SPRING 1996 ISSUE No. 64

IMCOS JOURNAL



THE MAP HOUSE

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Journal of the International Map Collectors' Society

SPRING 1996 ISSUE No. 64

CONTENTS

From the Membership Sec's Desk	4	Chairman's Visit to Riga	27
The map on IMCoS registration form	6	Letters to the Editor	29
A President's Strabo	7	Map Fair Bargain Counter	29
Visit to National Library of Scotland	9	Drake in America	30
Farmers' Club Meeting 1996	10	Remembering our Second President	31
UK News & Events	16	Notice of AGM	31
IMCoS Series of Occasional Papers	18	Ristow Prize Competition	31
The Royal Geographical Society	23	Warburg Lectures	31
International News & Events	25	Book Reviews	33

Cover map: Detail from the 'Carta Marina' of Olaus Magnus of Upsala, printed in Venice, 1539, with later editions in Basle (1567, SB Finckler) and Rome (1572, Lafreri, reduced).

Copy and other material for our next issue (Summer) should be submitted by 1 May 1996. All items for editorial use should be sent to The Editor, Susan Gole, 14 Oakford Rd, London NW5 1AH. Tel: 0171-267 4346. Fax: 0171-267 4356.

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From the Membership Secretary's Desk

Who are our Members?

I have become membership secretary at a time of increasing use of technology and I am anxious to use this for the benefit of IMCoS. I have inherited many manual membership records, some dating back to the inception of IMCoS, and I have been able to transfer all our membership information into a database which has the potential to be used by members. For example, if you collect maps of South America I can tell you which other members of IMCoS are also interested in that area. As a result of the international nature of our society, you may discover someone half way round the world who is interested in the same material and with whom you can share information, queries and maybe even exchange the odd map or two! However, in order to turn this vision into reality, I need to know your specific interest in maps. When they applied to join, not all members indicated their collecting habits! So in some cases we do have this information, but in others we don't. Looking through the records of those who joined before 1990, let me give you a few examples illustrating the diversity of individual responses:

17th & 18th century European maps
Emanuel Bowen and Rutland maps
South East USA, and Palestine
Southeast Asia, particularly Thailand
Cadiz-South Spain, Gibraltar
Town Plans
Devon
Texas & South West America
Southern Wales

Since you joined, it may be that your interest in maps has moved into another area. You may be collecting something different. Here is your opportunity to give us the latest information on what is your current as well as your previous interest. Of course those whose collections are pretty complete may no longer be acquiring more maps of their specialised area, but such collectors, together with academics and professionals in the map world who share the same area of specialism, are a wonderful source of information for others to whom that specialisation is a new area. You could be an inspiration to a new collector.

IMCoS has yet to decide how much information should be published in its List of Members and how much could only be obtained on request from the Membership Secretary. The exchange of information can be facilitated by the increasing use of e-mail and fax. I know that some members will be keen to exchange e-mail addresses so that they can talk to each other and surf the Internet for map information.

With this issue of the Journal, a questionnaire is enclosed, which all members are requested to complete and return, even if it is only to say they do not wish to have the information included on a data base, to the Membership Secretary Jenny Harvey, whose address is on the Contents page.

Please let me have your views by responding on the enclosed pro-forma to the following questions:

I SHOULD LIKE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO BE HELD

	IN THE PUBLISHED LIST OF MEMBERS	ONLY IN THE MEMBERSHIP RECORDS
Name	YES/NO	YES/NO
Address	YES/NO	YES/NO
Telephone	YES/NO	YES/NO
Fax	YES/NO	YES/NO
E-Mail	YES/NO	YES/NO
Type of Member	YES/NO	YES/NO
Particular Interests	YES/NO	YES/NO

Key: Type of Member: Collector/Dealer/Librarian/Academic/Other
Particular Interests: What you collect or specialise in

I appreciate that some members may feel that there are security risks involved and do not wish information about them to enter the public domain. Your response to the following question is therefore also relevant:
WHERE INFORMATION IS HELD IN THE MEMBERSHIP DATABASE, BUT NOT PUBLISHED IN THE DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS, I AM PREPARED TO DIVULGE INFORMATION TO OTHER IMCoS MEMBERS

In such cases the Membership Secretary would pass on the name of the enquirer to the potential respondent for a direct link to be established. In this manner the person who is the source of information retains the initiative rather than having their name passed on unannounced.

