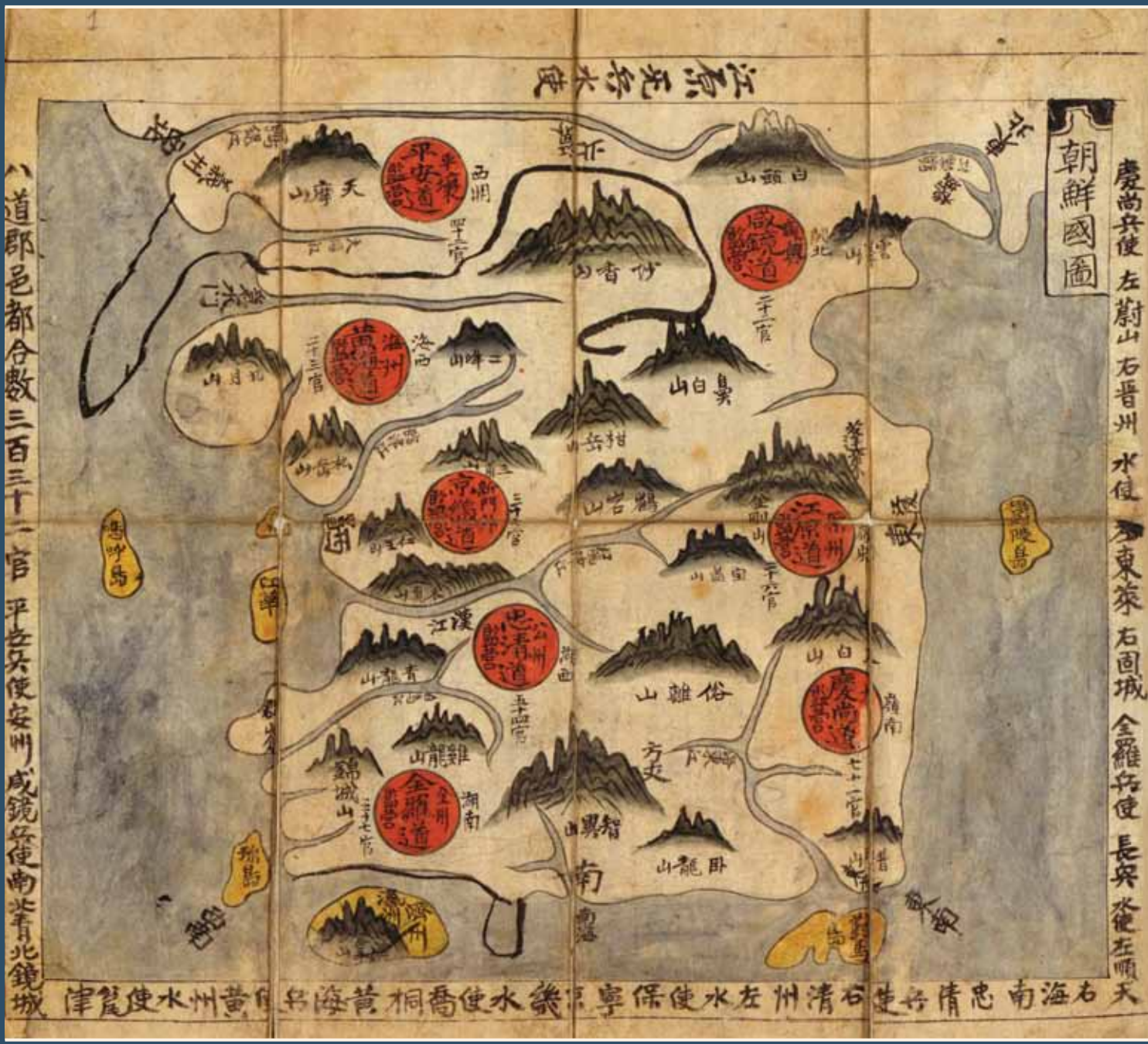
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IMCS JOURNAL

WINTER 2013 No.135



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Front cover
'Ch'ŏnha chido', (Korea, administrative and political divisions), 18--?. Pen and ink and watercolour. Courtesy of the Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division, Washington.

Copy and other material for our next issue (Spring 2014) should be submitted by **6 January 2014**.

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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hans Kok

We have just returned from Fairbanks, Alaska and by the time this comes to you in print, my jet lag will have disappeared and so will the effect of almost hitting a moose cow and calf, while doing 65 mph on the road from Anchorage to Fairbanks. At that speed, 10 yards or so is not really much! It looked as if the moose were less shaken than we were and they made their way safely into the woods; we in turn reached the fair banks of the Fairbanks Chena River safely to enjoy a very pleasant conference there. The Symposium was impeccably organised by Professor Terrence Cole of the University of Alaska, with Dean of the University Library Dr Bella Gerlich smoothing the way. Speakers included our National Representative Dee Longenbaugh from Juneau, Alaska and Wesley Brown from Denver, Colorado, another IMCoS Nat. Rep., who presented an excellent overview of maps that were available in the same period in various parts of our planet and provided the backgrounds to these maps from a religious, cartographic and political point of view. Well done, Wes, the presentation certainly deserves a re-run with a larger audience than we could muster in Fairbanks!

The Chicago Map Fair was held and hopefully is here to stay, the Paris Map Fair was due November (too late for you now, I know!) but the Miami Map Fair in early February 2014 has maps galore for collectors and comes with free warm weather to please the 'snowbirds' from the North. Catalogues for map and book auctions are flooding the house now and even when they are available online as well, the hard-copy versions are still very welcome! Prices have come down making map-collecting a trifle more affordable; more books on maps than ever have been published, proving that interest in maps and map history is increasing. For research access, the situation subtly changes: many institutions have digitised their collections and now seldom offer hands-on access to 'the real thing'. This development is not necessarily in favour of the researcher, but certainly it protects our historical maps in general, keeping them safe for posterity. However, as always, by knowing the way and the relevant people, you may still sneak into a collection for a hands-on experience with professional assistance to boot.

The Executive Committee has set its sights on the 2014 problems and solutions. The Seoul International Symposium (21–24 October 2014) will be our next conference and preparations are well under way. The invitation was issued in Fairbanks to the audience there and, of course, the Committee endorses the call to attend to all IMCoS readers.

With the holidays coming up and 2014 looming at the end of this year's calendar:

Season's Greetings to all; may the New Year bring nothing but Happiness to you and to those you hold dear!

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Ljiljana Ortolja-Baird

Nick Kanas in his new book *Solar System Maps from Antiquity to the Space Age* explores how mankind has interpreted and mapped the solar system. (See p. 61 for Robert Gordon's review.) In this season of goodwill, when mantelpieces groan under the weight of greeting cards, I wonder how our first-century forefathers mapped the night sky 2000 years ago when a star guided the Magi to the birthplace of the 'king of the Jews'.

The Star of Bethlehem, although only fleetingly mentioned in Matthew in the New Testament, has over the centuries become an integral component in the story of the Nativity. For many readers, Matthew's singular account is appraised as an example of pious literature, part of the process of establishing the messianic status of Jesus. Written, is, that the Magi came to Jerusalem looking for a newborn king for they had seen *His* star in the east. Throughout history, astrologers have sought evidence of extraordinary astronomical activities at the birth of a new prince, for such phenomena were considered auspicious and foreshadowed the future greatness of the leader.

The nature of this 'wondrous star' has been debated for centuries and literature on the subject is vast. It has been variously identified as a meteor shower, a supernova, a fireball, a comet, or a conjunction of several planets. A.J. Sachs and C.B.F. Walker suggest that Johannes Kepler (1571–1630), astronomer, astrologer and mathematician initiated the modern discussion of the astronomical phenomenon mentioned in the Bible.[1]

In October 1604 Kepler observed a particularly luminous star in the constellation of Ophiuchus near the conjunction of the ' fiery' planets Saturn, Jupiter and Mars. He described the supernova (known today as SN 1604) as being 'like the most beautiful and glorious torch ever seen when driven by a strong wind'. Kepler, a devout believer, was convinced that this *'überaus grosses Wunderwerk Gottes'* was analogous to the star followed by the Magi. Great store was set on such planetary alignments by skywatchers in the past: the 800-year cycle had been astrologically associated with the rise of Charlemagne and the birth of Christ, and as court astrologer and observer of SN 1604, the palace of the Holy Roman Emperor would have been eager to hear from Kepler what the star heralded for Rudolph II.

The hypothesis of the conjunction continues to stimulate the interest of many contemporary scholars, but the jury is still out on the true nature of the Bethlehem Star, or indeed, whether there ever was such a star. In this instance, however, what the star has come to represent – a signifier of peace and goodwill – is perhaps more important.

Notes
1 A.J. Sachs & C.B.F. Walker, 'Kepler's View of the Star of Bethlehem and the Babylonian Almanac for 7/6 BC', *Iraq*, Vol. 46, No.1, Spring 1984.

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Forthcoming events

A weekend of maps with IMCoS

This is advance notice of a weekend in Norwich, county town of Norfolk. We hope members will join us for a feast of maps from Friday 4 April until Saturday evening, 5 April 2014. The formalities will end on Saturday evening but a group of members will probably stay on until Sunday for more sightseeing. John Evelyn (1620-1706), the diarist and traveller, describing Norwich, wrote, 'A fine old city, perhaps the most curious specimen at present extant of the genuine old English town...'.

We will start proceedings on the Friday at 2pm with a visit to the Japanese maps collected by Sir Hugh Cortazzi which now reside in the Lisa Sainsbury Library in Cathedral Close, Norwich. There is a possibility that Sir Hugh may be able to join us. These maps were the subject of an exhibition held in the Embassy of Japan in London last summer (See *IMCoS Journal*, No.134, Autumn 2013, p.42 for full details) and were featured in his book *Isles of Gold: Antique Maps of Japan*, 1983.

On Saturday morning we will visit the Norfolk Record Society to see a display of some manuscript maps and also a selection of the county maps from the Raymond Frostick collection which was donated to the City last year. Raymond also hopes to be on hand to answer any queries. This will be followed in the afternoon by our annual Collectors' meeting so everyone will be welcome to bring either an original map or the story and photograph of a map on a memory stick to share with others. Francis Herbert, retired Map Librarian of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), will be in the chair to keep us on our toes and to help with identification of the maps.

Booking accommodation will be the responsibility of those attending but a good place to stay might be the Maids Head Hotel (www. maidsheadhotel.co.uk / tel. +44 (0)1603 209955) which is in the centre of the city and convenient for all the venues. There is a good train service to Norwich from London, a bus service from the main London airports and also a few direct flights from European destinations with KLM (www. klm.com) and flybe (www.flybe.com). There is also the option of coming by car.

Norwich has many attractions including a beautiful eleventh-century cathedral and a number of interesting museums and galleries including the Castle Museum, the Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts at the University of East Anglia and a wealth of historic architecture.

We will be circulating fuller details and costs to members later this year but it would be helpful if anyone who would like to come could contact Valerie Newby on +44 (0)1296 670001 (valerie.newby@btopenworld.com) or Jenny Harvey on +44 (0)208 7897358 (jeh@harvey27.demon.co.uk).



MAPS: A VOYAGE TO EAST ASIA

32nd IMCoS International Symposium, Seoul 21–24 October 2014

Preparations for the 32nd International Symposium are well underway. It will be hosted by the National Library of Korea, home to the the largest map collection in Korea, and will be the venue for the four-day event. The programme is being coordinated by the Symposium Organising Committee in association with the Korean Research Association of Old Maps.

It will be an opportunity for participants to learn about Chinese mapping conventions and their influences on Korean culture, as well as discover Korea's distinctive and varied cartographic tradition that was developed and adapted from the Chinese to reflect their own cultural values.

In addition to viewing the extensive map collection held at the National Library of Korea, planned are visits to the National Museum, the Seoul Historical Museum and the Royal Books Archives (Kyujanggaki), which contains amongst its 260,000 items the royal library of the Joseon Dynasty.

Seoul was established as a capital in the late fourteenth century, today it is a megacity of more than 10 million inhabitants and a melting pot of traditional and modern culture, blending ancient traditions and cutting-edge digital technology. Shrines, temples and palaces jostle with towering skyscrapers. To entice visitors, the capital is home to four UNESCO World Heritage Sites, traditional festivals abound and the fiery autumn colours in the parks are not to be missed. Seoul has a lot to offer; we hope to see you there.

IMCoS International Symposium Fairbanks, Alaska, 8–10 September

Report by **Wes Brown, Jenny Harvey & Don McGuirk**

Thirty-five eager map enthusiasts travelled to 65 degrees north latitude, a little under the Arctic Circle, for a two and a half day conference to learn about the North Country and maps documenting its exploration.

The name Alaska is a Russian bastardisation of an Aleut word for the Alaska Peninsula, the southwestern mainland of the larger Alaska landmass. Colonised by Russia, it was long known as 'Russian America' but following the American purchase in 1867, this name was unthinkable to its new owners, and the term Alaska was applied. The State is big: it was pointed out several times that you could cut Alaska in two and Texas would still be the third largest state!

Before the opening festivities, thirteen IMCoS members adventured onto the deck of the *Discovery III*, a large paddle wheel riverboat that transported us down the Chena River to its junction with the larger Tanana River. (Fig. 1) The drizzle hardly impacted the fun of the tour that began with a display of a bush plane's agility by taking off and landing right next to the ship. The crowd also received a demonstration of Alaskan husky dog teams by the husband of the late renowned four-time champion of the 1000-mile Iditarod dog sled race, Susan Butcher. Our group toured a replica Athabaskan village on the river where we learned about native salmon fishing, various furs used for clothing and crouched through low doors to inspect native and mining dwellings.

The opening reception was held at the Miners Hall in River's Edge Resort, also site of the lectures and where most attendees stayed. It was mainly a collection of individual cottages on the banks of the Chena River. Chairman Hans Kok welcomed the group noting that this meeting was now the furthest north of all IMCoS Symposium locations, surpassing Reykjavik and Oslo. He observed that 'the town of Fairbanks, on the Chena River, would prove to be *Fair Banks* indeed'.

Monday opened with a welcome by Bella Karr Gerlich, Dean of Libraries of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), who proved instrumental in organising and managing the entire conference. The University library, first library in Alaska, was founded in 1922, and contains 11,000 rare books, maps, and charts, pertaining to Alaska and northern regions. The co-chairs for the Symposium were Terrence Cole and Dee Longenbaugh. As with past conferences, long-time attendee, David Webb, modelled his well-known shirt emblazoned with a brightly coloured world map showing past sites of IMCoS symposia.

The first lecture was given by Terrence Cole, Director of the Office of Public History, UAF. His talk, 'Air-Age Arctic Cartography: How Aviation and the Second World War Put Alaska at the Center of the World', was used to acquaint attendees with the topography of Alaska and various projections used to depict the top of the world. Airpower really changed Alaska with its efficient proximity to Asia and Europe as well as North America. In a sense, 'the air revolution destroyed distance'. Alaska's pivotal geographic position in aviation contributed to its statehood in 1959.

Dee Longenbaugh, long-time IMCoS member, gave the next presentation, 'Looking Over Lt. Zagoskin's Shoulder, or Sophisticated IMCoS Meets



Fig. 1
IMCoS members before boarding the riverboat *Discovery III*.



Participants at the IMCoS Symposium, Fairbanks.





Left,
L to R
David Wright, Hans Kok, TJ Kim, Don McGuirk and Wes Brown.

Right
L to R
Lieutenant Governor of Alaska Mead Treadwell and Bella Karr Gerlich.





Left,
L to R
Terrence Cole and Hans Kok.

Right
L to R
Terrence Cole, Marvin Falk, Wes Brown and Dee Longenbaugh.

Wild Alaska, 1842'. She gave selected readings from the journal of the Russian Lieutenant's 2,000-mile exploration on foot through the Yukon. Dee pointed out that there never were more than 800 Russians in all of Alaska during the Russian–American period.

The crowd was honored with an outstanding lecture by the Lt. Governor of Alaska, Mead Treadwell, who is an authority on current issues facing the Arctic regions: environmental, economic, political and geographical. A skilled American diplomat on Arctic matters, he is a Fellow of the National Explorer's Club and chairs several important commissions. His presentation entitled 'Mapping the Arctic in a Changing World' proved a highlight in which he reviewed Arctic cartography from the 1800s to the present, illustrating how ever-updated maps help Alaska develop. He pointed out that one result of the melting polar icecap is new open sea shipping routes that will profoundly change trade. If only every Lt. Governor could be so learned!

Marvin Falk, Arctic Biographer Emeritus UAF, presented a talk 'How Legends and Spurious Voyage Accounts Determined the Shape of Alaska on Eighteenth-century Maps'. Falk pointed out that although there were numerous attempts to map the outlines of the Arctic north, most were terribly flawed until the 1790s, when reality started to reveal itself.

The first day closed with a lecture by Dennis Moser, Head of Alaska and Polar Regions Collections and Archives, UAF. His talk, 'Where there be Dragons: The Future of Map Collecting in a Digital Age', was a high-tech discussion of interactive map capability and our changing conception of maps; how their production and use is rapidly evolving.

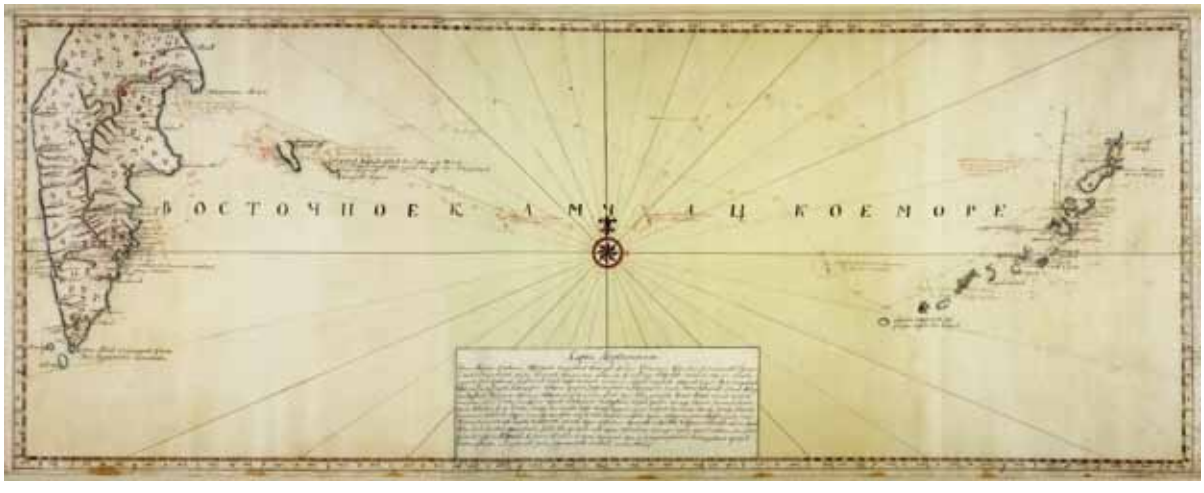
The group next loaded into a bus for a tour of the UAF campus narrated by Terrence Cole, our effervescent leader, capped off by a fascinating display of original Alaska related maps in the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library. Treasures abounded from the earliest periods to the twentieth century. Rare gold rush maps of the period between 1897 and 1910 were a great draw. Probably the favourite was an arresting manuscript map documenting the first official expedition sent by the Russian Government in 1768–9. The manuscript copy was ordered by Catherine the Great for Scottish historian William Robertson. The map remained in private hands until 1969 when fierce bidding in a Parke-Bernet auction secured the prize for the UAF. (Fig. 2) The evening was finished with an outdoor Salmon Bake.

Day two was another cool, sunny day. The first presentation was given by Dirk Tordoff, Curator of the Alaska Film Archives. Using these films, he gave an extremely interesting presentation of the aerial history of North Polar crossings and around-the-world flights that emphasised Alaska's role in shrinking the world.

Wes Brown followed, giving a talk that demonstrated his wide range of interests in cartography; 'Seven Coexisting Ways to Map the World in 1500'. Uniquely, Wes used examples from his own collection to demonstrate all seven 'schools' discussed, covering a time frame from 700 BC to 1900.

The third speaker of the morning was Matthew Strum, Geophysicist, UAF. His lecture, 'If They Had Only Had a Map', used video and pictures taken during extended snowmobile trips into the Canadian wilderness to illustrate 'The Starvation Trail' of John Franklin (1819–22) and the 'Canol Road Oil Fiasco' (1942–3).

Fig. 2 Map of the Sea Voyage of 1768-9 ordered by the Empress of Russia, Catherine the Great.



