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# IMCoS JOURNAL




# Journal of the International Map Collectors' Society

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# Journal of the International Map Collectors' Society

*Winter 2006* *Issue N°. 107*

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Cover map: *Nova Hispania Nova Galicia Guatemala* by Arnoldus Montanus / John Ogilby 1671 (Courtesy of Jens Bornholt.)

Copy and other material for our next issue (Spring 2007) should be submitted by 1st January 2007. Editorial items should be sent to:
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# A Letter From the IMCoS Chairman

Hans Kok

After the warm summer we have enjoyed in Europe, autumn and winter are upon us and will provide us with ample opportunity to enjoy maps, be they in our private collections or otherwise. Map auctions have been announced in abundance and large numbers of books on map subjects are being published.

The Executive Committee has agreed to a modest donation to the History of Cartography project which we feel is so deserving of our support. The HOC project will result in a large number of integrated publications by map historians from all parts of the globe and is taking many years to complete. The volumes currently available have all been received with great appreciation.

Subscription renewal time has come round again and I would like to ask everybody to renew her/his subscription promptly. Also, if you know of any friends or acquaintances who might be interested in joining please urge them to do so. We are anxious to keep our member numbers high which in turn keeps our society healthy. Our website gives all the necessary information for joining and renewing on line. However, we are still willing to accommodate those who prefer to renew by mail.

Efforts are underway to better synchronize our IMCoS events over the June weekend, with the opening hours of the London Map Fair. This will hopefully give more actual "fair-time" for members and be more worthwhile for those coming to London from far away.

The Luxembourg visit, organised by Rolph Langlais and his wife Ursula, was a great success. It never ceases to surprise me that lesser known cities and their institutions can come up with such impressive arrays of maps; the three - dimensional city walk through "Gibraltar of the North" gave us a splendid illustration of the fortification maps. The city certainly had its share of warfare over the centuries. In contrast I would like to wish you all a peaceful close of the current year with my best wishes for the year to come, or - quoting our American friends - Season's Greetings!



*Hans Kok, Chairman of IMCoS.*

# Joining IMCoS

Would all members encourage their friends and colleagues to join our Society. Tell them we are a happy bunch of people who both love to collect and study early maps and that they would be most welcome to share in our events around the World.

**Current membership prices are:-**

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# From the Editor's desk

Valerie Newby

I have been quite overwhelmed by the number of letters and messages I have received wishing me well as editor of the Journal. Thank you to all those kind and encouraging people. However, it takes two to tango and I need input from members if we are to make this a really exciting and worthwhile publication. Nearly every member of IMCoS has a story to tell about their collection, their research project or how they started their early map business, so do get writing and use the Journal as your means of communication. We could start a column for collectors who need help with identifying a map or chart if people would find that helpful. Just send along a picture of the item and a short description and let our knowledgeable readership do the rest.

Exciting times lie ahead for all our members. The Guatemala Symposium (our 25th international gathering) is just round the corner in February and we are including two relevant articles about this Central American country in this issue. One describes a modern atlas which aims to show the market information for the many regional coffees grown there and the other covers the history of the area seen through a selection of maps. The history article is written by Francis Herbert who has just retired as Map Curator of the Royal Geographical Society, London. The RGS will not be the same without Francis. His encyclopaedic memory for facts and his obvious enjoyment of his work and research have become a legend in the map world. Hopefully he won't disappear from our lives completely.

The second part of the sale of Lord Wardington's amazing collection of maps and atlases which took place at Sotheby's auction house, London, on October 10 has sent ripples throughout the collecting world. Never before has an atlas fetched more than two million pounds even if it was incredibly rare and the first printed atlas (Ptolemy's *Cosmographia*). Sadly Lord 'Bic' Wardington died in 2005 so was not at the auction to see the phenomenal prices realised for his beloved atlases. In June 1992 members of IMCoS spent a delightful day at the Wardington family home near Banbury, Oxfordshire. I remember being especially impressed by the binding on a 1965 Reader's Digest Complete Atlas of the British Isles. It was the first time I had come across a collector who bought expensive morocco bindings for modern atlases.

Another death we have to record is of that of Itzhak Sperling, a member from Gent in Belgium. Our thoughts go out to his family.



I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a successful and healthy New Year.

*NB. Please would all contributors send their illustrations separately (on disc or by e-mail or mail); not in the body of the text. Images should be at a minimum of 300 dpi and of a manageable size for the magazine. They can either be in jpeg or tiff format.*

***Valerie Newby***
***Editor***



# GUATEMALA,

## *colonisation, and the Royal Geographical Society in the 1830s : some contemporary manuscript and printed documents in the RGS's Collections*

by Francis Herbert

*The frivolous character of the enterprise, at least in its early years, apparently determined that by default if not by deliberate intent of the Directors it would leave, even in the public realm, the scantiest possible evidence of its existence.* (Griffith, 1965)

Guatemala, since July 1823, was one of five former provinces of Mexico (ex-Vice-Royalty of New Spain) – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua – that broke away to form the United Provinces of Central America. Being independent of both (Old) Spain and of Mexico the new federated state governments looked to colonisation to improve their economies, Guatemala taking the lead from new federal legislation.

Ten years later, in September 1833, the formation of an 'Eastern Coast of Central America Commercial and Agricultural Company' was announced in London. In fact this was but a new name for an already existing – and highly dubious – shares company that had its origins in Scottish adventurer Gregor MacGregor; in 1820 he had obtained the 'Poyais Concession' of territory from the 'King' of the Mosquito Shore, Honduras.




***Fig.1*** **'The Territory of Verapas, Ceded by the Federal Government of Central America to the... British Company of Agriculture, Commerce & Colonization... Compiled & corrected from the latest authorities and original surveys by Robert Sears'** ***(London, 1837). RGS-IBG Map Room, Guatemala S/G.9***

After serving prison sentences in both Britain and France for property and finance fraud MacGregor arrived in England around 1828 and 'sold' his 'goods' to some ten speculators calling themselves the Rio Tinto Commercial and Agricultural Company. Its growing reputation caused it, from 1833, to hide itself behind another name – Eastern Coast of Central America Commercial and Agricultural Company. But, thanks to London press attention and the suspicious nature of a British Foreign Office official, Frederick Chatfield, a healthy scepticism was entertained from this period by the British government and some other intelligent persons.

Chatfield, coincidentally appointed British Consul to Guatemala in 1834, sailed from Portsmouth for Belize (town) aboard the same ship as a Thomas Gould. On June 10 he left Belize, *en route* southwards for Guatemala (city) via the Rio Dulce in the Bay of Honduras, in the company of a Mr E. Legh Page. Gould, meanwhile, stayed awhile in Belize conferring with a Mr Marshall Bennett who was described in Colonial Office documents as "an Englishman & an Inhabitant of Belize" and "a resident for 47 years of British Honduras ... who holds at the present day greater possessions than any other Inhabitant in it, has recently purchased from the Government of Guatemala a large tract of land adjoining the British Boundary on the South, where he has commenced the cutting of mahogany ...". Bennett gradually became a 'bête noir' of the Company; his name frequently occurs on the materials found in this Society's Collections and elsewhere.

"The cession of the whole of the territory denominated 'Vera Paz', has been granted to the Company, by the Government of Guatemala; an extent of country equal in its geographical limits to the whole of England ..." . This quotation is from a letter of Thomas Gould, dated August 26, 1834 from Salamá, Guatemala. In the Society's Library is a copy of *Brief statement, supported by original documents,*




*Fig.2 (left) Enlargement of part of Fig. 1 showing southern Verapaz, and encompassing the future District of Santo Tomás; RGS Secretary (Capt. J. Washington)'s pencil annotations include a mention of a road cut (from New Liverpool) by "Mr. [Thomas] Fletcher". RGS-IBG Map Room, Guatemala S/G.9*

*Fig. 3 '[District of Santo Tomas]': anonymous map, lithographed by [Charles] Ingrey, from the* **Brief Statement, supported by original documents, of the important grants conceded to the Eastern Coast of Central America Commercial and Agricultural Company by the State of Guatemala** *(London, 1839). This depicts the later, more restricted, concession area. RGS-IBG Library, NO7/25.T*

*of the important grants conceded to the Eastern Coast of Central America Commercial and Agricultural Company by the State of Guatemala. With a map of the Territory of Vera Paz, and another of the port of San* [!] *Tomas* (London : Whittaker & Co., 1839)[1] where we learn of "Thomas Gould, Esquire, a Captain in the service of His Britannic Majesty [William IV] and one of the Directors of the Eastern Coast of Central America Company, acting as Agent ... and appointed by the Directors ... to enter into a treaty of Colonization with the Federal Government". On 6th August 1834 he had signed, on behalf of the London-based Company, a bilingual 'Carta del territorio de Vera Paz ...' or 'Charter of the territory of Vera Paz ...'. Dr Mariano Galvez, "Chief of the State of






***Fig. 4 'Map of the District of Santo Tomas, with the line of steam navigation From the Mouth of the River Dulce... along the Course of the River Polochic to the new settlement of Abbottsville, in the territories conceded by the Government of Guatemala to the Central America Commercial and Agricultural Company. By Young Anderson Esqr.' (London, lithographed by S. Straker, ca 1839). RGS-IBG Map Room, Guatemala S/S.3***

Guatemala", was the latter's chief signatory. Gálvez further nominated two "Citizens, Juan Manuel Rodriguez, Intendant-General of the Federation, and Carlos Antonio Meany, Merchant of this place, Commissioners for the purpose of treating with the aforesaid Commissioner [Gould] in order that they might frame a convention to colonize the whole department of Vera Paz ..." Charles Antony Meany is described in a Colonial Office document in The National Archives (formerly: Public Record Office), Kew, Surrey, as "a citizen of the Republick, but a native of the island of Trinidad, born previous to the year 1797"; correspondence between him and the RGS Secretary (Captain John Washington RN) during 1838-39, of which two letters at least refer to the sending of maps of Guatemala, are in the Society's Archives[2].

The first Board of Directors of the Company included Thomas Gould and Robert Sears. For any colonisation or land-claiming scheme a map is a necessity – either as a prospectus to entice emigrants or as an attraction for more share-holders. A 'Map of the Department of Vera-Paz, one of the States of Guatemala, Central America' – "Drawn on Stone by Robert Sears, & Co, 53 Paternoster Row, London, 1835, from an authorized Sketch of the Federal Government of Central America" – is in The National Archives, Kew.

Donated to this Society, on the other hand, was 'The Territory of Verapas [!], Ceded by the Federal Government of Central America to the Directors of the British Company of Agriculture, Commerce & Colonization, With part of the Surrounding Country, Compiled & corrected from the latest authorities and original surveys never before published' – "Drawn Engraved & Printed by the Special order of the Directors, by Rob[er]t. Sears & Co. 53, Paternoster Row, London, January, 1837." This map, in possibly its first state[3] was donated by a 'J. [i.e. T.] Fletcher, Esq.' in 1838 (see *Fig.1* [and p.37 of *IMCoS Journal*, Autumn 2006]). Thomas Fletcher – another former West Indies resident - was the Company's first appointed local superintendent of the colonization scheme. He left London for Guatemala, via Trinidad and Barbados, on June 1, 1835; by mid-October he had settled his family near the confluence of the Cajabón and Polochic rivers on a nearly 14,000-acre site, naming it New Liverpool. An incomplete manuscript description of much of the Vera Paz district was also received

from Fletcher, after his return to London (and departure from the Company around October 1838), by RGS Secretary, Captain Washington, on 25 October 1838 and is now in the Society's Archives[4]. He also wrote a report for the Company, dated October 18 the same year, parts of which are quoted in the afore-mentioned *Brief statement, supported by original documents,...* (London, 1839). The large concession area (*ca* 14 000 000 acres) of Vera Paz is surrounded by a light blue border. In the southern Vera Paz concessions area the Society's copy has a pencil grid and annotations (see *Fig.2*): these are in the hand of Captain Washington who was familiar with the Spanish language and had journeyed overland from Valparaiso and Santiago to Buenos Aires in 1821-22; his MS account is in Archives[5]. An altered state of this map, far more commonly encountered, is imprinted "London, Printed by Alfred Adlard, 7, Wardrobe Place, Doctor's Commons, April, 1839." : found issued separately or folded in otherwise identical printings of the *Brief statement,...* (London, 1839). A notable difference to this 1839 state is in the added hand-colouring in red of a triangular-shaped area, approximately parallel to 89° 05′ west and from 15° 50′ north (or the River Sarstoon), covering the word 'Livingston' (of 'District of Livingston'); the settlement of Livingston (no relation to the Scottish explorer of Africa!) received this changed name in November 1831.

Interestingly, and with no apparent direct connection with this present article's subject, Edward Legh Page's 'Notes on a Journey from Belize to Guatemala, and return by the River Polochic in 1834' was laid before the RGS Council on May 14, 1838; his covering letter, received by Capt. Washington on 9th May, mentioned various sketches, and is in the Society's Archives but apparently not the MS journal[6].

Fletcher, as local superintendent, was joined in 1837 by a Mr Young Anderson (leaving London mid-September and arriving in Izabal in November) who served the Company to at least the spring of 1841. The Directors had stated that there were to be laid out three new towns: New Liverpool (the Company's first permanent and planned settlement, where Fletcher had been based), Abbottsville (above the Boca Nueva river), and the proposed town and port of San[to] Tomas on the western shores of the same-named Gulf at the southern end of Gulf of Amatique in the southern Bay of Honduras. For the last, the persuasive influence of a map was suggested: "An inspection of the map, prefixed, will convey a strong impression of the commanding situation of San Tomas for commerce..." (*Brief statement, supported by original documents...*, 1839, p.12). Anderson, an officer on half-pay and also a West Indies resident, was an active traveller and surveyor of lands and of roads for the Company, and managed to rescue - from the cholera outbreak and political upheavals of 1837-1838 (in July Gálvez was replaced by Mariano Rivera Paz) - the original Verapaz territory in the reduced form of a concession to the Santo Tomás District. In the *Brief statement,...* (1839) is not a map "of the port of San Tomas" but one of the District of Santo Tomas lithographed by [Charles] Ingrey of London (see *Fig.3*).

