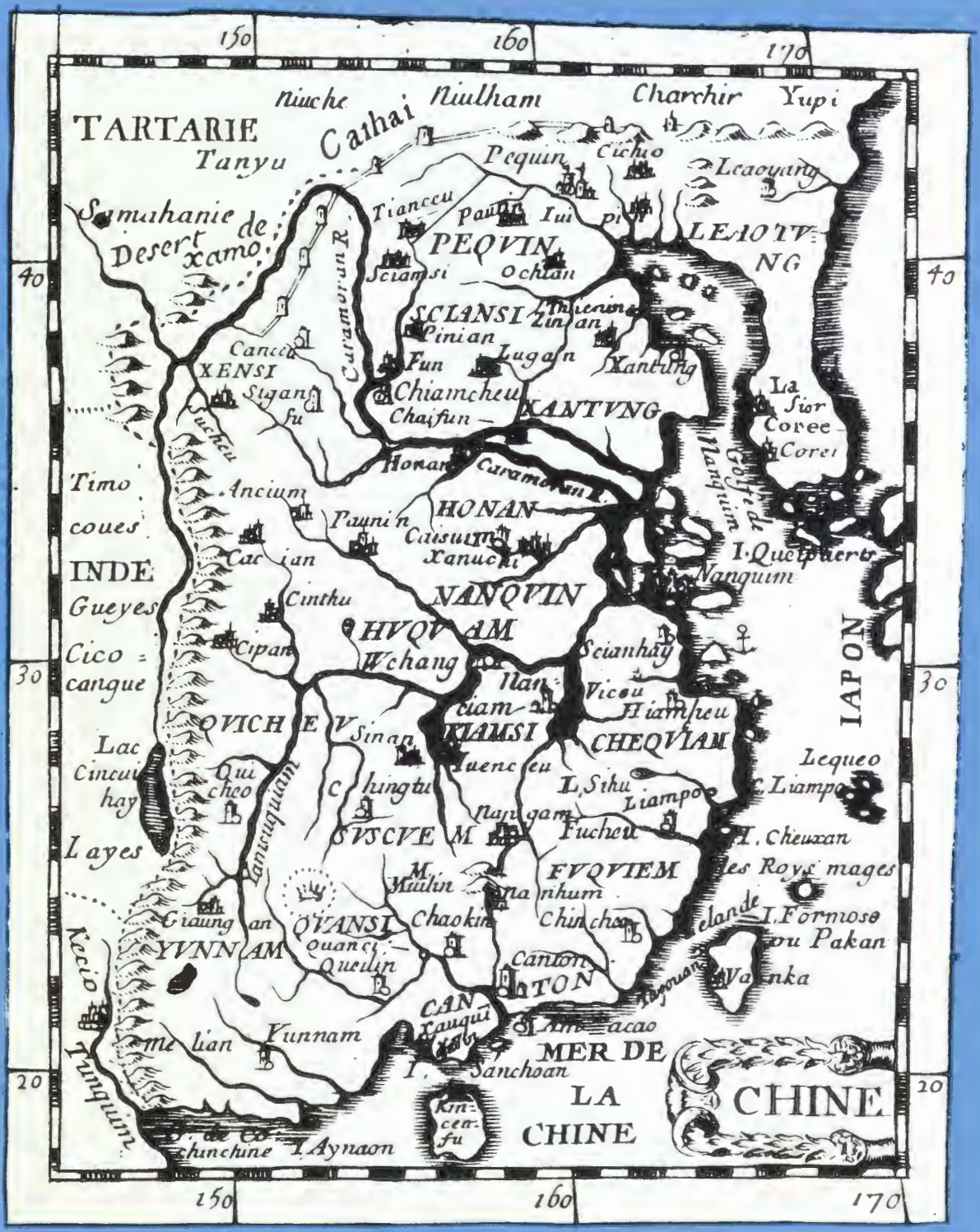
SUMMER 1989 ISSUE No. 37

IMCS JOURNAL



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Journal of the International Map Collectors' Society

SUMMER, 1989 Volume 8 ISSUE No.7 [CN37]

CONTENTS

From the Editor 3
The World Map at Hereford Cathedral 4
The Mappa Mundi 5
IMCoS York Meeting 7
IMCoS Annual Symposium 8
Alphabetical List Of Exhibitors 9
Exhibitor's Stand Plan 12
'What Use Is A Map?' Exhibition 13
An Overview of the Exhibition 14
A Further View of the Exhibition 19
Book Reviews 22
Reminiscences of an Old Collector 28
Geological Maps in the British Library 29
From the Chairman's Desk 37
Writings About Maps 39
Successful Symposium on Maps 45
IMCoS International Symposium in Athens 49
Alarm at the Royal Geographical Society 51
Modern Maps of Ghana 53

Copy and other material for our next issue (Autumn) should be submitted by **23rd July, 1989.** To facilitate the gathering of material, all items for **editorial** use should be sent to the Editorial Liaison Officer, Yasha Beresiner, InterCol, 1A Camden Walk, Islington Green, London, N1 8DY. Tel. 01 354 2599. **Advertising** copy, artwork, etc. should be sent to the Advertising Manager, Warwick Leadlay, Gallery, 5 Nelson Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 9JB. Tel: 01 858 0317.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: W.H.S. Pearce, 29 Mount Ephraim Road, Streatham, London, SW16 1NQ.

Membership Secretary: Mrs Caroline Batchelor, 'Pikes', The Ridgeway, Oxshott, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 0LG.

From the Editor

ONCE again we come to our bumper Summer issue. The 'What Use is a Map?' Exhibition is described in these pages, and it is being held at the British Library in London, and continues until June, 1990. However, there are the other attractions for members, beginning with the reception at the Map House in London on 16th June. The Symposium begins on the next day at the British Library at 10 a.m. On the evening of the 17th June, the Annual Dinner will take place at Imperial College, London, and on the next day, 18th June, the Map Fair will be held at the New Connaught Rooms, London.

Later this year, there are more events to attract members and their friends. Beginning on 6th October, there is the Seventh Annual Symposium to be held in Athens, sponsored by the Society for Hellenic Cartography. Only a month later, there will be a full-day regional meeting at York.

Full details of all these events will be found in this issue. If you haven't booked your place in them, now is the time to make up your mind. A great deal of work and preparation has gone into organising the functions. Do your part, and attend them – remember how much you've enjoyed them in recent years!

GEORGE BEAL

The World Map in Hereford Cathedral

An Update

EARLY in March, 1989, the Dean and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral announced that they were proposing to withdraw the *Mappa Mundi* from public auction in June, since they were confident of a satisfactory solution. They said that they were considering a number of firm proposals about the cathedral finances, and the *Mappa Mundi*. One element in the rescue plan appears to be that the National Heritage Memorial Fund (which disburses government grants) will contribute £1.25 million towards the cost of a a new building to house the *Mappa Mundi* and the Chained Library.

There are other elements, and later in the month there was a rather surprising report that the Cathedral would be selling shares worth £7m. (7000 at £1000 each) in the *Mappa Mundi*. This was said to be the preferred option, but one commentator wondered who would be willing to pay £1000 'which would buy nothing and bring no financial gain'. Perhaps all will be clear for the next **Journal**.

Readers may wish to know that at least two reproductions of *Mappa Mundi* can be bought as follows:

(1) The Hereford Cathedral shop (St John Street, Hereford, HR1 2NB; Tel. 0432 56250) sells a 'wall chart... with guide book' for £3.15 post free;

(2) The shop at the British Library (Great Russell Street, London, W.1.; Tel. 01 636 1544) sells a 'full colour reproduction, heightened with gold, about three feet square, with a descriptive booklet', for £46, post free.

The Cathedral shop sells also a jigsaw at £5.15 post free, and postcards at 15p plus postage.

SJ



Detail from the Mappa Mundi, right hand corner, showing a huntsman with his greyhounds, and the inscription: 'Passe avant'.

The Mappa Mundi

IT WAS with great relief and pleasure that I heard of the possible rescue of the Mappa Mundi by the National Heritage Memorial Fund. Hopefully, the Dean and Chapter of Hereford Cathedral will come to an amicable agreement with this foundation, which will allow this unique map to remain in Hereford.

In order to get to the bottom of this affair, and also out of personal concern, I interviewed an official of the Cathedral, and what follows is a resumé of what we talked about.

For the past seven years, Hereford has run a million-pound drive to restore and maintain the fabric of the cathedral building. This has finally been met, but in the meantime, other matters have arisen which need seeing to. Hereford needs seven million pounds in order to survive into the 21st century. Several million pounds are earmarked for its overdraft of £150,000. The wages of its staff need paying, and the Chain Library needs rehousing in more suitable accommodation. More work needs to be done on the building, and since donations were proving hard to get, the Dean had no alternative but to sell something.

Members must remember that compared with other cathedrals, Hereford is relatively poor. Although the tourist trade has improved, the Church still does not receive as much as its neighbours, Gloucester or Worcester. Hereford was forced to sell something, and the choices it had were the Chain Library or the Mappa Mundi. These are the only treasures it possesses which could realise the desired amount. The Church of England as a body cannot help much, due to current laws, and individual donations do not go far enough.

Recent statistics show just how many people in the British Isles regularly go to church: 80% of the Irish; 32% of the Scots; 22% of the Welsh; and 11% of the English. If only 11% of the population of Hereford are regularly donating to the church, it is small wonder that it is in such dire straits.

I can understand the attitude taken by the Chapter. The church must remain a living and working body. It it became a museum, then religion fossilises. Hereford would not have been the first cathedral to sell some of its treasures. Exeter and Carlisle have beaten Hereford to it, and these will not be the last.

The manner of the of the Map's going and the announcement of its proposed sale rightly shocked many friends of the Cathedral. Once the true value of the Map had become known, the authorities could not guarantee its safety against attack. Considering its position in a frame against a wall down a side nave, this was a valid comment, but I speculate that had damage been done, it would not have been by a Hereford person.

The proposals at the moment appear to be that the Heritage Fund will pay £4,000,000 for the map. This will enable the Chain Library to be rehoused, and the map to be placed in a purpose-built unit for safety. The overdraft will be paid off, and the staff wages seen to.

Description of the Mappa Mundi

This map is made of calf-skin measuring 64" x 54", and was probably copied from an original work about 1290 A.D. Richard of Haldingham, a monk, drew and repainted it, and brought it to Hereford, where it was remained on display until recently. The first written reference

was in 1682, in *History of Marble* by Thomas Dingley. He lists the map along with the other monuments in the Cathedral.

This map was made with Norman-French inscriptions and numerous illustrations. At the time, maps such as this were moderately common, but the Mappa Mundi is the only surviving example. There was another map of this type, but it was destroyed in Germany during World War II.

The inks and colours, although faded, have remained in exceptionally good condition.

The map is roughly divided into two areas. The map 'floats' in a circular sea, giving the impression that the world is in reality an island. Outside this circle are illustrations of figures and domestic scenes. Within the circle, the map roughly takes the shape of a letter T. Asia lies at the top stroke, with Jerusalem at the centre of the world. Europe is below to the left, and Africa is to the right, with the Mediterranean forming the downward stroke. Geographically, Europe and Africa are in the right positions, but what gives weight to the argument that the map is a copy is that they are wrongly labelled.

All the capitals of the known world are placed in roughly the right positions, and Hereford is there with them. All rivers are shown, but no roads, indicating that in those days, the rivers were 'highways'.

The basis of knowledge for this map was theological. Jerusalem was described in the Bible as the centre of the world, and Israel takes up most of the space at the centre of the map, together with scenes, such as the Crucifixion, the Mount of Olives, the Tower of Babel, Lot's Wife, Noah's Ark, and Moses and his people.

Europe is somewhat misshapen, but Rome appears fairly prominently, as well as Paris, Germany and the Rhine. An obscure corner shows England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Details on Africa are rather meagre, except for the northern part, which shows quite an accurate Nile Delta.

At the apex of the map, the viewer can see Christ, with the Virgin Mary interceding for sinners, Caesar Augustus in a Papal tiara, and below a message from artist himself. He asks that 'all who have read this *estoire*, or who shall hear of, see it, or read it, to pray to Jesus for pity on Richard of Haldingham and Lafford, who has made and drawn it, that joy in heaven be given to him.'

LEONORA WEAVER

Library Additions

Recent additions to the Library are:

Printed Maps of the British Isles, by R. Shirley, 1988.

Rural Images: the estate plan in the Old and New Worlds. Exhibition Catalogue of the Newberry Library, Chicago, 1988.

Antique Maps of the County Palatine of Lancaster: Exhibition Catalogue of the University of Lancaster, 1989.

Cartomania, issue No. 12. This is the newsletter of the Association of Map Memorabilia Collectors, and is particularly relevant to many of the items contained in the Exhibition 'What Use is a Map?' If that appeals, it is likely that this newsletter and contents will also appeal. For more information, write to Sig Feller, 8 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01022, USA.

IMCoS
YORK MEETING

Maps and Views of York and East Yorkshire

on SATURDAY, 4th NOVEMBER, 1989 at ST. WILLIAM'S COLLEGE, YORK

Programme

10.15 Coffee.

10.45 **Maps of York**. *Ronald Butler, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.,* Investigator with the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in England, Editor, *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal.*

11.50 **Nathaniel Whittock's Bird's Eye View of the City of York**. *Hugh Murray, M.A., C.Eng., F.S.A., M.I.E.E.,* Co-editor, *York Historian.*

12.50 Lunch.

1.45 Viewing of an **Exhibition in York Minster Library** of maps and views relating to the lectures, arranged by *Mark Dorrington, M.A., D.A.A.,* Archivist of York Minster Library, by courtesy of *Bernard Barr, M.A., A.L.A.,* Sub-Librarian of the Library.

2.45 **John Haynes's Survey of Roman Remains on the Yorkshire Wolds, 1744**. *Herman Ramm, O.B.E., M.A., F.S.A.,* formerly Investigator with the Royal Commission, President Yorkshire Architectural and York Archaeological Society.

3.45 IMCoS matters.

4.00 Close of meeting. Tea.

St William's College is in College Street, at the east end of the Minster precinct. The lectures will be given in the Audio-Visual room on the ground floor. Coffee, lunch and tea will be taken in the House of Laymen on the first floor. The College is a notable historic building dating from the 15th century.

The Minster Library is in Dean's Park, on the north side of the Minster, about three minutes' walk from the College. It was built in the 13th century as a private chapel for the Archbishop. Since early in the 19th century, the books and manuscripts of the Minster have been kept there. It is the largest cathedral library in the country.

Cost: £12, including lunch, excluding wines.

Apply for tickets, and further information if required to Stuart Jackson, Heather Cottage, Cross Lane, Holcombe, Bury, Lancs BL8 4LY. Tel. 070682 2555.

Cheques should be made payable to IMCoS.

A map and leaflet about York will be sent to all applicants. Information about accommodation will be sent if requested. York is very accessible from north, south, east and west. The London train leaves King's Cross at 8 a.m., arriving York at 10.10, giving good time to walk up to St William's College.

The number of persons attending is limited to 40.

IMCoS 1989
ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, 17th JUNE
BRITISH LIBRARY, LONDON
10 a.m. to 4.50 p.m.

'What Use is a Map?'

Arrival: use the main entrance of the British Museum

10.00 Registration.
10.30 Welcome: M. Smethurst, Director General, Humanities and Social Sciences, British Library.
Introduction: Rodney Shirley, Symposium Chairman.

Morning

10.45 **'Maps for Everyone'.**
James Elliot – An overview of the 'What is a Map?' Exhibition.
11.15 **Coffee.**
11.45 **'Geological Maps in the British Library: Our Hidden Heritage.**
Karen Cook.
12.15 **'Maps as Symbols of Power and Policy, 1500-1670'.**
Peter Barber, Deputy Map Librarian, British Library.
12.45 **Buffet Luncheon.**

Afternoon

2.15 **Rotating Group Visits.**
1. 'What Use is a Map?' Exhibition. Alternatively, British Library/ Victoria County History Exhibition.
2. New British Library: St Pancras Presentation.
3. Demonstration of the 'On-Line' Map Catalogue.

3.45 **Tea**
4.10 **'What Use is a Map Librarian?'**
Tony Campbell, Map Librarian, British Library.
4.45 **Closing Thanks.**
Dr Helen Wallis, OBE – President of IMCoS.

Alphabetical List of Exhibitors

Name & Stand No.		Address & Telephone No.	Speciality
Alfieri	4	Spey Lodge, Newick Lane, Mayfield, East Sussex, TN20 6RQ Tel: (0435) 872589	Antique Maps, Charts, Plans & Views of Europe 1500-1900. Stock offered through 'Antique Atlas' Gallery, East Grinstead, Bonnington Hotel Map Fairs & Catalogue.
Richard B. Arkway	19	538 Madison Avenue, New York, 10022 NY Tel: (212) 751 8135	Maps, Atlases, Star charts, Globes, Especially interested in buying any of the above.
David Bannister	11	26 Kings Road, Cheltenham, Glos, GL52 6BG Tel: (0242) 514287	Rare & early maps of all parts of the world.
Clive A. Burden	12	46 Talbot Road, Rickmansworth, Herts, WD3 1HE Tel: (0923) 772387	Antique Maps, Topographical Prints, Natural History Prints & Vanity Fair.
JoAnn & Richard Casten Ltd.	2	101 W. 81st Street, New York. NY 10024 Tel: (212) 496 5483	Antique Maps, Atlases 1475-1750. Particularly America, World, Holy Land.
Ivan Deverall	20	Duval House, The Glen, Cambridge Way, Uckfield, Sussex. Tel: (0825) 2474	
Susanna Fisher	10	Spencer, Upham, Southampton, SO3 1JD Tel: (048) 96291	Navigational Charts of all ports of the World. Regular catalogues.
J.A.L. Franks Ltd.	1	7 New Oxford Street, London, WC1A 1BA Tel: (01) 405 0274	Antique Maps of all parts of the World from 16th – 19th century, from miniature to large folio.
Garwood & Voigt	9	15, Devonshire Buildings, Bath, Avon BA2 4SP Tel: (0225) 24074	Antique Maps, Atlases, Decorative Prints & Engravings, Foreign Views.

