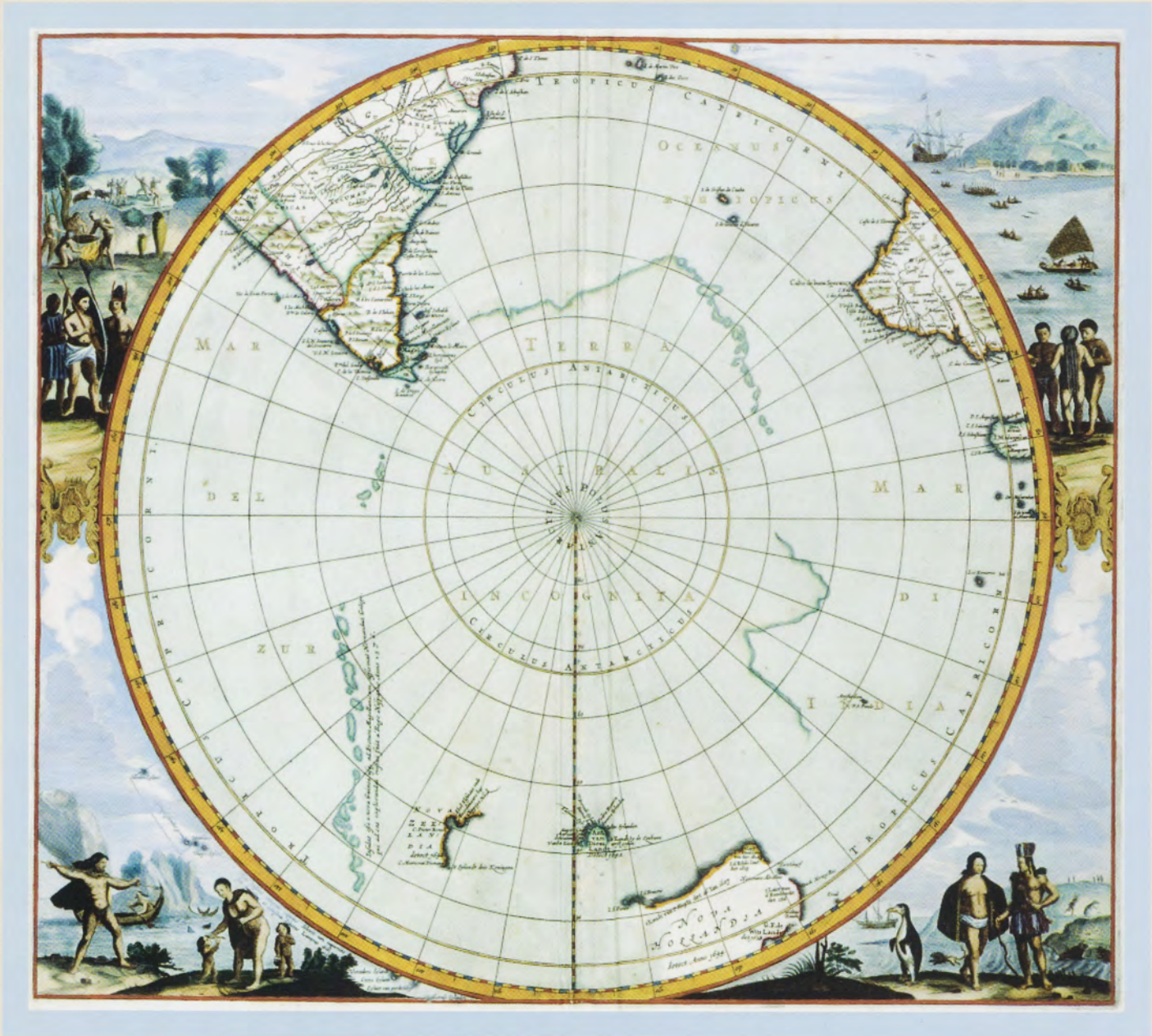
IMCoS JOURNAL

Winter 2007 *Number 111*



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Winter 2007 *Issue N°. 111*

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Copy and other material for our next issue (Spring 2008) should be submitted by 1st January 2008. Editorial items should be sent to:
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A Letter From the IMCoS Chairman



The year of 2007 will be drawing to an end by the time you are reading these words. Normally a year will bring happiness to some and sadness to others; mainly however, it brings a combination of both to our membership in general. Hopefully you have all had a good year and any sadness will soon be forgotten.

For the Society 2007 has also brought us a mix of good and bad. There has been a growing interest in the history of cartography, as evidenced by the publication of more books than ever before on the subject. We also hope that we have seen an end to the steep price increases for maps which has affected our buying power. There has certainly been a shift away from established antique map shops and galleries towards dealing on the Internet. This fits in with the times but I find it sad as half the fun of collecting is going through the folders and drawers in a map shop; either to locate a long sought after item or to find an unexpected treasure.

The Society's Constitution has been updated in line with current practices. At the request of those attending the AGM we will be investigating whether a Company limited by Guarantee would suit us better. This is in line with the prior decision of the Constitution Subcommittee to first update the Constitution and thereafter look into other variants of legal structure.

Tim Whitten, our treasurer, is about to leave the Executive Committee although he will stay involved until the 2007 yearly accounts are finalised. His successor, Jeremy Edwards, has already started work as treasurer and has attended his first committee meeting. Jeremy's nomination will be presented to the 2008 AGM for approval. We are extremely grateful to Tim as he has been a meticulous and knowledgeable treasurer and, on a personal note, a great help in getting me updated on the Society's financial affairs when I became IMCoS chairman.

As not all members managed to access the Members Only section of our website, the proper entry coding will be put in the Journal again, probably on a continuous basis. Stephen Williams, our Secretary, has (re-) introduced an e-mail newsflash system for faster communication with our members. Please mail him at sxw556@googlemail.com if you have not yet received a newsflash and would like your e-mail address to be included on his list. Stephen has particularly requested that e-mail addresses are written clearly as some he has received are unreadable!

A number of members are entitled to a (small) credit which resulted from a decrease in the membership fee some time ago. The Executive Committee has decided that those credit notes not taken up by 1st January, 2008, will lapse and the money will go into the IMCoS general funds.

Under the adapted Constitution, the function of Directors has been deleted. However, Themis Strongilos will stay on as National Representative for Greece and Malcolm Young will, of course, never be forgotten as he is our Founding Father and behind-the-scenes-supporter in many ways!

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to extend best wishes to all of you for the holidays and the New Year of 2008.

Hans Kok

From the Editor's desk

Valerie Newby

When I heard about the melting ice cap releasing the fabled North West Passage and making it more accessible to today's shipping I couldn't help but feel a pang of sympathy for all those earlier explorers who lost their lives or suffered horribly trying to battle the ice and find a passage through it for their flimsy (by our standards) ships. Every time I read about their sufferings and I am thinking of brave men like Henry Hudson, William Parry, Sir John Franklin and others, I think how unfair it is that today the ice is melting and the route opening up. If it had been navigable in their day what a different outcome there would have been for them. It remains to be seen if the passage ever becomes truly ice free with a greatly reduced risk factor. I imagine it will still be impassable for most of the year. Whether or not you believe in global warming and man himself being the cause, there is no disputing the evidence of the melting ice. For those interested in the search for the North West Passage I can recommend a book by Ann Savours on the subject which was published in 1999. It is entitled *The Search for the North West Passage* and covers the whole history of its exploration and investigates what led men "to leave Shakespeare's sceptred isle to penetrate the fogs, storms and ice of the Arctic in their small wooden sailing ships." There are also political ramifications which I am sure were never envisaged by the explorers. How could they have dreamed that under those icy waterways were reserves of gas and oil which held the potential for international conflict?

I would like to be reporting in this issue that I had been inundated with articles from map dealers following my *cri de coeur* in the last issue for them to get down to some writing. No prize for guessing that I haven't had a single response. I do find this a little surprising as short articles on how they set up their businesses, some of the unusual maps that have passed through their hands, interesting customers etc. would be excellent promotion for their business and make fascinating reading for us.

Please note that the Spring 2008 issue of the *Journal* will be published at the end of March rather than the beginning of that month. This is so that we can carry a report of the International Symposium which takes place in Australia and New Zealand.

Tony Campbell, Chairman of the IMCoS/Helen Wallis Award Committee, would like nominations for next year's award by 15th February please. You can either write to him at 76 Ockenden Road, London N1 3NW or e-mail him at t.campbell@ockenden.clara.co.uk

Some members have had a problem accessing the Members Only section of our website www.imcos.org You must enter your surname followed by your initial (no stops needed at all). You will then be asked for your membership number without the initial zero. For example, SmithJ 662. The initial must be the one you used when you first joined the Society. If you put in a different initial you will be denied access. Our Financial Secretariat report that we have had 25 new members signing up on the website recently which is great. Do spread the word about us and ask your friends and colleagues to join us.

Diana, wife of Malcolm Young (our founder), had a fall recently and I know all members will want to wish her a speedy recovery. They both worked tirelessly to build IMCoS into the thriving society it is today and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

We hope you will enjoy the articles in this issue which include the talk given at the AGM by our new President, Sarah Tyacke, entitled "All at Sea". We also have part two of Tim Nicholson's piece on the Walker family of mapmakers who were engravers-turned-publishers of the 19th century, plus an article on the cartographer Tobias Mayer and a fascinating look into how Brian Smith compiled his cartobibliography of maps of Herefordshire. We are also publishing a description of the maps website of the National Library of Scotland and if any other libraries or collections would like to write something similar we would be pleased to use it. You will also find all the other regular contributions like reviews of recent books, IMCoS Matters, Mapping Matters and others.

So all that remains now is for me to wish you all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year on behalf of both Jo French, the designer of the *Journal*, and myself. I hope to see many of you in Australia and New Zealand.

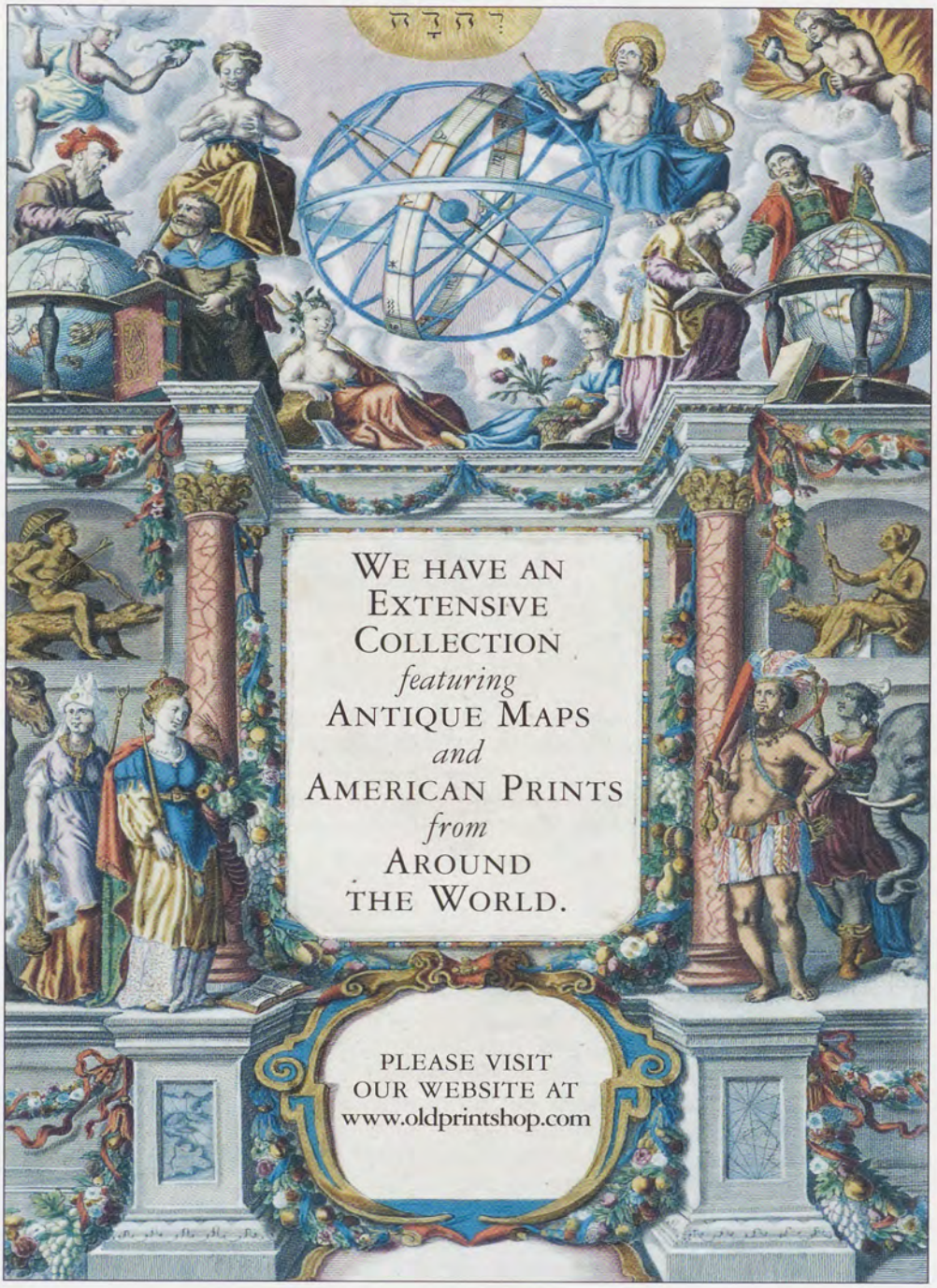


***Valerie Newby, Vice-President of IMCoS and editor of the* Journal.**

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Tobias Mayer

A son of Marbach

by Kit Batten

My home is situated in a small neighbourhood within a suburb of Stuttgart. I was more than a little surprised when our local history society (*Heimatstube*) announced it was presenting an exhibition of *one of Germany's most important cartographers*. Curiosity aroused, I went along to the special presentation afternoon[1]. This was a mistake as the speaker was an academic, completely obsessed with his subject, and too bent on teaching 5 semi-retirees the mathematical intricacies of measuring moon movements on board a ship – instead of the practical difficulties which we might just have understood – and for two very long hours. However, the exhibition itself, despite being composed mainly of facsimile maps and objects and poster presentations, did spur me on to find out more.

The small town of Marbach (population 15,000) which is situated on the Neckar river some 30 kilometres north of Stuttgart, once boasted two proud sons (Fig. 1). Today one is pre-eminent and everyone associates this town with the name of Friedrich Schiller. Both his and his mother's birthplaces can be visited and there is a museum (currently being renovated in time for Schiller Year in 2009) and an important collection of Schiller's papers for visitors and researchers to visit.

There is a possibly apocryphal story that when Queen Elizabeth II was due to visit Germany and requested to see the town of Marbach, everything was arranged to accommodate her wishes. On leaving the Schiller museum and looking rather bored the Queen is said to have asked, "And where are the horses?" The rather surprised German dignitaries then realised that the Queen was more interested in the horse breeding centre, also named Marbach, but 30 km to the south of Stuttgart and near Reutlingen on the Swabian Jura!

Nonetheless, this Marbach, a pretty town with the romantic character of the Middle Ages, does have a second string to its bow, albeit a less well-known one. It is the birthplace of Tobias Mayer. Although the family moved shortly after his birth to Esslingen, Tobias Mayer was born in Marbach, at Torgasse 13, on 17th February 1723. (Fig. 2) Within two years the family had moved 40 kilometres to Esslingen just south of Stuttgart. His father, also Tobias, was well-attendant and cartwright[2] and he married Maria Catharina Fink. Tobias seems to have visited the German school for young pupils as well as the Latin school.[3]



Fig. 1
Entrance to Marbach am Neckar: Torgasse is the first street right after the town gate.



Fig. 2
Tobias Mayer's birthplace, built by his father, is now a museum.

His father died in 1731 but the city of Esslingen was already aware of Tobias' talents and provided his mother with employment as nurse at the local "Hospiz". When she died in 1737 Tobias was provided for at the local orphanage under the care of the local Mayor. As noted, Mayer was already causing attention. In 1739, at the age of just 16, he produced what is acknowledged as the first authentic town plan of the Reichsstadt Esslingen. The headmaster of his school, Johann Gottfried Salzmann, arranged for copies to be engraved and printed in Augsburg and 50 copies were presented to the town fathers on 6th December, 1740. Tobias Mayer was paid two silver coins for his work. At about the same time he wrote a book on geometry and mathematics, *Erstlinge*.

From 1744/45 to 1746 he was employed by the J.A. Pfeffel publishing house but had time to work on a mathematical work as well as a book about military fortifications. At the age of 22 Mayer published what was really a teaching manual for mathematics, the *Mathematischer Atlas* comprising 60 double-page maps with easy to understand explanations.



Fig. 3
Mayer's* Mappa Critica *which highlighted errors in previous mapping.

Mayer's next stop was Nuremberg (Nürnberg) where he lived from 1746/47 to 1751. Here he worked for the well-known and well-respected Homann publishing works. He produced some 30 different maps during this time as well as writing many articles on problems concerning astronomy. He was even a founding father of the *Kosmographische Gesellschaft* (Cosmographic Society).

The Homann company was an extremely successful company producing both new and older maps and Mayer would execute around 30 maps during his time there. One result of his efforts was the so-called *Mappa Critica* of 1750. In his "Critical Map of Germany" Mayer exposed the weakness of many maps being used at the time. By plotting the location of selected towns and cities from two current maps being used by the publishing house including a map by the Frenchman Delisle, he transposed them on to his *Mappa Critica* in different colours (red and yellow). (Fig. 3) Then he plotted in green where he thought these places should be. The result was a map with slightly realigned west borders but a considerably different eastern border. Looking at the map one is reminded of the story of the King (Louis XIII?) saying about his cartographer that, "he has stolen more land from me than I lost through battle!"

In 1751 Mayer married Maria Victoria Grüng (they would have eight children[4]). His various publications and his reputation had come to the notice of the University of Göttingen who invited him to take a chair in Economics and Mathematics and to take charge of their observatory. This despite his lack of formal qualifications. The journey to Göttingen with his new bride must have been exhausting but somehow Mayer had enough time to chart his progress and on arrival in Göttingen set about recording the trip, *Iter Mayerianum ad musas Goettingensis Norimberga*. This resulted in what is generally regarded as the first German-produced road map. (Fig. 4).

Mayer may have come to the attention of the university as a result of his first important astronomical work - a careful investigation of the libration of the moon - which had been published in the *Kosmographische Nachrichten*, Nuremberg. As it happens the first observatory at the university had been installed in one of the southern city towers in 1750. Tobias Mayer was hired as the first notable astronomer in Göttingen. Mayer's catalogue of stellar positions with the Bird Quadrant established new standards in precision and scope. His observations and maps of the moon were the best of his time. Already, in 1752, he was presenting his lunar tables, with new solar tables, to the Royal Society of Sciences and Humanities at Gottingen (*Königliche Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Göttingen*), and which were later published in their transactions.