Lunch included a keynote speaker, Mike Sfraga, Vice Chancellor for University and Student Advancement, UAF. As a personal friend of Bradford Washburn, his discussion, '50,000 Feet and Climbing: Bradford Washburn's Maps of Everest and Denali' gave great insight into this famous mountaineer.

In the afternoon, the Symposium moved to the Geophysical Institute, UAF. The first talk there was given by Ned Rozell, a writer for that institute. Ned gave a very entertaining discussion on 'The Top Ten Things You Didn't Know about Alaska'.

The final presentation was given by Gary Holton, Director, Alaska Native Language Archives, UAF. Using a number of maps, his talk, 'A Brief History of Alaska Native Topography' gave a very informative discussion on mapping indigenous Alaska.

Following the last of our lectures we embarked on a tour of the Geophysical Institute, in particular its map office. Three groups of photos had been laid out for us from the Alaska High Altitude Photography Program, the Naval Research Laboratory, and the Ice and Climate Project. A highlight was Bradford Washburn's famous map of Denali (Mount McKinley) and surrounding mountains and his photos, some taken in the 1930s while hanging out of a plane! It was a pleasure getting closer to the real material some of which we had learned about in lectures earlier.

We then moved on to the Alaska Museum of the North. Housed on the hill in a lovely and dramatic modern building we had time to roam through the many exhibits, read and watch the stories illustrated. Greeted by a huge life-sized bear on its hind legs we got close up to other stuffed native animals, giving us a real feeling of their size. Exhibits of different kinds of Eskimo clothing and hunting materials were on display and a large selection of their art – for example a drum and stick illustrating the Inuit legend of the raven as the creator of the world and a completely waterproof gut parka made from walrus intestines decorated with feathers. The history of Alaska was illustrated through exhibits relating to the first early Japanese immigrants, the Russian ownership and a touching film explaining the hardships experienced by Japanese–Americans during World War II (when Japan occupied two of the Aleutian islands) through enforced resettlement and internment.

Finally, at the end of the day, we adjourned to the Pump House restaurant for our farewell dinner. During this we had our last short lecture about Alaska-themed board games - such as a Klondike version of snakes and ladders! Although a smaller group than last year in Vienna, we received warm hospitality from our Alaskan hosts and will take many fond memories home of their history, geography and culture. We owe our host facility, the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, a huge thank you for all their efforts towards making this symposium an enjoyable and informative experience.

Invitation for nominations for the IMCoS/Helen Wallis Prize

The International Map Collectors' Society has been presenting an Award to an individual, who in the opinion of the selection sub-committee has been responsible for cartographic contributions of great merit and wide interest to map collectors worldwide. Though the Award is intended to recognise individual merit, in special circumstances a group of people or an organisation could be eligible since 1983.

The Award comprises of a salver, £300 and a certificate, as testimony to its presentation.

In general, the Award is presented during the Annual Dinner of the Society in the June weekend in London, normally held in conjunction with the London Map Fair.

Please send nominations to the Chairman, Tony Campbell at tony@tonycampbell.info or 76 Ockendon Road, London N1 3NW by 15 February 2014.

New members

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

Stuart Malter, USA
Collection interest: Pre-1776 maps of the USA

Simon Turpin, Australia

Prshant Lahoti, India
Collection interest: Maps of India

Eng Kiang Lim, Brunei Darussalam
Collection interest: Maps of Asia, East Indies and Borneo

Owen Williams, County Antrim, Northern Ireland

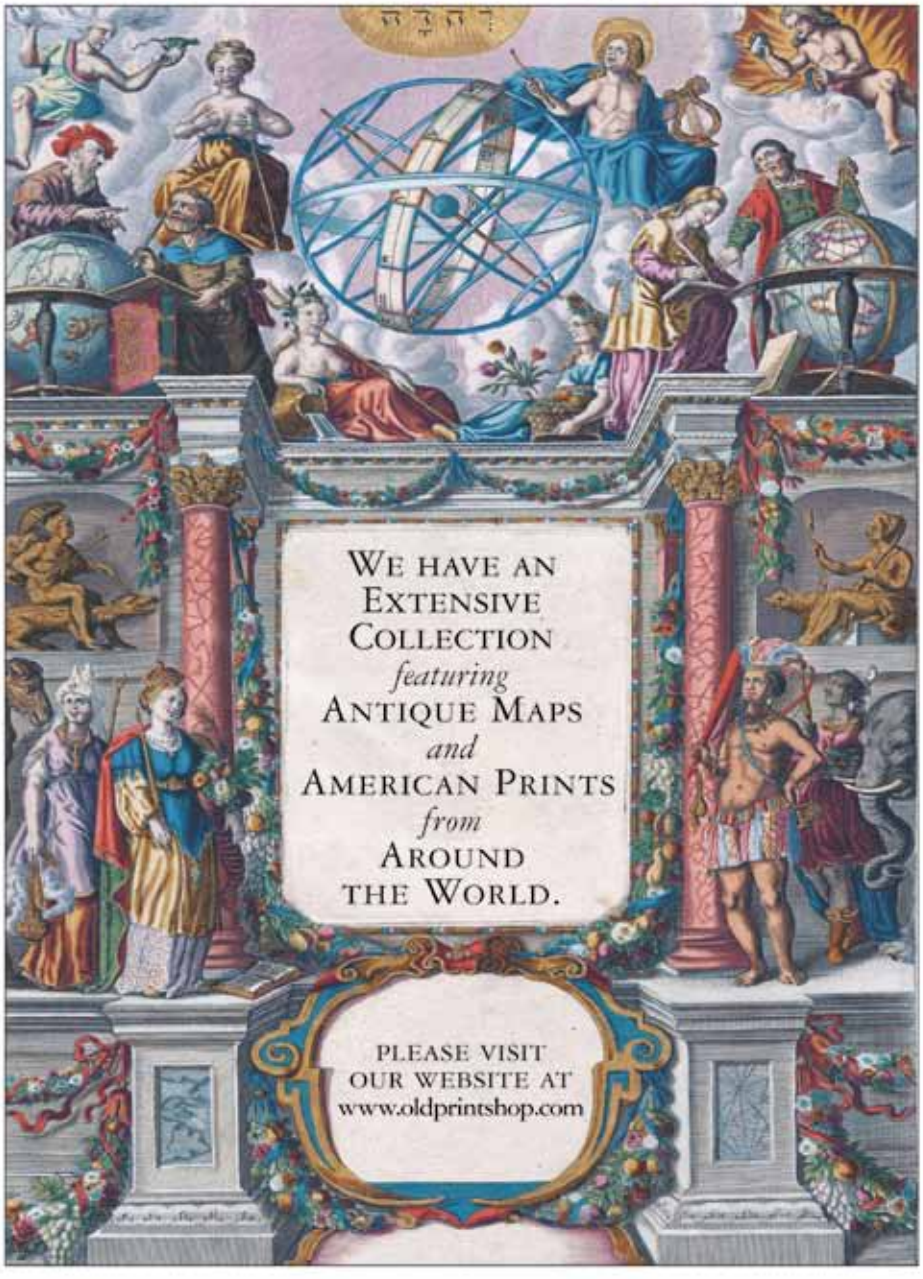
Mike Sweeting, United Kingdom
Collection interest: Maps of the British Isles, County Durham, eighteenth-century atlases, Picardy

Moody Tang, Hong Kong
Collection interest: Pictorial London, London docks

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THE 'REDISCOVERY' OF THE CARTOGRAPHY OF THE WAR OF 1812

The Map Collection of Sir John Coape Sherbrooke

Alexander Johnson

The sale of the official papers and maps of Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, at Bonhams London, on 19 June 2013, yielded not only a sensational auction result, but also marked the public 'rediscovery' of the most important collection of manuscript maps relating the War of 1812 known to exist.[1] Bonhams Book Department was not exaggerating when it asserted before the sale that 'few of any archives of such fundamental importance to the history of North America have been offered for sale, or indeed, remain in private hands'. While the Sherbrooke Papers were very well catalogued and the sale was widely marketed, few would have predicted the ebullient result of £433,250, including buyer's premium (on an estimate of £100,000-150,000). The lot was purchased by the Library and Archives of Canada after special financial dispensation had been authorised by the Canadian government. The archive contains dozens of manuscript maps and hundreds of letters, reports and official dispatches collected by Sherbrooke, one of the protagonists of the events of the period. Amazingly, it had been held by Sherbrooke's descendants for generations, still preserved in its original custom-made painted wooden boxes.

The timing of the sale of the Sherbrooke Papers was naturally chosen to take advantage of the bicentennial of the War of 1812, which lasted from 1812 to 1815. While the conflict was a critical formative event in the history of Canada and the United States, it has often been 'forgotten' by the public in both countries, and has not received the scholarly attention it deserves. While serious attempts have been made by a number of organisations and individuals to revive public interest in the war, the overall success of these endeavours remains to be seen.[2] The causes, nature and consequences of the conflict which pitted the United States against Great Britain and her North American colonies are especially complicated and an analysis is beyond the scope of this article. However, in summary, the war was declared on Great Britain by the United States in June 1812, in response to a series of grievances. Britain, while universally considered to have vastly superior military might, was distracted by the war against Napoleon Bonaparte in Europe. The Americans thought that British North America (today's eastern Canada), which was lightly populated and defended, could be easily taken. However, the American attempts to invade Upper and Lower Canada in 1812 and 1813 were, for the most part, poorly executed and met with more spirited than expected resistance. In 1814 the decline of Napoleon allowed the British to redirect serious resources towards the war against America. While the British famously seized and burned Washington DC, they failed to press their overwhelming advantage. Both sides sued for peace, which was ratified by the Treaty of Ghent of 24 December 1814 (although the last action of the war was the disastrous British defeat at the Battle of New Orleans in January 1815). While terms of the treaty effectively returned things to *status quo ante bellum,* the main consequence of the war was that the colonists of British North America (both anglophone and francophone) had actively resisted the invasion of their lands, thus forming something of a socio-political identity distinct from the United States. The Americans, although not winning the war, had nevertheless survived the juggernaut of the Royal Navy in 1814–5, and in doing so, ensured that no foreign power ever again presented an existential threat to their republic.

Lieutenant General Sir John Coape Sherbrooke (1764–1830) was one of leading figures during the War of 1812 period in British North America.[3] A veteran soldier, he had seen action in India, Egypt, Sicily and Flanders before joining the future Duke of Wellington's forces in the Peninsular War against the French in Iberia, where he rose to become second-in-command. As a reward for his fine service, Sherbrooke was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia in 1811. Upon the outbreak of the War of 1812, he energetically reorganised the colony's defences against American attack. In August 1814 he authorised the successful invasion of eastern Maine, so reviving the long-proposed concept of creating the British 'Province of New Ireland' out of the region.

While Sherbrooke had demonstrated that he had the background, skills and energy to be an effective wartime leader, many were surprised by his subsequent success as a peacetime leader. Even Wellington, cautioned that his former right-hand man was 'a very good officer, but the most passionate man I ever knew'. In the spring of 1816, Sherbrooke was promoted to become Governor-General of British North America, and moved to Quebec City. In spite of his legendary hair-trigger temper, Sherbrooke proved to be a model civilian administrator, improving the infrastructure of the colonies while soothing the factionalism that had caused discord amongst the colonists.

The cartography of the War of 1812

Compared to the mapping of other conflicts such as the American Revolutionary War, the Napoleonic Wars in Europe and the US Civil War, the corpus of maps relating to the War of 1812 has traditionally been considered to be unimpressive. Consequently, the subject has, until recently, failed to capture the widespread attention of the map community. It is hoped that the excitement generated by the sale of Sherbrooke's map collection and the inclusion of historical maps as part of the numerous curated exhibitions and academic symposia commemorating the war's bicentennial will lead to a greater appreciation of the mapping of the period. Certainly, the theme of the 18th Kenneth J. Nebenzahl Lectures on the history of cartography, 'The War of 1812 and American Cartography', (Chicago, 24–26 October 2013), represents a positive development.

Until the rediscovery of the Sherbrooke Papers, the War of 1812 period was not known to have been represented in a great manuscript map collection assembled by a single military commander, such as the American Revolutionary period collections of General Thomas Gage and General Sir Henry Clinton (both at the William L. Clements Library, Michigan). Moreover, there are no great inventories of source maps assembled by commercial printers such as the William Faden Collection (Library of Congress), regarding the same period.

While vast numbers of printed battle plans and theatre maps were issued during the American Revolution, with some grand atlases of the conflict, such as Faden's *Atlas of the Battles of the American Revolution* (1784), comparatively few printed maps portray aspects of the War of 1812.

There are several reasons for the limited cartographic record of the War of 1812. The British public was captivated by the incomparable spectacle of Napoleon and their nation's herculean efforts to defeat him. London's commercial publishers based the subject matter and the size of their print runs of their productions on public demand. Due to limited interest, relatively few maps relating to the war in North America were produced. While the public in the United States was more invested in the conflict, the American map publishing industry was still in an incipient stage in its development and far less capable of producing multiple issues of maps in sizeable print runs.

This being said, a few notable cartographic publications were produced during the war, although they tended to be commercial productions aimed at informing the general public, as opposed to having any practical military use. John Melish's *A Military and Topographical Atlas of the United States* (Philadelphia, 1813) contains a very fine general map of the 'Seat of War', as well as maps focusing on specific locations of conflict, including Niagara, the East End of Lake Ontario, the Detroit River and the Montreal region. Importantly, this publication helped to launch Melish's career, albeit short, as one of the most historically important American mapmakers.

The relative scarcity of manuscript cartography produced during the war can be explained by the nature of the conflict. While the British forces included highly trained cartographers from the corps of Royal Engineers, forces on both sides were overstretched. Consequently, the production of maps in the active military theatre tended to be sparing, and those maps that were created often had only an episodic importance relating to a very specific event.

In order to place Sherbrooke's map collection in context, it is important to consider what kinds of maps were generally available to British commanders during the war. Regarding the theatre along the Atlantic Seaboard (the Canadian Maritimes and New England), it is worth noting that the region had already been well charted. As almost all of the conflict here concerned naval operations, coastal surveys and sea charts were the operative cartographic media. Much of the region had been the subject of advanced scientific surveys conducted by the General Survey of British North America (1764–75). Many of these charts had been published as part of J.F.W. Des Barres' *Atlantic Neptune* (London, 1777–81). In many cases, these surveys had since been updated by the publication of the charts of Thomas Backhouse and Edmund Blunt.[4]

The situation regarding the mapping of the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence theatre (principally the Detroit–

Montreal corridor) was somewhat more complicated. Military operations in this region principally concerned land warfare, so attaining accurate topographical maps was the priority. The British were fortunate to have had access to a fine archive of manuscript maps in Quebec City. Samuel Johannes Holland (1728–1801), the veteran Surveyor General of British North America, had developed a highly professional civilian surveying operation in the Canadas, and which had carried on after his death. The office of the Surveyor General of Lower Canada was led for 40 years by Joseph Bouchette (1774–1841), Holland's nephew, whose work figures prominently in Sherbrooke's collection. As such, most of the British territory located immediately along the southern perimeter of the region (near the US boundary) had been mapped in great detail and to high scientific standards in an effort to settle land grants and claims. These large-scale surveys were the source maps for the publication of fine topographical maps, which of too small a scale to inform military operations in the field would have had some utility as strategic aids at headquarters.[5]

Sherbrooke's map collection in focus

The maps contained within the Sherbrooke Papers, offer an unprecedented insight into how cartography was valued and used by a top-level official during the War of 1812 period. While Sherbrooke certainly had

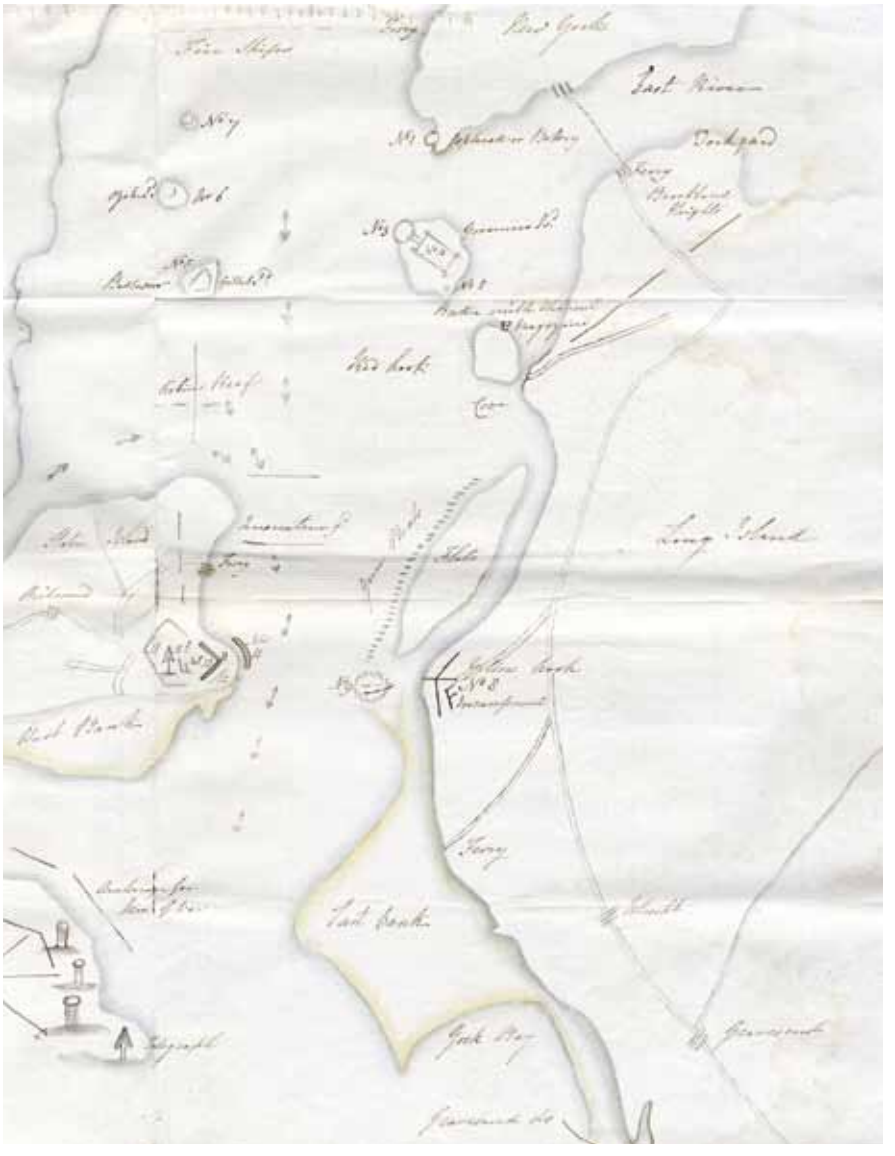
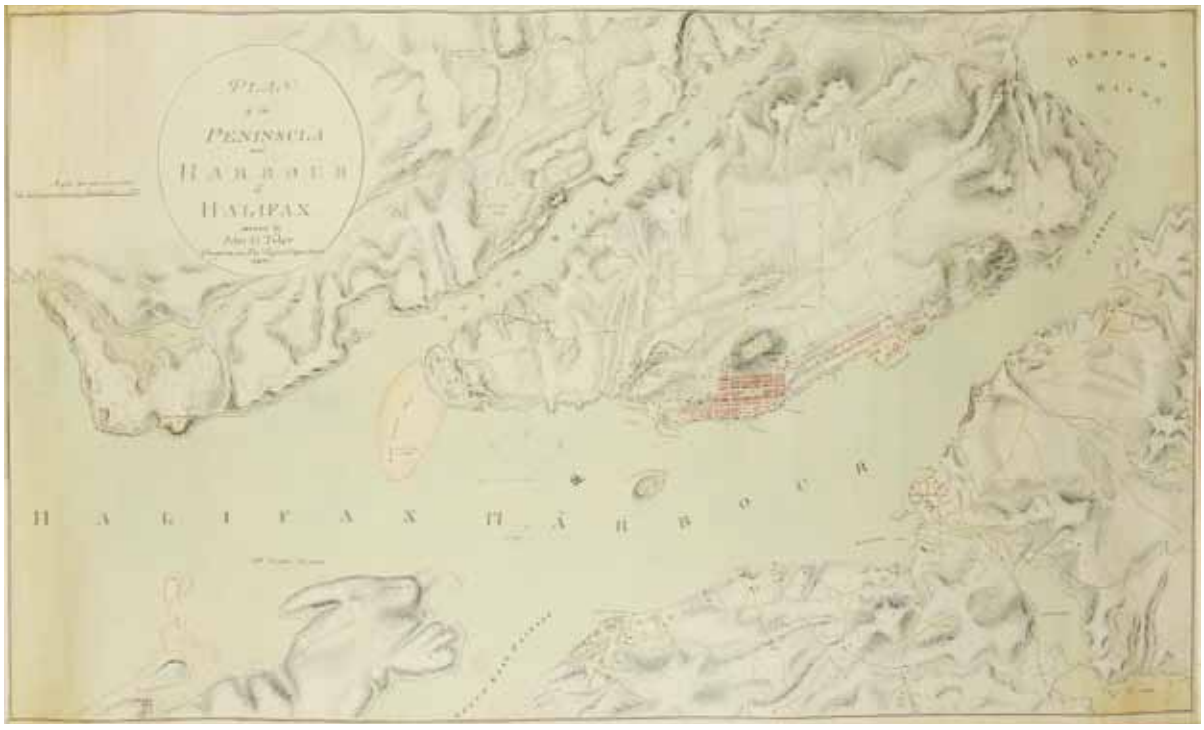


Fig. 1
Anonymous, 'Sketch of the Defences of New York Harbour', c.1812–14. This sketch, while crudely drafted shows the defensive works protecting the city in considerable detail; information useful to the British who seriously considered mounting a naval assault on the most important commercial port in the United States. Image by kind permission of Bonhams.



access to many other maps that are not present in his collection, a fine and diverse cross section of manuscript maps remains as a coherent archive. The collection provides a fascinating glimpse into the priorities, interests and designs of a man who was always at the centre of events. While virtually all of the maps in Sherbrooke's collection were created or acquired by official means, it is important to note that according to contemporary British custom, maps that were acquired by commanders were considered to henceforth be their own personal property.

