IMCoS JOURNAL

Spring 2013 | Number 132



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JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

Spring 2013 | Number 132

FOUNDED 1980

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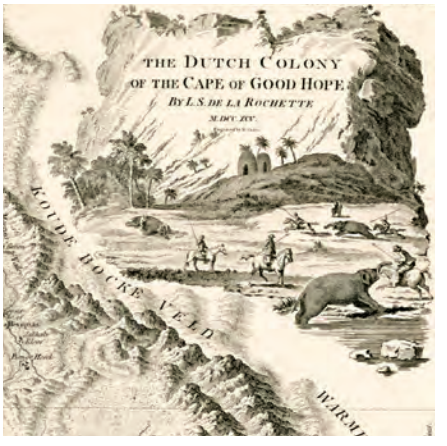
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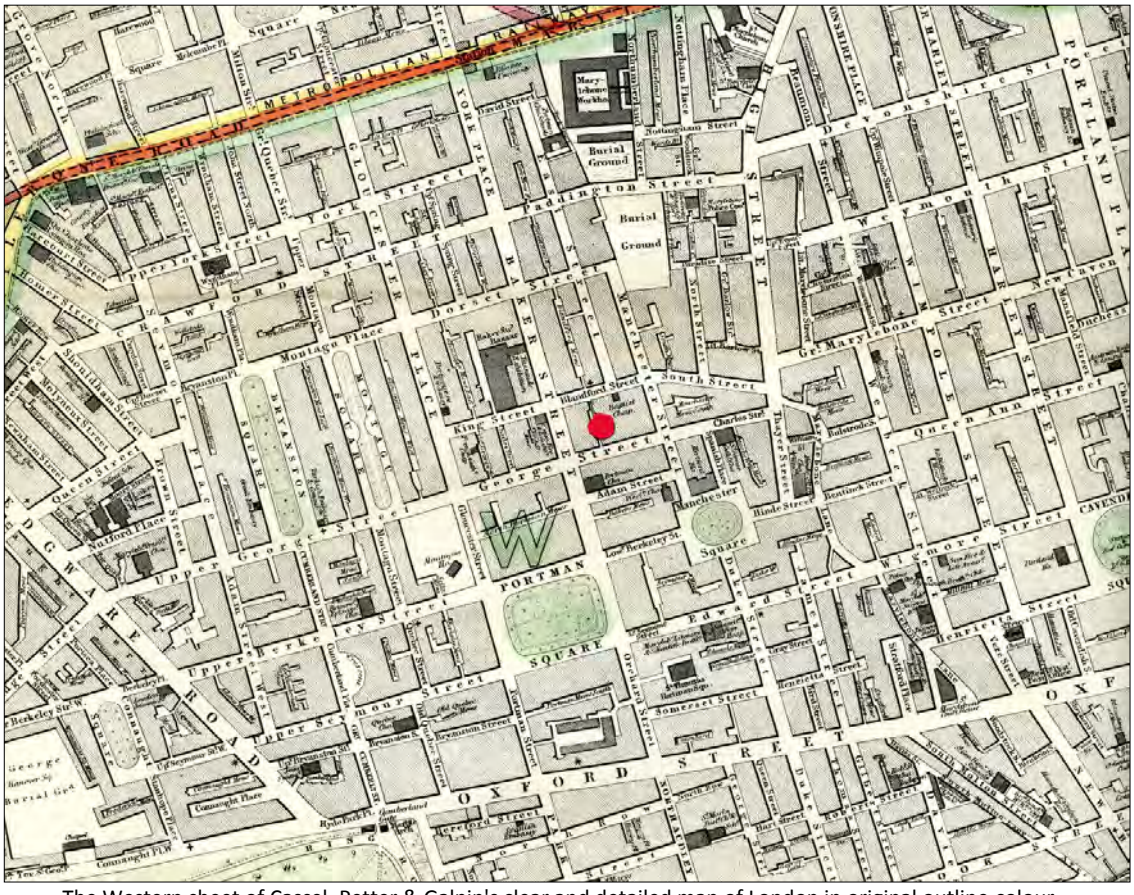
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Front cover Detail from Ortelius's 'Tartariae Sive Magni Chami Regni Typus' from *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* published in Antwerp in 1584. Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. (See page 60 for full image)

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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hans Kok



This Chairman's letter is the first one requested by our new editor Ljiljana; so I ought to give it some extra pep to stay in business!

We are looking forward again to springtime and summer weather, well, at least those of us whose local latitude is expressed as a northern latitude. Longitude may be either west or east, or even zero for those living near Greenwich! The only difference it makes is a few hours in time zones and a measure of jet-lag when you start traversing them. You may know that in early maps longitude played a confusing role: some islands were reported but could not be found a second time as their longitude reference was way off. Or was the ship's position way off when trying to find the place again? Sometimes, as in the case of the island Saint Helena/ Saint Helena Nova, putting two islands on the map or chart was the practical solution (for the cartographer, not for the navigators).

Vincenzo Coronelli from Venice had another solution: reporting his lack of confidence in the phantom island Frislanda (between Iceland and Greenland) as 'Creduta favolosa o nel Mare somersa', following his statement that the island had been discovered by Nicolo Zeno, Patritio Veneto. In plain language: 'discovered by my fellow-Venetian Zeno, a long time ago, but I think it stinks!' Although in the area of Iceland, volcanic islands have popped up and gone down again, as we now know.

Figuring out the correct longitude at sea was beyond the capability of many, also because on a moving platform, tossed about on rough seas, measurements could hardly be made with the required precision. On land, with more time to wait for good weather, the availability of larger instruments and feet on solid ground, the more complicated measurements were based on the eclipses of Jupiter's moons or the Moon's distances as measured from certain celestial bodies. In 1780, after nigh fifty years of product development, Mr Harrison constructed the 'timekeeper' which enabled navigators to compare local time deduced from the midday sun with the time 'kept' by the 'timekeeper' chronometer which had been adjusted to Greenwich time before departure. To say nothing about the politics involved in selecting a prime meridian. Corvo, Tenerife, Paris, Amsterdam and others were variously suggested before agreeing on Greenwich. After using tables based on GMT (Greenwich Mean Time), we progressed to UTC (Universal Time Coordinated) to radionavigation, inertial navigation and GPS/Glonass to establish that we do not need to use time for navigation any more, as our automatic systems can figure it out for themselves.

This, happily, also delivered us from the need to listen to static-distorted long-wave time signals blasting away at us from Washington, Hawaii and other stations. That is progress. On the other hand, the same position-fixing capability allows us to deposit bombs and rockets on places selected as 'worthy' of them, with only a few feet of dispersion – an activity which makes progress as debatable a concept as it always has been. Let us therefore enjoy our early maps – be they acccurate or not – and keep on solving their riddles and enigmas, with due respect for the beauty and craftsmanship allowed for their time, and give thanks to the people who have kept them ever since. It is their passion that allows us to admire and cherish them today.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Ljiljana Ortolja-Baird



My first IMCoS editorial is being despatched from my home in Quendon, a small village in the north-west corner of Essex in East Anglia. The fields around me lie silent under several inches of snow and the thermometer registers -1°C, (30°F). The wintery conditions here prompt thoughts on our 2013 symposium destination, Alaska. It too, is situated in a north-west position and lies under a blanket of snow, but there the similarities end. The magic of the Internet allows me to check on our host city. On 18 January, as I write, Fairbanks recorded -34°C, (-29°F) in the morning and dropped further to -42°C, (-44°F) in the evening. Such temperatures are beyond my experience. Alaska doesn't do anything by halves; it is the largest state of America, larger than the combined area of the next three largest states: Texas, California and Montana and the least densely populated. Nicknamed 'the last frontier', this vast wilderness of breathtaking natural beauty, I suspect, will out the explorer in all of us. Travelling across its immense landscape would be a grand adventure. Additionally, to further delight us, is the outstanding collection of maps of the polar region at the Elmer E. Rasmuson library that will be available for viewing.

The provisional schedule on page 9 is a taster of what's on offer; it looks promising and I hope it will inspire many of you to visit this extraordinary outpost of the North-American continent and enjoy its cartographic treasures.

The first IMCoS event for 2013 is a great deal closer for me: the Map Collectors' Evening takes place in London on March 5, at which we hope to see a good turnout. Under Francis Herbert's guidance we'll be looking at battle plans and maps but that doesn't mean you can't bring less pugnacious maps for identification and/or discussion. The March date is followed by our AGM and Annual dinner at which, this year, we have the colourful author, broadcaster and raconteur Mike Parker as our guest speaker. This event, as usual, coincides with the cartographic highlight on the calendar of all map collectors – the London Map Fair, which this year, organiser Tim Bryars tells me has already sold out. This augurs well for the collecting society. Personally, I'm looking forward to these events, as they provide opportunities to meet national and international members who didn't make it to the Vienna symposium last year.

Vienna was my first experience of an IMCoS event and its members. I was thoroughly impressed, so much so that it convinced me to accept the offer of the position of Editor of the *Journal* on Valerie Newby's retirement. Valerie has safeguarded and enhanced its reputation over the six years of her stewardship. She has set a standard that you have all appreciated, and not a few members have remarked on 'the big shoes I must fill'. At a mere five foot two, I don't have particularly large feet but I do bring a great deal of passion and enthusiasm for historical cartography. And for this, I must thank two inspiring women, Catherine Delano-Smith and Sarah Tyacke, who teaching me on my Masters course transformed an unfamiliar area – maps – into a dynamic and vital area of study, research and pleasure. I will endeavour to bring that spirit to the *Journal*.

Detail from John Chapman and Peter André's 1777 map of the county of Essex.

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IMCoS MATTERS

Forthcoming IMCoS events

5 March 2013 The Collectors' Evening: Battle plans and maps

The Collectors' Evening will be held on Tuesday, 5 March starting promptly at 7pm at the Farmers' Club, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1Q 2E1. All members are welcome to bring along maps and charts for identification or discussion. Francis Herbert will be in the chair. If you would like to meet for a drink beforehand, please join us in the bar of the Farmers' Club at 6pm. (no jeans and tee shirts!). Tea and coffee and sandwiches will be provided from 6.30pm in the Committee Room on the ground floor where the meeting takes place. A small charge will be made for the meeting to pay for the hire of the room and refreshments.

The Chairman's theme will be large-scale plans of battles and/or small-scale maps noting sites (initially with dates) of such. There is a wide range of Revolutionary/Napoleonic Wars (chiefly in Europe and the West Indies) and the War of 1812-13 in Canada and the USA to choose from. Possible locations of battles and sieges include Lutzen (Gross-Gorchen), Bautzen, San Sebastian, Vitoria, Pamplona, Gross Beeren, Dresden, Katzbach, Culm, San Marcial, Dennewitz, Leipzig, Hanau, Nivelle, and Bayonne, Buffalo, York (Toronto), Fort St George, Detroit, Thames River (near Chatham, Ontario), Chrysler's Farm (Montreal), Newark, New Jersey, and Fort Niagara.

If battle plans do not turn you on, then do bring any other maps or charts by way of contrast to our military theme. Let's have a good turnout and make this an exciting event.

---

7 June 2013 IMCoS Annual Dinner & Malcolm Young Lecture

We look forward to welcoming members to our annual dinner and Malcolm Young Lecture both of which will to be held in the Eastwood Room of the Farmers' Club, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2HL. Nearest underground station is Embankment which is a short walk away from the club.

6.20pm Meet for a drink in the bar.

7pm An inspiring lecture by Mike Parker, author of the recently published book *Map Addict*. The title of his illustrated lecture is 'We're all Map Addicts Now!'. This promises to be both amusing and stimulating.

7.45pm A three-course meal will be served.

This will be followed by presentation of the IMCoS/Helen Wallis Award. The citation will be given by Tony Campbell, former Map Librarian at The British Library.

The charge for the evening will be £50 which includes the lecture. Please fill out the leaflet enclosed with this issue of the *Journal*.

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8 June 2013 IMCoS AGM

At 10am, our AGM will be held in the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR. Members are welcome but please fill in the form enclosed with this issue of the *Journal* so that we know who will be attending. The London Map Fair is being held at the RGS over the weekend and IMCoS will be having a stand selling subscriptions and books about maps. Come and meet us there. For details of the Map Fair see Mapping Matters. (page 37)

New members

We would like to extend a welcome to the following members who have joined IMCoS recently:

Hans Spikmans, Netherlands
Collection interest: Seventeen Provinces of the Netherlands

Karen Hofstad, USA
Collection interest: Alaska, Hawaii

Marvin Falk, USA
Collection interest: Russian-America

David Kalifon MD JD FCLM, USA

Colin Butcher, UK
Collection interest: Sixteenth- and seventeenth-century maps

Bernard van Bunnik, Japan

Brendan Murtagh, UK
Collection interest: Pre-nineteenth-century Irish maps

Travis Tunis, USA
Collection interest: Florida, U.S. Civil War

Stanley Moroney, Scotland, UK
Collection interest: Scottish hydrography

Margaret Cameron, Australia

Mindaugas Ardisauskas, Lithuania
Collection interest: maps, town views, books

31ST IMCoS SYMPOSIUM

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

Frozen Dreams and Delusions: Four Hundred Years of Arctic Cartography

Welcome

When the IMCoS conference was held in Istanbul, I noticed almost every corner downtown had a young man standing beside a stack of small Turkish rugs. When I approached, the salesman would shout in rather good English, "Where you from?" When I answered, "Alaska", they would always hunch their shoulders and pretend to shiver.

Rather sad to have such an image everywhere. Now Fairbanks is eager to show visitors its autumns can be lovely; trees have changed colours, the temperatures are warm but not hot, and the golden hills around the city remind you Denali National Park, a two hour drive or four hour rail trip south, is home to Mt. McKinley, at 20,320 feet (6193 m) the tallest peak in North America.

But you're not really here only to enjoy the glories of Fairbanks, which still prides itself on being an updated old Gold Rush town, but to hear of the map collection at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Here's a little secret; in the mid-1970s, Alaska went from being a monetarily poor State to suddenly rolling in riches. The major oil strike on the North Slope and the resulting pipeline that goes 800 miles (1280 km) down to Valdez on the coast, brought gold that Midas would envy. Dr. Marvin Falk, then curator of the map library, took advantage of the bonanza to purchase maps of Alaska and the world. It's surely every librarian's dream to have the funds to buy whatever you think will make your library great, and that's what Marvin did. Lifelong Fairbanksan and history professor at the university, Terrence Cole, and Dean of Libraries Dr. Bella Gerlich, chief organizers of this symposium, also promise some extras on the side that locals know about, but most tourists will never know exist.

Fairbanks and Alaska are delighted that you're coming to visit. Visit our web site www.uaf.edu/imcos2013 for registration and additional information. If you have questions or comments, please contact Catherine Williams at cat.williams@alaska.edu or the Fairbanks Convention and Visitor's Bureau at www.explorefairbanks.com or write 101 Dunkel Street, Suite 111, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701.

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Symposium Schedule 9 – 11 September 2013

Sunday 8 September
Registration at conference hotel:
River's Edge Resort

6pm Reception at River's Edge

Monday 9 September
Registration at River's Edge

8 – 9.45am Continental breakfast at River's Edge

10 – 10.15am Professor Bella Gerlich, Dean of Libraries, ***Introduction and Welcome***

10.15 – 10.45am Professor Terrence Cole, Director of the UAF Office of Public History, ***Captain Cook and the Worst Map in the World***

11 – 11.45am Dee Longenbaugh, Observatory Books, ***Looking Over Lt. Zagoskin's Shoulder, or Sophisticated IMCoS Meets Wild Alaska, 1842***

12 – 1.30pm Luncheon and Keynote Speaker Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell, ***Mapping the Arctic in a Changing World***

1.30 – 2.15pm Professor Marvin Falk, Emeritus Arctic Bibliographer, ***How Legends and Spurious Voyage Accounts Determined the Shape of Alaska on Eighteenth-century Maps***

2.30 – 3.15pm Dennis Moser, MILS Head, Alaska and Polar Regions Collections & Archives, ***The (Virtual) Road Goes Ever On: Looking Ahead at Maps and Map Collecting***

3.15 – 3.45pm Buses to Elmer E. Rasmuson Library

4 – 5.30pm Open house at the Library

5.30 – 6pm Transportation to Alaska Salmon Bake

6 – 8pm Dinner at Alaska Salmon Bake

Tuesday 10 September
8 – 9am Continental breakfast at River's Edge

9.15 – 10am Dirk Tordoff, Curator of the Alaska Film Archives, ***Polar Treasures and Charts from the Vault***

10am – 10.45am Wesley A. Brown, Managing Director, St. Charles Capital, ***Seven Ways to Map the World in 1500: A Collector's Challenge***

11am – 11.45am Chris Cannon, University of Alaska Fairbanks Graduate Student, ***Alaska Native Maps of the Night Sky***

12noon – 1.30pm Luncheon and Keynote Speaker Dr. Mike Sfraga, University of Alaska Fairbanks Vice Chancellor, ***50,000 Feet and Climbing: Bradford Washburn's Maps of Everest and Denali***

1.30 – 2pm Transportation to UAF Geophysical Institute

2 – 2.45pm Ned Rozell, Geophysical Institute Science Writer, ***The Top Twenty Things You Didn't Know about Alaska***

3 – 3.45pm Dr. Matthew Sturm, Geophysicist, ***In the Tracks of Arctic Explorers***

4 – 4.30pm Tour of University of Alaska Geophysical Institute

5 – 6pm Aurora Show, University of Alaska Museum of the North

6 – 6.30pm Buses to Pump House

6.30pm Closing dinner at Pump House Restaurant

Wednesday 11 September
Departures throughout the day

Depending on the weather and interest we will schedule tours at the following UAF-affiliated venues. Please note on your registration form if interested.
- UAF Large Animal Research Station
- Fairbanks Experiment Farm and Botanical Garden
- Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, Permafrost Tunnel
- UAF Cold Climate Housing Research Center

Thursday 12 September
Departures throughout the day

All day optional excursions

Photograph of Mt. McKinley: Patrick J Endres / AlaskaPhotoGraphics.com

General Information

Fairbanks is the second largest city in the 49th state and serves as the focal point for hundreds of thousands of square miles in interior Alaska. Though surrounded by a vast wilderness of natural grandeur, Fairbanks offers all the modern cultural, social and personal amenities and infrastructure typically found in a much larger urban area.

Those interested in securing accommodation on their own might consider the following hotels:
River's Edge www.riversedge.net
Westmark Hotel www.westmarkhotels.com
Fairbanks Alpine Lodge www.akalpinelodge.com

Climate

Fairbanks is located about 65 degrees north, about 188 miles (300 km) south of the Arctic Circle, and has a continental climate, meaning that without the moderating influence of the ocean it gets very cold in winter and can get very hot in summer.

In September you are not likely to see either of those extremes. However, weather conditions are always unpredictable, so if you prepare for both sunny and warm, or rainy and chilly weather, you will not be disappointed! Coming to Fairbanks in early September is nothing like an Arctic expedition, but it would be good to bring a warm jacket and a windbreaker. There will be about 13.5 hours of daylight, and generally you can expect the temperature range in the first ten days of September to be anywhere from 40° to 60°F (5° to 16°C).

Getting to Fairbanks

Fairbanks is readily accessible by road and rail, and has a world-class international airport. The quickest way from Europe is Condor airlines – affiliated with Lufthansa – which offers non-stop service three times a week from Frankfurt, Germany to Anchorage. Several major airlines – Alaska Airlines, Delta Airlines, American Airlines – offer direct flights to Fairbanks from various regional hubs in the United States.