During the next ten years he produced a string of publications on astronomy, measuring and surveying techniques and the necessary equipment, geophysics, mathematics, colour theory (identifying the three primary colours) and earth



Fig. 4
The route Mayer took with his bride to Göttingen. It is Germany's first road map.

magnetism. But Tobias Mayer was also extremely interested in the problems of measuring longitude at sea: in 1755 he submitted to the British Board of Longitude a set of tables, which James Bradley compared with the Greenwich observations. (Fig 5) These copious and intricate tables were sufficiently accurate to determine the moon's position. Mayer's tables were accurate within around 1 arc-minute. Allowing for practical measurement errors, the method could determine the longitude to within around 60 nautical miles. The tables thus represented a decisive step ahead with respect to positioning at sea. Mayer himself, by the way, had never even seen the sea.[5]



(355)

Anno Duodecimo

Annæ Reginæ.

An Act for Providing a Publick Reward for such Perſon or Perſons as ſhall Diſcover the Longitude at Sea.

Whereas it is well known by all that are acquainted with the Art of Navigation, That nothing is ſo much wanted and deſired at Sea, as the Diſcovery of the Longitude, for the Safety and Quickneſs of Voyages, the Preſervation of Ships and the Lives of Men: And whereas in the Judgment of Able Mathematicians and Navigators, ſeveral Methods have already been Diſcovered, true in Theory, though very Difficult in Practice, ſome of which (there is reaſon to expect) may be capable of Improvement, ſome already Diſcovered may be propoſed to the Publick, and others may be Invented hereafter: And whereas ſuch a Diſcovery would be of particular Advantage to the Trade of Great Britain, and very much for the Honour of this Kingdom; But beſides the great Difficulty of the thing it ſelf, partly for the want of ſome Publick Reward to be Settled as an Encouragement for ſo Uſeful and Beneficial a Work, and partly for want of Money for Trials and Experiments neceſſary thereunto, no ſuch Inventions or Propoſals, hitherto made, have been brought to Perfection; Be it therefore Enacted by the Queens moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament Aſſembled, and by Authority of the ſame, That the Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, or the Firſt Commiſſioner of the Admiralty, the Speaker of the Honourable Houſe of Commons, the Firſt Commiſſioner of the Navy, the Firſt Commiſſioner of Trade, the Admirals of the Red, White, and Blue Squadrons, the Maſter of the Trinity-Houſe, the Preſident of the Royal

A a a a 2

Fig. 5
After Sir Cloudesley Shovell's disaster in 1707 when the English fleet were wrecked off the Scilly Isles, the Board of Longitude was set up in 1714. This offered prizes of between £10,000 (to within 60 nautical miles) and £30,000 (to within 30 nautical miles) for a method to precisely determine longitude.

Tobias Mayer died on 20th February, 1762, of typhoid fever. His widow was able to submit an improved version of the tables and received a grant of £3000 (30% of the prize money set[6]), thus Mayer shared the total award with John Harrison who had constructed his prize-winning timepiece. Two further articles were submitted at this time: one on determining longitude by lunar distances, together with a description of the repeating circle (which Mayer had invented in 1752); the other on a remarkably accurate formula for calculating atmospheric refraction.

The eldest son, Johann Tobias (1752-1830) became a noted mathematician publishing a three-volume work on geometry. He was instrumental in making some of his father's lesser-known ideas more widespread. From around 1779 he was Professor of Mathematics and Physics in Nürnberg and in 1786 he moved to Erlangen. In 1800 he returned to his city of birth and was Professor at Göttingen University. He has been reported as the author of a map of Poland. This is almost certainly an error and although a prominent mathematician, it is believed he never produced any maps. The map in question is probably a Homann reprint of Mayer's *Mappa Geographica Regni Poloniae c.*1813 (other Mayer maps were also reprinted around the same time).[7]

The Tobias Mayer Museum[8] has been established and can be found at his birthplace at Torgasse 13, in Marbach am Neckar. The house was built in 1711 by Tobias Mayer's father. The Tobias Mayer Museum Association[9] was able to purchase the house in 1996 with the help of donations. The museum was reorganised and has been open to the public since 22nd June, 1997. Although not in possession of many original articles from Mayer's life the exhibits which are presented, together with the explanatory posters, give some idea of the genius of a man largely forgotten even in his home town.

Notes:

1. I am grateful to the organisers for allowing me to take photographs at the exhibition. There is a report in German at http://www.stuttgarter-wochenblatt.de/stw/page.detail.php/1421283.

2. In the German Biographical Dictionary his profession is noted as well-maker but Mayer himself wrote *er tribe damals das Wagnerhandwerk* (from Museum guide). Dates in texts also vary. The best on-line overview of Mayer's early life is from the home page of a school named after him: www.tobias-mayer.lb.schule-bw.de. A biography was written by Eric Gray (Göttingen 1980).

3. Secondary school which concentrated on teaching Latin (and also mathematics but it is not known whether mathematics was taught in Esslingen), forerunner of the

Gymnasium or Grammar School.

4. By 1790 only two of the eight children were still alive.

5. From http://www.kellnielsen.dk/bol.htm where there is a good overview of Mayer's and Harrison's approaches to determining longitude.

6. The third winner was Leonhard Euler (£300) whose initial calculations had been important to Mayer. Wikipedia relates that the widow travelled to England personally to submit the tables and receive the prize but this is highly unlikely.

7. My thanks to Armin Hütterman (author of a biography of Mayer and a reference for *Tooley's Dictionary*) for his confirmation and for reading through the original version. See also http://www.s-line.de/homepages/reprint/index.html where Siegfried Erb lists the life and works of Johann Mayer.

8. I would like to acknowledge my thanks to the Tobias Mayer Museum; some of this text is from their information leaflets. The museum is only open on every Sunday in the summer and every second Sunday in the winter.

9. I would like to acknowledge my thanks to the Tobias Mayer Verein; some of this text is from their homepage at http://www.ph-ludwigsburg.de/html/1d-geox-s-01/tobi.

Kit Batten lives and works in Stuttgart, Germany.



Fig. 6: Portrait of Tobias Mayer (from museum flyer).



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The National Library of Scotland's maps website

by Chris Fleet

This brief summary of the NLS maps website, is in response to Valerie Newby's kind offer to contribute a brief article for the *IMCoS Journal*. For those who have not used the website before, it allows over six thousand detailed, zoomable, colour images to be freely viewed of maps of Scotland, dating from 1560 through to the 1930s. The site has grown over the years, evolving from an initial "shop window" display of individual maps, to now include several whole atlas volumes, innovative graphical and textual search methods, and increasing quantities of geo-referenced mapping. Last year the home page recorded 2.7 million hits, and over 7 million map image views.

There are over a hundred maps of Scotland as a whole (1562-1892), primarily from the atlases of famous map-makers, including Ortelius, Mercator, Blaeu, Sanson, Homann, Moll, Kitchin, Bowen, Cary, W & A.K. Johnston, and Bartholomew. The changing shapes of the country and styles of cartography are also reflected in more detailed county mapping, not least by private surveyors in the late eighteenth century, as well as sets of county maps in the atlases of Herman Moll (1725 and 1745) and John Thomson (1832). Town plans have a long pedigree in Scotland, with sixteenth century views of Edinburgh and St Andrews, but most smaller burghs were mapped later, especially by John Wood in his *Town Atlas of Scotland* (1828) with its forty-eight town plans. There are also several hundred charts of Scottish coastal waters, including those by Waghenaer, Van Keulen,



Abraham Ortelius'* Scotiae tabula *(1573)



Lucas Jansz Waghenaer's chart of the Firth of Forth* (Beschrijvinge van een deel vann Schottlandt van Bambourg tot Aberdein*), with the town of Burntisland shown as an island (c. 1583).



Below, Herman Moll's* The North Part of Great Britain called Scotland *(1714), with views taken from John Slezer's* Theatrum Scotiae *of 1693.

Collins, Adair, Mackenzie, Huddart, and Ainslie, as well as more recent Admiralty Office charts from the 19th century.

The NLS core collections, inherited from the Library of the Faculty of Advocates (founded in 1689), include many significant cartographic treasures, and several important special collections and volumes have dedicated supporting information. The manuscript maps by Timothy Pont, Scotland's earliest mapmaker / chorographer (*c.*1565–1614) form a special feature, and from 2004 have included textual notes attributed to him. The Board of



A detail from John Finlayson's* A Plan of the Battle of Culloden and the adjacent Country *(1746), replete with pro-Jacobite symbols.

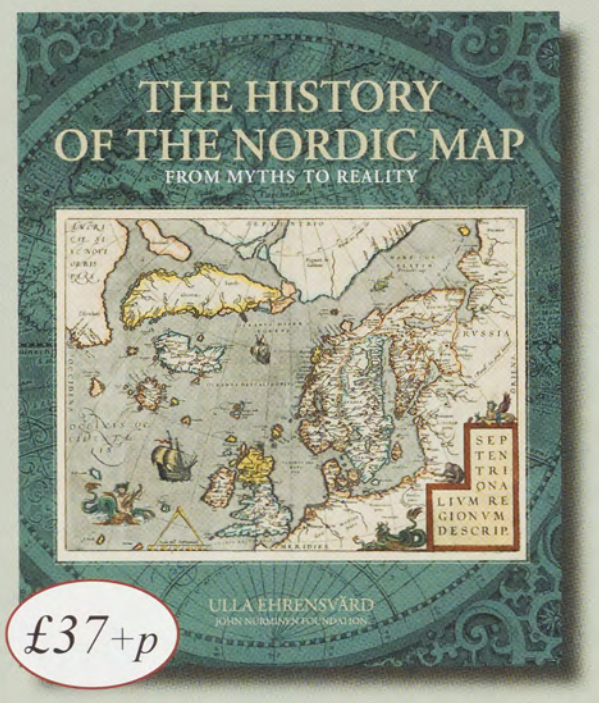
Below right, a detail from John Wood's* Plan of Dalkeith *(1822), included in his* Town Atlas of Scotland *(1828)



Ordnance and Wade collections, together contain about 400 military maps of Scotland, primarily from the 18th century, and record cartographically the major attempts to subdue the Scottish Jacobites in 1715, 1719, and 1745-6. Following the Jacobites' final defeat at Culloden (recorded too in several battle plans) King George II was petitioned to support a comprehensive new survey, under the superintendence of William Roy. This year we have been very pleased to add Roy's *Military Survey of Scotland* (1747-1755) to our website, in collaboration with the British Library, a beautifully hand-coloured and detailed military map of all of mainland Scotland.

Scotland's first atlas, Joan Blaeu's *Atlas Novus* volume V of Scotland in 1654, is presented in its entirety, with 48 colour maps and complete translations of the accompanying Latin text into English. George Taylor and Andrew Skinner's *Survey and maps of the roads of North Britain or Scotland* (1776), includes 61 plates of strip maps, in the style of John Ogilby's *Britannia* (1675). More recently, a facsimile of the *Bathymetrical Survey of the Fresh-Water Lochs of Scotland* (1897-1909) has been put online, with 233 attractive layer-coloured maps by Bartholomew, and supporting pages of descriptive information. Finally, the website is not just maps, but also views and panoramas, which have been expanded this year with a special feature dedicated to John Slezer's *Theatrum Scotiae* of 1693, with its 57 views of towns and castles. We are always happy to supply colour printouts, up to A0 size, or images of any of these maps (for a fee!), along with permission to use them in other publications.

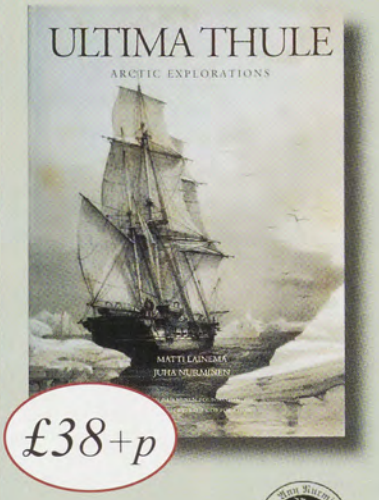
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"The extensive book *The History of the Nordic Map*, written by professor Ulla Ehrensvärd, is mostly based on her own research. She has found forgotten treasures in the hiding places of foreign archives, reinterpreted the contents of maps, traced cartographers and artists and revealed unknown links. The book is an inexhaustible reference book, an inspiring text book and an excellent gift."

Staffan Helmfrid, Professor Emeritus, Stockholm University

Pages 375
Size 240 x 278 mm
Images 194



With unique illustrations of excellent quality, *Ultima Thule – Arctic Explorations* provides an indispensable survey and source of information on the discovering of the extreme North. *Ultima Thule* also recounts the history of northern cartography and navigation; how the mythical north gradually took shape on maps, to become part of the European world picture.

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Size 257 x 346 mm
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Book Reviews

A look at recent publications

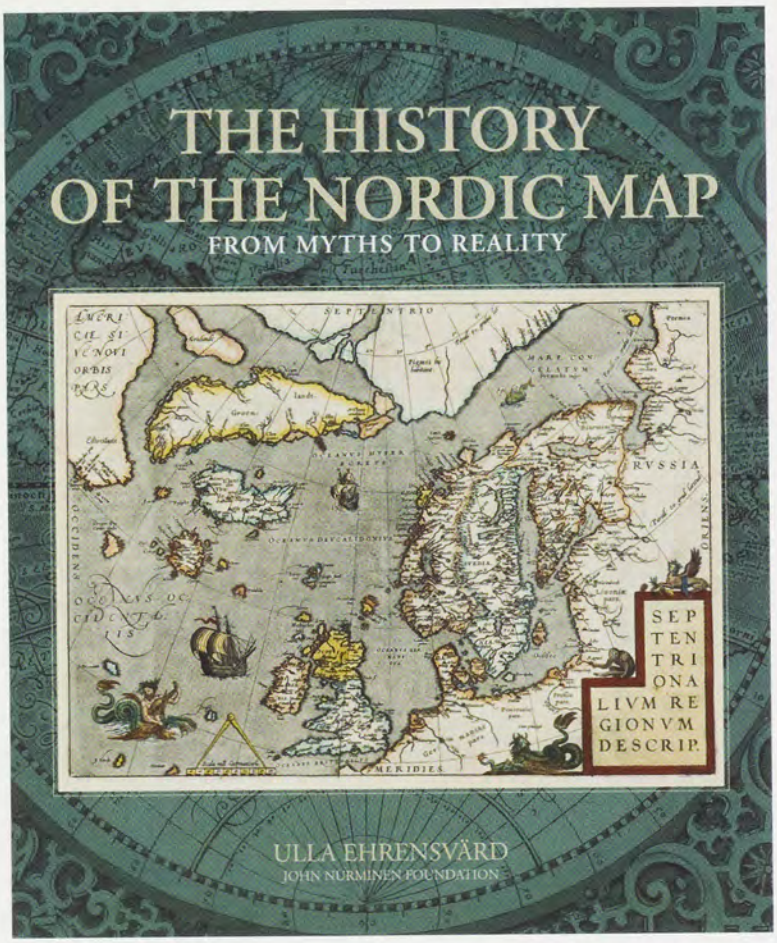
The History of the Nordic Map: From Myths to Reality by Ulla Ehrensvärd. John Nurminen Foundation, Pasilankatu 2, 00240 Helsinki, Finland 2006. Available from their website at http://www.johnnurminenfoundation.com 300 pp., 200 black and white and colour illustrations. ISBN 952-9745-20-6

The *History of the Nordic Map* is a significant contribution to the cartographic literature about Scandinavia. The book is not a cartobibliography, but an in-depth historical discussion of cartographic activities in the north and their linkages, both to one another and to other parts of Europe. The material is presented in twelve largely independent chapters that follow a roughly chronological order, starting with the earliest myths surrounding the mapping of the north and ending with a review of state vs. private control of mapping in the Scandinavian countries in the 18th and 19th centuries. Among the other chapters, III, VI, and VII concern Olaus Magnus, Andreas Bureus, and the Atlas Danicus, whereas V, IX, and X cover the Arctic, land surveying, and sea charts, respectively.

Ulla Ehrensvärd presents an incredible amount of information in the 360 plus pages and almost 200 illustrations contained in her book. For this reason, *The History of the Nordic Map* is a tremendous resource for discovering details about the background of those who mapped the north. As one would expect, the author thoroughly covers key figures such as Magnus, Bureus, Jacob Ziegler, and Tycho Brahé. Perhaps more impressive are the references to literally hundreds of lesser-known players involved in these undertakings. As an example of the density of the scholarship, all of the following names appear in the narrative on a single page (112): Sebastian Cabot, John Dee, Gerard Mercator, Gemma Frisius, Dmitri Gerasimov, Sigismund von Herberstein, Augustin Hirschvogel, Hugh Willoughby, Richard Chancellor, Stephen Borough, William Borough, Anthony Jenkinson, Gerard De Jode, and Martin Frobisher. An analogous list of Scandinavian names would be even more extensive.

Professor Ehrensvärd has also made a significant contribution in illustrating so many manuscript maps, charts, and plans. By their nature, these tend to be less familiar and much less accessible than printed ones. In addition, she frequently indicates within the text various repositories of manuscript material.

The John Nurminen Foundation has a strong interest in cartography and has published several books previously. Compared to these, *The History of the Nordic Map* is smaller and has a printed-paper-over-board cover rather than a dust jacket. Perhaps these choices reflect economic considerations. Nonetheless, the production is of high quality and the Foundation is to be commended in making the price so reasonable and ordering so easy.



Furthermore, given that the book is published in Swedish, English, and Finnish editions, we must thank the Nurminen Foundation for what must be considerable price subsidization.

My criticism of the book concerns not what it is, but what it might have been. Given the obvious commitment and resources devoted to its production, the failure to make some incremental, high-yielding investments is disappointing. For example, more careful editing and proofreading would have avoided errors that are more annoying distractions rather than substantive deficiencies. Some of these are correct in the (original) Swedish, but mistranslated or miscopied into the English (e.g., the date for Ptolemy on page 8, the date of 1544 for the publication of Johannes Magnus's book on page 75, and the caption to figure 91). Certain errors appear in both editions, such as the dates given for the maps in figures 5, 36, and 64. More serious are the apparently inverted transparency used to print figure 9 and the reversal of the captions for figures 26 and 27.

Three changes in *The History of the Nordic Map* would have significantly enhanced its utility and user friendliness. First, cross-references within the text to the illustrations would help comprehension as well as usability. (There is a single reference to "page 6, pict. 1" on page 325). It might also have led to better placement of the illustrations. For example, a map by Gerhard Schøning appears as figure 162 on pp. 298-299, but Schøning is not discussed until page 333 (and only page 333 appears in the index). Per Brahe's name appears in the caption to figure 106 on page 189, but he is not mentioned until page 201 (and his name does not appear in the index at all).

Secondly, a scholarly book needs a full index, not just an "Index of People." Third, there is no complete alphabetic list of bibliographic references; they are given at the back for individual chapters.

As an afterthought, an approximately 3/4-scale facsimile of the 1572 Lafreri copy of the 1539 map of Olaus Magnus is folded and tipped in at the back of the book. Perhaps this was an afterthought for the author and publisher as well, as I found no mention of its inclusion anywhere in the volume. Finally, I found it peculiar that in a book with so much biographical data, there was none about the author.