A larger-scale Anderson product is the 'Map of the District of Santo Tomas, with the line of steam navigation From the Mouth of the River Dulce, through the Golfete and lake of Ysabal, along the Course of the River Polochic to the New Settlement of Abbottsville, in the territories ceded by the Government of Guatemala to the Central America Commercial and Agricultural Company. By Anderson Esqr.' (see *Fig.4*). Waterways communications were a vital constituent of the proposed scheme: they had to be convenient and navigable – hence the emphasis in the title. The proposed town and port of Santo Tomas, in its typical American grid layout, is shown in an inset on this main map (see *Fig.5*). Abbottsville – named for a Company Director, Peter Harris Abbott - is shown as larger and more important than the first planned and permanent settlement at New Liverpool; whilst "Proposed Site for




***Fig. 5 Enlargement of the inset map of Fig. 4, showing the typical North American grid layout of the proposed town of Santo Tomás. RGS-IBG Map Room, Guatemala S/S.3***

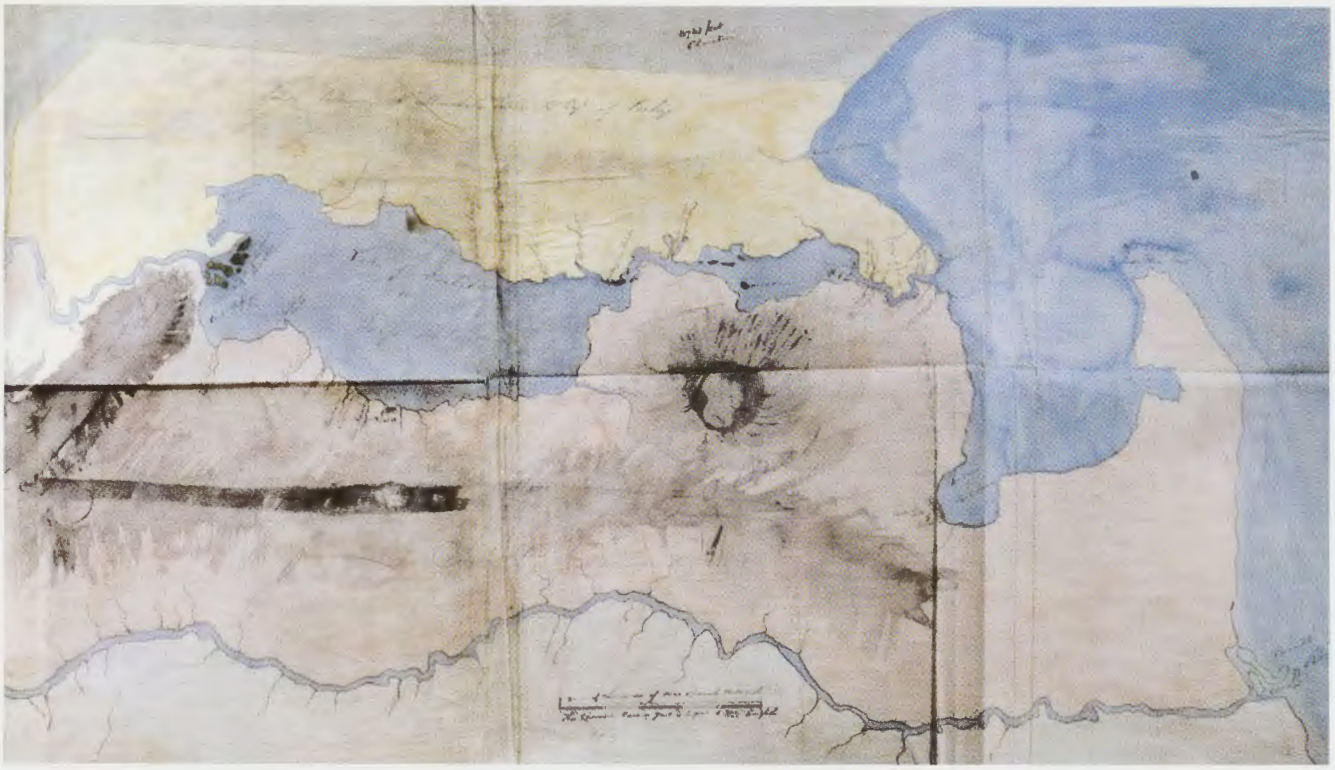


***Fig. 6 'Sketch of the Polochic River & Gulf of Dulce [by] Young Anderson' (ca 1838): hand-coloured manuscript map (right-half only shown). On the left half is a pen-&-ink inscription (possibly by Carlos A. Meany): "From a Map in possession of Young Anderson Esq[uire]. Sanctioned by Authority of the Government of Guatemala." RGS-IBG Map Room, Guatemala S/S.4***

TOWN" – almost as impressive in size as Abbottsville - is shown just inland of the 'Harbour of SANTO-TOMAS'. Along the north shore of 'Lake of Ysabal or Golfo Dulce' is shown "Lands purchased by Messrs. Bennet [!] & Meany".

Written just after his return to London, and received in the RGS on September 15, 1839, Anderson's letter notes: "My friend Don Carlos Meany of Guatemala, has, I believe transmitted you several M.S. Maps of the State of Guatemala, which I hope you have safely received." On August 2 that year Captain Washington had received from Meany a 'Copia del Cuaderno letra E sobre la navegacion del Rio de Polochic en la provincia de Verapaz, concedida por el Sup[rem]o. Gobierno, y descripcion de esta Provincia' with a comment: "Es copia de los originales – Salamá 15 de Mayo 1839". It is inscribed: "Para el S[eño]r. John Washington en la Sociedad de Geografia lo remite su obed[iente]. Serv[id]or. C. Meany" [7]. Other materials received were "The report of Porta, Spanish Engineer, of his survey of the River Motagua & 28 sheets of paper comprehending a copy of the course of the said River, by the same Engineer,..."; the printed *Relation del reconocimiento que... practico el ingeniero ordinario D. Antonio Porta, en la costa comprendida desde Omoa, hasta la Punta de Manabique... y desde... Rio de Motagua...* (Nueva Gutemala, 1792) is inscribed by Meany (Library, Y.100.3), the MS maps are in Map Room (Guatemala S/S. 10). One extra MS sheet, showing the area between Graciosa [Bay] and Rio San Francisco on a 'Chart of the Motagua' with an "intended canal" between the two, at smaller scale, has "by H. Gardiner 1837". Henry Gardiner was an "English engineer" who had allegedly directed the construction of a canal between Graciosa Bay and the San Francisco River. He also contributed a 'Detailed Account of the Establishment and Expenses of a Mahogany Gang' to Anderson's 1839 Report [8].

Another Anderson map of *c* 1838 is the manuscript (40 x 100 cm): 'Sketch of the Polochic River & Gulf of Dulce' - "From a Map in possession of Young Anderson Esq[uire]. Sanctioned by Authority of the Government of Guatemala." - and is in the Society's Map Room (Guatemala S/S.4). It marks and names "NEW LIVERPOOL Settlement." and – inland of 'harbour of Santo Tómas' [!] - the "Proposed Site of Town". Perhaps recording a 'lost' name it marks 'Caribal or Livingston'. Thomas Fletcher, now independent of the Company, was sent by a new association of promoters to Guatemala City in May 1839 (where he arrived in October) to successfully obtain a charter for opening a bank. Young Anderson returned to Verapaz, as superintendent, in spring 1840. Unfortunately the 1838-39 concession for the Santo Tomás development was annulled by the new Guatemala government that October, although he continued, on the Company's behalf,

to explore for settlements and for the construction and improvement of roads. Company executives and a Belgian entrepreneur – Louis Henri-Charles Obert - with an interest in also opening a bank in Guatemala, arrived the next year but Anderson fell foul of them and was relieved of his post. Eventually the London Company sold out to the 'Compagnie belge de colonization' (authorized by a royal decree dated 7 October 1841) – and a similar tale of disasters began to befall the Belgians in the 1840s!

"The frivolous character of the enterprise, at least in its early years, apparently determined that by default if not by deliberate intent of the Directors it would leave, even in the public realm, the scantiest possible evidence of its existence." [9]

## Notes

**1.** This exemplar has contemporary black pen-&-ink amendments which include the addition to the Board of Directors of David Pollock QC (this happened ca March 1840) and some scoring through of words or phrases. RGS-IBG Library, NO7/25.T

**2.** Meany's letter from Belize of 5 February 1839 mentions: "I do myself the honour to forward you enclosed a collection of 8 maps of the State of Guatemala which although are with some slight mistakes [!], yet I think are in general very correct. I also send you... a plan of Izabal with some explanation about the locality." The "8 maps" form the *Atlas Guatemalteco en ocho cartas formadas... de orden del Gefe del Estado C. Doctor Mariano Galvez* of M. Rivera Maestre (Guatemala, 1832). The Society's copy (Map Room, 7.B.26) has a 19th-century red ink inscription on the title plate: "& very badly done being incorrect as to distances except in the very immediate vicinity of the City of [Guatemala] Antigua". Black pen-&-ink copies on tracing paper of plate IV 'Departamento de Verapaz' are enclosures to Frederick Chatfield's August and September 1834 despatches relating to the boundaries of Vera Paz: bound in a Colonial Office volume (CO 123/47) in TNA (PRO), Kew, Surrey.

**3.** 'The Territory of Verapas, Ceded by the Federal Government of Central America ...' map, in its 1839 state by Whittaker, is listed as item 141 '1839 [Whittaker]' in *Central America : early maps up to 1860* by Kit S. Kapp (North Bend OH : K.S. Kapp Publishers, 1974) and illustrated in black-&-white as plate XXIV captioned 'Whittaker 1839'. This listing was also issued as *The Printed maps of Central America up to 1860 : Part I 1548-1760* and *Part II 1762-1860* (London : Map Collectors' Circle, 1974-75), as Map Collectors' Series vol. 11, nos. 103 & 106 respectively; here plate XXIV was issued in *Part I*, the text to item 141 in *Part II*! This 2-part work was reprinted (with deletion of item 120 and with over-pasted plate XXI) in ca 1981. Obviously Kapp was never aware of the 1837 state under Sears' name, but he does list "Edition 1840, same title, 37 x 18.5 [inches] from *Mémoire contenant un aperçu statistique de l'Etat de Guatemala* by H.C. Obert, Bruxelles 1840". Like both this Verapas map, and the '[District of Santo Tomas]' map lithographed by Ingrey (issued in *Brief statement, supported by original documents,...* of 1839), the 'Map of the District of Santo Tomas, with the line of steam navigation...' (with its town inset) of Anderson was also reissued in Obert's 1840 *Mémoire*.

**4.** RGS-IBG, Archives, Journal MSS, Central America, 1838 (JMS 5/8). Washington's endorsement notes: "Mr. F. was agent for the Vera Paz Ag[ricultura]l. Comp[an]y at New Liverpool in 1836-7."

**5.** RGS-IBG, Archives, LMS W.6: in his bound *Journal* Washington records other journeys taken during the 1820s, including one through France, Switzerland, and Italy in 1824-25.

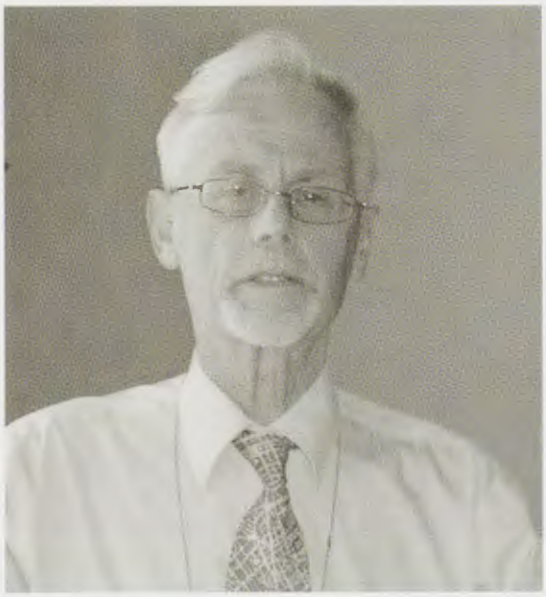
**6.** *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London*, 1838, vol. 8, pp.317-327. The Editor (Captain Washington)'s footnote on p.326 reads: "Mr. Page's Journal, which he has kindly presented to the Society, and from which these extracts are made, contains a picturesque sketch..." Legh Page's letter mentions: "The Sketches, though perfectly correct, are most unworthily executed – but, supposing it [i.e. the MS] might be Published, I thought the Lithographer would make up for my inability – the two largest and principal, are not forwarded with the M.S...." Another footnote, on p.327, demonstrates that Washington was very well informed (probably through his navy, government, and diplomat channels) on developments in Guatemala: "It is about 2 miles up on the banks of the river Cajabon that the site of the town of New Liverpool has been selected by the Vera Paz British Agricultural Company."

**7.** RGS-IBG, Archives, Journal MSS, Central America.,1841 [!]: Escobar [!] (JMS 5/12).

**8.** *Eastern Coast of Central America. Mr. Anderson's Report. (1839.)* (London: printed by Manning and Mason [post 19 December?], 1839), pp.135-138. British Library, 10408.ee.8.(4.)

**9.** William J. Griffith on p. vi of the 'Preface' to his *Empires in the wilderness : foreign colonization and development in Guatemala, 1834-1844* (Chapel Hill NC : University of North Carolina Press, 1965). This is by far the best published work on the subject but, even so, pays no attention to the documents held since 1830s by the Royal Geographical Society. Readers interested in this subject should beware of *Guatemala : past and present* by Chester Lloyd Jones (Minneapolis : University of Minnesota Press, 1940) and of Vol.8 *: History of Central America, vol. 3 : 1801-188*" of *The works of Hubert Howe Bancroft* (San Francisco : The History Company, 1887) as both confuse and conflate the facts. For those who wish to pursue the story of Belgium's attempt at the colonization of Santo Tomás there is ' "The truth is...maps are weapons!" Cartographic impressions and the doomed Belgian colony of Santo Tomas' by Robert Ansiaux and Dennis Reinhartz. This illustrated contribution is in a Festschrift – published on behalf of the

Royal Library of Belgium – entitled *Margaritae cartographicae: studia Lisette Danckaert 75um diem natalem agenti oblata*, edidit Wouter Bracke (Brussel/Bruxelles: Archief-en Bibliotheekwezen in België = Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique, 2006; ISSN 0775-0722, extranummer = numéro spécial 80), pp.[241]-259. A different – and richly illustrated perspective - is provided by a Belgian, Patrick Maselis, in his *Van de Azoren tot de Zuidpool* (Roeselare : Roularta Books, 2005), ISBN 90-5466-951-9, chapter 'VI: Santo Tomas de Guatemala (1841-1858)', pp.90-117; this work is available in English, French, Portuguese, or Spanish translations, too.



Illustrations, except that below, by courtesy of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG).