Train

Though there is no train that connects Alaska to the outside world, the Alaska Railroad links Anchorage and Fairbanks, via Mt. McKinley National Park. Consult the Alaska Railroad at: http://alaskarailroad.com/Vacations/tabid/121/Default.aspx

Here is a large scale map of the Alaska Railroad route: http://www.alaskarailroad.com/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=lQ8Ms21CI1k%3d&tabid=319

One flight-train option might be to fly into Anchorage and take the 12-hour train ride 360 miles (580 km) north to Fairbanks – it is a spectacularly beautiful trip: http://goalaskatours.com/railroadalaskadenali.html

Cruising

There are numerous cruise options. Visitors often fly one way and go by ship or train the other way.
Holland America www.hollandamerica.com/cruise-destinations/alaska-cruises
Carnival www.carnival.com/cruise-to/alaska.aspx
Norwegian www.carnival.com/cruise-to/alaska.aspx
Regent Seven Seas Cruises www.rssc.com/destinations/alaska/
Celebrity Cruises www.celebritycruises.com/destinations/home.do?dest=alcan
Smaller Ships There are also numerous companies offering smaller, more intimate and personal trips. For a good summary of the options see: http://cruises.about.com/od/alaskacruises/tp/Small-Ship-Alaska-Cruises.htm

Suggestions for Optional Excursions

These are suggested optional excursions you can arrange to do on your own. For one stop shopping to decide what to do you might consider a company like Alaska Tour and Travel which offers a variety of easy reservation and ticketing options. www.alaskatravel.com/fairbanks/tours.html. Another option might be to wait until you get to Fairbanks and depending on the weather book activities with staff at River's Edge.

If you prefer to arrange travel on your own, here are some of the attractions that we would recommend you explore online:
Riverboat Discovery
www.riverboatdiscovery.com
Chena Hot Springs Resort
www.chenahotsprings.com
Chena Hot Springs Aurora Ice Museum
www.chenahotsprings.com/ice-museum-renewables
Historical City Tours www.alaskadenalitours.com/fairbanks_alaska/fairbanks_city_tour.html
Alaskan Tails of the Trail – Tour of dog musher kennel www.maryshields.com
Great Alaskan Bowl Company
www.woodbowl.com
Running Reindeer Ranch
www.runningreindeer.com
Antique Auto Museum
www.fountainheadmuseum.com
Pioneer Park www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/pioneerpark/default.htm
Creamer's Field Migratory Wildlife Refuge
www.creamersfield.org
Santa Claus House (North Pole)
www.santaclaushouse.com
Train trip to Denali on the Alaska Railroad (4-hour trip) www.alaskarailroad.com

Canterbury Tales

Report by **Valerie Newby**

"Who will rid me of this turbulent priest?" King Henry II is said to have exclaimed just before the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Becket, was murdered and had his head chopped off in Canterbury Cathedral. Luckily this was back in 1170 and all 20 of those members of IMCoS who visited the Cathedral on Friday 9 November last year and stood on the very spot where this murder most foul took place, lived to tell the tale.

The organiser of the visit was Clare Terrell, UK representative for IMCoS who had arranged a fascinating day out for us all. Of course we know that IMCoS is always known for its perfect timing but was it pure coincidence that we arrived on the very day that the Rt Rev Justin Welby was appointed as the new Archbishop of Canterbury following the resignation of Rowan Williams. The Cathedral is the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury and still very much a working, living church.

We gathered in front of the Cathedral and were taken to the Library, which was reached through a medieval door with Biblioteca Howleiana written over it. What a paradise of books and maps greeted us and, as someone pointed out, "it even smells like an old library". In fact, we were told that there had been a library on this site for over 1,000 years. Originally, of course, it served the monastic community. When Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries some of the early books were moved and many can now be found in Cambridge but subsequent collections have made up some of the deficit. We visited the Howley-Harrison collection which is the biggest individual collection in the library, comprising of 16,000 titles which formed part of Archbishop William Howley's library and the personal library of his curate Benjamin Harrison. It includes bibles, prayer books, an Elizabethan copy of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, books from the slave trade, herbals and history books not to mention, maps and atlases. They have no less than five Geneva bibles, which remained popular until the King James version was published in 1611. These bibles were printed in Geneva when that city became the centre of the Reformation on the continent.

We were to have visited the Cathedral Archives but restoration work was underway so the Librarian, Karen Brayshaw, brought out some maps which she put on display for us in the Library. These included a copy of the Geneva Bible with a map of the twelve tribes of Galilee, now Gaza. Also on display was Lambarde's 'A perambulation of Kent' dating to 1567 and a lovely eighteenth-century map from *A Walk in and around the City of Canterbury* by William Gosling dated 1777. David Webb, an avid collector of road maps, was drawn to a copy of William Drayton's *Poly Olbion*, dated 1622 and a copy of William Camden's *Britanniae Depicta* by John Ogilby. Another impressive item was *Atlas Japenensis* of 1670 by Arnoldus Montanus which had been translated from Dutch to English by Ogilby. An item by Herman Moll, *The British Empire in America*, published between 1673 and 1742, showed Albany where two of our members, Cal and Carol Welch, live. We were honoured that they had come over from the USA to take part in our visit to the Cathedral. Another item on display was the map in the shape of a lion, the 'Leo Belgicus' showing the 17 provinces and dated 1640. Toby Hewitson, the Archives Assistant, showed us further maps including an estate map of 1681, a manuscript chart of Mauritius dated 1752 and 'Cantuarbury' by Braun and Hogenberg, and others.



The IMCoS pilgrims who 'from every shires ende/ Of Engelond to Caunterbury wende'.

Sadly we learned that the 1868 library had been bombed in 1942 during the Second World War but luckily there was no fire or water damage and most of the books were saved and the Cathedral itself was largely undamaged.

We then adjourned for lunch to the newly built Marlowe Theatre, a complete contrast to the ancient cathedral. The sun shone on us when we regrouped back at the Cathedral for a conducted tour. Being mapping enthusiasts, we were duly impressed by a compass rose on the floor of the building which had been dedicated by Archbishop Robert Runcie in 1988. It bore the thought-provoking inscription 'The truth will make you free'.

Although the ghost of Sir Thomas Becket is said to still haunt the building, we didn't meet him but came away impressed by the sheer immensity of the place and the obvious dedication of all those who care for the Cathedral.

SWANN
AUCTION GALLERIES



Abraham Ortelius, *Typus Orbis Terrarum* (detail), Antwerp, 1580. Sold December 6, 2012 for a record $14,400.

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Self-protection, official obligations and the pursuit of truth

Peter Barber

This article is based on the paper Peter Barber presented at the 30th IMCoS Symposium – '500 Years Mercator, Early cartography in the Habsburg Empire' in Vienna last year. Digital images of all the maps in Mercator's 'Atlas of Europe' are freely available on the British Library website at www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/ttp/mercator/accessible/introduction.html



The Mercator Atlas of Europe was one of the great cartographic 'finds' of the twentieth century. Its chance discovery in 1967 in a Brussels bookshop by a Dutch schoolteacher, Thomas Varekamp, from Amsterdam with no particular familiarity with old maps demonstrated that such strokes of luck could happen to anyone.[1] The Atlas won notoriety after an expert palaeographer, Arthur S. Osley, identified the hand that wrote the inscriptions on the maps as that of Gerardus Mercator, perhaps the best-known cartographer of all time.[2]

The Atlas contained the sole surviving example – albeit incomplete and segmented into several atlas-size maps – of Mercator's 1554 map of Europe, the last known example of which had disappeared from Wroclaw in the closing weeks of the Second World War.[3] Present in the atlas was also one of only four known copies of his great 1564 map of the British Isles,[4] and there were two fragments from Mercator's 1569 world map. Possibly more exciting still, the Atlas contained what appeared to be the only known maps actually drawn by Mercator: two manuscript maps of Lombardy and Tirol. The other maps came from the first (1570) edition of Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, generally considered to be the first purpose-made and mass-produced modern printed atlas, and there was also the third known copy of a map of Ancona by one 'AB', the other examples being in Harvard and in the Royal Library in Stockholm. (Fig. 4)

The likelihood that Mercator had been involved in the creation of the Atlas was increased by the curious way in which it had been created. Like the atlas, derived from the 1569 world map, acquired by the Maritime Museum in Rotterdam in 1932,[5] several copies of Mercator's wall maps had literally been idiosyncratically carved up into all sorts of shapes, re-assembled and provided with hand-drawn borders and scale bars in order to transform them into atlas-style maps. While the Antwerp publisher Plantin might also have had numerous copies of the wall maps at his disposal, only Mercator would have had the wall maps and the vision and skill to transform them into atlas-sized maps.

The inclusion in the Atlas of sheets from the 1569 world map and the 1554 wall map of Europe suggested that the Atlas must have been put together after 1569 but before 1572 when Mercator published his revised wall map of Europe. Moreover, research indicated that the Atlas of Europe and the Rotterdam Atlas had early on been owned by the same person. Before its purchase by the Rotterdam Maritime Museum, the Rotterdam Atlas had been in the library of the descendants of one of Mercator's known correspondents,[6] Werner von Gymnich (d.1582), a leading figure at the court in Düsseldorf

Fig. 1
Gerardus Mercator in 1574, shortly after he compiled the Atlas of Europe, engraved by Frans Hogenberg. From *Atlas sive Cosmographicae Meditationes…* 1595. By permission of the British Library Board.

of Wilhelm V, Duke of Cleves, Julich and Berg, in whose dominions, at Duisburg, Mercator had settled in 1552.[7]

Annotations beneath the table of contents on the first page of the Atlas of Europe state that it had been repaired by Alanus Ortmans, a Cistercian monk who was working at the abbey of Mariawald, in the province of Jülich in 1771.[8] The Abbey had had close links with the Gymnich family and the Atlas could have been among the books donated to it in 1605 by Werner von Gymnich's son, Adam von Gymnich and his wife.[9] Gymnich, a childhood friend of the Duke, was chief administrator (chamberlain or *Hofmarschal*) of the court and, in 1570 had been appointed governor of the promising young Crown Prince, Carl Friedrich (1555-75).[10] In these capacities he had been responsible for organising the Crown Prince's grand tour through Germany and Italy that set out from his dominions in October 1571. The need to plan the route and the logistics for it was a possible motive for creating the Atlas within the period that it must have been assembled.[11]

While this background research on the Atlas was taking place, its new owner was, in his own words, enjoying playing with his acquisition and undertaking his own investigations as a hobby. By October 1968, however, tempted by approaches from several scholars, dealers and curators he was thinking of offering the Atlas of Europe to a museum or library that would conserve it and which employed a scholar-curator who could write an informed commentary to accompany a facsimile.[12] Prominent among the candidates was the Rotterdam Maritime Museum whose proximity to Amsterdam would have enabled Mr Varekamp to continue working on it. No agreement could be reached over a selling price, however, so it was ultimately consigned to Sotheby's in London for auction on 13 March 1979. After a lively bidding battle, the British Railway Pension Fund, which regarded it as a sound financial investment, emerged as the winner at a price of £340,000.[13] It remained in storage in the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh for many



Fig. 2 Mercator, autograph map of Tirol, c.1571, from The Atlas of Europe. A predecessor of the printed map that was to appear in the Atlas, it shows a region on Gymnich and the Crown Prince's proposed grand tour which Mercator thought was badly served by existing Italian maps. By permission of the British Library Board.

years, with very limited access to selected scholars. Eighteen years later, when the Pension Fund's investment strategy was being widely criticised in the British press, it came up for auction, again at Sotheby's, on 26 November 1996. It failed to meet the reserve, and was finally purchased in May 1997 for a price well in excess of £500,000, by the British Library, the under-bidder in 1979. One of the conditions set by the National Heritage Memorial Fund, which had made a very large grant to enable its purchase, was that the Atlas should be digitised. All the maps in the Atlas, and some of the versos are now available to the world as an e-book, and the Atlas itself has been sensitively conserved and is now in better condition than it has been for centuries.

Even before its purchase by the British Library, and despite its relative inaccessibility, the Atlas had continued to be the subject of intense study. There was a more than normally expert assessment in the Sotheby's sale catalogue of 13 March 1979, further discussion in *Imago Mundi* and *The Map Collector* and in 1994 Marcel Watelet edited a lavishly illustrated monograph on the Atlas, accompanying a facsimile of its Mercator maps, with contributions on the maps by leading scholars.[14] Collectively these gave firm answers, which have subsequently never been challenged, to some important questions about the Atlas. But since 1997 little further research has been done on it. Important questions about it have remained unanswered. There has been no discussion of the principles followed by Mercator in assembling it and his motives for creating it. No attempt has been made to discover its original collation before it was re-arranged by Ortmans in 1771, or to ascertain how complete it is at present. Still less has there been any serious discussion of the intended purpose of this rather unprepossessing atlas, as opposed to loose assumptions about its link to Crown Prince Carl Friedrich's travels. The closest that any scholars have come to answering these questions is Osley's assertion in 1969 that the Atlas had been 'specially compiled to supply a customer or friend with a set of reliable, up-to-date maps covering the whole of Europe'[15] and the assumption by Wilhelm Diedenhofen, a long-term student of Crown Prince Carl Friedrich's travels, that it was intended as a travel atlas.[16] More recently Sjoerd de Meer has tentatively suggested that the Atlas and the world Atlas were intended for the Crown Prince's education and only came into Gymnich's hands after the prince's death from smallpox in Rome in 1575.[17]

When one turns to the intellectual content of the Atlas, it becomes clear that, within the relatively short time available to him in 1571 when the Crown Prince's grand tour was being planned, and his departure that October,[18] Mercator, wanted to create the most accurate possible set of maps of Europe and its parts at three different scales. He relied primarily and as far as was possible on his own work and otherwise on the best maps that he judged were available in about 1571. At the top and smallest scale level there was a map of Europe, taken from the world map of 1569. Then, arranged in their appropriate places, there were regional maps centred on an important country, cut from the map of Europe of 1554. As was to be the case with the maps in his later Atlas, and was also to be seen in the Rotterdam Atlas, these were all overlapping to increase their general utility.[19] At the lowest level were the provincial maps. Almost all of these were taken from the maps published in the first edition of Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* of 1570, the quality of which Mercator had praised on their appearance.[20]

Two important sets of provincial maps were however not to be found in that edition: Tirol and Lombardy on the one hand and England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland on the other. But a courtier-administrator of the duchy of Cleves, such as Gymnich, would have needed both: it was known in 1571 that the Crown Prince would be crossing into Italy via the Brenner Pass and would be visiting towns in Lombardy, not least because one of his aunts was the Duchess of Mantua and another the Duchess of Ferrara, who could be expected to give the young prince particularly privileged access to their cultural treasures.[21] The maps of the different parts of the British Isles were presumably needed because it seems quite likely that a trip to England was on the long-term agenda for the Crown Prince. Not only had his aunt, Anne of Cleves, Henry VIII's fourth wife, been Queen of England, but also, despite being 22 years younger than Elizabeth I there may have been an idea that Carl Friedrich might eventually marry her – the French prince Francois, duc d'Alençon, Elizabeth's last serious suitor, was exactly the same age as Carl Friedrich. Mercator was able to supply reliable mapping of the different parts of the British Isles from his 1564 wall map of Great Britain, and he could provide manuscript maps of Tirol and Lombardy from the modern provincial maps that he had over the past few years begun to create for the great cosmography he had been planning since the late 1560s and that was ultimately to be published in three parts between 1585 and 1595.

As important as the maps that were included are those that were excluded from the Atlas. First and foremost and with the exception of Portugal, Switzerland and Hungary, which he probably regarded as a provinces of the Iberian peninsula, of the Holy Roman Empire and of south-eastern

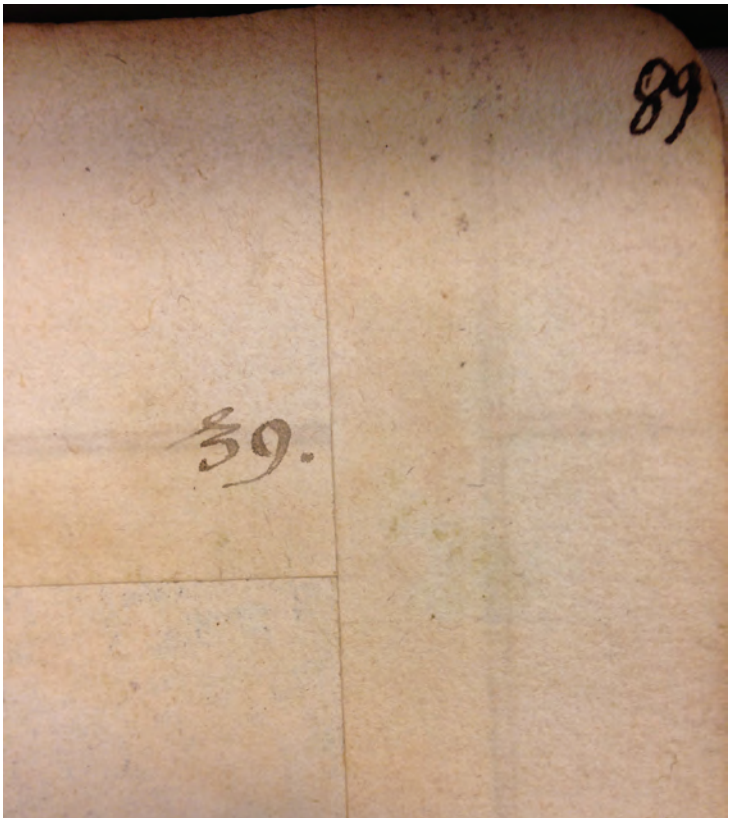


Fig. 3 A page with Mercator's original folio number (top right) and the map number inserted by Alanus Ortmans in 1771. The page also demonstrates how Mercator carved an atlas-size map from different copies of his 1554 wall map of Europe. By permission of the British Library Board.

Europe respectively, Mercator did not include the regional or national maps that had appeared in Ortelius's 1570 atlas, doubtless because the extracts from Mercator's own map of Europe fulfilled the same function with the added advantage of comprising Mercator's own considered judgements about the continent's geography.

Mercator also applied strict criteria for inclusion to his own work: his own maps of Flanders (1539/40) and of Lorraine (1564) are not to be found, though Ortelius's reduced copy of Mercator's map of Flanders is included. It may be that Mercator no longer had copies of his Flanders map, but it is also likely that, it would have been too large-scale at an approximate scale of 1:172,00022 to have fitted within the parameters set by Mercator for this atlas. This may also be true of the detailed survey of the duchy of Lorraine that Mercator had completed in traumatic circumstances that seem to have caused a nervous breakdown.[23] It had never been printed, very possibly for security reasons,[24] and it is likely that Mercator would not have had sufficient time to prepare a reduced manuscript version for the Atlas. Mercator also intentionally omitted the depiction of Russia north of Moscow from the opening, showing 'Sarmatia etc'. He knew that English voyages from the later 1560s, of which he had been informed by John Dee and probably others, had rendered obsolete the depiction of the Arctic coast of Russia on his 1554 wall map of Europe and the information on the interior of Muscovy to be found on the 'Jenkinson' map published in 1562, which had appeared in reduced form in Ortelius's atlas.[25] The 'new' outlines were however shown on his 1569 world map which provided the general map of Europe at the start of the Atlas, and Mercator clearly felt that this would suffice to depict northern Russia in the atlas of a German politician with no particular interest in that region.

Given Mercator's low opinion of Italian mapmakers, whom he had dismissed as uncritical copyists in a letter to Ortelius of November 1570,[26] it is not surprising that their maps are not to be found in the atlas, even though they could have filled gaps left by the absence of appropriate provincial maps published by Ortelius. Indeed rather than trust his patron to any of the relatively plentiful Italian printed maps of the vital regions of Lombardy and Tirol where the Crown Prince was certainly going to travel, Mercator, as we have seen, created special maps himself.