But this is an incredibly reasonably priced, handsomely produced, content rich book. Much of the information is not otherwise readily accessible, especially in English; many of the illustrations are of cartographic manuscripts that are not generally well known and may never have been reproduced before. It is not particularly user friendly but the reader who has some idea of what he is looking for will, like a determined early explorer, almost certainly discover something interesting, insightful, and worthwhile.

William Ginsberg

Find your way round early Georgian London, commentary by Ralph Hyde (Motco Enterprises Ltd., 2003)
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The Motco series of scanned maps grew from an ambitious and ongoing project to scan major maps and views of London. At the time it was far in advance of most similar exercises since undertaken by major libraries throughout the world. Since then some libraries and several private collectors and firms have caught up, though none cover London in such loving detail or with such ingenuity. The CD-roms provide an enhancement enabling users to pinpoint locations in London in the style of an automated A-Z.

The Dictionary, which is a digitisation of Henry Harben's scarce *Dictionary of London* published posthumously in 1918 but completed in 1910, does not include a map. It does though provide background information for the City of London elements of the other CDs. The other CDs proceed chronologically from Strype's ward maps of the 1720s, Rocque's great map of London and Westminster of 1746, Cary's one-inch-to-the-mile pocket atlas of the country 15 miles round London of 1786, the first edition, of 1799, of Horwood's great map and finally Stanford's superb *Library Map of London and its suburbs* of 1862. More – notably Rocque's great map of the environs of London and the 1892 edition of *Stanford's Library Map*, are planned. Each CD is

accompanied by excellent introductions by Ralph Hyde and by indexes of placenames, supplemented in the case of Cary by an index of landowners.

The novel 'yellow circle navigation' pioneered by Motco enables particular locations to be zoomed into very easily and speedily.

I found the CDs easy to use. You can find your way to the areas of interest to you either by clicking repeatedly on the (necessarily very much reduced) image of the whole map or by clicking on the place names lists in the left-hand columns. In all cases the quality of the images is superb.

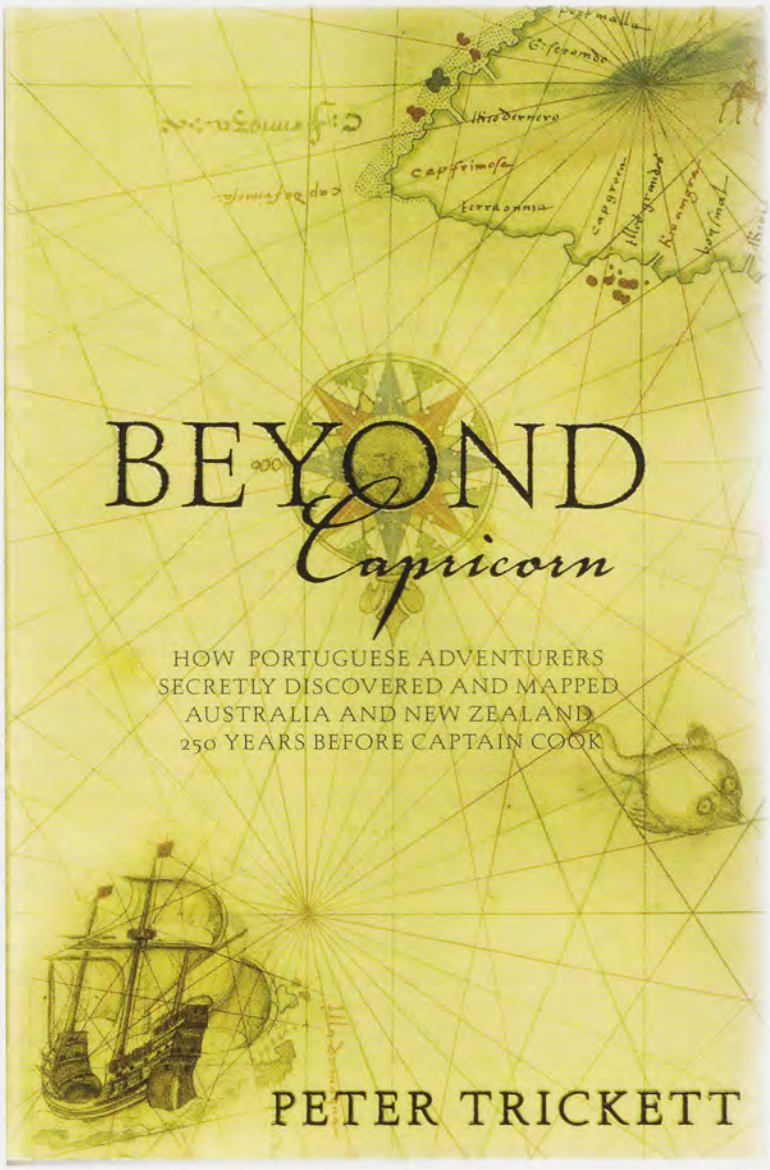
The CDs cannot reproduce the spaciousness of the original sheet maps which enable the reader to make comparisons across the whole surface of the map. On the other hand it enables atlases such as Cary's or disparate maps such as Strype's to be treated in the same manner, despite the difference of original format, and examples of the great wall maps that are in superb condition only because the individual sheets were bound up as atlases to be digitally 'unbound' and assembled, producing the efficient finding aid that Motco proclaims that it sets out to provide 'for historians, genealogists, researchers, authors and producers'. Users of Macs can use these CDs, with the exceptions noted above, and it is presumably intended for all of the CDs to be Mac-compatible before too long.

All in all these CDs can be strongly recommended for computer-literate members as an automated supplement to the London Topographical Society's own popular series of published A-Zs.

Peter Barber
Head of Map Collections, The British Library

Beyond Capricorn: How Portuguese adventurers secretly discovered and charted Australia and New Zealand 250 years before Captain Cook by Peter Trickett. East Street Publications, Bowden, Adelaide, South Australia, 2007. 386 pp. ISBN 978097511-4599. Paperback, price AU$35.

In 1786 Alexander Dalrymple suggested that a long coastline trending southwards from the eastern end of Sumbawa on what is now known as the Harleian, or Dauphin world map, could be the east coast of Australia. From this seed there grew a much debated belief that the Portuguese, in the 1520s, discovered both it, and its 'west coast', which descends from the western end of Java, even though the 'continent', usually known as *Java la Grande* (Great Java) was much too far west. The Harleian map was one of a number of mid-16th century maps, known collectively as the Dieppe maps, which portrayed this landmass with inscriptions in French, Portuguese and Gallicized Portuguese. Later writers expanded upon this idea by assuming that what are clearly identified as Java and Sumbawa were in fact Arnhem Land and Cape York Peninsula respectively, or that the latter two had been hidden under those Indonesian islands. On none of the Dieppe maps does this enigmatic feature have any south coast, but on some of them, both southward-trending coasts are extended hypothetically to the north coast of Tierra del Fuego. Various hypotheses have been propounded in attempts to explain why 'Australia' was so far west, why there were no surviving Portuguese maps, or other documentation recording their 'discovery' of it, and why a number of features conspicuously failed to equate with



Australia's coastline, most notably a large triangular peninsular at the southern end of the east coast.

This is the sixth book since 1893 to try to establish the validity of these hypotheses. The details of the Portuguese discovery claim are all different, even though they are all based on the same supposed evidence - the large, enigmatic 'continent' of *Java la Grande*.

Some wrecks and miscellaneous artifacts found around the coasts of Australia and New Zealand have been claimed to be Portuguese, thus supposedly providing additional evidence. Trickett colourfully attempts to establish the validity of some of these artifacts which critics have rejected, and adds one item to the list – a fishing net sinker. Readers can judge how successful he has been, but it is upon the identity of *Java la Grande* that his case stands or falls.

Part of the east coast of this landmass does look a bit like the 'corresponding' coast of Queensland and northern New South Wales but there is *no* Australian feature corresponding to the large triangular projection at its southern end. No less than six different speculative identifications of this feature have been produced, including two different headlands of Tasmania and the East Cape of New Zealand's North Island.

It is a basic principle of research that the proof of any hypothesis requires that *all* available evidence should be critically examined. Trickett relies entirely on maps in the so-called 'Vallard' atlas of 1547. This failure to compare the Vallard charts, and more especially their coastal inscriptions with those on the other Dieppe maps inevitably gives an unbalanced view of *Java la Grande*.

If evidence does not suit a theory one solution is to alter it. Trickett's solution to the problem presented by the major, key feature, the east coast triangular promontory, is to assert that the French joined two sections of Portuguese map incorrectly at the upper base of the triangle. On that pretext, with a computer, he doctors the promontory by rotating it and the islands just off its shore, 90° clockwise, thus turning its headland into 'Wilson's Promontory', and extending the Australian coastline to west of 'Kangaroo Island' in South Australia. It also enables him to turn an adjacent island into New Zealand's North Island.

When comparing enigmatic coastlines on 16th century maps with their supposed equivalents on modern maps, scales are important. Trickett, however, on his 'comparative' sketch maps gives no indication of scales whatsoever. He consequently fails to realize that his 'Wilson's Promontory' is nearly 17°, nearly 2000 kms, south of the real promontory! Such tinkering with evidence does not rewrite history.

The Vallard atlas is unique in one particular regard. On both the east and west coasts of the continent of *Java la Grande*, or *Terra Java* in this atlas, there are over 50 coastal inscriptions where the other Dieppe maps have about ten on each, varying slightly in number and spelling from one to another. The most significant ones on the west coast are omitted from the 'Vallard' west coast, and some from the east coast too. Trickett does make an attempt to deal with coastal inscriptions, but assumes that the 'Vallard' cartographer had access to much more information than any of the other cartographers. The assumption is wrong. Some cartographers inserted invented inscriptions on coastlines that had relatively few, in order to impress whichever wealthy patron or dignitary the map or atlas was intended for. This is clearly one such case. Trickett believes that the 'Vallard' inscriptions on those two coasts are in Portuguese or French. Although some are, the inscriptions are actually in an astonishing jumble of Romance languages. By wishful thinking and a vivid imagination Trickett manages to match up a number of these hybrid inscriptions with features on the Australian coastline.

A quite different solution to the identity of *Java la Grande/Terra Java* was recently published, comparing the place-name evidence on a number of the Dieppe maps. It claims that the enigmatic continent has nothing to do with Australia but that both coasts are actually misplaced copies of early, differently scaled, Portuguese sketch charts of other parts of Asia, the west and south west coasts of Java itself, and the southern part of Vietnam, together with the islands to the east of it. It suggests that the French evidently believed that these two charts were genuine but were unable to identify them so speculatively attached them to the blank south coasts of Java and Sumbawa; under the impression that they could be part of the great southern continent which was widely believed to exist.

Trickett himself mentions that the above solution by a 'retired Australian academic... has been met with acclaim in orthodox academic circles', but rejects its findings. He omits to mention the author of the book or its publisher.

Peter Trickett is an experienced journalist so despite the critical comments above his book is very readable, especially when he re-examines some of the 'complementary' evidence of wrecks and artefacts of reputedly Portuguese origin. It may sell well but it is certainly not history.

W.A.R. Richardson,
Associate Professor (Spanish and Portuguese),
School of Humanities, Flinders University,
Adelaide, South Australia.



New Worlds

Maps from the Age of Discovery

New Worlds. Maps from the Age of Discovery by Ashley and Miles Baynton-Williams. Quercus Publishing, 21 Bloomsbury Square, London, 2006. Hardback, 224 pages, price £40. ISBN 978-1-90520-480-9 NB. The reviewer has seen this book for sale with Bibliophile at the reduced price of £20 plus p&p (tel. (0)20-7515-9222).

This large and beautifully produced book is the product of the third generation of their family to work in the field of antiquarian maps. "Gathered from five centuries of exploration are over 120 maps of oceans and continents, mountains and forests, cities and shires. Presented in chronological order these maps record the adventures and discoveries – not to mention fantasies and outright lies – of explorers, merchants, travellers and cartographers."

The book fulfils the promise of its description containing maps produced from 1475 to 1899. The large format allows for full size reproduction of many maps such as those from the atlases of Ortelius, Mercator, de Jode, Plancius, Blaeu etc. When this is not possible, for example double page maps, at least a part of the image is enlarged. The consequence is that the details and place names can be seen easily rather than the usual reduced impressions. The maps are either in full colour or monochrome according to the state of the original and each is accompanied by a short commentary.

This is not just another book of the classic antiquarian maps although some of these are included. It also contains battle plans like Mortier's 1705 "A most Exact and Accurate Plan of the Several Attacks at the Famous Battle of Blenheim," maps from the voyages of discovery, town and city plans, and maps on playing cards.

A lighter touch is added by such items as Laurie and Whittle's "A whimsical sketch of Europe" dated 1806 and William Miller's 1810 "Map of Matrimony." The book ends with a selection of map dealers, a short bibliography and a useful index.

This is not a serious academic treatise but a lavish and enjoyable trip through a wide selection of early maps, many not seen regularly elsewhere.

Barbara A. Thomas

The Map

A poem by Elizabeth Bishop

Land lies in water; it is shadowed green.
Shadows, or are they shallows, at its edges
showing the line of long sea-weeded ledges
where weeds hang to the simple blue from green.
Or does the land lean down to lift the sea from under,
Drawing it unperturbed around itself?
Along the fine tan sandy shelf
is the land tugging at the sea from under?

The shadow of Newfoundland lies flat and still.
Labrador's yellow, where the moony Eskimo
has oiled it. We can stroke these lovely bays,
under a glass as if they were expected to blossom,
or as if to provide a clean cage for invisible fish.
The names of seashore towns run out to sea,
the names of cities cross the neighbouring mountains
- the printer here experiencing the same excitement
as when emotion too far exceeds its cause.
These peninsulas take the water between thumb and finger
like women feeling for the smoothness of yard-goods.

Mapped waters are more quiet than the land is,
lending the land their waves' own conformation:
and Norway's hare runs south in agitation,
profiles investigate the sea, where land is.
Are they assigned, or can the countries pick their colours?
What suits the character or the native waters best.
Topography displays no favourites; North's as near as West.
More delicate than the historians' are the map-makers' colours.



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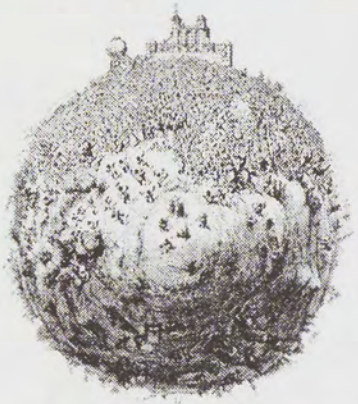
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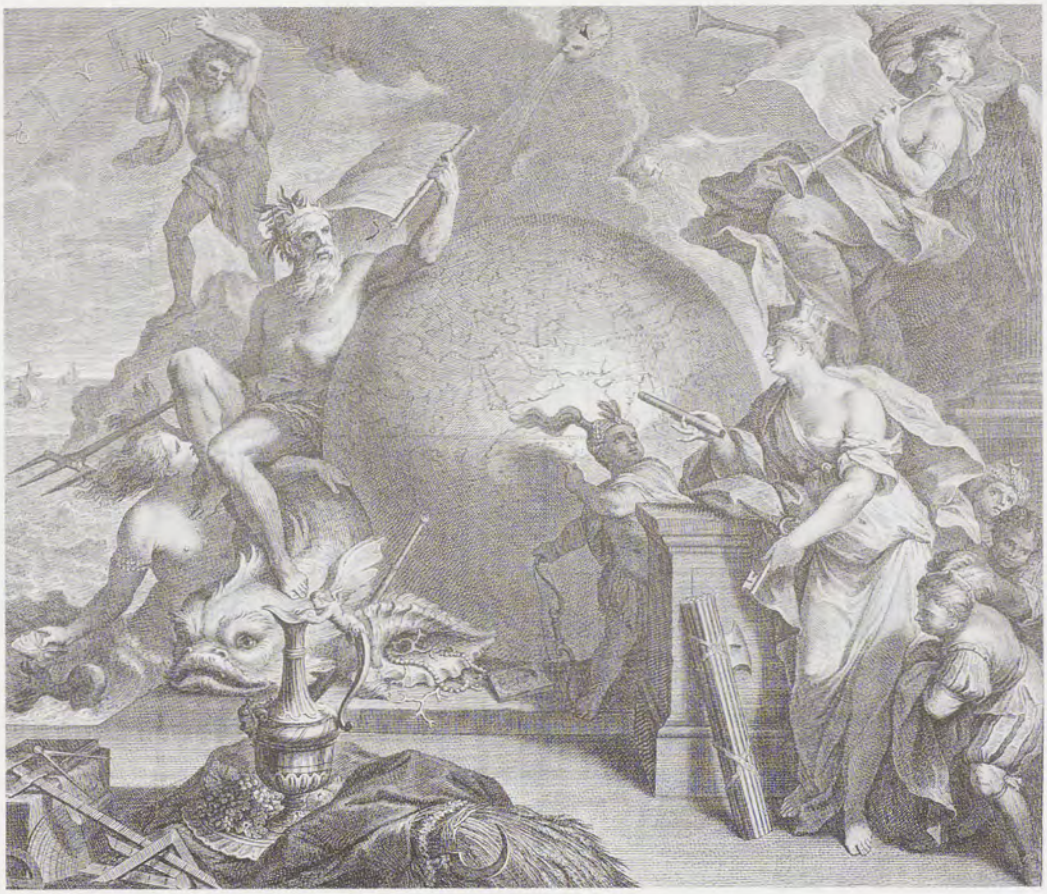
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You Write to Us

Identification of map of Iceland

Thank you to all those who sent in identification of the map of Iceland belonging to Dr Barbara Thomas. Below are just a sample of those who contributed. From them we learned many different things about both the cartographer and his work.

'This is one of the many maps from Scherer's *Atlas Novus*, 1702-1710. Copies vary between 7 and 8 volumes and their map composition is not always standard. There are 166 maps and related prints in the copy in the British Library (under the Terrestrial Atlases section as T-SHER-1a) including this map twice; once as no.80 in part 4 (1) and again as no.151 in part 6. The projection arranged around the North Pole and the sharply engraved artwork are typical of Scherer and his engravers. The BL shelfmark is 572.k.1-8'.

Rodney Shirley, Buckingham, England

'May I offer an identification of the map posted by Dr Thomas "Regionvm Polarivm Lapponiae Islandiae...." The map is by Heinrich Scherer from his seven-part *Atlas Novus*. The part in which this map appears was published in Munich in 1703. Scherer signed his work "R.P. Henrico Scherer, Societatis Jesu," and his Catholic faith and missionary zeal figure prominently throughout the maps in this atlas. This map portrays supplicant Lapps worshipping the sun while ignoring the sign of the Trinity over their heads, and criticises their practice in the text above. In addition to the Jesuit content, this map displays several of the other characteristics of Scherer's maps: suns beaming as dramatically as did windroses in the previous century; finely detailed cartouches in several parts of the maps (all the more impressive given the relatively small folio size of the volumes); and frequent use of Polar or (as here) quasi-polar projections.'