Name & Stand No.		Address & Telephone No.	Speciality
Mrs D.M. Green	18	7, Tower Grove, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 9LX Tel: (0932) 241105	Wide range of British County Maps, Road Maps & Town Plans. Searches for Collectors' Special requirements. Postal or by appointment.
InterCol London Yasha Beresiner	32	1a Camden Walk, Islington, London, N1 8DY Tel: (01) 354 2599	World maps with emphasis on playing-cards and British county maps. Dealers also in old playing cards and currencies.
Warwick Leadlay	15	5, Nelson Road, Greenwich, London SE10 9JB Tel: (01) 858 0317	Antiquarian Maps & Prints World-wide, 17th-19th century. S.E. London and N.W. Kent material. All aspects of Conservation mounting and Bespoke Framing.
Map Collector	26	48 High Street, Tring, Herts, HP23 5BH Tel: (044) 282 4977	T.M.C. is a quarterly journal; we also publish and sell books on the history of cartography.
Map House	36	54 Beauchamp Place, London, SW3 1NY Tel: (01) 589 4325/9821	Antiquarian maps of Britain and all parts of the World. Globes, Atlases and engravings.
Martayan Lan	16	10 W. 66th Street, New York. NY 10023, USA Tel: (212) 595 1776	Maps of the World and the Americas.
Brendan M. Moss	25	5637 Wallace Street, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6N 2A1 Tel: (604) 261 7108 (Eve.) 662 8171 (Day).	Maps and prints of the Pacific, North West Canada, also Ireland and American West Coast.
A. Nicholas	17	57 Fallow Court Ave., London, N12 0BE Tel: (01) 445 9835	Antiquarian Books, Maps, Prints etc., especially Mediterranean countries.
Avril Noble	8	2, Southampton Street, Strand, London, WC2E 7HA Tel: (01) 240 197	Maps and Engravings 15th-19th century, covering all parts of the World.
Paul Orssich	24	117, Munster Road, Fulham, London, SW6 6DH Tel: (01) 736 3869	General maps of all parts.

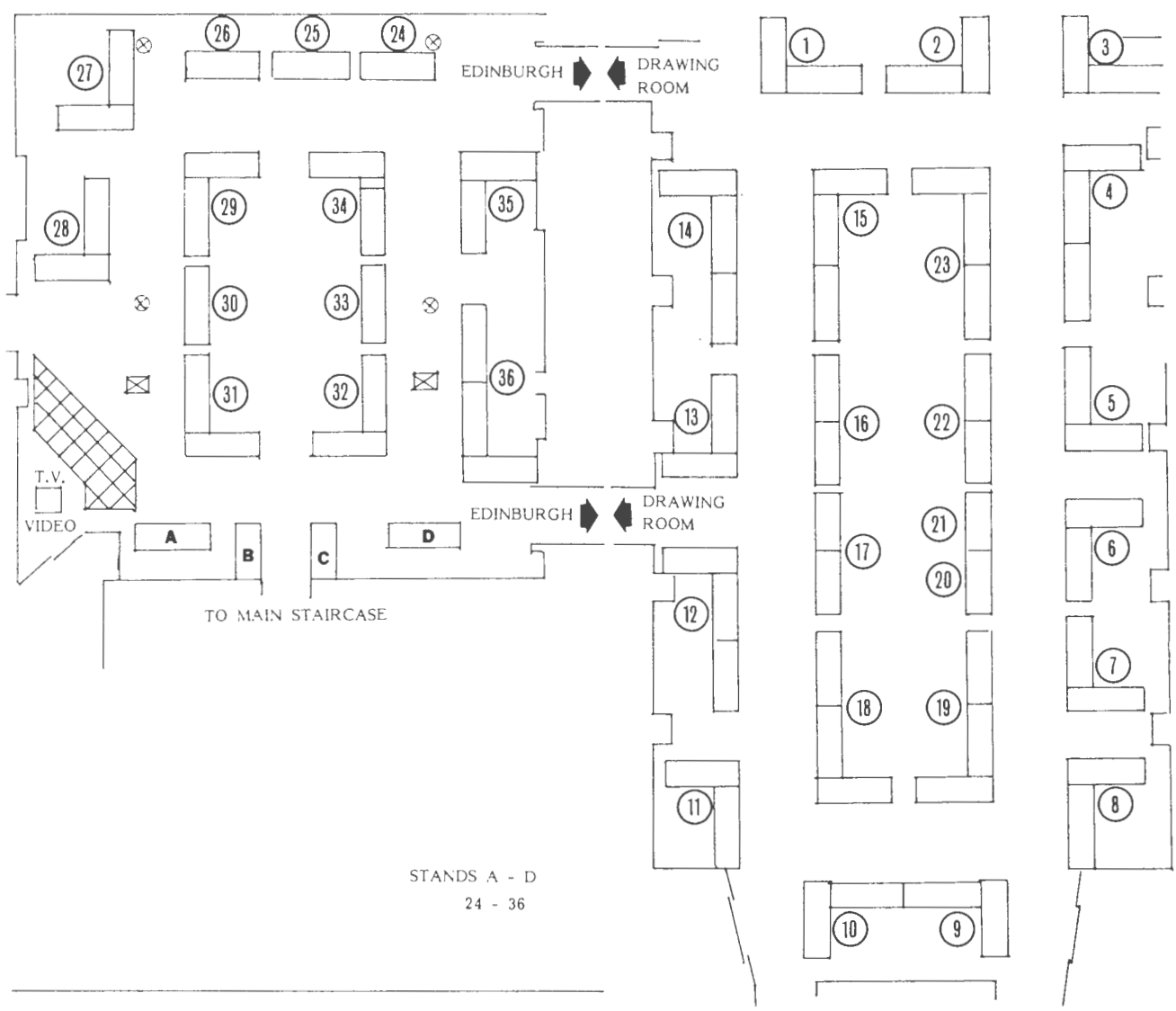
Name & Stand No.		Address & Telephone No.	Speciality
Postaprint	3	Taidswood, Iver Heath Bucks, SLO 0PQ Tel: (0895) 833720	Antiquarian Maps and Prints, c.1550-c.1890.
Jonathan Potter	23	21 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9FE Tel: (01) 491 3520	Antique Maps of all parts of the World. Particularly rare World and North America Maps.
G.R. Schmidt	5	Antiquariät, Nernst Str. 16, 28 Bremen 33 West Germany. Tel: (0421) 256242	Maps, Town Views, Decorative Prints, Atlases Illustrated and Plate Books.
Thomas Suarez	33	2142 Broadway, New York, NY 10023, U.S.A. Tel: (212) 877 7468	Rare Maps
Paulus Swaen	6	Old Maps & Prints, Hofstraat 19, 5664 HS Geldrop, Netherlands. Tel: (40) 853571	Fine and Rare Maps, Prints and Atlases of all parts of the World.
Michael J. Sweet	21	Antiques of the Orient, Pte., Ltd. 21 Cuscaden Road, 01-02 Ming Arcade, Singapore 1024 Tel: 7330830	Maps & Prints of S.E. Asia in general. Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia in particular.
Tooley Adams & Co., Ltd.	14	13 Cecil Court, London, WC2N 4HE Tel:	Large stocks of Antiquarian maps, Atlases and reference books (many out of print).
Waterloo Fine Arts Ltd.	13	Raffles, Bath Road, Woolhampton, Reading Tel: (0734) 713745	Maps and Prints worldwide - West Indies, Pacific, Americas in particular.
Leonora Weaver	22	6 Aylestone Drive, Hereford HR1 1HT Tel: (0432) 267816	Hand colouring of maps and prints.
Edna Whiteson Ltd.	35	66 Belmont Ave., Cockfosters, Herts, EN4 9LA Tel: (01) 449 8860	Maps and Prints covering Britain and the World – Early 1600s to mid 1800s.

Exhibitors' Stand Plan

1. J.A.L. Franks
2. R. and J. Casten
3. Postaprint
4. Alfieri
5. G.R. Schmidt
6. P. Swaen
7.
8. A. Noble
9. Garwood and Voigt
10. S. Fisher
11. D. Bannister
12. C. Burden
13. Waterloo Fine Arts
14. Tooley, Adams and Co.
15. W. Leadlay
16. M. Lan
17. A. Nicholas
18. D.M. Green
19. R.A. Arkway
20. I. Deverall
21. M.J. Sweet
22. L. Weaver
23. J. Potter
24. P. Orssich
25. B.M. Moss
26. Map Collector
27.
28.
29, 30, 31. Exhibition Area
32. InterCol, London
33. T. Suarez
34.
35. E. Whiteson
36. Map House

A, B, C. IMCoS Security and Control

D. Map Valuations



'What Use is a Map?' Exhibition

AT THE time of going to press, a few items of interest have been loaned for our small 'informal' Exhibition linked to the British Library Exhibition 'What Use is a Map?

It is not intended to publish a printed catalogue of the items displayed, but nevertheless, we hope to accumulate sufficient items of merit to interest both members and visitors to the Fair. Some of these will be variations on exhibits in the British Library, and others will be items totally unconnected with any other in the British Library exhibition:

1. **Baukeller's New Embossed Plan of London, 1841.** Published by Ackermanm and Co., 96 Strand, London and Paris. This is both unusual, and one of the earliest examples of combining relief and colour printing.
2. **Arbuckle's 'States and Territories'.** 50 Trade Card maps of the American States.
3. **J.H. Lipscombe's Water-colour Map 'What the Man in the Moon saw in Europe, 1855.** A pencil and wash map drawn and painted in 1876. A serio-comic map of Europe during the Crimean War period, the number of faces and heads appearing in the map has yet to be established.

4a and 4b. **Whitbread & Co.'s County Mapping by Pub Signs.** Tinplate maps of the Whitbread Brewery's hostelries of Kent and Sussex, prepared by D.W. Burley in 1947 and 1950.

5. A selection of fabric maps in silk, rayon, nylon and linen:

(i) **Pilot's Operational Navigation Chart.** A M.O.D. map in rayon of the border between Libya and Egypt. This particular state was published in 1970 by USAF St. Louis.

(ii) A standard map of **Kent** from **'The Way About' Series No.2**, produced on polished linen, c.1896, unusual only in that the maps in the rest of the series are paper copies.

(iii) **A Map of Japan** in fine silk, this maps shows flags of the U.K., U.S.A., Australia and China. It records the surrender ceremony in 1945. It was published by the *Nippon Times* (an armed forces newspaper?).

(iv) Linen **Map of South Africa**, published c.1900, and one of three known linen Boer War maps issued when patriotic fervour was at its height.

(v) Unbleached linen map of **Anglo-Egyptian Sudan**. The series was surveyed and produced in the 1930s. This particular map is a reprint, dated 1949, and 'Anglo-Egyptian' is red-lined through – indicating its continued use after independence?

More exhibits are to come, but we hope your appetite has been whetted, and your interest raised sufficiently for you to pay the Fair a visit.

Classified Advertisements

Oldfield Antique Maps & Prints. We specialise in British maps 1600-1850. Also early Ordnance Survey maps. Send for free list of your area. We are also keen buyers. 34 Northam Road, Southampton SO2 0PA. Tel: (0703) 38916.

England County Map specialist. Lists sent. **Mrs D.M. Green**, 7 Tower Grove, Weybridge, Surrey. Tel: 0932 241105.

Antiquarian Maps and Prints c.1550 to 1890. Write or phone for our latest catalogue. Postaprint, Taidswood, Iver Heath, Bucks. SL0 0PQ, U.K. (Phone Denham – 0895 833720).

Maps for Everyone:

An Overview of the Exhibition

'What Use is a Map?'

THE USERS of topographic maps are often assumed to be satisfied with the representation of a particular place or region according to the accepted conventions of the day – hairy caterpillars or sugar loaves for hills, discs or towers for towns and so on. Many maps were, however, made for specific purposes: to inform, to warn, to educate, to publicise, to commemorate, to guide and frequently to mislead.

They were made to facilitate the activities of travellers, statesmen, cyclists, lawyers, teachers, soldiers, landowners and a variety of other people. It is with these aspects of map use that 'What Use is a Map?' concerns itself. In this exhibition we have sought to look beyond the familiar topographic map, which communicates standardised data to a general readership. Certain groups of people through the centuries have had more specific requirements which have challenged the cartographer to devise new ways of representing the Earth's surface to meet their needs. This exhibition offers a selection of the varied and sometimes ingenious ways in which the challenge has been met.

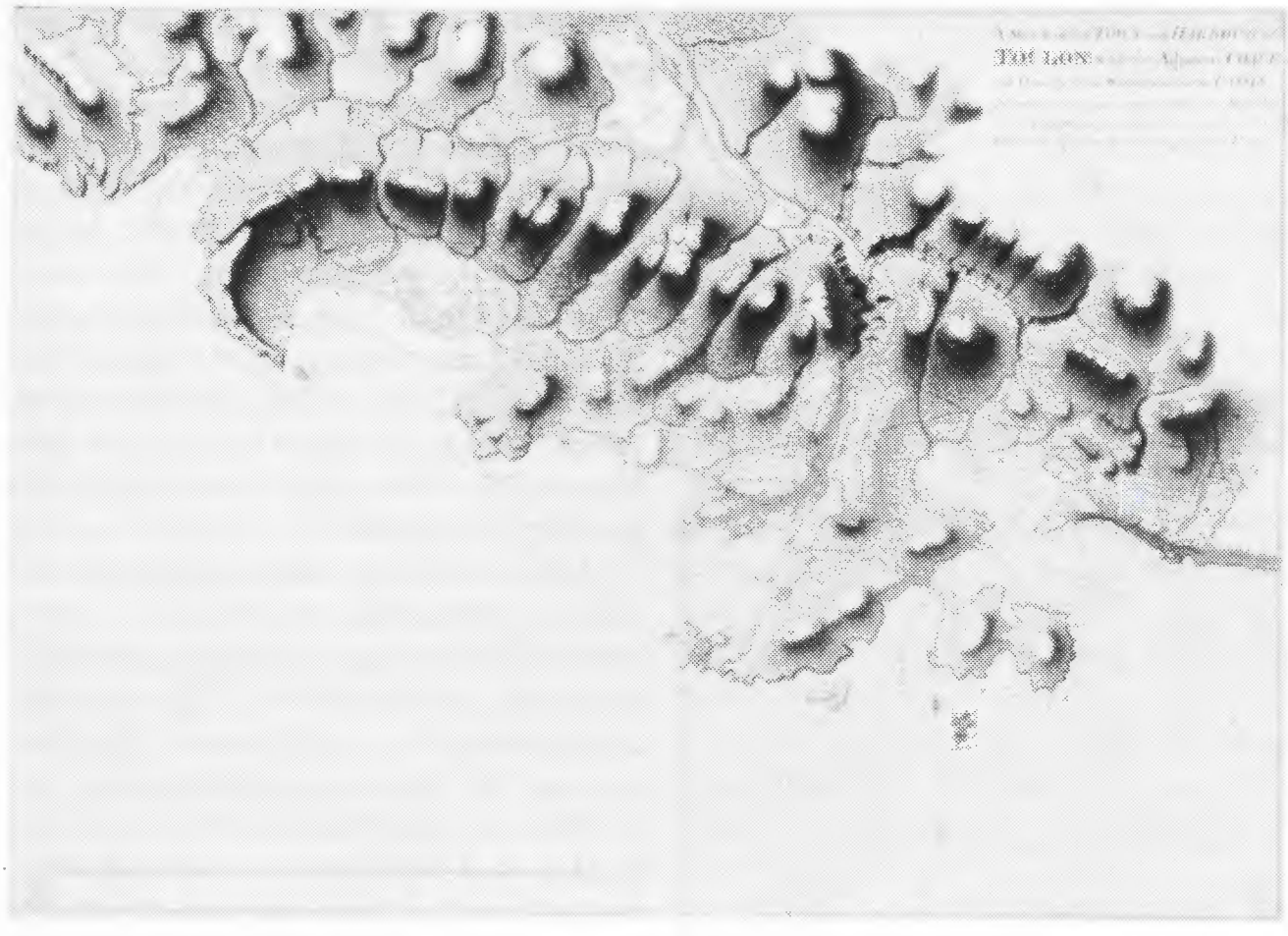
Undoubtedly, the simplest method was to draw a conventional map, giving prominence to those features of interest, but with a minimum of deviation conventional standards; in other words, the map was allowed to speak for itself. Such an example might be Ralph Dodd's plan of the intended new waterworks of Kennington, created to show potential subscribers the system of reservoirs and conduits needed for a suitable water supply.

The plan, of course, portrays a landscape of the future, as do many similar improvement plans published from the early 18th century onwards. As is apparent from the publicity issued by Eurotunnel, such ideas are still in use. The map of 1846, showing the idyllic setting of the proposed Chartist utopia of O'Connorville, was equally inspired by optimism.

Another kind of publicity is demonstrated by a delightfully-produced map of Bruges of 1665, intended for Charles II and no doubt other European rulers. It represented its declining prosperity, and to 'market' it ('Bruges smiles better') by stressing its size and splendour, and emphasising the convenience of its links with the sea by means of the Bruges – Ostend canal built in 1622.

Maps have been used to record retrospective events. One example is that made in 1817, illustrating the course of the murder near Birmingham of Mary Ashford. Only a map could be used to make sense of the alibi which saved the principal suspect, a man named Thornton, from the gallows. A map was also needed to interpret a legal case relating to the disputed enclosure of a right-of-way in Northamptonshire in c.1550. Land-ownership matters were conveyed by a much earlier map incised on a clay tablet in Babylon on 3rd May, 496 BC. Disasters, too, are eminently suitable for portrayal in map form, a dramatic example being that used to show the effects of a Dutch flood in the vicinity of Arnhem and Nijmegen at Christmas, 1740.

A further refinement of the cartogra-



[Unsigned], 'A Sketch of the Town and Harbour of Toulon with the Adjacent Coast'. [Second half of the 18th century]. Manuscript. K. Top. LXX.37.3.

pher's response was to adapt an otherwise conventional map by means of developing specialised symbols or by modifying certain topographic features. Lord Burghley's map of Lancashire of c.1590 uses crosses to denote the location of Catholic and therefore potentially disloyal families. A British map of the port of Toulon exaggerates the size of the surrounding hills to stress the importance of securing these before attempting an assault on the city itself. Pilgrims in 19th century Japan were guided to shrines and to their overnight accommodation by special symbols. More leisured travellers, too, were well-served by the cartographer.