Sherbrooke's map collection can be divided into two coherent categories defined chronologically, and which can be used to understand the purpose of their creation and their plausible use. The first classification embraces the maps that were made before or during the War of 1812, and so could have served to aid commanders in military planning. The second classification embraces the maps that were prepared following the conclusion of hostilities in early 1815, and which pertain to Sherbrooke's postwar administrative initiatives: principally, projects to refortify strategic positions and to improve infrastructure, to redevelop towns and cities and to conduct surveys relating to the disputed international boundary between the United States and British North America.

Sherbrooke's maps are truly remarkable for their quality, diversity and for what they reveal about map use during the conflict. The collection includes two maps that depict the most important American ports in the northeast: Boston and New York. They are especially interesting, for they provide critical military information on the defences of these harbours. As the Royal Navy maintained supremacy over the seas throughout the war, a seaborne invasion of these cities was seriously considered by Whitehall. The finely drafted manuscript of the maritime approaches to Boston includes notes on the strength of various fortified positions.

The anonymous 'Sketch of the Defences of New York Harbour', 1812–14 is fascinating, for it provides recent and highly detailed information on the locations of the defensive infrastructure around New York Harbour. (Fig. 1) The juxtaposition of the crude nature of the draughtsmanship with the high level of detail of military information suggests that it was drawn by a British partisan or agent (perhaps even a visiting merchant mariner) who had extensive, practical and up-to-date knowledge of the harbour, but no training in drawing.

While the principal harbours of the Canadian Maritimes had already been charted, recent developments in fortification improvements and additional topographical information necessitated



Opposite page
Fig. 2
John G. Toler, 'A Plan of the Peninsula and Harbour of Halifax, manuscript, 1808. A very fine topographical rendering of Halifax, home to Lt. Gov. Sherbrooke from 1811 to 1816 and the North American Headquarters of the Royal Navy. Image by kind permission of Bonhams.

Left
Fig. 3
E.A. Smith, 'Plan of York. U.C.', manuscript, 1817. A highly important early map of what would become Toronto, Ontario, showing the town as it recovered after being sacked by American forces in April 1813. Image by kind permission of Bonhams.

the creation of new manuscript maps. In 1808, John G. Toler, a draughtsman of the Royal Engineers, created two copies of the 'Plan of the Peninsula and Harbour of Halifax'. (Fig. 2) They are exquisitely drawn and exacting plans of the military defences of Sherbrooke's home throughout the war, and the most important base for the Royal Navy in North America. Significantly, one of the copies includes manuscript annotations in Sherbrooke's own hand detailing recent military information.

Sherbrooke's successful endeavour to capture the part of Maine that lay east of the Penobscot River in the late summer of 1814 was the most consequential event of the war in the Atlantic Seaboard theatre.[6] As the region's main centre, Castine, which had last been occupied by the British in 1783, Sherbrooke would have eagerly anticipated a new map that showed the present state of the town. Captain L. Owen's manuscript map of Castine, drafted shortly after its seizure, details the various defensive structures that protected the harbour. The presence of pinpricks on the map suggests that further copies were made, evidence of its interest to British officers in Halifax.

Also of interest to Sherbrooke's 'New Ireland' design is Toler's version of 'A Chart of Some of the Principal Islands in Passamaquoddy Bay', 1811. Said to have been 'Copied from a plan made by an Officer of the Squirrel in 1808', its delightfully naïve style could not be more different from that of Toler's charts of Halifax. Using pictographic forms, it portrays various towns along with the British and American ships (identified by their respective flags), along the Fundy Isles that straddle along the international maritime boundary between Maine and New Brunswick.

A 'Plan of the West Part of the Province of Lower Canada', 1795 by Samuel Gale and Jean-Baptiste Duberger (Snr) depicted the region to a peerless level of detail rendering it useful for planning military operations. It is a perfect example of how a map made for civilian purposes, in this case to reconcile various land claims, could see its purpose transformed to military use. Critically, it depicts the areas south of Montreal, which were the focus of an unsuccessful American invasion in 1813. The defence of this region was paramount, as the American conquest of Montreal would geographically isolate Upper Canada, dooming the province to American conquest.

Joseph Bouchette's 'Plan of the Water Communication from Montreal to Kingston', late 1813, is one of the most important maps in the collection, as it was annotated by British officers during the war. A long, narrow rolled map, it depicts the St. Lawrence River from its origins at Kingston down to Montreal. During the autumn of 1813, this corridor

was the location of two unsuccessful American invasion attempts, which were met with gallant and clever resistance from British-Canadian forces. The map is heavily annotated with military information from November 1813, noting the position of the British Headquarters in Montreal, the locations of the American retreats at St. Regis and Williamsburg, as well as the placement of British gunboats and advance positions. Very few heavily annotated campaign maps exist from battle theatres in North America during this period, and, in this respect, the map deserves closer study by scholars in an effort to analyse what it may reveal about how events transpired.

The anonymous 'Sketch of Prescott and its Posts', produced in the autumn of 1812, is a finely drafted manuscript depicting the vicinity of the British fort of Prescott, Upper Canada on the St. Lawrence River along the vital road running from Montreal to Kingston. On the opposite shore is the American town of Ogdensburg. This map, clearly locates the forts, batteries, locations of night pickets (sentries) and the boundaries of cleared land, information vital to military operations in the vicinity. This knowledge would have come in handy, for the following February of 1813, the British forces mounted a preemptive strike, crossing the frozen St. Lawrence to successfully seize Ogdensburg.

In the wake of the war, Sherbrooke was determined to ensure that the defences of the main centres of Canada were greatly improved. This programme was inextricably linked to concurrent designs to expand and redevelop urban areas. Lieutenant Colonel Elias Walker Durnford, the chief of the Royal Engineers in the Canadas, was charged with the most impressive of these projects. Durnford embarked on a massive project to refortify Quebec City (1816–31), culminating in the construction of the 'The Citadel', while allowing for the expansion of suburban development. Sherbrooke was given an untitled map by Durnford of Quebec and its environs, drafted in 1818, while the grand endeavour was underway. It shows the new suburbs of the city which had expanded beyond the old French walls and the newly erected defences that had already been built or were planned, including four Martello Towers, curious circular constructions of a Genoese origin that became hallmarks of British colonial military architecture.

Sherbrooke's collection includes the highly important manuscript map of Jean-Baptiste Duberger (Jnr): 'Plan of the Town of Montreal shewing the new projects…', 1817. Based on very precise surveys, the map is one of the most important and informative documents depicting the development of Montreal during the early nineteenth century. All major buildings are outlined, while an 'Explanation' identifies the occupiers of key real estate. The plan is principally based on Louis Charland's 1801 plan of Montreal, which presciently asserted that the city's development would be hindered by the continued presence of the old French town walls.[7] The British, realising that the walls no longer had any practical defensive utility, and as shown on this map, tore them down. This opened the city to its suburbs, ushering in a period of dramatic growth for Montreal that led it to eventually become one of the continent's leading cities.

One of the most valuable maps of the Sherbrooke collection is Lieutenant E.A. Smith's 'Plan of York. U.C.', 1817, a very finely executed map of the town that would be renamed Toronto in 1834. (Fig. 3) York, the capital of Upper Canada, had been sacked by American forces in April 1813. This rediscovered map deserves its place as one of the seminal historical depictions of what is now Canada's largest city. It labels all of the major streets, shows the locations of buildings and the newly rebuilt defences. It records the city's recovery from the war, shortly before a period of steady growth that would see what was a frontier village grow into a major city. Notably, it predates Lieutenant George Phillpotts's well-known 'Plan of York', 1818. A notation on the map, in Sherbrooke's hand, states that it was 'given to me by the late [Lt.] Colonel [Christopher] Myers', referring to the recently deceased Deputy Quarter Master of Upper Canada, who had been the Governor-General's main conduit for maps of that province.

Sherbrooke also possessed similar finely finished plans identifying other strategic sites in Upper Canada, including E.A. Smith's 'A Plan of the Town and adjacent Fortifications of Kingston', 1816. The plan depicts the genesis of the elaborate new defensive system that was being developed, including the erection of Fort Henry and Martello towers. Kingston occupied a strategically vital location, guarding the point where Lake Ontario flows into the St. Lawrence River.

A 'Plan of the Rideau River' and a 'Plan of the wings proposed for contracting the channel of the Rideau River', both made by Jean-Baptiste Duberger (Jnr) in 1816 are noteworthy as some of the earliest maps exploring the possibility of constructing the Rideau Canal. As almost all traffic from Lower Canada to Lake Ontario hitherto followed the St. Lawrence, perilously along the American border, it was seen as an imperative that a canal be built that would provide

a safe alternative route within British territory. The result was the Rideau Canal, completed in 1832; its northern terminus was the settlement of By Town, the site of Ottawa, Canada's modern capital.

Defending Britain's claims and accurately demarcating the international boundary between the United States and British North America was an imperative of Sherbrooke's postwar administration. While the definition of the boundary line had been articulated by the Treaty of Paris (1783), ambiguities in the wording of the agreement and serious misconceptions of geography ensured that the location of vast stretches of the border remained in dispute. The Treaty of Ghent mandated that efforts be made by both nations to demarcate the boundary. Sherbrooke's collection fittingly includes a large manuscript map by Jean-Baptiste Duberger (Jnr), dated 1815, which shows an overview of the border as it ran from the Upper Great Lakes to the Bay of Fundy.

The demarcation between Maine and New Brunswick was a pressing concern. In 1797 the boundary from Passamaquoddy Bay to the head of the St. Croix River had been ascertained, largely through the efforts of George Sproule, the Surveyor General of New Brunswick. However, the location of the boundary from that point northwards remained hotly contested. Sherbrooke possessed Sproule's manuscript 'Plan of Part of the Province of New Brunswick with the adjacent Territory of the United States', c.1815, which laid the foundation for the surveys which were to follow.

In the spring of 1817 Joseph Bouchette arrived in New Brunswick with a mandate to survey the undetermined part of the boundary, working alongside a team of American surveyors. This resulted in the exquisitely drafted 'Plan of the Exploring Survey from the source of the St. Croix to…the River St. Johns & the St. Lawrence', c. 1818, which outlines the progress of the survey from the St. Croix headwaters to the upper St. John River. While the British and the Americans would continue to haggle over the Maine–New Brunswick line, until it was settled by the Webster–Ashburton Treaty of 1842, Bouchette's excellent work armed the British with critical geographic intelligence that bolstered their claims.

Sherbooke's collection is rounded out by one of the finest regional topographical maps of North America printed during the first half of the nineteenth century. Joseph Bouchette's 'Topographical Map of the Province of Lower Canada', London, 1815, represents the culmination of over a generation of military and civilian surveys of Lower Canada. Exactingly engraved to a large scale, it is the first modern general map of what is now Southern Quebec, and one of the great masterpieces of cartography of the War of 1812 period.

Conclusions

Sir John Coape Sherbrooke's map collection is the finest and most historically important coherent archive of cartography from the War of 1812 period. It grants peerless insight into map use during the conflict and cartographic needs of administrators in the postwar period. Along with Sherbrooke's accompanying papers, it provides a fascinating glimpse into the mind of one of the most energetic and interesting military commanders of his time, and one of colonial Canada's most accomplished governors. The 'rediscovery' and sale of the Sherbrooke Papers to the Library and Archives of Canada ensures that these significant historical artifacts will be freely available for further study, and will hopefully lead to a greater appreciation of the cartography of the War of 1812 period and its role in the history of Canada and the United States.

Notes

1 Bonhams, Books, Maps, Manuscripts and Historical Photographs (Auction 20752), London, Knightsbridge, 19 June 2013, Lot 152.
2 For a new take on the War of 1812, see Alan Taylor, *The Civil War of 1812: American Citizens, British Subjects, Irish Rebels, & Indian Allies*, New York, 2011.
3 Peter Burroughs, 'Sir John Coape Sherbrooke', *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*.
4 For charts from Thomas Backhouse's surveys of Atlantic ports in British North America, see Robert Laurie & James Whittle, *North American Pilot*, London, 1800; Edmund L. Blunt & Lawrence Furlong, *The American Coast Pilot*, Newburyport, Mass., 1806.
5 William Chewett & David William Smyth, *A Map of the Province of Upper Canada,* London, 1800. Samuel Johannes Holland, *A New Map of the Province of Lower Canada*, London, 1802.
6 D. C. Harvey, 'The Halifax–Castine expedition', *Dalhousie Rev.*, 18 (1938–39): pp. 207–13.
7 Louis Charland, 'Plan de la Ville et Cité de Montreal avec les projets d'accroisments', Mss., 1801.

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Bernard Roman's Revolutionary War map, *Map of the Seat of Civil War in America*, Philadelphia, 1775. Sold October 10, 2013 for $173,000.

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GLIMPSES OF POWER, BEAUTY & KNOWLEDGE

Putting the Philippines on the map

Leovino Ma. Garcia

'Putting the Philippines on the Map', an exhibition organised by the Philippine Map Collectors Society (PHIMCOS) to help promote a sense of national pride, was on view at the Mall of Asia main lobby from 21 August to 1 September 2013. With texts in Filipino and English, the exhibition hoped to make the appreciation and interpretation of maps accessible to as wide an audience as possible. The text below accompanied the exhibition.

Maps help us find our place in the world. They do not only point out *where we are* and where we want to go. But they also tell us *who we are*. Maps instruct us about our history and identity. They provide us with a memory and a destiny. Maps give us a sense of self-esteem.

Our self-esteem grows as we see our country, the Philippines, gradually emerging and being put on the map: on Sebastian Münster's 1550 'India Extrema' map, with only the island of Puloan or Palawan; on Ramusio/Gastaldi's 1554/1563 'Terza Tavola' map, where the word 'Filipina' appears for the first time on a western document; on Abraham Ortelius' 1584/1601 'Chinae' map, with only the coastline of Luzon; and finally, on Petrus Kaerius' 1598 'Insulae Philippinae', the first separately-printed map of the Philippines. (Fig. 1)



Fig. 1 Petrus Kaerius, 'Insulae Philippinae', Amsterdam, 1598. PHIMCOS collection.

The 'Icarian' view

To appreciate maps, it may help to look first at Pieter Bruegel's 1558 painting of the *Fall of Icarus* (below). Borrowing a theme from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Bruegel presents a panoramic view with three characters in the foreground – a farmer, a shepherd and a fisherman – too absorbed in their tasks to even notice the tragic event nearby. In the *Fall of Icarus* one looks down from a high point and obtains an overall view of the world, with all its minute details. This sweeping view of the distance and of the detail is called the 'Icarian view'. To look at a map is to view the world from above. It is to be like God who oversees everything. To oversee everything is to be everywhere, to experience the power of controlling everything and everyone. There is a compelling link between maps and power.

Why do antique maps fascinate us? Their appeal comes from the unique synthesis of geography, exploration, trade, travel, history, culture, commerce, science and art. Antique maps continue to charm us because they are not only prized objects of beauty and archives of knowledge but also coveted instruments of power.

A map is not only a physical object of knowledge, beauty and power. It is also a 'metaphysical object' which makes us aware of a reality beyond the visible, prompting us to wonder about our unique being. Cartography seems to thrive from a kind of ambiguity. Situated at the intersection of exact science and art, the study of maps is based on physical description and mathematical theory. Yet it finds it necessary to reintroduce the imagination.



The 'cartographic transaction'

A map represents or, more aptly, *presents* the world. By a visual presentation of what we usually refer to as the 'real', maps render the world visible. But maps do not only reveal but also conceal. There are 'silences' in maps. Maps display the world, as when they warn us where not to build our homes. But they also erase existing landmarks and differences. Here, one comes close to understanding what is truly unique to a map if one bears in mind the important 'cartographic transaction' in the mapping of the world. This brings about the change of the physical world into a conceptual map. It should not surprise us then that maps can be used to serve the ideology of conquest, the rhetoric of nationalism, or the politics of cultural differences.

Three conceptual stages comprise this 'cartographic transaction': a first stage where space is *measured*; a second stage where space is *visualised*; and a third stage where space is *narrated*. The conceptual trio of number, image and text accounts for the *conversion* of the natural world into a mental map.

In the first stage of **measurement**, the land 'surveyor', standing on the highest vantage point – a hilltop or a church tower – obtains accurate calculations of the landscape. With the surveyor's tools, the space of the world becomes quantifiable and mathematisable.

In the second stage of **visualisation**, the mapmaker creates images that later circulate in society to lure people to a life of adventure, to stir up their pride of place, or to strengthen their religious fervour. To convey the thrills as well as the perils of the Age of Exploration, the map 'Indiae Orientalis' by Bruegel's friend, Abraham Ortelius (Fig. 2), abounds with mermaids, sea monsters, and a sunken galleon. The 1613 Gerard Mercator-Jodocus Hondius 'Insulae Indiae Orientalis' map (Fig. 3), which puts the Philippines at the very centre of Asia, shows two ships – a Spanish and a Dutch – firing at each other. It shows Spain's naval defeat in the sea battle off Manila Bay between Admiral Olivier Van Noort and Dr Antonio de Morga in 1600. In the 1744 small version map of the Spanish Jesuit, Fr Pedro Murillo Velarde (Fig. 4), we see St Francis Xavier approaching the island of Mindanao, bolstering the eighteenth-century fond belief that this 'Apostle of the Indies' set foot there. The map makes accessible not only a space for exploration, conquest, missionary activity but also for commercial ventures as indicated by the maritime trade routes on many maps like the 1748 George Anson maps. (Fig. 5)

The narration of space

In the third stage, **narration**, space is recounted. Here, the task does not consist in examining in great detail a historical series of single maps of a particular place. Although this may lead to valuable insights on the shape of a specific place, one should concentrate on the



Above
Fig. 2
Abraham Ortelius, 'Indiae Orientalis, insularumque adiacentium typus', Antwerp, 1574. Juana Madriaga Garcia – Natividad Galang Fajardo Map Collection.



Left
Fig. 3
Gerard Mercator-Jodocus Hondius, 'Insulae Indiae Orientalis, praecipuae in quibus Moluccae celeberrimae sunt', Amsterdam, 1613. Juana Madriaga Garcia – Natividad Galang Fajardo Map Collection.





act or *process of mapping*. If one does this, the individual map will appear as a core, surrounded by a set of meanings.

There is a *discourse* of geography. Maps narrate a new social, economic, or political order. They forge an identity – both cultural and national. Here, local maps become important for the enhancement of self-esteem like the 1760 Homann edition 'Carta Hydrographica y Chorographica de las Ysles [*sic*] Filipinas' (Fig. 6) of Fr Pedro Murillo Velarde's 1744 map. It is only when one appreciates the uniqueness of one's town, city or region that one becomes at the same time open to see the world as a unity in diversity. Space is not to be regarded as an all-encompassing container of a physical world made up of material objects but as the imaginative product of social action. If space is materially produced in architecture, urban planning and civil engineering, then social-cultural space is also 'produced' by geographical texts and images.

