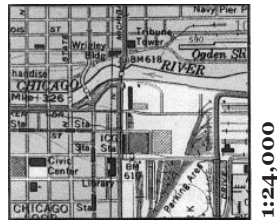


Map Generalization and Classification

Our human and natural environments are complex and full of detail. Maps work by strategically reducing detail and grouping phenomena together. Driven by your intent, maps emphasize and enhance a few aspects of our world and deemphasize everything else.

large scale



1:24,000

Larger-scale maps:

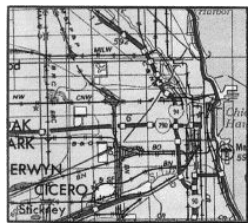
- ✓ less area.
- ✓ more detail.
- ✓ less generalization.
- ✓ less classification.



1:100,000

Transformation from large to small scale requires generalization and classification:

- ✓ city becomes area, then point.
- ✓ diversity of cities combined into a few categories (small, medium, large).
- ✓ minor streets and roads removed.
- ✓ different types of streets and roads combined into a few categories.
- ✓ houses, then major buildings removed.
- ✓ small streams removed.
- ✓ detail removed from rivers and roads.
- ✓ less important text removed.



1:250,000

small scale



1:500,000

Smaller-scale maps:

- ✓ more area.
- ✓ less detail.
- ✓ more generalization.
- ✓ more classification.