Dean Menegas, London, England

'I have the map belonging to Dr Thomas and can inform you that it is from München by Heinrich Scherer, engraved by J.B. Homann (24x26cm). See also Scherer's world map Shirley 626.'

TUF Columbus, Denmark

Can anyone help?

I am looking for the following: 'Switzerland: drawn for the heliogravure process at Stanford's Geographical Establishment' ; scale 1:506 880 or 8 miles to 1 inch ; London : Edward Stanford [, 1894 to ca 1923 or later] ; 49 x 66 cm.

Issued either as a flat sheet (with or without plate number – either 39 or 42 – stamped/punched on verso at top right corner) ; as folded, dissected, & mounted (as a 'pocket map') in Stanford's typical hard green covers with his title label on front (either as 'Map of Switzerland' from ca 1894 or 'London Atlas Map of Switzerland' by 1923) ; or issued *in situ* in either *Stanford's London atlas of universal geography... : Folio Edition*, 'Second issue. Revised and enlarged' (1894 to 1901) and 'Third edition, revised and enlarged' (1904 to ca 1916), or as plate 13 in *Stanford's family atlas of general geography* (1894 or 1896 'editions').

This is for the published version, in *Cartographica Helvetica* (January 2008), of my Poster Session presented at the 22nd International Conference on the History of Cartography, Bern(e), 8-13 July 2007. In my carto-bibliography (giving locations of exemplars), being included in the article, any private locations of any exemplars of the map or atlas will be indicated by 'P' and a number only: any readers of the article will have access to these only through my consulting with the private owners for permission to put them in touch with each other. Currently I have locations of exemplars noted in 36 public and private collections in Europe, North America, and Australasia.

Francis Herbert

Francis Herbert is former Curator of Maps, RGS-IBG; author of entry for Edward Stanford [sr] in Oxford dictionary of national biography *(2004); author of 'The* London atlas of universal geography *from John Arrowsmith to Edward Stanford:... a British world atlas from the 1830s to the 1930s' in* Imago Mundi, *1989, vol.41, pp.[98]-123 where, on pp.116-118, the first of ten states hitherto identified (the one lacking toponyms) is mentioned and illustrated.*

If you are able to help please write to me: Francis Herbert, 46 Chilcombe House, Fontley Way, Roehampton SW15 4NB or write c/o the Editor of the *Journal*.





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JOHN & CHARLES WALKER

the county maps 1835-1896 (Part Two)

by Tim Nicholson

For Part One of this article see IMCoS Journal *N°·110 (Autumn 2007).*

By the 1850s there were signs that the Walkers' strategy of short-term advantage in their dealings with their main customers was coming home to roost. In 1855 the engraving and printing of Admiralty charts was transferred to Thomas Malby & Sons, an outside engraver and lithographic printer.[18] By this time John Walker was 68 and the mental degeneration that was to blight the few remaining years of his working life may already have set in, perhaps explaining the Admiralty's action. By the late 1860s his faculties had deteriorated badly. At the same time the India Office,[19] owner of Walker's last remaining major assets – the plates of the ongoing *Atlas of India* and of the East India Company's sea charts – started to transfer the preparation and printing of the Company's charts to the Admiralty Hydrographic Office: a political measure, arising from the ending of the Company's powers. But in 1870 the Surveyor General of India removed the making of all new *Atlas of India* plates, together with their engravers, to Calcutta in order to publish on the spot. The combination of events must have devastated the company. John Walker finally retired in 1872. In that year Charles died and John followed him a year later.

The enigmatic figure of Thomas Connell now appeared on the scene. From what little is known about him, some more can be inferred. Connell had been a surveyor's clerk and an engraver; and he described himself as a geographer (see note 1 in Part I). There must have been more to him than this bald outline suggested, for in 1869 he was given temporary responsibility for the continuing publication of the *Atlas of India*, before this was transferred to Calcutta the following year. Also in 1869, Malby & Sons took over all the company's surviving printing. A new regime was being put in place.

A plausible hypothesis can be constructed from the few known facts. Connell had a Walker connection from at least 1869, when he briefly looked after the *Atlas of India*. Walker were at their 37 Castle Street home that year, and Connell gives the same business address[20] in his will of 1894. It is not unreasonable to surmise that he was working for, or even running, the company in the intervening 25 years. In the 1861 census he was still a surveyor's clerk. By 1871 he was described as a "map seller" which, in conjunction with his

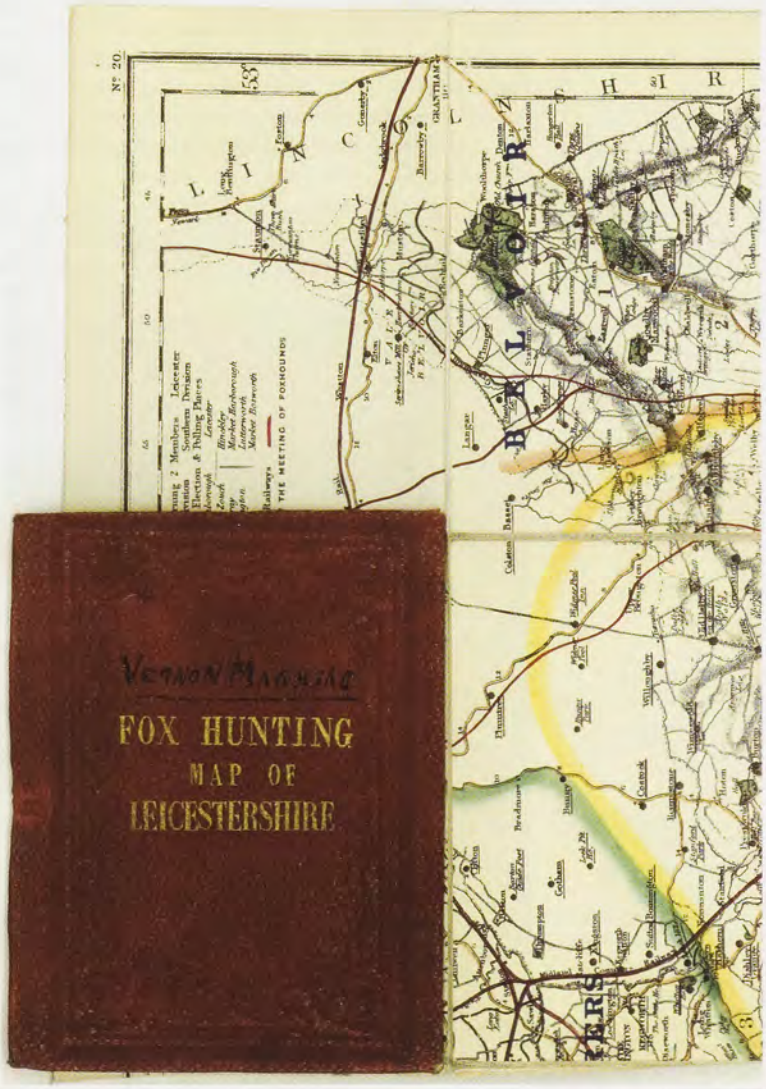


Fig. 1
Leicestershire, ***a fox hunting map of the 1880s. Yellow main roads replace uncoloured, but map and local information style is pre-1870s.***

apparent status, probably means that he was responsible for Walker's sales. In 1881 he bore the title "map trader" which had slightly broader connotations. By the time of the 1891 census he was a "map publisher", which implies the supervision of the company's operations. The county maps continued to appear, under different publishers' names, into the 1890s. All this suggests that Walker, under Connell, retained control of the county plates to the end of the firm's life. The fact that Connell left a net estate of £1009 (about £62,000 in today's terms) itself implies managerial rather than some lesser status.

But in 1869 Walker were in no shape to compete with far-sighted, vigorous entrepreneurs[21] with their own or bought-in plates for sectional and town maps as well as county maps which were sold cheaply and in quantity to the public and to other publishers, and were susceptible to modernising because the money was there. Lack of resources precluded any new engraving or major publishing enterprises, but that said, Connell made a fair fist of exploiting the company's remaining asset, the county map plates. Malby & Sons printed by lithography. This speeded up printing and allowed plate alterations to be made cheaply, so modernising the company's operations. Connell made full use of the county plates, selling the map to customers old and new. He reinvented Walker as a publisher in their own right. He published a series that Walker had hitherto only sold to another publisher; and he introduced a new series for a new market using the county plates in modified form. While doing so he modernised the look of the maps as far as the firm's lack of resources allowed; and he kept the information provided more up to date. With so few assets, Connell could not turn the company around, but he enabled it to rise from the ashes and survive another generation.

One of Walker's new customers was the distinguished book publisher John Murray. The county volumes of their *Handbook for travellers*, dating from the 1870s and 1880s, included uncoloured Walker maps with the Walker imprint at the bottom right hand corner. The maps were reissued in successive editions of the guides without updating.

The maps that returned to their creator were those originally made for William Colling Hobson. By about 1878 he was retired or dead, and Walker, in their new guise, took on the publication of the hunt maps and atlas themselves. The earliest known Walker hunt atlas dates from around 1880, and the first separate map from 1881-2. Their design had remained unchanged since their inception; now, Walker made only one, minor, alteration – the adoption of yellow fill for main roads. This was probably done to bring the colouring into line with that of the mainstream



Fig. 2
A Letts cover of a map of **Kent**, *1870s-1880s.*

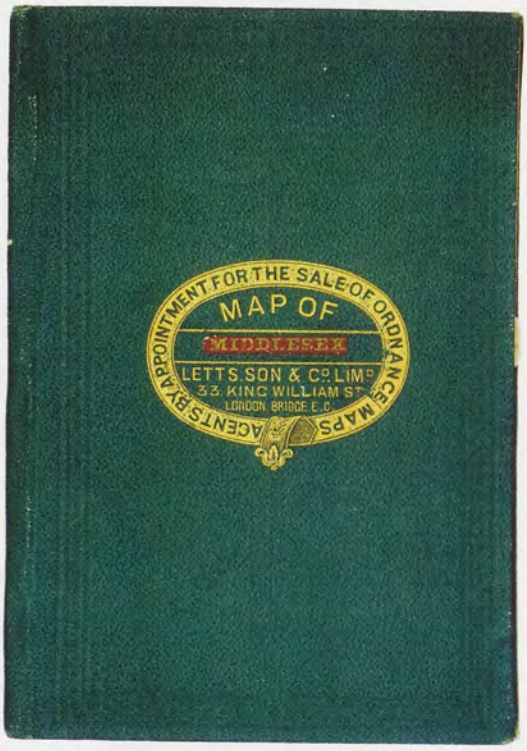


Fig. 3 (Far right)
Middlesex. *A Letts cover 1870s-1880s.*

maps. Otherwise, the hunt maps retained their original cover design and their old-fashioned look until the end. This came in 1895, when the last known edition of the *Fox-Hunting Atlas* was published.[22] In this period Edward Stanford also sold the maps, and John Murray and Letts Son & Co the atlas, the last-named with their own covers on it. In all, there had been 14 recorded reprints of the hunt atlas since its inception.

The new Walker series was an adaptation of the county map that seems to have first appeared in the 1870s. Rather late in the day, Walker was entering the market for cheap paper maps pioneered 20 years before by now powerful, established publishers (see note 21). On plain buff card covers was the title *Walker's railway and road map of...* followed by the county name either printed direct, or on a pasted-on yellow label. The cover format was larger and taller than standard (177mm x 111mm), allowing fewer folds and a slimmer map. The price is unknown. Inside was a modestly redesigned, hand-coloured Walker offering on paper, with railways updated to between the mid 1870s and late 1880s.[23] For the first time since 1835, up-to-date census figures were provided. Some maps have a pasted-on label with population information from the 1881 census superseding earlier printed figures. Many sheets bore a Longman imprint, but others carried only Walker's name as the publisher. For the first time since the 1830s Walker offered one colour choice only, combining green woodland and main roads yellow-filled, as on the contemporary hunt maps, and as colourful as the mass-market maps of the competition.

This colour combination was standardised also on the "straight" county map, on cloth, and still folded in the original Walker small-format covers of 1835. These made it look very drab and old-fashioned; although a scarcely more attractive alternative has been seen, with small gold lettering stamped on dark brown cloth. Here again, old census information was replaced in later printings by a label with updated population figures from the 1881 count. The span of publication dates, ascertainable from the census dates and railways on maps seen, lay between the early 1870s and 1885.[24] Maps from the latter end of the period are known with Edward Stanford's name on a label inside the cover. The imprint in the margin was either Longman or Walker.

It looks as though these maps, and *Walker's railway and road map of....*, established Walker in their role as publishers. The evidence is circumstantial but suggestive. From the early 1870s they were no longer either engravers or printers, so actual publishing was the only activity

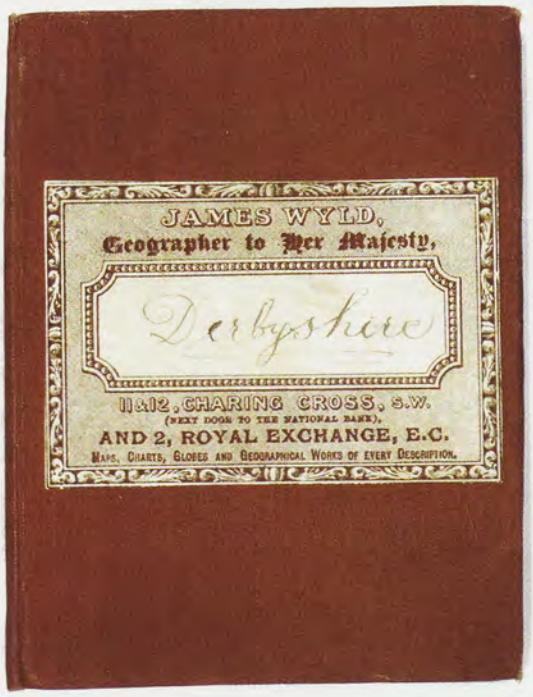


Fig. 4 (Far left) **Derbyshire,** ***a Wyld cover, 1880s.***

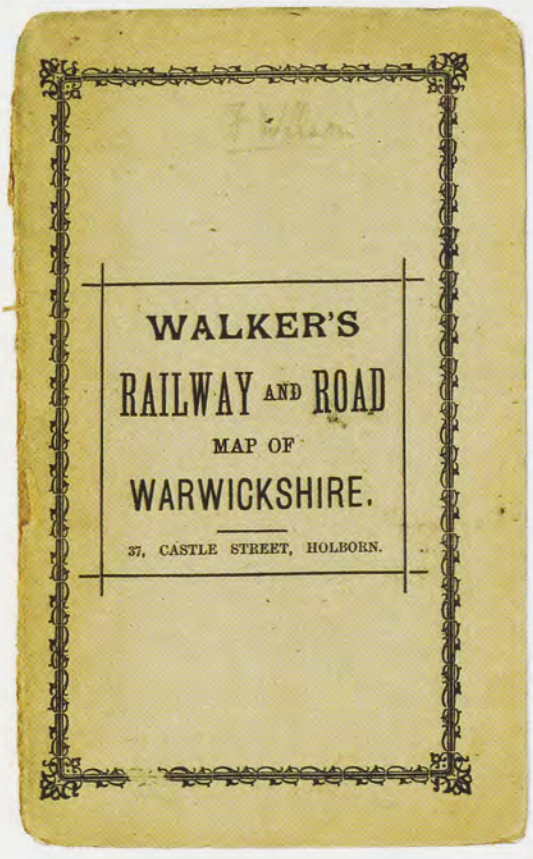


Fig. 5 (Left) **Walker's railway and road Map of Warwickshire.** ***Old wine in a new bottle: Walker's new paper series in card covers, 1870s-1880s.***

left to justify the presence of their name in the margin. Their name, too, appears more frequently in the imprint. Furthermore, it is hard to believe that Longman remained a customer for the county maps for half a century without updating their imprints. By the 1870s all the partners (except the current Longman) listed in the margins of the maps had been dead or retired for at least 20 or 30 years. It seems likely that for some time Walker had been using up surplus old stock originally printed for Longman, and publishing it themselves.

The style change, begun under the aegis of Walker/Longman and Stanford, was completed under the Wyld and Letts imprints.[25] Under James Wyld *Jr.*, the Walker name, formerly writ large beneath the cartouche, was obliterated with a label bearing Wyld's name, as was the publisher's name in the bottom margin, whatever that might be. Walker, the engravers to two governments, were nothing but a memory. Figures from the 1881 census were now printed on the map. The map's rather sparse information was greatly expanded. Existing information was retained, and a new, large panel showed coloured conventional signs for hills dangerous to cyclists; and towns with different populations and courts of law, those with market days, and those where post horses could be hired.[26]

A further small redesign made the map appear more modern: gone was the old, decorative county title, to be replaced by plain, solid black, serif lettering. The map lost its green woods, possibly because an overall colour wash replaced the former colour-shaded constituency boundaries, but gained blue sea. Another innovation was colour printing. This is recognisable in the colour wash of land and sea, which has a pronounced screen and in the even, consistently poor, register between colours on roads that was typical of early colour printing. Letts maps and perhaps others showed railways under construction as red dashes.