Luckily it is possible to reconstruct with a fair degree of certainty the original broad geographical arrangement of the maps in the atlas, though not the precise sequence of the more westerly regional maps or of the sequences of the provincial maps within each region, and to assess how complete the Atlas now is. Some old *folio* numbers in dark black ink, usually fragmentary, some barely perceptible but very occasionally complete, survive in the top right corner of some of the maps in the Atlas, to the right and above the *map* number later inserted in lighter ink by Ortmans. Osley identified the folio numbers as being in Mercator's hand and as therefore representing the original numbering. (Fig.3)[27]

The sequence of these numbers suggest that the maps moved across Europe from West to East, broadly speaking going in strips from North to South as was standard with Ptolemaic atlases, and as Mercator was later to state was the appropriate arrangement for the European maps in his Atlas.[28] In that respect it differed from the Rotterdam Atlas in which the coverage goes in strips from left to right starting at the top (Arctic), more or less in accordance with the sheet pattern of the 1569 wall map.[29] It seems most likely that the British Isles (in this case, with a map of Greenland from the 1569 world map) followed the general map of Europe and was followed in its turn by the Iberian peninsula, France and Scandinavia. In accordance with international law in the sixteenth century, Mercator treated the provinces of the Netherlands as being part of the Holy Roman Empire [Germany] (as were also



Salzburg and the Habsburg-ruled lands of Austria, Bohemia and Silesia) which explains why there is no regional map centred on the Netherlands.[30] Italy followed and the Atlas finished with a broad strip of eastern Europe extending from Lithuania and Muscovy down to Greece, concluding with Asia Minor and Palestine, all, with the exception of Ortelius's maps of Hungary and Transylvania taken from the 1554 wall map of Europe.[31]

The original numbering establishes that the Ortelius maps formed an integral part of the Atlas from the start.[32] By contrast, the map of Ancona almost certainly did not and never bore any original numbers. There has been general acceptance of the hypothesis in the 1979 Sotheby's catalogue that, whoever the cartographer concealed under the letters AB, the map of Ancona was published some time after the likely date of the Atlas's creation in 1571. Furthermore, and perhaps conclusively, it lacks the identificatory text in black ink in Mercator's hand that is invariably present on all other blank versos preceding maps in the atlas.[33] (Fig. 4)

There are, however, some maps that were originally included in the Atlas that are now missing. The Atlas at the moment consists of 86 folios. The folios containing what can be confidently assumed always to have been the last map of the Atlas, showing Asia Minor and the Holy Land, however, are numbered 91-92, suggesting that eight folios (if one excludes the map of Ancona from the original count) are now missing. We know from Ortmans's title page that three maps, Ortelius's maps of the Netherlandish provinces of Brabant, Zeeland and Holland[34] still survived when he rebound the atlas in 1771 and have been lost since. This, however, still leaves a couple of folios which were not present in 1771. These are most likely to have been Ortelius's maps of the French provinces of Berry and Limagne, which filled facing pages in Ortelius's atlas.[35] They are the only provincial maps from the first edition of Ortelius's *Theatrum* that are not to be found in the Atlas as it exists today and which were not included in Ortmans's list of contents. It is impossible to say how, when or why these particular maps were lost

Fig. 4
A[lberto?] B[alugoli?], La Famosa Città d'Ancona (c.1574?) An addition to the Atlas possibly acquired by Gymnich during his visit to Ancona with the Crown Prince, when he inspected the new fortifications, in December 1574. By permission of the British Library Board.

before 1771. There is no evidence from the condition of the maps that originally surrounded them of a disaster, such as soaking, though there is occasional evidence of staining. More striking is the damage done through oxidisation of the pigments, especially the greens, used in the colouring of the Atlas after it had been assembled. It has rendered certain maps, such as the map of Scotland, extremely brittle and this may have destroyed the maps that are now missing, though they may simply have fallen out.

The physical appearance of the Atlas as prepared by Mercator, with its 'carved-up' Mercator maps and roughly inserted Ortelius maps, must always have seemed unimpressive, as it still appears to some modern authors.[36] Moreover research carried out in the British Library on the paper to be found in the atlas – not only in the sheets from the wall map of the British Isles and the map of Tirol but also in the Ortelius map of Portugal – has revealed high levels of gypsum[37] suggesting that the maps and the paper used by Mercator had been lying around in his workshop long enough to become impregnated with dust from the plaster being used in the creation of his globes. Presumably Mercator had not thought it worthwhile to buy new examples of the Ortelius maps and fresh supplies of paper for the manuscript maps, even for Gymnich. Similarly the oxydisation of the greens noted above, which has led the copper to burn its way through the paper, shows that Mercator did not put himself to the expense of buying the best quality pigments to colour the maps in this Atlas or the most expensively prepared examples of the Ortelius maps.

All of this, possibly paradoxically, leaves little doubt that Gymnich was the its original owner. He had indeed been present at Carl Friedrich's untimely death in Rome in 1575,[38] and would have been in a position to help himself to some of the Crown Prince's property had he wanted to, but it is almost inconceivable that the Atlas of Europe could have been produced for Carl Friedrich himself. An atlas intended for presentation to a Crown Prince, would probably have resembled the little atlas by Battista Agnese, now in Lambeth Palace Library, that had been presented, possibly by the Venetian Senate, to the young English Prince of Wales (later Edward VI) in the early 1540s: handsomely bound, written on high quality vellum, and lavishly decorated with the best quality gold leaf and colours.[39] The Atlas of Europe meets none of these criteria.

For similar reasons, it seems a little improbable that Mercator would have prepared it – or the companion world atlas – unbidden, for presentation to Gymnich, though in July 1578 he was to present him with a (doubtless luxuriously finished) copy of his Ptolemaic Atlas.[40] When one looks at the Atlas of Europe one gains the impression that it was – at least at one level – intended as an unpretentious practical and above all, reliable aid for a man involved in the administration and politics of a small and vulnerable European state.[41] The Atlas resembles nothing so much as the atlases put together by or for another of Gymnich's contemporaries who was closely involved in the affairs of state: Elizabeth I's secretary and later Lord Treasurer, William Cecil, Lord Burghley (1520-98). Less than a decade before Mercator prepared the Atlas of Europe for Gymnich, the English cartographer, Lawrence Nowell, presented a small atlas (containing only two maps) to Burghley.[42] Though one map is on skin, it is the cheapest parchment. The rest of the atlas is on paper and it has a parchment cover of the simplest type. Its recipient annotated the main map, added a variety of useful itineraries and folded it so that he could conveniently carry it around with him for ready reference,[43] At some point after 1580, Burghley assembled two further and much larger atlases, one, now in the British Library, built up around proofs of Saxon's county maps of the 1570s and intended primarily for the transaction of domestic affairs,[44] and the other, still in the hands of his descendants in Burghley House, Northamptonshire, using the maps by Ortelius as an aid in the formulation and execution of foreign policy. Both atlases are bulked out with numerous more detailed supplementary, mainly manuscript, maps.[45] At least in general concept they resemble the Mercator atlases owned by Gymnich: one intended to help with his world view and the other with his more immediate concerns in Europe.

The Atlas of Europe certainly met Gymnich's requirements as a minister. In addition to maps of the Habsburg lands and Italy[46] which met the immediate needs of his charge, the Crown Prince, by fortunate accident due to the geographic spread of the high-quality maps available to Ortelius before 1570, Gymnich would have had relatively detailed maps of all the areas that were of greatest concern to his master the Duke of Cleves, Julich and Berg: western Germany and the Netherlands which neighboured the duchy and where William V, as duke of Gelders, had been actively, if ultimately, disastrously involved militarily before his defeat by Charles V in 1543, and the British Isles. The mapping of the rest of Europe – the Iberian peninsula, France, the Baltic, the Balkans and Turkey and the Holy Land – were areas with which Cleves was less directly involved. The maps, however, would have provided Gymnich with the background information necessary for his immediate purposes and even, in the form of the

occasional provincial maps, with more. Mercator's expectation may well have been that, as was the case of Burghley and his atlases, Gymnich would annotate the maps to meet his specific needs[47] and add supplementary maps as the opportunity offered or need dictated - and Gymnich may well have done so had he lived longer. It seems reasonable to suppose that he acquired the map of Ancona and added it to the atlas with this sort of purpose in mind during his visit to the town with the Crown Prince between 1 and 5 December 1574.[48] Ancona, as a major port of departure for the Holy Land, would have been of special interest to a pious Catholic like Gymnich. The map also shows the impressive, recently-erected harbour fortifications which he had inspected.

As far as Mercator was concerned, the Atlas of Europe may have served his interests in two ways. At one level, his motive in agreeing to create the Atlas was simple and could be summed up as political and religious re-insurance. Just as he thought fit to dedicate his 1569 world map to Duke Wilhelm of Cleves, and was to dedicate the first volume of his published *Atlas* that appeared in 1585 to Wilhelm's successor, Johann Wilhelm, so Mercator hoped this Atlas would help to ensure his continued residence in the safe haven of Duisburg. This was all the more understandable for a man who must have had anguished memories of the months of painful imprisonment in Rupelmonde Castle as a suspected Lutheran heretic while he was living in the Habsburg Netherlands in 1543–4.[49] By the early 1570s there was again a pressing need for such re-insurance.

From 1566 Duke Wilhelm suffered a series of strokes which left him paralysed and suffering short-term memory loss. Though he had a few good days when he was able to operate almost normally, for much of the time he could play only a very limited role in government.[50] His pious wife Maria was Charles V's niece, the daughter of his brother Emperor Ferdinand I. She had inherited his Catholic piety and her grandmother, Joanna 'the Mad's' mental problems, marked by repeated bouts of insanity.[51] She had ensured that her two sons shared her strong Catholic faith and so it must have seemed plain that despite Duke William's personal religious tolerance and inclination towards Protestantism, the duchy was headed in a Catholic direction. The older son, Carl Friedrich, carried all the dynasties hopes – particularly since his younger brother, Johann Wilhelm, was mentally weak and had inherited his mother's mental problems. Carl Friedrich was, however, still a minor. As a result, in the early 1570s the affairs of the duchy lay in the hands not of the Duke or Duchess but of courtiers, and particularly Catholic courtiers like Gymnich.

By presenting the Atlas to Gymnich, Mercator must have hoped to cement his relationship with someone who, though he seems to have held moderate Lutheran views until the mid-1560s,[52] was emerging as the leader of the extreme Catholic faction at Court.[53] Influenced by the Counter-Reformation dogmas and policies that had emerged from the Council of Trent and were then being enacted by the papacy, this faction was precisely the one most likely to make difficulties for Mercator on account of his religious beliefs. The language of Mercator's letter of 14 July 1578 sheds interesting light on his attitude to Gymnich. The letter is written not in the Latin that he seemingly invariably used for his correspondence with scholars whom he respected, even those from Germany and the Netherlands who spoke his own language, but in the colloquial low German/Dutch that both men spoke in their day-to-day lives. It is indeed Mercator's only surviving private letter to be written in his mother tongue. Contrary to modern assumptions, the vernacular was not, for Mercator and his fellow humanists, the language of friendship (Mercator wrote to his beloved son-in-law in Latin) but of humdrum day-to-day business.[54] Though in the letter Mercator refers to Gymnich as his 'great friend',[55] this seems only to have been courtly flattery – Mercator had a high enough reputation for a friendship with a man generally regarded as Europe's best geographer to be considered an honour by Gymnich. In the rest of the letter, Mercator refers to himself as a 'willing servant'[56] of what he evidently hoped would be an 'ever-benevolent master'.[57] There is none of the frankness or the human touches that can be found in Mercator's letters to his family and humanist friends.

It can be assumed therefore that for all their shared interest in geography and maps, which found expression in Mercator's letter of 1578[58] Mercator regarded Gymnich primarily as a vital friend at court – and potentially as a most dangerous enemy. His relationship with Gymnich was probably of the same cautious, diplomatic, temporising type that is to be found in his relationship to his old fellow-student at Louvain, who had since become Philip II's important minister, Cardinal Granvelle, to whom Mercator had dedicated his 1554 map of Europe,[59] and which had also been demonstrated in the circumstances of his engraving and publication of the strongly pro-Catholic wall map of the British Isles of 1564.[60]

Mercator did however have a more positive, intellectual, and personally more satisfying reason for wanting to work on the Atlas of Europe. The Atlas offered him the chance to assess how far Europe had been reliably mapped by himself and by those he could rely on – and how much work he still

needed to do in order to create the modern more detailed maps that formed an essential element of the five-part scientific cosmography and universal history of which he had been thinking of creating since at least 1566.[61] In a letter to Ortelius of 5 May 1572, he said he had been working on the modern maps for 'some years',[62] even though his primary focus in this period had been the preparation of a scholarly edition of Ptolemy's text and maps.[63] Fascinated though Mercator was with the geography of the world beyond Europe, he would only complete the 'new' maps covering Europe (even then excluding the Iberian peninsula) before his death and they would appear in his atlas as published posthumously in 1595.[64] When he wrote to Gymnich in 1578 about the intended Cosmography, however, he said that though it would eventually begin with maps of the North, for the moment it would have to begin with maps of Germany, France and the Netherlands as the areas that were at that time best mapped. This is, broadly, the situation reflected in the Atlas of Europe. The maps of Lombardy and the Tirol, however, which bear some resemblance to the maps of the same regions that were to appear in the first volume of the Atlas that was to appear in 1585, show that as early as 1571 Mercator was going beyond his base point.[65]

The Atlas of Europe is rightly prized today for the unique or very rare maps by Mercator that it contains. At the time of its creation, however, this unspectacular looking, hand-made atlas would have been a useful tool for an important patron, on whose benevolence Mercator felt he depended, and a means by which the world's best-known mapmaker could empirically test how far he still had to go toward the achievement of his cartographic dream.

Appendix

A suggested original sequence of maps

At first glance, since Ortmans counts 46 maps and the highest (and last) black-ink folio number is 92, it would seem that the Atlas was still complete when Ortmans renumbered and re-ordered the maps, with three Ortelius maps of Holland, Zeeland and Brabant that he lists having been lost since 1771. This number however includes the map of Ancona which was almost certainly a later addition.

Even a superficial glance at the sequence of these older numbers shows that Ortmans changed the sequence of the maps. In the following list the opening sequences for regions and provinces are tentative, since no traces of numbers survive before the '25' on the opening containing the Ortelius map of Narbonne and Savoy. However, since the later more verifiable sheets extend in a West to East direction, I have assumed that this was Mercator's intention for the British and Iberian maps, which must have preceded the others. This would also make sense of the pairing of the regional map of the British Isles with the map of Greenland. From France, by way of the partially numbered Ortelius map of Narbonne and Savoy, the sequence for the regions can be firmly verified from the surviving numbers, though the sequence for the provinces within these *regions* is tentative. In the following list, the surviving original numbers are shown in red and bold, the missing numbers in roman and the missing maps, with their numbers in italic:

[Unnumbered: Dedication and title]
[Unnumbered: Contents]
1,2 General map of Europe
3,4 British Isles and Greenland
5,6 England 1
7,8 England and Wales 2
9,10 Ireland
11,12 Scotland
13,14 Orkneys and Shetlands
15,16 Iberian peninsula
17,18 Portugal
19,20 France and surrounding lands
21,22 Calais and Vermandois
23,24 *Berri and Limagne*
25,26 Narbonne and Savoy
27,28 Scandinavia
29,30 Germany and surrounding lands including Netherlands
31,32 Flanders
33,34 *Brabant*
35,36 *Holland*
37,38 *Zeeland*
39,40 Friesland
41,42 Gelders, including Julich, Berg
43,44 Franconia and Munster
45,46 Dietmarshausen and Prussia
47,**4**8 Saxony
49,**5**0 Bohemia
51,52 Silesia (has offset of cartouche from map of Austria on verso of right side of map)
53,**54** Austria
55,56 Salzburg
57,58 Bavaria
59,**6**0 Palatinate and Württemberg
61,**6**2 Switzerland
63,64 Italy and surrounding lands
65,**6**6 Piedmont
67,68 Lombardy
69,**7**0 Tirol and eastern Lombardy
71,**7**2 Como, Rome etc.
73,**7**4 Tuscany
75,**7**6 Kingdom of Naples
77,78 Mediterranean islands
79,80 Crete and Cyprus
81,82 Lithuania, Russia ('Sarmatia') etc.
83,**8**4 Hungary
85,**8**6 Transylvania
87,**8**8 Slavonia, Bosnia etc.
89,90 Greece and surrounding lands
91,92 Asia Minor and Palestine

Notes

1 Marcel Watelet, 'The Atlas of Europe', in *Mercator's Atlas of Europe* (Pleasant Hill, OR: Walking Tree Press, 1998), p.7.
2 A.S. Osley, *Mercator: A monograph on the lettering of his maps…* (London: Faber & Faber, 1969), pp.74–6.
3 For this and the remainder of the paragraph, Sotheby's catalogue for the sale of 13 March 1979 and Arthur Dürst, 'The Map of Europe', pp.31–41 and particularly p.31 in Watelet.
4 Sarah Tyacke, 'The Atlas of Europe attributed to Gerard Mercator', *Imago Mundi* 31 (1979), p.65. This was the principal reason for the British Library's determination to acquire the Atlas since both of the other examples were in the Bibiliothèque nationale de France, in Rome and in Perugia.
5 B. van 't Hoff, *Gerard Mercator's Map of the World (1569) in the form of an atlas in the Maritiem Museum 'Prins Hendrik' at Rotterdam* [Publicaties van het Maritiem Museum 'Prins Hendrik' no. 6; Supplement 2 to *Imago Mundi*]. (Rotterdam & The Hague, 1961). Sjoerd de Meer, *De Atlas van de Wereld. De wereldkaart van Gerard Mercator (1569)* (Zutphen, 2011); Sjoerd de Meer, 'De Atlas van de Wereld. De wereldkaart van Gerard Mercator uit 1569 in atlasvorm', *Caert Thresoor* 31/1 (2012), pp.3–9.
6 Mercator to von Gymnich, 14 July 1578 (van Durme, *Correspondence Mercatorienne* (1959), letter 134, pp.194–5). Now in the Universitätsbibliothek Basel, the letter is reproduced in Watelet p.7.
7 Van 't Hoff, p.19.
8 Watelet p.7; Sotheby's catalogue 13 March 1979; The Abbey was dissolved in 1802 and, though it was later re-established as a Trappist monastery, the fate of its dispersed library was not known prior to the re-appearance of the Atlas of Europe.
9 Sotheby's catalogue; Tyacke; Watelet, p.7.
10 Heinrich Averdunk, 'Gerhard Mercator und die Geographen unter seiner Nachkommen' *Petermanns Mitteilungen* 182 (Gotha, 1914), pp.49, 113.
11 Tyacke, 1979.
12 A. Osley to C. Koeman, 3 October 1968; T. Varekamp to van Overeem, 16 November 1968, Archives of Rotterdam Maritime Museum. I am most grateful to Sjoerd de Meer for having informed me of these letters and supplying me with copies.
13 Tyacke, 1979.
14 Marcel Watelet (ed.), *Gerardi Mercatoris Atlas Europae* (Antwerp: Bibliothèque des Amis du Fonds Mercator /Banque Paribas, 1994). A slightly updated English translation was published in 1998 by the Walking Tree Press.
15 Osley, p.74.
16 Wilhelm Diedenhofen, *Die Italienreise des Prinzen Karl Friedrich von Jülich-Kleve-Berg 1574/5* (Kleve: Comitato Dante Alighieri, 2008), p.12.
17 De Meer, (2012), p.9.
18 The project for the Crown Prince's Grand Tour seems only to have been formulated in the few months in 1571 from the arrival in Cleves of the eminent Flemish humanist, Steven Winand Pigge *alias* Pighius and his departure with Karl Friedrich that October (Diedenhofen, 2008, pp.10–12).
19 Diagram from Watelet, p.11. Nicholas Crane, *Mercator: the man who mapped the planet*, (London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2002). p.283.
20 Crane, pp.247–8 quoting from Mercator's letter to Ortelius of 22 November 1570 (in John Henry Hessels (ed.) *Abrahami Ortelii (geographi Antverpiensis) et virorum eruditorum ad eundem et ad Jacobum Colium Ortelianum (Abrahami Ortellii sororis filium) epistulae... (1524-1628). Ex autographis mandante ecclesia Londino-Batava,* (Cambridge: Typis Academiae, sumptibus Ecclesiae Londino-Batavae, 1887). p.73).
21 Diedenhofen, pp.30–33, 38–9.
22 Crane, note 18, p.342. The map of the British Isles by contrast was very approximately at a scale of 1:800,000. It is also generally accepted that the Flanders map had not been edited by Mercator and was a direct copy of a lost survey by Van Deventer (e.g. Crane, pp.119–22) which would have made it even less attractive to the older and increasingly critical Mercator.
23 Crane, pp.209–13.
24 Andrew Taylor, *The World of Gerard Mercator* (London: Harpercollins, 2004) pp.169–70.
25 Crane, pp.248–50. The revised outlines and repositioning of northern Russia and of Moscow were one of the major changes in the 1572 wall map of Europe which he must have been working on at the time that he was preparing the Atlas of Europe, and would have been something that he was acutely aware of. A diagram indicating the areas of the 1554 map which Mercator revised for the 1572 edition, (Arthur Dürst, 'Die Europa-karten von Gerard Mercator, 1554–1595', *Cartographica Helvetica* 10/(1994) 3–19, p.9) largely coincides (but for northern Scandinavia) with the part of the 1554 wall map of Europe omitted in the Atlas of Europe.
26. Mercator to Ortelius, 22 November 1570, (Hessels, p.73).
27 A. Osley to C. Koeman, 3 October 1968. (Maritiemmuseum, Rotterdam archives).
28 Crane, p.306. A graphic representation representing these overlaps in the Atlas of Europe by Dürst which originally appeared in an article in *Cartographica Helvetica*, was reproduced in Watelet, p.11.
29 Van 't Hoff, pp.21–5 and fold-out diagram at the end of the text. The proposed original sequence of maps in the Atlas of Europe is to be found in the appendix.
30 Ortmans, in accordance with the perceptions of his time, included the North-West German provinces with the Netherlands when he re-arranged the atlas.
31 See the appendix for details.
32 Since, as Mercator's correspondence makes plain, he only received a copy of the *Theatrum* in the autumn of 1570, this further strengthens the supposition that the Atlas of Europe was compiled in the course of 1571.
33 Another piece of evidence that it is a later addition is its large scale which is out of keeping with the rest of the Atlas and not in line with Mercator's plan for the atlas, which has no other large-scale local maps.
34 Marcel van den Broecke, *Ortelius Atlas Maps An illustrated guide. Second revised edition.* (Houten:

HES & DE GRAAF, 2011), Ort. 65, 78, 79.
35 Van den Broecke, 2011, pp.28–38, Ort 39a &b.
36 Taylor, p.155.
37 Anne-Marie Miller and Lesley Hanson, 'The maker and the monk: conservation of the *Mercator Atlas of Europe', Journal of the Institute of Conservation* 33/1 (2010), p.34.
38 Diedenhofen, 2008, p.69.
39 Peter Barber, 'An atlas for a young prince', in Richard Palmer and Michelle Brown (eds.), *Lambeth Palace Library. Treasures from the Collection of the Archbishops of Canterbury* (London: Scala, 2010), pp.98–101. There is plentiful evidence that Mercator took great care with the preparation of prestigious productions such as his globes: see, for instance, Crane, pp.258–62.
40 Mercator to Gymnich, 14 July 1578, van Durme, pp.94–5.
41 In the introduction to the first volume of his Atlas (1585), Mercator dwelt at length on the value of maps as aids to the understanding of international politics, so he would have understood what was required for this sort of an atlas. Crane, pp.281–2.
42 BL Add. MS 62540.
43 Peter Barber, 'A Tudor Mystery: Laurence Nowell's Map of England and Ireland', *The Map Collector*, 22 (March 1983), pp.16–21; 'The Minister puts his mind on the map', *The British Museum Society Bulletin*, 43 (July 1983), pp.18–19
44 BL Royal MS18.D.III.
45 R.A. Skelton and John Summerson, *A Description of Maps and Architectural Drawings in the Collections made by William Cecil First Baron Burghley now at Hatfield House* with a Foreword by the Marquess of Salisbury (Roxburghe Club, 1971).
46 Prior to his tour of Italy Carl Friedrich was to (and did) spend two years at the court of his mother's brother, Emperor Maximilian II (who shared Duke William's religious tolerance), familiarising himself with court life and great power politics and making a tour of the fragment of Hungary that remained in Habsburg hands (Diedenhofen, pp.14–19). The maps of Italy include, but are not confined to, all the provinces, including Tuscany and the kingdom of Naples as well as Rome and Lombardy, that Carl Friedrich was due to (and did) visit.
47 The map showing William's duchies are indeed annotated – but only by the eighteenth-century monk.
48 Diedenhofen, p.42. Though in the past the intials 'AB' led the map to be attributed to the Milanese engraver Ambrogio Brambilla, thereby dating to after 1582, it could perhaps more convincingly, be attributed to Alberto Balugoli who published a map of Modena in 1571. Christie's sale catalogue, 13 December 1979 mentions both possible attributions, however Gymnich died in 1582, probably before the date of Brambila's earliest known map.
49 Crane, pp.153–60.
50 Heribert Smolinsky, 'Jülich-Kleve-Berg' in *Die Territorien des Reichs im Zeitalter der Reformation und Konfessionalisierung: Land und Konfession, 1500–1650*, vol. iii: Der Nordwesten (Münster: Aschendorff, 1991) pp.98–101. Crane, pp.220, 227; article on Wilhelm V in *Algemeine Deutsche Biographie*; Wikipedia entry on Wilhelm V: http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilhelm_(Jülich-Kleve-Berg), consulted on 9.12.2012.
51 Wikipedia article on Maria von Österreich (1531–1581), http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maria_von_Österreich_(1531–1581),consulted 9.12.2012.
52 Averdunk, pp.49, 113.
53 Smolinsky, pp.98, 100. Averdunk, pp.49, 113. The account of the Crown Prince's grand tour by his tutor Pighius reveals the extent to which Pighius, a former papal secretary, and Gymnich were exposing their charge to extreme Catholic piety. (Diedenhofen, *passim*). Seemingly unaware of this rationale, Averdunk considered Mercator's friendship with Gymnich curious ('merksam').
54 All the official correspondence between William V and the Emperor of his officials was in German as were the requests of Mercator's children for printing privileges from the Emperor (van Durme, *passim*).
55 'grote vrient'.
56 'willich dienar'.
57 'my altyt een goet gunstiger heer'. Elsewhere he describes himself as aware of Gymnich's continuing favours and good deeds ('vorgaebder gunste und woldaden').
58 Van Durme letter 134, pp.194–5. In the letter, Mercator asked Gymnich for information about Italy, from the time when he had accompanied the Crown Prince, and discussed the writer's own ideas for his own atlas, which was increasingly pre-occupying him.
59 Crane, p.44; Averdunk, pp.49, 113.
60 Barber, 'Les Iles Britanniques'; in Watelet, 1994, pp.43–78.
61 'Prefatio ad lectorem', *Chronologia*, 1569; Crane, pp.217–9.
62 Crane, note 2, p.358, citing Hessels, p.88.
63 Crane, pp.238–41.
64 The few non-European maps in the 1595 edition of the Atlas were all by his son Rumold.
65 Osley, pp.74–6 reproduces the manuscript maps in the Atlas of Europe and the printed maps from the Atlas of 1585. Watelet, p.7. There are, however, substantial differences between the maps as finally printed and the manuscript maps of Lombardy and Tirol in the Atlas of Europe, particularly as far as the network of watercourses are concerned.

Peter Barber *is the Head of Map Collections at the British Library and is responsible for the Library's outstanding collection of 4.25 million maps, views and other cartographic material. He was awarded an OBE for services to cartography in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2012.*

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HIGH IN THE ANDES PART II

Further adventures of the French Academy expedition to Peru

Richard Smith

In an earlier article (IMCoS Journal, No.127, Winter 2011*) the author explained the cartography undertaken by the French Academy expedition to Peru in the eighteenth century to measure the equatorial length of a degree of arc, making the comment that the members experienced a number of adventures and also undertook other scientific research besides measuring the Quito meridian. Space did not allow a full description of these adventures to be included but the editor asked for further details about them as they sounded so intriguing.*

A murder!

Accompanying Louis Godin, (expedition leader), Pierre Bouguer and Charles-Marie, Marquis de La Condamine was a surgeon called Jean Seniergues whose untimely end had little to do with the objectives of the expedition. Jean Seniergues did not limit his medical attentions to the Academy members but also attended to the needs of the local population. When the initial survey work was completed and the teams were resting in Cuenca, in today's Ecuador, Seniergues was treating an elderly gentleman who had an attractive daughter named Manuela. Apparently she had been engaged to Diego de León, a Spanish military figure who later abandoned her to marry the mayor's daughter but had promised to pay a sum of money in compensation. However, this financial recompense never arrived. For some reason, possibly an affair of the heart, Seniergues agreed to intercede on the part of Manuela and her father to obtain the money but this led to bitter recriminations and violent threats between Seniergues and León. At a fiesta in the Plaza de Toros, Seniergues was mortally wounded by an outraged crowd inflamed by León, his father-in-law, the mayor and friends. He died a few days later in a priest's house where he had been given shelter and protection by the members of the expedition. In a trial conducted in Quito, León and two others were found guilty and condemned to death but the sentence was never implemented and finally the guilty were absolved.

The attacks of the British fleet under George Anson

Reference was made in the earlier article to the two Spanish naval officers who, on the insistence of Philip V, were part of the French expedition. They were called back from the expedition in order to organise the defences of the Pacific ports threatened by attack from the fleet of Commodore (later Admiral) George Anson. Jorge Juan and Antonio Ulloa first received news of this commission while in Cuenca in September 1740 with instructions to proceed to Lima. They left immediately, deciding to take the coastal route via Guayaquil rather than the inland one, reaching the capital on the 18 December after a fearful ride of over 1,000 kilometres (631 miles) through a thinly populated and arid semi-desert. They had spent eight months assisting in the defence of Lima and Callao when a squadron of Spanish ships under the command of José Pizarro arrived with the news that they had been unable to find any trace of Anson or his ships. Assuming that the British fleet had either sunk in storms off Cape Horn or sailed for England, the Spanish officers received permission to return to their scientific duties. This time they were able to return to Guayaquil by sea before making the difficult climb up to Quito.



Fig.1
A chart of southern South America from a French edition of Walter's *A voyage round the world*. Captain Cheap was abandoned somewhere close to 50°S, near to where the map indicates 'Terre de Patagons' although the coast is much more complicated than suggested here. (Reproduced courtesy of the Academy of Artillery Library, Segovia, Spain).



Fig. 2
The central section of Jorge Juan's 'Nueva y Correcta Carta del Mar Pacifico'. The cartouche covers the Gulf of Guayaquil with Panama to the left and Lima on the right where the meridian intersects the coast. The islands near the compass rose are the Galapagos while the lower section is centred on the island of Chiloe. (Reproduced courtesy of the Naval Museum, Madrid).

Just as the Spaniards started to pick up the threads of their scientific work again, they received a second summons to Lima. When Anson was thought lost he had in fact rounded Cape Horn and was trying to recover the remains of his battered fleet on the island of Juan Fernandez, undetected by Pizarro. (Fig. 1, overleaf) Two of his ships had become separated and wrecked in the archipelago off southern Chile where some officers and men mutinied and escaped on a refurbished launch leaving the senior captain, David Cheap, and his followers on shore. The latter were rescued by Indians and finally made prisoners of the Spanish in Santiago. In the meantime, Anson had attacked the small port of Paita in Peru and captured a limited amount of silver and gold. His fleet was too weak to attack the larger ports but he was able to capture the treasure ship *Nuestra Señora de Covadonga* off the Philippines in May 1743. The value was enormous and converted what otherwise had been a lost venture into a great success. Part of the treasure was used to mint new silver and gold coins bearing the name 'Lima' under the effigy of George II even though the fleet had never attacked that city or its port of Callao.

The Spanish officers repeated the journey of a year earlier, riding day and night. Their instructions this time were to command two frigates and visit Juan Fernandez and organise the protection of the ports of Concepción and Valparaiso on the Chilean coast in a voyage which took from December 1742 until July 1743. Given Anson's subsequent plans, this exercise was of no immediate use though one important result was that they added new cartographic material to their South American portfolio. This was published in Antonio Ulloa's *Relación Historica*.

Undoubtedly the most important document was a chart of the entire Pacific coastline of the Spanish empire from Acapulco in Mexico to the Horn with the title 'Nueva y Correcta Carta del Mar Pacifico ó del Sur'. (Fig. 2) The chart measures 44 x 65cm (17 x 25in) and shows a shaded coastline with ports, capes and offshore islands in two sections, the upper from Acapulco to Valparaiso and the lower extending to Cape Horn. The central meridian is that of Lima with longitude and latitude graduated every 1º accompanied by a 16-point compass rose. According to Ulloa the information was taken from earlier charts and updated with new information from leading pilots and their own observations. That part of Chile south of the island of Chiloé presented the greatest challenge and according to Ulloa part of their information came from Captain Cheap, who presumably they met personally as he was in Santiago until 1744. Besides this chart they produced plans of Lima, Callao, Juan Fernandez, Concepción, Valparaiso, and the Gulf of Chiloé to add to their earlier ones of Cartagena de las Indias and Portobello which are published, together with coastal profiles, in *Relación Historica*. (Fig. 3)

Tracking the Amazon

Despite the improvements incorporated into Juan's new map, it remained as a small addition tucked away in *Relación Historica* and apparently was never published as a separate chart for regular naval use. In total contrast was the widespread diffusion of Charles-Marie de La Condamine's map of the course of the Amazon, considered by some a highlight of enlightenment science and by others, including Humboldt, as a mixture of survey observations and office compilation, sometimes using very dubious sources based on myth.

La Condamine left Cuenca in Peru on 11 May 1743, and after crossing the cordillera near Loja embarked in a canoe on the river Chinchipé, a tributary of the Marañón, on 4 July. On 19 July he arrived in La Laguna where he was joined by Pedro Maldonado[1] and overcoming only minor problems in navigation they reached Para on 27 September, a total river voyage time of 85 days. The importance that La Condamine gave to surveying the river is demonstrated by the publication of his maps as early



Fig. 3 The chart 'Plano de la Bahía de Cartagena de las Indias' in *Relación Historica*. (Reproduced courtesy of the Naval Museum, Madrid).

as 1745 whilst his report of the arc measurements, the main reason why the Académie des Sciences de Paris had financed the expedition, was delayed until 1751. Maybe this is unwitting testimony to La Condamine's preference for personal glory rather than the collective achievement of the arc measurement.

The map, 'Carte du Cours du Maragnon ou de la grande riviere des Amazones' was first published in La Condamine's *Relation abrégée d'un voyage fait dans l'intérieur de l'Amérique Méridionale* in 1745. The map shows the course of the Amazon and the major tributaries within a section of the South American continent from the Gulf of Guayaquil in the Pacific Ocean to the city of Para on the Atlantic. (Fig. 4)

La Condamine made his map by taking astronomic observations, measuring river widths and flow of the current seated at a table on a raft navigated by local Indians. Among the interesting features of his map is his indication that the River Negro shares common headwaters with the Orinoco (proved by a Portuguese expedition in 1743) and, in a dotted line, the course of the Amazon as shown on the map of the Jesuit priest Samuel Fritz drawn in 1690, published in 1707 and considered at the time the most accurate map of the river. There is no reference to Maldonado, although undoubtedly this scientist took part in many of the measurements.

Lost in the jungle

One of the survey assistants in the French team was Jean Godin des Odonais, a cousin of the expedition's initial scientific leader, Louis Godin. Whilst in Peru, Jean fell in love with Isabella de Casa Grande, the daughter of the high ranking *Corregidor* of Riobamba and they married in 1741. They appear to have been very happy although none of their four children reached adulthood.

Eight years later, Jean received news of his father's death and decided to return to Europe via the Amazon route, but as Isabella was pregnant and in any event did not possess a Portuguese passport to travel through Brazil, he went alone. Having reached Cayenne in French Guiana rather than crossing the Atlantic he tried to organise a voyage for his wife to join him there. Unfortunately the wars in Europe, lost papers and other impediments led to a delay of nearly fifteen years before receiving not only the passport but also a river vessel supplied by the King of Portugal! Meanwhile Isabella, either desperately in love or fearing the wrath of her father or the church for any romantic transgression, had remained patiently waiting for her husband's instructions. Jean was ill and rather than make the return journey himself he sent a supposed friend, Tristan d'Oreasaval with instructions, letters for various mission stations and substantial cash to organise the voyage. However, Tristan proved to be

totally unreliable and instead of giving the instructions and cash to the head of the mission in La Laguna,★ as instructed for forward transmission to Peru, he made himself comfortable at Loreto a good 700 kms (435 miles) down river and passed the papers on to a priest bound for Quito. The papers were delayed and it was not until three years later that poor Isabella received the news. By then she doubted how true all this was, and before setting out she sent her servant to Loreto to contact Tristan. The scoundrel was still there and confirmed all, but in the meantime another year had been lost. Finally, in October 1769 she set out with her two brothers, a nephew, four servants and a tag-along French doctor, also with two servants. They employed 31 Indians to manage canoes to navigate down the Bobonazo★ tributary of the Amazon, but at one point the Indians deserted. Left to fend for themselves, the boats capsized and the party had to make a forced camp on a very hostile river shore. The French doctor offered to take the one small remaining canoe onto Andoas★ in search of help expecting to return in fifteen days. But the French doctor was as incapable of decent behaviour as was Tristan and no help arrived. On the twenty-fifth day, without food, the desperate party entered into the jungle in an attempt to reach Andoas on foot. All died – except for Isabella who, reduced to rags and living off fruit was totally lost but after an estimated nine days came across two Indians who took her to the mission. The brave woman did not stay long and made straight for Loreto where the boat was waiting for her. After this terrifying experience her other minor adventures shrink to insignificance and finally, in 1770, she was reunited with her husband in Cayenne. In 1773 they arrived in France and resided in Saint-Amand-Montrond where Jean produced a grammar and vocabulary of the Quechua language and his wife became a popular personality. Godin des Odonais sued Tristan and won his case though the latter had spent all the money and was a bankrupt; nothing further, to date is known of the French doctor. Both Jean and Isabella died in 1792.

Fig. 4
La Condamine's map of the course of the Amazon, extending westward to the Pacific coast. Several points on the route followed by Isabelle Godin, including her hometown of Riobamba, in today's Ecuador can be identified. (Reproduced courtesy of the Naval Museum, Madrid).



Notes

1 Maldonado was a Creole nobleman from Equador interested in geography and exploration. He found a new route from Cuenca to the headwaters of the Marañón river.
★ These locations are indicated on La Condamine's map. (Fig. 4)

References

1 Jorge Juan y Santacilia and Antonio de Ulloa y de la Torre, *Relación histórica del viaje a América Meridional*, Madrid 1748.
2 Charles Marie de La Condamine, *Rélation abrégée d'un voyage fait dans l'intérieur de la Amérique Méridionale*, Paris, 1745 (This work includes accounts of both the death of Seniergues and the story of Isabella Godin des Odonais).
3 Neil Safier, *Measuring the new world. Enlightenment science and South America*. University of Chicago Press, 2008. (The book contains an excellent chapter describing La Condamine's Amazon trip).
4 Richard Walter, *A voyage round the world*. London 1748. (Walter was chaplain to Anson and this book is the best account of the voyage).