*The author, Francis Herbert, has worked with the Royal Geographical Society, and with maps, for about 35 years. Being involved with international cataloguing standards meant looking more closely at how maps were made, what they contained, how they were distributed, and how they should, ideally, be unambiguously described. When relevant associated literature or carto-bibliographies could not be found he has sometimes compiled the latter himself and/or researched and written articles - usually based on materials in the Society's Study Collections. In spite of 'time served' with the RGS he still does not know all the maps and literature held in its various Collections. From 1976 to 2005, Francis compiled the bibliography for* Imago Mundi. *He was co-organiser for (and speaker at) the IMCoS symposia held at the RGS in 1986, 1996, and in June 2006, and has contributed reviews to, and supplied short notes for,* IMCoS Journal. *Francis won the IMCoS Tooley Award in 1995.*


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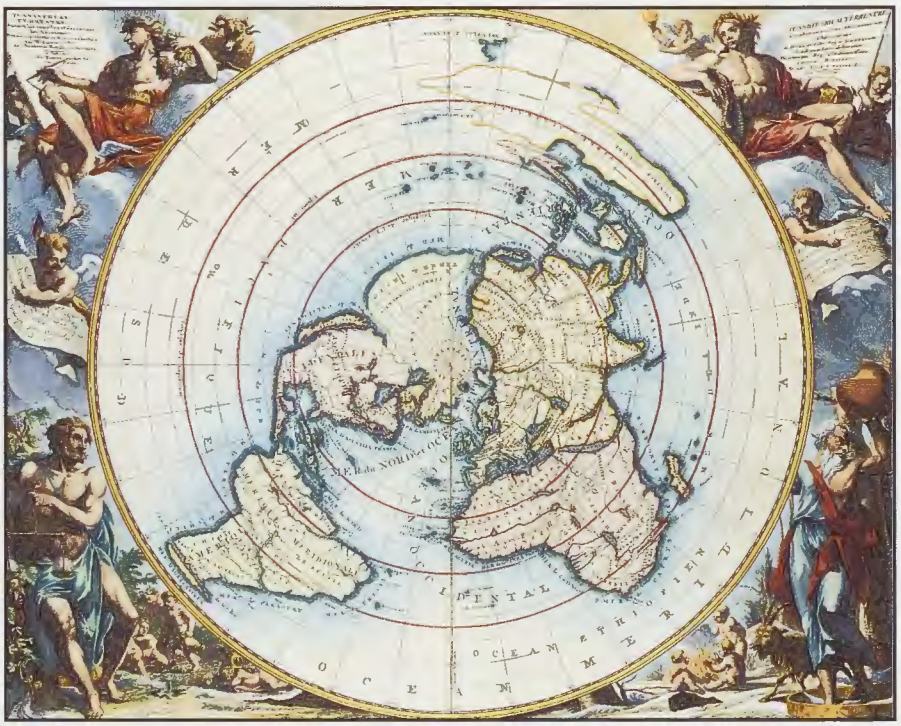
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*Left:*
*A picture showing regional differences in the coffee market in Antigua*




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# ISAAC TAYLOR

## *OF ROSS-ON-WYE*

*by Brian S. Smith*

Isaac Taylor of Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire (*c.*1720-1788) was for some 27 years a prolific surveyor, author of three printed town plans and five English county maps, land-surveyor of over a hundred estate maps and self-taught engraver and publisher. He has not received the attention that he deserves, partly because he has been overshadowed by, and confused with, his contemporary, Isaac Taylor of Worcester and London (1730-1807) the engraver and artist.[1]

Coincidences in their respective careers have contributed to that confusion. The date and place of the birth of Isaac Taylor of Ross are unknown but as his early work was in the West Midlands it was entirely plausible to identify him with Isaac Taylor (1730-1807), the son of a Worcester brass-founder, who emigrated to London in 1752 and found work with Thomas Jefferys, the prominent London cartographer. He then married his employer's niece in 1754 and undertook land-surveying in Essex before returning to London in 1757 to set up his own business as a successful and eminent engraver and book-illustrator. As it happened, Thomas Jefferys had already engraved the earliest map attributable to Isaac Taylor of Ross in 1751 and late in their careers both Isaac Taylor of London and Isaac Taylor of Ross engraved county maps. It is only quite recently that new research has thoroughly disentangled the career of Isaac Taylor of Ross from that of his more famous namesake.[2]

Isaac Taylor of Ross was probably born about 1720. He was buried in Ross churchyard but his gravestone, which might have given his age, has not been found. In addition, searches of parish registers in London, the Midlands, Herefordshire and Hampshire, where he worked or had connections in his early years as a map-maker, have so far not revealed a baptism entry that can be claimed with any certainty. The nearest match is that of Isaac, son of Thomas and Martha Taylor of Hereford, baptised on 14 October 1720. However, the not uncommon name occurs elsewhere, for example twice among baptisms in London in 1718.

When he first appears in 1750 surveying a plan of Wolverhampton, published in 1751, followed closely by Oxford in 1751 and Hereford before 1754 (though not published until 1757), he was already a competent surveyor and draughtsman. He decorated each of these town plans with inset views of prominent buildings and titled and drew them in a style which he continued in his county



***Hereford city 1757. Dedicatory cartouche with possible self-portrait.***

maps and some of his estate surveys for the next quarter of a century. In the dedicatory cartouche of his plan of Hereford city he drew the figure of a rather untidy-looking young draughtsman at work in the field which could well be a self-portrait. His skill, confidence and contacts with the top London engravers Thomas Jefferys and Thomas Kitchin suggest both professional training and experience. It was in 1754, when he published his map of Herefordshire, that he first gave his address as Ross, the small riverside market town in the south of the county which was his home for the rest of his peripatetic life.

By 1750 maps at a scale of about one-inch-to-one mile had been published for some fifteen English counties and Taylor closely modelled his own first county map on Henry Beighton's excellent map of Warwickshire (1728), which had been reissued in 1750. He was doubtless influenced by the prospect of the sales that might be achieved from publishing a county map but, judging from the number of subscribers whose coats of arms were displayed in the margins, sales of the Herefordshire map were in practice disappointingly slow. The marginal lists, which were frequently brought up to date but sometimes subsequently trimmed off, record only 40 to 101 names. Nevertheless, the early prospects were sufficiently good for him to venture to map another county, this time Hampshire.

The reason for his choice of Hampshire is intriguing. On 31st December 1760, he wrote, 'The Survey of Hampshire I began at Mr Dawkins in November 1754 & pursued in the three following Summers when it was put in the Engravers hands'.[3] James Dawkins (1722-57) was an immensely wealthy Jamaican plantation owner and a notable antiquary, who returned to England in 1754 after several years of archaeological exploration of Europe and the Levant. He bought an estate at Laverstoke in Hampshire and, like other property owners, one of his first acts was to commission a survey of his new acquisition, for which he chose Isaac Taylor. But how the two men, much of the same age, came together is open to speculation. Their paths could have crossed at Oxford where Dawkins obtained the degree of Doctor of Civil Laws in 1749 at about the same time that Taylor, whose maps reveal his interest in antiquities, was surveying the city. Alternatively, Taylor, who in 1754 had advertised his readiness to survey estates in Herefordshire, probably let it be known in Hampshire too. However, this would indicate that he was already set to work in




***Ross and neighbourhood from the map of Herefordshire 1754***




***Gloucestershire 1777. Cheltenham area.***

the county and may simply have identified Hampshire as a rich county lacking a 'large-scale' map. This was a correct judgement as he attracted 587 subscribers. Proof for a further possibility has yet to be found. An Isaac Taylor is recorded as a navigational student at Portsmouth in 1739.[4] Might this have been the young Isaac Taylor of Ross now returning to an area with which he was acquainted? In the next few years he was to survey another Hampshire estate at Forton in 1757, publish his map of the county in 1759 and another of the Isle of Wight in 1760. Later, he demonstrated an expertise in mapping navigable rivers in his proposals for improving the course of the lower river Wye and in recording the notorious shifting sands of the river Severn. Whatever the reasons, he was now embarked on a new stage of his career. Hampshire had opened up more opportunities.

Professionally he was firmly started not only on making town plans and county maps for publication and sale but also on carrying out commissions as a land-surveyor, an occupation that was no longer a preserve of the estate stewards and minor gentry. Trained surveyors, school teachers and writing masters met the growing demand for estate mapping and land-improvement. The work of plotting property boundaries was essentially practical and less demanding than accurately and scientifically measuring the topography of larger areas. It was therefore uncommon for English map-makers to produce both small-scale maps for publication and unique large-scale manuscript land surveys for individual clients, although in the eighteenth century Henry Beighton (*d.*1743) and John Rocque (*d.*1762) were exceptional in doing so. Usually there was a clear distinction between the printed map publishers, centred upon London

and dependent upon sound financial resources for engraving and marketing their atlases and county maps, and the land surveyors, who had few overheads and a quick turnover from individual commissions. Taylor was now engaged in both fields which were to provide him with a varied source of income, twenty years of intense activity and pressures on his domestic life.

Despite the frustrating delay caused by his engraver Richard Benning, the map of Hampshire was eventually published in 1759. This opened the way for Taylor to get a licence to marry Eleanor Newman at Ross two days before Christmas. Their eldest daughter, Anna Jemima, was born on the 4th July 1761. Taylor's marriage introduced a new conflict of interests, for whilst still in Hampshire he must have already been preparing to make a similar map of Dorset, with the encouragement and assistance of the county's historian John Hutchins and spurred on by the announcement in 1759 that the Royal Society for the Arts would award an annual premium of £100 for county maps surveyed at a scale of one inch to one mile. Somehow he continued to push on with this project whilst also spending sufficient time at home to survey one Herefordshire estate in 1763, the river Wye in 1764 and possibly two other undated Herefordshire estate maps. Furthermore, in 1763 he announced in *Berrow's Worcester Journal* his intention to publish a map of Worcestershire. His intermittent presence in Ross is marked by the birth and death of a second daughter Mary in 1765 and of a third daughter Elizabeth in 1766.




***Isaac Taylor's house, 54-55 High Street, Ross-on-Wye***

However, he could not yet escape from Dorset. In order to 'save abundance of time and Errors, it being scarce possible to get so large & Complicated a Work out of their [the engravers'] hands with Sufficient exactness' he determined to engrave the map of Dorset himself.[5] He published it in 1765 and submitted it to the Royal Society of the Arts for a premium. It was unsuccessful, the prize that year going to Benjamin Donn for his map of Devon. In the same year he began a survey of the extensive estates of the Sturt family of Crichel Down, mostly in Dorset and Devon but including outlying property in Wiltshire, Middlesex and Cambridgeshire. It was to take him five years and 61 estate maps to complete.

Then in 1768, whilst in the midst of balancing his activities in Dorset and Worcestershire with his home life in Herefordshire, his wife Eleanor died, leaving him with the two small girls to bring up. It is likely that his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Stock, cared for the children, for when he made his will eighteen years later he left her the use of his two substantial and adjacent stone-built houses at the entrance to the High Street in Ross and an annuity of £20. No doubt his wife's death, coupled with his absences in Dorset, contributed to the slow progress of his map of Worcestershire. In 1769, undaunted and already looking ahead for more work nearer home, he circulated his *Proposals* to potential subscribers for a map of Gloucestershire. He claimed to be already preparing the map which was to be sold at a price of one guinea (£1.05). He would, of course, already have traversed parts of the county on his journeys between Ross and both Worcestershire and Dorset, and the *Proposals* were probably primarily designed to stake a claim against Benjamin Donn, who that year published a *Map of the country 11 Miles round the City of Bristol* at a scale of 1 1/2 inches to one mile.

The map of Worcestershire, also apparently engraved by Taylor, was published in 1772 and, as five years earlier, he set off for Dorset once more

whilst also working on his survey of Gloucestershire. On this occasion he went to survey the lands of the Erle-Drax family of Charborough, producing 19 estate maps between 1773 and 1777.[6] Unsurprisingly these absences slowed down his work on Gloucestershire which was also published in 1777. Simple copying errors suggest that although the engraver is unnamed he did not engrave it personally and that his proof reading was careless. Either his eyesight or health were failing, worn out by years of surveying out-of-doors, riding and walking the notoriously bad Gloucestershire roads and the close work of his finely penned draughtsmanship and engraving. After his return to Ross he did not work outside Herefordshire again, though he was still acting as a property valuer and agent in 1780.

In 1785-1786 Taylor settled his affairs. He disposed of the copperplates of his county maps to the well known London map publisher, William Faden, who issued second 'editions' of the maps of Herefordshire and Gloucestershire in 1786. These contain few alterations beyond the insertion of Faden's imprint and overprinting the course of proposed or newly built canals. That same year Taylor drew up his will, leaving his possessions and investments to his two daughters. They also inherited his dwelling in the High Street as their aunt, Elizabeth Stock, to whom he had left it for her lifetime, had died a few months before him. Both his daughters married local men at Ross, Anna Jemima in 1785 and Elizabeth in 1793. Their father's death and burial on the 17th June, 1788 was recorded simply in the Ross parish register, in which many years earlier he had been described as 'Isaac Taylor (Geographer)'. He has no other memorial apart from his maps and a pair of heavy cast iron dividers found recently beneath the floorboards of his house.

Taylor's ability as a cartographer has always been questioned. In his own lifetime the professional surveyors, both the Surveyor-General William Roy (1726-90) and the first Director General of the Ordnance Survey, William Mudge (1762-1820), who had their own interests to promote, were particularly critical of his topo-




***Gloucestershire 1777, with Isaac Taylor's dividers.***

graphical representation of Dorset. By contrast, the antiquaries, who had been instrumental in founding the Royal Society for the Arts in 1754, were more inclined to recognise the huge advances in accuracy and detail achieved by Taylor and the other county surveyors ahead of the Ordnance Survey. They appreciated Taylor's notice of archaeological and historical features, the architectural style of churches and country houses, and the names of the principal residents. Their justified criticisms were directed more to shortcomings of his engraving and in spelling place-names.[7] More recent local historians have been similarly critical but today Taylor's merits are recognised more generously.[8] A comparison of the map of Gloucestershire with contemporary large-scale inclosure and estate maps, canal plans and highway diversions concludes that Taylor was often more accurate than his modern critics have suggested.[9] Allowance also has to be made for the fact that he clearly did not aim to mark the many rough lanes and tracks weaving across the countryside but only those routes used by travellers to link towns and villages. His pioneering orthography of minor place-names was little worse than that of his immediate successors: even today the Ordnance Survey is not flawless. Taylor's maps should be used with caution as well as delight and checked against other contemporary sources wherever doubts arise. But despite that reservation they provide a vivid picture and are a vital source of first-hand evidence about a large swathe of late eighteenth-century England.




***Madley estate map, c. 1780.* By kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford.**

**Notes**

**1.** For example in T. Chubb, *A descriptive catalogue of the printed maps of Gloucestershire*, Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, 1912; R.V. Tooley, 'Large scale English county maps and plans of cities not printed in atlases, Part 12 Gloucestershire'. *The Map Collector*, Issue no. 38, March 1987, p. 37 [published posthumously]. For Isaac Taylor of Worcester and London, see *Oxford Dictionary of Biography*, 2004.

**2.** P. Laxton (ed.), *Two hundred and fifty years of map-making in the county of Hampshire*, Lympne 1976; Introduction section 8-13; A.S. Mason, *Essex on the map*, Chelmsford 1990; S. Bendall, *Dictionary of land surveyors and local map-makers of Great Britain and Ireland*, London 1997, vol.2, p. 503; B.S. Smith, *Herefordshire maps 1577 to 1800*, Almeley 2004, pp. 25-27, 195-6.

**3.** Royal Society for the Arts, London, PR.GE/110/10/80.

**4.** *Ex inf.* Gill Rushton, Assistant County Archivist of Hampshire.

**5.** Royal Society for the Arts, London, PR.GE/110/10/80.

**6.** The archives of both the Sturt and Erle-Drax families' estates remain in private hands and are not open for research. Photocopies of the maps are in the British Library, listed in Maps.A.5. (15), *Catalogue of photocopies of cadastral maps... O[rdnance] S[urvey]* 1935.