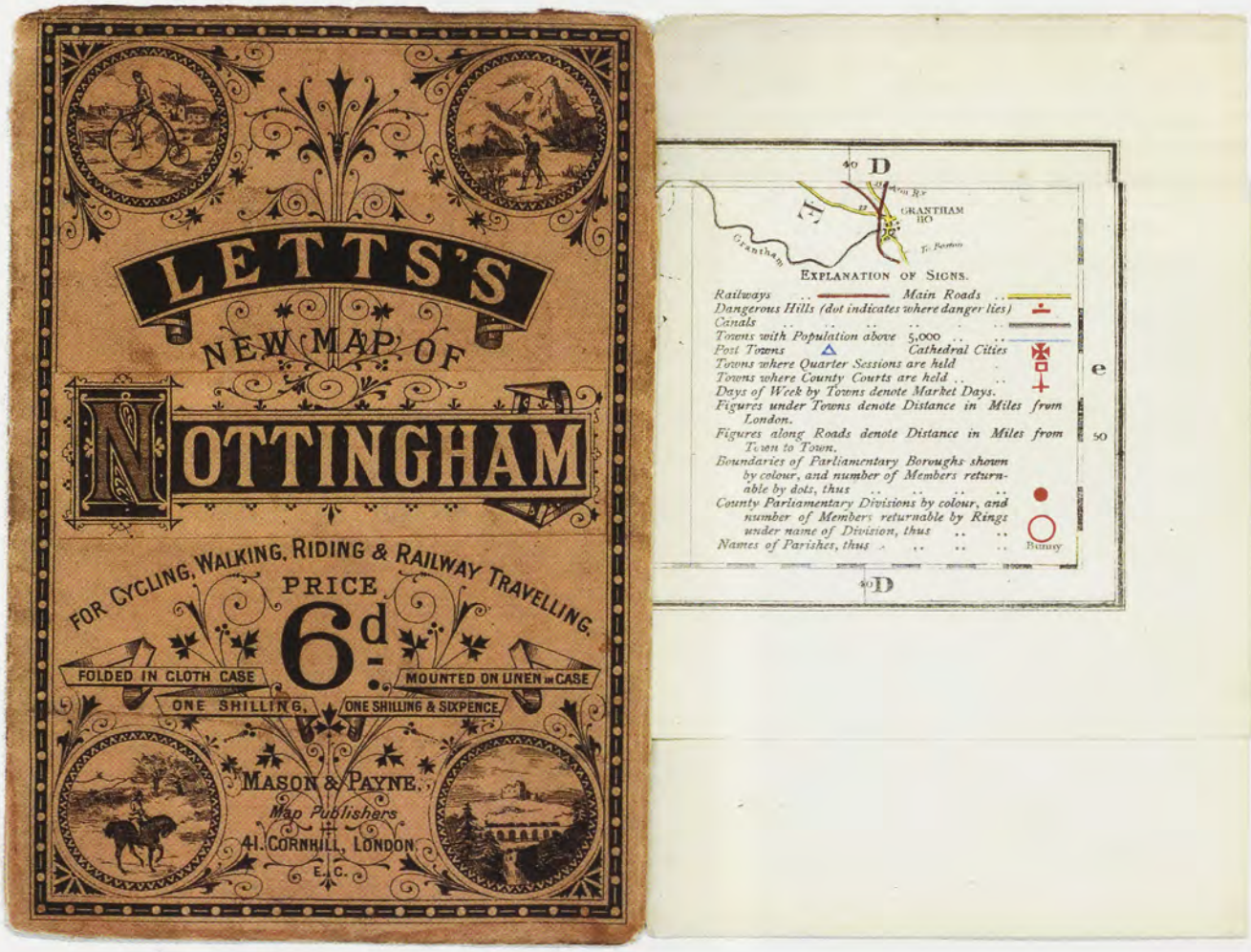


Fig. 6
Letts's new map of Nottingham, ***1880s. Modernised style, new information, new conventional signs, washes colour printed, sixpence on paper.***

Individual maps might have special features such as the new Manchester Ship Canal as a thick red line on *Cheshire*, and red crosses on *Essex* to show the incidence of the 1884 earthquake shocks. The name that Wyld gave to the series appealed to a new and rapidly growing market: "Small bicycle maps of the counties of England." The Wyld maps seen, dated from their railways, appeared in 1882-1884. Lists of Wyld publications were pasted inside the covers. The price on cloth in board covers was 2s. Cover and map proudly announced Wyld's status as Geographer to Her Majesty the Queen (see note 1). After the death of James Wyld *Jr.* in 1887 the company went into decline, and six years later it was sold to G.W. Bacon.

On maps that the writer has seen, the state of the railways suggests that Letts Son & Co and their successors as map publishers, Mason & Payne, bought the county maps from the late 1870s onwards. Under the Letts flag, the *Walker's railway and road map* design was retained on cloth maps until about 1882, and then was given the full updating. The series was christened "Letts's bicycle and tourist maps" ("mostly reduced from the Ordnance Survey"). The cloth dissected version, costing 2s 6d, was seen in handsome gold-blocked covers featuring either a pile of books surmounted by a crown, or else a heraldic belt encircling the text. Both have been seen on maps dateable from the railways to the 1878-1881 period. An advertisement for the series might be pasted inside the front cover, offering a paper map priced at 1s.[27] This, in board covers, had less colour and was unmodernised except for census figures. Railways were cased black, without a colour fill, and proposed lines were added in solid black. The sea, too, was uncoloured. Constituencies, and sometimes even an entire county such as *Middlesex*, were given a hand-coloured wash. The Walker name still appears below the cartouche and in the margin, but then the Letts name is printed in the bottom margin. With the coming of the fully redesigned map on cloth around 1882, the Letts name is printed in both places: that of Walker is banished as if it has never been. Late Letts maps are known with a tiny publication date, coded or *en clair*, in the bottom margin.

Like the major publishers, Letts in the mid-1880s also offered cheap and cheerful paper maps targeting all travellers, with the comprehensive cover title of *Letts's new map of* [county name] *for bicycling, walking, riding and railway travelling.* Vignettes in each corner of the buff front cover featured a cyclist on a high "ordinary" bicycle, a hiker, a horse rider, and a train. The cover format was large (125 x 185mm), to allow a striking cover design to be more visible, and there were eight folds instead of 15. Inside was one of the redesigned county maps. The price was 6d in paper covers, 1s in boards, and 2s 6d coloured on cloth.

The last recorded edition of the Longman/Walker *British atlas* came out in 1880 after 16 known printings,[28] on each occasion with some if not all maps updated. Four years later Letts lithographed it, with maps in their redesigned form, as *Letts's popular county atlas* under their own imprint. But within months, Letts, Son & Co experienced its own trauma. Already in 1881, they had lost their valuable diary business when Charles Letts (the "Son" of the firm's name) left to set up his



Fig. 7
Letts's old-style shilling paper map of* Essex, *with no colour except for a pale wash over counties, c.1880.

own company specialising in this line. Now, at the end of 1884, Letts Son & Co went into liquidation.[29] About a year later John Mason, formerly General Manager, bought the Letts map business and took William Payne, formerly its head, with him to set up Mason & Payne, map publishers. "Letts's bicycle and tourist maps," still supplied by Walker, continued under that name with the Mason & Payne name at the bottom of the cover. So did the cheap *Letts's new map of...*, at the same price, except for the cloth map in boards, which was reduced to 1s 6d. Clearly the Letts name was thought to help sales.[30] The latest known map with a Mason & Payne imprint can be dated to 1891. Four years earlier, the firm had republished *Letts's popular county atlas* under their own imprint.

In the early 1890s George Gill & Sons published the county map under the title *Letts's county maps for pedestrians and tourists*, further perpetuating the Letts name. They were folded in strikingly colourful covers featuring a cyclist, a walker, a pony and trap, and even a hot-air balloon. Coloured paper maps in large-format stiff covers sold for 6d, which matched the price and specification of the contemporary, mass-marketed Gall & Inglis and Bacon county maps. Sixpence was half what has been asked for *Letts's new map of...*, while for 9d one could buy the same map on cloth.



Fig. 8
Letts' county map for cyclists, pedestrians & tourists, Kent, ***price 6d from George Gill & Sons. Obviously also meant for aeronauts (note the balloons). By courtesy of Tony Burgess.***

Little is known about the last known publisher of the Walker county maps. By 1888 E. Forster Groom,[31] a general map publisher trading at that time under the name of the Charing Cross Central Depot for Popular Maps, were offering the county maps in their own covers. In 1894-5 they were buying-in the Letts/Mason & Payne dated maps under the Forster Groom name.

By that time the story was almost over. Thomas Connell died in March 1895, aged 75. The writer has found no county atlases, maps or derivations of them of a later date; and from 1896, after 62 years, the Walker name vanishes from the *Post Office Directory*. Now, the last gap in our knowledge of the Walker story opens. The plates and remaining stock were bought by Edward Stanford in May 1896, presumably in a sale of the company's effects: the question is, why? Did they envisage a new county series of their own which would need protecting from competition, or did they intend taking the "quick-fix" route of buying existing plates which was followed by Gall & Inglis, Bacon and others? If so, neither plan came to fruition. Stanford did not buy the plates to melt them down, since they retained them until 1944 when they were finally sent for wartime scrap. So vanished the last surviving fragments of a once great name, made into a Spitfire.[32]

Notes:

18. The firms already had links. In 1853 John Walker had proposed Thomas Malby Jr. as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. See Francis Herbert, "The Royal Geographical Society's membership, the map trade, and geographical publishing in Britain 1830 to c.1930," *Imago Mundi* 35, 1983.

19. The British Government department ruling India since the ending of the East India Company's powers in 1858.

20. In fact 37 Furnival Street, the new name of Castle Street since 1885.

21. Such as Philip, Cruchley, Gall & Inglis, Bacon and Bartholomew. These took full advantage of the new mass market of railway and later bicycle users, and were, or became, full blown printers and publishers, not just suppliers.

22. This was also the date of the last known printing of any Walker map: see below.

23. One updated sheet seen with a Walker imprint in the

bottom margin has the old, no.9 Castle Street address beside it, implying an original, pre-*Railway and road map* print date of before 1867 left on a much later publication.

24. At this time, inconsistency in the portrayal of railways is particularly rampant (see note 17). Lines open are missing, or still shown as projects, without casing; lines unbuilt are shown as complete; and information is contradictory. For example, on a map of *Somerset* showing the Watchet-Minehead line, opened in 1874, the Midland Railway line from Yate to Thornbury, opened in 1869, is not present.

25. It is clear that Walker continued to sell maps to whichever publisher wanted them; there was no exclusive contract, and the parties seemed unconcerned by the competition.

26. A well-to-do person travelling privately with luggage, and wanting to go beyond railways, could attach hired post horses to his carriage, rather than using his own. If not a local, he might have sent the carriage ahead by rail to the town's railway station.

27. Later, a coloured paper map in paper covers could be had for 6d, offering direct competition to the likes of Bacon and Gall & Inglis.

28. J.B. Harley, *op.cit.*

29. *The Bookseller*, Feb.4 1885, 98: March 5 1885, 234; April 4 1885, 338.

30. As was that of the late G.F. Cruchley, when some of his plates were bought by Gall & Inglis in 1877.

31. To be more familiar in the new century for military maps.

32. [Stanford's plate and stone inventory], MS listing c.1892 and later. The county map plates were engraved on steel rather than the more usual copper. Francis Herbert, personal communication.

Acknowledgements

The following institutions, libraries and individuals have been unfailingly helpful in the preparation of this study, and the writer thanks them all.

Bank of England; Bishopsgate Institute Library; British Library Map Library, Social Sciences Library, and Oriental and India Office Library; Cambridge Univeristy Library Map Room; Family Record Centre; General Register Office; Guildhall Library; Dr Yolande Hodson; Holborn Public Library; London Metropolitan Archives; Dr Richard Oliver; Society of Genealogists; Peter Whitfield.

Special thanks are due to Tony Burgess; to Dr Andrew Cook, Map Archivisit, India Office Records, British Library; to Francis Herbert, formerly Curator of Maps, Royal Geographical Society with IBG, and to Laurence Worms for reading and commenting on the draft of this study, and in general for their help, advice, and insights. Any errors that have survived are strictly the writer's own. And finally grateful thanks to Eugene Burden and Tony Burgess for so kindly offering their hospitality and allowing the writer to study, and to borrow, their maps and atlases.

Sources

As is the case with almost all 19th century British mapmakers, there is no Walker company archive. For the county maps, most information has to come from the maps themselves, either from surviving maps to be seen in private or public collections, or else from that in county cartobibliographies. Subjects peripheral to the county maps, but providing essential context – Walker's involvement with Greenwood & Co., the SDUK, the Admiralty, and the East India Company and its successors – have been well served by modern scholarship.

BPP, House of Commons Papers, Reports etc. *Report from His Majesty's Commissioners for enquiring into the administration and parochial operation of the Poor Laws*, 1834 (44) xxvii.

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Fig. 9
Hampshire,
Charing Cross Central Depot, 1888 railways. Panel of new information and conventional signs, Letts date code September 1885 in bottom left margin.

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NB. The articles on Walker in Carroll and Kingsley above are especially helpful.

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All At Sea

Some cartographical problems in the North 1500-1700[1]

by Sarah Tyacke

This article formed a presentation given by the author at the IMCoS weekend in June this year. The title means a state of confusion and disorder and is an extension of the nautical phrase 'at sea'. It covers some of the problems in describing the oceans and coastlines of the world on maps between 1500 and 1700. The phrase dates from the period when accurate navigational aids, including charts, were not always available and when even the charts which did exist were often erroneous compared with the accuracy we now expect from Global Positioning Systems (GPS).

While there were always navigational problems to be solved, essentially how to sail from A to B without hitting the rocks or other obstacles, there were also cartographical problems, which are not necessarily the same. These cartographical problems were about how to describe graphically the geographical attributes of the seas and coastlines in such a way as to be at least useful to the navigator; for example, how to draw the surface of a sphere on a plane surface. The material used was often vellum rather than paper which was very durable at sea and could be updated simply by scraping the old information away. The content of the chart had to have some sort of accuracy in terms of directions, to give a reasonable shape and length to the coastlines concerned round the seas and oceans; and eventually, in the late 18th century, to give particular places, normally ports, capes *etc.* their geographical positions as latitude and longitude values. Depending on the client the chart maker might also produce a highly decorated chart which was for hanging on a wall or keeping in a precious collection. Or, it could be merely functional, drawn at sea as a pen and ink plot or as a running survey along the coasts which he would wish to have copied professionally once back in port. These varying factors of purpose, production and of content naturally affect what the chart actually looked like whether it was a scrap of paper or a lavishly decorated item: they were part of the same continuum of production. These manuscript charts were still being made in the maritime ports of Portugal, Italy, Spain, France, the Netherlands and England until, in some cases, well into the 18th century, long after the emergence of printed charts and atlases.

Before the 18th century, when longitudes were finally established by the chronometer, there were some improvements in the construction of charts, particularly in the use of projections notably, but not exclusively, the Mercator projection. In many cases the use of this projection was of no practical use at sea, given that the seamen could not calculate exactly how far east and west they were. More commonly the improvement was in the accuracy and uses of latitude scales which were introduced on to the old style portolan charts firstly by the Portuguese as they sailed round the coasts of Africa and across the Atlantic. This use of latitude scales was further refined by the English and Dutch, especially in northern latitudes i.e. above 60° N. Few manuscript charts of the northern navigation survive and these two examples illustrate in their different ways the state of navigation at the time (Figs 1 and 2).

Norwegian Coasts 1600

On board, the ship's master had to plot his course, normally on paper, to know where he thought he was each day, and to ensure he arrived where he was going. These plots rarely survive as they were of no future use unless, for example, they were made into a record of a particular voyage and then sent back to one of the trading companies in London, Amsterdam or elsewhere in Europe.

Fig. 1 is a rare example of a pen and ink plot of a voyage up the coast of Norway from Buchan Ness (Kinaird's Head) in 57° to the Shetland islands in 60° across to Bergen on the Norwegian coast and then further north to the entrance of the fjord leading to Trondheim and then north after a week's sailing to just below the Arctic Circle in 59°30' N. The plotting paper was a blank, presumably ruled by the seaman with the lines of latitude and with a quarter compass before the plotting started. Many books giving instructions

on how to plot a course show printed examples of this type of plot but rarely is a real example known. This plot dates from about 1600 or so judging from the Exchequer record in which Nicholas Rodger found it.[2] The maker of the plot is thought to have been a pirate or privateer, as on the back is a brief journal describing the taking of a Turkish vessel off Leghorn, Italy, probably about 1600 or so. Perhaps his identity is discoverable? The latitude scale on the right hand side gives the degrees from 53°N to 69° N as equidistant *i.e.* they are not on Mercator's projection; each square represents 4°. There was no need for Mercator projection on such a coastal voyage. As long as the coasts themselves could be seen they gave the positional information required, and the latitude and depths could be taken from time to time to check the ship's way. The quarter compass rose on the plot was a common feature for plotting and reading the directions more easily. This is the basic method of plotting from the late sixteenth century onwards and from it we can see that the ship eventually reached the edge of the Arctic Circle.

The Arctic *c.*1590

In northern Europe, which did not have the advantage of the earlier routes round the Cape of Good Hope or across the Pacific (pioneered by the Portuguese and Spaniards), to the trade of the East Indies and the riches of South and Central America, the emphasis was on finding routes to the north west or north east – as well as plundering the vessels of the Spaniards and Portuguese depending on the political situation in Europe. Thus the navigational problems were those of high latitudes where the earth's oblate spherical shape at the North Pole became very difficult to draw on flat paper or *en plano* and this was compounded by magnetic variation which affected the direction the compass showed. The issue for the cartographer, or in this case the instrument maker as we are looking at a chart which is also an instrument, was to find a way of helping the navigator know where he was going – to set his course, and to calculate the distance to go, and to record where he had been for future use; the latter was essential if further voyages of discovery were to take place.

One solution much talked about but, as far as I know, not otherwise surviving in graphic form was the ' paradoxal' chart' which many have assumed was just a circumpolar chart describing the tops and bottoms of the sphere; a fine cartographical solution for an atlas map but not having any great use at sea. The sailings necessary in high latitudes, out of sight of land for anything from four to six weeks, were tricky. The cosmographer and mathematician John Dee (1527-1608)[3] first described what he called the 'paradoxal compass' in his 'General and Rare memorials' in 1576 and also provided what seem to be tables of longitude values (now lost) resulting from raising degrees and minutes of latitude as you sailed west or east on your particular compass bearing. The paradoxal chart was called 'paradoxal' because it had spiral lines on it converging on the North Pole. These lines were in reality a straight course to be followed at sea and thus 'paradoxal'. We know that Martin Frobisher carried several 'charts with spiral lines' on his first voyage to the North West Passage in 1576.