A German map on 83 sheets, the *Deutsche Strassenprofilkarte,* issued in 1892, showed the gradient of hills in the form of red-shaded profiles drawn along the lines of the roads. Similarly, one of the earliest aviation maps, published in France in 1911 by the *Service géographique de l'armée,* modifies a conventional map by adding variety of specialised symbols for windmills, factory chimneys, dangerous slopes and other features of interest only to aviators. The static trench warfare that characterised the First World War was peculiarly suited to cartographic portrayal. The British produced several standard series, in which a topographical base map was overprinted with an array of specialised symbols denoting features such as supply trenches, fortified craters, light railways and ammunition dumps. The example on display includes hand annotations made at the height of the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917 of enemy movements and gun and mortar emplacements.

New editions of trench maps were



Andrew Reid, 'Reid's illustrated map of the York, Newcastle and Berwick Railway'. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1848. Maps 198.b.56.

often required to be produced in a matter of hours; the Meteorological Office, however, produces both the North Atlantic chart and the U.K. weather map every hour, seven days a week. The maps are computer-produced, the topographical detail being reduced to coastal outlines only. The essential information takes the form of overprinted reports of wind speed, precipitation, temperature and other data of value to forecasters, mariners and aviators, the maps' principal users.

Ultimately, the cartographer can abandon any pretence of conveying information in other than a symbolic or stylised form. Some of the earliest known map-making is here represented – showing only what needs to be shown, conveying ideas and impressions rather than accurate topographic detail, and distorting geographical realities so that they fit into a more convenient, more easily-digestible framework.

Mediaeval map-makers were as familiar with such notions of highly stylised and selected detail as are their modern counterparts. This can be demonstrated by a pilgrim's map that showed the itinerary from London to Apuleia by Matthew Paris in c.1252. Shown as a 'strip map', revealing only those features encountered en route, Paris reinvented an idea going back to the 'Peutinger Table' of Roman times. Some 400 years after Paris, John Ogilby was well acquainted with the importance of geographical accuracy as one of the components of a successful map.

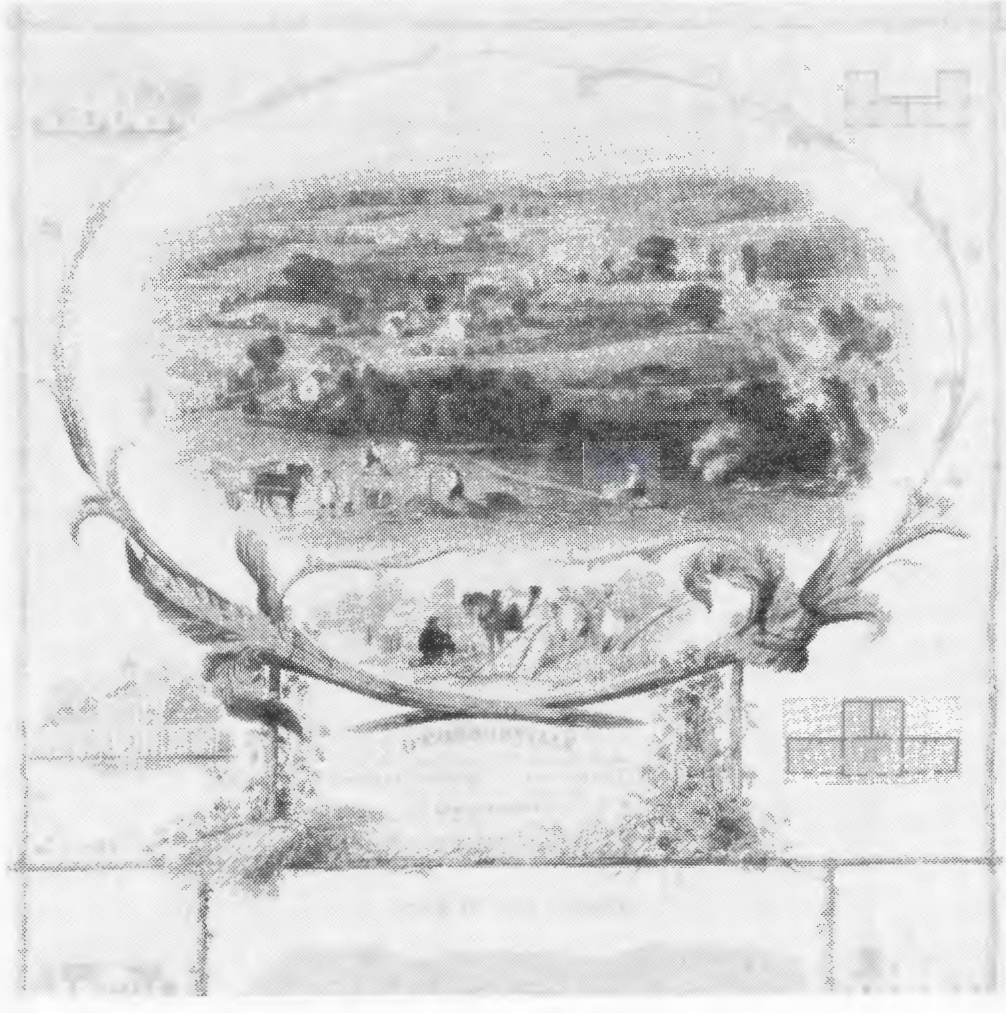
Nevertheless, he chose the strip-map technique when he published England's first road atlas, his magnificent *Britannia* of 1675. Here, miles are helpfully divided into furlongs, and hill symbols are reversed when the road descends. The ideas of Paris and Ogilby have since been taken a stage further by the Automobile Association, whose handbooks show motorways as strips with all but junction layouts and sign-posts omitted altogether. These in turn have been further developed by computerised route-optimising systems such as *Routefinder*, which practically reads the motorist's map for him.

Railways were well-suited to being portrayed as strips. George Hudson's York, Newcastle and Berwick railway

was given just such treatment in 1848 at the height of the 'railway mania' at a time when he was the 'railway king'. Attracting the potential traveller were vignettes of the famous places, including Hudson's own mansion, to be seen from the lines.

Perhaps the culmination of this 'minimalist' approach to cartography can be demonstrated by the story of the London underground railway map. Prior to the formation of the London Passenger Transport Board in 1933, underground lines and stations were portrayed in their correct spatial relationships to one another in a map designed by Frederick Stingemore, known disparagingly as the 'vermicelli map'. Henry Beck, a temporary draughtsman laid off by the Underground Railway Company in 1931 set himself the task of redesigning the map to fill in his spare time. His brilliantly simple solution was to abandon the cartographer's usual priorities of distance and scale and concentrate instead on the sequence of stations and interchanges. He used the Central Line as a base, and constructed the rest of the map using only 45 and 90 degree angles, enlarging the central area for maximum clarity. His map, when published in 1933, was an instant success with the travelling public, and has since been copied by urban transport undertakings all over the world.

Content is only one of the ways in which the cartographer has endeavoured to meet the needs of the specialised map user. Maps are essentially practical documents, working tools de-



'O'Connorville. The First Estate purchased by the Chartist Co-Operative Land Company', 1846. Maps 162.s.1.



Jan Smit, [True depiction from life of the flooding of the rivers, and the breach of the dyke at Elden]. Amsterdam, 1741. K. Top. CVIII.64.

signed to withstand the rigours of outdoor life. Thus portability and convenience are vital components of many maps, including the so-called 'quartermaster's map' of 1644, designed to fit into an officer's pocket. The War Office plans of barracks in Great Britain published in the 1850s are not only portable but also show the quartermaster the number of men and horses each barracks could accommodate. Not all maps, however, were designed to be portable. In Upper Canada in 1841, one was found carved by Indians on the bark of a birch tree.

The sea, of course, is an even more hostile environment for a map; consequently, many were made on vellum for durability. English charts, such as the one by John Burston of 1666, were often stretched over wooden boards to prevent shrinkage and distortion due to damp conditions. A more recent solution to this problem was to use silk or man-made fibre, as in the case of the set of maps made to accompany the 'Q' type sailing dinghy, standard equipment on board RAF heavy bombers of the last war. Such material could also be easily concealed, and was ideal for escape and evasion maps.

Over $1\,^1/_2$ million of these were printed to be secreted in the lining of flying jackets, hidden in hollow-heeled boots, or smuggled into POW camps inside snakes-and-ladders boards. On a less serious note. the map of 'Fremlinshire' (the area of Kent and Sussex in which Fremlins ales can be imbibed) is printed on a beermat. This ensures that the medium survives whilst the message is projected. In the case of Pattison's whiskey, the maps are also to some extent subordinated to the advertising of intoxicating drink. The maps are small, portable, and presumably not too ex-

Continued on page 21

A Further View of the Exhibition

British Library Exhibition, March 1989 to June 1990

A SOCIETY so widely spread as IMCoS, with membership across the four quarters of the globe, and with such a diverse range of interests, will benefit directly from the new exhibition **What Use is a Map?** on display in the Map Gallery of the British Library in the British Museum. It will continue throughout 1989 and 1990, and no matter what your interests are, the opportunity to view the exhibition should not be missed.

The 65 maps exhibited trace through an amazing period of time, from a Babylonian field plan of 496 BC to a 1989 computerised route-finding system and cartographic display unit (with which you are allowed to play!). The selection is highly unusual and fascinating, because it presents the map user's viewpoint rather than that of the maker or publisher.

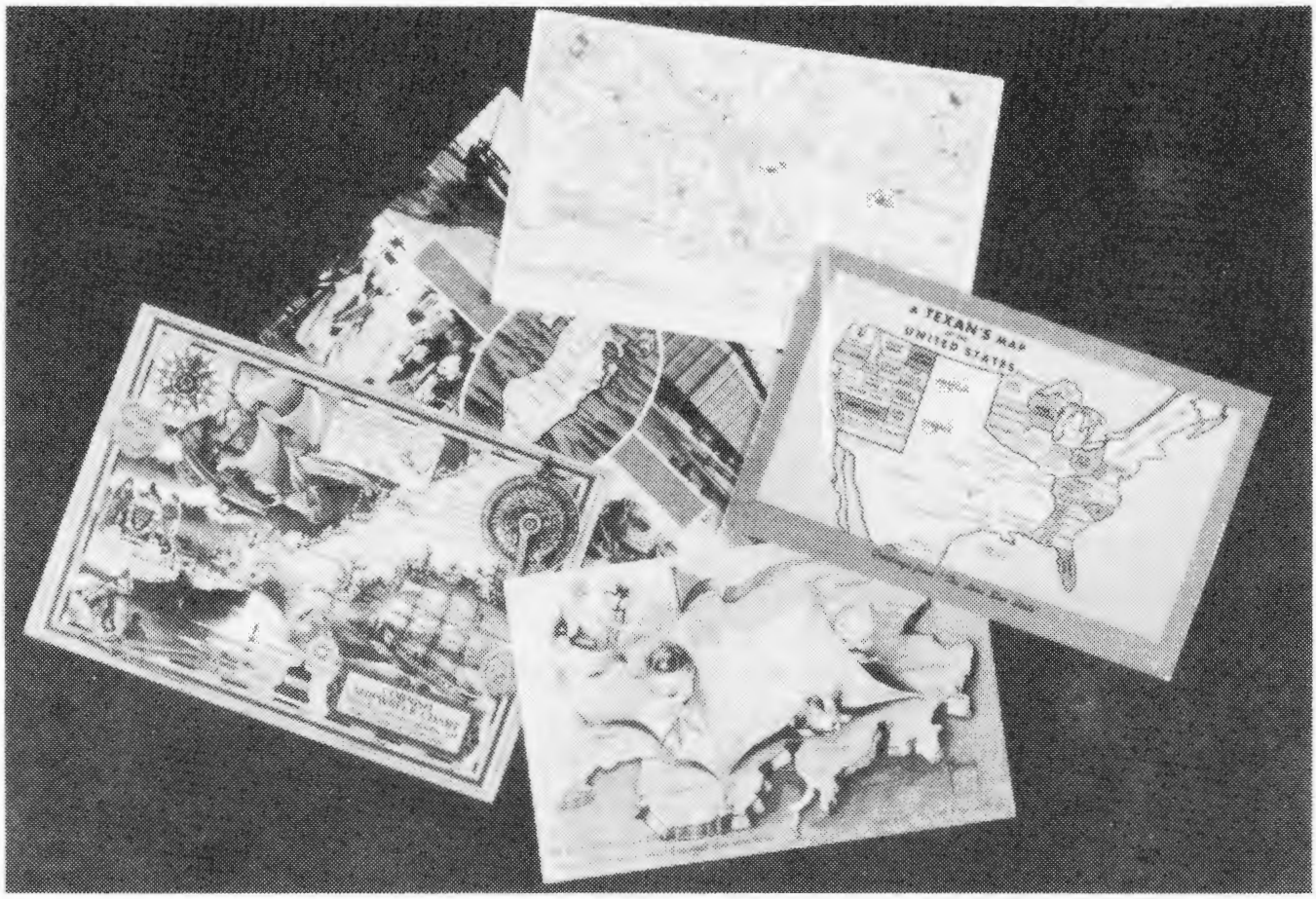
We are, for example, presented with the most stupendous manuscript world map of 1623 by the Portuguese cartographer Antonio Sanches (Exhibit 19), and are asked to compare it with the 1966 *Daily Telegraph* Constituency Map of Great Britain (Exhibit 17). What is surprising is that we can do so with ease. We can, because of the exceptional presentation of the exhibition. There is a clarity of intent that is integrated in each of the lucid captions, allowing the viewer a thematic and entertaining sequence of thought accompanied by striking visual impact.

A small group of us, at a press preview, were fortunate to be introduced to the exhibition by Peter Barber, Deputy Map Librarian. Those members of IMCoS who know Peter will appreciate how appropriate it was to have such a knowledgeable collector-cum-curator show us around the exhibit. In his enthusiastic and coherent style, he was able to convey with reality how Exhibit 19 mentioned above, showed that 'God and the World were Iberian and Catholic!'

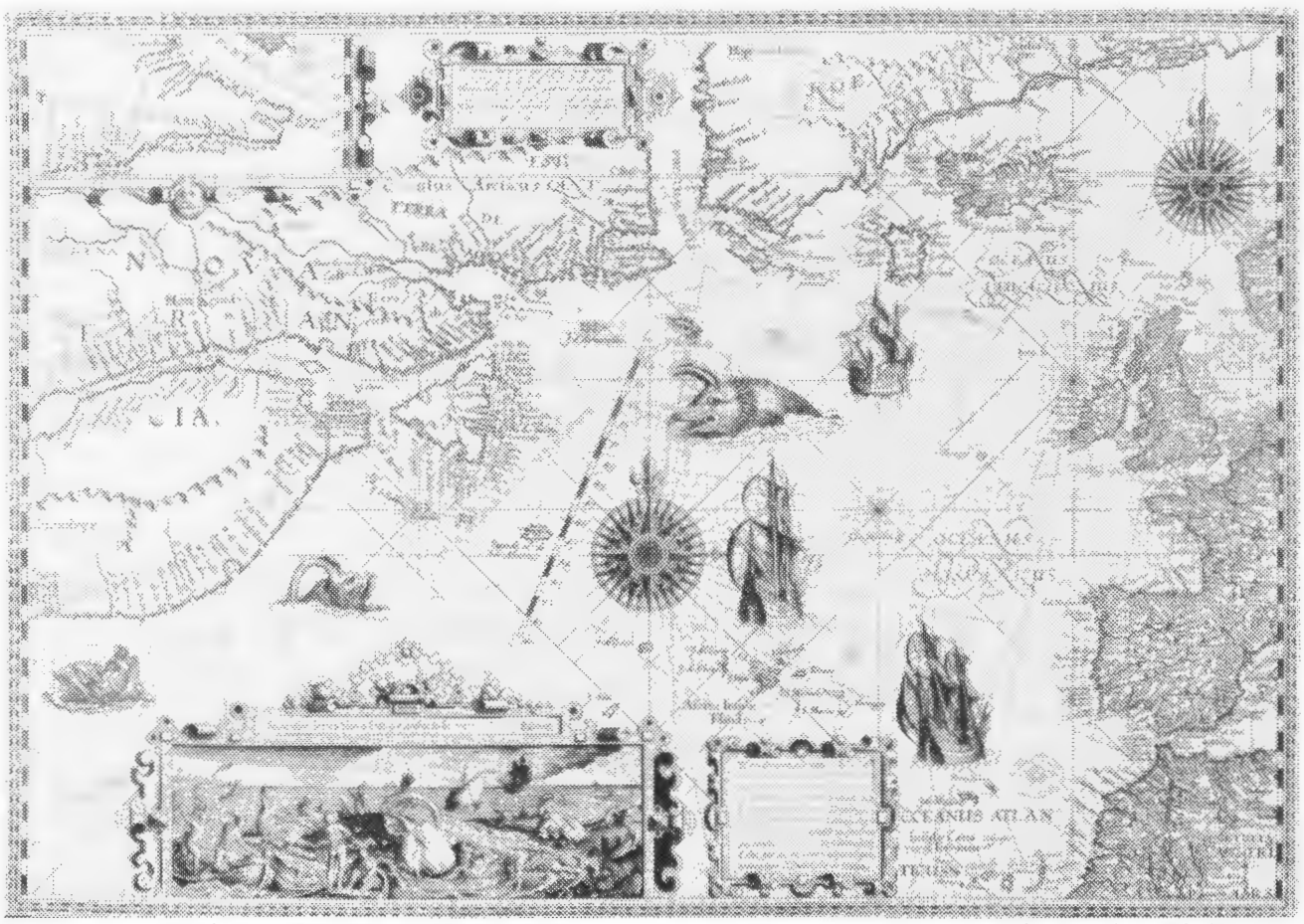
The map, highlighted in gold and bright reds and greens, is decorated with Hispano-Portuguese coats of arms appearing on all four continents. It intended to show the immediate link between the world-wide missionary activity of the Counter-Reformation and the Iberian, particularly Portuguese, political power of the day. The map was an early and sophisticated representation of political divisions. Exhibit 17, entitled *Election Night*, was published to represent Britain's political complexion in 1966. In cartographic terms the two maps could not be further apart. In geopolitical terms, however, they served a very similar purpose, and that is the true theme of this marvellous exhibit.

The headings for the various sectors are self-explanatory, and include *The World of Business*; *The Riches of the Earth*; *Knowledge and News*; and *Going Places*, inter alia. It is the last of these that includes another fascinating 16th century map by the German Georg Erlinger. The exhibit is entitled *All Roads Lead to Rome*, and shows a woodcut map of 1524 intended for use by Pilgrims making their way to Rome. It is highly decorative and detailed, and a curious predecessor to today's *A.A. Atlas* of the routes of Europe!