**7.** Laxton, *op. cit.* in note 2.

**8.** C. Delano-Smith & R.J.P. Kain, *English maps: a history*, London 1999, pp. 96-97.

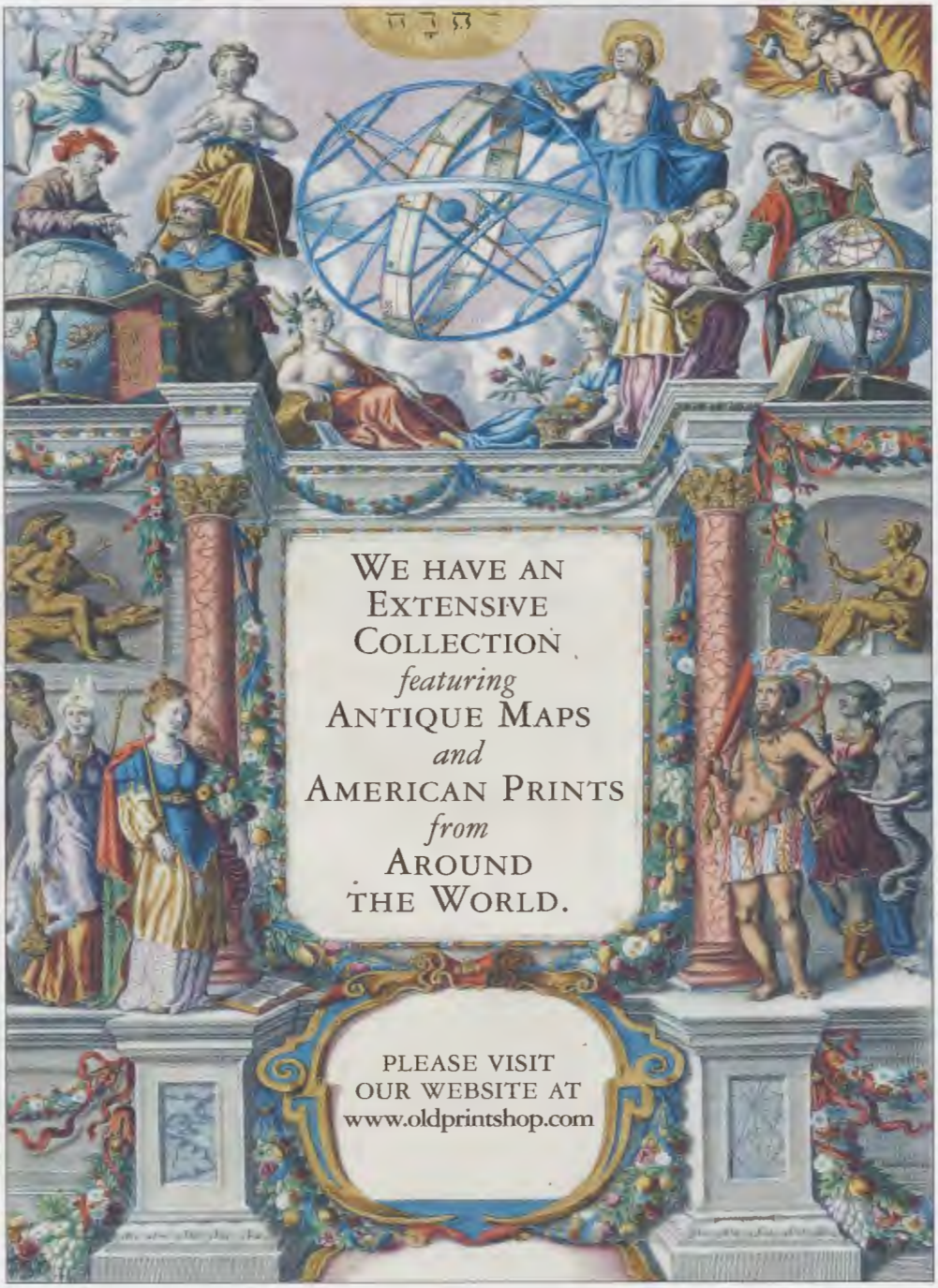
**9.** B.S. Smith, 'Isaac Taylor's map of Gloucestershire 1777' in J. Bettey ed., *Archives and local history in Bristol and Gloucestershire*, forthcoming early in 2007.

*Brian Smith spent his boyhood in Herefordshire and is author of* Herefordshire Maps 1577 to 1800. *He was an archivist in Worcestershire, Essex and Gloucestershire where he was county archivist for 12 years before appointment as Secretary of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts in 1982. He returned to his home county on retirement in 1992.*

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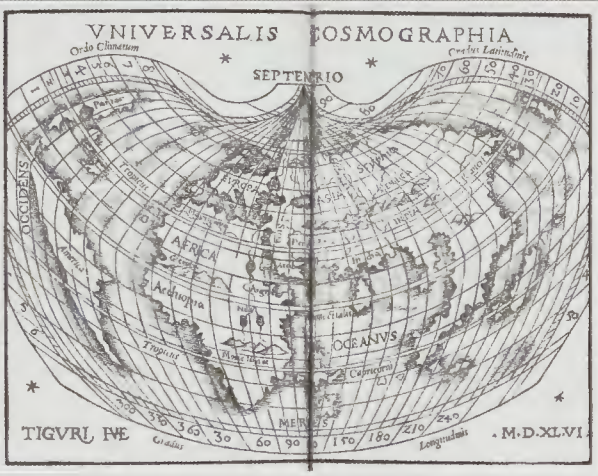
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## *Sandham Memorial Chapel*

Members of IMCoS who belong to the National Trust or who enjoy history, should visit the Sandham Memorial Chapel at Burghclere in Hampshire, England, to see this unusual painting by Sir Stanley Spencer (1891-1959). It is entitled 'Map Reading' and is just one of a remarkable set of mural paintings created by Spencer between 1926 - 1932 for this red-brick 1920s chapel - a memorial to a casualty of the Great War of 1914 - 1918. The very moving paintings were all inspired by Spencer's own harrowing experiences in service with the Royal Army Medical Corps in Macedonia from 1915-1918. In the Second World War he was an offical war artist. He was knighted shortly before his death in 1959. Could this be a map of Macedonia?




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# YERUSHALEM

## *From Madaba to 2020*

by Eva Wajntraub

A project has been started to set up a travelling exhibition of maps of Jerusalem from the distant past to the interactive cutting edge of technology. The idea was conceived by Benji Tal-Or, an experienced practical cartographer (G.I.S.) and university lecture in Israel, with the support, finance, co-operation and blessing of national, international, and private bodies committed to the furthering of cartography and promotion of the city.

A non-profit organisation, to be called Yerushalem, has been established to apply for grants, funding and donations from national and international organisations in consultation with the Israel Map Collectors Society. In co-operation with the Hebrew University, the National Parks Authority and the Israel Museum Prints and Drawings Department, notably the Norman Bier Bequest of Maps of the Holy Land, Yerushalem will set up a digital database of maps and views of the city through the ages. They will also cultivate an active exchange of materials and ideas with institutions outside Israel.

The travelling road show, to be created initially in direct co-operation with the Ministry of Education, the Jerusalem Municipality and the Ministry of Tourism, will consist mainly of reproductions of historical maps and views of Jerusalem, current hands-on technology for viewing and 'travelling' the streets, houses, and buildings of the city, and the use of the Geographic Information System (G.I.S.) for future planning.



***The world centred on the Levant. An image from the back cover of Volume II of the Geological Framework of the Levant, edited by J.K. Hall, V.A. Krasheninnikov, F. Hirsch, C. Benjamini, and A. Flexer, 2005 (By courtesy of Dr John K. Hall, Geological Survey of Israel, Jerusalem)***

When it is completed the exhibition will be shown in Israeli educational institutions and set up as a permanent feature in the centre of the Survey of Israel. It will also be available to be used as an "Ambassador" by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Tourism. This is a means of furthering the awareness of Jerusalem and strengthening the ties with cartography and mapmakers for the young people of today.



***Detail of Jerusalem from the Madaba mosaic map. This map, dating from c.565, was created on the floor of a village church near Amman in Jordan. Illustration taken from* The Map Book, *edited by Peter Barber.***

# You Write To Us

**Ortelius forgery?**

I read with interest Marcel van den Broecke's article *Ortelius Forgery – Unmasking another forgery of an Ortelius atlas map: Iceland* in Issue 106 (Summer) of the *IMCoS Journal*. It is not my wish to either reinforce nor to deny the authenticity of the map itself. This I am unable to do without actually seeing the map in question. However, it is my intention to question the reason for producing a forgery in general, and to examine the reasoning put forward in establishing it as a forgery.

**What is a forgery?**
The act or art of falsifying and to make something as close to the original as to be indistinguishable from the genuine article.

**Why produce a forgery?**
This can be many fold: 'legitimate' copying for which the prime example is our own John Speed using the maps of Mercator ("I put my sickle in other men's corn") and the 15th century which is littered with 'borrowed' maps where cartographers and publishers made use of other men's work; sometimes giving acknowledgement, sometimes not. Occasionally forged items are produced for fun – collectors do have a sense of humour and produce 'teasers'. Photocopying has made it possible to produce variants with ease and provides harmless fun in the demanding task of research and the serious business of collecting.

However, neither of the above can be classified as forgeries in the true sense and definition of the word. The sole reason for producing a forgery is invariably financial greed, and it applies to every type of forged item from documents, signatures, stamps – and yes, maybe also maps. But in the case of the Ortelius map the immediate question which comes to mind is 'why forge the map of Iceland'? It is not the most expensive map on the market nor is there a great demand for it. So if a forger goes to the effort and not inconsiderable risk of producing a forged map (or anything else for that matter) he or she is going for something easy to reproduce (like a woodcut) and/or a bigger fish than Iceland (i.e. America). Let us therefore examine Dr van den Broecke's reason for establishing it as a definite forgery:

**A. Size of paper:**
The *Theatrum*'s forty-plus editions were produced in a wide variety of sizes. As a general rule early editions were produced on a smaller size folio, especially those with French or German text, with notable exceptions such as the first issue of the first 1570 edition from the Wardington Collection (recently sold at Sotheby's of London). Later editions of the *Theatrum* produced when Ortelius's financial base became more secure, were printed on slightly larger paper producing a wider margin around the maps, culminating in the 1606 English edition in which (sizes in mm. clockwise starting at the base):

| | |
|---|---|
| Lazius/Hungariae | 68 x 52 x 77 x 53 |
| Sambucus/Ungariae | 75 x 45 x 43 x 47 |
| Transylvania | 96 x 66 x 73 x 81 |
| Illyria | 80 x 61 x 49 x 60 |
| Pannonia | 77 x 70 x 63 x 66 |
| Dacia | 57 x 44 x 60 x 53 |

So maps in the *Theatrum* did have wider margins than 60 mm and thus cannot be a basis for determining a forgery.

**B. Watermark:**
Paper used for printing the maps of the *Theatrum* came from a number of mills both in France and the Rhine countries. During my research into maps of Hungary in the editions of the *Theatrum* I have identified at least a dozen different watermarks, not counting the variants. While the 'crossed arrows' (two distinct types) and the 'shield with horn' (several types and sizes) are the most frequent there are many others. Substantially more than the three allowed by Dr van den Broecke. The Wardington first edition volume also contained eight maps (Africa, Dania, Hungaria, Scandia, Tartaria, India, Persia and Naples) without watermarks. Therefore, lack of watermark cannot be used as a valid reason for forgery.

**C. Watermark [tram] lines**
While the majority of maps in the *Theatrum* do correspond with the 25mm distance between the lines mentioned in the article, a number of the above mentioned maps without watermarks in the Wardington atlas had tramlines varying between 34-36mm (Africa, Dania, Hungaria, Tartaria, India, Persia), one (Scandia) measured 39mm and one only (Naples) measured between 20-26mm. So the 38mm distance does not indicate a forgery.

**D. Colours**
Perhaps the author's weakest point regards colour. Maps in or from the Ortelius atlases were coloured by an unknown number of colourists, both amateur and professional. Undoubtedly, there are a number of beautifully coloured maps believed to be the work of Ortelius's sister Anne, but the variants are far too numerous both in quality and in the choice of colours used. It may be unusual and one may dislike it but it is not a reason to suspect a forgery. Also, the author states that such colours do not normally appear on maps coloured in Ortelius's time but the time of colouring was not in question.

**E. Lower resolution details**
Again, as with colouring, a wide variety of examples can be found. The impression of the print mainly depends on the pressure used in the press during printing but also on the quality and quantity of ink applied and the dampness of the paper. Faint [er] or strong impressions can both be found, as can the offset of text due to the printing process. Again, not a strong enough reason to base a decision for it to be a forgery.

**F. Platemark**
Here I agree with the author. It seems that all plates from which maps in the *Theatrum* were printed were cut close to the engraved surface, not more than 1-2mm, not just the map of Iceland. So, why did the forger(s) decide to add a platemark so obviously erroneous? Did his/her/their attention to detail not extend to such basic elements of the production of a map?

My conclusion is that the map could be a forgery but I feel it is vitally important to use sound reasoning built on sound facts in determining if a map is genuine or a forgery. Could it by some chance be an unrecorded example of an undiscovered issue?

László Gróf
Oxford

**'First' issue of the IMCoS Journal**

Congratulations on a wonderful first issue of IMCoS Journal. I know at times you will wonder (probably already have) if you were mad to take on the editorship but it is great to have you back in this role in the map community.

I enjoyed the two vignettes on/by individual members – Dee Longenbaugh and Rolph Langlais. Obviously we all want the maps to remain the primary focus but brief human interest stories on members help foster the sense of IMCoS as a society, not just a subscription.

The other thing that struck me about this issue was the excellent use of photos. I can't define it further but it was especially appreciated in Kit Batten's excellent Rhine panoramas article.

Wishing you continued success.

Bert Johnson
Alexandria, Virginia, USA

*Note from the Editor:*
*This is just one of many letters and e-mails I have received from readers sending their congratulations. I would like to thank you all and will endeavour to produce a really lively and informative* Journal. *Of course, a lot depends on the quality of articles and other information which you send me....*

Valerie Newby



# Book Reviews

*A look at recent publications*

***Herefordshire Maps 1577 to 1800*** by Brian Smith. Logaston Press, Little Logaston, Woonton Almerly, Herefordshire, HR3 6QH, 205, xviii + 205 pages, 64 b & w and colour illustrations; paperback, ISBN 1-904396-24-0. Price £17.50.

