BACKGROUND: The Geography and Map Division (G&M) is responsible for cataloging and maintaining custody of maps, atlases, and other cartographic materials, regardless of subject content. These materials are either acquired by G&M itself, or are routed to G&M for processing after acquisition by the Library. Works with cartographic content are retained for the general collections and cataloged as books or serials only if the cartographic content is secondary to the textual content. This instruction sheet provides guidelines to assist catalogers in identifying those materials that are cataloged by G&M as atlases or maps (classified in G1000-G9980), and those that are cataloged as books or serials (classified in G1-G922, GA, or other appropriate classes) in the regular workflow. For special provisions in assigning subject headings to bring out the cartographic content of the latter materials, see H 1865.

Detailed selection and workflow issues associated with cartographic materials are addressed in the document entitled Movement of Materials among and out of ABA Divisions, available to Library of Congress catalogers at

http://www.loc.gov/staff/aba/psd/movement.pdf

LC practice:

1. Cartographic materials. The following types of materials are cataloged by the Geography and Map division and classified in G1000-G9980:

- Any work that is clearly a map or atlas.

- Works with both textual and cartographic content, in which the primary emphasis is on the cartographic content and the textual content is secondary or complementary, serving mainly to support and explain the cartographic content.

- Separate texts that are clearly identified as supplementary to specific maps, including explanatory texts intended for use with the sheets of collected, quadrangle format map series.
2. Books and serials about geography/cartography or with secondary cartographic content. The following types of materials are cataloged as books or serials in the regular workflow and classified in either G1-G922, GA, or other appropriate classes, according to their subject content:

- Works about maps and atlases, including works about map collections, map libraries, map cataloging, map making, map reading, bibliographies of maps, etc.

- Works with both textual and cartographic content, in which the primary emphasis is on the textual content and the cartographic content is secondary, serving mainly to support, illustrate, or explain the textual content.

- Works about geography and related subjects, such as travel, voyages, exploration, etc.