There is a strange intermingling of rarity and sheer ephemera. In this latter category fall such items as cigarette cards, postcards, cycling maps publish-



A collage of pictorial postcards, all with a map theme. Cartographic postcards have been one of the most enduring examples of the genre since their inception in Edwardian times. ***Map Library, Sir Richard Cave Postcard Collection.***



Spouting whales on this Dutch chart of the North Atlantic still resemble the fanciful monsters of mediaeval lore, but the whaling scene is real enough, despite the improbably scanty dress of the whalers. ***Map Library C.2.A.3.***

ing for advertising purposes, book covers and several modern maps at which a collector would not look at twice. Within the context of the exhibition, however, they bring to life, and add an element of curiosity and interest that is very often lacking in a subject essentially academic in its nature.

My only disappointment was the total absence of cartographic playing-cards; a subject close to my heart, but nonetheless important to the overall view of this exhibition. Consider Robert Morden's 52 counties of England and Wales published in 1767 as a pack of cards. These were the first maps to incorporate John Ogilby's roads. Bowles, Redmayne and Turpin also published packs depicting County maps in the period prior to 1750, but du Val, de Fer and Robert are just a few of several no less known names who can be directly associated with the production of geographic playing-cards.

There is really no room for complaint of any nature. The exhibition has been prepared with meticulous care. It is intended to make a subject that could be seen to be complicated, simple in its presentation. It is attractive, interesting and will appeal as much to the neophyte as to the academic specialist.

A well-prepared, fully illustrated 40-page catalogue has been published by British Library Publications. Entitled *What Use is a Map?*, it is available at a very reasonable £2.95 from the Museum Bookshop, or by post at £2.95 plus £1.00 for postage and packing, from the British Library Publication Sales Unit, Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS23 7BQ, England. [A copy has kindly been presented to IMCoS by Terry Kay].

YASHA BERESINER

AN OVERVIEW OF THE EXHIBITION

Continued from page 18

pensive to replace in the event of their being lost or damaged as a result of the owner over-indulging in one of the sporting activities (shooting, cycling) for which Pattison's whiskey was an essential accompaniment.

'What Use is a Map?' attempts to show the great variety of purposes for which special types of maps have been made. It is not a chronological exhibition, nor does it restrict itself to a single theme, topic, age or part of the world. It is instead a selection of an enormous number of different stories about the map-maker's ingenuity through the centuries in finding solutions to practical problems. Many of these solutions, whether representing the landscape as a strip or making the map itself out of some special material, are as relevant today as they were when they were first thought of some hundreds of years ago. Indeed, this exhibition might also ask whether there is anything new under the sun?

JAMES D. ELLIOT
British Library Map Library

WANTED

The positions of IMCoS Secretary and Treasurer are at present combined in one person, Harry Pearce. This combined job is far too much for one person, and we would urgently like to divide it into two separate positions, to ease Harry's workload. Informal applications from willing members are invited. Please contact any member of the Committee.

Book Reviews

R.T. Fell: **Early Maps of South-East Asia**. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1988. 130pp. 16 col. plates and 17 b/w illus. £7.50. ISBN 0 19 588885 8.

THIS is one title from a series 'Images of Asia', published by OUP. In the preface, the author describes himself as a 'keen amateur collector of old maps who has a particular interest in South-East Asia'. (The publisher's blurb refers to 130 pages, although only 105 actually have text!).

The volume is divided into two introductory sections on maps – 'The Map-Makers' and 'The Artistic and Historical Importance of Old Maps', and then a series of chapters treating the individual areas of the region – the East Indies, the Malay Peninsula, the Philippines, and so on, and concludes with 'Collecting and Caring for Old Maps'.

In one sense, it should be said that the title of the book is a misnomer. This slim volume concentrates more on the early history of the region and its parts, and then highlights a selection of maps of the region under discussion. This style develops into a mere listing, more idiosyncratic than comprehensive, of particular map-makers who did maps of South-East Asia and the East Indies, without ever really providing a chronological or critical assessment.

Thus, Gastaldi's map *Il Disegno della terza parte dell'Asia*, published in 1561, one of the earliest good maps of the region, is not even mentioned by name, but only alluded to in a brief biographical note in connection with his edition of Ptolemy. Indeed, rarely are map, or even atlas titles given, so a particular work is referred to only by its author's name, and influential map-makers are listed, without comment, alongside publishers of no great merit.

Nor are the thirteen colour plates illustrative of any more than a random selection of the type of map available, rather than relevant to a particular theme. None of the sources of these maps are given, apart from the author's name, nor are they chosen for their particular importance, most being derivative of earlier and more significant work, rather than highlighting the advance of European knowledge of the region, for example.

Where the author generalises, again his unfamiliarity with maps is shown, particularly on the early history. For example, the introduction of the copper plate engraving is assigned to the sixteenth century, and Langenes rather than Ortelius is credited with the popularising of miniature atlases.

In some ways, the book reads more like an expanded chapter from Tooley's *Maps and Map-Makers* or Moreland and Bannister. That said, if read in conjunction with the more detailed cartographical background and biographical sketches of, say Moreland and Bannister, this book does form an easy to read general introduction to the history of the exploration of South East Asia, and hopefully will provide the incentive for the novice reader to delve deeper into the subject. With the above qualifications, and bearing in mind its brevity, I found it a very good read for its modest cover price.

ASHLEY BAYNTON-WILLIAMS

Nigel Nicolson: **The Counties of Britain; a Tudor Atlas by John Speed**. Pavilion Books Ltd., London, 1988.

288pp., 69 col. plates, 200 x 305mm. £25.00. ISBN 1 85145 131 5.

This volume is a reduced-size colour facsimile of a Latin text edition of Speed's *Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine*, published in 1616, and notable for the fine original hand colour, from the British Library's collection. The introduction on Speed is written by Nigel Nicolson, with a further commentary by Alasdair Hawkyard.

The all too brief general introduction on Speed is essentially a reworking of the accepted wisdom, largely from Skelton's *County Atlases of the British Isles*, and disappointingly so, considering the apparent assistance of the British Library Map Library staff. Apart from a brief consideration of Saxton, some thirty years earlier, scarcely any attempt is made to put the atlas in a more contemporary historical or cartographical context, for example, in terms of the influence of William Smith, John Norden and William Camden's *Britannia*, to consider its many later editions, or explain the significance of the 1616 Latin text edition.

The commentary by Alasdair Hawkyard 'describes the topographical features and other intriguing aspects of the maps and the prevailing social conditions of each county' according to the dust jacket. The commentaries on each county bear very little relevance at all to Speed's maps, but are rather a potted socio-economic history and geography. Quite interesting, but surely not relevant to the theme. The description of the Heptarchy map is woefully brief with not a word to describe the various figures or scenes in the side panels.

The volume is very nicely printed and presented; the colour looks very good, although perhaps not as faithfully reproduced as the dust jacket suggests. Despite the disappointing text and commentary, I would heartily commend this book, if only for the plates of Speed's maps at their colourful best.

But, as an overview, if one asks whether this book is necessary or a valuable addition to cartographic literature, then the answer must be an emphatic 'no'.

ASHLEY BAYNTON-WILLIAMS

Rodney Shirley: **Printed Maps of the British Isles, 1650-1750**. Map Collection Publications and the British Library. ISBN 0 7123 0142 9. 168pp. 99 ills. £48.00.

Map collectors generally will welcome the publication by the *Map Collector* and the British Library of Rodney Shirley's latest contribution to the field of cartography; his *Printed Maps of the British Isles, 1650-1750*.

One of the first comments is its rather expensive price. Retailing at £48, it is nearly double the price of most similar format books on English or British cartography. Possibly this is due to the short print-run required by the publishers. Also, the quality of the photography, and few full-page illustrations makes the book seem decidedly overpriced for its content.

Another of the great problems faced by Rodney also appears to have been the format which he selected for the book. Both his previous books have been variants on a chronological format, which made it a great deal easier to follow the development and sources used by sequences of cartographers.

Rodney admits quite clearly the difficulties in changing his approach. After 1650, there is certainly a difficulty in placing precise dates on individual maps, particularly given the extremely

long life of late 17th century copper plates, and the popularity of separately published items.

To have ascribed *circa* dates to maps would have opened up all sorts of potential controversies, but given that the book is designed as a follow-up to *Early Printed Maps of the British Isles*, and the fact that Rodney managed to adopt a chronological sequence to 1700 for his *Mapping of the World*, it seems a great shame not to have pursued this scheme a little further.

Needless to say, the contents of the book are well written, scholarly and informative. However, the organisation and classification of some of the information is a little difficult to follow.

To use an isolated example, the Allard family, Rodney gives a fine general description of the maps available, but if we look closely at Johannes de Ram's map, 'a much amended version of Allard's map', it seems so different from the previous Allard map as to warrant completely separate classification. Furthermore, the photograph shown is not the second state as indicated in the text, but possibly a further third state in Rodney's own collection which is not listed.

There are also question marks about the inclusion and exclusion of some material. Certainly, sea charts warrant inclusion in the work, but is there a differentiation between charts of the British Isles and parts thereof? Many of those listed under the primary Dutch Chartmakers – Colom, Goos, Van Keulen – are charts of the channels around the British coasts rather than complete charts of the British Isles.

Perhaps these should have been included in addenda. Similarly, Rodney updates his entry on Colom's maps of 1632 and 1642, which are not strictly within the confines of this work, and should perhaps have been classified under separate appendices as maps updating his previous work.

On closer analysis of say, the editions of John Speed's Atlas issued by Christopher Browne, and the Overton family, one questions why the maps bearing their imprints were not included in the work even though in many cases the plates were not altered.

Likewise, the later 17th and early 18th century issues of Christopher Saxton's Atlas by Philip Lea and George Willdey are only recorded as it were *en passant*, when for the sake of continuity from his previous book, fuller treatment might have been warranted.

All in all, Rodney's treatment of his subject is scholarly and balanced, and the result of extensive searches in England and on the Continent, which have turned up some wonderful and hitherto unknown maps, for example, Morden's *Wall Map of the British Isles* and William Place's unique map of England and Wales engraved by Hollar and preserved in the Royal Library, Windsor. Also, as Tony Campbell rightly highlights, the list of lost or unlocated maps provided in the Appendix gives wonderful inspiration to the devoted collector and the map-dealer who thrives on the perennial quest for new and unusual items; a real modern quest for the 'Holy Grail' of cartography.

For the collector and dealer alike, Rodney's book is certainly to be recommended.

So much of previous bibliographical work has tended to concentrate on the Golden Age of 17th century cartography. Certainly, progression into the 18th century creates its problems, but by pushing forward the boundaries of our knowledge of maps of the British Isles, Rodney provides new vistas and insights into the thriving map production of the period. Most interesting, perhaps,

is the late 17th century English map trade highlighted first in atlases of this period, and R.A. Skelton's, D. Hodson's and Sarah Tyacke's foundation works on Mapsellers.

Rodney's book is a welcome addition to the vast library of cartographic reference works that appear each year! We look forward with interest to his next project.

Maps for Local History by Paul Hindle. Batsford, 1988. £14.95.
Maps and Plans for the Local Historian and Collector by David Smith. Batsford, 1988. £19.95.

J.P. HARLEY'S Maps for the Local Historian was a pioneering synopsis of the cartographic resources available to the student of local history when it appeared in 1972. It was, however, only a brief introduction, and the need for a more comprehensive approach has long been recognised. Moreover, Harley's work is now over 15 years old, and the results of such new research can now be included by anyone seeking to update Harley's small but significant publications.

In answer to this, Batsford have seen fit to publish two books on maps for local historians within the space of a month: *Maps for Local History* by Paul Hindle, as part of the 'Batsford Local History' series; and *Maps and Plans for the Local Historian and Collector*, by David Smith, part of their 'Collectors and Collecting' series. David Smith is already well-known amongst scholars of the history of cartography for various articles to the *Map Collector* and other magazines, as well as two previous books, *Antique Maps of the British Isles* and *Victorian Maps of the British Isles*, both of which deal with many of the same themes. Dr Hindle is a lecturer in Geography at the University of Salford. His special interests are historical cartography, mediaeval society, limestone landscapes and the Lake District. His several publication credits include *Cave Formations in Northern England, Medieval Roads* and *Roads and Trackways of the Lake District*.

The two works are so similar to one another in general appearance and format that a careless browser may easily be forgiven for thinking that he was looking at the first and second parts of a two-volume work. Closer inspection would, however, reveal that Hindle's and Smith's books were, in fact, two separate, but highly similar approaches to the same subject. Our unfortunate browser, were he contemplating a purchase at this point, would then have to decide whether a 240-page book by Smith, price £19.95 was a better buy than a 160-page book by Hindle at £14.95. He may well choose, at this stage, to retreat in confusion, to seek out a book review which might enlighten him further.

The writing of such a review is difficult indeed, when presented with two highly competent, authoritative and well-illustrated accounts such as these. Both authors have researched extensively from a vast array of secondary and some primary sources, and their undoubted abilities have produced two excellent studies in which all the main general points are equally well covered. Further scrutiny, however, reveals strengths and weaknesses which are highlighted as a result of what might politely be described as a blunder by the publisher; each author as a result suffers from the presence of the other, much like two men attempting to pass simultaneously through the same narrow doorway.

The scope of the two works differs

somewhat. Hindle, from the outset, excludes Scotland and Ireland on the grounds that the history of cartography of these two parts of the British Isles is sufficiently different to warrant separate treatment elsewhere. Some may think this a debatable point, and Smith's inclusion of Scotland and Ireland renders possible a more satisfactory discussion of, for example, the origins of the Ordnance Survey 6" and 25" mapping. This, though, is not an unqualified advantage, as we shall see. Both seek to discuss the range of cartographic materials available to the local historian from mediaeval times until approximately 1900. Smith also includes the collector of maps as part of his intended readership, asserting, presumably on the basis of good evidence, that many historians are already collectors of maps. In practice, the inclusion of this extra market makes little difference to his approach, when compared to that of Hindle.

Contrasts are more apparent in the arrangement of the two books, and in the comprehensiveness of their coverage. Hindle chooses broader headings for his six chapters; for example, one deals with estate, enclosure and tithe maps, each type being treated discretely under prominent sub-headings. Other chapters consider county maps, town plans, transport maps and Ordnance Survey maps. Again, these are suitably subdivided. Smith, conversely, utilises 20 chapters, at once reflecting the greater range of the material he includes and the greater depth at which he discusses it. A whole chapter is thus devoted to the value of marine charts to the local historian, and he cites several intriguing examples as justification for including this not very obvious source.

Hindle, on the other hand, dismisses the matter in a few paragraphs, refers the reader back to Harley's book, and concludes that 'they are in fact of limited use in local history but should not be totally ignored by anyone studying an area bounded by the coast or an estuary'. Smith's work is undoubtedly the more detailed and thorough of the two. For example, both authors discuss London ward plans, and both comment on their lack of accuracy for both topographic and other detail, but whilst Hindle mentions the existence of 'details not found on other maps', Smith specifies and discusses them. In several places, Hindle's cartographic innocence undoubtedly gives him away. In his introduction he states that 'there is a technical distinction to be made here between maps and plans; the latter are of larger scale, usually without any deliberate distortion of features...', this confusing rather than clarifying the point that a plan is a plan precisely because it is drawn to a true scale.

Also, there is no evidence that Ptolemy ever drew maps himself, yet Hindle's first chapter (Early Maps of Britain) commences: 'The earliest maps of Britain to have survived are those drawn by Ptolemy... None of his original maps has survived, but he took the wise precaution of preserving their detail in the form of coordinates.' Smith wisely omits any reference to Ptolemy in a work designed to cater for the needs of local historians. Nevertheless, Hindle's book is more easy to follow, and Smith would undoubtedly have benefited from dividing at least some of his longer chapters with sub-headings. For example, I would hesitate to say whether a discussion of the large scale town plans of the Ordnance Survey would be better placed in a chapter on Ordnance Survey mapping (Hindle) than in one on settlement plans (Smith).

The latter, however, is a long section, endeavouring to cover deserted vil-

lages, the early plans of Speed, Agas et al, town atlases, the plans of London and fire insurance plans, with the O.S. large-scale plans embedded somewhere in the middle. In other places, sub-headings would have helped with the general organisation of Smith's material, as with the chapter on country mapping, where the narrative jumps without warning from England to Scotland, then to Ireland and back again to England. There seems to have been further confusion of purpose with the treatment of O.S. parish area books; in chapter twelve, on Ordnance Survey maps, these are referred to virtually in passing, with a more satisfactory treatment having to wait until chapter twenty (Themes and Thematic Mapping) where it is entombed some 100 pages later in an extensive but nonetheless valuable discussion of geological, soil, land-use and boundary mapping.

There is one final criticism to be levelled at the design of Smith's book. The illustrations are given headings describing each item as one might expect; in addition, most illustrations are supplied with captions which outline their history, features and characteristics individually. This in itself is a good idea, as it enables the narrative to maintain momentum, whilst at the same time permitting the inclusion of adequate detail about the subject of the illustration. It is much to be regretted, however, that the typeface chosen for the captions is so similar to that used for the main narrative that it is in places exceedingly difficult to unscramble one from the other. Had italics been used (as with Hindle's much less informative captions), the appearance of Smith's work would have been much improved.

It is, perhaps, worth noting that both works contain one or two minor inaccuracies and omissions; I was surprised to learn from Hindle's table listing the large-scale country maps of England that John Rocque published his 2" map of Surrey in 1792, some thirty years after his death. Certain of Rocque's works were published posthumously either by his widow Mary or by Dury, but not that particular one. I can only assume that the 2" map is the one referred to, as the table nowhere indicates this, nor does it state what is meant by a large-scale county map. Smith includes a similar table, which gives the scales, but which arranges the publications unhelpfully in chronological, rather than county, and then chronological, order. Finally, as every Ulster Loyalist knows, the Battle of Aghrim of 1694 was fought at Aughrim.

In conclusion, it has to be said that most of these criticisms are relatively minor, when considering the generally high standards of both works as a whole. In all important respects, both authors cover the main points in competent fashion, outlining the chief cartographic sources for local studies and discussing the value and limitations of each. It would be churlish to recommend one rather than the other without reservation, though it is on balance just possible to say that Smith's book is the more comprehensive, whilst Hindle's is the clearer.

The final verdict though, is that it must be to the regret of authors, publisher, local historians and librarians alike that the two authors could not have combined forces at the beginning of their respective heavily-duplicated projects.