The next directory of members will be published in 1997 and at that time we are likely to use a format which includes the fields quoted above. These questions have already been incorporated into the new membership form, which is enclosed for information.

So let's start updating the profile of our membership. You may either complete and send me the information on the pro-forma enclosed, or you may e-mail or fax you response to me:
Fax: +44 181 788 7819
E-mail:
JEH@HARVEY27.DEMON.CO.UK

New Members

Last October when our International Representatives met in San Francisco, it was agreed that we should have some publicity literature describing the Society available for distribution at lectures, meetings or even just to friends. At the

time we also wanted to reprint the membership application form. So we have decided to incorporate both needs into one document. We hope you will agree the new membership form serves as a marketing leaflet for the society as well as a membership application. If you can see opportunities to publicise IMCoS using this leaflet pleas let me know and I will let you have more of them. Our former President, Rodney Shirley, was invited to recommend a world map for the cover, and this unusual and charming map was the first choice.

An International Community

Do our International Representatives know the profile of members in their country? They may not, but they can now. The database which I have described above, with the addition of all your up-to-date responses, can give them a fuller picture of the interests of IMCoS members in their country. This will help them to generate more local contact in those places not yet served by a local Map Society and more fully meet the interests of map lovers who are closest to them

JENNY HARVEY

IMCoS Reproduces a Rare Cordiform Map

IMCoS has a new Application Form, as some members will have seen. The Society wanted to have a world map on the front page to reflect the international spread of the Society's membership and activities. However, this proved more difficult than anticipated.

Most map-makers, unobligingly, did not make their maps the right format, or perhaps the world was the wrong shape to start with. It was easy to find world maps rectangular in form, but not so that they fitted onto a sheet of paper 21 cm tall by 15 cm wide! In the end a suitable map was found, and as it may not be familiar to many readers — and certainly most new applicants will not know where it comes from — a few words about it seem appropriate.

The map is a heart-shaped one of the world by a little-known Italian map-maker Giacomo Franco. The place of publication was probably Venice and the date suggested is 1586–87, possibly to co-incide with the republication of the writings of the French cosmographer Oronce Fine. Franco's cordiform world is based on the similar map published 20 years earlier in 1566 by Giovanni Cimerlino: both maps derive from the original large cordiform map by Oronce Fine which was published in 1534 or 1536. Credit is given to Fine in the banner at the head of Franco's map and Fine himself is depicted as one of four portraits in the corners, the other three being the ancients Pomponius Mela, Strabo and Ptolemy. The engraver Rafael Faitel whose signature can be faintly seen in the lower right-hand corner is as little known as Franco. No other cartographic works are known by either of these two Italians, and Franco's world map is not mentioned by Tooley in his detailed listing of maps in Italian composite atlases (*Imago Mundi* III, 1939).

Although in the short entry concerning this map in my book *The Mapping of the World* (Entry 152) I refer to 'one or two copies elsewhere', the only example I have actually come across is in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum at Nuremberg. IMCoS is grateful to the Germanisches Nationalmuseum for agreeing that we could reproduce their map on our new Application Form.

