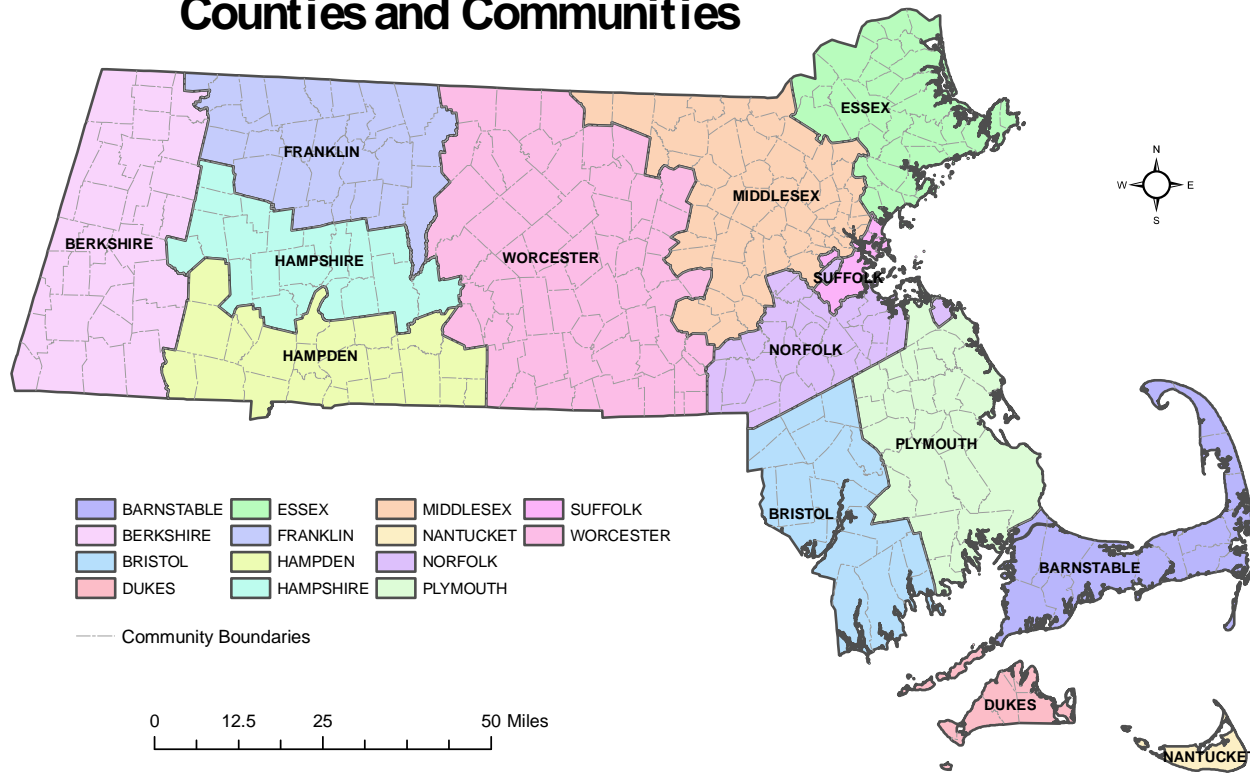


0 28,000 56,000 112,000 Meters

Visual Balance

Better Visual Balance

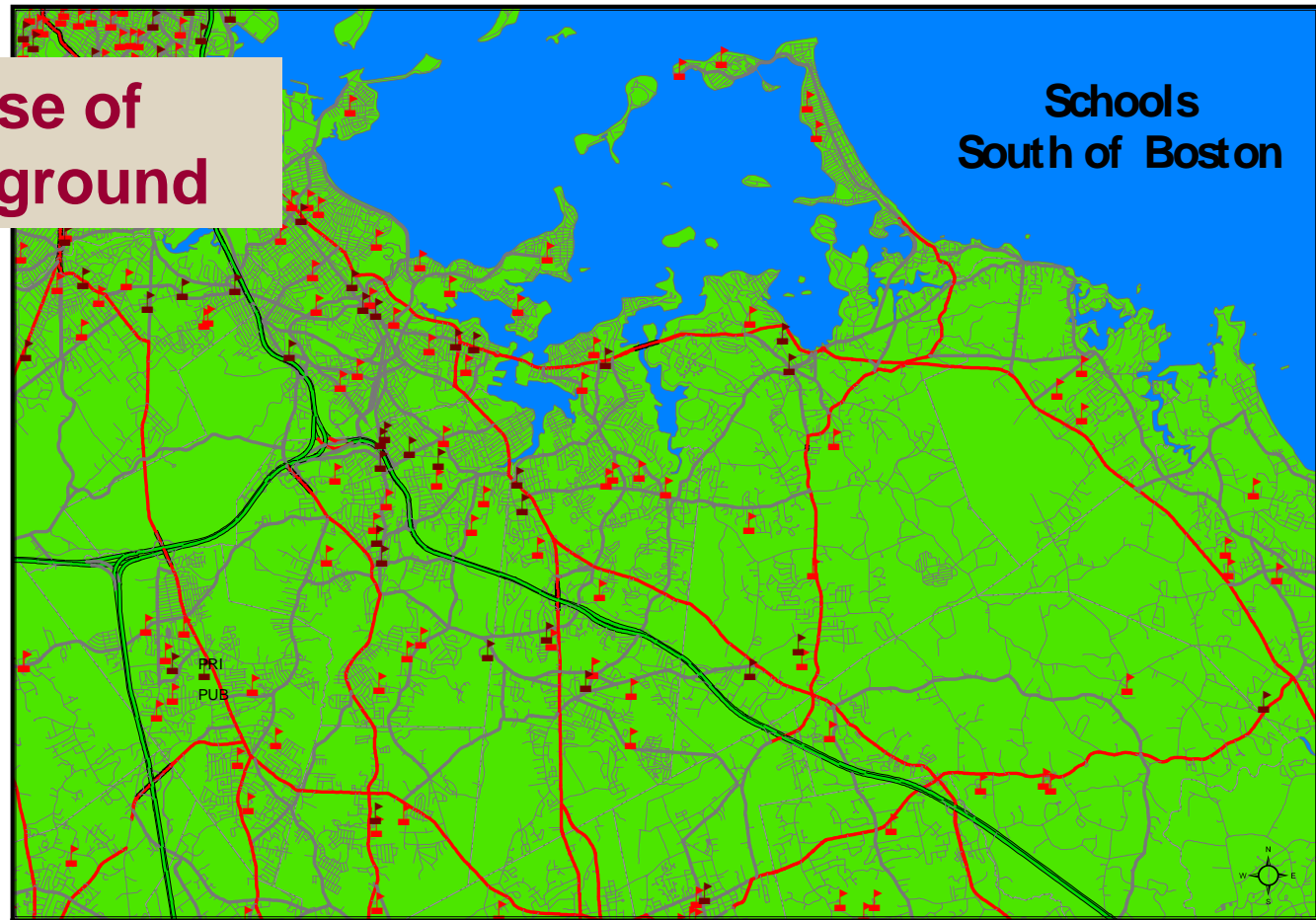
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Counties and Communities



Map produced by the Geographic Information Technologies
lab at UMass-Boston, November 14, 2004.
Data from MassGIS.