JAMES D. ELLIOT
British Library Map Library

Reminiscences of an Old Collector

1. £500 on the Corporation Tip

THIS little story is both nostalgic and dramatic. Nostalgic, because it relates to the days more than thirty years ago, when map collectors were few and map dealers only a handful. Business between them was often conducted on an information basis, as between friends sharing a hobby. It was quite usual for a dealer to send maps on approval to a complete stranger, without any references. It was as a recipient of such a map, sent on approval, that I was involved in the following dramatic experience.

Maps were sent by post in small diameter cardboard tubes. One, a Speed map of Cambridge, arrived just as I was leaving for the office; so I left in on the hall table to await examination when I arrived home. I should add, that amongst numerous failings, my untidiness is the despair of my wife, who, seeing another cardboard tube (assumedly empty), left about; she deposited it in the domestic rubbish bin, as she informed me when on returning home I enquired about it. But retrieval of the map presented no problem – or would not have done if the Corporation refuse collectors had not emptied the bin less that half an hour before.

Panic stations! Out in the car to trace the refuse truck in a nearby street, only to find that the truck incorporated an up-ending mechanism to shake down its load, and this had been done minutes before. (My good fortune that it wasn't the latest type of container with a compression mechanism). Not to be deterred, I provided the natives with the spectacle of a procession of a refuse vehicle followed by me in my Volvo on the way to the corporation tip, where the obliging refuse-men spread their load on the ground to facilitate search for my treasure.

First time search – no joy, but trying again, a West Indian assistant triumphantly held aloft a cardboard tube, saying, 'Is this it, boss?' It was, and in it the map, not a whit worse for its adventure.

That splendid map – now worth about £500 I suppose – with a brief account of its dramatic adventure attached to it, now occupies an honoured place on a Stephenson wall.

One wonders just how many old maps have by accident, mischance or carelessness 'disappeared' without a happy recovery which was my great good fortune.

CLIFFORD STEPHENSON

Final Straw

WE were saddened to learn of the death of one of the Committee's most valuable members, Someone Else. His passing creates a vacancy that will be hard to fill. Someone Else has been with the Committee from the beginning, and did far more than the normal person's share of the work.

Whenever there was job to do, a helping hand needed, or just an ear required, these words were on everybody's lips: 'let Someone Else do it'. Whenever there was a need for volunteers, everyone just assumed that Someone Else would volunteer.

Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing superhuman. But a person can only do so much. Were the truth known, everyone expected too much of Someone Else.

Courtesy – *The Rose Bulletin*

Geological Maps in the British Library:

Our Hidden Heritage

A VISION of geological resources as treasures hidden in the depths of the Earth comes easily to mind. Less obvious is the fact that library collections of early geological maps equally represent treasure troves for the map historian.

Let's start by identifying the sort of maps we're looking for. 'Geological maps' is used here as a catch-all term for the modern geological map and its predecessors. Up through the late 18th century, geological information was usually shown on mineralogical maps by point symbols marking the locations of outcrops, mineral deposits, mines, springs, etc. Early large-scale plans were also made of mine workings [fig. 1]. Theoretical speculations about physical science, including geology, also made intermittent appearances on maps before the 19th century [fig. 2].

By the mid-18th century, advancing geological knowledge allowed rock types underlying surficial deposits and vegetation to be interpolated between outcrops, and to be represented on maps by coloured and patterned symbols. Such maps, produced first in Germany and later elsewhere, were given various titles, such as *Carte pétrographique*, *Geognostische Karte* [fig. 3], 'Map of strata and soils', etc. During the 19th century, geologists advanced from simple identification of rock types to classifying them according to age and manner of deposition, and the geological map as we know it today came into being [fig. 4].

A cut-off date of 1850 for our search will be late enough to encompass the emergence of the geological map in Europe, yet early enough to represent the period of largely individual activity before the government geological surveys came to dominate geological mapping. We should be looking for both manuscript and published maps. The display of manuscript geological maps at meetings was an important way of presenting new ideas, but many such maps were published, usually in connection with explanatory text.

Through the mid-19th century, the majority of geological maps appeared as plates in scientific journals, geological text-books and books on other topics, such as local history or agriculture, that made mention of geology. Separate sheet maps were also being published, although they would became more common in the second half of the century.

The ideal places to hunt for such maps are specialist libraries, but the 1987 move of the main library of the British Geological Survey from South Kensington to Nottingham has removed this country's best collection of early British and foreign geological maps from the daily range of the London-based researcher. The libraries of the British Museum of Natural History and the Geological Society of London also have substantial holdings of such maps, but resource and storage limitations at both institutions inhibit easy access to the older maps.

The private collection of Joan and Victor Eyles, recently bequeathed to the University of Bristol, represents decades of acquiring old geological books and maps, but is not more convenient to

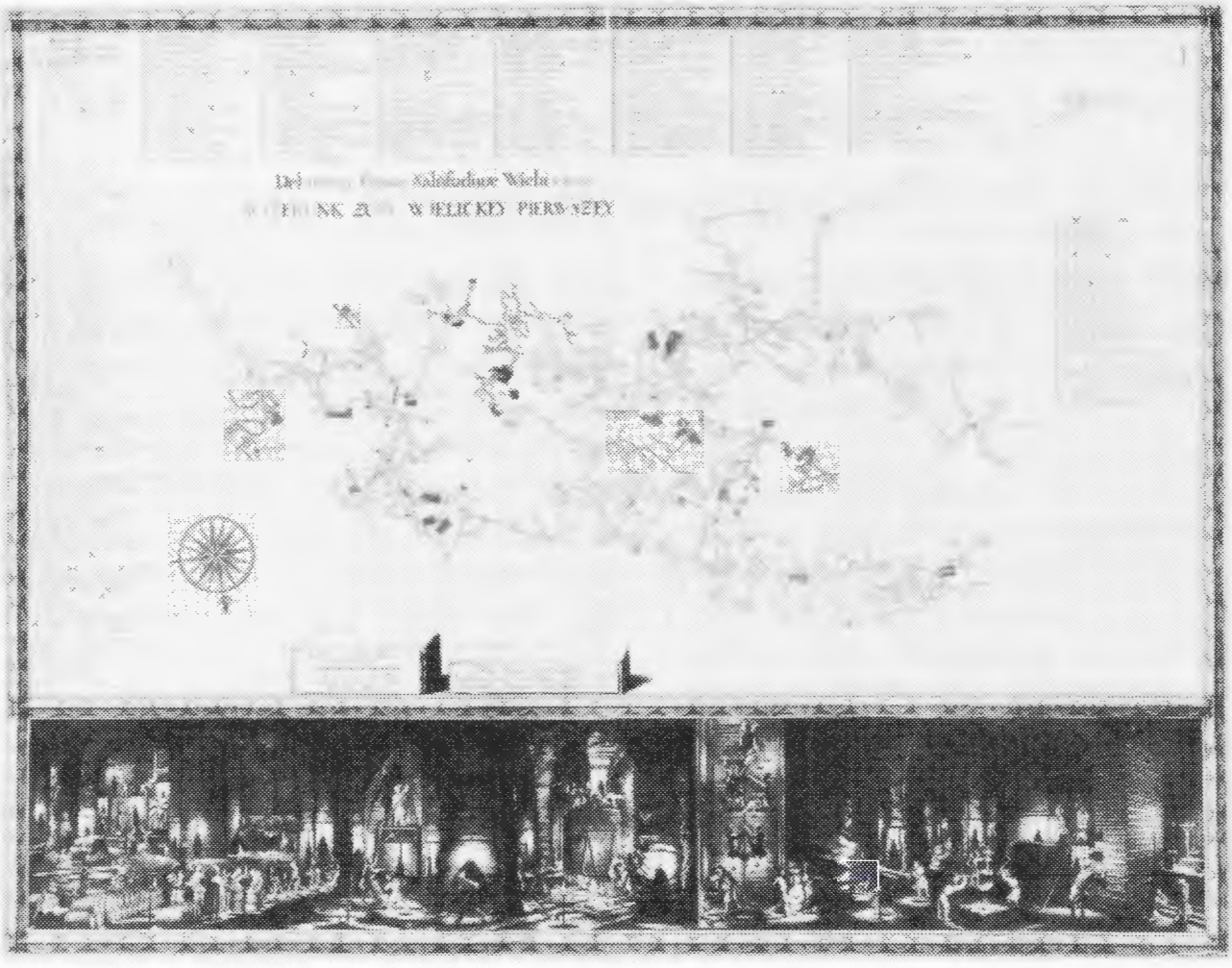


Fig. 1. G. Hondius after M. German, ***Delinatio Primae Salisfodinae Wielicensis. Wizerunk Zupy Wielicky Pierwszey.*** *From:* ***Hae admirandae Salinarum Fodinae (Wielicenses).*** *Gdansk, 1645. By courtesy of the British Library. Maps 144.c.25.*

London than Nottingham. In this situation, the geological holdings of the British Library, a vast general library whose national status would make it significant in any case, assume even greater importance for historical research. The size and complexity of the British Library makes it difficult to assess rapidly the holdings of literature and maps on a particular subject, like geology, but the history of the collections and their arrangement when the library was still part of the British Museum provides plenty of clues to guide the persistent searcher.

Geology-related literature and maps came to the British Museum Library from its foundation in 1753, at first largely by donation and purchase, and after the 1830s increasingly by copyright deposit. The contents of the General Library was organised according to subjects from the start. During a succession of moves, first into Montagu House on the present Bloomsbury site, and then, as the library expanded, into the King's Library Wing in 1828, the North Wing in 1836, the Long Room, the Iron Library encircling the Reading Room in 1857, and the King Edward VII building in 1914, the subject-based arrangement of the General Library collections was retained, even though revised several times.

When arrangement of the library in Montagu House was completed in 1805, it occupied 14 rooms. Natural history books, including geology, were housed in rooms 8 and 9, along with medicine, politics, philosophy and chemistry. The



Fig. 2. Christopher Packe, M.D., ***A Specimen of a Philosophico-Chorographical Chart of East Kent.*** *London, 1743. By courtesy of the British Library. K.Top. XVI.32-2.*

1820 bequest from Sir Joseph Banks of about 16,000 volumes, much of it on natural history, was installed in rooms 5 and 7 in 1827.

However, the contents of Montagu House were moved to the North Wing after its completion in 1836, and literature and natural history and related topics was consolidated in the Banksian Room. The layout of the Banksian Room, even though the actual room has disappeared in subsequent renovations, assists our search for old geological books, because the same pressmarks are still in use for many items. The presses on the ground floor were numbered sequentially 431-462, and each book also bore a shelf letter, starting with smaller books on shelf 'a' at the top of the press and progressing to larger books on the bottom shelves. (After 1875 a 'third mark', consisting of a number, was added to identify each individual item).

A typical surviving pressmark is 456.g.5,6 for John Hutchins' *The History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset* (London, 1774), a copy in which Banks had inserted a manuscript map with geological sections. Around the Gallery of the Banksian Room, the Banks bequest continued in presses 953-965, while books from other sources on geology, natural history, natural science, agriculture, astronomy and topography and travels occupied presses 966-990. For example, John Farey's *General View of the Agriculture and Minerals of Derbyshire* at pressmark 953.e.13 belongs to a group of county reports prepared for the Board of Agriculture, many of which include early maps of soils or geology.

In the 1830s, the book collections expanded into Supplementary Rooms, where new acquisitions were classified in the same way. On the ground floor, natural history occupied presses 725-728, with books about botany and geology at 725 and mineralogy and geology at 726. One example, a German book of 1816, contains an early attempt to map the geology of Europe [fig. 3]. The unusual symbols show the type and direction of the strata, with information about British rocks coming from George Bellas Greenough, whom Moritz von Engelhardt had met in Paris. Additional books on geology were also housed in the gallery of the first Supplementary Room in press 1144.

After the Arched Room was completed in 1841, similar classified sequences of presses were installed to fill it. Press 1254 on the ground floor of the Arched Room held books on geology. Many of these books were 19th century copyright accessions, but some older books were also moved there to relieve congestion elsewhere. Outsize books had their own classified sequence, with geological books included in presses 1823-1825.

The inflexibility of the above pressmark system, as used for the Old Library, was recognised as a problem by Thomas Watts, first hired as a temporary Assistant for the move out of Montagu House. When promoted to Placer of Books after the completion of the North Wing, he devised an expandable classification scheme, known as the 'Elastic System', still being used for placing accessions to the General Library. This system has ten main divisions, one being natural history, with geological books at pressmarks 7104-7109. Periodical publications and publications of corporate bodies (academies) have their own subject-based pressmarks.

Originally, the practice was to mark both presses and books with fixed numbers, but the numbering of presses became impractical when books had to be moved about for various reasons. Even though the books may no longer occupy

the fixed sequence of presses from which their pressmarks originated, those pressmarks still serve to identify them as groups of books with related subject matter.

So how can we employ this knowledge of the General Library pressmark system to locate literature on geology, especially books with maps? Before 1800, readers were sometimes escorted to the shelves to locate books on subjects. From 1807 a shelf-list was maintained in volumes, then as a set of cards (title clips) from 1850; both were used in the past as search aids. The files of title slips still exist, but are usable today only as an internal record of holdings and shelf-marks. However, the solution will be provided by the ongoing project to convert *The British Library General Catalogue of Printed Books to 1975* [London: Clive Bingley, K.G. Saur, 1979] (arranged alphabetically by author in its present form) into computer-readable format.

It has not been feasible to add subject headings for use in on-line searching, but the computer will be able to search for sequences of the subject-based pressmarks. Trial searches of pressmarks on the special B.L.C. Preview File, so far covering only the alphabetical section A – Hall, and accessible only by staff, yielded several hundred geology-related books, a proportion of which include maps. At this point, our hunt would turn into tedious work. Because the old catalogue entries are not very detailed, it would be necessary to check each book for map illustrations.

However, our library-wide hunt for pre-1850 geological literature and maps would not end there, for there are further classificatory nooks and crannies to be searched. So far, the discussion has been about the General Library collections in the British Museum, but a number of special collections, distinguished from the rest by their source or physical character, were kept separate and catalogued in different ways.

The collections in the Map Library fit this qualification in both respects. Although smaller maps could conveniently remain in books in the General Library, the many large atlases and maps required different storage conditions, and did not lend themselves to organisation by subject. The Topographical Collection of King George III, received with the rest of his library in 1823, was arranged according to geographical regions. A catalogue was prepared by 1829, and the maps and views were bound in about 500 guard books, plus atlases and rolled maps, which were stored in tables in the King's Library. The same pressmarks are still in use for this collection. It contains a small number of interesting geological items, such as Christopher Packe's *Philosophico-Chorographical Chart of East Kent*, and its prospectus [fig. 2].

The decision to catalogue the general map collection according to a geographical system was made in 1840. The sheet maps, usually dissected to fold into vertical boxes, were assigned numerical pressmarks according to a geographical classification. Maps whose format allowed them to be shelved like books (atlases and folded maps in hard covers or cases) received the prefix 'Maps' followed by the press number, shelf letter, and item number [figs. 1 and 4]. The early maps of the British Geological Survey, which was part of the Ordnance Survey until 1845, do not seem to have been included in the extensive copyright deposit of Ordnance Survey topographic sheets.

The Map Library's set of the British Geological Survey's first published sheets covering Cornwall, Devon and



Fig. 3. ***Versuch einer Geognostischen Karte von Frankreich, Grossbrittanien, einem Theile Deutschlands und Italiens.*** *From Moritz von Engelhardt and Karl von Raumer,* ***Geognostische Umrisse von Frankreich, Grossbrittanien, einem Theile Teutschlands und Italien.*** *Berlin, 1816. By courtesy of the British Library. 725.i.22.*



Fig. 4. Richard Griffith, ***Geological Map of Ireland to Accompany the Report of the Railway Commissioners, 1837.*** *From:* ***Atlas to Accompany 2d Report of the Railway Commissioners, Ireland, 1838.*** *Dublin, 1838. By courtesy of the British Library. Maps 145.e.29.*

West Somerset (1839 edition) was purchased just a few years ago. However, the early 19th-century, manuscript Ordnance Survey Drawings deposited in the Map Library do include a number of sheets on which the surveyors also recorded geological information. After completion of the Iron Library in 1857, maps were housed and consulted in the basement of the South-East Quadrant until moved to the King Edward VII building in 1915.

Because of their geographical organisation, a subject-based search of the Map Library's pre-1975 accessions would presently be an impossible task were it not for *The British Museum Catalogue of Printed Maps, Charts and Plans* [London, 1967] and its *Ten-Year Supplement* [London, 1978]. Although the map catalogue is arranged alphabetically by geographical names, with supplementary articles for map authors and publishers, the major geographical headings do have topical sub-headings by which geological and related maps may be identified. However, smaller regions do not have sub-headings, and scanning the catalogue cover-to-cover was the only way to conduct a thorough subject search. The yield of pre-1850 British geology-related maps was about 80, German about 70, and French about 35.

This includes maps from the King's Topographical Collection, which are entered individually in the Map Catalogue. Since 1975 the Map Library accessions have been catalogued on the Cartographic Materials File. The microfiche version provides access only by author, title and geographical name, but the complete file now accessible on-line through the British Library's Blaise-Line allows subject searching. If and when the map catalogue of pre-1975 accessions are converted retrospectively to machine-readable format, some sort of subject searching may also be possible.

Another set of collections maintained separately from the beginnings of the British Museum Library is that of the Department of Manuscripts. The foundation collections in the Department of Manuscripts have been catalogued individually; subsequent accessions are designated as Additional Manuscripts and numbered in order of accession. Fortunately for the subject searcher, there exists in the Manuscripts Reading Room a multi-volume classed catalogue started in the mid-19th century (no longer being maintained) in which geology-related material is entered under 'Natural History'. The classed catalogue has been continued after a fashion as a subject card index, consisting of subject listings under various headings (geology, mineralogy, natural science, etc.) extracted from the published Indexes of Additions to Manuscripts. The Department of Manuscripts holds a small but significant amount of geological material, such as scientific notes and correspondence, which includes some maps. For example, Add.Mss.7971 consists of an 1828 account of a *Voyage minéralogique du Caire jusqu'à l'Arabie Petrée* illustrated by a map with coloured geological area symbols.