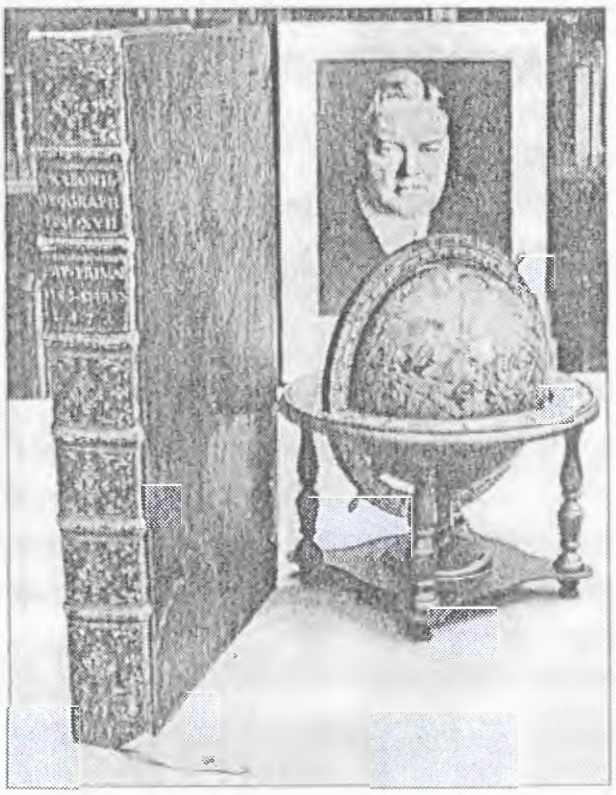
RODNEY SHIRLEY

A President's Strabo

Strabo's *Geographia*[1] is quoted in most histories of cartography and I therefore thought that a note on a particularly fine copy of this incunable might be of interest. However, not knowing too much about its contents, I asked several members at San Francisco to enlighten me. I was a bit disappointed to get rather evasive replies, such as that so-and-so would have been able to answer that question but he is dead. Finally, it rather boiled down to the only person who really knew about Strabo was Helen Wallis, but regretfully dear Helen is no longer with us. So I was left to ponder this situation and I remembered the clerihew about the difference between geography and biography: 'Geography is about maps, and biography is about chaps'.

That was the crux of the matter. Strabo is about maps [2] but our Society is a collectors society and Strabo, as far as I know, does not contain maps to be collected, so he is not of much interest to our members. Nevertheless, atlases and old books on geography can be of interest to map collectors because of their provenance. An atlas exhibited at the Symposium in Madrid in 1992 had a Herbert bookplate which recalled a cartographer of some interest (see my article in the *IMCoS Journal*, No. 53 of Summer 1993).

The copy of Strabo's *Geographia* was published by Vindelius de Spira in Venice in 1472 and is located in the Hoover Library in the Claremont Colleges in Claremont, South California. Herbert Hoover, mining engineer and President of the United States was an ardent book collector and formed a famous collection of



Strabo's Geographia, *Venice, Vindelinus de Spira, 1472, was purchased in London in 1909 by the young mining engineer who later became a U.S. President.*

early books on mining and while living in London in 1909 bought the magnificent Derome-bound red morocco folio of Strabo from J. and J. Leighton for £35. This copy has the bookplates of several famous collectors including the Duke of Brancas or the Comte de Lauraguais as he was known in revolutionary France (1733–1824), the Syston Park (in Grantham, Lincolnshire) Library of Sir John Thorold (1734–1815) and his son (1778–1831), and the English antiquarian Henry White (1826–1900. The autograph of another famous bibliophile, Herman Hoskier, was on the flyleaf of this volume. Hoskier was particularly interested in the profuse marginalia of this folio as he thought he detected the hand writing of the learned monk of Florence, Georgio Antonio Vespucci, the uncle and tutor of Amerigo