To appreciate the map as a graphic representation of space, one must see the link between maps and picture making. This link goes back to Ptolemy's *Geographia*. The only Greek word available to Ptolemy in referring to a 'maker of pictures' was *graphikōs*. The common meaning of the suffix *graphō* is not only 'to draw' but 'to record and write'. During the Renaissance the Latin word *descriptio* replaces *graphō*. This word calls attention to the sense in which images are drawn or inscribed as something written. It calls attention to a mode of pictorial representation. As *descriptio*, maps make us see what is beyond the visible. Maps then do not only provide us information on the shapes of coastlines and the distances between towns, but enrich us with political, ethnological, strategic, social and linguistic knowledge.

To illustrate this, different narratives are told by the texts found on maps. On the back of the 1598 Petrus Kaerius map is written that there are 'inhabitants without laws' (*inwoenderen zonder Wetten*) who are 'cannibals' (*Menscheneeters*). In the southwest medallion of the 1760 Homann edition of the Murillo Velarde map, drawn by Francisco Suarez and engraved by Nicolas de la Cruz Bagay, both Filipinos, we read:

The Indios [Filipinos] are well-built, have fine features and are dusky in complexion. They become good writers, painters, sculptors, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, embroiderers and sailors. The Christian religion is taught in Spanish, Tagalog, Sangley or Chinese, Pampango, Ilocano, Pangasinan, Cagayano, Visayan, Camarines and other languages.

Here, two different subjective attitudes are at work. The first one is disdainful, the second benevolent. The

process of mapping undergoes a change. The narration produces or *projects* different spaces of meaning.



Fig. 6
Johann Baptist Homann/Pedro Murillo Velarde, 'Carte Hydrographique & Chorographique des Ysles Philippines', Nuremberg, 1760. Juana Madriaga Garcia – Natividad Galang Fajardo Map Collection.

The reading or interpretation of maps, especially antique maps, is an invitation to travel – to embark on a journey of the imagination. It involves venturing into the space of what is more truly 'real'. This is the world of the creative word – of narratives, both literary and historical. Maps tell the story of space. To name a place is already to tell a story. There are as many stories as there are names on a map. Like a true lover, the map lover never tires of gazing at maps, imagining and recounting stories in the journey of being human.

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Leovino Ma. Garcia *PhD served as the first lay Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences (1988–94) and the first Dean of the School of Humanities (2000–07) of the Ateneo de Manila University. For his work in promoting cultural relations between France, Belgium and the Philippines, he was bestowed with the rank of Officier, Ordre des Arts et Lettres by the French Government in 2008 and the rank of Commander, Order of Leopold II by the Belgian Government in 2012.*

At present he teaches courses on Aesthetics, Hermeneutics and Contemporary French Philosophy (Paul Ricoeur and Emmanuel Levinas) at the Ateneo de Manila University and at the University of Santo Tomas. He has applied Ricoeur's hermeneutics in the interpretation of contemporary Philippine paintings and antique Philippine maps. He edited Carlos Quirino's Philippine Cartography *in 2010. A member of PHIMCOS, he has helped organise map exhibits aimed at promoting the appreciation of maps.*

Opposite page, top
Fig. 4 Pedro Murillo Velarde, 'Mapa de las Yslas Philipinas', Manila, 1744. Juana Madriaga Garcia – Natividad Galang Fajardo Map Collection.

Opposite page, bottom
Fig. 5 George Anson, 'A Chart of the Channel in the Phillippine Islands through which Manila Galeon passes together with the adjacent Islands', London, 1748. Juana Madriaga Garcia – Natividad Galang Fajardo Map Collection.

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THE PRESENCE OF SPAIN AND NEW SPAIN IN ALASKA

Maritime expeditions in the Pacific Northwest

Martine Chomel

After reading about Alaska, I decided to join the 31st IMCoS International Symposium in Fairbanks, Alaska. With the hope of seeing as much of the landscape as possible, I used the services of the Ferry Marine System; the ferry leaves from Bellingham, north of Seattle in Washington State. Its destination is Whittier or Valdez in Prince William Sound in the relative proximity of Anchorage. The trip of 1,629 miles (2,621 km) takes four and a half days before the vessel reaches its final destination, making short stops in Ketchikan, Juneau and Yakutat where one can disembark.

The ship takes a fabulous course through the Inside Passage; a long natural channel that runs between 1,100 islands separated by deep and sometimes narrow waterways. It roughly runs in a south-north orientation and is perfect for navigation as it is protected from the Pacific Ocean but subject to high tides. With generally good weather in the summer months, it offers gorgeous views of the surrounding snow-covered mountains and glaciers. The rest of the year is rainy and cold because of its high latitude. In a length of approximately 400 miles (643 km) there are about 25,000 miles (40,000 km) of coast, 10,000 estuaries and 15,000 miles (24,000 km) of navigable waterways.

In the Alexander Archipelago, islands of irregular shapes and heights are to be found south of Glacier Bay. They are covered with thick woods of giant cedars, firs and spruce. Abundant fauna including reindeer, caribou, musk ox, moose and bear inhabit them.

On inspection of maps of the region, which form the Alexander Archipelago and include the Inside Passage, I noticed that several of the place names were named after well-known figures in Spanish maritime history: Bucareli, Revillagigedo, Quadra, Malaspina, Valdez and Cordova. These are not the only ones, but they refer to the most notable characters.

During the last quarter of the eighteenth century the spirit of Enlightenment blew over Europe. Political, administrative and economic reforms were responsible for the modernisation of the different countries. There existed a fever for scientific knowledge directly related to material progress. The Spanish crown found a favourable response in New Spain, its wealthiest possession in America, as its official administrators were receptive to the new ideas. Spain and New Spain were mentally ready to organise, among other things, maritime expeditions to explore the northwest coast of America and reaffirm Spanish sovereignty of their possessions worldwide.

The six mentioned persons were involved in several maritime expeditions and the exploration of the northwest coast under the government of New Spain's viceroys during the reign of the Bourbon Spanish monarchs Carlos III and Carlos IV. (See portrait of Carlos III on page 1.)[1]

Viceroy Antonio María Bucareli y Ursúa

Bucareli y Ursúa (Fig. 1) was appointed viceroy of New Spain in 1771 and ruled the country until 1779. He worked to improve the administration of the capital and of the country. He tried to find a solution to the yearly flood that occurred in the capital, he built forts in Veracruz and Acapulco and subdued the bellicose tribes of the Chichimec family in the north of the country.

He also sent three maritime expeditions to the northern coast of America, primarily to check on Russian encroachment in the area and to impose Spanish sovereignty.

The first expedition left the new harbour of San Blas, northwest of New Spain in 1774 and for the first time reached 55° 49' latitude north. Here they turned back down to Nootka and founded Monterrey on the California coast.

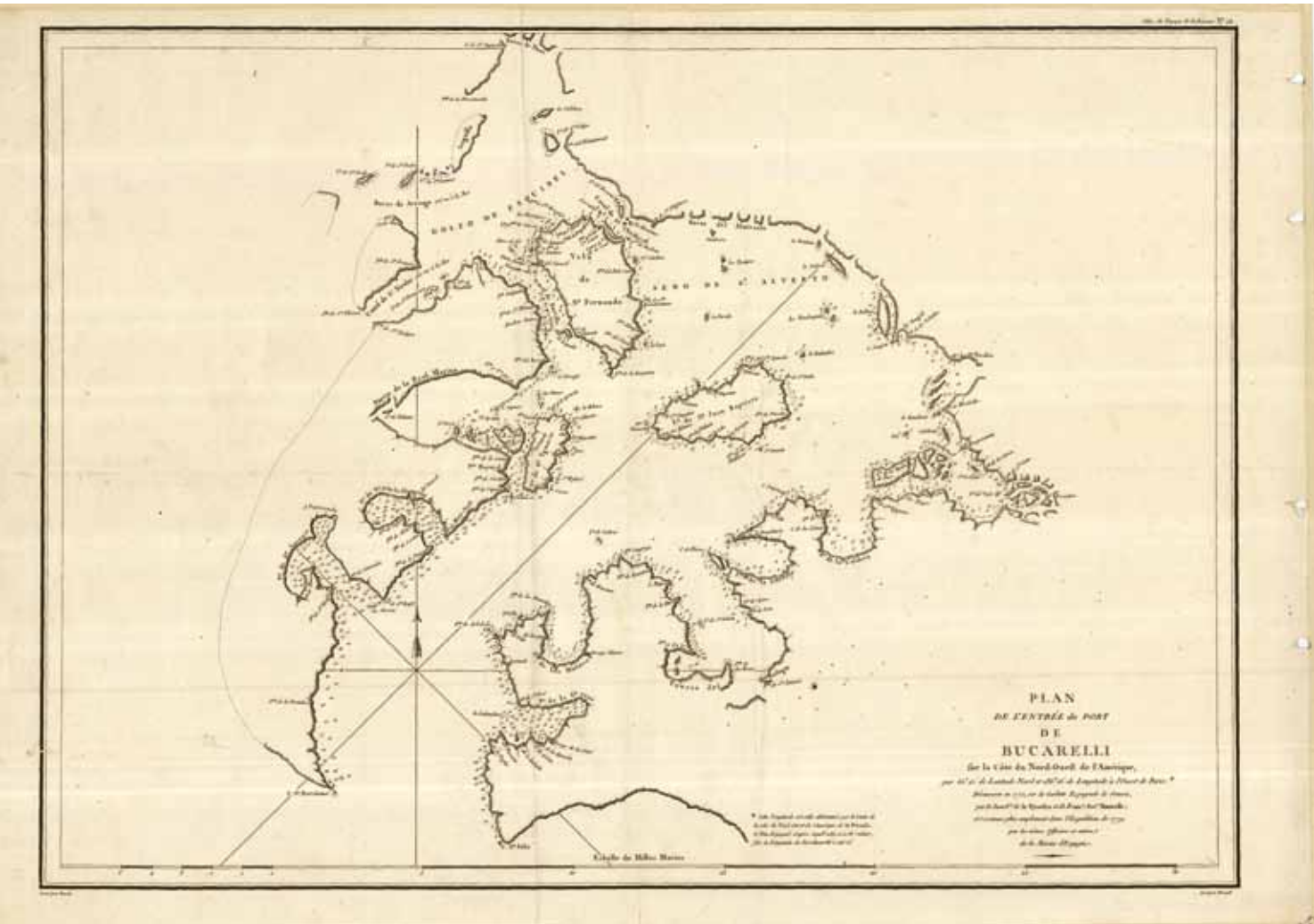
The second expedition, under the command of Bruno de Hezeta and Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, of Peruvian origin, took the same route. The latter had the necessary qualifications to conduct the expedition but suffered the prejudices of his Spanish crew. Scurvy, hurricanes and a massacre of some of the sailors by natives hiding on the coast delayed the progress of their expedition. Quadra was the first to reach Sitka.



A third expedition, conducted partly again by Quadra, left San Blas in 1779 with the mission of finding the Northwest Passage between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. They failed on that count, however, more successfully they charted every bay and inlet. As a result the whole coast was mapped up to latitude 61° 17'. It was this achievement which Spain used to defend its sovereignty over the Pacific Northwest. A formal deed of possession between officers and chaplains was signed in an imposing ceremony.

Left
Fig. 1 Anonymous, *Viceroy Antonio María Bucareli y Urzúa*, oil on canvas. Distrito Federal Town Hall collection, Mexico City.

Below
Fig. 2 'Plan de l'entrée du Port de Bucarelli sur la côte du nord-ouest de l'Amérique par 55° 15' de latitude nord et 136° 15' de longitude de Paris: découverte en 1775 sur la goélette espagnole la Sonora, par Don Juan Francisco Quadra et Antonio Maurelle et reconnue plus amplement dans l'expédition de 1779 par les mêmes officiers et autres de la Marine d'Espagne'. Engraved by Bouclet. Courtesy of Mapoteca Orozco y Berra (SAGARPA), Mexico City.



Bucareli Bay

Bucareli Bay is a 25-mile-long bay located off the western coast of Prince of Wales Island, between Baker Island and Suemez Island. To the east it connects to various waterways, such as San Alberto Bay. To the west it opens directly out on the Pacific Ocean. The name Bucareli was given in 1775 by Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra. The Spaniards repeatedly visited Bucareli Bay in the late eighteenth century. (Fig. 2)

Juan Vicente de Güemes Padilla Horcasitas y Aguayo, Segundo Conde de Revillagigedo, viceroy of New Spain

Ten years later, Juan Vicente de Guëmes, known as Revillagigedo governed New Spain between 1789 and 1794, and became its best administrator. He reorganised Mexico City, solved several of its internal problems and modernised New Spain. (Fig. 3)

Additionally, he was a strong supporter of maritime voyages to chart the northwest coast of America. During Revillagigedo's administration, Frigate Captain Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra was instrumental in the difficult negotiation of the sovereignty of the northwest coast. Bodega, a talented diplomat, was commissioned by King Carlos IV to meet British officer George Vancouver in Nootka Island in 1792. Although the two men had a good relationship, they were incapable of concluding a satisfactory agreement on the treaty. Bodega did not want to give up the ownership of the island as he maintained that Spain had got there first.

The Nootka Sound Conventions were a series of three successive agreements in 1790, 1793 and 1794 designed to avoid tension and a possible war between Spain and Britain about conflicting claims on areas of the same territory in the Pacific Northwest. With the growing threat of the Napoleonic wars in Europe, the Spaniards dismantled their settlement at Nootka in 1795, marking the end of Spanish dominance on the Northwest coast.

Revillagigedo Island

In honour of the Viceroy one island in the Inside Passage was baptised with his name. It is one of the principal islands of the Alexander Archipelago and belongs to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. It is separated from the continent by the Behm Channel to the east, the Prince of Wales Island to the west and the Annette Island to the south. This large island has a very small population. Its biggest town is Ketchikan. Revillagigedo Channel extends northwest from the Dixon entrance. It lies between the mainland and Revillagigedo Island.

Boca de Quadra

Boca de Quadra is a deep inlet, east of Annette Island on Revillagigedo Channel. The Boca breaches out into five short inlets which end in the Misty Fiords Monument. It houses fisheries for halibut and wild salmon. In the surroundings are Quadra Bay, Quadra Channel, North and South Quadra Mountains, Quadra lakes, Quadra Point and Quadra Island.

The Malaspina expedition (1789–94)[2]

Alessandro Malaspina wanted to organise a maritime expedition to visit all Spain's possessions in America and Asia. Its intentions would be both political and scientific and was modelled on contemporary English and French explorations by James Cook and Comte de La Pérouse.

Malaspina, Italian by birth, belonged to the aristocracy and was given the best possible classical education in Rome after which he left for Cádiz to attend the prestigious naval college called *Guardiamarinas*. He became part of the elite as an officer of the Armada. Malaspina distinguished



Fig. 3 Anonymous, *Viceroy Juan Vicente de Guëmes Pacheco de Padilla, segundo conde de Revillagigedo*, oil on canvas. Distrito Federal Town Hall collection, Mexico City.

himself in battle and in 1786 was invited by the Royal Company of the Philippines to command a commercial circumnavigation of the world. (Fig. 4)

At the age of 34 he felt mature and experienced enough to offer his services to King Carlos III. Malaspina proposed to organise an expedition around the world, the purposes of which were to determine latitudes and longitudes using astronomical observations, draw hydrographical charts of the most remote areas of the voyage and increase knowledge of the natural sciences including geology, botany and zoology along the way. King Carlos III accepted Malaspina's project shortly before his death in 1788.

The newly built vessels left Cádiz on 30 July 1789. On board were the best scientists and artists of the time: cartographer and astronomer Juan Gutiérrez de la Concha; the painters José del Pozo, José Guío, the Italian Fernando Brambila, Tomás de Suria; and the botanists Luis Née, Antonio Pineda and Tadeo Haenke.

After rounding Cape Horn, the expedition followed up the coast of South America and finally arrived at Acapulco. Tomás Suria, a Spanish draftsman and engraver, head of the Engraving Department in the *Casa de Moneda de Mexico*, was appointed by Viceroy Revillagigedo to join the expedition. A young Spanish sailor named José Cardero, who had some drawing skills, was encouraged by Suria to second him in his enormous task.



Fig. 4 J.M. Galván, *Alessandro Malaspina*, 1881, oil on canvas. Museo Naval, Madrid.

While in Mexico, Malaspina received the order from Carlos IV, the new king of Spain, to search for a Northwest Passage recently rumoured to have been discovered. Carlos' instructions forced Malaspina to abandon his plans to sail directly to Hawaii and Kamchatka. Following the new king's wishes he sailed north up the coast and reached Yakutat Bay and Prince William Sound where he realised such a passage did not exist.

Port Mulgrave

This small harbour is mentioned although its name is not Spanish; it is classified as a bay in Yakutat County on the coast, north of the Inside Passage. In 1791 the Malaspina expedition spent some time in Mulgrave where it made contact with the Tlingit tribe. Members of the expedition visited one of their important tombs and totems, studied their way of life, made notes on their language and recorded them wearing their traditional fur garments. Suria, with the help of José Cardero, drew their surroundings and their life on the river. The original engravings, sketches and written documents are conserved in the *Museo Naval* in Madrid.[3] In Suria's diary appear, among many other things, sketches of two canoes, covered with waterproof animal skins; the Tlingit's essential means of navigation on the waterways. (Fig. 5) Another ethnological object referring to the same place and drawn by Cardero is a Tlingit conical hat crowned with a cylindrical top and animal bristles. It represents an animal face, painted in bright colours, which may refer to a symbolic ancestor or protector of the chief, and is similar to the one on display in the Alaska State Museum in Juneau. (Fig. 6)[4]

Malaspina Glacier

It is located in the southeast part of Alaska and is more extensive in North America with an extension of nearly 3,000 miles (4,828 km). Its icy valleys run down close to the coast of Yakutat. Lake Malaspina lies south of Yakutat Bay.

Valdez

Valdez is located on the eastern side of Prince William Sound which stands on the eastern side of the Kenai





Above **Fig. 5 Tomás Suria, sketch of canoes from Suria's diary, 1791, ink on paper. Museo Naval, Madrid.**

Right **Fig. 6 José Cardero, Tlingit hat of the Mulgrave chief, 1791, ink on paper. Museo Naval, Madrid.**

Peninsula and north of the Inside Passage. Its major harbour is Valdez, known to day for being the south end of the Trans-Alaska pipeline. It is sadly also remembered as the site of the 1989 maritime disaster, the *Exxon Valdez* oil tanker spill which caused the death of about 250,000 birds, 3,000 otters, 300 sea lions, 250 bald eagles and a few whales. Valdez owes its name to Antonio Valdés, who was the Spanish Marine Secretary at the time of the Malaspina expedition. It was named by José Antonio Gutiérrez de la Concha, the official cartographer and astronomer of the expedition.[5]

Cordova

Cordova is a tiny agglomeration close to Valdez. In the vicinity are Cordova Glacier and Cordova Peak. According to Dr Arsenio Rey-Tejerina, Cordova owes its name to Luis de Córdova y Córdova, a famous captain of the Armada who had a very long and brilliant career.[6] He took part in naval battles in the Mediterranean reconquering Oran, Naples and Sicily; he convoyed Spanish galleons to Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; and fought piracy. Above all, in 1782 he was involved in the war against the British in the English Channel and the blockade of Gibraltar. He never made it to the Pacific Northwest.