Figure-ground

Poor use of figure-ground



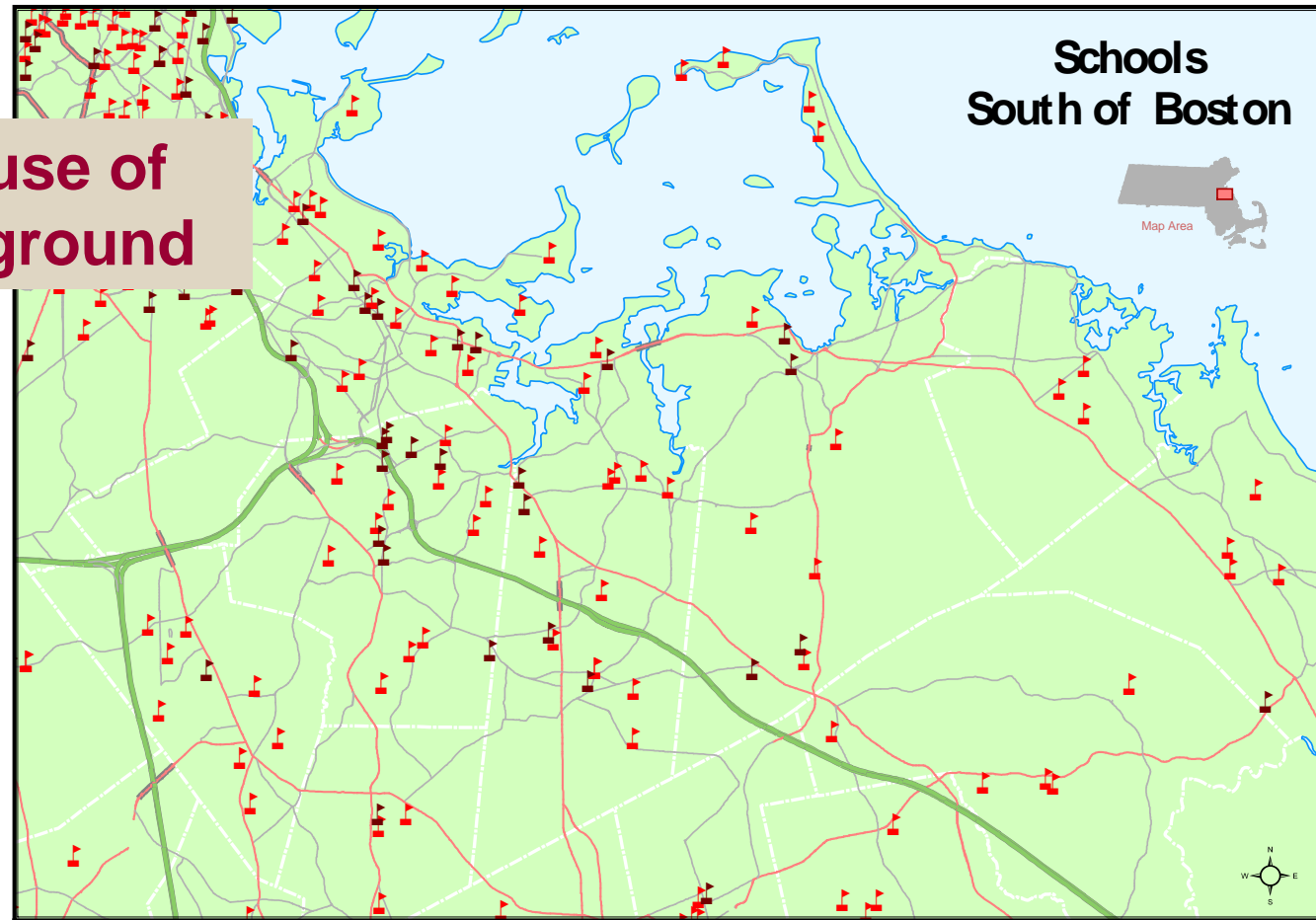
▲ SRI
▲ PUB

0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Map produced by the Geographic Information Technologies
lab at UMass-Boston, November 14, 2004.
Data from MassGIS.

Figure-ground

Better use of figure-ground



- ▲ Private School
- ▲ Public School

0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Map produced by the Geographic Information Technologies lab at UMass-Boston, November 14, 2004.
Data from MassGIS.

Mapmaking Principles

- ✦ GIS maps typically avoid the fancy artwork of older-style maps
 - Should focus on message of the map (data frame), without distractions
 - But, maps should not be boring – use capabilities of software to create visually pleasing layouts
 - Map vs. poster display