It has been assumed, however, that the 'paradoxal' chart was a circumpolar chart pure and simple. As the maritime historian D.W. Waters remarked 'the paradoxal compass' mentioned by John Davis 'wears an aura of mystery.'[4] Only Dee

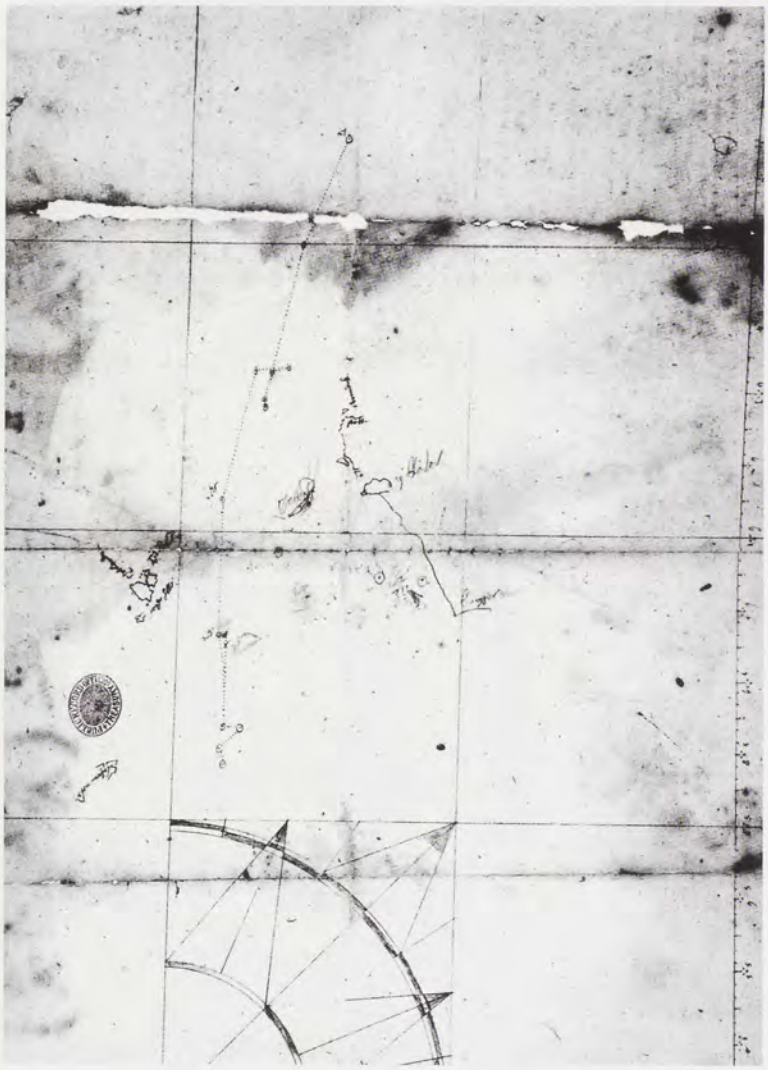
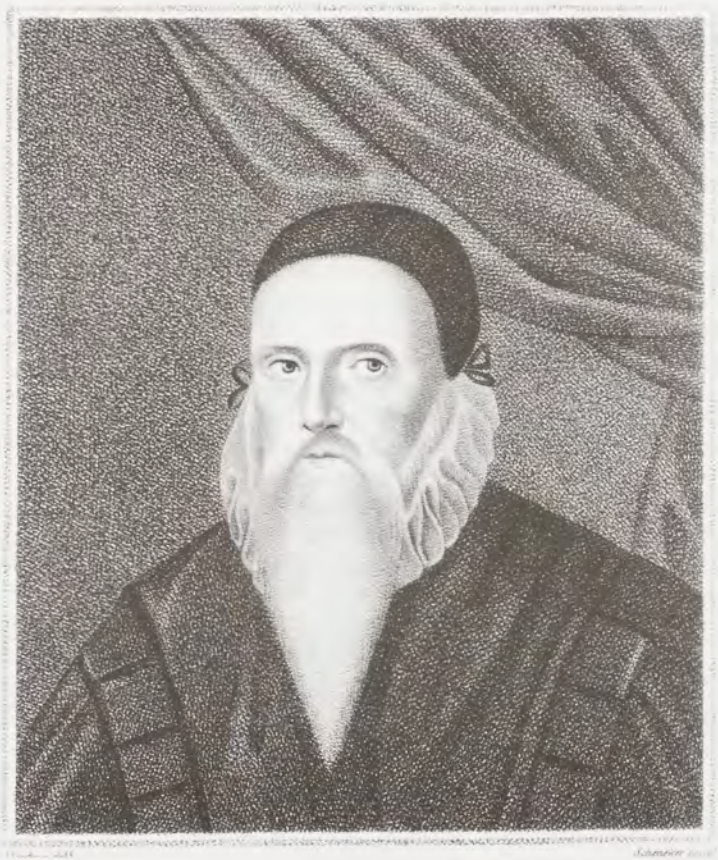


Fig. 1
Pen and ink plot on paper of the North Sea and Norwegian coast north of Trondheim ca 1600. (580x450mm TNA, E 163/28/12(2) reproduced with permission of The National Archives)



Portrait of Doctor John Dee (1527-1608) who was a cosmographer, astrologer, alchemist, mathematician, mystic and friend of navigators and geographers.

and John Davis (*c.*1550-1605) talk about it, which is not surprising as Davis was Dee's pupil. In *The Seaman's Secrets* (1594) Davis describes paradoxal line sailing[5], 'Paradoxal Navigation, demonstrateth [on circumpolar charts] the true motion of the ship upon any corse assigned.... Neither circular nor straight, but concurred or winding.... Therefore called paradoxal, because it is beyond opinion that such lines could be described by plane horizontal motion.' They could only be truly described on a sphere, for example on a globe or on the earth itself.



A portrait of Sir Martin Frobisher (c.1535-1594) [note the mis-spelling of his name], the English navigator and hydrographer from West Yorkshire. He made several voyages to find the Northwest Passage and was Vice-Admiral on Francis Drake's expedition to the West Indies in 1586. (By courtesy of National Library of Australia. Rex Nan Kivell Collection)

In this book Davis promised to publish a paradoxal chart 'with all convenient speed' together with an explanation of its use on the grounds that 'it will best serve the seaman's purpose, **being an instrument portable** (my emphasis), of easie stowage and small practise performing the practises of navigation as largely and as beneficially as the globe.' In other words it was not a globe itself but was a chart-like portable instrument, which implies it had movable parts of some sort.

Fig. 2 (overpage) shows what I think is an example of the paradoxal chart 'being an instrument portable' as promised by John Davis in 1594.[6] It must have been known at the time as William Barlow in the *Navigator's Supply* (1597) remarked sagely that 'some terme [it] paradoxall.... Onely I say (paradoxall) is beside the purpose, and astonisheth with an emptie sound [i.e. doesn't mean anything]: but spiral [the word which Barlow preferred to use] apperteineth directly to the matter, and declareth the true effence [*i.e.* effect] of the thing signified'. This chart is in what is probably Sir Robert Dudley's collection of manuscript charts for the *Arcano Del Mare* eventually published in 1647. In the *Arcano* Dudley, who had known Davis in England, speaks highly of him as an expert navigator. Davis is known to have drawn charts (*e.g.* one of the Magellan Strait on Thomas Cavendish's circumnavigation, 1589) but none signed by him are thought to exist. This particular chart *shows* the spiral lines and has a movable latitude rule attached to it by a moveable volvelle in the centre.[7] It was formerly mounted on three hinged boards which would have been closed when not in use on board. The rule is graduated at 5 degree intervals from 20 to 90 degrees N. Pecked spiral lines or rhumbs emanate from the rose at 0 degrees longitude, which is given as the Azores (a prime meridian common at that time) and converge on the North Pole. The latitude rule could be moved to read off your intended course from your present position, already established by direction and distance sailed and/or by taking latitude observations of the stars and sun. It seems unlikely that the chart would have been used by itself since it is small scale: it may have been used therefore with the usual plane chart. The latitude and longitude scales in minutes on the sides of the paradoxal chart could give the exact value of the increase in latitude and the same for longitude values over a day's sailing.[8]

The chart shows the results of Frobisher's voyages (1576-1578) to the North West and of those of John Davis (spelt 'Jhon Davis' on the chart) in presumably 1587 to the Davis Straight and so we may suppose it was drawn after that voyage, perhaps even by Davis (*c.*1550-1605)[9] himself or by the mathematician and physician Thomas Hood (baptised 1566 – d. 1620).[10] Hood made other similar vellum chart-like instruments for his medical diagnoses and also charts for seamen. In the 1592 edition of *The Marriners Guide*, which was written in dialogue form and printed with Hood's edition of William Bourne's *Regiment of the Sea*, Hood remarks that if the student Philomathes wanted to know more he should 'repaire unto my lodging being a little from the Minories toward the Towar [*i.e.* Tower of London on the Thames], you shall not only have the cardes [*i.e.* charts] readie to serve your turne for all places to which there is any trafficque used [*i.e.* wherever there is trade in the world]: but I will be readie to farther you in any other mathematicall conceit, to the uttermost of my power'. This indicates explicitly that Hood would make charts for and also teach the relevant mathematical skills to his clients. Perhaps this is one such chart for such instruction or made especially by Davis for Sir Robert Dudley's own use? Perhaps, not surprisingly as it is quite technical, the chart/instrument did not prove successful amongst seamen although in its way it was a neat cartographical and mathematical solution and offered a potentially easy way of reading off an intended course by using the movable latitude ruler.

Notes:

1. This article is a shortened version of the talk given as the first Malcolm Young lecture at the IMCOS meeting in London June 9th, 2007, concentrating on two of the maps presented. I am indebted to the insights of Hans Kok on the possible uses of the chart/instrument. I hope to publish more extensively on Thomas Hood's charts etc in due course, and in bringing this particular chart to readers' attention I hope to elicit some further discussion of its context and use.

2. Nicholas Rodger, 'A pirate's log?' *Mariner's Mirror* LXVII(1981) pp.201-204.

3. E.G.R Taylor, 'John Dee and the nautical triangle 1575' *Journal of the Institute of Navigation* 8 (1955),318-25, in which she describes the compass and the tables, called by Dee the 'Canon Gubernauticus: an arithmetical resolution of the paradoxal Compass'.

4. D.W.Waters, *The art of navigation in England in Elizabethan and early Stuart times* (London, 1958) p.209.

5. *Ibid*.,p.202

6. The cartographer of this item is still undecided. Of the likely candidates available it is not the work of John Dee himself although it shows some similar geographical characteristics present on his circumpolar map (1580), nor is it the work of John Daniel as far as I can tell. It may be the work of Thomas Hood but there is nothing I can see to prove that is the case. It may be the work of Davis himself as he promised to make it but this remains speculative.

7. The exact description of the instrument/chart and the possible uses of its movable latitude ruler, movable volvelle and scales of minutes of latitude and longitude are being investigated together with Hans Kok.

8.Another ingenious approach to the problem was invented by Adriaen Veen (1572-c.1631) who published his work on the spherical chart ('ghebulte kaart') in 1597. See G. Schilder, *Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica* (2003) Vol.VII, pp.243-245 but although the charts were on board Dutch ships no examples seem to have survived. I am indebted to Günter Schilder who drew my attention to this.

9. See entry by Michael Hicks in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (ODNB) (Oxford, 2004).

10. Thomas Hood was a mathematical lecturer in the city of London from 1588 until about 1592 and wrote extensively on the new mathematical and geometrical instruments being developed (some by him), and became increasingly interested in navigational problems. See entry by H.K. Higton in *ODNB*.

The author, Sarah Tyacke, is the new President of IMCoS.

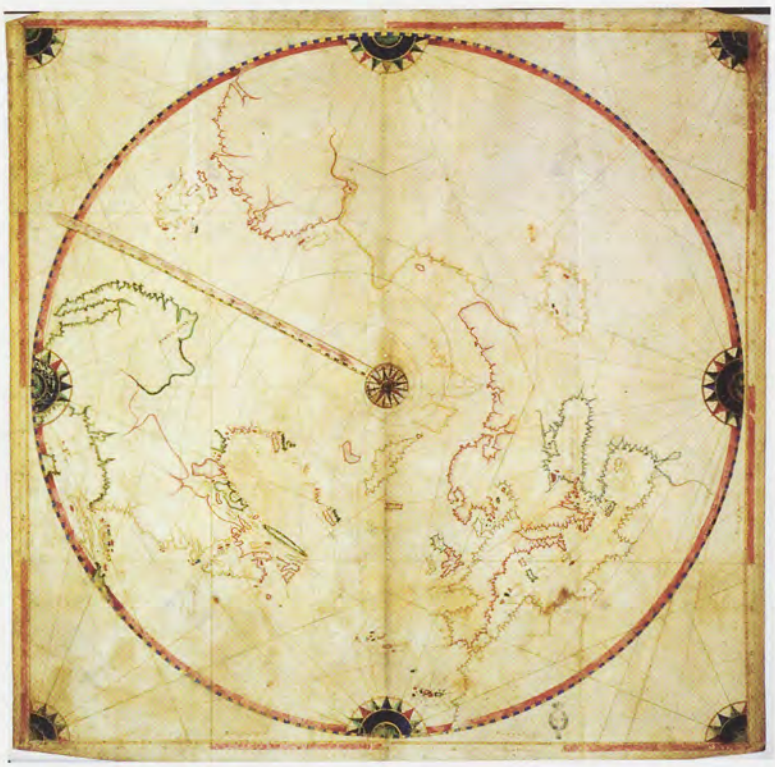


Fig.2
John Davis or Thomas Hood? Paradoxal chart of the North Polar regions showing the North West and North East Passages 1594? (Florence Bibliotheca Nazionale Port.20. Reproduced by permission of the Bibliotheca Nazionale, Florence)

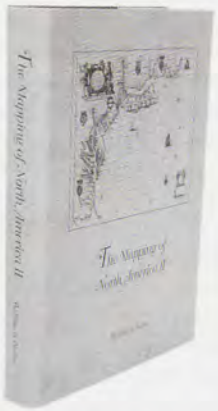
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Discovering the maps of Herefordshire

A Personal View

by Brian S. Smith

Mapmakers, custodians and collectors will all recognise the joys, and the pains, of compiling a carto-bibliography. It is a final step in uncovering the secrets displayed in maps. Certainly *Herefordshire maps 1577 to 1800* (Almeley 2004) was the conclusion of a long exploration, broadened by the search and examination of some 600 maps of this rural English county on the Welsh border[1].

Some of my earlier steps taken from childhood to the professional care of maps as an archivist are recorded briefly in the preface to the book. The book itself was the unplanned outcome of a presidential address given in 2001 to the Woolhope Club, Herefordshire's learned society. The topic was required not to have been researched before. Happily, in its 150 years' existence the Club had never been addressed on the subject of map-making in the county. That initial research led to plans for compiling a catalogue of the manuscript maps in the Herefordshire Record Office; then onward to include those in the other repositories in Hereford; then farther afield to search for those elsewhere in the country and finally to track down those remaining in private hands; and so, eventually, to consider publication in order to share the discoveries. Finally, having become aware of overlapping stylistic and surveying links between these manuscript maps and the printed county maps, I decided to embrace both types in the one volume, a step not previously taken in county bibliographies. The project, therefore, like Topsy in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, had just grown up in a somewhat untamed way.

This is emphatically not the best way to prepare a carto-bibliography in which all the parameters, rules and methodology would be defined at the outset. The re-examination of some maps and the fine-tuning of entries removed many inconsistencies, but in other cases such revisiting was impractical. However, the aim remained constant – to provide a guide to maps as sources for the history of Herefordshire. For this reason, therefore, the local location of the printed maps is given, it being assumed that experienced map collectors and researchers would be familiar with the national resources and expertise of the Bodleian Library, British Library and National Library of Wales. The catalogue entries of the printed maps accordingly concentrate upon those features that provide historical, archaeological, etymological or environmental evidence about the county.

The research was inevitably centred upon the Herefordshire Record Office (a former militia barracks), Hereford Cathedral Library (an award-winning building opened by The Queen 10 years ago to house Hereford's famous *Mappa Mundi* and Chained Library) and Hereford City Library (a cramped Victorian municipal library). Researchers in such places, of course, rarely make real discoveries for the librarians and archivists will have been there before them, though in this topic sometimes not recognising the presence locally of surveyors of national importance like Nathaniel Kent, Charles Price and Edward Laurence, author of those



Fig. 1
Estate map of Bridstow with inset drawing of Wilton Castle, by John Green III, probably of Bridstow or Ross-on-Wye 1755.



Fig. 2
Estate map of The Hazle, Ledbury owned by the London publisher Jacob Tonson, surveyed by Charles Price of London 1720.

early 18th-century text books, *The young surveyor's guide* and *The duty and office of a land steward*. In most cases too, Sarah Bendall's indispensable *Dictionary of land surveyors* will also have shown the way though it was some solace to be able to add over 20 names not recorded there.[2] Tracing Herefordshire estate maps in unlikely places was especially rewarding and useful, some found as far away as the National Archives in London, Leicestershire Record Office, Oxford university colleges, Winchester school, Hampshire and Longleat House, Wiltshire.

Undoubtedly the most memorable visits were those to the homes of owners whose ancestors had commissioned surveys hundreds of years ago. At one country house the 19th and 20th-century estate maps were stacked high in the estate office but in the depths of the muniment room in the house were eight fine 18th-century maps by Herefordshire surveyors, four by John Harris, the talented and prolific surveyor active in the last quarter of that century. In another centuries-old house still owned by the family that built it in the 1630s, a large early 18th-century framed map of the estate hangs on a landing, whilst downstairs is displayed a landscape painting of the estate at the same date. Together they provide a remarkable picture of the Herefordshire countryside 300 years ago, the one with the roads and streams marked and the fields named, the other with the squire and his friends passing through the same fields in the foreground, his manor house prominent in the middle distance, and in the background smoke rising gently from the numerous limekilns on the wooded hills.



Fig. 3
The signature of Benjamin Fallowes of Maldon, Essex on an estate map of Eardisland 1720.

The context of such maps is revealed in the related estate papers – the deeds on the acquisition of the property, the surveys made in 1757 for the trustees of Guy's Hospital, London, as they took control of their Herefordshire estates, the marriage settlement introducing a new owner, as in the series of maps made following the marriage of

Frances Scudamore, the heiress of the Holme Lacy estates in Herefordshire, Gloucestershire and Buckinghamshire. Edward Laurence's accounts for surveying the Duke of Kent's estates at Goodrich and Symonds Yat in 1717 survive in Bedfordshire Record Office, noting the wages of a shilling a day [5p] for his assistant at Goodrich for 31 days [£1.55], only a few pence more than the cost of his coach hire of £1 9s. 6d. [£1.47½] for the journey home from Gloucester to London. By comparison a taxi for the journey would today cost £140 but 31 days' work at even the minimum wage would be about £1,400.

Among the papers of the Shobdon estate in north Herefordshire is a massive correspondence from 1730 to 1777 between the owners, the Bateman family, London grandees, and their Herefordshire agent Benjamin Fallowes, whose son and grandson, also both named Benjamin, went on to hold high public office in the county until at least 1817. By coincidence an earlier Benjamin Fallowes of Maldon occurs as a skilled surveyor in Essex between 1714 and his death in 1730. His only venture outside that county was in 1718 to survey the estates of George Neville, 11th Baron Bergavenny on the borders of Monmouthshire and Herefordshire. For them he produced an exceptionally fine atlas, now highly prized and in the British Library, containing elegant maps with distinctively decorated cartouches, compass roses and ornate borders incorporating delicately painted flowers, leaves, berries and birds. Apart from sharing an unusual combination of names there was no known link between the Essex surveyor and the Shobdon steward. Not known, that is, until in a dark corridor in a solicitor's office I noticed a framed map of a Herefordshire farm surveyed in 1720 for William Bateman (later 1st Baron Bateman) by Benjamin Fallowes. The Batemans had provided the missing link between the Essex surveyor and the Herefordshire land agents.



Fig. 4
Goodrich Castle in an estate atlas by Edward Laurence of Stamford, Lincolnshire 1717.