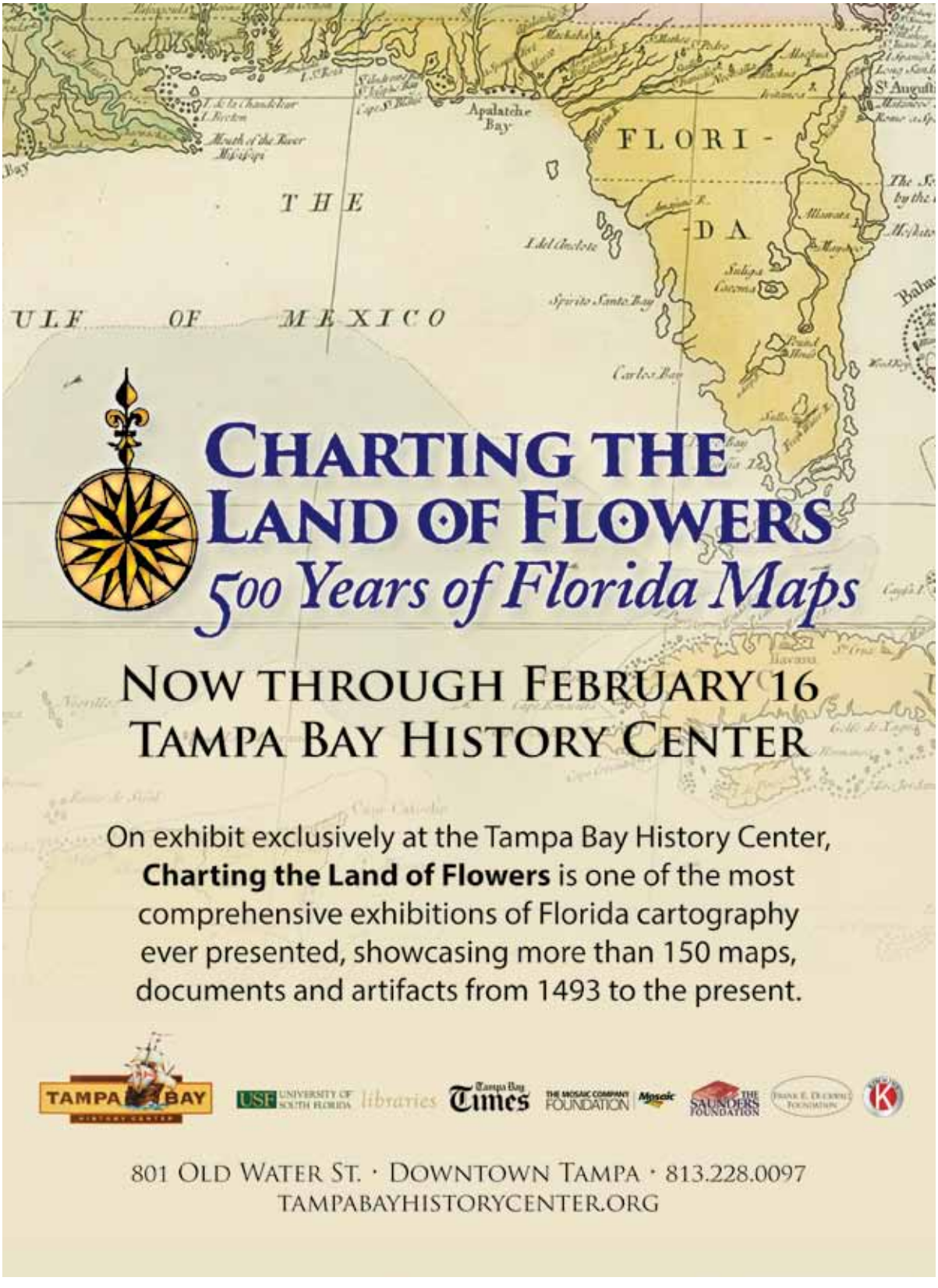
According to Dr Rey-Tejerina, there are many more Spanish-related place names on the coast of the Inside Passage. But his long list includes numerous Christian saints and names of people who played a minor part in the Spanish-speaking history of Alaska.

The Spaniards contributed to the charting of the northwest coastline and the Inside Passage between 1774 and 1795. Their work precedes that of the Russians who were mostly looking for furs during the last quarter of the eighteenth century. It would be interesting for the State University of Alaska at Fairbanks and Anchorage to gather copies of this precious material from Spanish and Mexican sources and build a virtual atlas following the new trend of cybernetics.

Notes

1 Antón Raphael Mengs, *King Carlos III*, 1761, oil on canvas. Prado Museum, Madrid.
2 Virginia González Claverán, *Malaspina en Acapulco*, México: Gobierno Constitucional del Estado de Guerrero, 1989.
3 Carmen Soto Serrano, *Los pintores de la expedición Malaspina*, Tomo I, p.131 and Tomo II, figs. 587 and 594, Madrid: Real Academia de Historia, 1982.
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6 Arsenio Rey-Tejerina, *Alaska-Nutka, colofón del imperio español*, Sevilla: Ediciones Arboleda, 2003.

Martine Chomel *is a retired researcher who worked at the Museo Nacional de Historia, Chapultepec Castle, Mexico City. She is the IMCoS National Representative for Mexico.*


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THE SPICE ISLANDS

The mapping of an unknown paradise that changed the world

Christine & Robert Clancy

For a decade we unsuccessfully explored ways to visit the Spice Islands. It became possible, when friend and author of *Spice Islands*, Ian Burnet organised a cruise on the schooner *Ombak Puti*.[1] This article was inspired by that trip to the remote eastern part of the Indonesian archipelago – the Maluku Islands (originally the Moluccas). Located on the Halmahera plate, the group includes the northern islands of Ternate, Tidore, Motir, Makian, Batjan and Halmahera. About 700 km (435 miles) to the southeast of Ambon lie the thirteen tiny volcanic islands of the Banda group, or the South Malukus, in the Banda Sea. We found volcanic islands of immense beauty surrounded by coral reefs, with a local population that continued age-old traditions of growing and harvesting nutmeg and cloves while living in a garden paradise unspoiled by modern society.

Remote and minuscule in size, the whereabouts of these islands captivated the imagination of sixteenth-century Europe, for here grew fabulous trees whose harvests of nutmeg, mace and cloves provided the Venetian, Portuguese and finally the Dutch with inestimable wealth. While rarity of these products assured their high price, what gave these spices their unique appeal was the mystery of their origin. The search for the Spice Islands drove seafaring exploration and with it several hundred years of the development of cartography.

The story of spices from the East precedes written history. There is reference to 'cinnamon' obtained by Queen Hatshepsut from an expedition to Punt[2] on a series of frescoes at the temple Dayr al-Bahri from about 1480 BC. Archaeologists have found cloves in ceramic vessels in present day Syria with evidence dating the find to about 1721 BC, and Pliny the Elder (AD 23–79) mentions *Caryophyllon* in *Naturalis Historia*.[3] Nutmeg had reached Asia before the birth of Christ and by about AD 500 it had arrived in the countries bordering the Mediterranean. In *Kitābal-masālik wa-al-mamālik* (Book of routes and provinces), ninth-century Persian geographer Ibn Khurradādhbih wrote of the island of Djaba (Java) which was, in his estimation, two weeks' sailing from the spice-producing Banda Islands. However, it was not until the fifteenth century that the Spice Islands appeared on a chart and another hundred years before a vessel carrying a European flag visited these islands. The ensuing fight for control of their produce is reflected in contemporary maps produced in Europe of the East Indies.

Remarkably, Sebastian Münster's 'Tabula orientalis regionis, Asiæ scilicet extremas complectens terras & regna' was produced less than 30 years after the Portuguese set the first European foot on the Spice Islands. Despite intense efforts on the part of the Portuguese to keep the location of these islands shrouded in secrecy, Münster's map locates the islands with reasonable accuracy. It appeared in his 1540 edition of Ptolemy's *Geographia* which broke new ground in many ways: it included his production of the first single map of Asia with use of the term *India Extrema* depicting all land to the east of the 'Middle East'. In addition to much information derived from the travels of Marco Polo in the thirteenth century, depicted are the key sites – Aden, Goa and Malaqua (Malacca) – controlled by the Portuguese in order to impose sanctions on all spice trade to Europe. The islands of the Moluccas are also identified.

In 1500 Arab, Chinese and Malaysian traders bought spices in Malacca and other great entrepôts of the East, transporting them along land and maritime 'roads' to ports in the Levant, a practice that had changed little over 1500 years. From the Eastern Mediterranean ports Venetian traders used their maritime and land networks to distribute spices and luxury goods to the commercial fairs and to merchants throughout Europe. Prior to the Portuguese taking control of the distribution routes Venice had employed 36,000 people. The end-user saw prices rise more than sixty-fold due to customs, duties and excises.

Portugal's long-term strategy was to bypass traditional distribution routes and attendant middlemen by establishing direct maritime contact with the eastern entrepôts and then controlling the supply lines. A sea route between Portugal and India was shown to be viable by Vasco da Gama in 1498. Alfonso de Albuquerque moved to establish protected Portuguese bases at Goa (1509) and Malacca (1511), from where he could shut down trade supply lines to Europe by

blockading Aden (and thus the Red Sea route) and by taking Hormuz at the entrance to the Persian Gulf. Almost immediately, he sent two captains – António de Abreu and Francisco Serrão – to establish trading links with the Spice Islands, using the skills of local pilots, as the exact position of the islands remained a mystery. Thus, after 1500 years of speculation, Europeans finally found themselves on Banda, the sole source of nutmeg, and by a bizarre set of circumstances following a shipwreck on Ternate where clove trees flourished. The Portuguese never attempted serious control of the spice trade at its sources, but preferred to establish lightly protected trading posts or 'factories', and played on existing tensions between sultanates (especially Tidore and Ternate) when challenged. The Portuguese sent regular 'spice ships' to collect the nutmeg and cloves and returned the cargo to warehouses in Malacca and Goa for distribution by sea to Europe.

The dispute between Spain and Portugal over rights to newly discovered lands centred on the Papal Line of Demarcation established by the Treaty of Tordesillas, Spain, in 1494. Inaccuracy of longitude measurement facilitated arguments, and on a map of the area of Spanish interest in the East Indies by a Spanish cartographer, the line is mischievously placed too far to the west (through today's Malaya) despite the ceding of the Moluccas to Portugal in the 1529 Treaty of Zaragoza. (Fig. 1) In Herrera's map, not only do the Spice Islands fall in Spain's favour but also Malacca. Placing the Moluccas 40° too far to the east helped the Spanish argument! Herrera published this map in his *Historia general de los hechos de los Castellanos en las Islas i Tierra Firme del Mar Océano* in 1601. Figure 1 is a 1622 Dutch re-engraving. The map was derived from a manuscript map drawn 25 years earlier by López de Velasco, official historian of Castile and the Indies to Philip II.

Spain's long-standing but intermittent involvement with the Spice Islands is less well known than that of Portugal's. It began after Magellan's death in the Philippines in 1521 when Juan Elcano, his second in command, guided what remained of Magellan's fleet to Tidore. There followed a series of Spanish armadas crossing the Pacific and direct conflicts with Portugal involving the Sultans of Tidore and Ternate. Despite the Treaty of Zaragoza, which had ceded ownership to Portugal, arguments about the position of the 'Line of Demarcation' continued. When Spain captured Manila in 1571, it moved its Pacific base to the Philippines, focusing on moving trade including spices through the Manila entrepôt and driving the economy with Spanish dollars from the silver mines in Mexico. Spain exploited Portugal's poor fortification of the island of Ternate and forced their departure. The Portuguese re-established a local base to the south in



Fig. 1
Antonio de Herrera y Tordesillas, 'Descripcion de las Indias del Poniente', 1601–22.

Ambon. Fear of the growing Dutch presence on the island of Tidore prompted Spain to return in 1603, but this had little effect on containing Dutch expansion. Spain finally relinquished the island and returned permanently to their Manila base in 1663.

According to Linschoten, his map of Southeast Asia (Fig. 2) was compiled 'from the most correct charts that the Portuguese pilots nowadays make use of' and became the bible for Dutch merchants wanting to trade in the East Indies.[4] Linschoten's map was published on his return to Holland after a stint as secretary to the Portuguese bishop in Goa. His appointment served him well, and he brought back with him secret information and maps which he published in his *Itinerario* as a guide to help Dutch involvement in the spice trade. Sources for the map include a manuscript portolan chart of 1573 by Portuguese cartographer Fernão Vaz Dourado, who was known to Linschoten, and works by Bartolomeu Lasso, cartographer to the King of Spain. The maps in the *Itinerario* were published by Petrus Plancius, first official cartographer to the VOC which he had helped to establish in 1602. The accuracy of this map regarding the East Indies was a significant improvement on Ortelius' 'Indiae Orientalis Insularumque Adiacientium Typus', 1570, which was the standard map available at the time. (See Fig. 2 on p. 23.)

Following the formation of the Republic of the Seven United Provinces in 1581, the Dutch focused on what they knew best: trade. Spain's pressure on Portugal to stop the supply of spices to merchants in Amsterdam, following her departure from the Netherlands, was enough to initiate a decision by the Dutch to take Portugal on at the source of the spice supply line: the Moluccas.

Cornelis de Houtman was commissioned to represent the interests of Amsterdam traders to find a route to the Spice Islands avoiding the Portuguese. He had been sent earlier to Lisbon to gather as much information as possible about them. Following Linschoten's advice, in 1595 he successfully negotiated a route by way of the Sunda Strait rather than the Malacca Strait, the Portuguese chosen access. De Houtman limped home with just a fraction of the crew he started out with – scurvy, pirates and poor diplomatic skills put pay to its commercial success, but he did demonstrate the viability of direct Dutch involvement in the spice trade.

Unlike the Portuguese, the Dutch set out to control the trade of spices at source and used whatever force it required to subdue resistance. The Dutch government vested its interest through a merchant-based joint stock company, the Dutch East India Company (VOC), to



Fig. 2
Jan Huygen van Linschoten, 'Exacta & accurata delineatio cum orarum maritimarum ... in regionibus China, ... Malacca, ... & Pegu, ...', 1595.

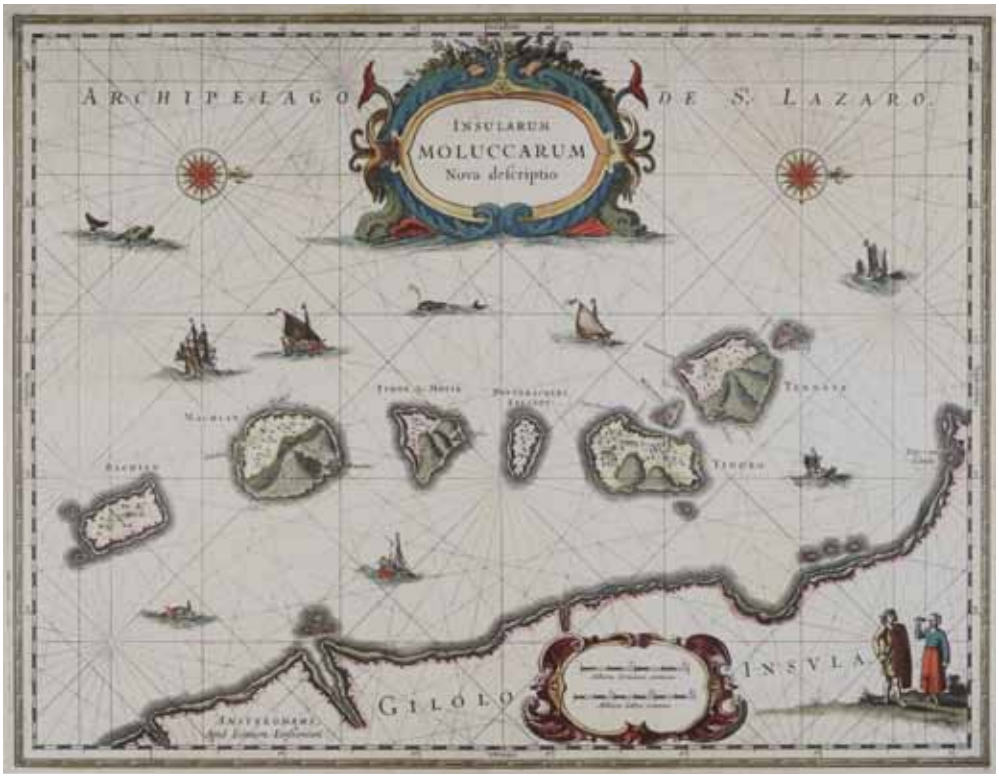


Fig. 3
Jan Jansson, 'Insularum Moluccarum Nova descriptio', 1633.



Fig. 4
Willem Blaeu, 'India quæ Oreintalis dicitur insulæ adiacentes', 1635.

whom they granted near total local autonomy. The VOC was established to profit from the spice trade and it moved quickly to oust the Portuguese from their base on the island of Ambon. With the assistance of the Sultan of Ternate, (again exploiting traditional hatreds) the Dutch overwhelmed the inhabitants of Tidore. Meanwhile they established their own base at Batavia (now Jakarta) on the north coast of Java.

The fulcrum of Dutch power in the early seventeenth century was Jan Pieterszoon Coen. He was a VOC man who became Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies and was responsible for the strategic development and control of the spice trade. He created an administrative base at Batavia from where he oversaw all the main regional trade routes. Later, he took control of the sources of nutmeg and cloves and set about enforcing Dutch monopoly over Banda's spice trade. He decimated the Bandanese population in retaliation for an earlier massacre of Dutch traders. Fifteen thousand Bandanese were killed or forced to leave their island, after which Coen re-distributed the some half a million nutmeg trees into sixty-eight 1.2-hectare *perken* (land parcels) which were then passed to Dutch planters for administration.

The English had earlier set up a fortified trading post on the small island of Run (part of the Banda group) circa twenty kilometres from the Dutch on the main Banda Islands. Merchant and navy officer Nathaniel Courthope was hired by the East India Company in 1616 to go to the Spice Islands to defend their interests and break the Dutch hold on the nutmeg supply. He was killed by the Dutch, who then proceeded to remove all nutmeg trees from the island. Any dwindling English competition was neutralised seven years later in 1623 at the Amboyna Massacre where any remaining English traders were tortured and executed.

Coen finally tricked the Sultans of Ternate and Tidore into allowing the removal of their clove trees to enable the Dutch to completely control the market for cloves which he relocated to the Ambon area (leaving the natives of the previously wealthy Sultanates of Ternate and Tidore impoverished). Thus begun a 200-year monopoly of the spice trade and colonial rule administered by the Dutch. Commercial success was reflected in an annual dividend paid by the VOC of 18 per cent over this period.

This geographic area impacted on European cartography in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Regional maps of the East Indies flourished and the houses of Blaeu and Hondius–Jansson dominated the publication of such maps; however, it was Lucas Janszoon Waghenaer who earlier indicated a route to the Spice Islands. Waghenaer began printing *rutter*s, or mariners' guides, for the coasts of Western Europe in 1583. In 1592 he published a smaller and more practical format, *Thresoor der Zeevaert*, in which the charts and sailing directions reflect the emerging Dutch interest in the East and give details of the route between China and Japan. Following Jacob Cornelisz. van Neck's very successful voyage to Banten and the Moluccas in 1598, a trip that established Dutch trade in the East Indies, Waghenaer, in 1602, added a chart of the Sunda Strait to his *Thresoor.* This is the first printed large-scale chart of that crucial entrance point to the Spice Islands. Its publication coincided with the beginning of the VOC and its control of charting the area; it would be many years before similar detailed charts of the region appeared in printed form.

Jodocus Hondius took the lead in producing two regional maps of Southeast Asia (including the Moluccas) to include in the 1606 issue of the Mercator Atlas. Their content was influenced by his contact with Francis Drake during his time in London, Hondius having taken refuge there to avoid religious persecution. Hondius includes in 'Insulae Indiae Orientalis Praecipuae in quibus Moluccae' several aspects gleaned from Drake's circumnavigation of the world which had included a visit to the Moluccas, the east coast of Sulawesi and a landfall on the south coast of Java. (See Fig. 3 on p. 23.)

The Mercator Atlas published by Jodocus Hondius continued to evolve throughout the early seventeenth century. Following the death of Hondius Jr in 1629, the family sold many plates to Blaeu including a large-scale map of the Moluccas, which Blaeu included in his first atlas *Atlantis Appendix* in 1630. Jansson, now in charge of the Hondius–Jansson family business, moved quickly to replace the charts sold to Blaeu with 36 new plates which were made in eighteen months. Amongst the new maps was a large-scale map of the Moluccas (Fig. 3), which he included in the new Mercator Atlas of 1633.

Willem Blaeu trained as a scientific cartographer. He set up business in 1596 which coincided with an expanding Dutch presence in the East Indies and the formation of the VOC. Between 1633 and his death in 1638 he became the official VOC chartmaker, and his close relationship to senior executives of the VOC is reflected in the dedication of his 1635 map to Laurens Reael, Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies between 1616 and 1618. Blaeu's map of the East Indies depicted here in its third state (Fig. 4) was included unchanged in his atlases from 1635 to 1664. This

lack of revision is remarkable – as of all Blaeu's contemporaries no cartographer had greater access to new information about Dutch interests in the East Indies than Blaeu. To omit Tasman's 1642–44 circumnavigation of Australia well after it had appeared on competitors' charts is surprising and cannot be explained purely on grounds of protecting intellectual property. In contrast, new information gathered by mariners on the area of Southeast Asia was diligently recorded on VOC working charts.

The two routes of access to the Dutch base of Batavia immediately to the east of the Sunda Strait and the 'traditional' access route avoiding conflict with the Portuguese, are well marked. Also noted are the Moluccas east of Java with Banda and Tidore west of Gilolo.