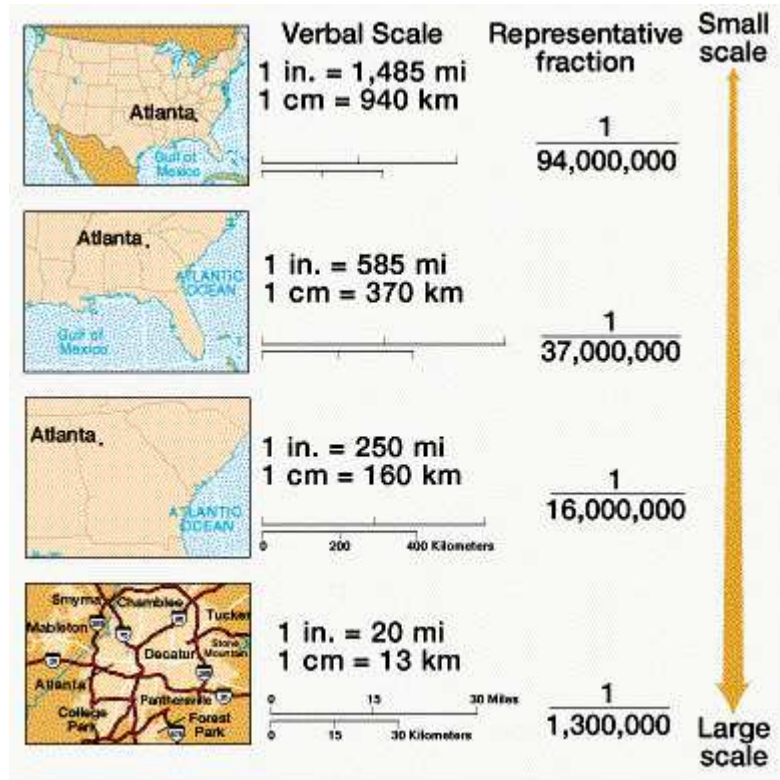


www.shutterstock.com · 34517803

Characteristics of Maps

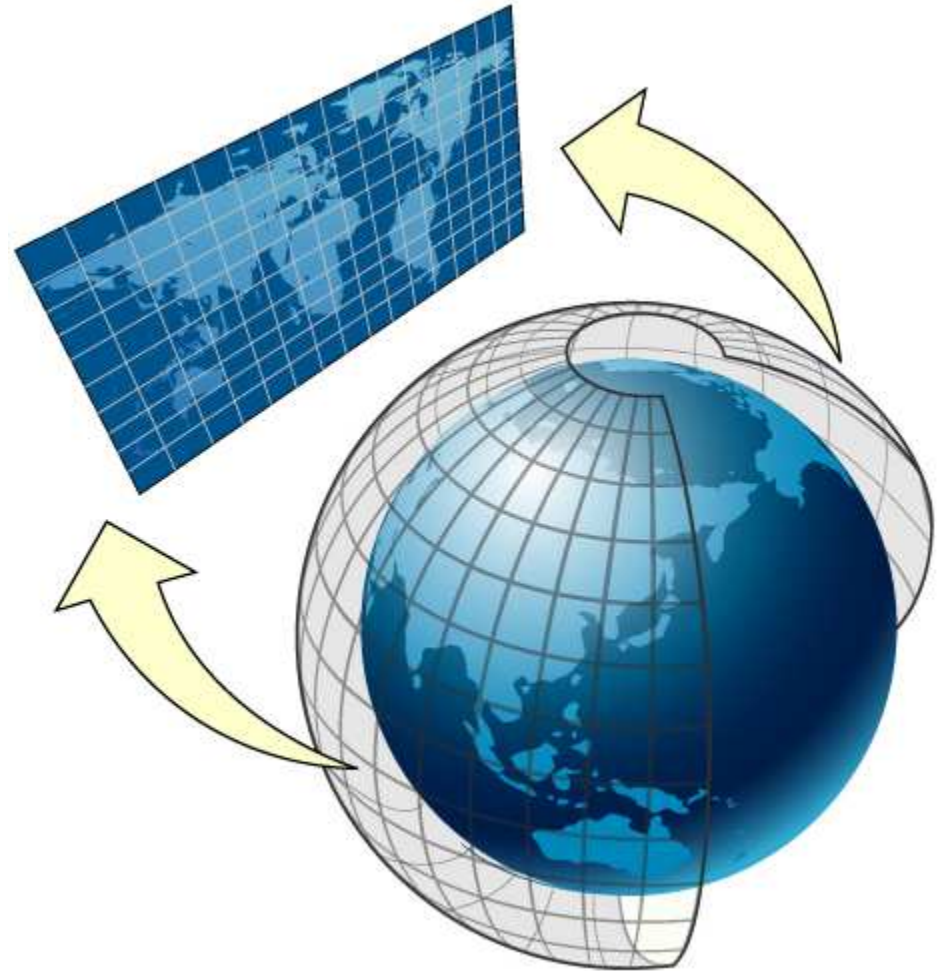
✦ Reduction

- Maps are not just a representation of an area, but a reduction of that area, so only certain things can be included in a map, depending on the map's size, what you intend to communicate, and what level of detail can be included. This relationship between