Richard Smith *was born in Lytham St. Anne's, Lancashire but has lived for the last thirty years in Spain. Cartography has been a lifetime's interest and since retirement from the world of business he has written various articles on the subject.*

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Fig. 2
***The Dutch Colony of the Cape of Good Hope*, 1795, (32.5 x 50cm).[1] (Reproduced courtesy of Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps).**

‘THE DUTCH COLONY OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE’

A map by L.S. De la Rochette

Roger Stewart

Historical and cartographic context

In 1488, Bartolomeu Diaz became the first European to discover and double the Cape of Storms, which later became known as the Cape of Good Hope. Arguably the first printed map dedicated to the Cape of Good Hope was published more than a century later in Theodor de Bry’s *Petit Voyages: Warhafftige Abbildung des Busems Toffel Baije genannt* (Map of the promontory commonly known as Cape of Good Hope). (Fig. 1)

It was 164 years after Diaz had discovered the Cape that Europeans settled on the shore of Table Bay, below Table Mountain. An earlier opportunity to settle arose in 1620, when Captains Andrew Shillinge and Humphrey Fitzherbert of the English East India Company, took ‘possession of the Bay of Saldania (Table Bay) … and of the whole continent near adjoining’ on behalf of King James I of England and also left behind a token of their annexation: a ‘pile of stones on … King James his Mount’ (Signal Hill).[2] (Fig. 3)

They returned to England with their signed claim of possession, thus pre-empting the captains of the Dutch, also anchored in Table Bay at the time, who had stated their intent to take possession of the land in the next year. However, neither King James nor the English East India Company took any action to claim possession. It was only in 1652, when England was embroiled in political turmoil and without a monarch that the Dutch quietly established a settlement in the territory rejected by King James. They understood the strategic importance of establishing a victualling station for the Dutch East India Company (VOC)[3]; for scurvy caused the death of more sailors on long-haul voyages than all other causes combined.

Somewhat paradoxically, the next published map of the Cape was English, not Dutch, despite their occupancy of the area. *A Draught of Cape Bona Esperanca* (Fig. 3) was published in 1675 by John Seller in the third book of the *English Pilot*. Seller’s prospect of the early settlement captured the paradox: the English captains’ names for the mountains above Table Bay and symbols of the Dutch occupation: a fort and a flag.

However, this very inaccurate map, with its grossly distorted coastline, was based on one of two Dutch manuscript maps, a printed version of one being published much later (in 1726 by François Valentijn in *Oud en Nieuw Oost-Indien*). These manuscript maps were *Kaart van Saldanhabaai tot de Falsbaai* (c.1664)[4] and a similar a map with the same title by Johannes Vingboons.[5]



Fig. 1
The Latin edition of Theodor de Bry’s map of the Cape of Good Hope (1612).

Towards the end of the eighteenth century, the English public had become increasingly interested in the Dutch Colony: Francis Masson’s plant specimens from the Colony were flourishing in the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and Johann Reinhold Forster, the polymath naturalist on Captain James Cook’s the *Resolution*, had returned from the Colony in 1775 with live animals, animal skins and numerous drawings. The Dutch economy was in decline, as was the VOC. In 1781, the English attempted to capture the Colony but this aggressive move fizzled into a minor sea battle in Saldanha Bay to the north of Table Bay.[6] The English captured five Dutch vessels, but not the Colony and also

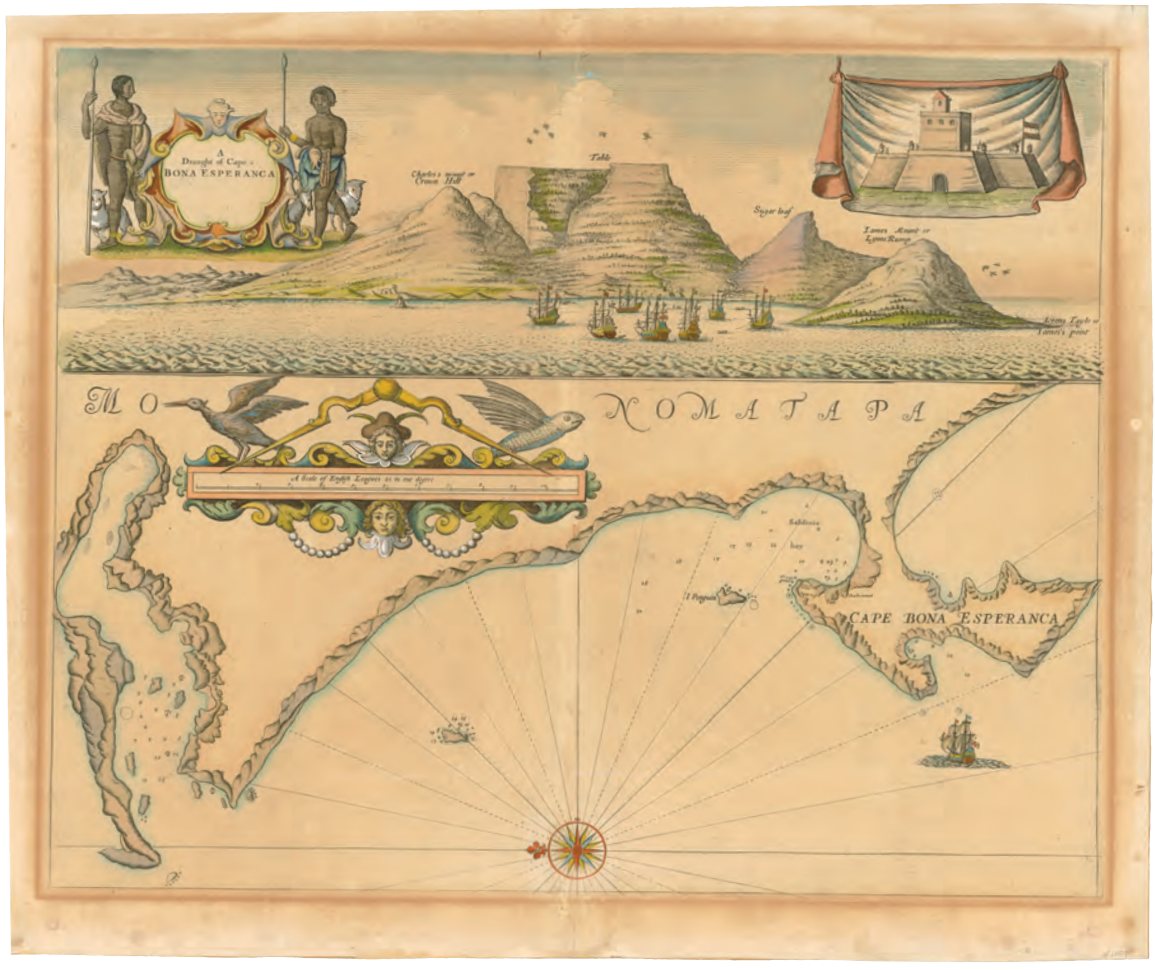


Fig. 3 Mount and Page's edition (1732) of Seller's 1675 map.

destroyed the *Middelburg*, the ship carrying François Le Vaillant's first collection of specimens destined for France – a sight he witnessed with some distress from the shore of Saldanha Bay, near to where he had been hunting.

The time was ripe for a new English map to replace Seller's inadequate map. *The Dutch Colony at the Cape of Good Hope* (Fig. 2) by L.S. de la Rochette (1731–1802) was first published in 1782. The importance of the map in the cartographic history of the Cape is captured in the title of an article in the Map Collectors' Circle series: 'The Cape of Good Hope 1782–1842 from De la Rochette to Arrowsmith'.[7]

At the time of publication, about 16,000 'free burghers', a similar number of imported slaves and an unknown number of indigenous inhabitants were living in the Dutch Colony of the Cape of Good Hope. *Trekboere* (pioneer farmers) had been moving away from the settlements near Table Bay in order to evade various commercial restrictions imposed on them by the VOC-run government.

The government followed the *Trekboere*, proclaiming additional magisterial districts. By 1780, the colonial borders had extended far from Table Bay: about 800 km to the east, 500 km to the north and 700 km to the north-east. (Fig. 4) Despite the colony's expansion, De la Rochette's map was restricted to the more densely populated south-western area and the adjoining more sparsely populated area about 50 km further north. Nevertheless, the map filled a century-long void in English maps of the Cape of Good Hope and it marked the beginning of the important and long contribution of English civilian and military cartographers to the accurate mapping of southern Africa.

Cartobibliography

The Dutch Colony of the Cape of Good Hope was designed by Louis Stanislas de la Rochette and engraved by William Faden (1749–1836) who published it in 1782 as a broadsheet and later in his *General Atlas*. This landmark map was the first



detailed English map of the Cape of Good Hope (loosely taken here to be the rectangular area on either side of the diagonal line joining Cape Hanglip (Hangklip today) in the south-east and St. Helena Bay (St. Helens Bay in Fig. 1) in the north-west. The map included the names of some of the first settlers in the area between Table Bay and the Hottentot Holland Mountains in the east, (c. 1675–1705). It showed the network of wagon roads in the Colony in the eighteenth century. It recorded the result of the first geodetic survey in the area, which was undertaken in 1752 by Nicolas Louis De Lacaille.

Fig. 4 Expansion of the Dutch Colony at the Cape of Good Hope.[8]

In 1795, De la Rochette and Faden made numerous corrections to place names and a few additions to their map when new information had reached the cartographers, soon after the Battle of Muizenberg in False Bay where the English successfully captured the Dutch Colony. The route marched by the victorious English army from Simon's Bay, past Muizenberg, to Cape Town was drawn by hand in red on some of the 1795-updated maps. (Fig. 5) Today's Main Road from Cape Town to Simonstown closely follows that route.

The capture of the Cape had an unintended consequence that impoverished cartography: it led to the tragic suicide of Col. Robert Gordon, the Dutch cartographer of Scottish descent. He was also a naturalist and artist who, at the time of his suicide, was commander of the Dutch garrison; a few years earlier he had completed an enormous map of the region, but the English captors did not get to see it.[9]

The importance of De la Rochette's map and its update cannot be underestimated: when the English captured the Cape of Good Hope, they found no Dutch maps of significance – these had been removed and sent to the Netherlands where they were archived, only to be 'discovered' in 1950. This made the 1795 update all the more important. De la Rochette's map must have been popular, because a German edition, *Das Vorbirg der Guten Hofnung Verfasst von Herrn L. S. de la Rochette*, was published



Fig. 5 Detail of De la Rochette's 1795 map on which the route marched by the victorious English army has been indicated in red.

in Vienna by the prolific Franz Anton Schrämbl in 1789.

Anachronisms, such as the names of farmers who had been dead for decades, were retained on the 1795 edition and De la Rochette and Faden created a new anachronism in their haste to publish the updated map: they did not change the name of the Dutch Colony to reflect the new English ownership.

After Faden's death, James Wyld Snr. took over the business and, for the 1825 edition, made two unimportant changes to place names on the map. He also removed the names of the designer and engraver of the original map and replaced Faden's imprint with his own; he changed the title, wisely replacing 'The Dutch Colony', with something more neutral – 'Cape District'. In 1825, the Colony was still in English hands, although it had reverted to the Dutch in 1803, under the Treaty of Amiens, only to be ceded back to the English in 1806. In 1838, Wyld republished the 1825 edition of the map unaltered and, therefore, it retained the names of settlers who had been dead for more than a century. In the first half of the nineteenth century, John Barrow and then the Arrowsmiths and others published a number of maps of the rapidly expanding colony.[10] By 1802, the De la Rochette map was relegated to a position of historical interest only.

Models for De la Rochette's map

The limited geographic extent of the first edition of the map probably was dictated by the few detailed printed maps of the Cape Colony available to De la Rochette. Francis Masson, a Scot working for the English Royal Gardens, had travelled extensively in the Cape of Good Hope of which an account was published in 1776 in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, but he made no contribution to cartography. Anders Sparrman had also travelled extensively but his book, *A Voyage to the Cape of Good Hope…*, with map, *Mappa Geographica Promontorii Bonae Spei* wasn't published until 1783 and then only in Swedish.[11]

De la Rochette seems to have used a number of maps as models, including the maps of Lacaille (1755) and Valentijn (1726) and the sea chart of Après de Mannevillette (1775-6). The result is a generally successful assembly of available cartographic information, although due to its eclectic nature, the map includes some inaccuracies, some anachronisms and even a non-existent island.

The graticule, much of the topography and some of the toponymy of De la Rochette's map south of St. Helena Bay comes from Lacaille's *CARTE du Cap de Bonne Espérance et de ses Environs*. Lacaille had been to the Cape between 1751 and 1753 where he had travelled as far north as Piquetberg, a mountain about 25 km east of the middle of St. Helena Bay, in order to conduct the first geodetic survey in the Colony. Inside the right-hand neatline, De la Rochette reported Lacaille's length of a degree of arc of the terrestrial meridian through Cape Town. He also included places associated with Lacaille's geodetic triangles such as Capocberg, Klipfonteyn, Vyge Kraal and Nyle Kraal (which should be Uyle Kraal) and Groenekloof, today, the village of Mamre. De la Rochette also copied Lacaille's erroneously elongated Saldanha Bay. It extends about 8 degrees too far south.

Valentijn's map, *Niuewe Kaart van Caap der Goede* was an important source of information for De la Rochette for the area north of Piquetberg. Valentijn had visited the Cape four times between 1685 and 1714, but had travelled less than 50 km from Cape Town and had not conducted any cartographic surveys. Nevertheless, he had received copies of the journals of journeys made to the north by Simon van der Stel (1685-6) and Johannes Starrenberg (1705). From their descriptions, Valentijn was able to locate some places, north of Saldanha Bay, which De la Rochette copied; the Tythouw river (now the Langvleirivier) was one such instance. The settlers' names on De La Rochette's map and some cartographic detail seem to have been copied mainly from Valentijn's inset map, *Kaart van de Caap der Goede Hoop*. Valentijn had in turn copied some of the names from Johannes Loots's scarce map, Nieuwe *Naauwkeurige Land-en Zee-Kaart* (c. 1698). De la Rochette also copied from Valentijn the non-existent Klipping Eyland in the north-west and the uncommonly named *De Bergen van Norwegen*, the mountains on the west of the southern Cape Peninsula, a name given by Peter Kolbe, the German astronomer and visitor the Cape in his book, *Caput Bonae Spei Hodiernum*, (1719).

One of the uncommon and historically interesting features of De la Rochette map is the network of roads. Much of the network south of the southern tip of Saldanha Bay seems to be derived from Valentijn's *Kaart van de Caap der Goede Hoop*. Many of the roads were used in the late seventeenth century and some are still in use today. I have been unable to find a printed map that shows the roads further north and I suspect that De la Rochette 'joined the dots' between the places he copied from Valentijn.

De la Rochette may have modelled his coastline on Lacaille's map and *Plan du Cap de Bonne Esperance et de ses Environs*, the 1775 chart of Après de Mannevillette, the sailor–cartographer who had commanded the ship that took Lacaille to the Cape. The shape of De la Rochette's False Bay is more accurate than that of Lacaille and De Mannevillette. De la Rochette added more coastal information

such as additional ocean depths, some small islands in Saldanha Bay and dangerous rocks near the peninsula. This information probably came from contemporary English sea charts; for example, a set of depths to the east of the peninsula are identical to those on an inset chart of False Bay in the *Oriental Pilot*, published in 1781 by Sayer and Bennett.[12] De la Rochette also seems to have borrowed many of the details of Saldahana Bay from the Sayer and Bennet chart. In both instances, the bay extends too far south.

De la Rochette

Who was the magnificently named Louis Stanislas D'Arcy de la Rochette? When his name was engraved on his map of the Cape Colony, he was L.S. De la Rochette, not yet having adopted the name D'Arcy. His life has been the recent project of his descendants, who have unearthed tantalising snippets of information.

As Louis Stanislas Gappian De la Rochette, he married a Huguenot refugee, Margaret Scalé on 2 March 1756 in St. Martin in the Fields, London. Her brother was Peter Bernard Scalé, an engraver and cartographer. He appears to have married again, possibly before 1774, and it is thought that he took the name D'Arcy from this wife, but no one has yet discovered her identity (although her first name was Elizabeth). Two of their children who survived childhood are mentioned in memorial inscriptions published in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*: Esther Margaret Elizabeth D'Arcy Delia Rochette (*sic*) and Edward Augustus D'Arcy (without the De la Rochette).[13] Louis De la Rochette married a third time, on 14 June 1802 to Elizabeth Buchinger at St. George's Hanover Square and, by this time, he had adopted the D'Arcy name. He died shortly after at his residence in Pimlico, London. Nothing seems to be known of De la Rochette's background and training. He worked in the famous London cartography and publishing business owned by William Faden, previously by Thomas Jeffreys, and subsequently by three generations of Wylds. He also designed maps for the Bowles family of cartographers.

Conclusion

De la Rochette's eclectic map of the Dutch Colony at the Cape of Good Hope filled a void in English cartography of the region. It was published four times between 1782 and 1838. The map was quite detailed and accurate and it recorded features and events that remain historically interesting. Despite a few inaccuracies and anachronisms, it was the first map in the significant contribution of the English to the accurate mapping of southern Africa, a contribution that lasted for more than one and a half centuries.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to John McCoy of Long Beach, California for sharing his biographical information on De la Rochette. I am also grateful to Barry Ruderman Antique Maps, www.RareMaps.com, for providing the digital image for Fig. 1.

Notes

1 A high resolution image of the first edition of the map can be viewed at http://www.davidrumsey.com; search: Dutch Colony.

2 J. Barrow, *Travels into the Interior of Southern Africa in the years 1797 and 1798*, (London: T. Cadell Jun. and W. Davies, 1801). Saldania Bay was the English captains' translation of *Aguada de Saldanha*, the first name for what soon became and still is known as Table Bay. The cartographer John Seller named it Saldinia Bay (Fig. 3).

3 VOC: *Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* (United East-Indian Company).

4 'Chart from Saldanha Bay to False Bay', 4.VEL 168, Dutch National Archives.

5 4.VELH 619.35, Dutch National Archives. Bea Brommer, ed. *Grote Atlas van de Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie. V Afrika*. Voorburg: (Netherlands) Atlas Maior; 2009, pp.64–65.

6 Saldanha Bay here refers to the current Saldanha Bay, about 100 km north of Table Bay.

7 D. Schrire, 'The Cape of Good Hope 1782–1742: from de la Rochette to Arrowsmith: being some notes on the development of the early mapping of European-occupied South Africa by English cartographers', (London: Map Collectors' Circle, 1965, series no. 17, pp.3–5, 9–10 and pl. II, III.

8 E. Walker, *Historical Atlas of South Africa*, (London: Oxford University Press, 1922), pl.7.

9 Map No. 3 in the Gordon Collection at the Rijksmuseum Prentenkabinet: RP-T-1914-17-3.

10 D. Schrire, 'The Cape of Good Hope 1782–1742…'.

11 Anders Sparrman, *A voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, towards the Antarctic polar circle, and round the world: But chiefly into the country of the Hottentots and Caffres, from the year 1772 to 1776*, (Sweden, 1783, Dublin, 1785).

12 This map can be viewed at http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-ra52-s5.

13 Joseph Jackson Howard, *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica* (London: Mitchell, Hughes and Clarke, 1904), p.165.

Roger Stewart *is a truant from medicine and now a business consultant and a mentor of promising executives. He is responsible for the map collection of a family trust: miniatures of southern Africa and Africa, the continent, and larger maps of the scientist/explorers of the Cape of Good Hope. He is the IMCoS representative in South Africa, destination of the 2015 IMCoS International Symposium.*

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MAPPING MATTERS

News from the world of maps

'The Golden Age of Marine Charts' conference

Report by **Sarah Tyacke, President of IMCoS**

A conference, 'The Golden Age of Marine Charts', was held from 3-4 December last year in Paris. It was organised by Emmanuelle Vagnon, Catherine Hofmann and Hélène Richard and coincided with a magnificent exhibition at the Francois-Mitterand Library of the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) of marine charts from the earliest portolan charts of the Mediterranean to the mid-eighteenth century when printed charts finally came to dominate the waves. A large part of the BnF's collection of charts is now online on its Gallica website: http://gallica.bnf.fr

New research was presented and discussed by a number of experts including Patrick Gautier Dalché, Tony Campbell, Joaquim Alves Gaspar, Ramon Pujades, Philipp Billion and Corradino Astengo, Angelo Cattaneo and Hans Kok. The cosmographical and intellectual milieu of the period was also explored including the connection between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean from ancient to early modern times and the particular influence of Portuguese cartography, notably by Dejanirah Couto and Rui Loureiro, and the incorporation or otherwise of Marco Polo and others into the Ptolemaic framework. A number of IMCoS members participated as seen in the photo.