The map 'Le Molucche' (Fig. 5) made by Venetian cartographer Vincenzo Coronelli is a reminder of the profound negative impact on the fortunes of Venice when control of the spice trade shifted from Venice to Portugal and later to Holland. The Venetian Republic began its decline following the wars with the Ottomans, the Black Death and its failure to compete with western powers for colonies; but the devastating blow came when Portugal destroyed its profits from the lucrative spice trade by blocking the traffic for spice distribution by Venice throughout western Europe.



Fig. 5 Vincenzo Coronelli, 'Le Molucche', 1691.

In the second half of the seventeenth century numerous Dutch cartographers included regional maps of the East Indies in their atlases, but none brought any significant new information. They were not intended for seafaring purposes but rather illustrated the pride with which the Dutch viewed their nation's profitable activities in the East Indies. 'De Moluccos' by Pieter Van der Aa, a publisher and bookseller of Leiden is a good example of a map meant for pleasure and erudition, to be enjoyed by the owner, who may well have been a recipient of the lucrative dividends paid out by the VOC. (Fig. 6)

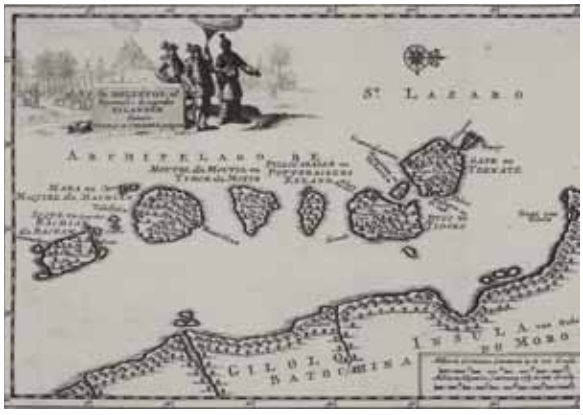


Fig. 6 Pieter Van der Aa, 'De Moluccos, of Speceri-dragende Eilanden Tussen Gilolo en Celebes gelegen', 1706.

The two-hundred-year Dutch domination came to an end in 1810. The Dutch, vassals of Napoleonic France were by association in conflict with Britain, and Britain was looking for an opportunity to gain greater control in Southeast Asia. The Dutch forts on the islands of the Banda group were overrun and the Dutch surrendered to British forces in August 1810. The highly prized nutmeg trees were transplanted to Ceylon and other British colonies, diluting and effectively destroying the Dutch monopoly over the spice trade.

Notes

1 Ian Burnet, *Spice Islands*, Kenthurst: Rosenburg Publishing, 2011.

2 Although this Pharaonic expedition is well documented, it is problematic that this reference is to cinnamon bark as we know it today. However this temple reference does indicate the enduring value placed on a spice by those who could afford to use it. This high value usually assured it was for regal or aristocratic usage.

3 Pliny the Elder mentions *Caryophyllon*, clearly influencing the current botanical name of *Eugenia caryophyllus*.

4 Linschoten, *Intinerario*, quoted in Thomas Suárez, *Early Mapping of Southeast Asia,* Hong Kong: Periplus Editions HK, 1999, p. 178.

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Christine Clancy *BA is a retired pharmacist and art historian with an interest in the history of the botanical basis of* materia medica. *Now retired, Christine and Robert lead a tour 'From Venice to London: along the course of the Black Death' which combines their interests in maps, medicine and art.*

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MAPPING MATTERS

News from the world of maps

A unique map collection of Persia included in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register

Report by **Cyrus Alai**

On 14 March 2012, the Centre of National Documents and the History of Diplomacy (CNDHD) in Iran filed an application for registration of a unique collection of maps with UNESCO's Memory of the World.[1] The application was approved, and the registration completed on 18 June 2013, under the title: 'A Collection of Selected Maps of Iran of the Qajar Era' (1193–1344 Islamic Calendar, or 1779–1925).

The collection comprises 500 maps (sheets) of 404 titles in various sizes, used in Iran during the Qajar period. These maps – mainly black and white – were catalogued for registration. It is a compilation of manuscript and lithographed maps of the geographical plateau of Iran as a major section of the historical Silk Road and also as the interface of the North-South corridor.

Additionally, the collection is a vital and authentic source for studying and researching the demographic, natural, historical and cultural geography of the Iranian plateau and beyond. Cartography in Iran (Persia) dates back to prehistoric times,[2] however, application of modern surveying techniques were not initiated until the mid-nineteenth century, subsequent to the establishment of the first European-type college for higher education in Teheran in 1851, called Dar-al-Fonun (House of Technical Sciences).

Many of the manuscript maps in the collection are unique – the sole copy having been prepared exclusively for the CNDHD. A number of them were produced by Iranian cartographers, who had learned European mapmaking techniques in Europe, or at home. The rest were made by European cartographers, employed on a variety of engineering projects taking place all over Iran during the Qajar Era, with the cooperation of their Iranian colleagues.

The initial core of the collection belonged to the Iranian royalty. Following the establishment of the first archive centre of the country in 1850 by Amir-Kabir, the chancellor (chief minister) of Iran, all existing maps, including those kept by the royalty, were given to the centre by order of Naser-al-Din Shah, then the ruling king of Iran.

These maps were cleaned and restored during a period of twelve years between 1999 and 2011. A few of them were on display to the public in Teheran in two special exhibitions that took place in 2000 and 2011. In the framework of the 2002–2003 UNESCO Participation Programme, UNESCO allocated funds for digitising about 100,000 pages of documents and manuscripts, which are preserved at CNDHD. Therefore, there is a possibility that these maps, when digitised will be available online to all researchers and scholars worldwide.

The maps can be categorised in eleven groups according to the subjects they depict; the figures in parenthesis show the number of maps in each category:

1 Maps of mountains and landscapes, including monuments, installations, temples, churches, etc. (35)
2 Water resources and transport ways, such as *qanāts* (*kāriz*)[3] in the semi-arid regions, lakes, riverbeds, river basins, waterfalls, etc. (52)
3 North-eastern provinces, including areas connected to Central Asia (45)
4 North-western provinces, including areas connected to Caucasia and Anatolia (25)
5 Western provinces, including parts of Mesopotamia, or present day Iraq (84)
6 Eastern provinces, including areas connected to Hindu Kush Mountains, Pamir and the Indian Subcontinent (32)
7 Southern provinces, including areas connected to the Arabian Deserts and the Indian Ocean (7)
8 Domestic provinces, depicting the central territories of the Iranian Plateau (9)
9 Special maps, including telegraph lines, post offices, etc. (49)
10 Regional maps, showing nearly the whole of West Asia (60)
11 Demographic maps, including distribution of the population, tribal settlements etc. (6)

The owner and keeper of the collection (CNDHD) noted the following reasons for recommending this collection for registration:

a It is the only one of its kind, it is unique. It is noticeable that from 404 titles – some in two or more sheets – 294 titles are totally, or partially, manuscript, most of which never printed.
b It is applicable in interdisciplinary studies of the regions covered.
c It is a major document regarding the history of cartography of Iranian plateau.
d It is a useful document for studying the cultural interaction and identities of tribal groups and followers of different faiths in Iran.
e It is a key document for researching water resources and environmental aspects of the region.
f It is useful when studying the development and urbanisation of the region,
g It is maintaining the indigenous knowledge on different aspects of geography of the region.
h It is useful for Oriental and Iranian studies in general.
i It is supporting the geographical memory of the world.

Additionally, CNDHD pointed out that many of the maps were signed and annotated with handwritten notes in the margins.

This author did not succeed in obtaining any digital images of these maps for this report, but some of the lithographed maps of this collection have been described and depicted in *General Maps of Persia* and particularly in *Special Maps of Persia*.[4]

Notes
1 UNESCO established the *Memory of the World* Programme in 1992 in response to the deteriorating state of preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage in various parts of the world. The programme adopted the premise that the world's documentary heritage belongs to all and should be fully preserved and protected for all and, with due recognition of cultural mores and practicalities, should be permanently accessible to all without hindrance. www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/memory-of-the-world
2 See the Babylonian clay tablet of about 2300BC found at Nuzi in Mesopotamia, once a part of ancient Persia in Cyrus Alai, *General Maps of Persia*, Leiden: Brill, 2005, p. 2.
3 Xavier De Planhol, 'Kariz', *Encyclopaedia Iranica*, XV, pp. 564–73.
4 Cyrus Alai, *General Maps of Persia 1477–1925* and *Special Maps of Persia 1477–1925*, Leiden: Brill, 2005 and 2010.

A distinguished contribution

Report by **Valerie Newby**

This year's Fordham Prize 'for distinguished contributions to the field of cartography' was awarded to Dr Catherine Delano-Smith by the Director of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), Rita Gardiner, at their Headquarters in Kensington Gore, London, on 10 October.

"Catherine has promoted the history of cartography through research, seminars, and as editor of the scholarly journal *Imago Mundi* for nearly 20 years. She has also promoted research and established the UK as a key player in the History of Cartography by being one of the organisers of the monthly 'Maps and Society' lectures in the subject at the Warburg Institute in London." Dr Gardiner added that Catherine's work, including founding the Harley Trust for international fellowships in the history of cartography in 1992 (in memory of Dr Brian Harley, one of the editors of the monumental History of Cartography volumes), meant that her professionalism made her an "immensely deserving recipient of the award".

In thanks, Dr Delano-Smith said that she had been a Fellow of the RGS for half a century and that she was immensely honoured to be chosen to receive the award.

Following the presentation Professor Jim Bennett, currently a Visiting Keeper at the Science Museum and formerly a director of the Museum of the History of Science at the University of Oxford, gave the annual E.G.R. Taylor Lecture. He talked about the explorer and navigator Christopher Middleton (d. 1770) who was a captain with the Hudson's Bay Company and for a time served in the Royal Navy.



Dr Delano-Smith, winner of the Fordham Prize 2013. Photo by Mary Pedley.

The Sheldon family's seventeenth-century tapestry map of Oxfordshire

Report by **Hilary L Turner**

The tapestry-woven map of historic Oxfordshire and its adjacent counties (Fig. 1) lately at Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk and now on long-term loan to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, was commissioned by Ralph 'the Great' Sheldon (1623–1684). Measuring approximately 445 x 600 cm (14 x 18 ft) it is a version, but not an exact copy, of the same area woven first around 1590 for his great grandfather, another Ralph (1537–1613); this had formed part of a set of four. Together they depicted a panoramic view across England from south Wales and the Bristol Channel to London, each tapestry focused on a single county – Gloucester, Worcester, Warwick and Oxford – all counties in which the family lived and owned lands.

Based on the countrywide surveys of Christopher Saxton executed in the 1570s, the designer of the Elizabethan four had added local details to fill the space created when those maps were enlarged approximately fifteen times. He drew mills and bridges, inserted roads and emphasized the palings enclosing the gentry's parks. He multiplied hills, sometimes to improbable height or steepness, and magnified trees so that they became taller than the villages they sheltered. In particular detail he depicted houses with associations to the Sheldon family or their friends and relations. These, like the small market towns (for example Burford, Witney, Chipping Norton, Banbury, Henley) show individual features; by contrast the villages were formulaic, a cluster of roofs dominated by a church with, at the choice of the designer, a tower or a spire. All were executed in fine detail in a wide range of shades of red, green, yellow and blue against a white background for the central county outlined in red; the adjacent counties, necessary to complete the rectangle or square that woven tapestry must be, were given backgrounds of green or yellow, an artistic device which draws the eye to the centre of the composition. Areas of each county lying outside its bounds were shown, as a coloured Saxton map did, in the same colour as the county to which it belonged.

However, changes were made and much of the finer detail was either omitted or simplified when, sometime after the Restoration of Charles II in 1660, this tapestry was woven, possibly after the death of Sheldon's wife, Henrietta Maria Savage, in 1663. Their arms are displayed in the top left corner; beneath is a scale and dividers and, on a scroll, an inscription probably based on the now lost Elizabethan original but badly copied. On the right-hand side relatively empty areas visible in Kent and in Hertfordshire, filled with large tussocks, betray the absence of two panels which had been on the Elizabethan model, one with text based on William Camden's *Britannia*, the other showing the family arms.

Another major change to the seventeenth-century tapestry design was the replacement of the elaborate Elizabethan border with a simpler picture-frame pattern used by the Mortlake tapestry factory. Unlike the lively mix of mythological, biblical, classical and floral themes which in the earlier example were alone sufficient to distract the eye from the central content, the plain border directs the viewer's gaze straight into the topographical detail. Though it mirrors also the less florid map borders of the period it may have been chosen for reasons of economy in weaving time and costs.

The colours are considerably less vivid than the original and the tapestry is less skilfully woven. Nevertheless its details, less well executed than the original, are worth study. London, dominated by a cupola-topped St Paul's, is shown little changed from its Elizabethan appearance; Oxford boasts the spire of St Mary the Virgin; Banbury to the north, Abingdon to the south (Fig. 2), Witney in the west and Thame to the east are, with other small towns, shown from a southerly aspect and as a bird's eye view. Though the royal palace at Woodstock is an entirely fanciful creation, Windsor, Hampton Court, Oatlands and Nonsuch have distinctive details as do, to a lesser degree, the houses associated with the Sheldon family,



Above **Fig. 2 Detail, the hinterland of Abingdon. © Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford.**

Right **Fig. 1 Oxfordshire in the tapestry map woven c.1663 for Ralph 'the Great' Sheldon, 445 x 600 cm. © Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford.**


PARS
OX
FORD
SHIRE
BVC
BA
CK
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AYLESBURY

for example Weston in Long Compton, Warwickshire, Holton, Rycote, Thame Park, Osterley and Syon.

Other than pictorially the Elizabethan designer had rarely gone beyond what he could see on Saxton's maps, labelling rivers and naming villages as Saxton had even if some were incorrect. Infrequently he introduced some additional information, for example in the river systems closest to the family's residence, the Rollright Stones on the county's NW border and the White Horse, making it a solid animal, misplaced on the wrong side of the Berkshire Downs.

The seventeenth-century cartoon drawer, however, was careless, whether from lack of skill or lack of understanding. Whichwood Forest was named in three sections, widely separated – Aston Which (L), Fores (*sic* R), Wood (centre, below); Roterot Bridge stands across the Thames where Radcot Bridge was intended. Most intriguingly of all, he failed to reverse the letter 'N' with the result that almost everywhere the letter appears incorrectly.

The Elizabethan originals had perhaps been damaged in the Civil War and were recreated by Ralph as a token of respect to his ancestor's dramatic decorative idea as well as a means to assert his own position. Yet one wonders how many people saw this tapestry and its companion piece, Worcestershire, now in poor condition, when they hung in the family's isolated house at Weston in Long Compton, Warwickshire. (Fig. 3) Only three eighteenth-century impressions survive, those of John Loveday of Caversham, George Vertue and Horace Walpole. What struck them most was the size of the display. The auctioneer's valuer preparing for their sale in 1781 alone noted dimensions which make it clear that by then the later tapestries of Ralph 'the Great' hung together with the Elizabethan tapestry of Warwickshire – its original border stripped off and replaced to match the picture frame style of Ralph's commissions. Together they passed from Horace Walpole to Lord Harcourt of Nuneham Courtenay and then to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. The three were finally separated – by sale – in 1960.

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Hilary L Turner *holds an MA and doctorate from Oxford University, subsequently freelancing as an historical researcher and translator; she has contributed articles to international journals on historical, cartographical and architectural themes.*



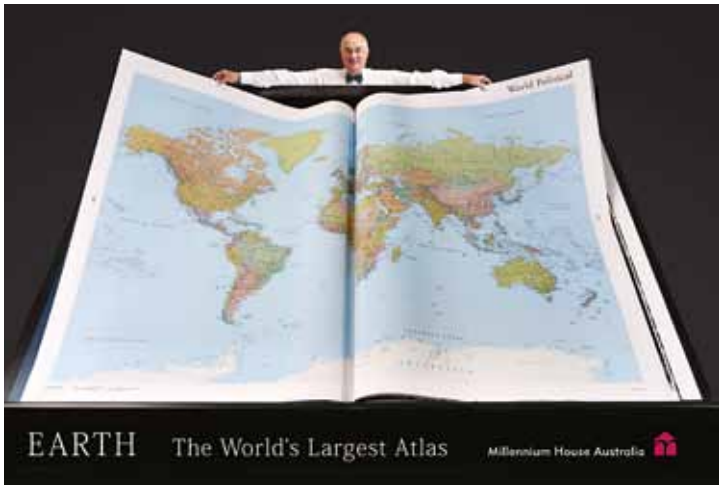
Fig. 3
Detail, North Oxfordshire, the adjoining counties and Weston house. © Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford.

World's largest atlas wins International Map Industry Association (IMIA) Global award

The world's largest atlas *Earth Platinum*, published by the Australian publishing house Millennium, has taken the IMIA global award for 2012–2013. Measuring 1.85 m (6 ft $\frac{7}{8}$ in) high x 1.45 (4 ft 9 in) wide x 6 cm (2.36 in) thick and 2.819 m (9 ft 3 in) wide when open, it was officially pronounced the world's largest atlas by Guinness World Records adjudicators at the unveiling of the British Library copy in July 2012. The brainchild of Gordon Cheers Managing Director of Millennium, *Earth Platinum* outstrips by 30 cm on each side the previously largest atlas – the Klencke Atlas, which had been presented to Charles II on his restoration to the throne in 1660 and now is part of the British Library map collection.

With a team of 120 people working on the project, this 128-page atlas was four years in the making. Its size presented no end of publishing challenges: ensuring sufficient memory for computers to handle massive files, some so large that it could take a day to download; developing an editorial methodology to handle page spans of 1.38 m (4$\frac{1}{2}$ ft); finding a printer with the machinery and expertise to print such a large book. The paper too was problematic. The initial choice of 120 gsm kept tearing as the pages were turned, so a paper more than twice the original weight had to be used. This decision required heavier book covers to support the weight of the pages. With its wooden cover boards the atlas weighs 200 kg (440 lbs) and takes six people to lift.

Conceived and managed in Australia, mapped and edited by cartographers from around the world, printed in Italy on a German press and hand bound in China, *Earth Platinum* is a global effort, the like of which we will probably not see again for a long time. Cheers explains, "The last big atlas close to *Earth Platinum* was produced over 350 years ago in black and white; it's now priceless. The world was viewed a lot differently then. It may take another 350 years before anyone challenges our atlas. However, my feeling is that it will never happen. *Earth Platinum* will become a priceless piece of art work/historical document representing our world today." Only 31 copies have been printed (the plates have been destroyed), and at a shelf price of $100,000 US, this gargantuan atlas promises to become a prized collectible.



Obituary

Rudolf Schmidt

23 January 1924 – 5 September 2013

Austria's most famous globe collector Rudolf Schmidt died on 5 September 2013 in Vienna. On his father's death in 1955, Rudolf took ownership of the family steel company Rudolf Schmidt & Co., which had been founded in 1892 by his grandfather. As a young man he developed an interest in music, art and globes. Schmidt became a patron of the arts and letters and held leading positions in Austrian cultural associations.

His interest in globes soon grew into a passion and he started to acquire terrestrial and celestial globes from past centuries. He collected globes and globe gores made by Rainer Gemma Frisius, Jodocus Hondius, Willem Jansz. Blaeu, Vincenzo Coronelli, Johann Gabriel Doppelmayr and Peter Anich. From 1978 to 2000 Schmidt was the president of The International Coronelli Society for the Study of Globes. Beside his activities supporting the arts, he also wrote scientific articles about Coronelli's methods of work, celestial globes, horizon and meridian circles of old globes, globe collections and survival prospects of old globes.

He will be sadly missed by all map historians and globe collectors. In Rudolf Schmidt we have not only lost an expert in the history of old globes but also a very helpful and lovely person.

Petra Svatek

Exhibitions

Until 5 January 2014, New York
Institute for the Study of the Ancient World
Measuring and Mapping Space
The exhibition provides an overview of Greco-Roman theories of the shape and size of the Earth, ancient methods of surveying and measuring land, and the ways in which geography was used in Roman political propaganda. A specially designed multimedia display examines the increasing importance of modern technologies in mapping the ancient world.
Information: http://isaw.nyu.edu

Until 28 January 2014, Jerusalem
The Israel Museum
Mapping the Holy Land II, Cartographic Treasures from the Trevor and Susan Chinn Collection
The centrepiece of this exhibition is Bernhard von Breydenbach's seminal map of the Holy Land published in 1486 in *Peregrinatio in Terram Sanctam*, his account of his pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 1483.
Information: www.imj.org.il/exhibitions/presentation



Woodcut by Erhard Reuwich of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem from *Peregrinatio in Terram Sanctam*.