reality and the reduced representation is called **scale**.



Characteristics of Maps

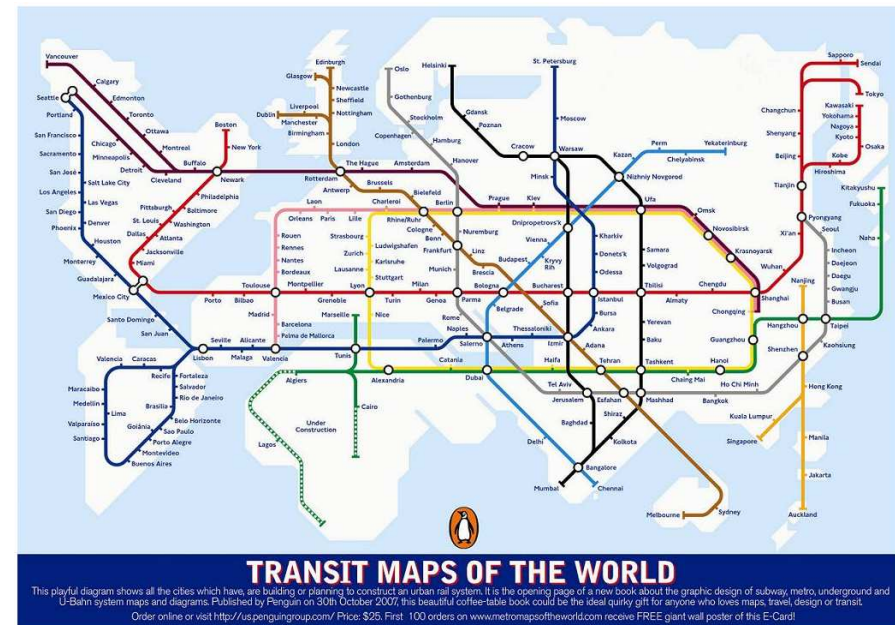
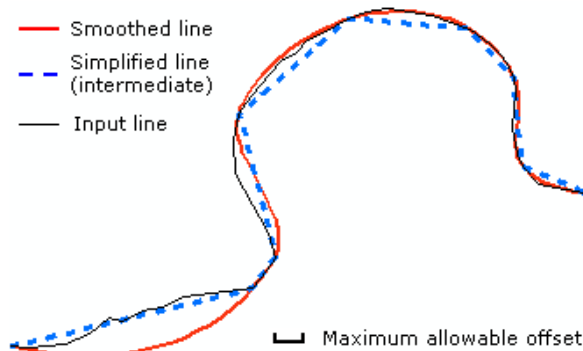
- ✦ Transformation
 - All maps involve a geometrical transformation - depicting the curved surface of the earth onto a flat surface, such as a computer screen or a piece of paper. A systematic transformation is called a **map projection**.