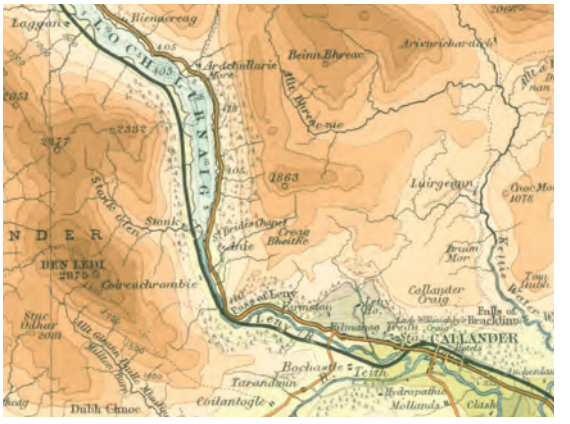
Left to right **Tony Campbell, Hans Kok, Sarah Tyacke, Wulf Bodenstein, Francis Herbert and Christophe Klein. Photograph by Jean-Louis Rentaux.**

A project completed

Report by **Chris Fleet**

The National Library of Scotland has recently completed a project with the Edinburgh publisher, Birlinn, to publish facsimiles of four folio atlases of Scotland. The final title in the series is Bartholomew's *Survey Atlas of Scotland* from 1912 and its publication coincides with the NLS exhibition, *Putting Scotland on the Map: the World of John Bartholomew and Son*. (See page 40 for a review of the exhibition) The folio atlas project started in 2006 with the publication of Blaeu's *Atlas of Scotland* from 1654 and was followed by the Roy Military Survey maps from 1747-55 and John Thomson's *Atlas of Scotland* from 1832.

Further details of the Birlinn/NLS Limited Edition facsimiles from http://birlinn.birlinn.co.uk/



Detail from 'Trossachs, Loch Lomond' (Plate 30) in Bartholomew *Survey Atlas of Scotland* (1912).

London Map Fair is fully booked

Report by **Tim Bryars**

It is with great pleasure that we are already able to say that as of mid January the 2013 The London Map Fair is fully booked. The demand from the international map trade is undiminished, even in this bleak economic climate, which speaks volumes about the reputation the fair has established. The London Map Fair has long been the largest and most cosmopolitan in Europe, and this will be the biggest we have held at the RGS with over 40 exhibitors. We will be welcoming three new German dealers, Monika Schmidt, Christian Haslinger and Rainer Goetzfried, and we anticipate being able to offer our largest ever selection of maps, atlases, charts and globes. For two days, on June 8 and 9, the historic walls of the RGS will contain the greatest concentration of cartographic material for sale anywhere in the world, and we regularly attract some of the world's leading map collectors, curators and dealers (many of them – we hope – members of IMCoS).

Over the past few years we have also been successful in reaching a wider public, with the aim of creating a new generation of collectors and

enthusiasts. Bringing the public through the door is one thing (and the unprecedented levels of publicity achieved by the 2012 fair certainly helped) but London Map Fairs Ltd also sponsors a lecture, which we feel can be enjoyed by any visitor to the fair, and a series of informal talks aimed directly at absolute beginners. This year the London Map Fair will lead the London fair week, with the Bloomsbury Summer Bookfair on Sunday 9, and the ABA and PBFA book fairs opening on Thursday 13 and Friday 14 June. We wish IMCoS every success with their June weekend. We will once again provide a venue for the AGM and a stand to help the society draw in new members, and we hope to see as many of you as possible at the Fair.

Rare maps and pamphlets

The British Library and Daniel Crouch Rare Books joined forces in an exhibition of Scottish Maps at the Caledonian Club, London. The exhibition of rare maps and pamphlets relating to Scotland and Scots abroad dating from 1578 to 1828 was assembled to help raise awareness for the British Library's campaign to raise funds to conserve, catalogue and digitise the King's Topographical Collection.

Also on display was a fine collection of pamphlets and maps relating to the disastrous Darien Scheme – Scotland's attempt to become a world trading nation by establishing a colony called New Caledonia on the isthmus of Panama in the late 1690s.



Left to right **Robin Buchanan, Peter Barber, Daniel Crouch and Emma Johnson. Photography by Louie Fasciola.**

Acquisitions by the British Library

Report by **Tom Harper**

Towards the end of 2012, the British Library's Cartographic and Topographical department was able to add to its collection of copper printing plates with two notable acquisitions. In October, a plate used to print *A Map of the Country Forty Miles round Hull* by Richard Johnson, c.1830 was purchased from Jonathan Potter Ltd, together with a modern pull from the plate. The map is not recorded on COPAC.

Two months later, the printing plate for another map was offered to the British Library by London map dealer Tim Bryars. It was the plate of the map of Hull published in c.1643, etched by Wenceslaus Hollar. According to Richard Pennington, author of the standard catalogue of Hollar's work, the plate had been recorded in the collection of the aforementioned Richard Johnson in Hull as late as 1933 (Pennington, no. 984). Historic printing plates are understandably uncommon, having only a finite life due to the rigours of the printing process and the constant revision of map content and style. The British Library has one half-plate used to print a map published in Robert Dudley's *Arcano del Mare* in 1649, and another used to print a copy of part of Christopher Saxton's Quartermaster map. A plate by one of the greatest cartographic draughtsmen of the seventeenth century is therefore a superb addition.

Given the sheer quantities of maps to have been printed using copper plates, the occasional survivor should not be surprising especially, in the case of the map of Hull, given the high regard of the etcher. Hollar (1607–77) was a Czech artist, discovered by Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel and brought with his retinue back to London in 1636. Hollar produced a great a many prints and drawings on a wide variety of subjects including a number of maps. Perhaps most famous is his long panorama of London, published in 1647. Other equally important works include his engraved view of Tangiers of 1664 after Jonas Moore.

Kingston-upon-Hull was a thriving port for trade and fishing, and for Hollar to have singled it out for special treatment is appropriate to its standing. Henry VIII had recognised the potential importance of Hull as a fortified base in the north, with access to the sea. He enhanced the town as a military and naval base by calling for an improvement of the city's defences with the erection of a castle, blockhouses and garrison. Hull would play a part in the expansion of Tudor sea power, (two sixteenth-century manuscript maps of Hull showing Henry's work are in the Cotton Collection of the British Library). Almost a century later, Hull was to see action during the Civil war refusing entrance to the king in April 1642.

The production of the map reflects the prominence of the town during the seventeenth century, and it acquired an historical relevance, appearing in Robert Sayer's catalogue of 1766 and in Laurie & Whittle's of 1795. Also in the 1790s, a copy of it was produced by Isaac Taylor to illustrate John Tickell's *The history of the town and country of Kingston-upon-Hull*. The printing plate is therefore of interest not only to the researcher of printmaking and artistic technique, but to British history in general and local and urban studies specifically. It will be displayed in the British Library's Sir John Ritblat Gallery: *Treasures of the British Library*, from March 2013.



An etched copper printing plate for a map of Kingston-upon-Hull, Wenceslaus Hollar, London, c. 1643. Maps 177.L.2. Copyright © The British Library Board.



'Kingston upon Hull' by Wenceslaus Hollar, London, c. 1643 with a view of the port from the Humber river showing the fortifications initiated by Henry VIII and an inset of the environs of Hull revealing its strategic coastal position. Hollar's signature can be seen below the town plan.

The World of John Bartholomew and Son: an Exhibition Review

Report by **Julie McDougall**, *Doctoral research student, University of Edinburgh*

When the Edinburgh mapmaking firm John Bartholomew and Son is mentioned among map historians or map collectors the buzz words are usually Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* map – which Bartholomew is rumoured to have produced – and contour layer colouring – which the firm is known to have propelled into popular use. John George Bartholomew, the head of the firm between 1880 and 1920, is also often remembered for being the first to use the label 'Antarctica' in a printed map of the world.

The exhibition *Putting Scotland on the Map: the World of John Bartholomew and Son* at the National Library of Scotland (NLS) in Edinburgh provides new and more insight into the activities of this Scottish firm. It does this, not only by recounting the lives and work of the Bartholomew family who operated the firm between c.1820 and c.1980, but it somewhat uniquely allows us to consider the lesser known people who were colourists, printers, engravers and draughtsmen, making their living by conducting the firm's local, national and global mapmaking activities on a daily basis. On visiting the exhibition, it soon becomes clear that its content and style reflect its purpose to 'explore the technology and people who came together to create the Bartholomew phenomenon'. This review attempts to give an overview of the elements of the exhibition which stood out for me, influenced as I am by my own recent research on Bartholomew's school atlas production (1870–1930).

Before I begin a description of the content of the exhibition I should refer to its layout and style, which often influences the way we engage with any visual display of information. Wooden tables are laid out like work benches and facsimiles of maps and production records are displayed alongside the actual engraving and drafting tools used by the firm's employees. Even the lighting makes one think of the difficulty of performing the intricate work of engraving under (initially) the dull light of oil lamps, and I would say the exhibition, in style at least, is a great success.

Now to content: the exhibition provides biographical detail on the Bartholomew sons and heirs of the firm, namely George Bartholomew (1784–1871), John Bartholomew junior (1831–93) and John George Bartholomew (1860–1920). It was George Bartholomew who laid the foundations of the firm, which was not established officially until 1826 by John senior, and was subsequently expanded by John junior. The character that stood out for me amongst these men was John George Bartholomew who, as we are told, 'changed the face of Scottish mapmaking and geographical teaching forever'. His ill health throughout his life did not deter him from his mapmaking activities, although his struggle with sickness often infiltrated his personal diaries and production notes: the exhibition displays an eccentric hand drawn image by John George showing the 'dark fogs and mists of evil' and the 'glorious radiance of heavenly light' which conquers it. He was also a strong promoter of thematic mapping, producing the 'Naturalist's View of Scotland' map with the Edinburgh naturalist J. A. Harvie-Brown in 1893.

The remainder of the exhibition, having so far given great detail about the Bartholomew family, provides access to the daily activities and experiences of the draughtsmen, engravers, colourists and litho writers, and printers involved in map production. There is again much detail here and much more than I can cover in this review. What I will say is that the large-scale photographs of employees, printed maps, displays of tools, and a video explaining the process of map engraving were made even more intriguing by the inclusion of audio recordings from previous employees at the firm, most of whom worked for the firm in the 1960s and 70s.

Since we cannot ask the men and women working before this, these voice recordings are one record we have of individual experiences in the firm's daily activities and it forms a unique feature of this exhibition. One recording which stood out for me was a recording of Doris Crocke who worked as a map colourist for Bartholomew in 1960: in her account of her first day with the firm she recalls how nervous she was and yet how she soon got to grips with the process of colouring maps (which she describes briefly). What also struck me from these personal reminiscences is the emphasis each individual placed on 'we' in the engraving, printing and colouring of maps. Maps, it seems, were never produced simply by one individual rather they were part of a process of production undertaken by different people with distinct roles.

The closing of the exhibition, naturally, brings us to the more recent history of the firm. Whilst John Bartholomew and Son was a story of great success in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, by the 1970s it came up against technological advancement and diminishing demand for maps based on individual artistry and craftsmanship. The Bartholomew firm, established in Edinburgh since the 1820s was unable to keep up with the emergence of computer generated mapping and in the 1980s it was sold to Readers Digest and then (unsurprisingly



This is one of five, experimental black and white photographic advertisements created in the 1930s for Bartholomew. There is no evidence, yet, that this series was ever realised. Reproduced with © permission of Collins Bartholomew.

owing to his dominance of media companies at this time) to Rupert Murdoch at News International, eventually being incorporated into the publishing house HarperCollins.

Despite the dismantling of the firm in the 1980s, the influence of the firm is still evident today both in the exhibition, which brings our attention to Bartholomew's dominance at one time, and in the responses from visitors to the exhibition today indicating the importance the firm and its maps still hold. The trust the name Bartholomew invoked in its customers in the past is evident in the exhibition from a display of Bartholomew's advertising posters. One advertisement for Bartholomew's road maps in the 1930s pictured two men and a woman camping alongside their two motor cars with the caption: 'Are we all agreed? Bartholomew's maps are best'.

Bartholomew is a firm worthy of recognition, not only for its well-known maps and mapmaking techniques but also for the part it played in the everyday lives of Scottish people. This exhibition brings to light both of these important aspects of the firm's history.

The exhibition runs until 7 May 2013.

The family Brocktorff

Report by **Rod Lyon**

On 30 November 2012, H.E. President Emeritus of Malta, Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, officially opened the Malta Map Society exhibition *Brocktorff Mapmakers* at the Museum of Fine Arts in Valletta.

Dr. Bonnici introduced Dr. Albert Ganado, President of the MMS, who said that the exhibition had proved to be a voyage of discovery, revealing the amazing extent of the Brocktorff family's cartographical, artistic and lithographic work. Through careful research, it has been possible to establish the place and date of birth of the founder of this mapmaking dynasty: Baron Charles Frederick Von Brocktorff was born in Kiel, Germany on 11 June 1781 and died in Valletta 16 May 1850. It has also been possible to date some of the picture maps thanks to the identification of a gibbet used for a group of pirates about whose demise a lot is known. Preparation for the exhibition unearthed the prodigious output of the Brocktorffs and dating the items was sometimes problematic. As expected, some variants of maps were discovered and even atlases in the Ethiopian, Arabic and Turkish languages emerged in the search.

On display was an unusual map of the elusive Graham Island by Luigi Brocktorff. A volcanic island suddenly appeared in 1831 between Malta and Sicily. The French, English and Italians dashed to the scene to place their flags and lay claim to it but before the matter could be settled, the island disappeared beneath the sea leaving only a shoal. It is variously referred to – Graham Island by the English, Julia by the French and Ferdinandea by the Italians.

Dr. Bonnici thanked Dr. Ganado for his outstanding work in highlighting the fascination of Malta's antique maps and added that as a result of the 1821 trial of the pirates who had so conveniently helped to date some of the exhibits, trial by Jury was introduced into Malta.

P.S.
In response to recent volcanic activity, the shoal has been rising and Sicilian authorities have sent divers to fix a plaque claiming it as a Sicilian island.

(below) Left to right **Jan Bundermann, Rod Lyon, Claude Micallef Attard and Louis Borg Manche.**



Exhibitions

March 2013, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London
The museum will open a new permanent exhibition: 'The Great Map', a huge interactive floor map of the world. Using the latest in digital technology, visitors will be able to discover Britain's maritime history. Further information www.rmg.co.uk/visit/exhibitions/future/the-great-map

20 April 2013 – 5 January 2014, Winterthur, Delaware
Common Destinations: Maps in the American Experience
This exhibition traces the rise of the 'material map' as a popular object in America, from rare decorative item to industrial consumer good. Some of the themes considered will be: Sociable maps; men and their maps; maps in a woman's world; maps and masses; the National maps 1784–1815. Further information: www.winterthur.org

25 April – 27 October 2013, National Museum of Finland, Helsinki
The Widening View of the World: Treasures from the Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld map collection and Life and work of A. E. Nordenskiöld
The collection of explorer A. E. Nordenskiöld is one of the most extensive collections of early maps in the world. Nordenskiöld made ten expeditions to the Arctic Ocean, Spitsbergen and Greenland and was the first to sail the Northeast passage between 1878 and 1879. He collected and studied early maps and became a pioneer in the study of historical cartography.

2 July 2013, The National Archives of Finland, Helsinki
History of Mapping and Land Surveying in Finland
The exhibition illustrates mapping and land surveying in Finland from the sixteenth century to present times through various maps and objects.

4 July 2013, Helsinki
Treasures from the John Nurminen Foundation Collection
The John Nurminen Foundation maintains the cultural heritage and traditions of Finnish seafaring and maritime history and the exhibition will display treasures of the Foundation's map collection of world maps, sea charts of the Baltic Sea and maps of Scandinavia.

Map Fairs

8 – 9 June 2013, London Map Fair
Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore London SW7 (Entrance Exhibition Road).
Sat 8 at 12pm - 7pm and Sun 9 at 10am - 5pm.
Map Fair Lectures on Sat at 2.30pm in the RGS Ondaatje Theatre. Guest speaker: to be advised.
Talks by Ashley Baynton-Williams throughout the weekend on map collecting for beginners.

Lectures & Conferences

14 March 2013, London
Maps and Society, 22nd series, Warburg Institute, 5pm
A. Crispin Jewitt, (Cartographic and Topographic Materials, British Library), *'One Damned Thing after Another': Mapping Britain's Nineteenth-century Wars*.
Contact Catherine Delano-Smith Tel 020 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

28 March 2013, Washington
Washington Map Society, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, 7pm
Dr. S. Max Edelson (University of Virginia),

The Course and Mapping of the Line established by the Proclamation of 1763. Contact Ted Callaway Tel 202 878 5418

11, 18 and 25 April 2013, Historic Deerfield
Deerfield, MA 01342
Cartographic Encounters: Exploring the Nature of Early Maps. An overview of the history of mapmaking and map printing, examine maps as graphic objects that reflect political, cultural, and economic narratives. Contact Julie Orvis at jorvis@historic-deerfield.org

18 April 2013, Milwaukee
Maps & America lecture series, American Geographic Association Library, University of Wisconsin-Milwauke, 6pm
Chas Langelan (Washington DC Land Surveyor (retired), and Officer of Surveyors Historical Society), *Andrew Ellicott: Early America's Preeminent Surveyor.* Contact Tel 414 229-6282

25 April 2013, London
Maps and Society, 22nd series, Warburg Institute, 5pm
Dr Jesse Simon (University College, Oxford), *Later Roman Cartography: A Non-Ptolemaic Approach*. Contact Catherine Delano-Smith Tel 020 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

2 May 2013, Oxford
Oxford Seminars in Cartography The 20th annual series, University of Oxford Centre for the Environment, South Parks Road, 5pm
Jerry Brotton (Queen Mary, University of London), *'Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant thing': a cartographic genealogy of globalism*. Contact Nick Millea, Bodleian Library Tel 01865 287119

7 May 2013, Cambridge
The Cambridge Seminars in the History of Cartography, Gardner Room, Emmanuel College, St Andrew's Street at 5.30pm
James Purdon (Jesus College, Cambridge), *National Grids: Some twentieth-century cartographies of energy production and transmission*.
Contact Sarah Bendall Tel 01223 330476

16 May 2013, London
Maps and Society, 22nd series, Warburg Institute, 5pm
Dr Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann (Chargée de Recherche, CNRS-EHESS, Paris), *Early Sino-Korean Atlases in an Enduring East Asian Cartographical Enterprise*.
Contact Catherine Delano-Smith Tel 020 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

20 – 21 June 2013, The Newberry Library, Chicago
An interdisciplinary symposium on *Pictures from an Expedition: Aesthetics of nineteenth-century Cartographic Exploration in the Americas* will consider the visual culture of nineteenth-century mapping expeditions and exploration. These scientific expeditions produced vast amounts of visual and artistic materials. Additional information from Ernesto Capello at ecapello@macalester.edu.