After the State Papers Room was set up in the late 19th century, government publications received by copyright deposit or by international exchange were placed there. Such material had formerly been dispersed in the General Library, and an effort was made to transfer some of it to State Papers. For example, the sequence of pressmarks on the flyleaf of the British Geological Survey's first-published *Report on the Geology of Cornwall, Devon and West Somerset* [London, 1839] indicates that it was placed in the General Library in the mid-19th century and transferred to the

Map Library before ending up in State Papers. However, the related report on the fossils of the area published in 1841 remains at its original General Library pressmark. The transfers of the early official geological publications of other countries into what is now the Official Publications and Social Sciences Library have been equally sporadic. The OP&SS holdings, which are catalogued under country of publication by the published agency, can be accessed through the General Library catalogues.

Other departments of the British Library fall outside the scope of this paper. The older collections, such as the Patent Office Library, which have been combined into the Science Reference and Information Service [SRIS], may also contain some material relevant to our search, but they are modern additions to the British Library. The East India Company archives in the India Office Library and Records (which came under British Library administration in 1982) had developed their own organisation, pre-dating the British Museum, and would need to be searched separately for documentary materials on the history of Indian geology.

In conclusion, it is not just the contents of the British Library that form a valuable heritage for the historical researcher, but also the systematic way in which the collections were organised by our British Museum Library forebears. By applying modern computer-aided technology to probe the old manuscript-based sequences of pressmarks, it should be possible within a few years to explore the British Library's older accessions of printed books for literature on a variety of topics with almost as much efficiency as we can now search recently acquired computer-catalogued material.

KAREN SEVERUD COOK

FURTHER READING:

R.C. Alston. *The Arrangement of Books in the British Museum Library, 1843-1973.* London: Chadwyck-Healey, in association with the British Library, 1986.

From the Chairman's Desk

BY THE time you receive this **Journal**, we will be fast approaching the Reception, Dinner and Map Fair week-end, and the Committee and I look forward to meeting many of you again, and perhaps some for the first time. On other pages you will find notification of the Athens Symposium and travel arrangements for this. Please do not delay in making your bookings. The closing date is the 18th June, the day of the Map Fair.

If you are still uncertain, we are hoping to have a video about Athens on show at the Map Fair. Please view it and find out what you will be missing! U.K. members and any overseas visiting members will also find information for booking the Regional One Day Meeting in York on 4th November. Again, please book early, as this enables us to perfect our planning, and makes life so much easier for the organiser.

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Writings About Maps

THIS piece started off as a letter to the Editor, inspired by Cosimo's article 'Writings about Maps' in the last IMCoS **Journal** [issue No.35]. However, the letter became rather longer than I intended, so that the Editor has kindly agreed to publish it as follow-on article.

Cosimo, in my view, has touched on a topic that will run for several issues, as bringing to light quotations revealing how contemporary bystanders thought about maps is in itself catalytic. May I add a few further examples which have caught my own imagination? Like Cosimo, I have confined myself to verse or prose which could be considered literary, rather than practical or utilitarian.

Christopher Marlowe's plays pre-date those of Shakespeare, and it was Marlowe's Tamburlaine, who, in his dying moments cried out:

> Give me a map; then let me see how
> much is left for me to conquer all
> the world...[1]

What a splendid reminder of Tamburlaine's limitless ambitions and his dreams of conquering the whole of the world! He incites his sons to extend their domains westwards to the New World: '...see what a world of ground lies westward from the midst of Cancer's line unto the rising of this earthly globe...'

Marlowe's older contemporary, Edmund Spencer, in his *Faerie Queene* conjures up a vivid picture of a worried mariner consulting his 'card' (his chart or map) and compass during a story crossing of the Irish Sea:

> As pilot well expert in perilous wave,
> That to a steadfast starre his course
> hath bent,
> When foggy mistes or cloudy tempests
> have
> The faithful light of that faire lamp
> yblent
> And cover'd heaven with hideous
> dreiment,
> Upon his card and compass firmes his
> eye,
> The maysters of long experiment
> And to them does the steddy helme
> apply,
> Bidding his winged vessell fairly forward fly.[2]

Shakespeare's varied references to maps and globes have been explored by Victor Morgan in one of the essays in *English Map-Making*[3] (reviewed in IMCoS **Journal**, Winter 1983 issue). As well has the long passage from *Henry IV* Part I cited by Cosimo, Morgan elucidates quotations from the *Comedy of Errors, Henry V, Henry VI* Part II, *King Lear, Titus Andronicus* and the *Merchant of Venice*. I like the last-named, where Solario – without doubt a devotee of maps – addresses his merchant friend Antonio at the very beginning of the play:

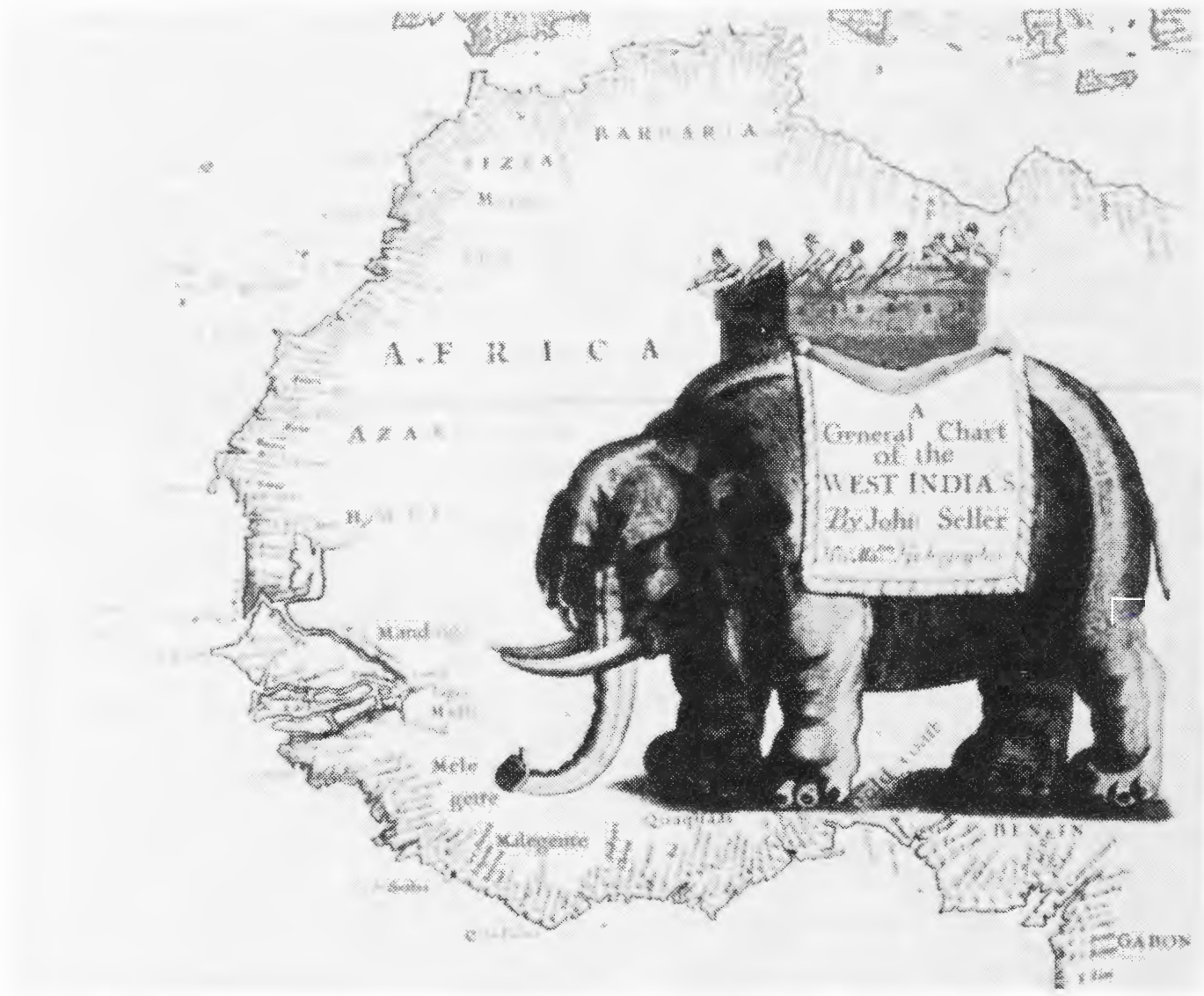
> Believe me, sir, had I such venture
> forth,
> The better part of my affections would
> Be with my hopes abroad. I should be
> still
> Plucking the grass, to know where sits
> the wind;
> Peering in maps for ports, and piers
> and roads...[4]

The early seventeenth century poet and divine John Donne often weaves cosmographical allusions into his writings. Donne's work is sometimes clever to the point of obscurity, mixing allegory and imagery in fanciful conceits. His

Hymn to God my God, in my Sicknesse was probably written in 1630, when Donne was within a few weeks of his death, with stanzas 1–3 comparing his fever-wracked human body to a map of the world:

> Whilst Physitians by their love are growne
> Cosmographers, and I their Mapp, who lie
> Flat on this bed, that by them may be showne
> That this is my South-west discoverie
> Per fretum febris, by these streights to die.
> I joy, that in these straits, I see my West;
> For, though their currants yeeld returne to none,
> What shall my West hurt me? As West and East
> In all flatt Maps (and I am one) are one,
> So death doth touch the Resurrection.
>
> Is the Pacifique Sea my home? Or are
> The Easterne riches? Is Jerusalem?
> Anyan, and Magellan, and Gibraltere,
> Are streights, and none by streites, are wayes to them,
> Whether where Japhet dwelt, or Cham, or Sem.[5]

What does this all mean? As usual, it can be interpreted in several ways, with emphasis on the physical or the theo-



This African section of John Seller's 'A General Chart of the West India's' from his ***English Pilot*** *book 4, part 4, 1671, flaunts an elephant as a title cartouche, which may well have prompted Jonothan Swift's satirical quatraine (by courtesy of the British Library).*

logical. In one of his more youthful elegies, the *Second Anniversary*, Donne idealises the body of a young girl as being made up of parts of the world:

> The Westerne treasure, Easterne spicerie
> Europe, and Afrique, and the unknowne rest...
> Twenty such parts, whose plenty and riches is
> Enough to make twenty such worlds as this.

In his *Hymn*, under examination by doctors, Donne looks at his ailing frame as if it were a map rolled out on a flat surface. Close to mortal peril – in dire straits – he sees his forthcoming voyage through the straits of fever and death as analogous to the early discoverers who, by setting sail south-west, attained the New World. Then there were those who journeyed west through straits (those of Le Maire, recently discovered), to reach the East Indies. As on any flat map, going round the world brings the traveller to either east or west; thus east and west are one.

In theological terms (which Donne argued in an earlier poem, *Goodfriday 1613 Riding Westward*) west is the passage of life towards death, but in the east lies the birth of Christ and the Resurrection. And, although unlike those before him, Donne's passage is one of no return, in his death, surely he will find deliverance. Is the calm of the Pacific to be his goal, or the worldly riches of the East? Or the spiritual ideals of Jerusalem? Whichever straits he takes, all straits (mean perils) lead that way, whether the traveller comes from any of the supposed dwelling places of the sons of Noah: Europe (Japhet), Africa (Cham) or Asia (Sem).

While still in the same century, let those of us who are keen browsers in book and map shops, remember with affection the otherwise austere historian and philosopher Thomas Hobbes. So we are told by Aubrey, in a typical brief biography, that 'He tooke great delight there [in Oxford] to goe to the bookebinders' shops, and lye gaping on mappes...'[6] Hobbes himself, writing a biography of his life in Latin verse when he was nearly 80, recalled his undergraduate days (here translated by a not very inspired contemporary):

> My Phancie and my Mind divert I do,
> With Maps Celestial and Terrestrial too.
> Rejoice t'accompany Sol cloathed with Rays,
> How Drake and Candish a Girdle made
> Quite round the World, what Climates they survey'd;
> And strive to find the smaller cells of Man
> And painted Monsters in their unknown Den.
> Nay there's a fulness in Geography;
> For Nature e'r abhored Vacuity.[7]

To move on to the eighteenth century, in IMCoS **Journal** No.35, Cosimo quoted Swift's well-known quatrain – but with a slight slip in the third line which should have read 'o'er *un*habitable Downs'; not 'o'er *n*habitable Downs'!:

> So Geographers in Afric-maps
> With Savage-Pictures fill their Gaps
> And, o'er unhabitable Downs
> Place Elephants for want of Towns.[8]

What might be of interest is to illustrate the actual map, or part of it, which it is believed Swift had in front of him, or at least in mind. This is thought to have been John Seller's 'General Chart of the West India's', of which the illustration shows the top right-hand quarter. The rest of the map covers the

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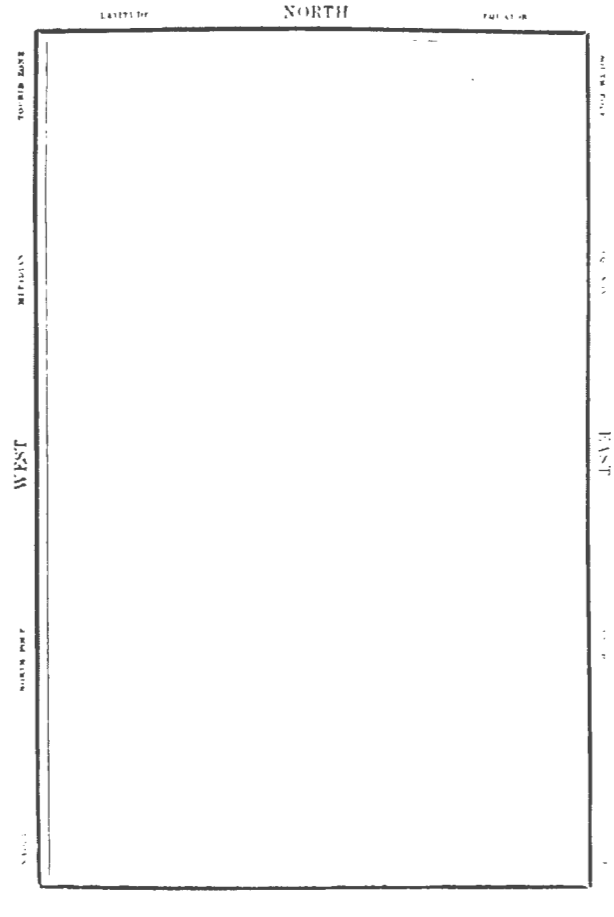
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Atlantic Ocean, the West Indies and large parts of north and south America, so that the title is more appropriate than the section shown might indicate. The map certainly bears out Swift's satirical verse, and no better or more likely example has been found.

Rather easier to comprehend than Donne's analogy is the large map which had been procured by the Bellman in Lewis Carroll's *Hunting of the Snark*, of which a few lines were quoted by Cosimo in IMCoS **Journal** No. 35. Again, the point of the verse is better revealed



OCEAN-CHART.

when the nature of his map can be seen, as it is here. For good measure, here are Lewis Carroll's lines as published in 1876:

> He had bought a large map representing the sea,
> Without the least vestige of land:
> And the crew were much pleased when they found it to be
> A map they could all understand.
> 'What's the good of Mercator's North Poles and Equators,
> Tropics, Zones and Meridian Lines?'
> So the Bellman would cry: and the crew would reply
> 'They are merely conventional signs!'
>
> 'Other maps are such shapes, with their island and capes!
> But we've got our brave Captain to thank'
> (So the crew would protest) 'that he's brought us the best –
> A perfect and absolute blank!'[9]

The magazine *The Map Collector* is to be commended for diligently indexing questions that appear in its issues. There is usually a 'Quotation of the Day' that appears in the letters columns, although of late most quotations have been more utilitarian than literary. Another source, not so easily accessible, is the volume 'Cartophilia', a collection of twenty-one quotations about maps, edited by David Woodward, which was presented to Arthur Robinson on his retirement in 1980.

I hope other readers of the **Journal** will come forward with fresh examples of literary quotations.

RODNEY W. SHIRLEY

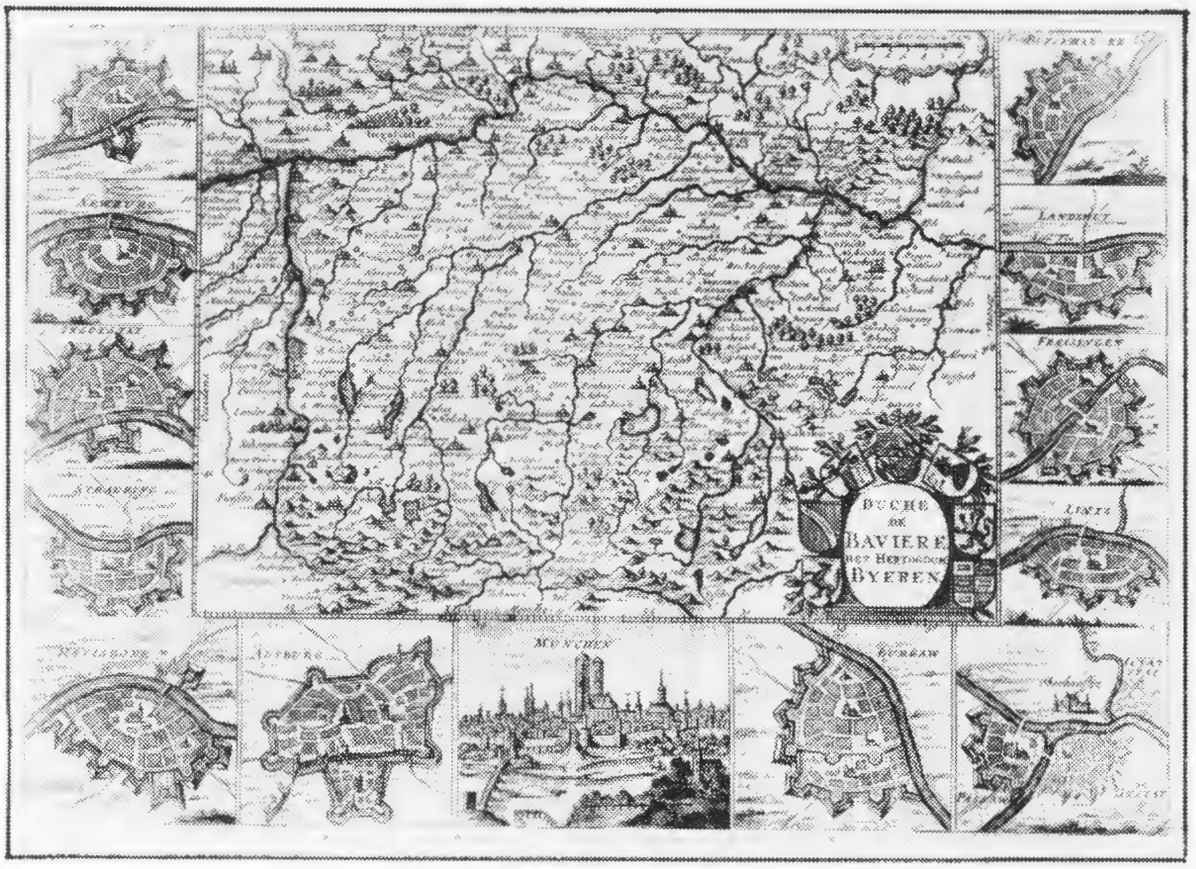
Sources:

1. Christopher Marlowe, *The Second Part of Tamburlaine the Great*; V.iii, 1590.
2. Edmund Spencer, *The Faerie Queene*; II, 7.1, 1590–96.
3. Victor Morgan, *The Literary image of globes and maps in early modern England*, in English Map-Making 1500–1650 ed. Sarah Tyacke, 1983.
4. William Shakespeare, *The Merchant of Venice*; I, 1, 1598.