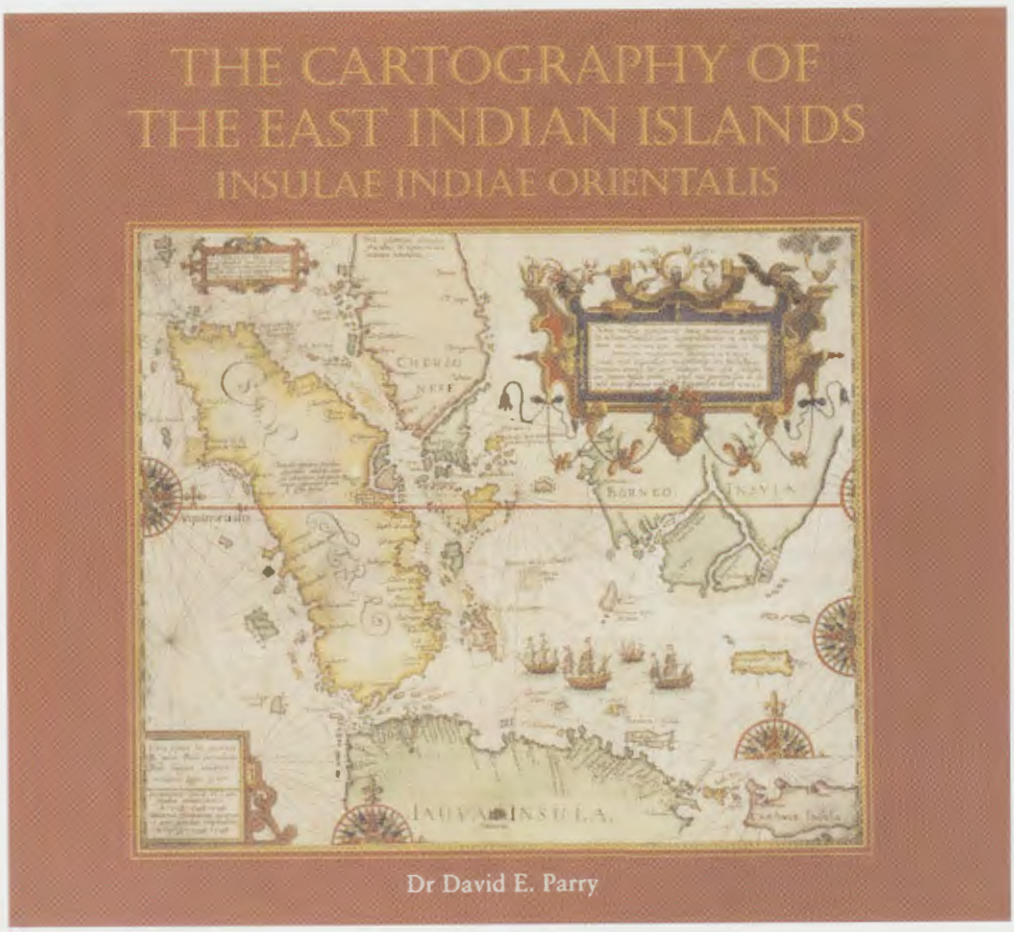
This attractively produced book by Brian Smith is the result of some years of study by the author, a former county archivist, for many years secretary of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. It is unusual in that he has combined a carto-bibliography of printed maps of Herefordshire with a catalogue of manuscript maps of the county. In addition, he has written an introductory section on the landscape of the county, and chapters with background notes on the printed maps, on the estate maps, and on their surveyors.




Carto-bibliographies of estate maps of the counties are still few and far between, and not all readily accessible. Brian Smith refers to Essex, Glamorgan, and to the recent publication by the Devon and Cornwall Record Society of the manuscript maps of Devon. However, it is surprising that, except in a passing footnote, he does not mention Sarah Bendall's *Maps Land and Society*, a detailed carto-bibliograpy of the estate maps of Cambridgeshire, with lengthy introductory chapters about estate maps and mapping. He has, however, understandably made extensive use of Sarah Bendall's *Dictionary of Land Surveyors and Local Mapmakers*. He finds that the number of estate maps of Herefordshire is very low compared with many other counties, only 21 before 1700, compared with over 180 in Kent. However his task is still formidable, and the way in which he has described the maps, with extensive notes and explaining their historical context, will prove a major contribution to the history of the county.

Brian Smith's approach to the carto-bibliography of the printed maps, as with the estate maps, is to concentrate on the content and context of the maps, and their significance as historical evidence. As he says himself, he has not been so concerned with the minutiae of those bibliographical details which are essential for serious collectors. He explains that he has based the majority of the entries on the well known and standard works of Chubb, Skelton and Hodson, and while the bibliography will be important for the Herefordshire readers and scholars, it will not add much to the knowledge of county maps generally. This is not to decry the approach, but Chubb was written in 1927, and Skelton in 1970, and recent years have seen a huge interest in map collecting and research which has to be recognised in reviewing some of the details in these seminal works. References to the carto-bibliographies of, for instance, Sussex by Kingsley, Lincolnshire by Carroll, and Devon by Batten and Bennett, could have been helpful, while for the early maps from the Netherlands, Koeman's *Atlantes Neerlandici* (being revised) is essential reading.

While the majority of the printed maps are from atlases which have maps of other counties, there is always special interest in those published of a single county. For Herefordshire the name is Isaac Taylor, and his publication of the first one




inch scale map of the county in 1754, and his life and work as a surveyor generally is rightly described in detail. He also produced a large scale plan of Hereford in 1757; this is very important, although this cannot properly be described as particularly early, given the publication of large scale plans of, for example Bristol in 1673, Norwich in 1696, Ipswich in 1698 (but drawn in 1674), Newcastle upon Tyne in 1723 and Leeds in 1725.

A final comment on a map of *c.*1700 described in the text as 'Unidentified', and illustrated as not recorded on Plate 14. This is an amended edition of the map of Herefordshire from the Mercator - Hondius *Atlas Minor* of 1648 (omitted from the carto-bibliography), published by van der Aa in Leiden in 1714. In an ambitious work of this kind it would not be surprising if a number of additions and corrections were to emerge. This, however, should not diminish the value of this scholarly book as an important contribution to the history of Herefordshire.

Raymond Frostick

***The Cartography of the East Indian Islands / Insulae Indiae Orientalis*** by David E. Parry. Countrywide Editions Ltd., 24 Maddox Street, London W15, 2005, 241 pp. with many colour illustrations. ISBN: 0955170117. Price £65 or US$120.

This welcome volume is the first comprehensive reference work on maps of the islands of Southeast Asia that approaches the topic from the perspective of the collector. Dr. Parry's patience and love for his subject are obvious from the first word to the last, and the wide breadth of information he includes should make *The Cartography of the East Indian Islands* appeal to collectors well beyond its geographic focus.

Dr. Parry begins with an introduction in which he explains his dual purpose of providing a history of the cartography of the region, and of providing a handbook for collectors of maps of the region. The book can indeed be divided into these two parts: after a summary of mapmaking prior to significant European involvement in the East Indian Islands, the reader is guided through the

first three centuries of published maps of the region that can be acquired by collectors. In the first goal Dr. Parry succeeds with some occasional small reservation, and in the second, the more important, he succeeds admirably.

As a subject, the history of the mapping of the East Indian Islands presents an organizational nightmare, and in this Dr. Parry has been careful and logical. Chapter 1, "Classical Maps of Southeast Asia and the East Indian Islands" begins with an apt question: was the mapping of the East Indian islands the product of Europeans' race for the spice islands, as is commonly assumed? From that jumping board, the author explores the early cartographic traditions of the Chinese, the Mesopotamians, Greeks, Romans, and then discusses the contributions of Ptolemy. Chapter 2, "Medieval Maps of Southeast Asia", sets the stage for the great voyages of discovery that begin in Chapter 3, "The Renaissance Voyages of Discovery". This forms the transition not just away from the less empirical cartography of medieval times, but also from manuscript maps to printed maps.

In Chapter 3 the author elaborates on the maps produced by such sixteenth century icons as Münster, Gastaldi, Ruscelli, Ramusio, and Mercator. Chapter 4 tackles the era of Dutch supremacy in map publishing, 1595–1700. The works of Ortelius form a logical pivot here, his 1570 Indiae Orientalis model being carried over by some of the lazier publishers well into the seventeenth century, as more industrious mapmakers moved forward. Dr. Parry discusses in detail the contributions of such makers as Plancius, Blaeu, Hondius, and Jansson; Jansson brings the story to the Dutch makers of printed sea atlases, such as Goos, Doncker, and de Wit, who flourished in the latter half of the seventeenth century.

Chapter 5 forms a chronological overlap with Chapter 4, a smart way of organizing the half-century in which Dutch makers lost both intellectual supremacy and market share to their English, Italian, French, and German rivals; to have woven it into the previous chapter would have been confusing. Among this chapter's many excellent points is its section on the charts of Dudley, including a wonderful schematic that demystifies the coverage of the ten charts pertaining to the East Indies that appeared in the *Arcano del Mar*.

Chapter 6, the final chapter, deals with the eighteenth century and "The Realization of Scientific Cartography". In this century of prolific publishing, Dr. Parry includes useful tables that sort out the maddeningly confusing history of the maps of Van der Aa, as well as the important charts from Parts V and VI of the Van Keulen *Zee-Fakkel*, the seldom discussed maps of de Lat, and the maps of Moll.

Now, a warning about my little criticisms to come. They are like the high latitudes on a Mercator projection, because the mere space they consume make them look larger than they actually are. But here goes.

Dr. Parry's treatment of early mapping, well before the empirical European mapping of the region that is his principal topic, is generally good but less successful than the later chapters. One particularly visible flaw is the book's confusion between the so-called Catalan Atlas and the so-called Catalan Map, two quite different creatures. He cites and describes the Catalan Atlas, ascribing its correct date of c.1375, and correct maker, Abraham Cresques, but illustrates instead the Catalan Map of the mid fifteenth century. The error is cemented by text locating the map in the Biblioteca Estense where the Catalan "Map" resides, not the Bibliothèque Nationale, home of the Catalan Atlas.

Dr. Parry identifies Sumatra with the Ptolemaic Tabula XII, apparently following Karrow. This is not "wrong", but given the importance of Sumatra to his topic, I would have liked to know why he favours this identification, rather than that of Ceylon, the more generally accepted identification among modern historians. And if the last of Ptolemy's regional maps is indeed Sumatra, why was its cartography not addressed in this book about the East Indian islands? Also regarding Sumatra, two of the earliest printed maps specifically devoted to Indonesian islands are strangely neglected, these being the Bordone (1528) and Ramusio (1556) maps of Sumatra, both landmark to the topic.

I occasionally found myself snagged on passages in which the meaning was unclear. As one example, perhaps following van den Broecke, the Ortelius *Theatrum* is described without qualification as "the most expensive book ever printed", but I do not understand what this means, if anything, nor the reasoning used to determine it. Or an even pickier example is that in describing the range of sizes of [manuscript] maps made between AD 300–1300, the size of "the" Isidorus map is cited, apparently referring to a printed rendering two centuries after the period concerned. These are little, picky points whose only harm was that they had me rereading passages. They do not adversely affect the overall text.

A few captions were rough around the edges. The T-O map illustrated is erroneously identified as being that of the 1472 Isidorus, the image identified as the Cosmas world map is actually a modern redrawing, and the image of the 1516




Waldseemüller world map is actually of a facsimile that has (unfortunately) been coloured; the map itself does not exist as such. These imprecisions will not affect the collector directly; the only one that will is the image of the important Ramusio map of the Far East, which is identified, both in the caption and text, as being from the copperplate rendering of 1563, when it is clearly the 1554 woodcut.

Some captions cite the date of maps by the particular issue, which is good but should include the original issue date as well, This would avoid confusion between state and edition. The map of the islands from the Fries Ptolemy, for example, is cited as "from the 1525 edition... published in 1525", whereas it would have been more useful to say "first published in 1522" instead of repeating the issue date.

The book is handsomely produced and illustrations are generally of high quality. The only aesthetic blemish is that illustrations occupying pages by themselves (not within text) are inconsistently sized, without any apparent reason, the fault of the layout process and not the author. This is particularly noticeable when a double-page is devoted to two images (e.g., plates 4.25 & 4.26, 4.31 & 4.32). Two Dudley charts reproduced side-by-side on one page (plates 5.9 & 5.10) are of unequal size (even the originals are the same size). This is petty criticism indeed, but the arbitrary sizing gives a slightly amateurish edge to what is generally a handsome, well-produced book.

Throughout the book, Dr. Parry's collector savvy is apparent, a quality that less experienced collectors in particular will find invaluable. The choice of illustrations is also geared specifically for collectors: aside from the early chapters dealing with the periods before European printed maps, every map illustrated is not only printed but, with the one exception of the 1516 Waldseemüller map, they are collectible maps.

Dr. Parry occasionally cites prices that maps have fetched, but only in a careful, qualified way that never misleads his collector audience. He frequently cites multiple opinions and lets his readers see their merits. And by extending his survey fully to the turn of the nineteenth century, he covers maps that should still be available to collectors of even modest means for a long time to come.

The *Cartography of the East Indian Islands* is a fine resource for collectors, connecting exploration, cartography, printing, and publishing to illuminate the final artifact, the map. Indispensable for collectors of maps of the East Indian islands, I highly recommend it for every map library.

Tom Suarez

***Journeys of the Imagination...***, by Ronald E Grim and Roni Pick (eds.), the Boston Public Library, 2006. 115 pp, 48 colour and 29 black-and-white illustrations, size 28 x 28 cm; ISBN 0-89073-129-4 (soft cover); 0-89073-129-2 (hard cover). Price US $35 and available from the Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, USA.

The full title of this large-size booklet is 'An Exhibition of World Maps and Atlases from the collections of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library April 2006 through August 2006'. Some IMCoS members (although not your reviewer) may have been fortunate enough to visit Boston and view this impressive exhibition, which the catalogue amply describes.

From the earliest civilisations there have been attempts to picture if not the whole world, then the widest environment known to its inhabitants. Some of these 'world' maps appear strange to our eyes and it is not until the last 2000 years or so (and some would argue much less) that a degree of verisimilitude can be recognised. It is appropriate therefore that the first of three introductory essays, by Ronald Grim, is headed 'Understanding Maps and the Stories They Tell'. While there can be detailed analyses in terms of projections, orientations, scales and symbols their diversity is well summed up in the words (quoted at the conclusion of Grim's essay) of an eight-year-old Asian-American who participated in one of the map talks given at a branch library. He concluded: "Maps are like people. They are all different, and each has its own story to tell".




***Circular world map from* Rudimentum Novitorium, *1475 (and later), one of the maps featured in* Journeys of the imagination**

The next essay, by Wesley Brown, is titled 'Early Printed Images of the World' and discusses the first 14 world maps chosen for the Exhibition dating from 1492 (Martin Behaim's globe in facsimile) to the mid-16th century. There were a further 33 exhibits on display, of which 11 were from the 20th century. I felt it was a pity that Wesley Brown's informative essay could not have been expanded to comment on the selection of interesting maps on display from the 1550s to (say) 1900, as the next essay jumped rather abruptly to the 1940s with 'Richard Edes Harrison Reorients the World' by Susan Schulten. Her essay commended Harrison's iconoclastic imagination in creating journalistic maps which 'shocked and dazzled readers by showing the world in terms of relationships that lay hidden on traditional maps.' Three of Harrison's novel maps were on display.

As well as these introductory essays the exhibition catalogue provides high quality illustrations and individual commentary on 50 world maps. Apart from a large-size facsimile of the great Waldseemüller 1507 world map, recently acquired by the Library of Congress (and the Behaim globe mentioned), all the exhibits were from the collections of the Norman B.Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library. Many famous names are among those catalogued—Salamanca-Mercator, Ortelius, Wright-Moxon, Eckebrecht, Blaeu-Valck, Chatelain, Senex and others. The Library has a rare example of the unusual triple-gore world map by Franciscus Verhaer of c.1618—the same one that realised £26,400 when it was sold at Sotheby's in 1989. It is illustrated in colour as plate 19. I myself found the various 20th century maps of particular interest as, unlike those from earlier centuries, they are rarely seen on the open market or offered by dealers.