Characteristics of Maps

✦ Abstractions

- All maps are abstractions of reality, which is too complex to be displayed in its entirety on a map, so the cartographer must decide what to include. Features are often **generalized**.



Characteristics of Maps

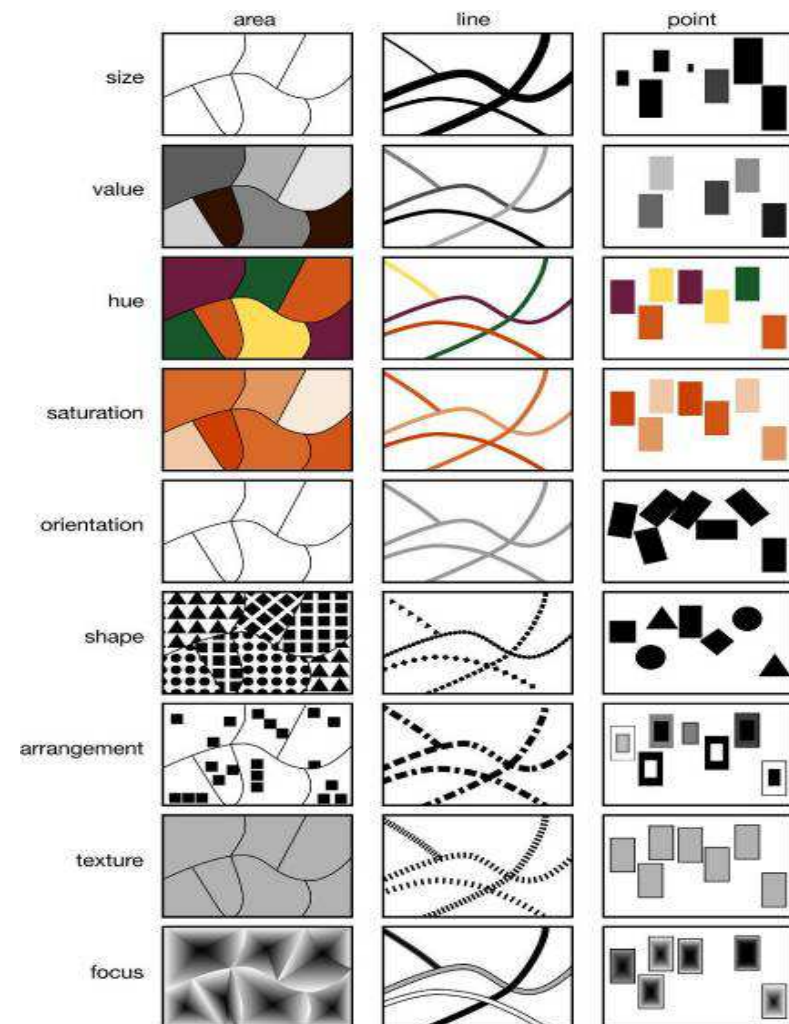
✦ Symbolization

- All maps use signs, which make up the symbolization of cartography. Since these are not universal signs, there must be a **legend** to describe what they represent in the world.



Characteristics of Maps

- ✦ Symbolization
 - Consists of various kinds of **marks - lines, dots, colors, tones, patterns, textures, etc.** Their selection and the way they are assembled onto a map greatly affect how the map communicates.