The printed county maps offered an opportunity to describe their strengths and weaknesses as historical evidence. For Herefordshire the two earliest by Christopher Saxton (1577) and John

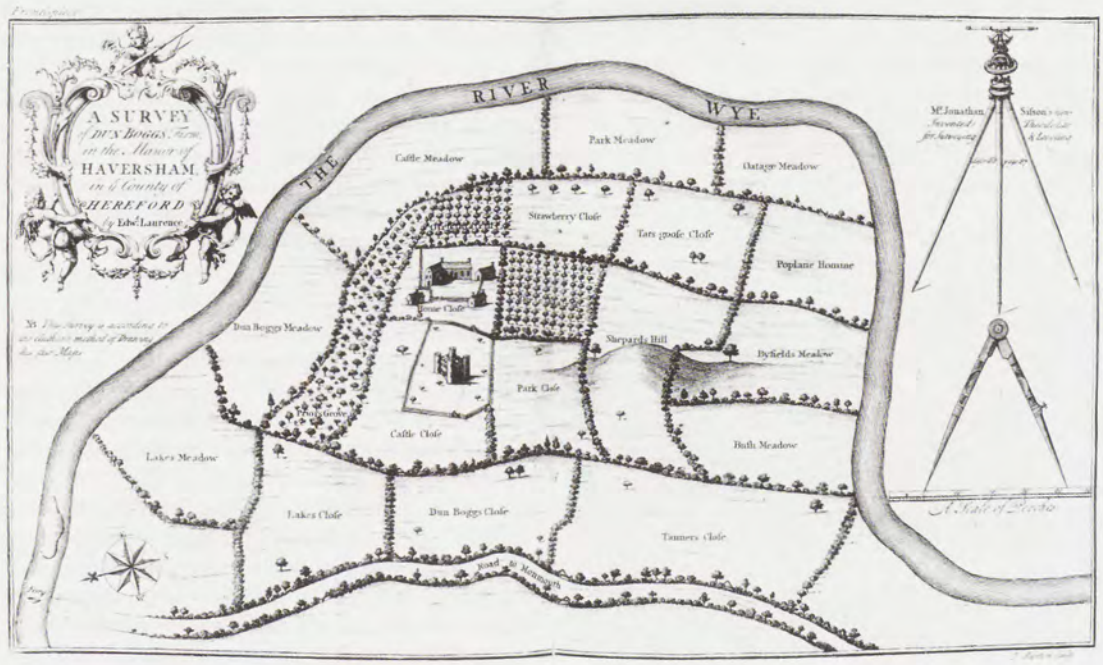


Fig. 5
'Dun Boggs Farm in the Manor of Haversham' , frontispiece of Edward Laurence's* The Duty and Office of a Land Steward, *1731 edition.

Speed (1610) are both particularly outstanding. Saxton had been commissioned to survey the counties of England in order to meet the demand of Queen Elizabeth's famous first minister, William Cecil, Lord Burghley, for maps to assist the administration and defence of the realm. Cecil's ancestral home was Alltyrynys, an Elizabethan house at Walterstone [now a country hotel], close to Herefordshire's boundary with Monmouthshire. His grandfather, a younger son, had left home to settle in eastern England but William Cecil's cousins still lived at Alltyrynys and many of the west Herefordshire gentry were his kinsmen. Among the Royal MSS in the British Library are proofs of Saxton's maps sent to Cecil for his approval and the proof map of Herefordshire is annotated with the handwritten names of the principal landowners who must have been personally known to Cecil, at least by repute. The writing is not in Cecil's distinctive hand but must have been the work of one of his close secretaries. Nevertheless, it is a peculiar thrill to sit in the British Library's Map Room and read those familiar handwritten names of Cicill (Cecil), ap Harry (Parry), Baskerville, Skydmore (Scudamore), Vaughan and Winston on the very map delivered to and studied by Lord Burghley himself.

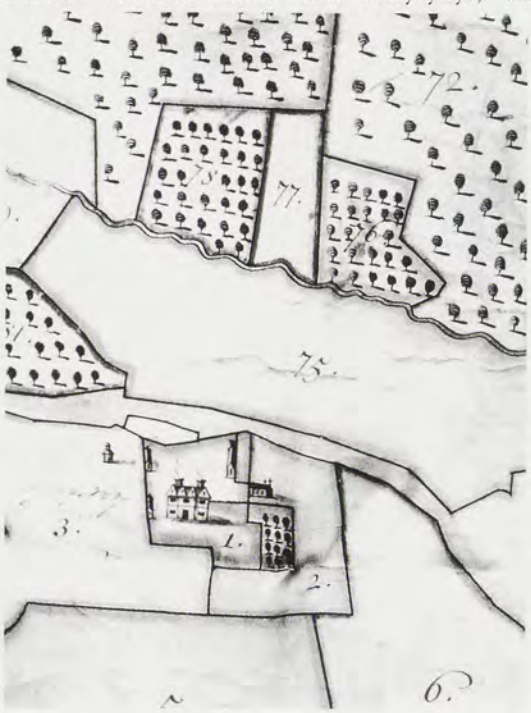


Fig. 6
Grendon Court at Grendon Warren, demolished about 1960, surveyed by Joseph Dougharty of Worcester 1732.

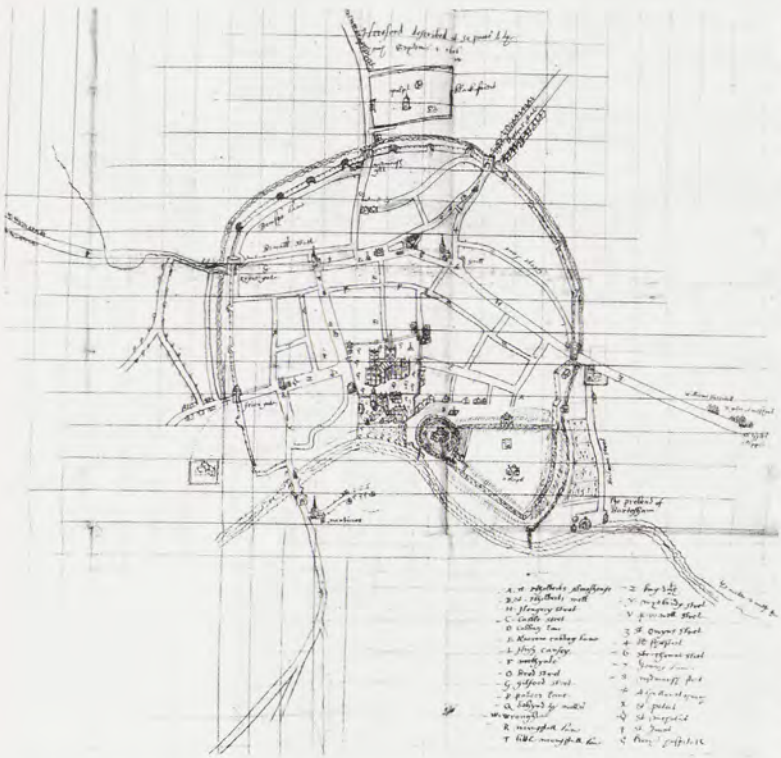


Fig. 7
John Speed's draft plan of Hereford city 1606.

Speed's county maps are well known for the inset earliest plans of many English and Welsh county towns. During her time as a research fellow at Merton College, Oxford, Sarah Bendall discovered in the College library a hitherto unidentified portfolio of the manuscript drafts for some of these plans.[3] The city of Hereford is among them. There are small but significant differences between the drawing dated 1606 and the published plan of 1610. The drawing, for instance, shows the castle and bastions of the city walls in more accurate detail, providing fresh information about the design of the Norman castle and leading a local archaeologist, Ron Shoesmith, to suggest that the changing perspectives in Speed's sketches may offer clues about his methods and viewpoints – a theory that has yet to be tested.

The life and career of Herefordshire's only native surveyor to achieve national recognition, Isaac Taylor of Ross-on-Wye (*c.*1720-1788), land-surveyor and county mapmaker, was described in the Winter 2006 issue of the *Journal* (N^{O}·107). Publication of *Herefordshire maps* has brought to light three more of his estate maps still in private hands, including perhaps his last one, undertaken only four years before his death. A few other previously unknown maps have also been reported among uncatalogued public archives or in private houses. There will soon be enough to justify publishing a supplement, either on-line or in the *Transactions* of the Woolhope Club. Among such additions will be the solution to the one unidentified printed county map, which was swiftly recognised by IMCoS member Raymond Frostick – a reminder of the debt owed by a mere bibliographer to many wiser custodians, owners, dealers and collectors of maps.



Fig. 8
John Speed's map of Hereford as published in* The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine *1611

Notes:

1. Permission to reproduce the illustrations has been generously given by Herefordshire Record Office and Merton College, Oxford (the draft plan of Hereford city 1606).

2. S. Bendall, *Dictionary of land surveyors and local mapmakers of Great Britain and Ireland 1530-1850*, 2 vols., London 1997.

3. S. Bendall, 'Draft town maps for John Speed's *Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine*', *Imago Mundi*, vol. 54 (2002), pp. 30-45.

Brian Smith pictured in the study of his home in Herefordshire. On the wall is a map of the county (William Hole [Saxton] 1637) and one of the Island of St Helena (Lieutenant R.P. Read, first edition with the misprints about Napoleon's residence on the island nd [1816], corrected in second edition of 1817), in ship's carpenter-style of frame and with early 20th century Union Castle RMS label for voyage back to England. Brian spent "six hectic and delightful weeks on the isolated island in 1992 to report to the St Helena Government on the care of its archives, a mission that snowballed to include the island's museum and historic buildings. His interest in maps goes back to his childhood. As an archivist in Worcestershire, Essex and Gloucestershire he has published articles on the Dougharty family, 18th century land surveyors of Worcester, the Elizabethan Walker family of West Hanningfield and the mapmaker Isaac Taylor of Ross-on-Wye. He was county archivist of Gloucestershire from 1968 to 1979 before appointment to the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts where he became its secretary 1982 to 1992. On retirement he returned to Herefordshire where he had been brought up and has been prominent in the county's historical and archival activities. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and of the Royal Historical Society and a former Vice-President of the British Records Association.



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IMCoS Matters

IMCoS International Symposia and Regional Meetings

2008 New Zealand 'Te Taki o Autahi – Under the Southern Cross' is the title of the 26th IMCoS International Symposium being held in conjunction with the Australian Map Circle and the New Zealand Map Society 10th - 13th February. A pre-symposium workshop is available at Sydney, Australia from 7th - 8th February. This will include a trip to the Blue Mountains and a viewing of the map collection of Robert Clancy (see below). Post conference tours also available in New Zealand. Full details available at www.underthesoutherncross.org NB. I still have printed copies of the registration forms available if anyone requires them. **Ed.**

2009 Oslo, Norway. 27th International Symposium 6th - 9th September. Theme "Exploration of the Nordic Countries and the Arctic."

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There is also a possible meeting for 40 members planned for next May in Budapest, Hungary. Further details in the next issue and in our next newsletter.

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A new treasurer

Although we reported in the Spring 2007 Journal (no.108) that Malcolm Woodward was to be our new treasurer, the situation has now changed. Malcolm had some changes in his career which meant he was unable to take up the post. However, we are now pleased to welcome Jeremy Edwards as the new treasurer. His appointment will be formalised at the next AGM in 2008. Jeremy, who was brought up in Buckinghamshire and was educated at Sherborne School, Dorset, is a qualified accountant so has perfect credentials for the job. He had various company posts until he started in general practice in 1977. This has been his work for the past thirty years although nowadays he works on a consultancy basis. Despite several changes of offices and partnerships, half a dozen of his clients have remained faithful for the whole of this period.

Jeremy has been honorary treasurer or accounts examiner for many local charities and voluntary organisations and is currently President of Shepperton Rotary Club. His interest in map collecting centres on Buckinghamshire and the Thames Valley and he also has a library of Baedeker guide books and other early travel writing.

His wife, Moira, is a piano teacher and the couple recently celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. They have lived in Sunbury on Thames since 1967 where they are closely involved with the local arts centre, St. Mary's Church, and local charities. They are keen theatre and concert goers, both amateur and professional, and also get involved with local productions.



Below, Jeremy Edwards, our new treasurer, with his wife Moira.



Right, Raymond Frostick sporting his brand new cartographic tie at The American Museum in Bath. (Photo by David Webb)

American Museum in Britain hosts IMCoS

Report by Valerie Newby

About 20 members of the Society gathered at the American Museum in Britain at Claverton Manor near Bath on Saturday, 22nd September. It was a beautiful autumn day, warm enough for us to have coffee and cookies on the terrace before enjoying a fascinating illustrated lecture by Map Librarian, Anne Armitage, followed by a viewing of the Museum's wonderful map collection.

Anne told us that the maps had been collected by New York psychiatrist Dallas Pratt (1914-1994). In the 1950s he and his partner John Judkyn, an English-born antique dealer, had the idea of establishing a museum of American decorative arts on British soil. They bought Claverton Manor, a thirty-room mansion on a hill above the River Avon, to accommodate the host of artefacts they had collected. Now, forty years on, this remains the only museum of Americana outside the United States. Although the founders are now both dead the museum has gone from strength to strength and has recently undergone major improvements to both its displays and collections.

Three eager beavers poring over some of the maps on display at the American Museum. (Photo by David Webb)





All the participants and some staff pictured in front of Claverton Manor which houses the American Museum near Bath. It was a lovely sunny day and we saw a photo opportunity near the sundial! (Photo by David Webb)

In Dallas Pratt's reminiscences, read out by Anne Armitage, he described how he became interested in early maps. He bought his first maps in 1932 just before entering Yale University. He was in Paris with a friend strolling past the bookstalls which lined the Left Bank of the Seine when his eye was caught by some quaint and colourful maps. One map of the world had "fat-cheeked wind-puffers" and one was of the Western Hemisphere "with a cannibal's lunch dangling from a Brazilian woodpile." They were, in fact, maps by Sebastian Münster and like many beginner collectors Dallas Pratt became fascinated by their age and their decorative qualities. He then went on to become a serious collector.

Rodney Shirley, a past president of IMCoS and author of many books on cartography, attended the Bath event with his wife Barbara. Under his arm, Rodney was carrying a copy of *The Map Collector* published in 1992 which contained an article by him on the Dallas Pratt Collection. He had actually met Dallas Pratt in New York and visited the Museum in Bath. Rodney had described the maps as "certainly the finest private collection of early world maps and pre-1500 Americana east of the Atlantic." Anne told us that Dallas Pratt had often bought maps from R.V. Tooley at Francis Edwards in London. To begin with he never spent more than $100 on any item! She showed us slides of many of the items including the famous 'Fool's Cap' map which was another purchase from Francis Edwards – this time for the princely sum of £175. This map still remains a mystery as no-one is sure exactly who made it or why. Amongst Dallas Pratt's favourites in his collection were the Borgia map of the World c.1430 and the Ruysch map of 1507.

On display after the talk were many of the treasures which Anne had described. We also saw a Blaeu globe of 1599 which is housed, together with many of the maps, in a custom built gallery adjacent to the main house. After the talk we had exclusive viewing of the current exhibitions, one called "Atlantic Crossings" showing maps of explorers, adventurers and would be settlers of the 16th century together with the story of Pocahontas, daughter of Native American Chief Powhatan, who had been brought to England at the age of 21. Another, entitled "Dollar Princesses," looked at American women who had married into the British aristocracy. This included Winston Churchill's mother, Jennie Jerome, who became Lady Randolph Churchill and Consuelo Vanderbilt, who became the 9th Duchess of Marlborough.



Bob Loose and his wife Jessy studying some of the maps in the Dallas Pratt Collection.

After enjoying a delicious lunch we were let loose in the main museum to see the furnished rooms tracing the American way of life from colonial times to the 19th century and a special display of patchwork quilts. Outside in the grounds there was a recreated Lewis and Clark trail and a garden full of North American plants.

All in all a wonderful day out in a delightful setting and a chance to enjoy some sensational maps. Our thanks are due to Sylvia Sobernheim, the IMCoS events organiser, and the staff at the Museum. For the full story of the Dallas Pratt collection see Rodney Shirley's article in *The Map Collector* (Summer 1992, Issue 59).

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Enter your surname followed by your first initial (as given to IMCoS Membership Secretary (no stops). When asked for your password enter your membership number without any initial zero. E.g. SmithJ 662

Map day in Sydney

Report by Robert Clancy

A pre-symposium meeting on 7th - 8th February on the historic cartographic significance of Sydney will take place immediately before Te Taki o Autahi - Under the Southern Cross – the International Cartographic Conference to be held in Wellington, New Zealand (10th - 13th February, 2008). The Sydney seminar will include welcome drinks (Thursday evening) and an exciting programme with presentations around the theme of Sydney as a nodal city providing a gateway between a vast and largely unknown Pacific corridor to European power, and an equally vast and unknown hinterland of ambivalent promise. It was all about safe passage and resource exploitation and this mini-symposium will debate the charts, maps and images that record these events. The two great repositories of these icons of discovery are our hosts – in the morning the State Records of NSW (in The Rocks), and in the afternoon, the Mitchell Library (State Library of NSW). The morning session titled 'Escaping Sydney' will include talks on 'Sydney a transit, but not a destination', and 'Mapping the escape routes' as well as viewing some of the rarely seen manuscript maps that record the history of early New South Wales.

In the afternoon we move to the Mitchell Library for our second symposium 'Pacific is Terrific' showcasing some of the extraordinary collection of maps and prints produced as a result of European exploration of the Pacific Ocean, followed by a cocktail party and an opportunity to see some of the treasures of the Mitchell Collection. We are particularly fortunate in sharing the mini-symposium with the Department of Lands – and the office of the Surveyor General (the longest standing full time position in Australia), as the Surveyor General launches a milestone book on the contributions of the Surveyors' General to discovery, mapping, and surveying of inland Australia.

On the Thursday an historic tour of the Blue Mountains to the immediate west of Sydney (with a cartographic lunch) has been organised, to give an idea of how enclosed Sydney was before the mountain 'barrier' was crossed 25 years after settlement. The Sydney mini-symposium has been arranged to fit between various visits and travels you may wish to have in Australia, before your short flight to Wellington, New Zealand, on the Saturday. Registration is via the New Zealand symposium website but any further information can be obtained by contacting Robert.clancy@newcastle.edu.au

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Mapping Matters

Death of Alan Geoffrey Hodgkiss 1921-2007
By Paul Laxton

Many enthusiasts for old maps know the name of A.G. Hodgkiss through his popular little book *Discovering Antique Maps* (1971; the 5th edition is being reprinted now). Alan Hodgkiss died on July 23rd, 2007, aged 86. Strictly speaking, he was neither a map collector nor an academic map historian. He was a practitioner – a skilled draughtsman and designer for whom the whole realm of maps, past and present, was a craftsman's world.

Alan was born in Winwick, Lancashire and following training as a surveyor in the mining industry he worked in local government. His professional training led to service with the Royal Engineers in Burma and India between 1942 and 1945. In 1946 H.C. Darby, the new Professor of Geography at the University of Liverpool, appointed him as the full time cartographer in his department, the first such appointment in a British university. Soon after, Alan was joined by Helen Freestone who drew the maps for the first of Darby's Domesday Geographies. They were married in 1951. By the time he retired in 1983 Alan had two assistants as well as photographic staff, and as head of the technical staff of the department, was in charge of its extensive map collection; probably the largest in the north of England.

In his long service he illustrated thousands of academic books and papers. Often the maps were as important, or more so, than the accompanying text, as in Colin Clarke's *Jamaica in Maps* (1974), *Merseyside in Maps* (with J. Allan Patmore, 1970), *The Resources of Merseyside* (with W.T.S. Fould, 1982), *A literary atlas & gazetteer of the British Isles* (with Michael Hardwick, 1973), and above all F.J. Monkhouse and H.R. Wilkinson's *Maps and Diagrams* (1951), a standard text for a decade and a half. Hodgkiss's list of clients and colleagues is a roll call of distinguished post-war geographers. He also drew the maps for the special schools edition of Sir John Hunt's *The Ascent of Everest* (1954). He was a fine freehand draughtsman too and loved sketching. The maps in the late William Rollinson's *A History of Man in the Lake District* (1967) show signs of his skill in decorative north arrows and other sketches.