30 June – 5 July 2013, Helsinki
The 25th International Conference on the History of Cartography: *The Four Elements– the Essentials of the History of Cartography* is this year's theme. Earth, Air, Fire and Water symbolise the essential elements in the history of cartography and the importance of cartography in the representation of nature and our understanding of the world.
Further information from http://ichc2013.fi

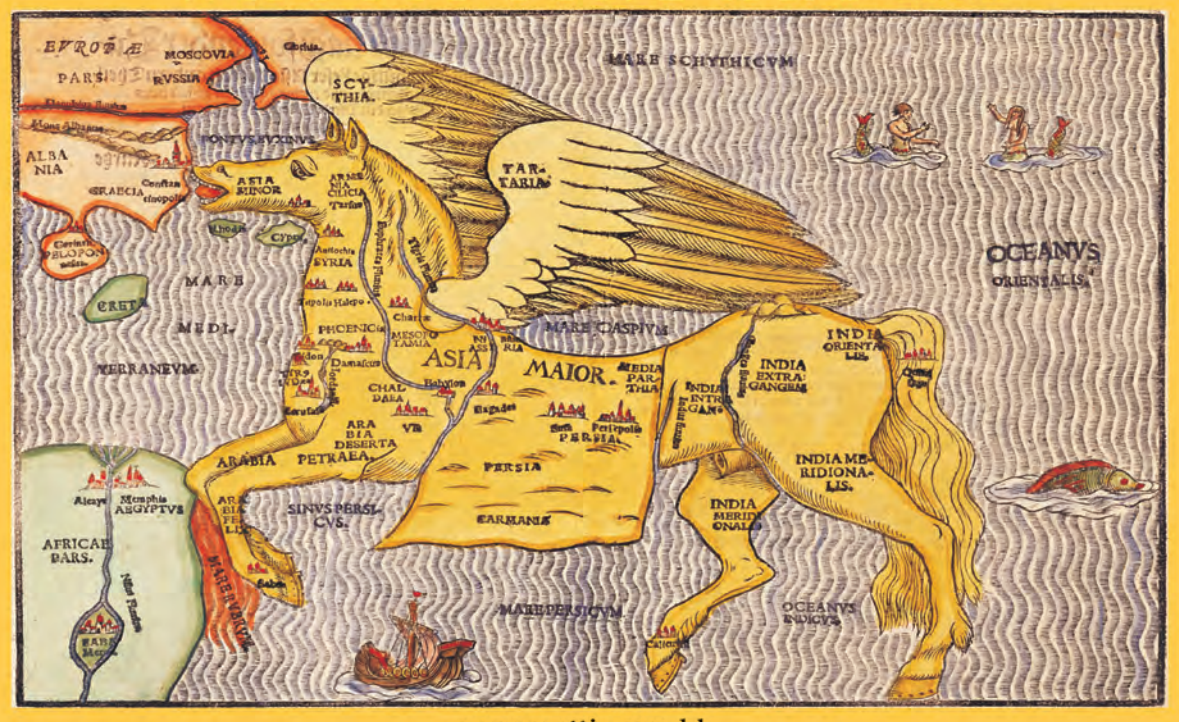
22 – 23 August 2013, Leipzig
Ahead of the 26th International Cartographic Association conference in Dresden, a workshop on *Historical Maps, Atlases and Toponymy* will be held in Leipzig. Contact Elri Liebenberg at elri@worldonline.co.za

25 – 30 August 2013, Dresden
26th International Cartographic Association conference. Contact info@icc2013.org

28 – 30 August 2013, London
RGS will be hosting a conference *Historical Geographies of Global Knowledge, c.1780–1914.*
The conference areas will address the collection, movement and exhibition of specimens and ethnographic artefacts; the practice and reception of travel writing, missionary narratives and 'colonial literature'; the translation and transmission of texts; surveying and cartography; western and non-western interactions. Further information: Dr Diarmid Finnegan at d.finnegan@qub.ac.uk and Dr Jonathan Wright at jonathan.wright@qub.ac.uk

STOP PRESS 16 March 2013 New Map Fair
Milan is to host a new map fair. Initiated by IMCoS member and map dealer Marcus Perini and in collaboration with the Museo della Cartografia Lombarda, the Associazione Roberto Almagià and the Associazione Giovane Europa, the Fair will take place on 16 March at the Hotel Michelangelo, near Milan Central station. For further information contact Marcus Perini at info@milanomapfair.it or www.milanomapfair.it

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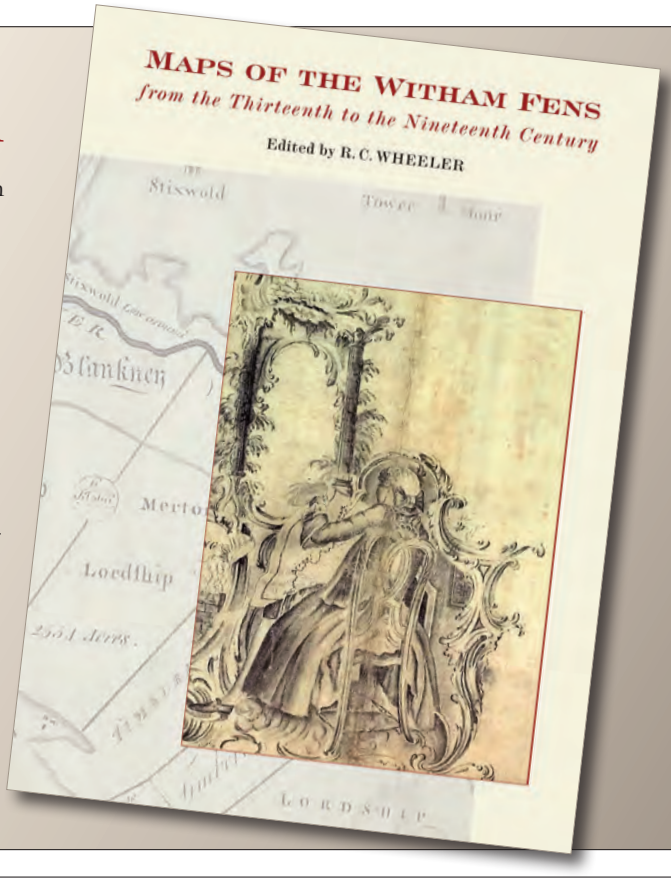
READER OFFER

Boydell Press is offering IMCoS members a reduction on the Lincoln Record Society publication of *Maps of the Witham Fens* from the Thirteenth to the Nineteenth Century edited by R. C. Wheeler, Honorary Secretary of the Charles Close Society for the study of Ordnance Survey Maps.

The full price of **£30** will be discounted to **£22.50** until the **31 May 2013**. Please quote the offer code **12329** to ensure that the discount is given.

Orders can be placed by phone on **01394 610600**, by fax on **01394 610316**, by email at **trading@boydell.co.uk** or on-line at **www.boydellandbrewer.com**

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El Nuevo Plano de Europa, Andres Perez, circa 1919. This rare Argentinean WWI poster shows the nations of Europe and the United States redrawing the map of Europe after the war. The winners of the conflict are lined up, ready to impart their wishes with a paint brush in hand. Each of the nations is represented by a woman with a boy-like soldier in hand, dressed in costumes depicting their national origin. First in line at the map of Europe is Italy, extending its interests across the Adriatic Sea into the Balkans. The United States is dressed in a stars and stripes dress with an Aztec like head-dress and a pistol strapped to her waist.

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Above
Detail from the '*World-Radio' Broadcasting Map of Europe* showing long and medium wave stations (designated by black dot); short wave stations (designated by a large open circle); localities that have both long and short waves (designated by a combination of circle and dot); cities without a broadcasting station, such as Amsterdam (designated by a small open square).

Right
Front cover of the first edition of the '*World-Radio' Broadcasting Map of Europe*, published by the BBC and printed by Malby & Sons in 1928.

Title on map face: '"World-Radio" Map of European Broadcasting Stations In Relation To The British Isles'.

WORTH A LOOK

'Listening with a Map' - the Accurate Broadcasting Map for All

Francis Herbert

Just over 90 years ago, on 14 November 1922, the British Broadcasting Company, as it was then known, uttered its first words from its 2LO transmitter based at Marconi House on the Strand. Following the lifting of restrictions on civilian broadcasting, post World War I, radio broadcasting accelerated and soon revealed overlaps of wavelengths and frequencies with consequent reception interference. To overcome these problems, in 1925, the Union Internationale de Radiophonie (from 1928: Union Internationale de Radiodiffusion) was created in London and based in Geneva. Both its first President and Secretary-General were British Broadcasting Company representatives.[1] The consequent 'Geneva Plan', allotting European wavelengths, was accepted by UIDR's Council in July 1926 and implemented in November of the same year. A more complete and effective framework was agreed in the 1929 'Prague Plan'.

The BBC first published its *'World-Radio' Broadcasting Map of Europe* in September 1928 to (intentionally?) coincide with the week-long annual National Radio Exhibition at Olympia in London. The map was prepared for the BBC under the advice of Rear Admiral H.P. Douglas C.M.G., Hydrographer of the Navy and was 'constructed on the Zenithal Equidistant projection with the centre (C) Lat. 53°.30'.N., Long. 2°.30'.W'. The centre (C), as can be seen on the map detail opposite lies between Liverpool and Manchester. 'To obtain distances and bearings at a particular locality, the meridian passing through that place should be drawn by joining the corresponding points in the Longitude divisions North and South of the British Isles'.

On sale at three shillings (£0.15), the map was most effectively publicised in the BBC's own weekly publications: *World-Radio… official foreign and technical journal…*[2] *The Radio Times*[3] and *The Listener.*[4] It appeared from September 1929 in its irregularly published *World-Radio European station identification panels* and in its annual *B.B.C. Handbook 1929.*[5] The *World-Radio* issue of 19 October 1928, for example, advertised: 'The Accurate Broadcasting Map for all – Traders, Demonstrators, Experimenters, Geographical Instructors, Users of – Long Distance Receivers, Short Wave Sets, All Valve Sets. Linen. Mounted. Size (approximately) 36"x 24"'.

A review appearing a month later in the journal *Nature* recommended that 'to every one who possesses a sensitive receiving set and is interested in listening-in to distant continental stations the map will be of great value', adding 'it is interesting to notice that Sweden and Finland are plentifully dotted with broadcasting stations and that there are very few in Italy'.[6]

Similarly, the May 1929 *Supplement to the 'Geographical Journal': recent…maps…added to the [Royal Geographical] Society's Collection* praises the map's usefulness and 'should serve well for the special purpose for which it has been drawn' but that 'the method by which relief is shown is far from satisfactory'.

Second and third editions of the map were published on 14 March 1930 and 3 September 1931 respectively.

Notes

1 It became the British Broadcasting Corporation on 1 January 1927.
2 From 28 September 1928 issue onwards.
3 From 5 October 1928 issue.
4 From 23 January 1929.
5 From 1931 *B.B.C. Year-Book.*
6 *Nature* 122, London, 24 November 1928.



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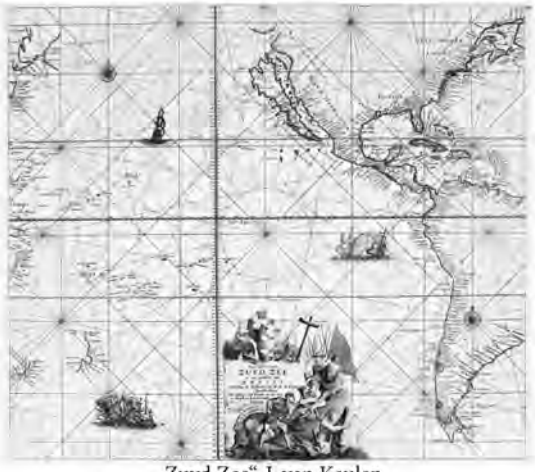
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YOU WRITE TO US



Map board with cities and towns associated with the relief expedition to rescue foreign nationals during the Boxer Rebellion.

Can anyone help identify this game?

The National Library of Australia recently purchased the map board of a board game of the Boxer Rebellion, for which the game name, publisher, date of publication and rules are unknown. The map is a bird's-eye view of Peking and surrounds, featuring the places associated with the relief expedition of 1900 to rescue foreign nationals. The Romanisation of the Chinese names is English, and contemporary to the period, suggesting a British or American game publisher operating between 1900 and 1914. We guess that the game is a simple roll-and-move race along 42 numbered spaces, but the purpose of the game is unclear. There is no record of this game in the database of over 130,000 games at www.boardgamegeek.

Any help identifying the game or its publisher would be much appreciated. Our catalogue record and a zoomable image of the map can be viewed at http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/5827330

Brendan Whyte, Assistant Map Curator, National Library of Australia, Canberra, bwhyte@nla.gov.au

Forensic work on the Visscher world map

Congratulations to Neil Davidson for his forensic work on the Visscher world map. (*IMCoS Journal,* No. 131, Winter, pp. 54-5). It is always worth comparing the maps of Claes Janszoon and Nicolaas J. Visscher to see if they are from the same plate. One of the most extreme examples I have ever seen involved their map of the British Isles, whose unrecognisably different versions are definitely printed from the same plate. They can be conveniently seen side-by-side at www.maphistory.info/understanding.html – though I imagine high resolution scans could be found on the internet for anybody who wished to confirm their common origin by looking at the small details.

Tony Campbell, London



Detail of Admiral Sir William Parker's unpublished manuscript chart of Newfoundland. The National Archives, UK, ADM 352/54.

Responses to IMCoS article

Daphne Joynes's article, 'The Path to Promotion' on an unpublished manuscript chart of Newfoundland by Admiral Sir William Parker appeared in the last issue of the IMCoS Journal*, No 131, Winter 2012.) It has prompted an exchange of letters. Ed.*

John Robson from New Zealand who IMCoS members met at the 2008 Symposium in New Zealand writes:

It is excellent news that Daphne Joynes has unearthed this interesting chart as proof of William Parker's work showing his contribution to Newfoundland's history. Until recently, the Oxford National Dictionary of Biography (ODNB) entry for Parker omitted to mention his service at the island with Cook (Daphne corrected this omission) while the Canadian National Biography (CNB) completely ignores him. While Parker's skill as a cartographer was previously unrecognised, his work for three summers from 1764 to 1766 as second in command of the survey schooner *Grenville* was known. During this period Parker commanded the vessel while Cook was ashore or surveying inshore, and he played his part by furnishing most of the deeper water soundings as well as maintaining the ship's log.

The 'new' chart shows information gathered after Parker had left Cook and the *Grenville* which suggests strongly that he maintained contact with Cook or his own successor, Michael Lane. Lane assumed command of the *Grenville* in 1768 and continued surveying Newfoundland and Labrador for several years, so it is most probable that his and

Parker's paths crossed and they compared notes – and charts. In 1764, both men had been on HMS *Guernsey* so it is possible that Lane gave Parker classes then in basic surveying when Lane was the ship's schoolmaster and Parker still a junior officer. Obviously, Parker had not sat idly by (as many officers did) but applied himself and became a proficient cartographer in his own right.

A.C.F. David from Somerset, UK writes:
I have read Daphne Joynes article with considerable interest. Although I worked in the UK Hydrographic Office for many years and have been a frequent visitor to their archives subsequently, I have never sighted this particular manuscript. Nor, as far as I can see, was it sighted by R.A. Skelton when he was researching Cook's Newfoundland surveys.

My immediate reaction to Parker's chart is its apparent similarity to the chart of the whole of Newfoundland attributed to Cook held in the Naval Historical Library in Portsmouth Dockyard and illustrated in A.M. Lysaght, *Joseph Banks in Newfoundland & Labrador, 1776*, London 1971. There are, however significant differences between the two. I therefore agree with Daphne Joynes that much of the detail of Parker's chart is taken from 'A General Chart of the Island of Newfoundland' published on 10 May 1770 by Thomas Jeffreys with additions from Parker's own observations and should thus be dated 1771 or later. Perhaps if Skelton did sight this manuscript he came to the same conclusion.

However, where Daphne Joynes is in error is stating that this chart was first catalogued by David Langmead in 1978. She is over 150 years in error! Catalogue A was first compiled between 1823 and 1826 by Lieutenant Alexander Bridport Belcher, who was specially appointed to the Hydrographic Department for this purpose. After being in constant use over the years, by 1978 it had become dilapidated with numerous crossings out in red for items that had been lost or destroyed in the intervening 150 years. It was at this juncture that Langmead arranged for a typescript copy of Catalogue A to be made before the original catalogue fell to bits! Langmead's transcription contained a significant number of transcription errors, which I drew attention to. These were amended in ink in the copy held in the research room in the Hydrographic Office. I have not seen the copy in the National Archives so I do not know whether it is a photocopy of Langmead's unamended typescript or a copy in the research room of the HO with my amendments.

Daphne Joynes's response to A.C.F. David's letter:
I was interested to hear from Andrew David that he had not previously had sight of the Parker manuscript, and I am very grateful indeed to him for his comments.

With regard to his point about the Langmead catalogue, my phrase 'first catalogued by Langmead' was perhaps somewhat loose! I was, of course, aware of earlier Hydrographic Office listings. On page 8 of my article, I discussed Langmead's preface and his declared intention to compile a catalogue of early Hydrographic Office holdings derived from nineteenth-century records. I also quoted the Langmead entry relating to the chart in an endnote which refers to the 'Old' Hydrographic Office listings 'Books A/Books 1'.

Pre-siege maps, please?

The committee of the Malta Map Society have decided for 2013 to update, expand, revise and publish Dr Albert Ganado's ground-breaking study of pre-seige maps of Malta. The work will take a year to complete and will include as many maps as possible, drawn up or published prior to the Great Siege of Malta in 1565. Before 1565, Valetta did not exist and the Valetta peninsula (Mount Sceberras) was just a wasteland which gave invaders a big advantage when they attacked the three cities of Kalkara, Birgu and Senglea.

Among the most outstanding pre-siege maps so far identified is that by Antonio Lafreri (1512–77) which was published in Rome in 1551. An unusual feature of the map is the inclusion of venomous snakes hastily leaving the island after they were banned by St Paul.

The MMS would be interested to hear from any members who may have pre-siege maps. Please contact the MMS Secretary at joseph.schiro@onvol.net

The Ristow prize

Students of the history of cartography are invited to submit papers for the 2013 Ristow Prize competition. Undergraduate, graduate, and first-year postdoctoral students of any nationality are eligible to compete. Papers must be in English, not exceeding 7500 words, and should be submitted by 1 June 2013, to Evelyn Edson, 268 Springtree Lane, Scottsville, VA 24590, USA. Appropriate illustrations are encouraged. The winning essay will receive a cash prize of $1000 and will be published in *The Portolan*, the journal of the Washington Map Society. The prize, named in honour of the late Dr. Walter W. Ristow, is sponsored by the Washington Map Society of Washington, D.C. For more information, including a list of previous winners, go to the website www.washmap.org or contact Dr. Edson at eedson@pvcc.edu



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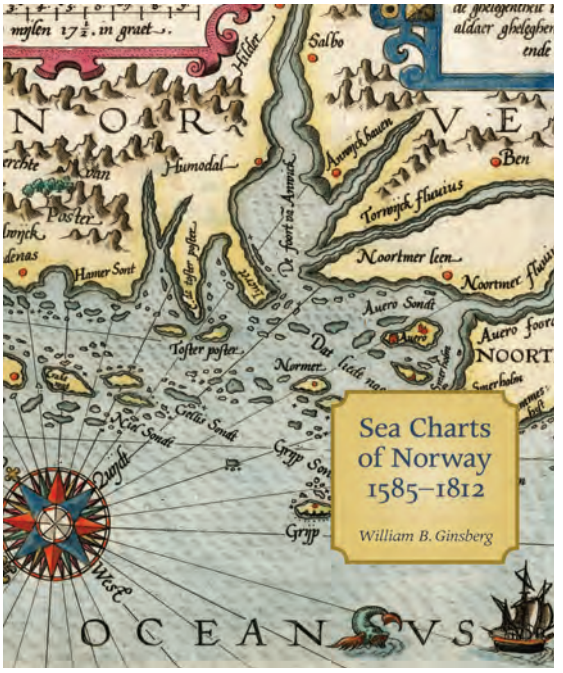
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BOOK REVIEWS

A look at recent publications



Sea Charts of Norway, 1585-1812
by William B. Ginsberg
New York: Septentrionalium Press, 2012. www.septentrionalium.com, ISBN 978-0-9787900-4-2. Hb. 300 x 250 mm, xiv, 321, 320 illus. Distributed in New York by Cohen & Taliaferro LLC, +1 212 751-8135, info@ctraremaps.com; in London by Jonathan Potter Ltd, +44 (0)20 7491 3520, info@jpmaps.co.uk; in Oslo by Pål Sagen, Kunstantikvariat PAMA +47 22 44 06 00 post@antiquemaps.no. US $145; STG £90; NOK900.