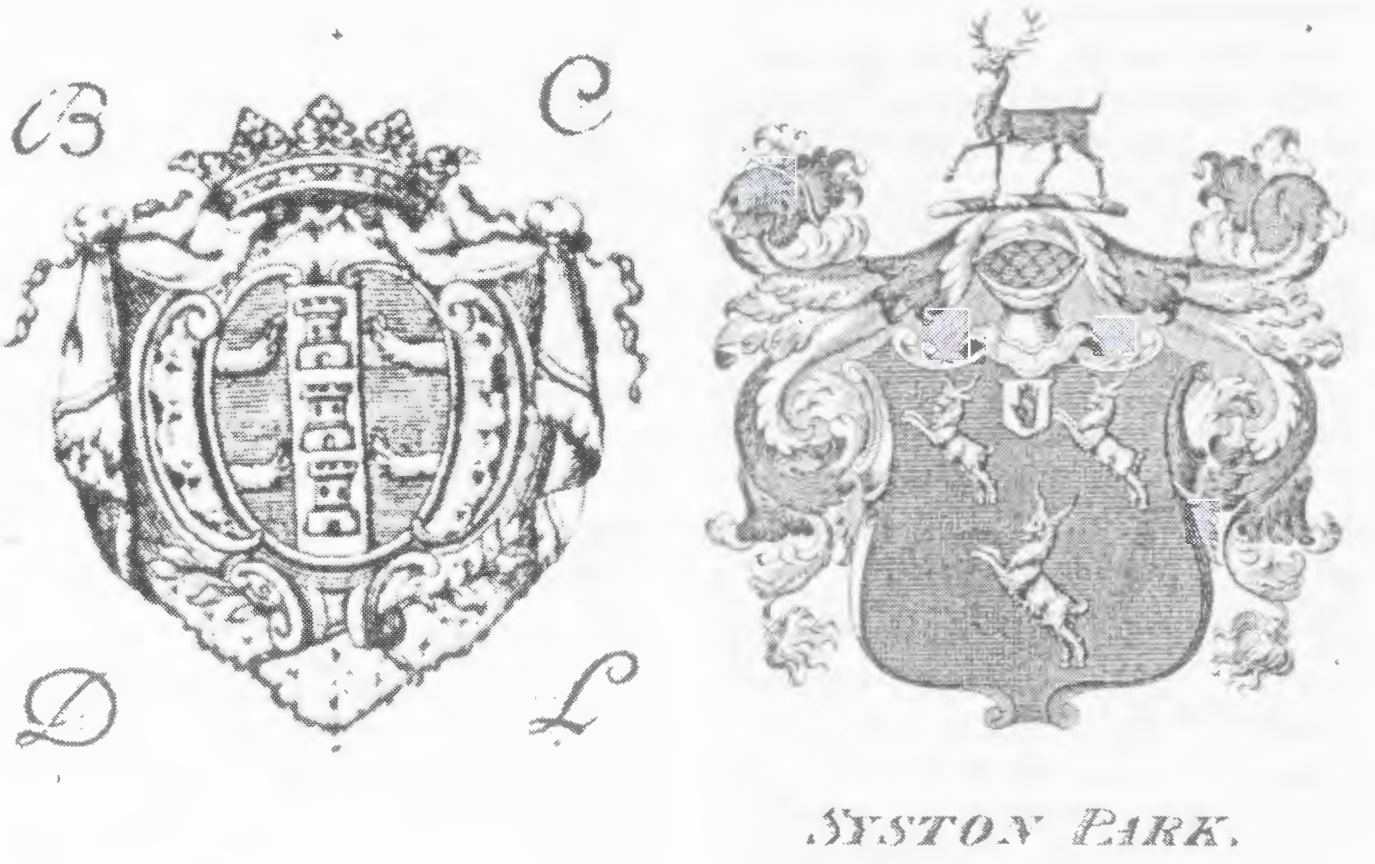
Vespucci. He had another book with a genuine Vespucci signature and he wondered whether some of the marginalia might have been made by Amerigo himself. However, a hunt for the provenance did not bring any definite result.