Until 16 February 2014, Tampa Florida
Tampa Bay History Center
Charting the Land of Flowers: 500 Years of Florida Maps
One of the most comprehensive exhibitions of Florida cartography ever presented, *Charting the Land of Flowers* traces six centuries of Florida history, bringing together maps from museum and library collections around the world, many of which will be on view to the public for the first time.
Information: www.tampabayhistorycenter.org

Until 23 February 2014, Trenton, New Jersey
New Jersey State Museum
Where in the World Is New Jersey? Historical Maps of the Garden State
The exhibition includes nearly 100 original maps depicting the colony and state of New Jersey from 1635 through 1950 drawn from the collections of four New Jersey repositories – the New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey State Archives, New Jersey State Library, and Special Collections and University Archives at Rutgers University.
Information: www.statemuseum.nj.gov

Until 10 March 2014, Canberra
National Library of Australia
Mapping Our World: Terra Incognita to Australia
This exhibition brings together maps from the British Library, the National Archives of the United Kingdom, the Vatican Library, the Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana and the Bibliothèque nationale de France. One hundred spectacular maps, atlases and globes which will enable Australian audiences to chart the development of the European idea of Australia, from ancient and medieval notions of a great south land to Matthew Flinders' 1814 map of the continent.
Information: www.nla.gov.au/exhibitions/mapping-our-world

Until 13 April 2014, Montreal
Stewart Museum
20,000 Leagues Over Land and Sea: Exploring Six Centuries of Cartography
A comprehensive exhibition of six centuries of mapmaking, drawn from the Stewart Museum's collection of more than a hundred maps – world, continental, countries, sea charts, polar maps, celestial maps and town plans.
Information: www.stewart-museum.org

Until 5 May 2014, Nanjing / Edinburgh
A Tale of Two Cities is collaboration between China and Scotland. Nanjing Museum and the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland will draw together rarely seen material from the centuries-old archives held on the two cities. Aerial photography, architectural drawings, maps, prints, engravings, paintings, costumes and museum artifacts will be assembled for the blockbuster exhibition.
Information: www.nomadexhibitions.com/cities.asp

Lectures and conferences

7 December 2013, Brussels Map Circle (BIMCC), Brussels
Mapping India, BIMCC annual conference. Speakers include Dr Manosi Lahiri, Susan Gole, Prof Dr Jean-Charles Ducène, Dr Andrew Cook, Dr Dejanirah Couto, Hans Kok, Dr Jan Parmentier.
Information: www.bimcc.org

12 December 2013, Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana, Venice
La geografia dei marinai: carte nautiche, atlanti e portolani is part of a new monthly lecture series to present some of the Marciana's most important maps.
Information: Piero Falchetta, Head of the Map Library, http://marciana.venezia.sbn.it/le-mappe-del-tesoro

12 December 2013, The Washington Map Society, Library of Congress, Washington
John Fondersmith, Searching for Ushapia
Information: Ted Callaway, tel: (202) 879-5418.

16 January 2014, Maps and Society 23rd lecture series, Warburg Institute, London
Dr Elizabeth Upper (University of Cambridge). ***Colour Printing in the Renaissance: The Strasbourg Edition of Ptolemy's Geography (1513)***
Information: Catherine Delano-Smith, tel: +44 (0)20 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

6 February 2014, Maps and Society 23rd lecture series, Warburg Institute, London
Kenneth Morgan (Brunel University). ***Flinders and the Cartography of Australia 1795–1815***
Information: Catherine Delano-Smith, tel: +44 (0)20 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

20 February 2014, The Washington Map Society, Library of Congress, Washington
John Boyle ***Everest: the Man and the Mountain***
Information: Ted Callaway, tel: (202) 879-5418.

25 February 2014, Cambridge Seminar in the History of Cartography, Cambridge
Jerry Brotton (Professor of Renaissance Studies, Queen Mary, University of London)
The Terrestrial Globe under Globalisation
Information: sarah.bendall@emma.cam.ac.uk

27 February 2014, Maps and Society 23rd lecture series, Warburg Institute, London
Dale Kedwards (Department of English and Related Literature, University of York), ***A View from the North? The Medieval Maps of Iceland***
Information: Catherine Delano-Smith, tel: +44 (0)20 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

6 March 2014, The Oxford Seminars in Cartography, Oxford University Centre for the Environment, Oxford
John Davies (Editor of *Sheetlines*, journal of the Charles Close Society), ***Soviet Intelligence Plans for the British Isles***
Information: nick.millea@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

13 March 2014, Maps and Society 23rd lecture series, Warburg Institute, London
Professor George Tolias (Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens), ***Adornments and Metaphors: Illustrations on the Early Printed Maps of Greece***
Information: Catherine Delano-Smith, tel: +44 (0)20 8346 5112 or Tony Campbell info@tonycampbell.info

20 March 2014, The Washington Map Society, Library of Congress, Washington
Dr. Ira Lourie, ***The Development of a Rarity Index for Alvin J. Johnson's U.S. Maps: A Discussion of the Concept and Implementation***
Information: Ted Callaway, tel: (202) 879-5418.

27 March 2014, National Army Museum, London
John Keay, ***The Great Arc: Military Mapmakers in India***
Information: www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/celebrity-speakers

Fairs

7–9 February 2014, Miami
The **Miami International Map Fair**, the oldest event of its kind in the Western Hemisphere, will be held at the HistoryMiami, 101 West Flagler Street. In addition to dealers from around the world catering for serious map collectors, this event aims to build awareness of antique maps and to encourage new collectors. Visitors are invited to bring in their own maps for appraisal by experts.
Information: Amanda Israel, Map Fair Coordinator, tel: (305) 375-1492.

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Nouvelle Carte d'Europe Dressee pour 1870, by Paul Hado, 1870. This rare satirical map was published at the outset of the Franco-Prussian War. At the center of the conflict are France and Prussia, with France depicted as a fierce, bearded soldier thwarting the advances of Prussia with a bayonet. Prussia appears as a stocky Otto von Bismarck with his hat pulled over his eyes and kneeling on Austria, a sleeping soldier, while his right hand completely covers Holland. England is shown as an enraged old woman with Ireland, a small bear, on a leash. The Balkans are represented by a man who is yawning and just beginning to awake. Russia is depicted as the bogey-man, trying to fill up his basket (with shadowy bear-like figures behind him). And both Spain and Turkey are shown as women, passively smoking and lounging.

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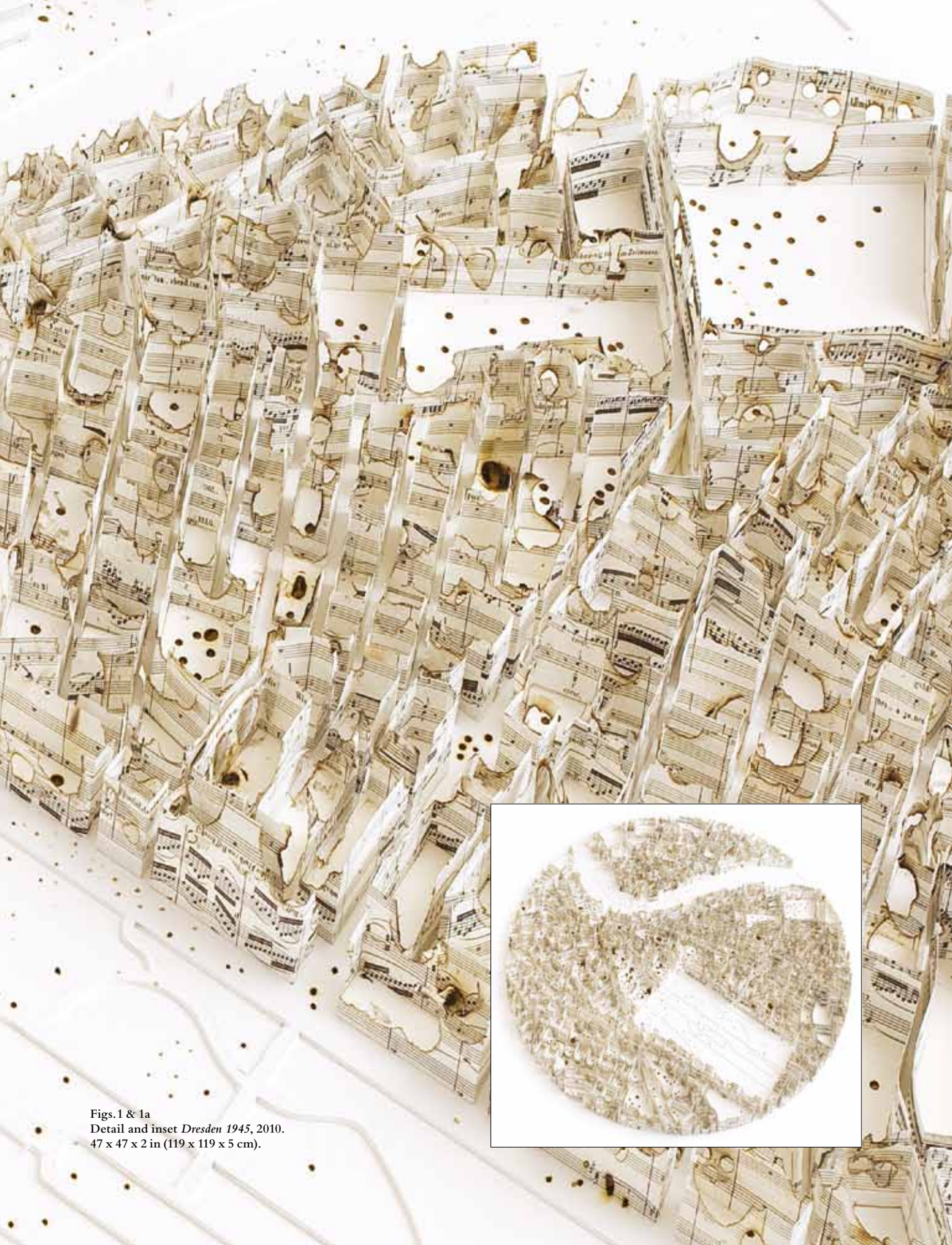


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Figs. 1 & 1a
Detail and inset *Dresden 1945*, 2010.
47 x 47 x 2 in (119 x 119 x 5 cm).

WORTH A LOOK

Cartographic Sculpture

Matthew Picton

Matthew Picton's work investigates a city's narratives, its history and its literary heritage, using texts and materials evocative of the events that define it. He builds his cartographic representations from distinct periods in the city's history. The paper sculptures are all made by hand, each piece cut and formed individually from folded archival papers. The pieces are then situated exactly upon a drawn template cut from enlarged maps.

There is an innate beauty in the pattern of cities and nature, something that is experienced in the view from above and by the mapped form. Cartography is something that I have always incorporated into my work in one way or another. From the very first experiments in landscape painting to my current body of work, cartography has been a part of it, and clearly forms a way of seeing the world for me. I have for many years possessed an extensive collection of maps, and I think my interest in them developed initially from walking holidays in the British Isles. The attraction came from the imagination of places that maps create in the mind and from a long-term fascination with travel, landscape and geography. There is, in my estimation, some intrinsic quality to cartography that goes beyond the scientific document; maps have a beauty of form and detail, they are a record of past times and places. The map is a pathway for the imagination along which it can wander and expand; it allows for places to be re-imagined and the past to be envisaged. Maps provide the possibility of re-making the world in your imagination.

Cartography has been present in the different incarnations my work. For example, it featured prominently in the earlier cracked parking lots sculptures and drawings and the cracked lakebed sculptures. These works were concerned with mapping the decay found in the natural world. I was documenting or mapping the existing networks of cracks and transforming them into drawings; these later became sculptures. Examples of these works can be seen on my website at www.matthewpicton.com. Of course these forms are mirrored in nature on a wider scale, some of the forms have the appearance of river systems, the recognition of which led me to create Dura-Lar® (acetate plastic) sculptures of river systems. Whilst working on these I started to think about creating three-dimensional layered sculptures of the mapped forms of cities. The works were created on glass tables with the lines of the city's infrastructure etched in clear plastic. After each layer was done – road, railways, rivers, subways – the transparent plastic was painted, stacked on top of each other and pinned together. The sculptures are typically two to four inches in height.

During this process my mind would enter an imagined entity of the city and start to reconstruct its history, so that in time I would start to layer the previous incarnations of a particular city. For example, *Berlin* includes the city's patterns of 1932, 1962 and 2007. I usually used maps of the periods in question, finding them in university archives.

It was while making these works that I realised that I was interested in creating sculptures that were time-dimensional maps. A city is, in a sense, an organism that has been built in layers over time, and those layers are not just geographic but social and cultural also. It has layers of history that inform our understanding of the visible form. But there are the invisible layers too that exist in observation and literature. They are part of the imaginary sphere that gives life and resonance to a city. Many cities will have undergone their greatest transformation during calamitous events, events ordained sometimes by nature and other times by political upheaval. Some of the most significant cultural achievements are born from such times and locations.

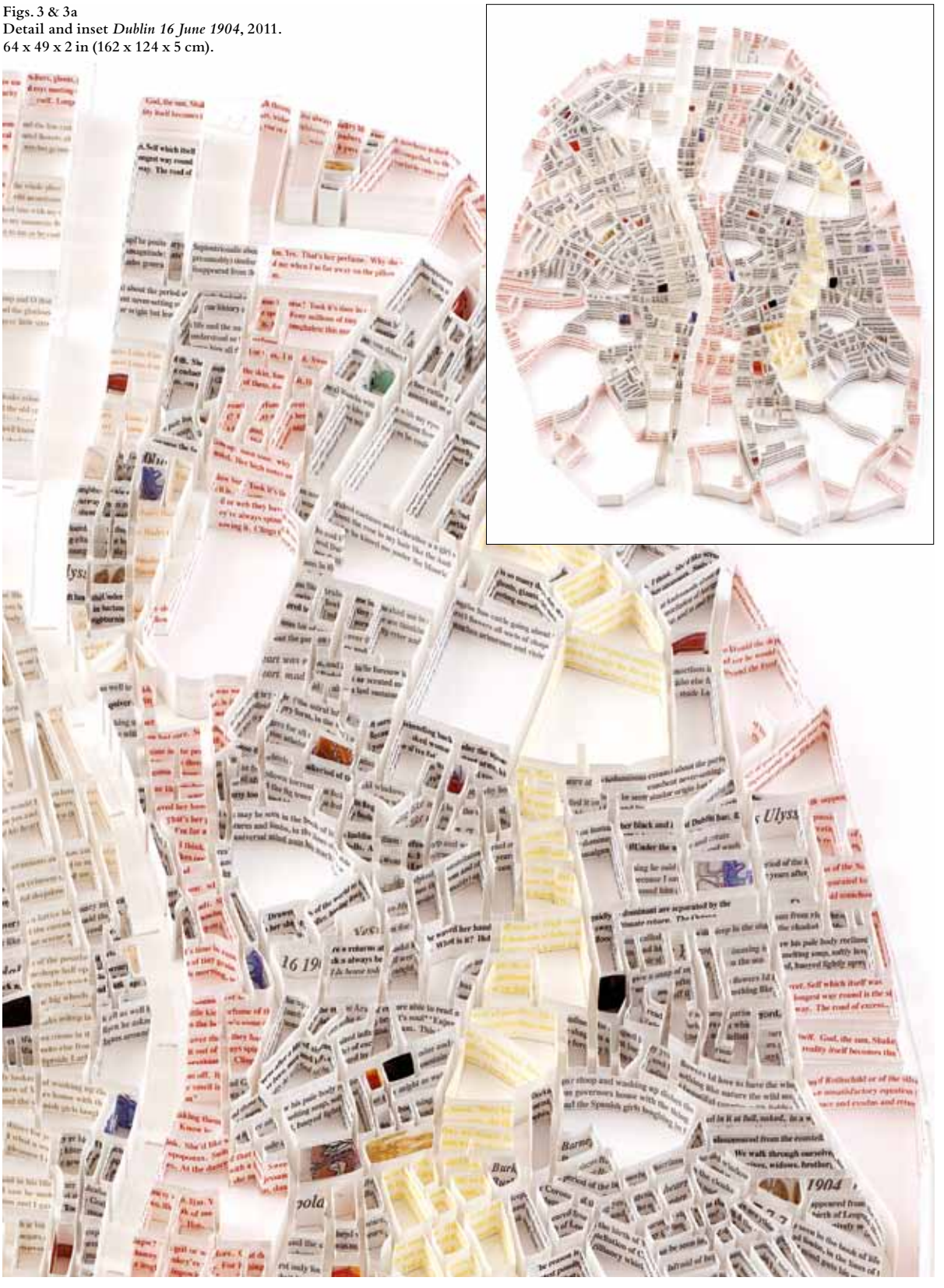
The sculpture of *Dresden 1945* is one such sculpture; it incorporates a major work of art that has a very specific relationship with the city. *Der Ring des Nibelungen* was conceived in Dresden by Richard Wagner during the revolution of 1848 in which he played an active part and which led to his exile. The *Ring* was inspired by the revolution and influenced by ideological and destructive fantasies. My sculpture *Dresden 1945* is created from the music score of the *Ring* and has been partially burnt, alluding to the inferno that engulfed Dresden in World War II, and to the subsequent destruction of culture and property. (Figs.1 & 1a)

St Petersburg has a unique literary history in which

Figs. 2 & 2a
Detail and inset *St Petersburg 1703–1964*, 2013.
49 x 72 x 2 in (124 x 182 x 5 cm).



Figs. 3 & 3a
Detail and inset *Dublin 16 June 1904*, 2011.
64 x 49 x 2 in (162 x 124 x 5 cm).



it appears as the primary subject matter. My sculpture *St Petersburg* maps the literary trajectory of the city's history and the Petersburg mythos. The sculpture is based on an 1824 map on which the disastrous flood of that year is coloured according to the flood lines reached by the River Neva. Pushkin's famous poem *The Bronze Horseman* is influenced by the flood and takes as its starting point the creation of St Petersburg by Peter the Great in 1703. The sculpture includes sections of this poem and one also by Anna Akhmatova – *Poem without a Hero*. Akhmatova's poem looks back to Pushkin's masterpiece and references and alludes to many Russian writers who came after him. *Poem without a Hero* reflects the fate of the city in the twentieth century: 'Just as the future ripens in the past, / so the past rots in the future'. The sculpture includes the score to Shostakovich's Symphony No. 7 which was written and performed in St Petersburg during the 900-day siege between 1941 and 1944. Joseph Brodsky's essay about Leningrad in the 1950s and '60s, *A Guide to a Renamed City*, and written from his place of exile in the United States is included in the sculpture St Petersburg. (Figs. 2 & 2a)

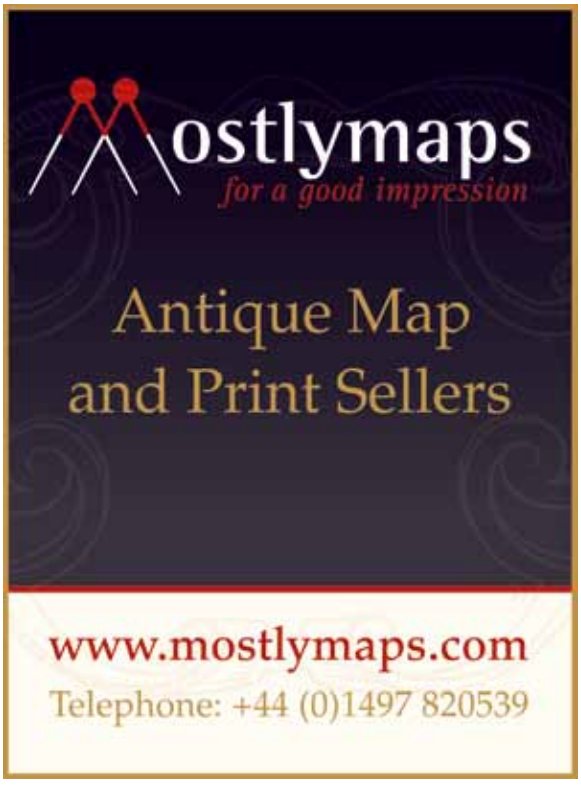
One of the most famous novels to be associated with a city is James Joyce's *Ulysses* which is set in Dublin. The novel chronicles the wanderings of the protagonist through the city on 16 June 1904, and this one day, in some senses maps the human life cycle. In *Dublin 1904*, the text printed in red that surrounds the city, combines the narratives of Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom and relates to the circularity of life. The novel creates an interior landscape of Dublin, a landscape of thought, voice and conversation. These narratives are situated within the cartographic framework of Dublin at the time when the book is set. A map from 1904 was used to create the sculpture. Using words and fragments from *Ulysses*, the sculpture allows for a continuous re-contextualisation between city and novel. (Figs. 3 & 3a)

There are four panels in the *London 1940* series. They were made using original colour-coded bomb-damage maps that had been printed in London during the war. The maps provide a meticulous record of the destruction wrought upon the city. The sculptures recreate this destruction by carefully burning the walls to approximately the same levels of damage as shown in the maps. Each panel is created from selected texts from a novel set in wartime London. Rosie Alison's novel *The Very Thought of You* explores the effects of familial and romantic relations as a result of the evacuations, while works by Graham Greene (*The Ministry of Fear*), Christopher Fowler (*Full Dark House*) and Elizabeth Bowen (*The Heat of the Day*) look at the crime and the underworld that flourished in London during WWII.

