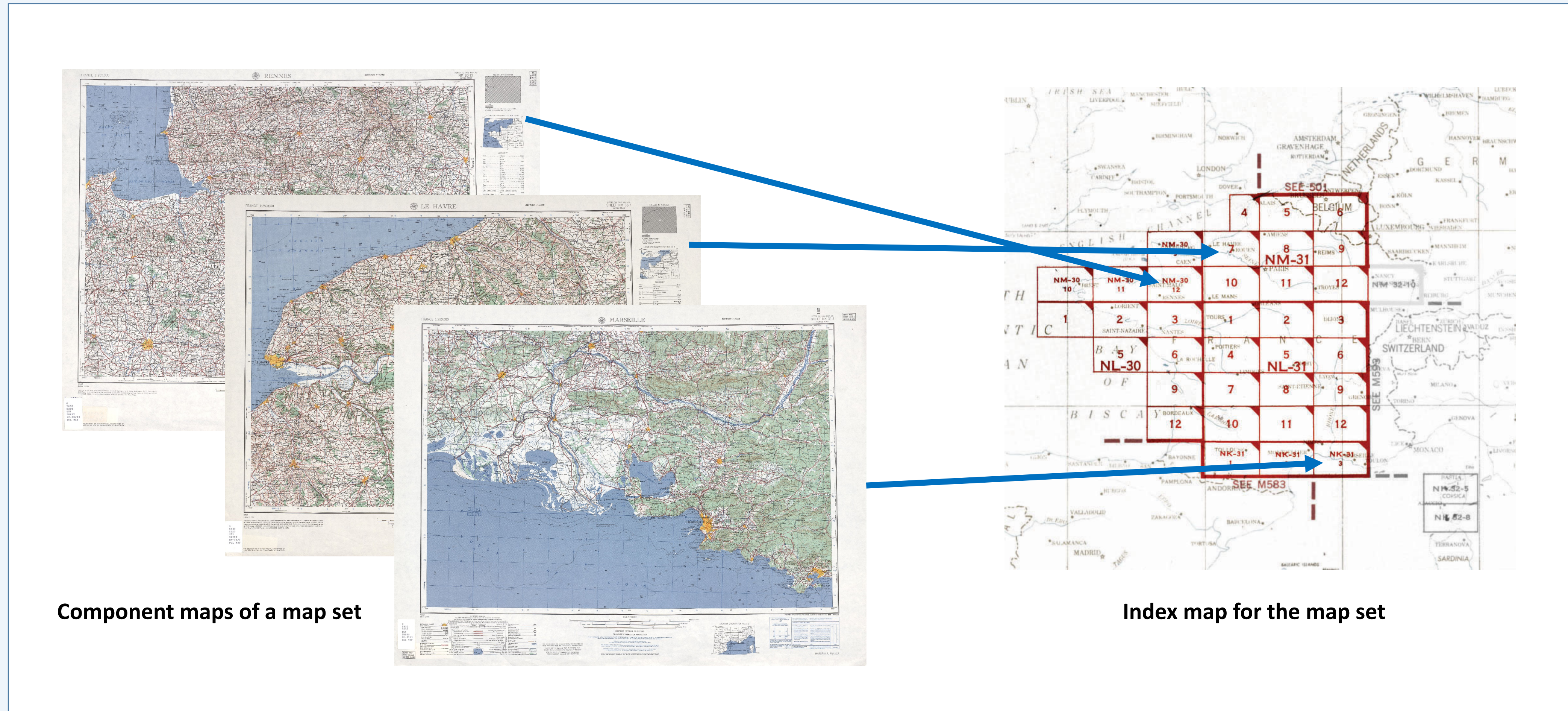


Index maps: a complex relationship

A **Map set** is a collection of scanned maps that are considered part of the same intellectual work, but not necessarily all published at the same time. The maps typically use the same symbology (map legend) and have the same scale.

Component maps are the individual map sheets within a scanned map set. Typically, a grid system is overlaid onto a geographic region, and each map sheet covers one grid cell. The grid cells are identified using a systematic coding system, and that code appears on the individual map corresponding to that grid cell. See the example at right for three component maps that are part of a map set that contains 35 component maps covering France.