Hodgkiss published several books and academic papers of his own and edited many more. His most scholarly book was certainly *Understanding maps: a systematic history of their use and development* (1981), copies of which can be found in almost every university library in the British Isles. *Maps for Books and Theses* (1970) is a wonderful digest of the art of non-commercial map drawing before the advent of desktop computer graphics and the sudden redundancy of pens, ink, stencils, adhesive lettering, tracing paper and razor blades.

His total enthusiasm for maps of all kinds was reflected in his collection of cartographic ephemera, especially in advertising; in newspapers, magazines and brochures – on packing, napkins, beer mats and much else. Map historians of the future will be able to explore such things in the A.G. Hodgkiss Collection at the Map Library at the National Library of Scotland where it was deposited in 2005.

In 1964, with Terry Garfield at Leicester and Carson Clark at Southampton, Alan set up the Society of University Cartographers (now the Society of Cartographers); he edited its journal for several years. He was also a founding member of the British Cartographic Society in 1963.

Alan was a gentle humorous man, a modest and meticulous teacher of his craft, both in his work for Edge Hill College, the Open University



Alan Hodgkiss, author of the well known little book* Discovering Antique Maps. *Photo by Douglas Birch

and many others institutions, but also in training his own staff and advising colleagues. The drawing office at Liverpool was a congenial neutral ground in which colleagues would gather, often to consult Alan on matters beyond mapmaking. Carson Clark, trained at the Ordnance Survey and with similar interests in antique maps, was sent somewhat grudgingly to Alan by Professor Frank Monkhouse at Southampton to "learn to draw like Alan Hodgkiss". He made a friend for life.

The University of Liverpool awarded him an honorary MA in 1983 on his retirement. He was then able to travel extensively and his knowledge of places across the World was impressive. In 1983 Helen Hodgkiss died and the following year Alan married June Boaden. She survives him with Catherine and Robert, the children of his first marriage, his step-daughter Jane, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The Mystery of Hitler's Globe

Several newspapers have published articles recently about a large globe which was used by Adolph Hitler and is being sought by Wolfram Pobanz, a 68-year-old retired cartographer. Apparently some people believe that Hitler's globe is the one in the Deutsches Historisches Museum with a Russian bullet hole through Germany. Pobanz disputes this.

"The one we are looking for we called the Führer's globe", he told the Press. The real name was the Columbus Globe for State and Industry and it was made in Berlin during the mid-1930s and said to be "nearly the size of a Volkswagen". A standard wood base was apparently made for Hitler to hold the globe which was in his office in the New Reich Chancellery.

Is there anyone out there who can help him in his quest?

Library head resigns after map theft

The head of the National Library of Spain, Rosa Regas, resigned from her job at the beginning of September after it emerged that two rare maps from their copy of Ptolemy's *Cosmographia* (1492) had been stolen. The maps were valued at £50,000 each. Their absence was spotted in a check made during August but no-one knows exactly when they were taken. Apparently Miss Regas accused an Argentinian researcher but the Spanish Ambassador denied the accusation.

Hollar maps on display at BL

A small display of etched maps by Wenceslaus Hollar entitled "Hollar as a Map Maker" is on display in the lobby of the British Library Maps Reading Room. It marks the 40th anniversary of Hollar's birth and has been mounted by Peter Barber, Head of Map Collections. A free brochure is available to accompany the maps.

Hotel hosts maps of Boston area

Anyone visiting The Boston Harbour Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts, must look out for a collection of maps of the area which have been loaned by the collector Kenneth Nebenzahl and are on display in the foyer.

15th annual Miami Map Fair

This popular event at the Historical Museum in Miami, Florida, is being held over the weekend of February 2nd and 3rd 2008. More than 50 antique map dealers from around the World will gather at the Museum and will offer maps worth US$100 to thousands of dollars. The keynote speakers will be Richard and Penelope Betz, owners of Hemispheres Maps and Prints in Stoddard, New Hampshire. They will talk about "The Mapping of Africa to 1700" and will be followed by Dr Zsolt Török, Professor of Cartography at the Eötvös Lorand University, Budapest, Hungary who will discuss the "Introduction to Renaissance Map Printing." A map printing workshop will follow the lecture. On the Sunday, London map dealer Jonathan Potter will give a talk entitled "Why collect old maps and how." Registration includes a box lunch on Saturday and Sunday and a cocktail reception on Saturday evening. For more information or to register please call 305.375.1617, e-mail mapfair@hmsf.org or log on to www.hmsf.org

Hakluyt conference at NMM

The National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, London, will host a conference "Richard Hakluyt (c.1552-1616): life, times, legacy" on 15th and 16th May, 2008. This interdisciplinary conference will address the significance of the work of Richard Hakluyt, the prolific collector and author of *The Principal Navigations*, 1589, expanded as *The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques and Discoveries of the English Nation*, three volumes, 1598-1600. Jointly organised by NMM, The Centre for Travel Writing Studies, Nottingham Trent University and the National University of Ireland, Galway. Speakers will include IMCoS President, Sarah Tyacke.

Waldseemüller map on display

The 1507 World Map by Martin Waldseemüller, said to be the first map to name America, will be on display in an exhibition "Early Americas" opening at the Northwest Gallery of the Jefferson Building, Library of Congress, Washington DC

on 13th December, 2007. Entry will be free and the exhibition will be open Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm.

Renaissance tapestry maps reunited after more than a century

The Bodleian Library has acquired at auction the missing part of a unique series of Tudor tapestry maps. Woven in wools and silks, the Sheldon Tapestry Map for Gloucestershire is a fine example of cartography and decorative art from the 16th century. Depicting also parts of Wiltshire and Monmouthshire, the map is a part of the set of four famed tapestry maps dating from the 1590s. Commissioned by Ralph Sheldon for his home at Weston, Warwickshire, the series illustrates the midland counties of England: Worcestershire; Oxfordshire, Warwickshire and Gloucestershire.

The acquisition was made possible through funds made available from a number of donors including The Art Fund and the Friends of the Bodleian. The total cost was just over £100,000. The map enriches the Bodleian Library's outstanding map collection.

Swiss Panorama: the 22nd ICHC Berne, 8-11th July, 2007

Report by Zsolt Török

More than 250 participants gathered in the main hall of the University of Berne, where the 22nd International Conference on the History of Cartography was opened on 8th July 2007. The density of map historians hit a new world record in the Swiss capital that hosted this important forum and became the meeting point for academics, librarians, historians and collectors coming from almost 40 countries, including Japan, Argentina and Nigeria. Of course, the majority came from the German speaking and neighbouring countries, and the host country was very well represented by some 70 participants. Demonstrating the internationality of our society, well known IMCoS people appeared with different countries on their name badge. Representing IMCoS, Rolph Langlais, the International Coordinator, was very active during the coffee breaks and sometimes, I swear, I could see him talking to two distant groups at the same time! Past president Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke and his wife Erika, and Hans and Eva Kok were also at this important meeting.

Amidst the Alps the conference focus themes were quite self-explanatory: relief representation and the cartographic legacy of Switzerland. Although deep in continental Europe the audience of the first presentation, delivered by Peter Barber, offered the truly British perspective of guidebooks to Switzerland. This perspective moved even further with the second session devoted to Ferdinand Rudolf Hassler (1770-1843), the Swiss pioneer surveyor and mapmaker, founder of the US Coast Survey in 1807. Following this session participants were transferred to the Swiss Institute of Metrology (measurement units) where the first exhibition, naturally on Hassler's activity, was opened. The other special map exhibitions the conference organisers offered were more directly related to old maps or cartography. Participants could admire medieval codices from the collection of the Bürgerbibliothek, as well as cartographic highlights from the famous Ryhiner Collection and the collection Rossica Europeana in the Universiteitsbibliothek.



Nick Millea, Map Librarian of the Bodleian Library, Oxford, examining the tapestry map of Gloucestershire which has been reunited with the other two Elizabetham tapestry maps in the series owned by the Bodleian since 1809. The 'missing' section was acquired in auction recently.

Another visit to the Swiss Alpine Museum offered the chance to study how relief models were (and are) made in the country. As we noticed in the local souvenir shops, for the most tasteful type the producers use Swiss chocolate! After the introduction conference participants made a short tour among the spectacular and highly artistic relief models before climbing to the top of the building to enjoy the Bernese panorama - and the snacks and refreshments offered by our hosts. Unfortunately, there was no official opening for the wonderful exhibition in the State Archives of Berne. Those who visited it during lunch break or on the way to the venue of the sessions, however, praised the concept and the richness of the material. On display was the magnificent 1578 work of Thomas Schoepf.





As usual, the academic programme of the conference included as many papers as possible and this time it was around sixty. This guaranteed full days for the participants. Except for the first two sessions, the venue was the UniS building. Its location in Schanzeneckstrasse was perfect for the present writer as it appears on 16th century Habsburg fortification plans. Beyond this personal remark, this venue was easily accessible from our city hotels on foot. This was a major advantage of the Berne conference, almost all of the conference programs in the city area could be reached with a ten minute walk. The UniS building was modern and the large lecture room offered all modern facilities. Sessions comprised three to four papers, grouped into more or less coherent thematic units by the selection committee. Of the total 19 papers the most non-traditional one was certainly the session exploring the possible applications of digital technologies. Other relatively new fields of interest were marked by the sessions on colonial



cartography, cartography and politics, tourist mapping and time in cartography. Most of the papers represented European perspectives but the session on Asian and Islamic mapping was welcomed by the audience. It is also remarkable how many of the papers were devoted to material from the 19th or even the 20th century. From the collector's point of view the most interesting theoretical session was on cartobibliography. Matthew Edney, Joel Kovarsky and Peter van der Krogt contrasted the rather different approaches and opinions of academics, dealers and collectors. The complexity of the problems was well demonstrated: even the repetition of the tongue-twisting word 'cartobibliography' can cause problems! There was a lively discussion during and after this and other sessions, but the strict schedule did not allow as much time as people wanted. As Tony Campbell, Chairman of *Imago Mundi* remarked in his talk, this is certainly a point to consider for future conferences.

The posters were presented on Tuesday morning with no concurrent sessions, so as to allow the authors to communicate with other participants. There was a large crowd in the three smaller rooms where the posters were displayed and special efforts were needed to get a comprehensive image of what was included. Visitors may have mistaken the maps displayed by Tomasz Niewodniczanski for reproductions, but, as I discovered, the 1491 map of Nicolaus Cusanus and the other rarities were all originals!

The technical side of the conference was organised in the manner of swiss watch makers by Hans-Uli Feldmann, director of the conference, and his team. They should be congratulated on the smooth operation of all events. No participant was lost, partly due to the excellent maps by swisstopo and prominent Swiss map publishers. The papers were all supported by PowerPoint presentations without any technical hitch, and Wolfgang Lierz effectively took charge of both presenters and computers, including the ICHC 2007 conference excellent web site. The full programme and the electronic version of the conference volume edited by Markus Oehrli, as well as information and photos are still downloadable from: http://www.ichc2007.ch/0/en/

After the full and eventful week in the city of Berne the traditional farewell dinner on July 13 took us to the Swiss mountains. This event was not so formal as usual and people were advised to avoid high-heels and black tie. The restaurant on top of the 2500-metre-high Niesen was a most memorable event, certainly the peak of the conference. Participants, watching the wonderful Alpine sunset from the panorama terrace could reflect on the memorable *Imago Mundi* conference in Switzerland.



Phtographs of the ICHC Conference in Berne by Thomas Maag and Peter van der Krogt.



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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.

(13042)

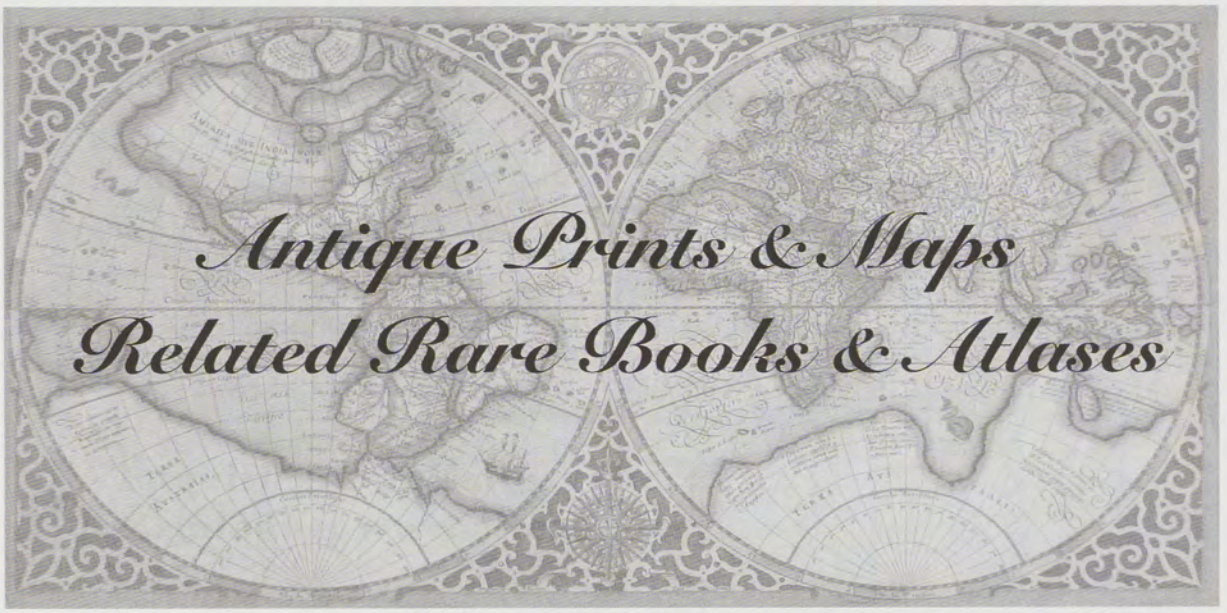
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Subject:	Western Hemisphere
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Color:	Black & White
Condition:	(A) Superb impression with only faint toning along fold. Professional repair of fold in bottom margin.
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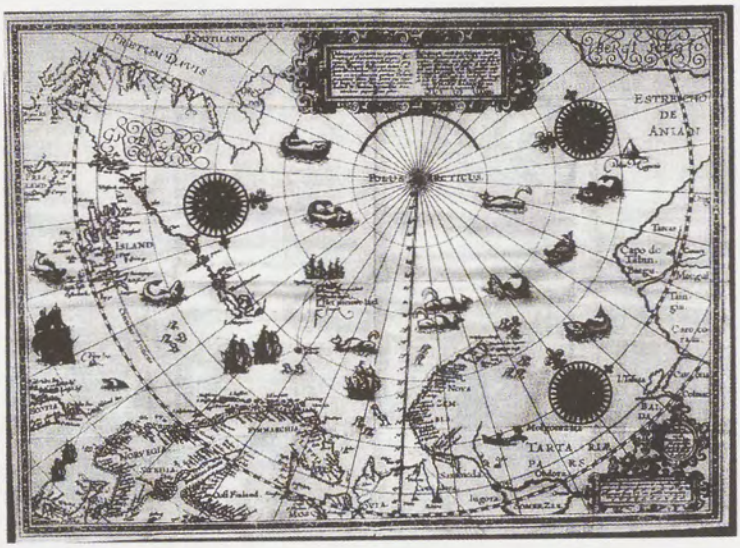
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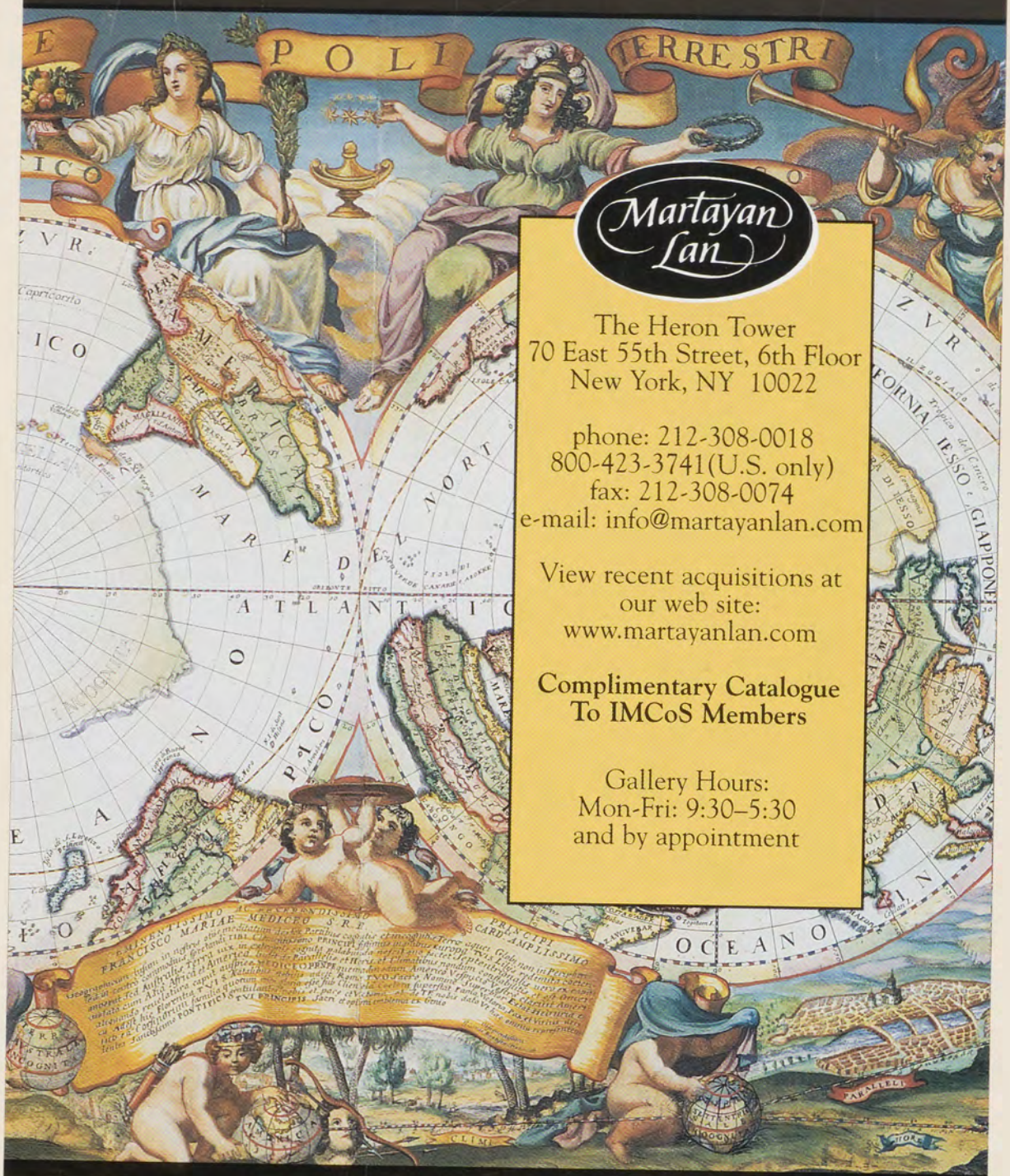


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