Fuller descriptions of the individual pieces mentioned and the full body of my work can be accessed on my website at www.matthewpicton.com

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Matthew Picton *was born in London and studied Politics at the London School of Economics. Now living in Oregon, Matthew has been exhibiting since 1998, with solo shows in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Portland, New York and most recently at the Summaria Lunn Gallery in London. His works can be seen in the collections of De Young Museum, San Francisco, The Herbert Museum of Art, Coventry, UK and The Dresden Museum, Germany. Prints of his works and copies his book* Urban Histories, *a comprehensive catalogue of all the paper sculptures and essays published in 2013 are available from www.matthewpicton.com, www.summarialunn.com in London and www.toomey-tourell.com in San Francisco. His next exhibition will be in June 2014 at the Summaria Lunn Gallery, London.*



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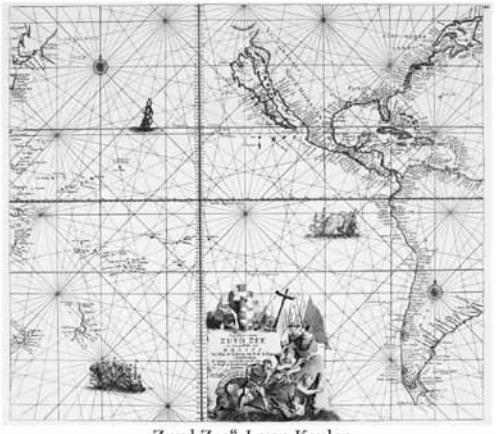
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YOU WRITE TO US

Missing: stone map of Palestine

A two-tonne, stone relief map created by Elazar Alpern (1896–1983) in Jerusalem in 1923 for the British Empire Exhibition of Arts and Manufacturing held at Wembley in 1924 went missing a year after the exhibition closed. I am trying to locate it on behalf of Alpern's daughter Henya Ramon, who is in her eighties and anxious to know of its whereabouts. In 1925 the map appeared in a touring exhibition, 'Palestine in Bath' organised by the London Society of Promoting Christianity among the Jews. The exhibition took place in the Assembly Rooms in Bath and churches in the Bristol and Bath areas. The event was reported in *The Bath Chronicle and Herald* on Saturday, 23 May 1925. Since then there has been no trace of it. It has vanished.

Alpen carved two such stone maps, a small one in the photograph and a large one for the Empire exhibition. The missing one is about the size of a large bed – about two metres long and about one metre across and about a quarter of a metre thick. It was so accurate at the time that when you spilt water on it the rivers used to fill up with water and would fill the lake of Galilee and the Dead Sea.

Henya would be grateful to hear from any readers who may have seen this remarkable stone map.

Michael Gottschalk, Jerusalem



Left
Artist Elazar Alpen holding the small stone map of Palestine which remained in Jerusalem.

Dr Solander and Alexander Dalrymple

I am attempting to source an important piece of information pertaining to an article by Helen Wallis entitled 'Did the Portuguese Discover Australia?' which was published in *History Today*, Volume 38, Issue 3 in 1988.

In the article, which deals with the Harleian map (sometimes known as the Dauphin map) Wallis states that 'Dr Daniel Solander of the British Museum, the botanist on Cook's first voyage, lent the map to the hydrographer Alexander Dalrymple, who immediately saw its significance, not least in its challenge to Captain Cook's priority to discovery of the east coast of Australia'. She goes on to note that 'Dalrymple described the map in his *Memoir concerning the Chagos and adjacent Islands*, 1786. He wrote: *The very curious MS here mentioned is painted on Parchment, with the Dauphin's Arms, it contains much lost knowledge; Kergulen's Land seems plainly denoted; The East Coast of New Holland, as we name it, is expressed with some curious circumstances of correspondence to Captain Cook's MS. what he names 'Bay of Inlets' is in the MS called 'Baye Perdue' 'Bay of Isles' R. de beaucoup disles Where the Endeavour struck Coste dangereuse So that we may say with Solomon 'There is nothing new under the Sun'.*

I am attempting to discover whether, in the fact, Dr Solander lent the map to Alexander Dalrymple. There is an interesting twist to this story that I would like to resolve. Dalrymple published his *Memoir concerning Chagos and the Adjacent Islands* in 1786. Daniel Solander died in May 1782. To prove that Solander lent Dalrymple the Dauphin, the source would need to be dated 1782 or earlier.

I was wondering if any IMCoS members could be of assistance in this regard.

Michael Quinn, Wollongong University, Australia

Alaska is amazing

After travelling for 22 hours I was very relieved to arrive in Fairbanks, Alaska for this year's symposium. At the airport I was greeted by a lady holding up a sign with my name on it. I had been invited to stay with one of the symposium organisers and it was not long before I was sinking into a nice comfortable bed for a badly needed night's sleep.

The next two days were taken up with the symposium and I was pleased to meet up with other members of IMCoS. The venue was a hotel near the main river and the papers were well read and interesting but that will be reported elsewhere in this journal and I wanted to write about my stay after the meeting. However, I must just mention the final symposium dinner when we were served with the largest steaks I have ever seen in my life. How anyone got through them I have no idea! Fortunately I had chosen salmon so didn't have to try, and the fish was delicious.

Tours of Fairbanks included a visit to the Alaska Oil Pipeline. The oil does not get pumped at high pressure and takes four and a half days to travel the 800 miles. The pipe needs cleaning inside and we learned that originally they used a form of scraper which is called a 'pig'. Today an additive cuts down on the need for cleaning.

In the afternoon we visited a reserve to see musk oxen which are smaller than our cows and which survive well in the extreme cold. They have a coat of very fine soft wool but over this they have a hair coat to keep off the rain. The hair continues to grow longer for the whole of their life but the wool is shed each spring to avoid them getting too hot in the summer. I was lucky to get some samples of their wool to bring back for my wife Joan who at one time ran spinning classes in the kitchen of our farm at Atworth, Wiltshire. We had as many as ten spinning wheels going at one time and taught at least fifty people to spin. Joan also went to Lackham Agricultural College to demonstrate spinning and she would take wool samples of different breeds of sheep and also animals. As both of us are now retired I was too late to add musk oxen wool to her collection.

The following day I went on a flight with two other IMCoS members to see if we could see any animals in the wild. We were lucky enough to see a bear with her two cubs and it was wonderful to see the mountains and boggy terrain of the state of Alaska. That evening we relaxed in a hot tub which was an experience in itself!

I visited the Motor Museum which was most interesting. In addition to cars there were displays of women's costumes through the ages and videos of different events in Fairbanks. Also, scenes illustrating problems the Alaskans have with snow. There was one video of a tractor converted to have two large screw propellers on either side. I don't think this ever took off. Another vehicle on display was an early electric car. This interested me because when I last changed my computer and had Windows 7 with everything in different places, I said it was a good job Microsoft did not design cars. I am sure they would have put the steering wheel in the back seat! This car did in fact have the controls for the back seat driver but the front passengers were facing to the rear making it look like a sitting room.

A trip on the Alaskan railway in a high carriage gave a very good view of the countryside. The train moved slowly compared to our trains in England but it was a very interesting journey and we did see some moose. On Sunday I was taken to a place called North Pole where all the streets are aptly named; one was called Mistletoe!

On my last day I took a trip on the riverboat. Part way down the river we were given information about husky dogs and a demonstration of their speed. It was a little cooler on board so I put on my plastic mac to keep off the wind. Apart from this one occasion I never felt the cold and only wore a shirt and jacket. The temperature was very similar to back home at this time of year, but was told it will get much colder later in the month. In the afternoon we visited an abandoned old mining settlement. The cafe we visited had a ceiling covered with one dollar notes with people's names on them. I found a space on the wall and added mine on which I wrote the name of my hometown and of course, my name, just to prove I had been there.

I would like to sincerely thank Troy, Catherine and Bamph their dog for having me in their home for one of the best holidays I have had for a long time.

David Webb (IMCoS photographer)



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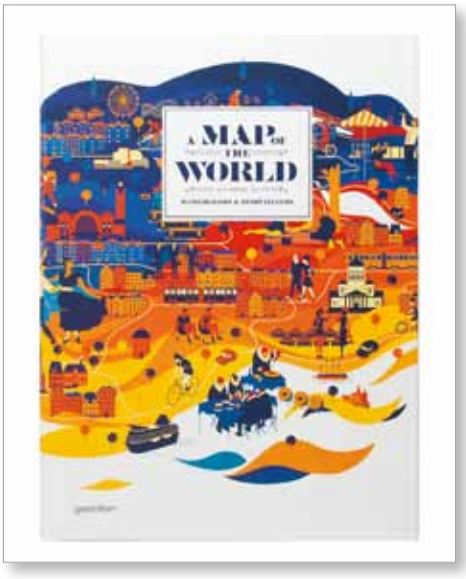
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BOOK REVIEWS

A look at recent publications

A Map of the World According to Illustrators & Storytellers edited by Antonis Antoniou, Robert Klanten, Sven Ehmann, Hendrik Hellige. *Berlin, Gestalten, 2013. ISBN: 978-3-89955-469-4. HB, 224, full colour. €39, US $60, STG £35. www.gestalten.com*



Politically-divided islands, a city made from well-known places in films, delicate paper cut-outs, studies of the Italian diaspora, tapas-tasting routes – all can be found in this lavish, image-rich book of maps from illustrators and 'storytellers'. The book is introduced by the editor's four-column preface that offers perceptive, albeit general, remarks about cartographies old and new, but offers no commentary on the maps inside the book. So we don't know how they were chosen (apart from a back-cover note that the contributors were 'sought after'), or why one illustrator's five hand-drawn maps are more noteworthy than those by several others using a similar style, or why there is such a preponderance of European and American examples. Perhaps it is assumed we could find enough fascination in the maps themselves to not worry about such questions.

As an example, what stories are being told about my home country, New Zealand? Usually, it is left off the map: we are not part of the 'Happy World' or the 'Map of World Inventions' and, apparently, there is no music of note here either. Two islands can be seen in one map, but it seems they are full only of Hobbits, although a Kiwi is shown in another instance. This could not be called illuminating. It is hard to tell if leaving a country off the map is the decision of the original illustrator or the publisher; the Pacific is usually cut in half for (whose?) convenience. Africa is the focus of only two maps. So the book should really be called 'a map of some parts of the world, with an emphasis on London and New York'. This is a pity, given our supposedly globalised world.

Map content for the well-known places, however, also tends to the simplistic. This is in part due to graphic devices that focus on chosen elements, all too easily tending to the stereotypical. The key to this book therefore is not so much the stories told, but a fascination with the method of telling. The preponderance of the hand-drawn map is notable, seemingly employed to emphasise chosen sights in or icons of a particular place, especially when the map has been made for tourism or other commercial imperatives. (The hand-drawn here is not quite what Catherine Delano-Smith refers to when she speaks of 'little' or ephemeral maps.) Another dominant strategy is the use of illustration styles from past eras. One double-page contribution that advertises wine tasting at a specialty store (pp. 184–5) employs a typical colour palette from the 1940s. Along with the illusion of ageing paper and artificial, colour registration 'mistakes', a sense of tradition is attributed to what could be a brand new business, without having to evoke former centuries. Styles from nearly every decade of the twentieth century are employed. The past is taken as representing a familiar, friendly place and this equation is frequently used to charmingly redraw some of the world's megacities.

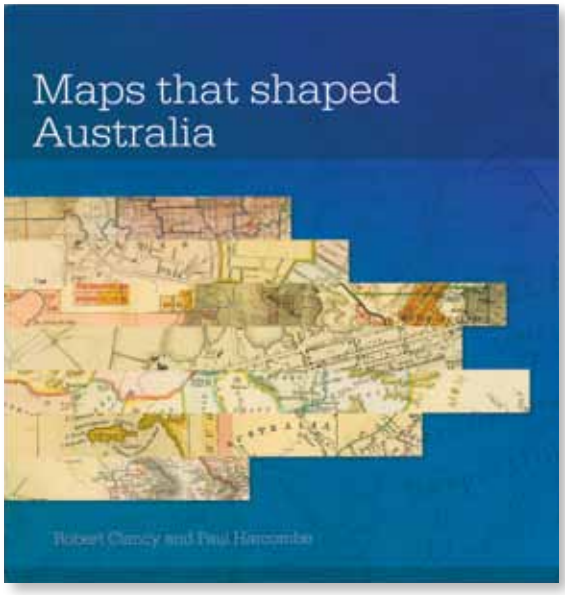
Some contributions manage to stand out from the hyper-busy 'stories' being told. The set of maps produced by The Future Mapping Company overlay global physical information with false-colour, political information, also having one of the few non-rectangular world maps in the book (pp. 82–4); for the projection purist, 'rectangular' is here used in distinction from the cylindrical, since projections such as the Robinson have been on more than one occasion rendered rectangular for graphic simplicity). Several examples by Matthew

Rangel (pp. 68–73) are noteworthy in the combination of topographical mapping with perspectival views and draw knowingly upon histories of representing landscapes. Catching my eye were the Italian company Young and Rubicam's use of a nineteenth-century Colton/Johnson-era map of Australia, skilfully reshaped as a boomerang (pp. 80–1); also Nils-Petter Ekwall's computer designed Scandinavian-themed maps, one of which apparently castigates Finnish authors for 'abandoning' their home country (pp. 156–7).

Without doubt you would find your own favourites as there are plenty of themes or representational methods to choose from. This is a cheery, colourful book for your collection; young and old might find the mixture of past and present styles engaging and it may be useful if you wish to find some new visual solutions to inspire your next cartographic foray. If you want to learn more about the world today, however, it might not be exactly what you are looking for. Interestingly, the book's success might not be either style or story: rather, you might find yourself engaged in some debates about the nature and function of maps. That's surely a good outcome.

Ruth Watson, Auckland, New Zealand

Maps that shaped Australia by Robert Clancy and Paul Harcombe. *Sydney, Land and Property Information (N.S.W.), [no date.]. ISBN 9780980621174. HB, PLC, 166, 93 col. maps. Aus $61.50. www.lpi.nsw.gov.au/about_lpi/contact_us*



This book is Robert Clancy's latest publication showcasing the mid-nineteenth century to early twentieth century portion of his map collection. On this occasion he has teamed up with Land and Property Information (N.S.W.) the state government's principal map producer of topographical and cadastral mapping. The result must please all concerned. The Australian public will realise in years to come the value of having accessible hard copy of so many maps devoted solely to Australia.

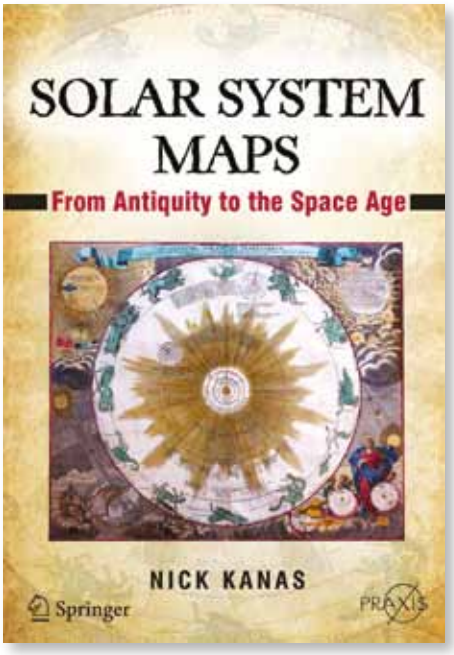
The book is arranged in twelve sections dealing with the nature of maps, land management, gold, explorers and exploration, settlement, governance, entrepreneurs and companies, infrastructure and health, tourism and leisure, the World stage, territorial expansion and finally science. A quarter of the maps focus on exploration, while the Nature of maps section features both topographic and cadastral maps, plans, charts and thematic maps, such as those showing geology. The sections on Settlement and Land Development are also well represented.

There are an additional fourteen vignette-style images included from the National Library's collections set into the text along with other similar sized insets from other sources which provide variety and interest to the text. The List of Plates unfortunately lacks pagination making these difficult to find. The maps are supported by text detailing events and personalities connected on coloured backgrounds throughout the book.

The legibility of almost all the maps is good, the exception being the map showing the Calvert Exploring Expedition. However the same can not be said for the text which employs a light colour and light weight type, mainly on a pale buff background, which makes reading a struggle, especially for older eyes even with the use of a magnifying glass. The layout has been well handled but references from a map to its enlarged portion appearing elsewhere would have been helpful. This situation occurs at the beginning of each new section throughout the book. The text is marred by more than a few errors and does not meet the high standard otherwise achieved throughout, with spelling mistakes both in proper names and in some captions, garbled sentences and incorrect references. Despite these shortcomings this is a book that should grace the shelves of all Australian libraries.

Dorothy Prescott, Melbourne

Solar System Maps: From Antiquity to the Space Age by Nick Kanas. *London, Springer, 2014. ISBN 978-1-4614-0895-6. PB, 331, 162 illustrations, some colour. US $44.99; STG £40.99. www.springer.com / www.praxis-publishing.co.uk*



Nick Kanas has done it again. First he brought us the definitive guide to celestial cartography *Star Maps, History, Artistry, and Cartography* (2012) and now with *Solar System Maps* he has taken on the mapping of the cosmos.

Of course the perception of the larger 'world' we live in has changed dramatically over the centuries. Dr Kanas takes us on a journey through time. It is a tale of humans observing the skies and recording and interpreting those observations.

The book takes us from star-gazing prehistoric man to the megaliths of Britain through sub-Saharan Africa, Mesopotamia, India, Australia, Polynesia, China and of course Egypt the home of Ptolemy. Nick Kanas weaves a very interesting story of the common cultural history they all shared: observing the skies.

Map collectors will be familiar with some of the authors presented such as Blaeu, Coronelli and Doppelmayr. Images from astronomical texts also populate the book and contain some of the most bizarre representations of the cosmos as scientists tried in vain to merge earth-centred cosmology with heliocentric thinking.

Perceptions change over the centuries. Dr Kanas starts with the geocentric system of spheres that was believed for ages, where the earth is in the centre of it all. He discusses the first physical models of the heavens, the armillary sphere; these were first in use over 2,000 years ago.

The book then explores non-European world views of the Middle Ages, the Islamic and Byzantine world and finally, the re-emergence of Greek astronomy in Europe in the eleventh century. The earth-centred world view held in classical Greece was that the earth is a flat circular disk surrounded by a great river and the heavens above.

There were big changes once the sun centred-heliocentric views of Copernicus became widely held. And even more evolution of thought with Galileo's observations through the telescope.

Many theories sprouted to explain the orbits of the planets within our solar system – there were even geoheliocentric world views that had both the earth and the sun at the epicentre of the world.

Dr Kanas was clever to use illustrations from the same books when choosing images of the different theories of the planetary system. Utilising multiple images from both Sacrobosco's *De Sphaera* (the most widely used astronomical textbook between the thirteenth and seventeenth centuries) and *The Sphere of Marcus Manilius Made an English Poem* makes it easy to compare and contrast the various possibilities.

Solar System Maps: From Antiquity to the Space Age does as its title states; it takes us from the earliest naked-eye observations to the latest satellite pictures. There are sections on mapping the moon and a section on the mapping of each of the planets from the 1600s to recent spacecraft images. As astronomers and mathematicians became more adept in observation, humans came to better understand orbital paths. *Solar System Maps* does a good job discussing the ensuing illustrated books about eclipses and the transits of planets.

The book contains a strong chapter on maps illustrating comets. I was astounded to find out that a comet, later to be called Halley's Comet, was pictured in a Chinese document dating from 611 BC and in the eleventh-century Bayeux tapestry commemorating the Norman conquest of England at the Battle of Hastings.

Solar System Maps: From Antiquity to the Space Age is more than a sequel to his *Star Maps*; it gives us both a cartographic and cultural understanding of our civilisation's continuing quest to define the 'world' we live in.

Robert Gordon, New York

Gonzalo Fernández Pontes



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