This is a beautiful and helpful book, and its 320 illustrations of charts are printed with fantastic clarity. Whilst readers in Norway and other parts of Scandinavia will need no introduction to the author due to his previous cartographic publications, this review is for all the other members of the Society and anyone with an interest in historic charts.

As the author says, this is not a cartobibliography – it is a gathering and description of the main sets of coastal charts relating to Norway, but covering the cartographers, publishers and surveyors who were involved in making charts of the coasts of the 'old' world and, from the mid-1600s, the 'new' worlds. So, the use of this book is not parochial to those interested in the long coast of Norway – it is attractive to collectors of charts everywhere. Whilst all the usual technical terms are used, this is a narrative and not an academic treatise. So, what is in it and why, as a collector of coastal charts of England, do I like it?

It is divided into thirteen chapters, each dedicated to one of the chart makers. Of course, the Dutch occupy half the book starting with Waghenaer, then Blaeu, Colom, Theunis Jacobsz, Jansson, Goos, de Wit and the van Keulen family. The English section follows with Dudley, Seller and Halley, the Scandinavians with the Grove charts and the French with maps produced by the Admiralty. So, many chart makers that are relevant to all of us.

Each chapter contains a potted history of the initial chart maker and then expands to cover successor ownership of the business or plates and the inevitable copyists, for instance, Jansson of Blaeu. This provides a good description of each chart, its states and historical changes, which realistically can be used to interpret the publication of the origin of a chart of another coast, for instance, the East of England. This is all so useful to a collector with much interest but limited memory! A particularly clever technique is the use, at the beginning of the major chapters, of a modern outline map of Norway, overlaid with the rectangular delineation of the historic charts, both to indicate location and to draw attention to significant differences in scale, not easily apparent from the individual chart.

Each chart is referenced logically and chronologically, firstly by chapter number, then a capital alpha designation for the atlas, the number for the chart in that atlas followed by small alpha designations for each state. To give an example of the Blaeu charts in chapter 2, each of the three Blaeu atlases are designated 2A, 2B and 2C whilst the Jansson copy of the first Blaeu atlas becomes 2D. Each of the five Blaeu and Jansson charts, for instance, 2A:1 and 2D:1, can be and are directly compared, both by illustration on the same page and in the narrative. This format follows through each chapter so the derivation and history of each chart can be examined. Where appropriate, there are tables of atlas editions and of characteristics of the charts to identify the editions.

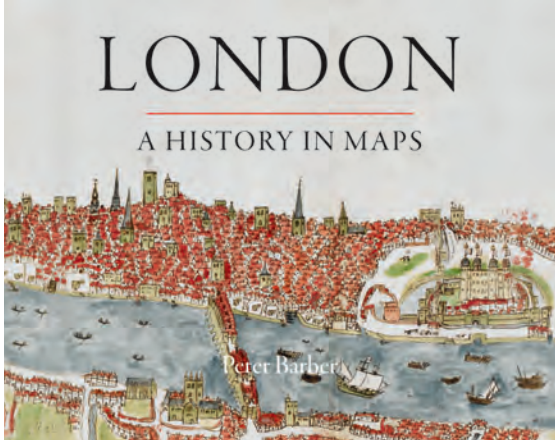
After the chart maker chapters, we have a graph illustrating the comparative coverage of the main charts by each maker and an Appendix Gazetteer of

the coastal place names, both of interest to the Scandinavian collector. For all of us, there is an Appendix of North Sea charts – in summary and with small illustrations of double page charts. This is a useful expansion beyond those covered in the chapters and, certainly, I was not aware that Thomas Jenner had produced a rare coastal atlas of England in 1653 (whilst his county atlas is common place).

The book is completed with an alphabetic list of map titles referenced to their chart designations and a comprehensive index to every person, place, chart and atlas in the book.

The verdict: it is a lovely book, both visually and for its technical content. The author has good narrative skills so it is a pleasure to read. The book enables collectors to make comparison with their own charts, helping to put them in context and determining precisely where they fit. As an Anglo-Saxon with no connection to the Norsemen, I commend this book to all lovers of charts.

Ian Harvey, London



London A History in Maps by Peter Barber, edited by Roger Cline and Ann Saunders
London: London Topographical Society in association with the British Library, 2012, www.topsoc.org. ISBN 978-0-9020-8760-6. Hb. 247 x 315 mm, 380, 400 col. illus. STG £30 (£22.50 to TopSoc' members); US $45 (cloth).

Peter Barber needs no introduction to IMCoS members, nor should the three outstanding exhibitions he has curated for the British Library: *Lie of the Land, Magnificent Maps*, and, the subject of this book, *London: A Life in Maps*, held in 2006–7. They were three of the four most successful exhibitions in BL history.

The exhibition detailed the development of London from Roman times – the city walls and Thames depicted on a medal from 296 AD – to the ubiquitous tube map – here in the 2012 edition. It was accompanied by a BL publication of the same title, but this was a parallel rather than related publication, so it is a delight to see what is effectively a catalogue of the exhibition appear in print, albeit so far after the event. In every sense however, it is worth the wait.

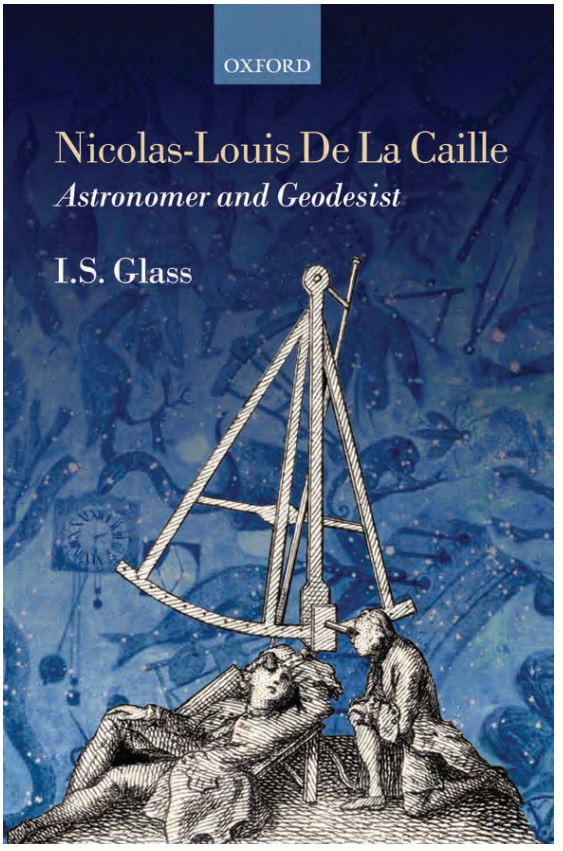
The landscape format suits large format reproduction of the maps and gives the room for top-quality colour images. With the exception of the larger maps, virtually all images are legible with the naked eye down to place-name level. A visual treat then of nearly two thousand years of the mapping of London – a host of 'pretty pictures' as many reviews have already said.

But, that is to miss the point. The images are wonderful and decorative and colourful but the underlying purpose of the exhibition was educational and informative: not just to entertain the eye, but to engage the questing mind. The maps, prospects and other items were selected not only to portray London at a particular moment in time, but also to tell the viewer about the motives and interests of the makers, whether the surveyor, the planner, the artist, the publisher or the sponsor. The catalogue items are physical records of events in the evolution of London, more visual than the paper records that seem to dominate London's tale, but also more vibrant and immediate because the picture is such an effective tool of communication.

Besides each image is a brief – for me, perhaps too brief – caption/commentary on the item, bringing out the principal features of the map, building towards an understanding of the overall theme. Then, not forgetting that maps can also be about chaps, many of the entries are enlivened with biographical notes supplied by Laurence Worms about their makers, drawn from *British Map Engravers* (2011), co-authored with the reviewer.

The publication is evidence of Barber's vast knowledge, enticing out all manner of hitherto all-but-unknown items from the BL's collections, but also to the London Topographical Society's munificence and ambition. Although small, the Society is financing the cataloguing of the Crace Collections, now divided between BL and British Museum', and has an ambitious publishing programme, including this volume, which should be reason enough to persuade anyone interested in London through the ages to join. That a second printing is already necessary is testament to the scholarship and production values that should make this a feature on every Londoner's shelf.

Ashley Baynton-Williams, London



Nicolas-Louis De La Caille: Astronomer and Geodesist by I. S. Glass
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.
ISBN: 978-0-19-966840-3. Hb. 194, 48 b & w illus. 2 tables. STG £35; US $62.95.

This trim well-researched biography describes the life and work of one of the most important scientists of the eighteenth century: Nicolas-Louis De La Caille (1713-62).[1] La Caille especially is remembered for his astronomical and geodetic studies at the Cape of Good Hope, which complemented those that he and others had performed in the northern hemisphere (e.g. cataloguing stellar positions, determining the Earth's shape). The book also discusses related issues, such as a detailed description of the instruments La Caille used in his studies, prominent (mainly French) scientists of the time, and the flora, fauna and human inhabitants of the Cape. Although some readers may find this information superfluous, I found it enriching and revealing of the environment in which La Caille worked.

Well-qualified to author this book, Ian Glass is an astronomer at the South African Astronomical Observatory and a seasoned writer. Glass has included English translations of excerpts from the writings of La Caille and his contemporaries, which make the text more personal and precise. The numerous illustrations add to the book's liveliness. Separate chapters deal with La Caille's early activities; his astronomical, geodetic, and other observations at the Cape; his triumphant return to Paris and presentations to the *Academie Royale des Sciences*; and his later life and work. Helpful footnotes and six appendices provide interesting supplementary information, including a definition of terms and a timeline.

Of particular interest to astronomically-oriented readers are discussions of La Caille's catalogue of nearly 9,800 stars in the southern hemisphere, his determination of the distances to the Sun and Moon using parallax and his use of the positions of the Moon and the satellites of Jupiter to compute longitude on Earth. While not the first European to chart the southern heavens, he was one of the most systematic and complete.[2]

Of particular interest to cartographically-oriented readers are the discussions of La Caille's southern celestial planispheric map showing fourteen new constellations (most of which depict tools and instruments from the arts and sciences of the Enlightenment), his determination of the Earth's shape in the southern hemisphere using the method of triangulation and the creation of one of the first detailed terrestrial maps of the Cape and its environs.[3] His work resulted in a radius measurement that suggested the Earth was pear-shaped, and the surprising reason for this error is discussed in detail in the last chapter of the book (read it to find out why!).

In sum, this is a tightly-written book about the life and contributions of a great scientist who was active during the heyday of the Enlightenment. It is also an adventure story about a man who journeyed to another hemisphere in order to further his work. The book should appeal to astronomers, (both amateur and professional), earth scientists, map lovers (both terrestrial and celestial) and anyone interested in the history of science. I wholeheartedly recommend it.

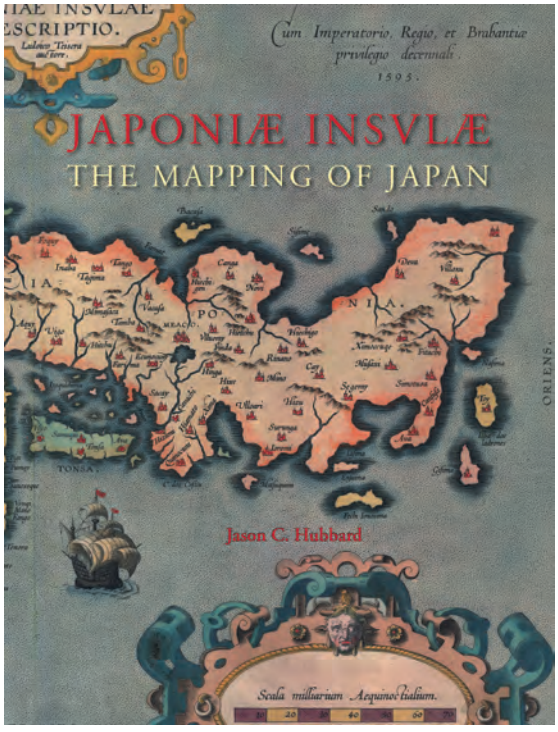
Notes

1. Although in his letters the subject of this book signed his name 'Lacaille', the author uses the more formal spelling 'La Caille', and this will be the convention followed in this review.

2. For more on the history of the mapping of the southern sky, see N. Kanas, *Star Maps: History, Artistry, and Cartography,* 2nd ed., Springer-Praxis, 2012.

3. For more on the various states of this map, see R. Stewart, 'A mystery resolved: Lacaille's map of the Cape of Good Hope', *IMCoS Journal*, issue 119, pp. 7-11, Winter 2009.

Nick Kanas, Kentfield, California, USA



Japoniæ Insulæ, The Mapping of Japan: Historical Introduction and Cartobibliograhy of European Printed Maps of Japan to 1800 by Jason C. Hubbard
Houten: Hes & De Graaf, Publishers BV, 2012. ISBN 978-90-6194-531-4. Hb. 320 x 240 mm. 444, 374 col. illus. €196; US $265; STG £160.

'The purpose of this work has been to identify and classify all known printed single-sheet maps and charts concentrating on the Japanese islands, and first issued in Europe before the year 1800' declares Jason Hubbard. He has identified 125 main maps of Japan and includes illustrations of every one. He also lists their subsequent issues and notes any alterations made.

This work can be regarded as the definitive study of European printed maps of Japan. It will be an invaluable tool for scholars, collectors and dealers. It reflects the result of years of intensive study and pertinacious research.

The principal reference for Hubbard's study was a monograph by Tony Campbell published in 1967 for the *Map Collectors' Circle*. In 1990, Campbell cooperated with Lutz Walter in the compilation of *A Cartographic Vision of Japan*. My earlier book *Isles of Gold, Antique Maps of Japan* which also acknowledged a debt to Tony Campbell was published in 1983. It concentrated on the mutual influence of Japanese maps of Japan and European maps of Japan as well as on Japanese maps as art objects.

Hubbard's objective was, he explains, to try to answer such questions about maps of Japan as: 'What was their origin? Who had engraved them? To what atlas or travel account did they belong? Could a map be precisely dated? Why were the maps so different (and some almost identical)?' He has found most of the answers to these questions.

The book starts with a 'typology of the early depictions of Japan' including some fanciful shapes deriving from legend and imagination before the arrival of the first Europeans in Japan in 1543. The first printed 'map' of Japan or *Ciampagu* appeared in a book published in Venice in 1528. Various other fantastic depictions were used in other sixteenth-century atlases. The first map, which bore any resemblance to reality, was that produced by Ludoico Teisera, which was published in the atlas of Abraham Ortelius in 1595 entitled 'Iaponiae Insulae Descriptio'.

Hubbard in his scholarly and lengthy introduction of 125 pages to the cartobibliography covers in detail the development of the cartography of Japan. In discussing the early stages of mapmaking in Japan he describes Jesuit influences. He outlines the changes introduced in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and the increasing influence of Japanese maps on western depictions of Japan. As Japanese mapmakers did not use the same techniques as western cartographers this often led to further inaccuracies in western maps.

In a separate section on piracy and counterfeits, Hubbard concludes that the majority of the books containing maps of Japan were 'either pirated, or more rarely, counterfeited. The majority of published maps are also a result of copying, not always crediting the original author'.

A further section is devoted to early Japanese mapmaking which dates back to the seventh century. The 'father' of Japanese cartography is reputed to have been a Buddhist priest called Gyôki or Gyôgi.

Hubbard also includes an informative section by Wolfgang Michel about Japanese names on early modern Western maps of Japan. This should help collectors and students to identify places marked in Roman letters on early maps of Japan, although some names have been so corrupted that they defy identification.

This detailed book even includes a paragraph about the mapping of the uninhabited Senkaku islands which are claimed by both Japan and China and are currently the subject of an acrimonious dispute.

Japoniæ insulæ is a fascinating and comprehensive work of interest and value to all interested in the cartography of Japan.

Sir Hugh Cortazzi, London

Herefordshire Maps 1577–1800 Supplement

Herefordshire maps 1577-1800 by Brian Smith (reviewed in the *IMCoS Journal*, no.107, Winter 2006) has been brought up to date in a *Supplement* with some amendments, an additional 52 manuscript maps and two estate atlases containing a further 97 maps (72pp., 20 ills.). Copies are available from the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club by contacting Ian Porter, Greenings Acre, Little Birch, Hereford HR2 8BD.



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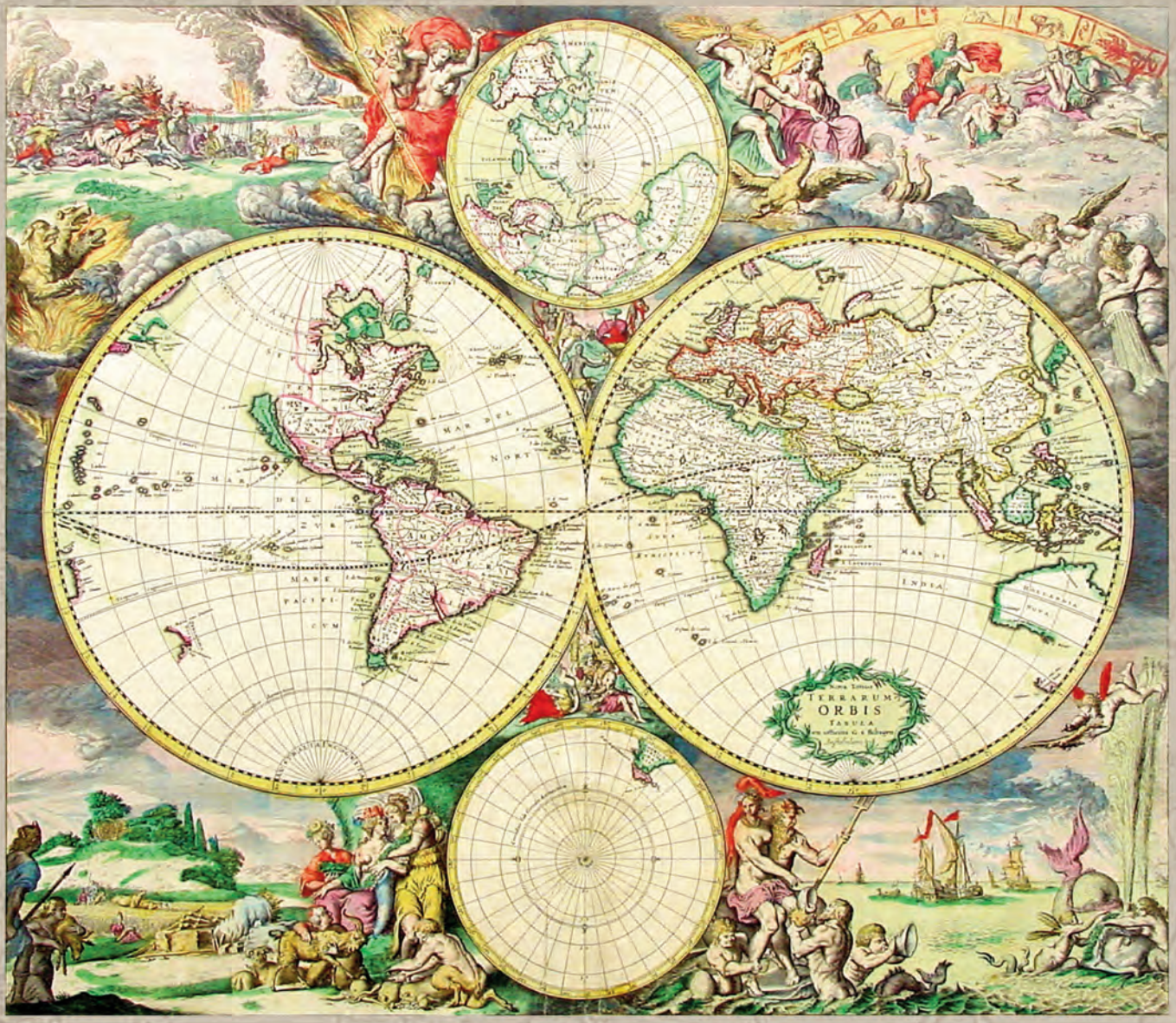
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