Continued on page 47

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Successful Symposium on Maps

[Reprinted from *News from the South African Library*]

IT IS almost ten years since the State Library held an international conference on maps in 1979, and after such a long period, those concerned with maps gathered at the South African Library in November to discuss the subject once again. Altogether, 71 people registered for the two days, and judging by the conversations during teas and lunches, the delegates appreciated the variety in the programme as well as the quality of the speakers' presentations. Of course, the fascination and beauty of the older maps in particular lent their own touch of magic to the proceedings.

Justice Van den Heever, Chairman of the Board of the South African Library, began the proceedings by welcoming everyone, after which Dr.O.I. Norwich gave a most interesting survey of the maps of Africa since 1486 based on his own extensive collection. A highlight of his address was his discussion of a rare map by Pizani containing may interesting geographical and historical features.

Mr C.G.C. Martin from the University of Cape Town spoke on maps as a means of communication, and described how maps had developed from drawings on rock and tablets, through the vellum manuscript maps to modern printed maps. His discussion of the plane chart era, and the early navigational instruments, helped all of the delegates to appreciate better the maps before Mercator.

Fourcade, that eccentric but brilliant Basque who made such a major contribution to late nineteenth and early twentieth century scientific knowledge at the Cape, was the subject of an address by Mr C. Storrar. His pioneering work in stereoscopic photographic techniques, and his production of a highly accurate map of Devil's Peak, held everyone's attention.

Dr Norwich then spoke on Chinese maps of Africa. While Prince Henry's navigators were feeling their way down the west coast of Africa, the Chinese merchant navy sailed the Indian Ocean, exploring both east and southern Africa in the path of the Arab traders. During discussion, one delegate raised the question whether the evidence for the spread of Chinese culture had not in fact been carried by Indian mariners.

Mrs E. Garson used the collection at the University of Witwatersrand as a basis for a survey of the development of maps which culminated in a discussion of invaluable series such as the manuscript maps of the Royal Engineers, and the Goad insurance plans of Johannesburg, Cape Town and Grahamstown. During her talk she made a plea for a national bibliography of maps.

Official maps were dealt with by Mr D.J. Buckley from the Natal Society Library, who described the early cadastral mapping and triangulation surveys, the colonial maps, and the official irrigation and topographical surveys. Aerial surveys began in 1934 and these lead on to the modern series.

Miss M. Cartwright from the South African Library discussed cartobibliography, covering the main sources of information on maps and mapping, sch as published bibliographies, library catalogues, exhibition catalogues and auction programmes.

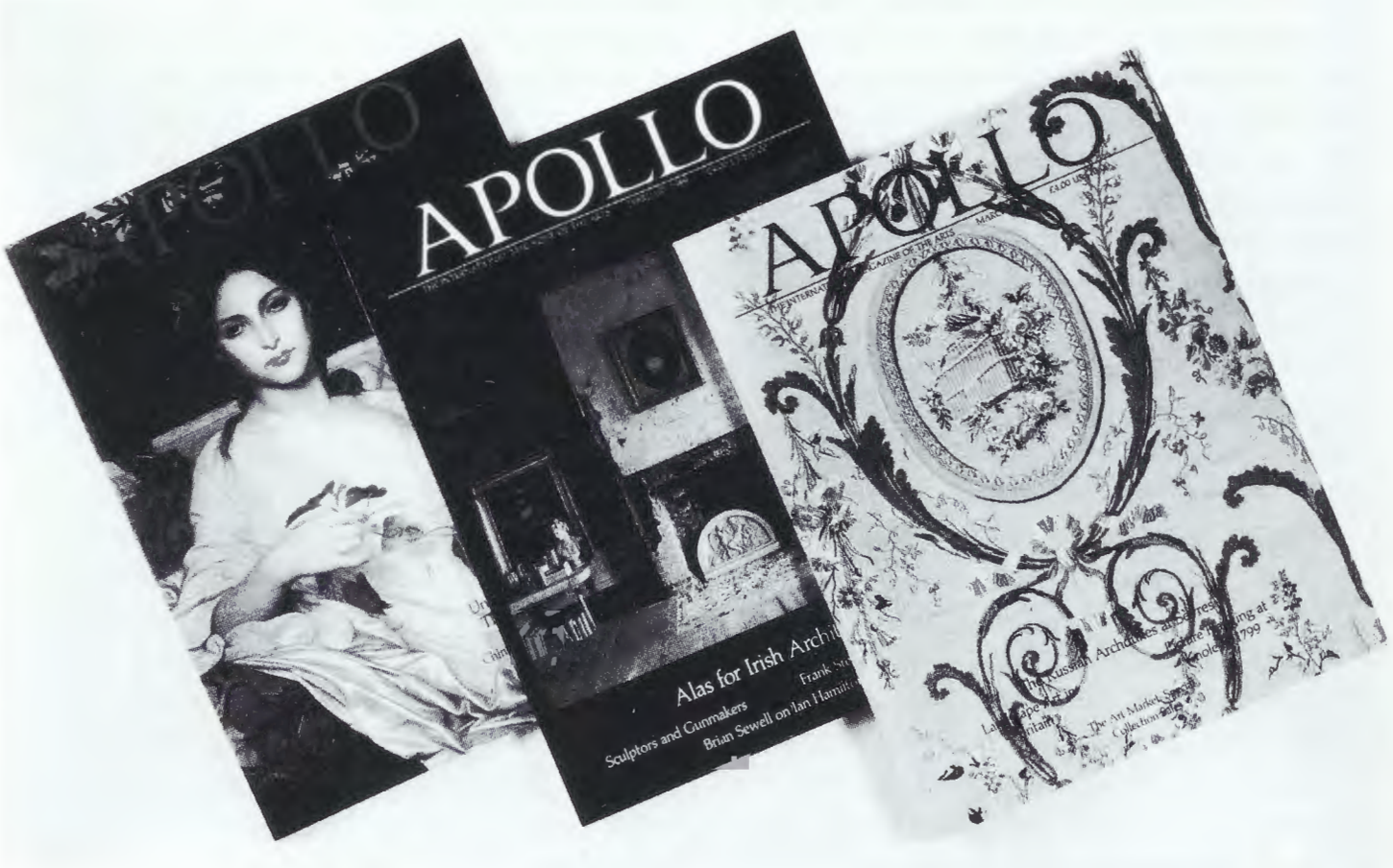
The problem of cataloguing maps were discussed by Mr C. de Leeuw, also from the South African Library; problems such multiple access points, area

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and subject classification, and standardisation of description.

Mr J.C.N. Maree gave a fascinating survey of preservation problems, providing much valuable advice on how to care for and store maps. A case study of the restoration of an eighteenth century map clearly illustrated the techniques used by restorers.

The education of map librarians was the topic of a survey conducted by Mr J.C. Theron of Unisa; he concluded that there was insufficient demand for courses specifically for map librarians, but that map librarianship should be an element in basic courses, and was a suitable topic at an advanced level.

During the final session, six delegates gave short presentations on 'map miscellanea'. Miss R. du Plessis described the computerised cataloguing of maps at UOFS using INMAGIC on a microcomputer. Ms M. Jeffrey showed how the Bernard Price Institute had produced a geological map of Gondwanaland. Mrs E. Biggs spoke of the maps in the Simon's Town Museum and their role in the study of the history of Simon's Town. Mr D.B. McLennan discussed the various map collections in the Cape Archives. Capt. N.R. Guy described how nautical charts are produced by the Hydrographic Office. Mr. R.G. Taylor explained how he had prepared historic town plans for publication by repairing damaged portions, and by tracing and redrawing these plans.

On Saturday many of the delegates went on a most successful outing to the Rhodes Library, Groote Schuur, Houte Bay Museum and Simon's Town Museum.

* *Coinciding with the Map Symposium which was held from 24th – 26th November, 1988, an exhibition of 80 maps entitled 'Maps of Africa' was on display at the South African Library, Cape Town, until March, 1989.*

WRITINGS ABOUT MAPS

Continued from page 43

5. John Donne, *Hymn to God my God, in my Sicknesse;* stanzas 1–3, c.1630.
6. John Aubrey, *Brief Lives;* written throughout Aubrey's life (1626–1697) but not published in complete form until 1897.
7. *Thomae Hobbesii Malmesburiensis Vita, authore seippso;* anonymous contemporary translation, 1680.
8. Jonathan Swift, *On Poetry, A Rhapsody;* 12, 1733.
9. Lewis Carroll, *The Hunting of the Snark. An agony, in eight fits.* Fit the second, 1876.

Lancaster Exhibition

A collection of *Antique Maps of the County Palatine of Lancaster, 1570-1870,* was on display in the library of Lancaster University in February. The exhibition was arranged by Dr Ian Saunders of the Physics Department. Whether or not the claim made in an introductory note that it was probably the most comprehensive display of county maps ever mounted is true, it was certainly one of the best exhibitions of its kind that this observer has seen. The range of items was excellent, and the written material, in the catalogue and the captions, was accurate and enlightening, avoiding for the most part those well-worn sentences we have encountered so often.

JSJ

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Alarm at the Royal Geographical Society

THE ANNUAL grant to the Royal Geographical Society, pegged at £54,000 since 1985, may be in jeopardy, according to a report in the *Observer* dated 16th April 1989. The Society had asked for an increase in the sum, but the reply from the Office of Arts and Libraries has spread alarm in the RGS headquarters in Kensington Gore, London.

It appears that the whole question of the grant is under review, and that public access to the RGS collection of 800,000 maps and 4,500 atlases is in jeopardy. Between 1,500 and 2,000 members of the public use the collection each year, and the sum needed to maintain it is estimated at about two or three times the present grant of £54,000.

However, a spokeswoman for the Office of Arts and Libraries said recently: 'They are perhaps more worried about the review than they should be. We are not foreseeing any problem renewing the grant, although it is up to the present Minister. The review is an administrative matter, and we expect to announce a decision soon.'

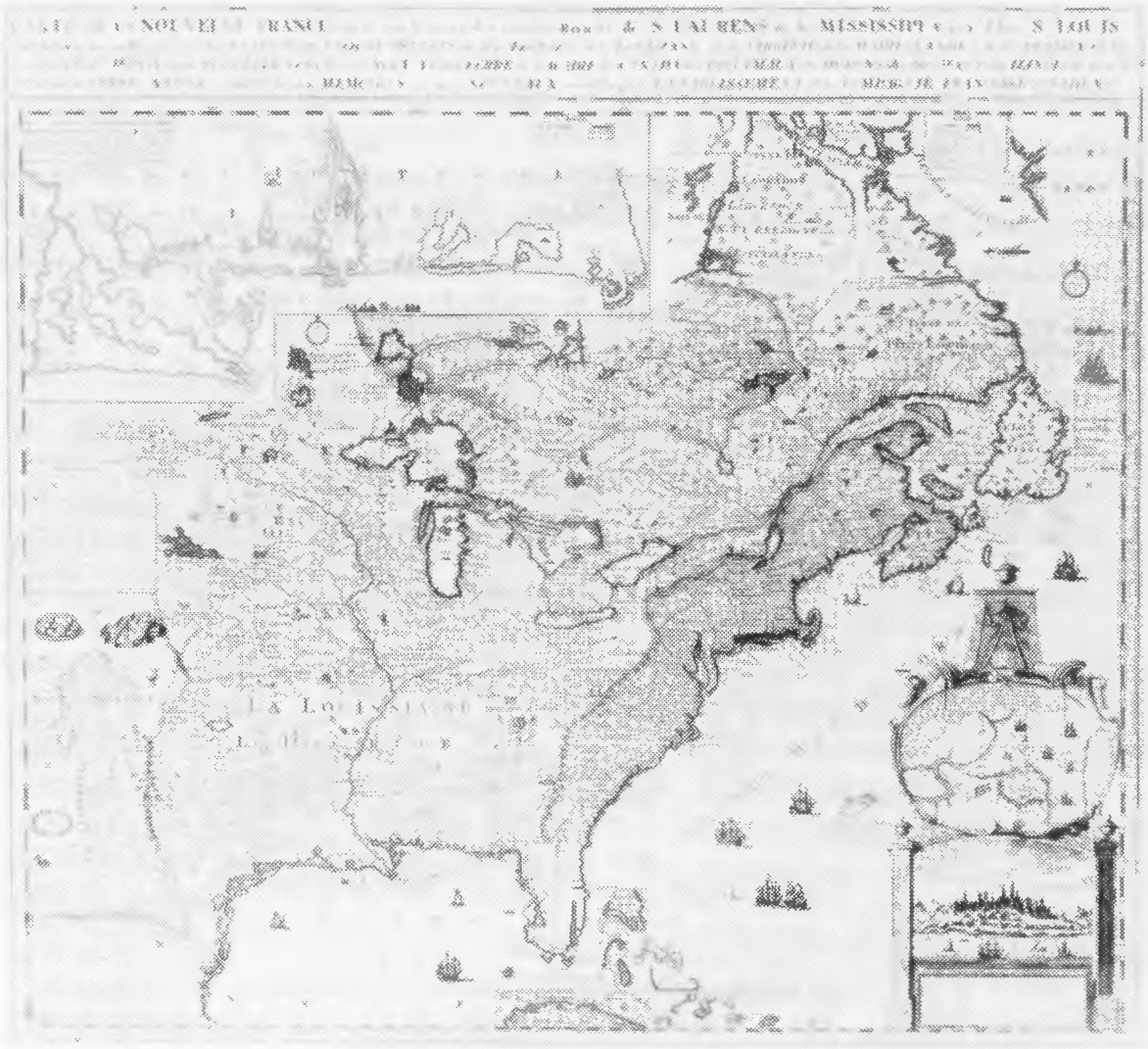
Forthcoming Diary Dates

1989	
7th June:	IMCoS Executive Committee Meeting
16th June:	IMCoS Reception, the Map House, London.
17th June:	Symposium; British Library, London.
17th June:	Annual Dinner at Imperial College, London
18th June:	Map Fair at the New Connaught Rooms, London.
18th-22nd June:	The London Book and Map Fairs.
25th-1st July:	The History of Cartography Conference: Amsterdam, Leiden and the Hague.
12th July:	IMCoS Executive Committee Meeting
13th September:	IMCoS Executive Committee Meeting
6th-8th October:	IMCoS/Society for Hellenic Cartography. Seventh International Symposium: Athens, Greece.
4th November:	IMCoS full day Regional Meeting, York [U.K.]
8th November:	IMCoS Executive Committee Meeting
1990	
10th January:	IMCoS Executive Committee Meeting
October:	Washington Symposium
Advance Dates/Venues under Discussion	
1991 October:	Copenhagen Symposium
1991 June:	Reykjavik Symposium.

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Modern Maps of Ghana

IN MOST 'western world' countries, one can normally walk into a reputable stationer's and purchase up to date large scale maps of the country one is in. This though, is not so in many other parts of the world, and a few notes on the modern maps available in Ghana (formerly the Gold Coast), West Africa, and still very a third-world country, may be of interest.

Some early maps exist, but the first full and proper survey of the country was carried out by the then colonial Survey of Ghana during the period 1924 to 1932. This resulted in the production of a 1:62,500 scale series being produced, of some 360 sheets; each covering a $^1/_4$ degree by longitude and latitude. The scale of 1:62,500 seems a strange one to use, and no one now, not even the present Chief Cartographer, seems to know why it was chosen.

Although the sheets provided the first full coverage of the country, it is interesting to note that the printed sheets give no information as to sources or date, and do not even have a key to the convention signs used. An extract from one sheet is at Fig. 1.

