Figure 9. Creating an alphanumeric grid using MAPublisher's Grid tool.
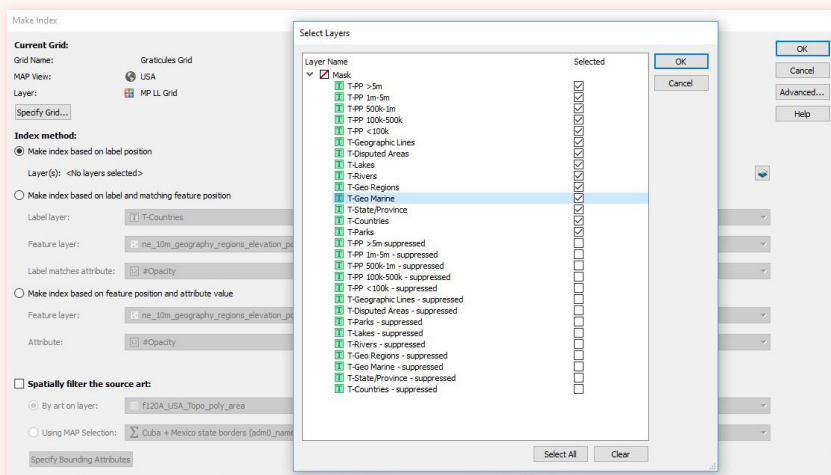

Figure 10. The Make Index panel settings define which text layers get indexed.
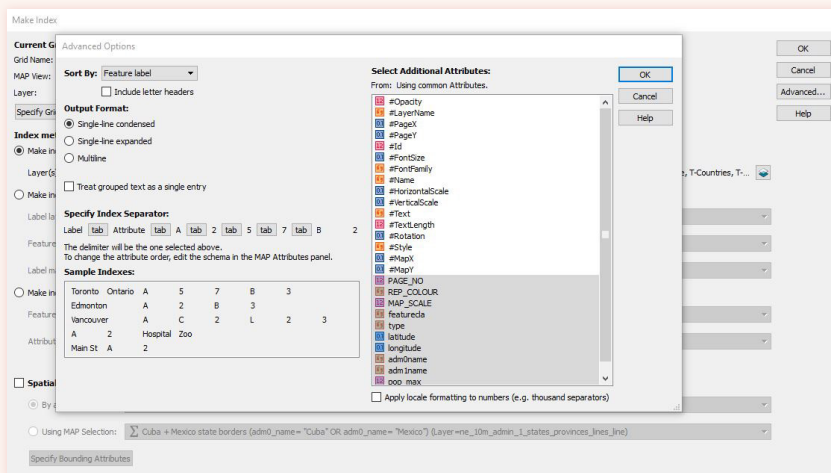

Figure 11. The Advanced Settings of the Make Index panel allow additional text attributes to be used when generating an index.

side of the map. The location of the first character of the label is referenced in this manner. Note also, that because this is a student atlas, the alpha references of 'I' and 'O' are included. In some atlases these letters are not used because of the potential confusion with the numerals '1' and '0,' however for students this can be misleading if they are left out.

Once we have our map labels finalised and the maps have been checked through the editorial process we can begin the indexing. MAPublisher has an indexing tool that can create an alphanumeric index based on a pre-defined grid in the artwork (Figure 9). In the *Jacaranda Atlas* we use the latitude and longitude graticule as the index grid. This can vary from a rectangular grid on a map using the Mercator projection to a curved grid on a map using a conical projection. In most cases, we can use the MAPublisher grid, however there are some instances where the auto-created grid does not conform to our requirements. You can also use a custom area layer to define a grid. Each grid cell needs to be defined with an alphanumeric value so that indexing can be done.

With a grid selected, the final step in the indexing process is to define which fields will be added to the index table (Figures 10 & 11). By selecting all our custom fields we can create a .csv file that contains all the data required for the final collation in Microsoft Excel (Figure 12).

This indexing step needs to be done for each .ai file. Each index .csv file is then converted to an Excel file, which is then aggregated with others into one master gazetteer index document (Figure 13). In the final master index, the latitude and longitude fields in decimal degrees are converted to degrees-minutes format using a simple formula. Fields are concatenated together and styled in Excel to create a final list that is exported as a Word document for placement into Adobe InDesign.