Regrettably there were no examples of portolan (manuscript) charts, even in facsimile form. It might be the case that no original portolan charts have as yet found a place in the Norman B. Leventhal Collections. But excellent facsimiles of such charts now exist and would have complemented the remarks in the authors' Introduction on the significant early mapping of new lands - America, Africa and the further parts of Asia - in the great age of geographical discoveries.

Apart from this lacuna, *Journeys of the Imagination* even if purchased after the event is an excellent short survey by word and picture telling how map-makers translated their real and imagined world views on to paper and (from the late 20th century) on to the computer screens of today.

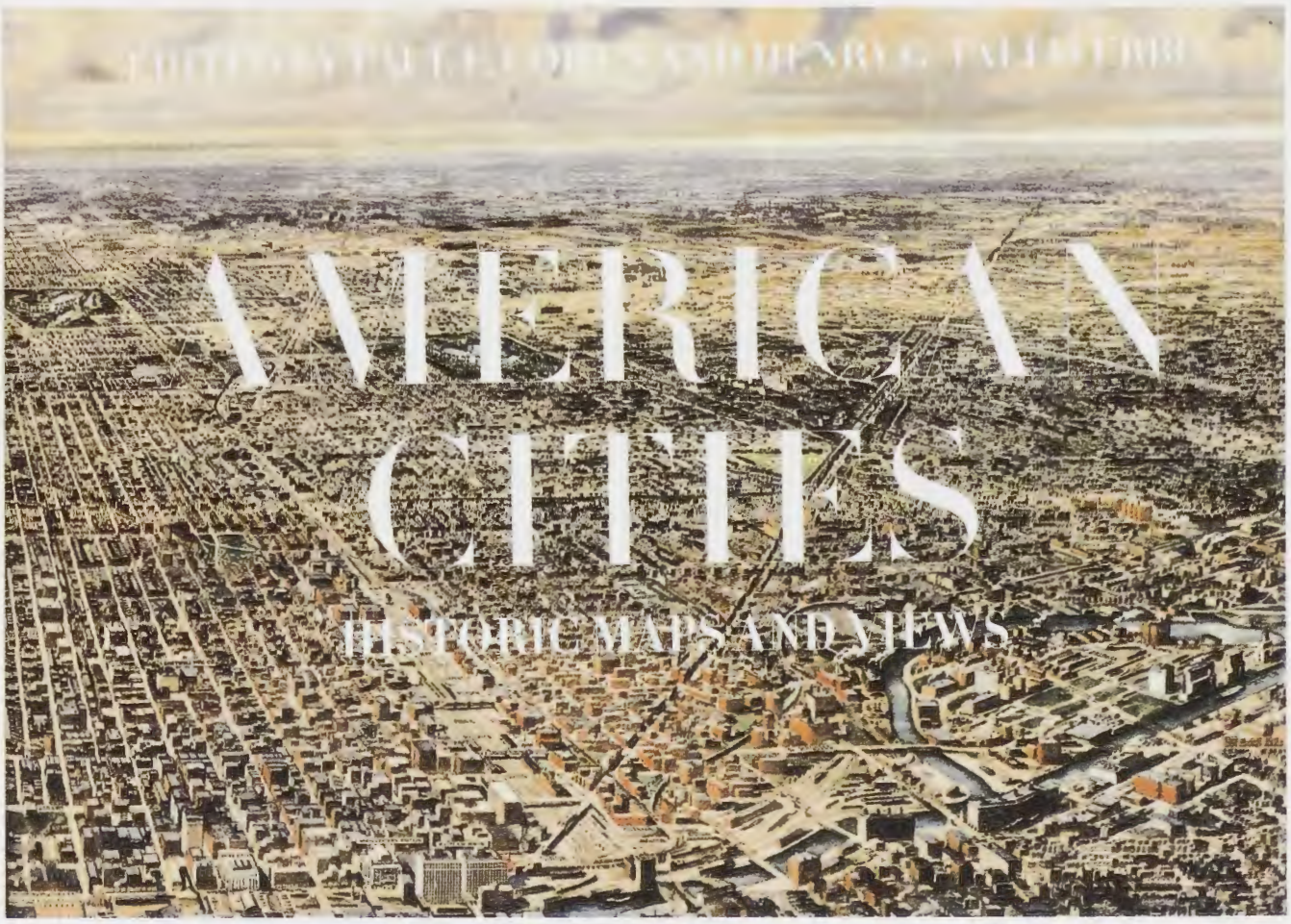
Rodney Shirley

***American Cities: Historic Maps and Views***
Edited by Paul Cohen and Henry G. Taliaferro.
Assouline Publishers, West 26th Street, New York, NY 1000, 2005, pp.207.
ISBN 2843237165. No price given.

As John Reps points out in his introduction to this coffee table book, urbanisation is one of the major themes of the history of the USA. It is marked by great variety depending on the histories of the towns, though the suburbs of most share the distinctively American grid system beloved of nineteenth-century planners. The development and even current appearance of the historic centres of the old English-founded cities of the East coast, like New York, Boston and Philadelphia contrast strongly with those founded by the French or Spanish, like New Orleans, St Louis and Los Angeles, planned cities, notably Washington or again the purely American mid-West cities like Denver or Chicago. Maps and particularly the nineteenth-century panoramic maps (one of the great American contributions to cartography) marvellously visualise these different histories.

The cities discussed in this book have been carefully selected to bring out these differing strands of American history. The intertwined stories of the development and mapping of each of the cities, usually, until about 1900, are discussed in brief but scholarly commentaries by leading experts, including academics, map librarians and well-established dealers. Each essay is accompanied by 7 or 8 maps and views, including one fold-out map, though New York is given 11 including two fold-outs. The authors have included several little-known but superbly-executed manuscript plans, some of them from the British and French national archives. The other, printed, plans are a blend of commercial productions with maps intended for administration, defence and official commemoration.

The map reproductions are the main feature of the book. The large format enables the maps to be studied in detail (the fold-outs are particularly welcome), and the reader will be able to get much more from them than the confines of space allows the authors to comment on in the texts. Most of the illustrations are of excellent quality.



The weaknesses of the book lie in the technical aspects. The font used for the text is unpleasant, and, despite its size and the generous double-spacing, difficult to read. Some of the maps and views are blurred either because the original images were too small to take such magnification or because better images were not requested from the libraries, archives or dealers that owned the originals. Some of the images have been cropped in a careless manner. In almost all cases except that relating to Boston, there is little connection between the sequence of maps as described in the text and their sequence in the book. This leads to two equally unsatisfactory alternatives: either to flip forwards and backwards repeatedly in order to follow the text or to jerk forward and backwards in time if one tries to follow the history of any town independently of the texts. In a few instances there seems to be little link between text and illustration: a 1664 manuscript plan of Manhattan is described in the text as 'the Duke's Plan' but the caption by the illustration describes it as the Cortelyou plan without any explanation as to who Cortelyou was. On the same page it is not mentioned that the Vingboons map of the New York region is a copy of the 1660s and not the lost original of 1639. No measurements are given, making it difficult for the reader to envisage what the originals look like (and there is an immense variety in size), while the absence of references for the illustrations will make life difficult for archivists and librarians should readers want to carry out further research. Not that the book makes that easy: there is not even a basic list of further reading which might have included some of the excellent websites devoted to American city images such as those of the Library of Congress or David Rumsey.

For all the book's qualities, therefore, the authors have been rather let down by the publishers.

Peter Barber
British Library

Gonzalo Fernández Pontes



Antique Maps, City Views
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# IMCoS in Luxembourg

## *6th-7th October 2006*

report by Raymond Frostick

On Friday 6th October an IMCoS party of 26 arrived in Luxembourg, with Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and England all well represented, and David Webb with us as usual to take the photographs. Our visit had been arranged by Rolph Langlais; who was born in Luxembourg although he now lives in Germany. It soon became apparent that his contacts in the Grand-Duchy were crucial to the success of our programme.

Our first visit was to the original Bibliothèque Nationale, the National Library of Luxembourg, housed in what was an ancient college of the Jesuits next to the Cathedral. This building has now been replaced by a new Library outside the old town. We were welcomed by Luc Deitz, head of the rare books department and his assistant Pia Jank. Luc is responsible for atlases and maps, but he explained that there was no map specialist in the library, and no comprehensive map catalogue. He said he was grateful to Rolph for helping him to find and identify maps for the exhibition on display for us. Rolph gave a brief introduction to the exhibition which covered the mapping of Luxembourg from the very first map by de Jode, 1578, through to maps by Ortelius and Mercator, miniature maps like the 1599 van den Keere, a small number of atlases including a Ptolemy and a Blaeu up to more modern plans of Luxembourg city dating from the 17th and 18th centuries.

In his introduction, Rolph gave a brief outline of the complex history of Luxembourg, something we kept coming back to time after time throughout the visit. The city of Luxembourg was established in 963 by Count Siegfried, and the dynasty which he founded flourished as a Duchy for nearly 500 years. It provided some of the leading figures of the German Empire, including three Holy Roman Emperors, but in 1443 fell under Burgundian domination. Over the next 400 years it was successively occupied by Spanish, French and



***The group of IMCoS members who attended the weekend in Luxembourg (Photo by David Webb).***




*Dr Luc Deitz (left), head of the rare books department pictured with his assistant Pia Jank, responsible for atlases and maps, with the organiser of the symposium, Rolph Langlais.*

*Below, Nadine Zeien and Luc Leners responsible respectively for early and modern records at the Archives Nationales, Luxembourg.*



Austrian armies. It was then absorbed into the Spanish possessions of the Hapsburgs, became French under Louis XIV and was for most of the 18th century part of the Austrian Hapsburg Empire. It was then taken over by Napoleon for a while; from 1815 it became a Grand-Duchy under Dutch rule. It obtained an autonomous administration in 1839 and finally became independent in 1869.

The maps which we were seeing could only really be understood against this historical background. While 'Luxembourg' was always based on the city of that name, the territory bearing the name changed according to the prevailing political control. What was once called Luxembourg lost large areas of territory over the years to France, Germany and Belgium, and it was not until the middle of the 19th century that the boundaries as we know them today became established.

This background was even more relevant for our second visit which was to the Archives Nationales on Saturday morning. Having eventually found the entrance to the building, we were welcomed by Nadine Zeien and Luc Leners, responsible respectively for early and modern records. 45 kilometres of records line the walls of several floors of what had been a former military building. It was explained that for historical reasons researchers had to be aware that the records they were seeking could well be found elsewhere, perhaps in archive offices in Belgium, France, Spain and Germany.

Nevertheless a number of treasures were on show. The earliest document of 762 from the Abbey of Echternach, and the medieval charters included a number from the 15th century issued by the Emperor Sigismund, also King of Hungary, with a fine series of original seals. Sigismund was also the subject of a very fine exhibition at the Museum of History and Art, which several of us



*Above, Floria Benavides, Jenny Harvey and Fariba Ala'i examining documents in the Archives Nationales.*

were able to visit and which added to our growing knowledge of the Holy Roman Empire and of medieval Europe.

On Saturday afternoon most of us rounded off the visit with a virtuoso tour of the city led by an Englishman who had continued to live in Luxembourg after his retirement. As we passed the prime minister's residence we were surprised that there was no security. Typical of the relaxed way of life, we were told that the prime minister himself was quite likely to come and talk to us if he was passing.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable and successful couple of days with good food, good wine and good company mixed with plenty of interesting history. I would like to extend my thanks to Rolph for making the arrangements.




*Nadine Zeien shows off one of the early manuscripts in the Archives Nationales*

# IMCoS Matters

**International Symposium, Guatemala**
**2007** 25th Inernational Symposium

February 5th-7th 2007. Universidad Francisco Marroquin, Guatemala City. Lectures, museum visits, special interest tours and gala banquet.

February 8th-11th, 2007. Optional tour to Guatemalan Highlands.

February 11th-13th, 2007. Optional tour to Ancient Maya Ruins.

Organisers: Jens and Erika Bornholt.
Website: www.imcos.ufm.edu
(See leaflet sent out with the Summer journal for full details - still time to book!)

**International Symposium, New Zealand**
**2008** 27th International Symposium, New Zealand. To be held jointly with the Australian Map Circle and the New Zealand Map Circle and the New Zealand Map Society. See report following.

***The logo for the New Zealand meeting in 2008***

**International Symposium, Norway**
**2009** 28th International Symposium, Norway, Oslo and Tromsø.

**Te Taki o Autahi – Under the Southern Cross**
**2008** 36th Annual Conference of the Australian Map Circle; Annual Conference of the New Zealand Map Society; 25th International Symposium of the International Map Collectors' Society.

Likely to be the largest and most extensive cartographic conference in the Southern Hemisphere in many years, *Te Taki o Autahi – Under the Southern Cross*, has been confirmed for 10th-13th February 2008 at Wellington, New Zealand. The theme has been selected to enable a wide range of subject matter while focusing on the Southern Hemisphere.

The organising committee is: Michael Ross, Chairman of the Joint International Conference Organising Committee, President of the



Australian Map Circle, and a member of both IMCoS and the New Zealand Map Society; Professor Robert Clancy, National Representatives Co-ordinator of IMCoS and a member of the AMC; Neil McKinnon, New Zealand representative of IMCoS and member of the International Antique Mapsellers Association; Dave Small, member of the Executive of, and representing, the New Zealand Map Society. Also Map Curator of the Alexander Turnbull Library and National Library of New Zealand; Nigel Wyse, Secretary Joint International Conference Committee and Conference Company Director, Past-President of the New Zealand Organisation for Quality.

A draft conference programme can be consulted on the website, http://www.underthesoutherncross.org, together with details of the host city. Interested people can register to be advised when new information is available.

**Collectors' Meeting, London**

This annual event, when members bring along an item from their collection in the form of 'show-and-tell', is to be held in the Spring of 2007, not in the habitual February, because of the clash with our meeting in Guatemala. The new date for your diary is Monday, 3rd April 2007 and the venue will be the Farmers' Club, 3 Whitehall Court, Westminster, London SW1A 2EL. The time will be published in the Spring journal. Start looking for something interesting to bring along.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

**Meeting in Birmingham**

Saturday, 16th December 2006

Members are invited to a regional event in Birmingham on Saturday, 16th December this year. Although this is short notice we do hope you will come and join us. There will be an opportunity to buy maps from dealers, visit Birmingham central library to see their map collection and listen to a presentation of key maps from the extensive Lapworth Museum map collection.

Start time 9.45a.m.

Two groups will tour the map collection of Birmingham Central Library.

13.30 – 16.00

Three map dealers will be trading in the Lapworth Museum of University of Birmingham.

16.00-16.30

Lecture by Canon Dr Terry Slater of the Geography Dept. of the University of Birmingham.

16.30-17.30

Presentation of maps by Jon Clatworthy, Curator of Lapworth Museum.

17.30-19.30

Presentation by members of IMCoS of their own maps.