An **Index map** is an overview map of the geographic region covered by a map set. An index map shows the grid system with the corresponding grid cell codes to help the user find which map sheet (component map) covers their area of interest. The blue arrows at right show the correspondence between each component map and its grid cell on the index map.



Component maps of a map set

Index map for the map set

Member or related object?

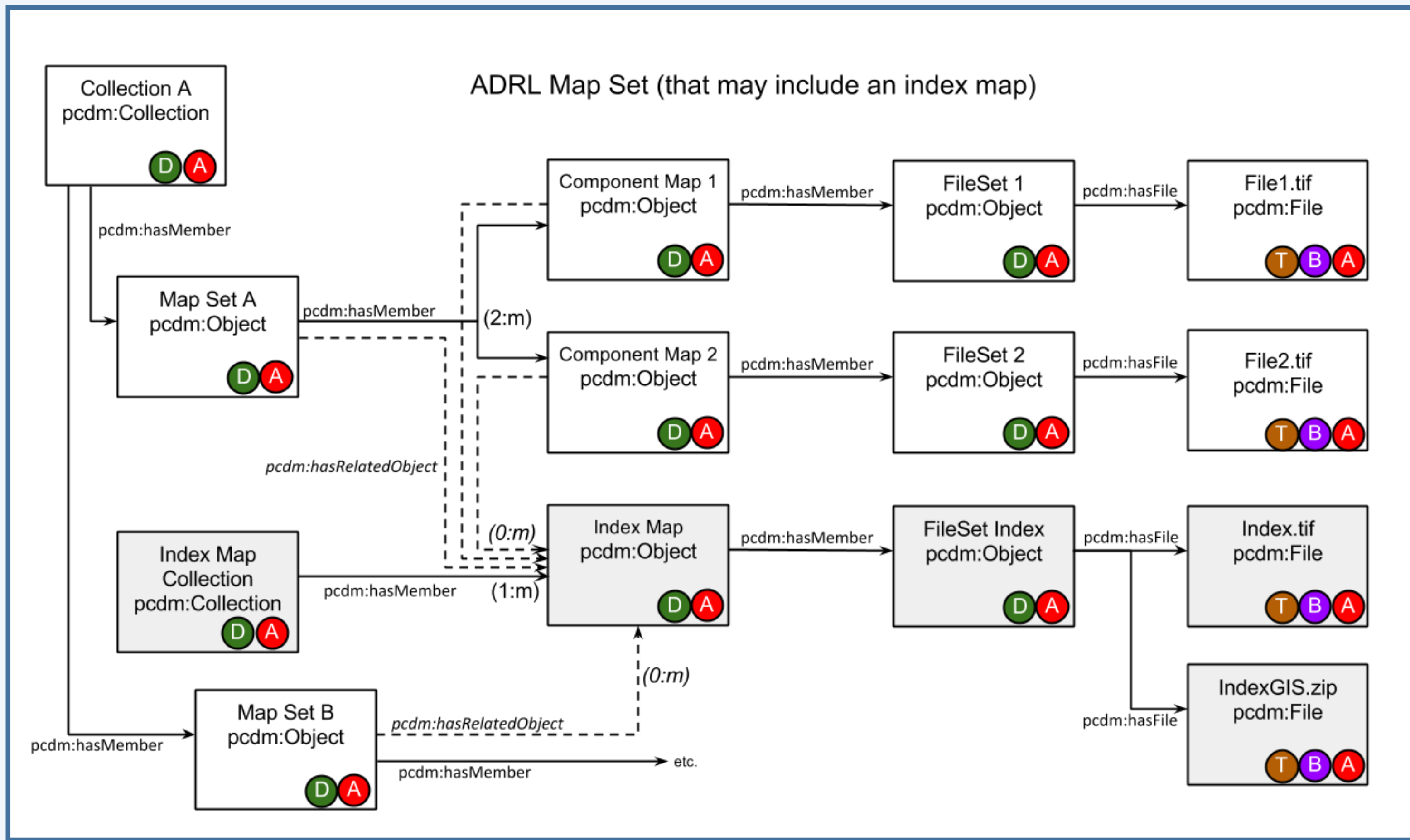
Component maps are members of a map set because they are part of the same intellectual work. The component maps are ordered and should be displayed in an online repository in that order (usually alpha-numerically by their grid codes).