Categories of Maps

✦ Classed by scale

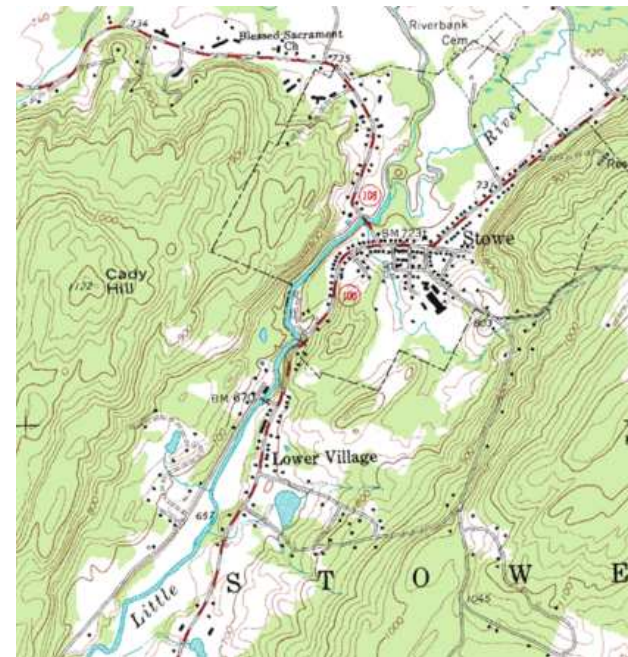
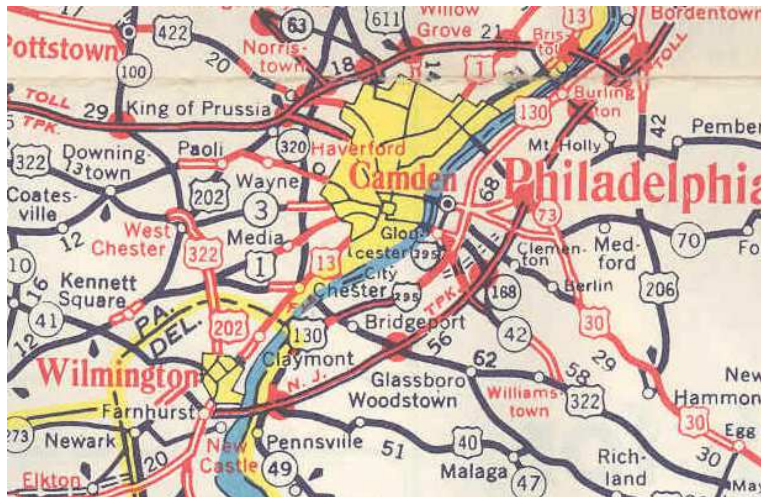
- the ratio between the dimensions of the map and those of reality
 - **small-scale map** - details are small, covers a large area (1:1,000,000)
 - **large-scale map** - details are large, covers a small area (1:5,000)



Categories of Maps

✦ Classed by function

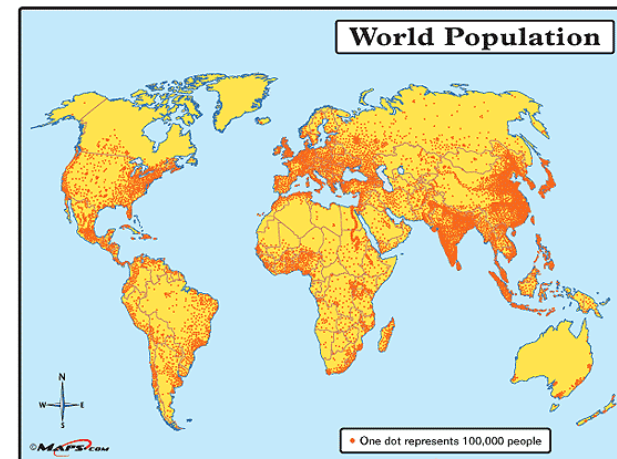
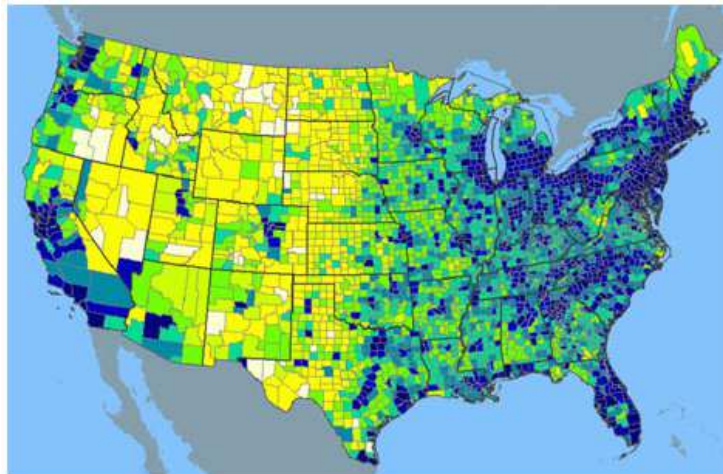
- **General reference maps** - show locations of different features, such as water bodies, coastlines, roads, cultural features (hospitals, schools, recreation facilities, etc)
 - USGS topographic maps
 - AAA road maps
 - Engineering plans