Cost is £8 only, payable at the Lapworth Museum on the day. Please note that this event is organised by the Society Secretary, Stephen Williams.

Tel: 0121 429 3813 Mob: 0787 719 6513

E-mail: Stephen_williams10@tiscali.co.uk

Travel to Birmingham:

Members can drive to the university where they can park free of charge. They can then get a return ticket via the frequent rail service from University Station to Birmingham New Street (15 min journey). This will cost £2 50. The walk from New Street station to the central library is 5-10 minutes.

Members arriving at one of the central stations in Birmingham (Snow Hill, New Street or Moor Street) can travel between these on a free bus (5 mins). From Birmingham New Street Station to the Central Library is a 15 minute walk.

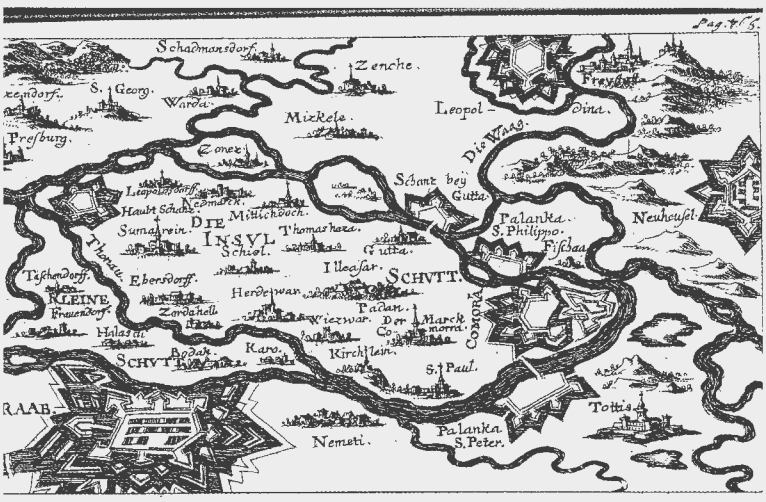
If members drive into central Birmingham and park they can then drive to the University Campus along the A38 (Bristol Road). The University is on the right - turn right on to Edgbaston Park Road and left through the East Gate (up a small hill).

ADDRESSES

Birmingham Central Library
Chamberlain Square
Birmingham B3 3HQ

Lapworth Museum of Geology
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston

***Can anyone identify this small map of Schutt Island in the Danube?. The map, measuring 148mm x 86mm, appears to have been based on a larger map by Happelius. If you have any ideas as to author, engraver or publisher, please write to the editor.***



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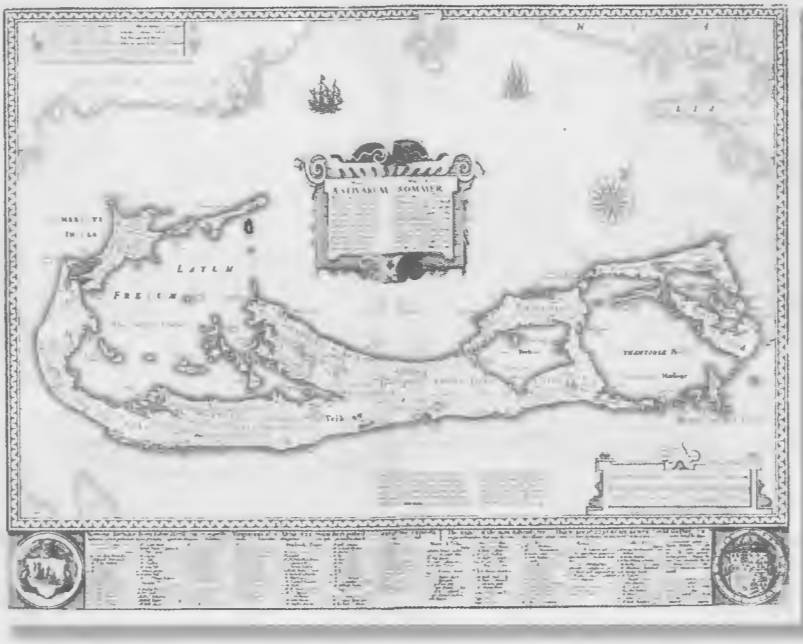
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**Americae Sive Novi Orbis, Nova Descriptio**

Third state of this famous map with the revised shape of South America. Other revisions include the addition of the name California, and the Indian name "Wingandekoa" in the Chesapeake Bay region. The Solomon Islands are shown here for the first time since they were discovered in 1568. Latin text on verso with page number 5, most probably from the 1603 edition.

| | |
|---|---|
| Price: | $4,675 |
| Creator: | Abraham Ortelius |
| Subject: | Western Hemisphere |
| Year: | 1587 |
| Size: | 19.0" x 14.0" (49.3 x 35.6 cm) |
| Color: | Black & White |
| Condition: | (A) Superb impression with only faint toning along fold. Professional repair of fold in bottom margin. |
| Source: | Theatrum Orbis Terrarum |
| City: | Antwerp |
| References: | Burden #64, van den Broecke #11. |



# Mapping Matters

*Two IMCoS members lecture on maps around the world*

**Cyrus Ala'i in Chicago**

IMCoS member, Cyrus Ala'i gave a lecture entitled 'Mapping Persia' to the Sixteenth Annual Conference of the Association of Friends of Persian Culture held in Chicago, USA. in September this year. An audience of more than 800 people heard his talk based on his newly published book *Mapping Persia, 1477-1925*. They were mainly from the Iranian Diaspora in the USA and Canada including professors for Iranian Studies in the Universities of Berkeley, Chicago, Stanford, Toronto and others. Cyrus received a rapturous welcome and was presented with the Association's Award for the most outstanding work published worldwide in connection with Persian culture in 2005. He told the *IMCoS Journal* that he had always hoped to familiarise Iranian societies both in and out of the country with early maps and atlases and he felt that he was now achieving this ambition.

**László Gróf in Transylvania**

Following a successful lecture tour last year, IMCoS member, László Gróf, gave his second series of lectures in Transylvania in May this year. Nine lectures, entitled 'Maps and mapmakers of Transylvania', were presented in eight cities in conjunction with fellow historian György Feiszt of Szombathely, Hungary, who lectured on heraldry. 2007 will see them off again for yet another tour. László told the Journal that he had been travelling to Transylvania for the past 15 years, the last five years devoted to his research into the cartographer Peter Bod. (see 'The virtually unknown maps of Peter Bod', *IMCoS Journal* 97, Summer 2004) so he had got to know a lot of people many of whom urged him to give talks about early mapping. His lectures were each attended by 50 to 300 people and were held in a variety of venues including churches and schools. Interestingly, maps prior to 1945 were ordered to be destroyed under the Ceausescu regime but luckily the dictator was deposed before the destruction could take place.

***László Gróf lecturing in Transylvania at the University of Alba Iulia.***





# News

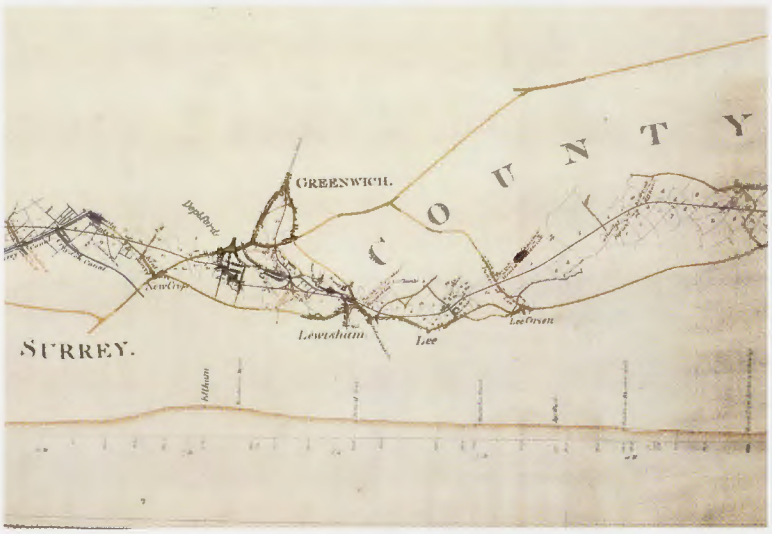
### 'The Super Bowl of mapdom'

The 14th annual Miami International Map Fair, described by the editor of *Miami Today* as "the Super Bowl of mapdom", will return to the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Miami, for the weekend of January 27th and 28th, 2007. More than 50 antique map dealers from England, Holland, Belgium, Spain, Germany, France, Australia, Argentina, Canada and the United States will participate offering maps from under US$100 to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Those curious about the origin and historical value of their own maps are encouraged to bring one to the fair for an expert opinion from one of the dealers. Ashley Baynton-Williams is scheduled to deliver the keynote address, 'Los Británicos están llegando: British interlopers in the 'Spanish Sea' and the cartographic record.' Also, Mary Pedley, author and map curator, will discuss the art of map collecting, and deep water navigator, Douglas Peck, will talk about 'Early exploration and charting of Florida and adjacent shores.' For more information please contact the Historical Museum on 305 375 1492 or e-mail Marcia Kanner on m.kanner@hmsf.org

### Australian National Maritime Museum Address

Australian Map Circle President, Michael Ross, was invited to address the Friends of the Australian Maritime Museum as a balance to the address made by Gavin Menzies of 1421 notoriety earlier this year. At the time, Michael had requested a counter-balancing opportunity for a speaker at the same event as Menzies' presentation but the request had not been actioned. Consequently he has accepted this invitation from the Director of the Australian Maritime Museum, Mary-Louise Williams. Michael's address, 'Sense of Non-sense: 1421, a metaphor for 'new' history' was presented in the ANZ theatre at the Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney, on October 29.

**Plan and section of the proposed Line of Rail Road between London and Rochester also of A Branch Line extending between Rochester & Maidstone *1825*. *See Cambridge seminars in the history of mapping***




### Swiss to host HOC

The Swiss Society of Cartography is organising the 22nd International Conference on the History of Cartography from July 8th to 13th, 2007 in Berne, Switzerland.

### City-wide map festival in Chicago

The plans for holding a city-wide map festival in Chicago are coming together and IMCoS members are invited to participate. The event will take place during the first two weeks of November, 2007, and will culminate with the Society for the History of Discoveries annual symposium from November 10th to 12th. There will be exhibitions at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Brookfield Zoo, The Chicago History Museum, the Newberry Library and other venues. We will publish further details in the Spring issue.

### Cambridge seminars in the history of cartography

On February 20th, 2007 in the Gardner Room, Emmanuel College, St Andrew's St., Cambridge, England at 5.30 pm, a lecture entitled 'The history of mapping the railway' will be given by David Milbank Challis and Andy Rush (Industrialogical Associates, Railway Record of the British Isles). On Tuesday, May 8, Christopher Burlinson, Fellow of Emmanuel College, will talk 'On maps and manuscript transmission in sixteenth-century England and Ireland.' All are welcome. Contact Sarah Bendall at sarah.bendall@emma.cam.ac.uk Tel. 01223 330476.

The Sandars Lectures for 2007 will also be given in Cambridge at the University Library, West Road, Cambridge at 5pm on March 5th, 6th and 8th 2007. The lecturer will be Sarah Tyacke and her subject will be 'Conversations with maps: world views in early modern Europe.' For details see http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/maps/sandars.html Or contact Anne Taylor, Map Department, Cambridge University Library 01223 33304, maps@lib.cam.ac.uk

# London: A Life in Maps

*Exhibition at The British Library, 24th November 2006 - 4th March 2007*

A new exhibition seeing London through maps in an innovative way has been running at the British Library, Euston Road, London, since November 24th this year. The exhibition will remain open until March 4th, 2007. Masterminding the event is the Map Curator at the British Library, Peter Barber.

It represents a visual history of the evolution of the capital from a city within walls to a city with no boundaries. Visitors will experience how London has developed over nearly 2,000 years to become Europe's largest city, with some 300 languages and all major religions, being home to 7 million people of all nationalities. Most of the items on show will be from the Library's own collections of over 4 million maps.

Exhibits include a 15 ft high single map of North London previously thought to be two maps and shown unified for the first time; a recently-discovered copperplate of a map of London, the earliest known plans of the West End, Mayfair and Pimlico, George III's personal copy of proposals for the creation of the London Docks, from 1797, a psychedelic panorama of Carnaby Street of 1970, and many other maps and documents. Not to be missed!

*Note from the Editor: We hope to include a full report of the exhibition* London: A Life in Maps *in the Spring 2007 issue of the* Journal.




**An exact Surveigh of the Streets, Lanes, and Churches contained within the ruines of the City of London... by John Leake ... Jonas Moore & Ralph Graterix, Surveyors. Wenceslaus Hollar fecit, 1667. *(1669) Crace Portf.***



***Duke of Orleans in the Tower, c.1480 Royal MS 16.F.II fol. 73, from the current British Library exhibition.***

The London exhibition complements Peter Barber's own corner of the British Library website, which features the Crace Collection of Maps of London through the ages. There are over 800 maps and plans available to be seen in the collection, each of which can be enlarged on screen to a readable size. Each record also includes a short explanation of the image and its background and details of the shelfmark. To access the website follow the link http://www.collectbritain.co.uk/collections/crace/

*Collect Britain* is a way of accessing many types of images, including maps, reflecting the history and culture of the British Isles. Searches can be made by keyword or postcode.