The index map, on the other hand, is typically not part of the same intellectual work as the component maps, as it was most likely published in a separate document or created by hand. Furthermore, an index map has a different functionality within a map set in that it is a finding aid and should be accessible from every component map's display page.

The index map is therefore related to a map set (pcdm:hasRelatedObject) rather than being a member (pcdm:hasMember), and belongs to its own collection.

Display pages

Below is an example of collection, map set, component map and index map display pages for Kitai, a Russian-language topographic map set of China, produced by the Soviet Union from the 1950s to the 1980s.



Navigation

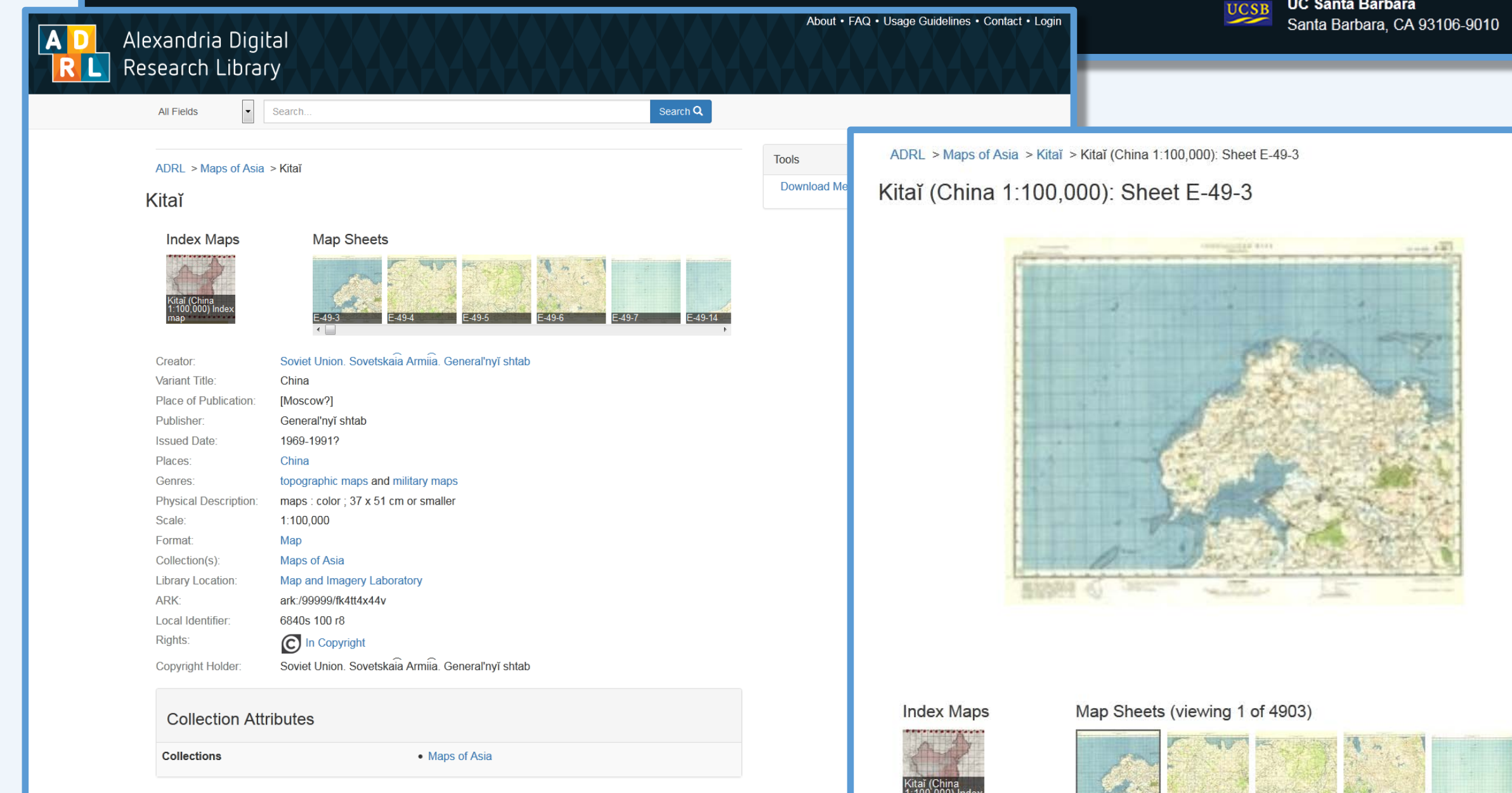
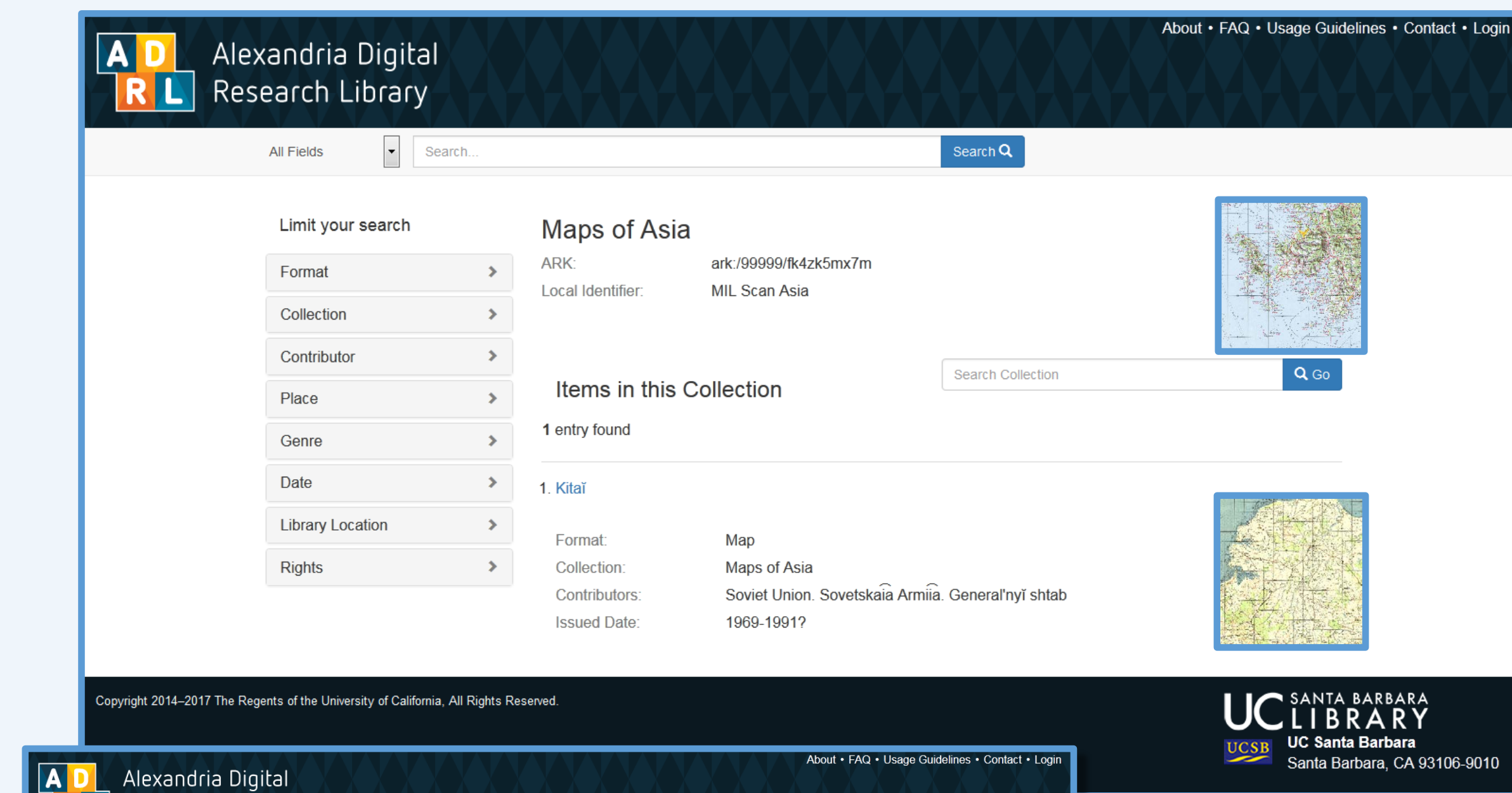
Collection: Map sets are grouped into collections by geographic region. A click on the map set title takes you to the map set display page.