Categories of Maps

✦ Classed by function

- **Thematic maps** - (special-purpose maps) - display a general impression of a phenomenon's spatial distribution, or the relationship among many attributes, rather than to simply provide location of places
 - spread of diseases around the world
 - pattern of crimes in a city
 - population density in metropolitan areas



Categories of Maps

✦ Classed by function

– **Thematic maps**

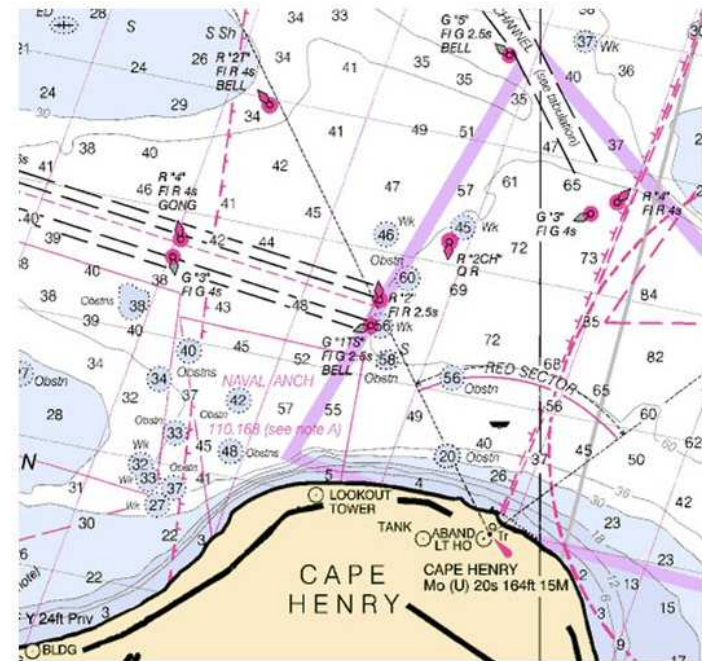
- Choropleth (shaded area) maps
- Dot density
- Graduated symbols (lines and points)



Categories of Maps

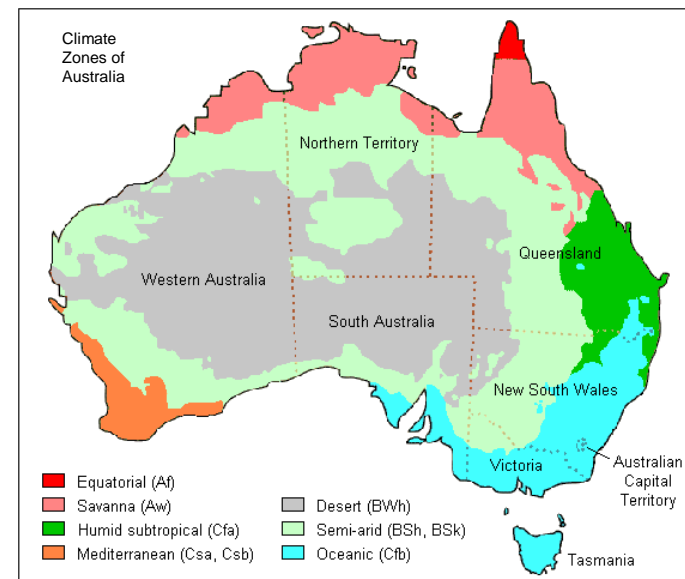
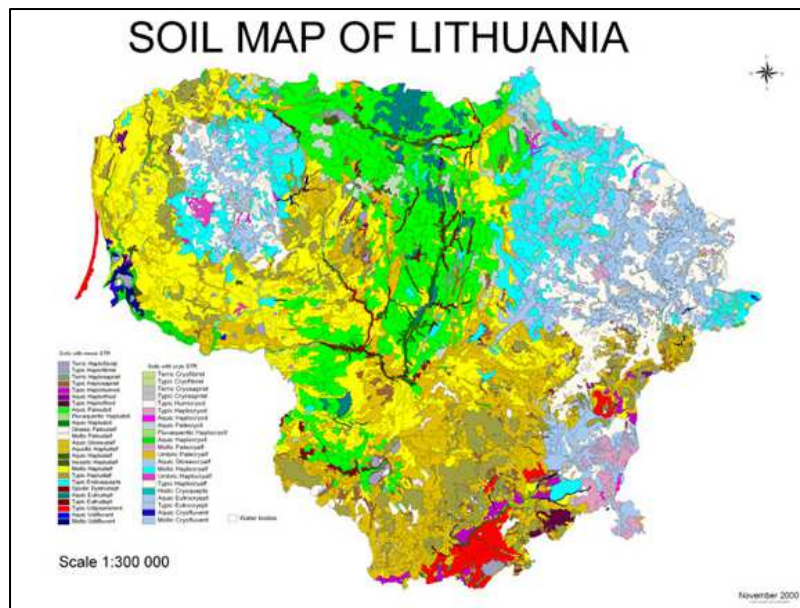
✦ Classed by function