In the early 1970s, a complete re-map-

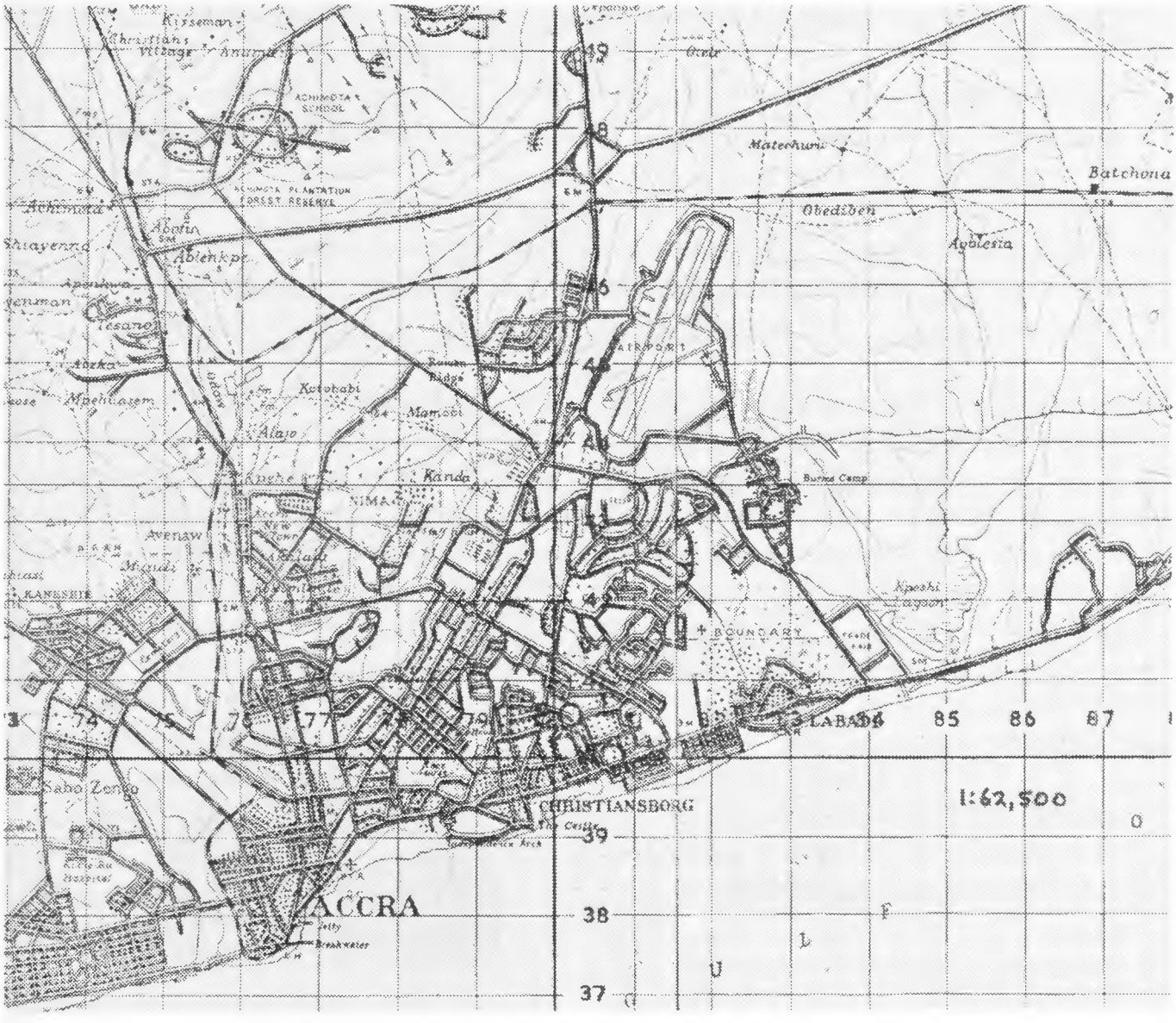


Fig. 1: Extract from a sheet in the 1:62,500 scale series.

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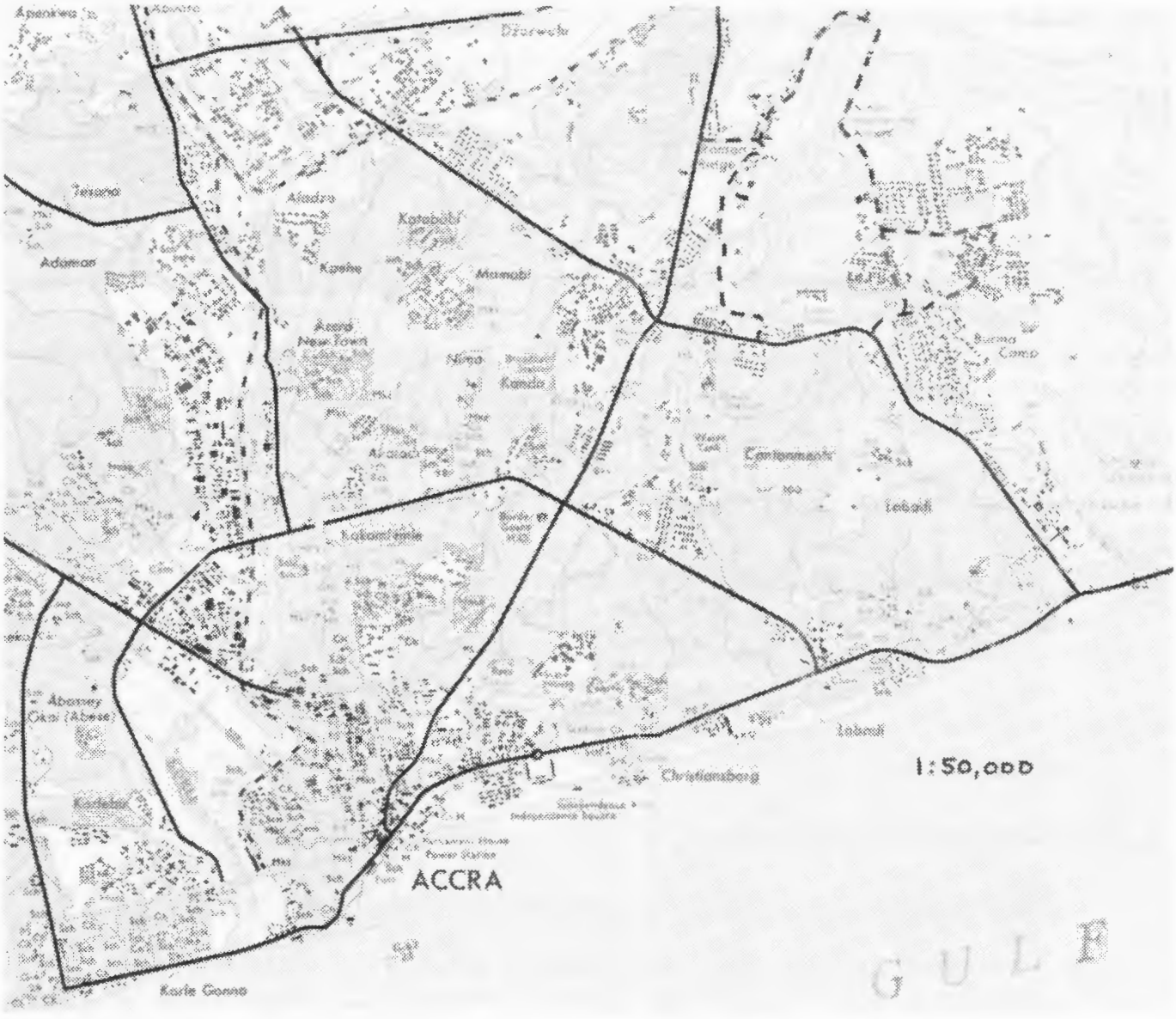


Fig. 2: The same area as shown on the 1970s 1:50,000 scale series.

ping of the country was undertaken by the Canadians as a Commonwealth aid programme. The survey resulted in a new 1:50,000 series being produced, with each sheet, like the previous ones, covering a $^1/_4$ degree in area. Although there have been no revisions since then, it should have meant that reasonably up-to-date maps were now available – but here the problems start.

To produce maps requires materials with which to draw them; paper on which to print them, a machine on which to print them, and a building to house the machine. The shortage of finance at the time of re-mapping, caused in part by the chaotic state of the economy, and a series of military *coups d'états*, meant that only a few sheets, mainly covering the south east of the country were ever actually printed.

An example extract from one, covering the same area as that for the 1:62,500 series is at Fig. 2. Nothing further has happened, until a couple of years ago, when the situation worsened with the printing building being badly damaged in a storm, and only now undergoing slow 'rehabilitation'.

A further problem was that the new series was produced without grid lines; an essential requirement for both the civil and military user who requires grid reference. The writer is at present a member of a small Commonwealth Military Advisory Team to the Ghanaian

Army, and it is quite difficult to organise training on mapping that dates back to the mid-1920s.

The Team has, though, managed to obtain some UK aid funding to solve the gridding problem; but it is a slow, uphill path to overcome. Not only have the materials, down to pens and ink, had to be obtained from the UK, but one's fingers have to remain crossed that when the building is eventually repaired that the now rather sorry-looking derelict machinery can be reinstalled and even made to work again!

With luck, though, by the end of 1989, a number of sheets will be printed for military use with a grid. However, it will be probably be quite a few years before the country can afford the necessary finance to print sheets for the whole country.

Apart from the 1:62,500/1:50,000 series, there are no large-scale maps of the country available to the general public. There are, it is true, some excellent town maps (but now over 15 years old), based on satellite photographs, and a 1:250,000 series. These, though, are produced by 'Western' official sources, and are only available to western governments and their officials.

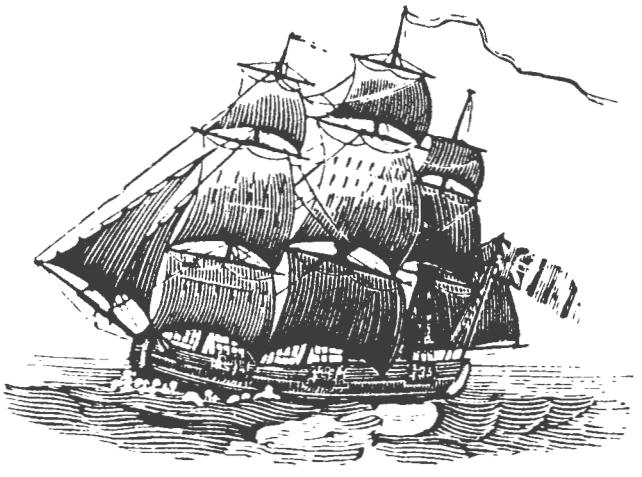
To those used to finding their way around with up-to-date country and town maps obtained without difficulty in the High Street, it is quite a change to have to work with maps often over 60 years old, or at best, to get around the capital city with a European airline-produced rough sketch plan!

MAJOR I.M. TOMES

The Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives – Recent Publications

Early Canadian Topographic Map Series: The Geological Survey of Canada, 1842-1949, by Lorraine Dubreuil. Ottawa, Ontario: Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives, 1988. 71pp. Maps. ISBN 0 9690682 8 X (paperback). $15.00 (Canadian).

Explorations in the History of Canadian Mapping: A Collection of Essays. Edited by Barbara Farrell and Aileen Desbarats. Ottawa, Ontario: Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives, 1988. x, 274pp., ill., maps. ISBN 0 9690682 6 3 (paperback). $25.00 (Canadian). Available from ACMLA c/o MAPS, National Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Canada, K1A ON3. Tel. (613) 995 1079.



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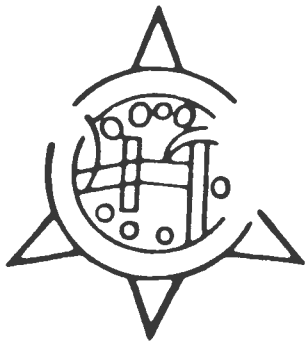
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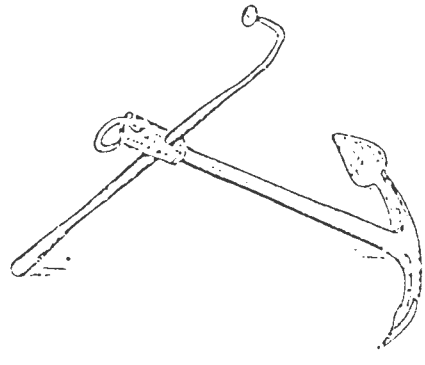
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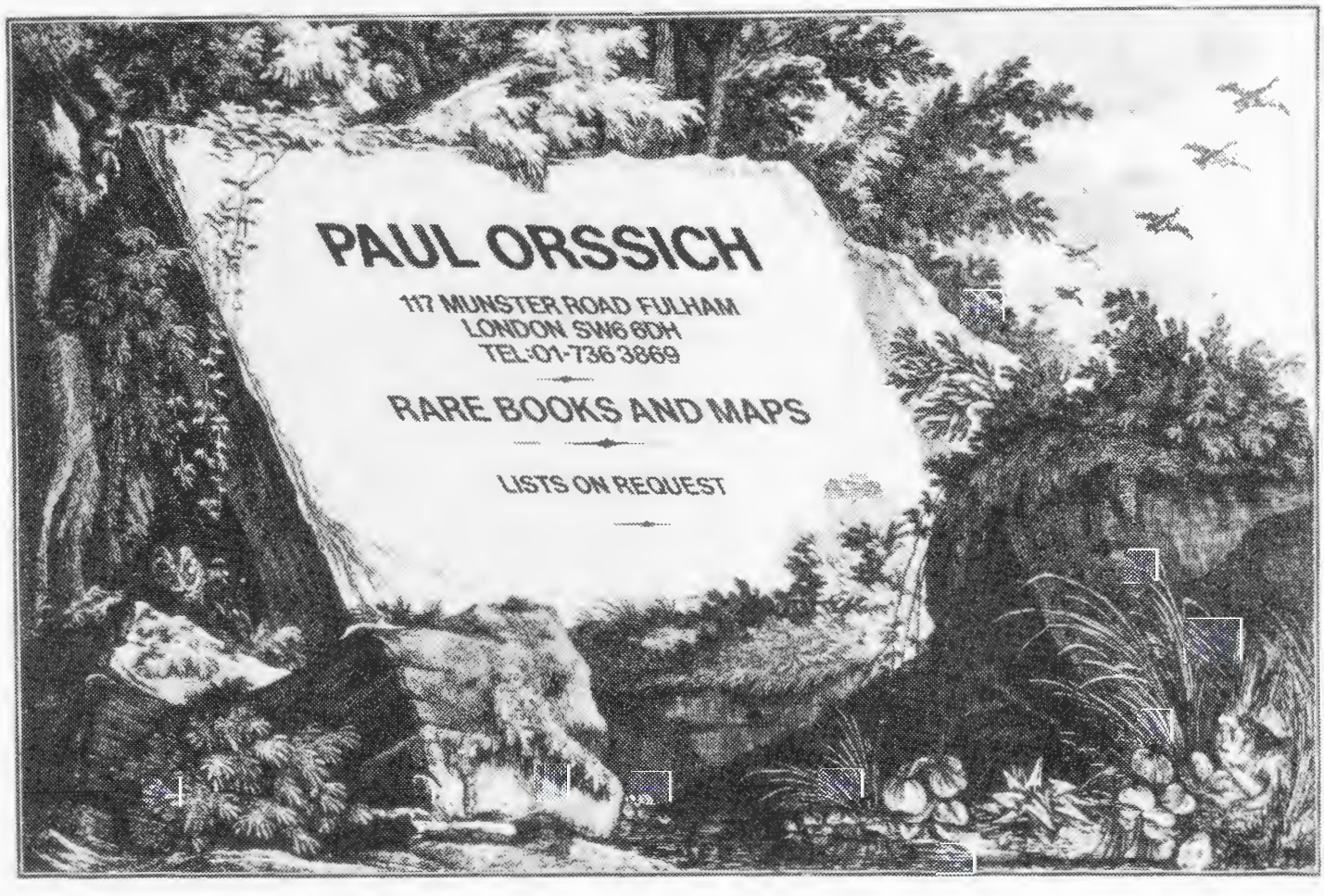
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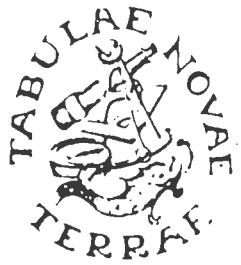
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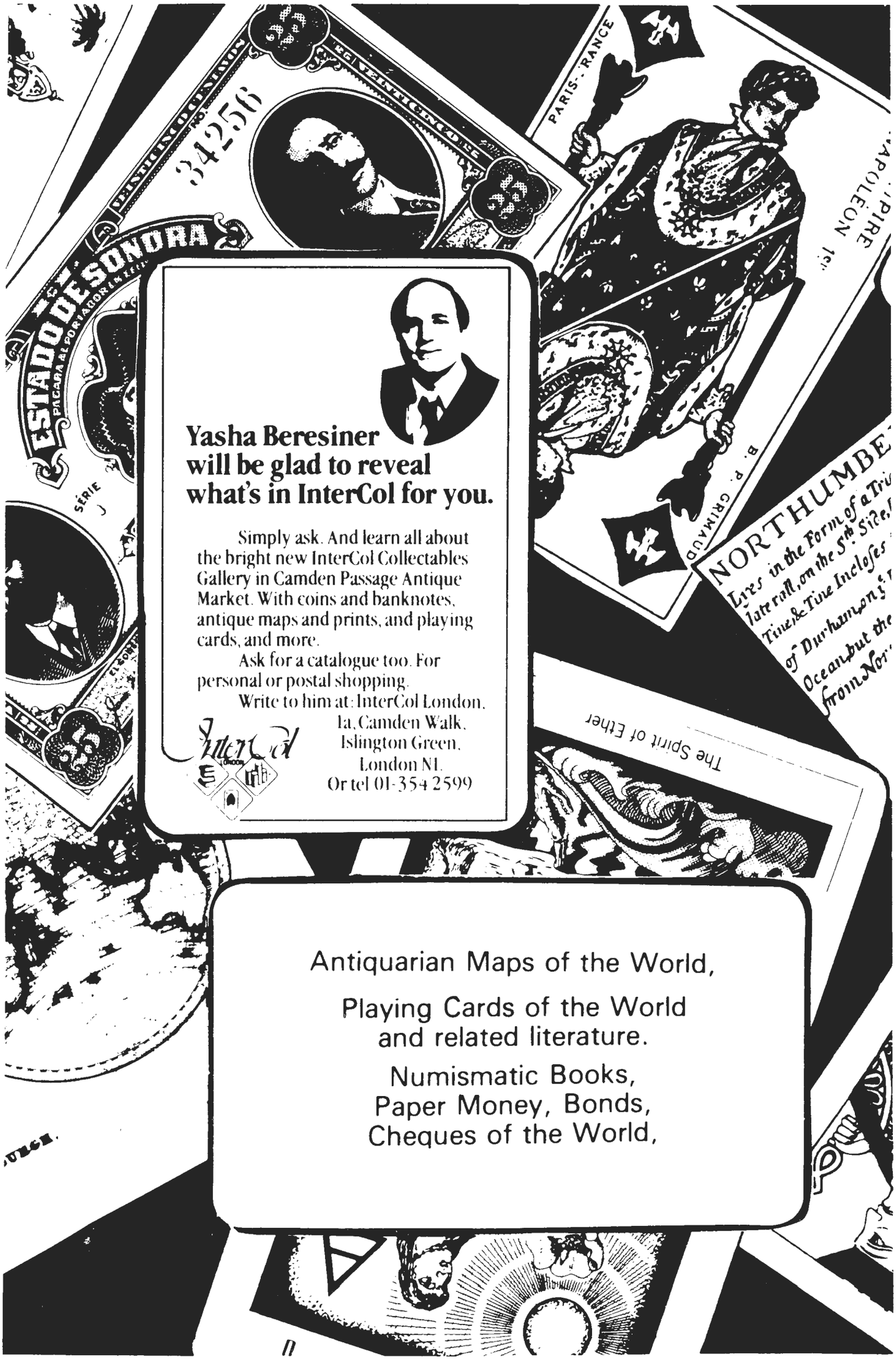
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