***Generalstab des Heeres: Abteilung für Kriegskarten und Vermessungswesen,* Militärgeographische Angaben über England. Mappe 8 London Stadtplan von London Verkehrsplan von London und Umgebung - *a German map of main traffic routes through London, 2nd ed. 30th August 1940. Displayed as part of the British Library's exhibition* London, A Life in Maps *British Library Maps 236.a.85***

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**Dr. John R. Hébert, Chief, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress**

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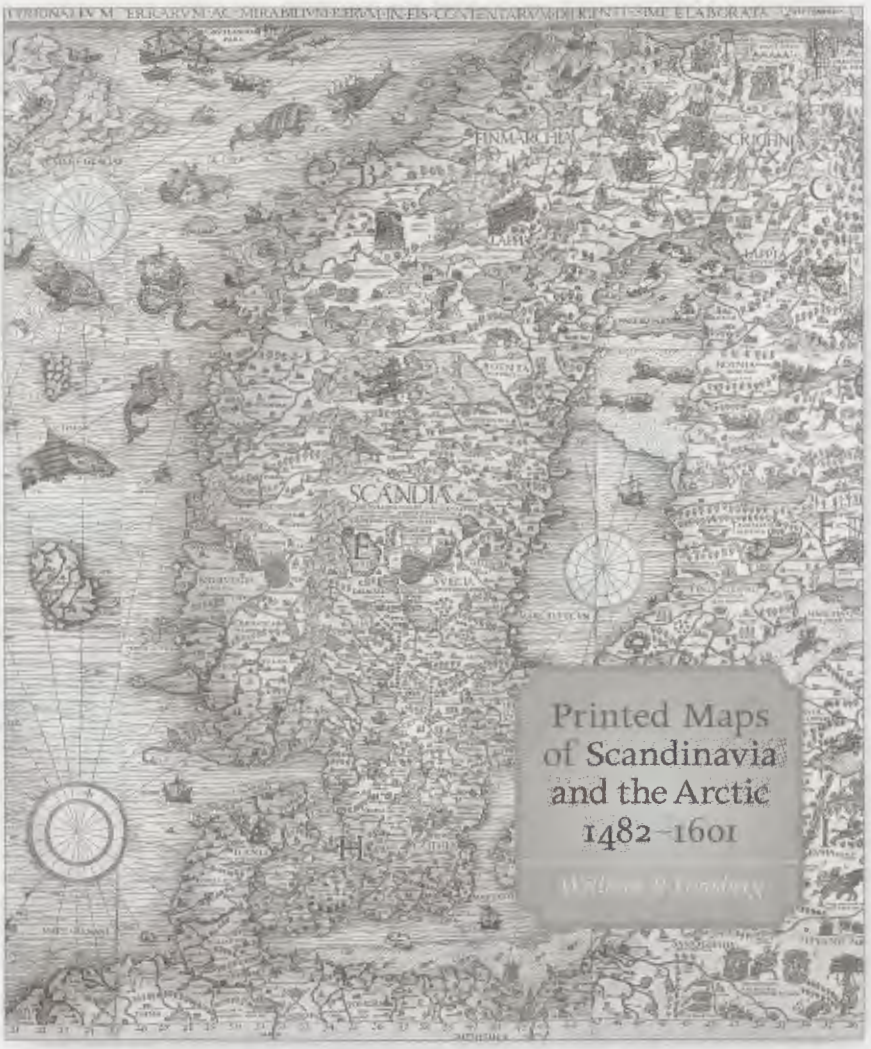
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# Lord Wardington's Atlases

## *Sotheby's sale, Part II 16th October 2006*

Report by Rodney Shirley

In the Winter 2005 *IMCoS Journal* there was a report on Part I of this sale (titles A - K) which realised £5.53 million at hammer prices*. Part II of the sale was held on October 16th, 2006 and, again, was keenly attended by many dealers and collectors. What was perhaps not expected was that the total hammer price realised would be as much as £6.94 million, in excess of Part I.

As reported in the national press, the top price paid was £1.9 million for Lord Wardington's copy of the 1477 Ptolemy atlas - the first atlas ever to be printed and one of only two copies known to have been in private hands. Moreover, it was in soft early colour, in good condition and in a contemporary binding. At a total price (including the buyer's premium) this exceeded the previous sale's record for a printed atlas which was represented by the famed *Doria Atlas*, a composite 'Lafreri' atlas dating from c.1570. In Lord Wardington's collection there were 21 Ptolemaic Atlases (lots 314 -414), nearly all of which fetched in excess of their top estimates.

Another item which fetched a substantial sum was one of the ten Gerard Mercator or Mercator-Hondius atlases offered for sale. This was a top quality example of the posthumously-published Mercator Atlas of 1595, considered 'the cornerstone around which this collection of atlases was formed'. Dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I, it contained the full complement of 107 maps representing the five parts assembled by Gerard's son Rumold. All the maps were coloured by a contemporary hand. The estimate of £60,000 - £80,000 could not be considered low, but several eager bidders - on the telephone and in the room - battled between them to raise the final hammer price to an unexpected high of £370,000. In contrast, a later Mercator-Hondius edition of 1633, once belonging to the King of the Belgians (239 coloured maps), fetched the much lesser sum of £34,000.




***The world map by Matthias Quadt (1557-1613) from his atlas* Fasciculus geographicus complectens..., *which was sold at Sotheby's on 10th October 2006.***




***The British Isles from Ptolemy's* Cosmographia, *1477, which reached a record price at Sotheby's.***

Other exceptional atlases which (each) fetched over £150,000 were copies of *Le Neptune François* 1693, a composite atlas by Visscher and Blaeu perhaps coloured by Dirck van Santen c.1695-97, De Wit's *Orbis Maritimus* c.1660-67, and Seller's 1675 *Atlas Maritimus*, one of 13 atlases by Seller. The principal purchaser of the top-value items was the London firm Bernard Shapero on behalf of private collectors. Other active bidders were telephone buyers from Europe and North America as well as many room participants. Sotheby's felt that the majority of buyers were private collectors, either bidding themselves or through agents.

Many atlases in both sales (in Part I as well as in Part II) exhibited fine modern bindings which in many cases had been uniquely commissioned by Lord Wardington. There were also 24 lots of Ordnance Survey maps representing almost complete sets from their inception, many specially boxed or bound.

Not all items fetched rarified prices: some were in the low £100s to the low £1,000s but in general most lots exceeded their top estimates. The important provenance attached to Lord Wardington's name and personality was one factor. Another was the generally excellent condition and fine binding of most lots although it seemed that the two or three items noted as suffering from waterstaining - after the unfortunate fire at Wardington Manor in 2004 - realised higher prices than expected.

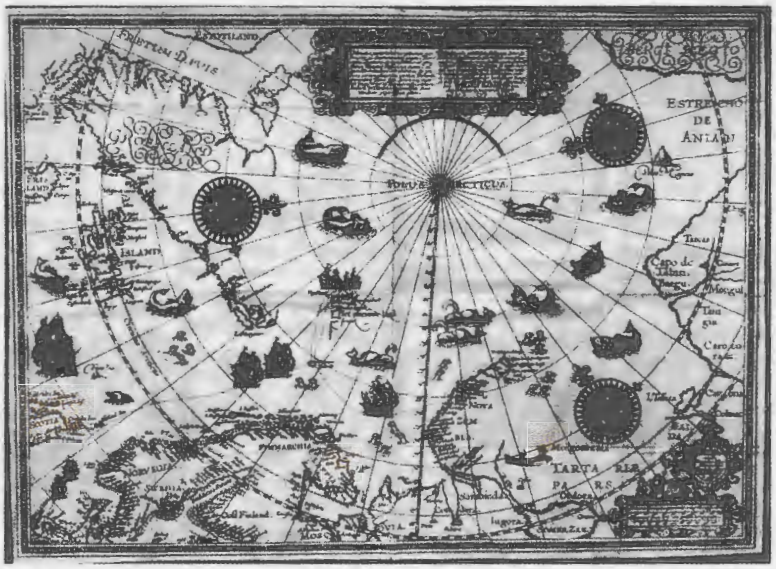
Summing up the sale, Cathy Slowther, head of Maps and Atlases at Sotheby's, said: "We were absolutely thrilled to see this exceptional collection so warmly received - and we were especially pleased to see so many of these fine works find good homes in private collections. The price paid for the 1477 Ptolemy atlas was extraordinary, a fitting testimony to the rarity and importance of the work, and the excitement it generated was echoed throughout the sale."

Both catalogues to this sale will, I feel, become collectors' items in themselves and a few shrewd IMCoS members, among others, will have picked up post-sale copies direct from Sotheby's for the modest price of £10 each.

* Unless otherwise stated, realisations are hammer prices to which the buyer's premium (sometimes known as the auctioneer's commission) needs to be added.

*Editor's note. Rodney Shirley also wrote the Introduction (pages 11-18) to the Sotheby's Part I Catalogue of the Wardington sale.*

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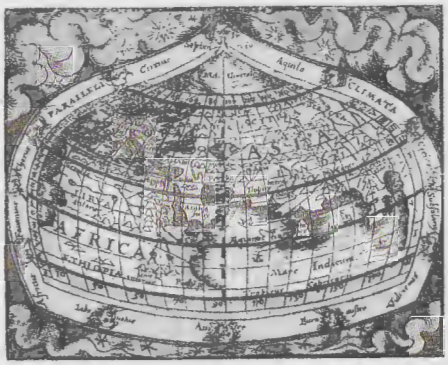
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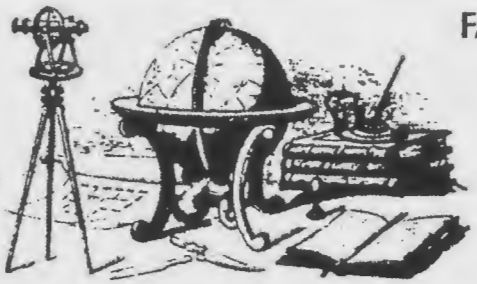
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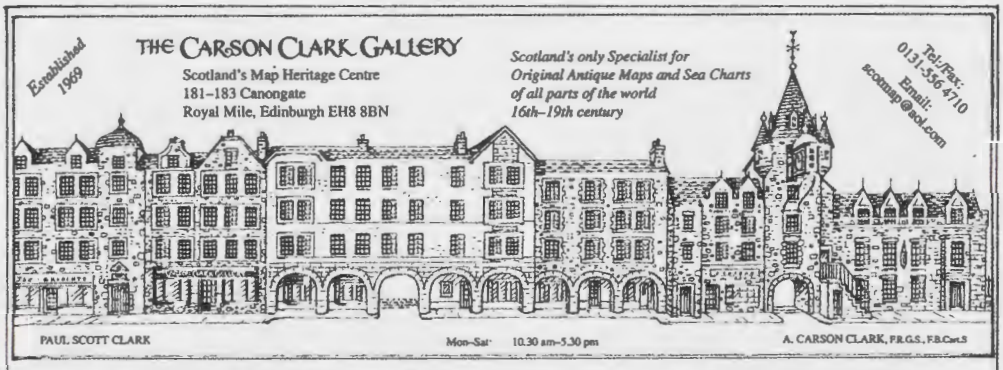
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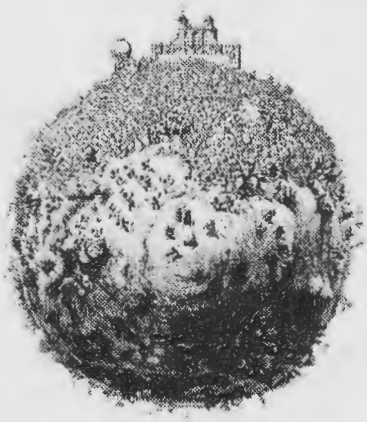
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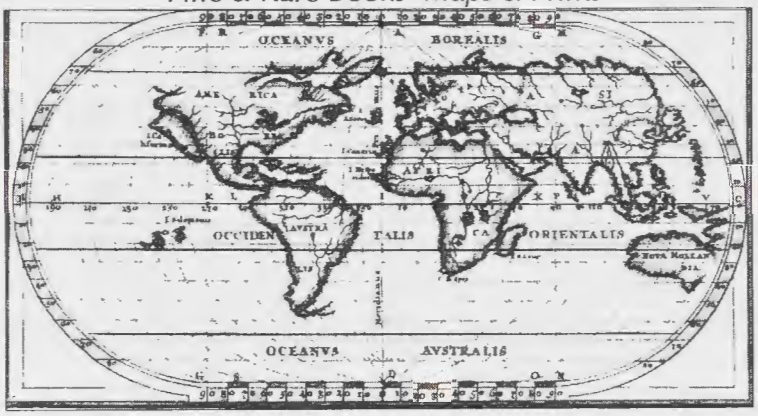
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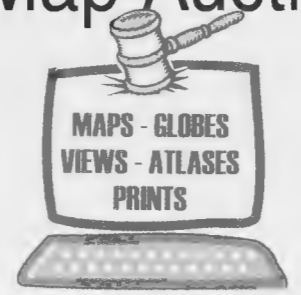
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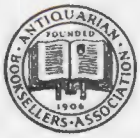

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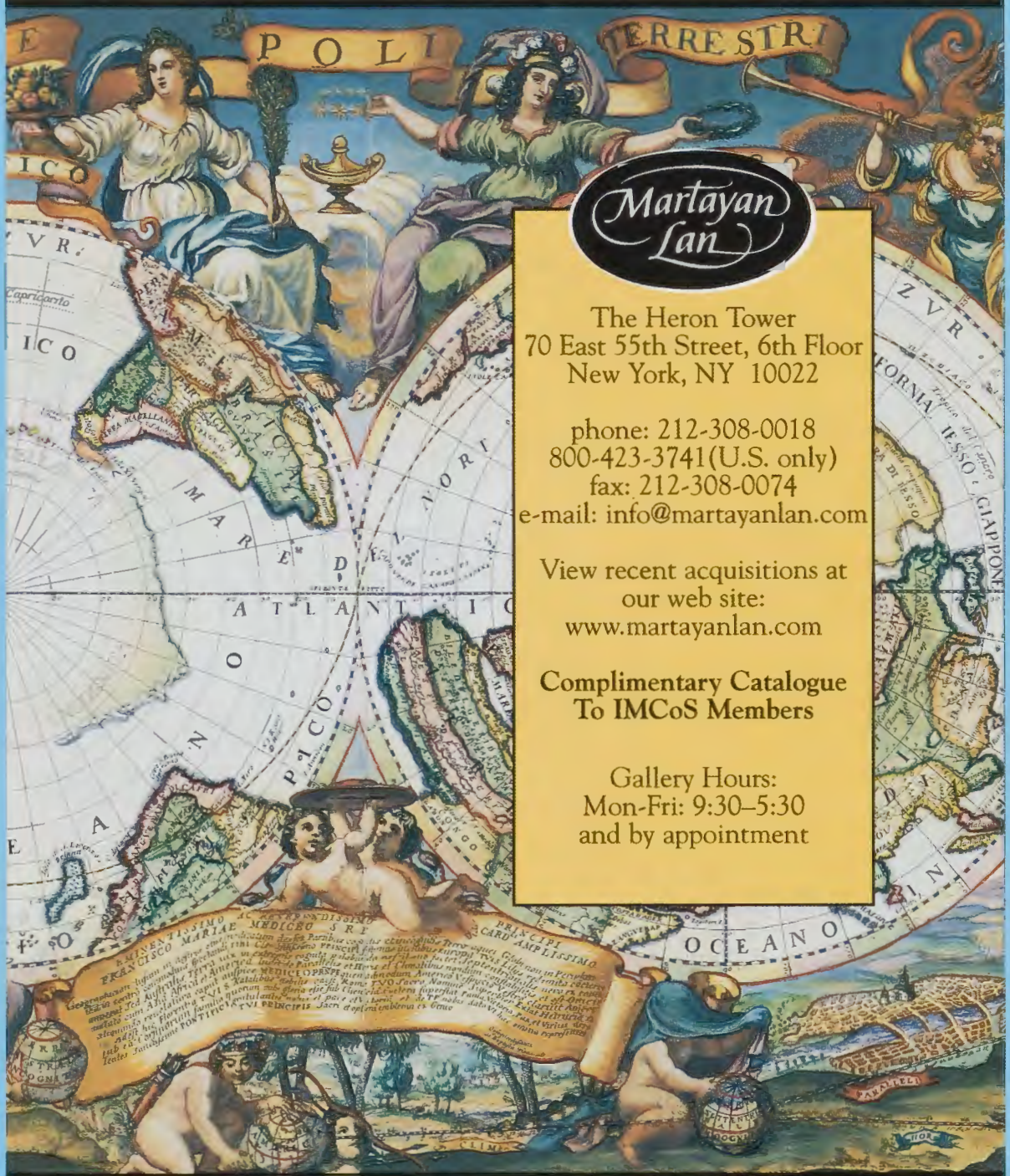



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