- **Charts** - very accurate, highly detailed maps designed to serve the needs of navigators, nautical and aeronautical. Used for:
 - plotting courses
 - determining positions
 - mark bearings
- Ex. - NOAA Nautical Charts



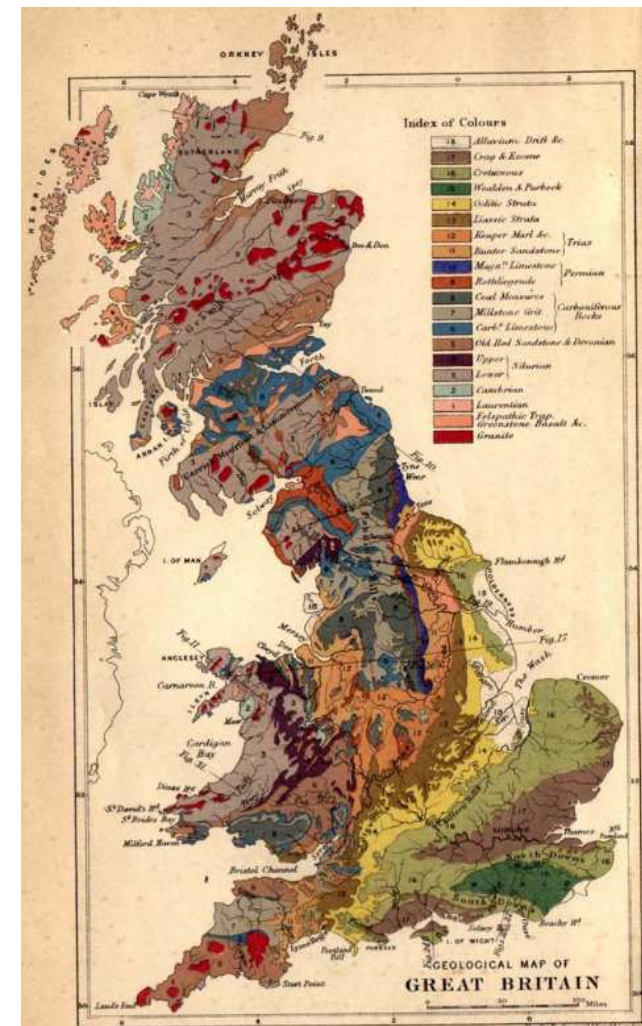
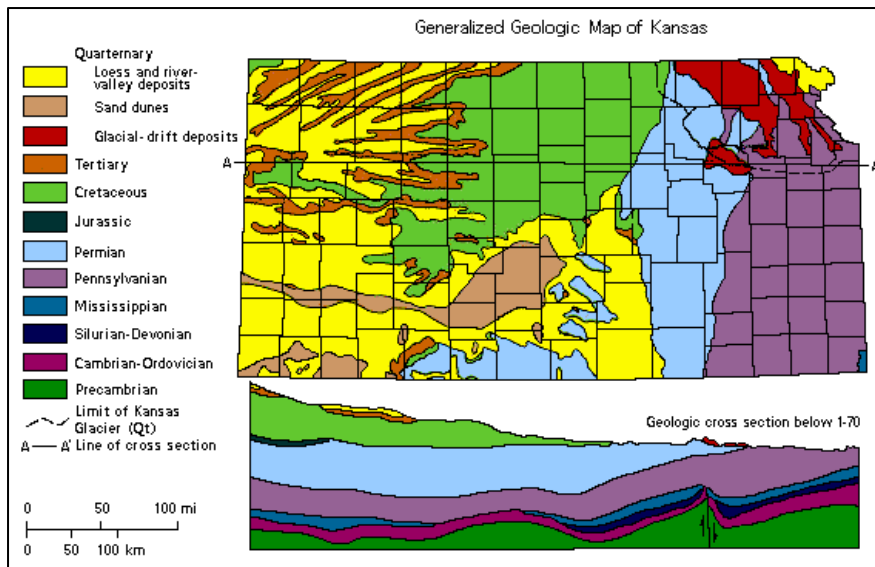
Categories of Maps

- ✦ **Classed by subject matter**
 - Soils, geology, transportation, climate, population...
 - Virtually unlimited the number of maps when grouped by subject matter



Categories of Maps

✦ Classed by subject matter



Categories of Maps

- ✦ Classed by subject matter