Map set: The map set display page provides information about the set as a whole, plus links to the index map and links to all of the component maps within a slider of thumbnails. A click on a thumbnail of a component map takes you to the component map's display page. A click on the index map takes you to the index map display page.

Component map: The component map display page shows information about the individual map sheet, and also has a link to the index map via a clickable thumbnail as well as links to the component maps via a thumbnail slider.

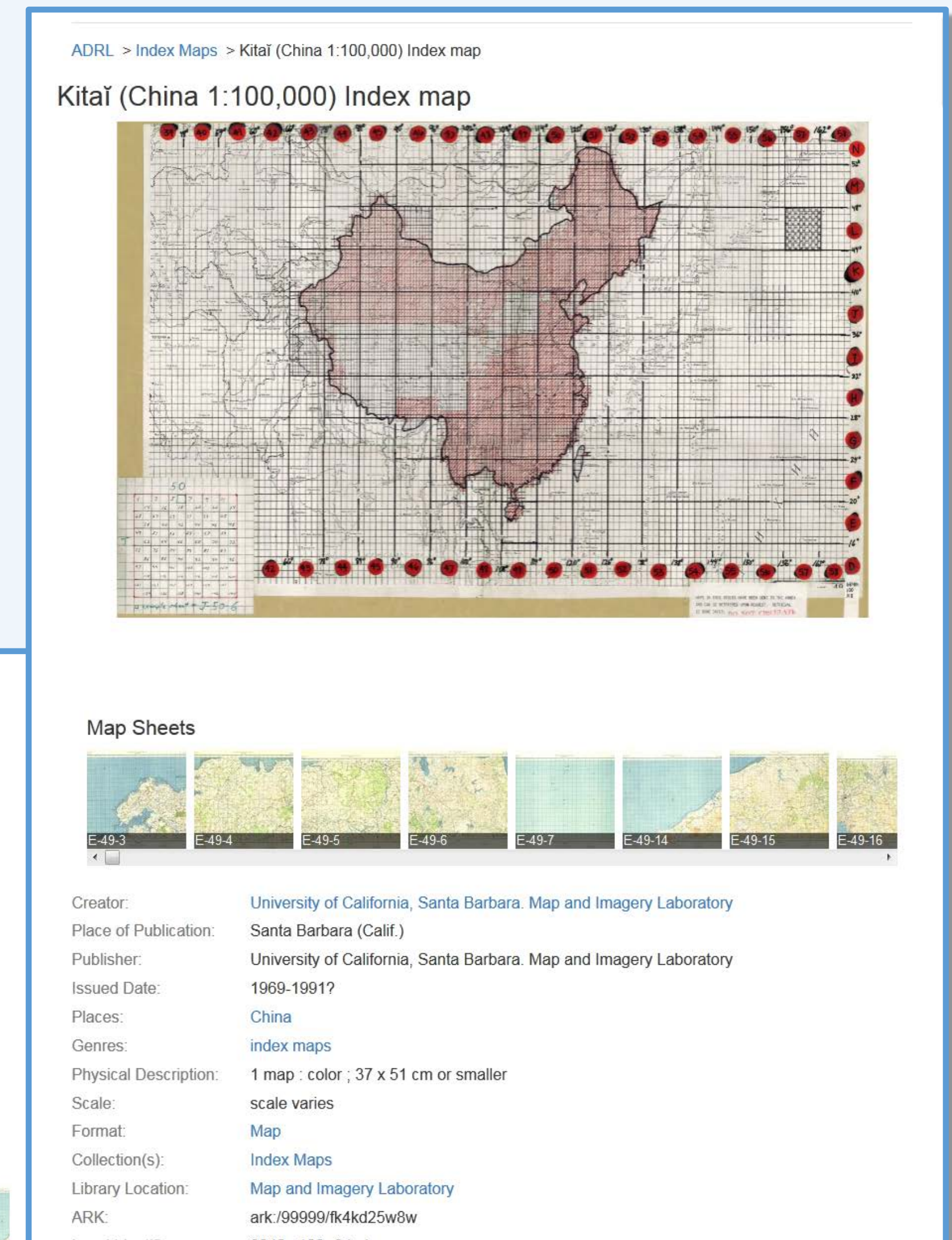
Index map: The index map display page shows an image of the index map, the index map's description, and links to the component maps via a clickable thumbnail slider.

Collection



Map set

Component map



Index map