I am indebted to Mr David Kuhner, Librarian of the Claremont Colleges (now retired) for permission to use material from his fascinating article 'Herbert Hoover — A London Book Collector' published in the *Antiquarian Book Monthly Review* of May 1988. Copies of the bookplates of BCLD (Brancas Cereste de Lauraguais — Comte de Lauraguais) and the Syston Park Library together with a photograph of the Strabo volume and Herbert Hoover are illustrated. I might add that the Hoover Collection also contains a copy of Father Eusebio Kino's 1705 map of California and southern Arizona, which definitely showed that California was not an island, contrary to most maps published up to that time and for some time after.

NOTES

1. Strabo (ca. 50 B.C.–A.D.25), Greek geographer and historian, compiled *Geographia*, Treviso 1480, Basle 1539 and later editions (Tooley: *Dictionary of Mapmakers*).
2. Leo Bagrow's *History of Cartography*, revised edition by R.A. Skelton, 1964, states, 'Strabo from whom we have our knowledge of Eratosthenes' work in the field of cartography, refers rather ambiguously to his map, and it is not clear whether the map was in fact drawn or merely visualised by Strabo from his reading of Eratosthenes' treatise'.

PETER ALLPRESS



Bookplates of the Comte de Lauraguais (on the left) and of Syston Park (on the right) in the Hoover Collection copy of Strabo's Geographia.

A Visit to the National Library of Scotland

Two of the 'musketeers' informed me that they were going to Edinburgh and asked if I would like to join them. The third musketeer* was left behind to look after the fort, (or should it be 'castle' nowadays?) We visited the Library every day we were there, and looked at many maps and atlases. Our thanks must be recorded to the staff for their helpful and prompt assistance for all our many requests.

The highlight of the trip for me was finding a complete road atlas which I knew should exist, as I have loose maps from it, but I had never before managed to see a copy with the title page intact. I will write later about this in more detail. What I would like to draw attention to here is a previously unrecorded copy of *Bowles Post Chaise Companion*.

My listing for these atlases is now as follows:

A. Ogilby Survey Improv'd or Kitchin's New and Instructive Travellers Companion for the Roads of England and Wales, Etc. 1771. Price 6s.

An atlas with 95 road maps: title page, map of England and Wales, 6 pages of Index, 95 road maps approx. 5 7/8" x 5 1/8". Folio numbers top right.

B. Kitchin's atlas plates were used for the Bowles Atlas with the following changes: the titles at the top of each plate were altered; compass points were added in the maps; additional plate numbers were added top left; an extra fine line was drawn round each map, with sometimes a note added below the map within this line; the overall size of each map is now approx. 5 15/16" x 5 3/8". The title page is undated in the first of Bowles' atlases, Bowles's Post-Chaise Companion; or Travellers Directory through England and Wales: Etc. Two volumes. No date.

Vol. I has maps up to number 112, but since each map has two numbers, the actual number of maps is 56.

Vol. II continues up to 190, containing another 39 maps.

C. Then follows the edition in the collection of Al Newman (California), again undated, which has the following addition to the title page: 'The Second Edition Corrected and Greatly Improved with Additions.'

Vol. II has two extra maps and the last map is numbered 193/194, with the imprint at bottom right: 'Published as the Act Directs 4 June 1781 by Carington Bowles London'.

D. The edition in the National Library of Scotland is a second edition in two volumes. The title page has a date in Roman numerals: MDCCLXXXII (1782), and some of the wording has been altered. The maps each have two imprints added vertically each side; on the left: 'Bowles Post

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[Note from the Editor: This is a reference to the design on the tenth anniversary cake made by David for the IMCoS Dinner in 1990. Three plumed hats depicted three members of IMCoS who are inseparable in their hunt for maps at fairs.]

Chaise Companion', and on the right: 'London Published 2 Jan 1782'. The imprint on map 193/194 of the Newman edition has been removed, and three extra maps bring the total to 199/200.

E. The last edition (until another is found) is again undated and has a different title page with the wording: 'The Third Edition' and 'Printed for Bowles & Carver'.

The right vertical imprint line has been removed from the maps.

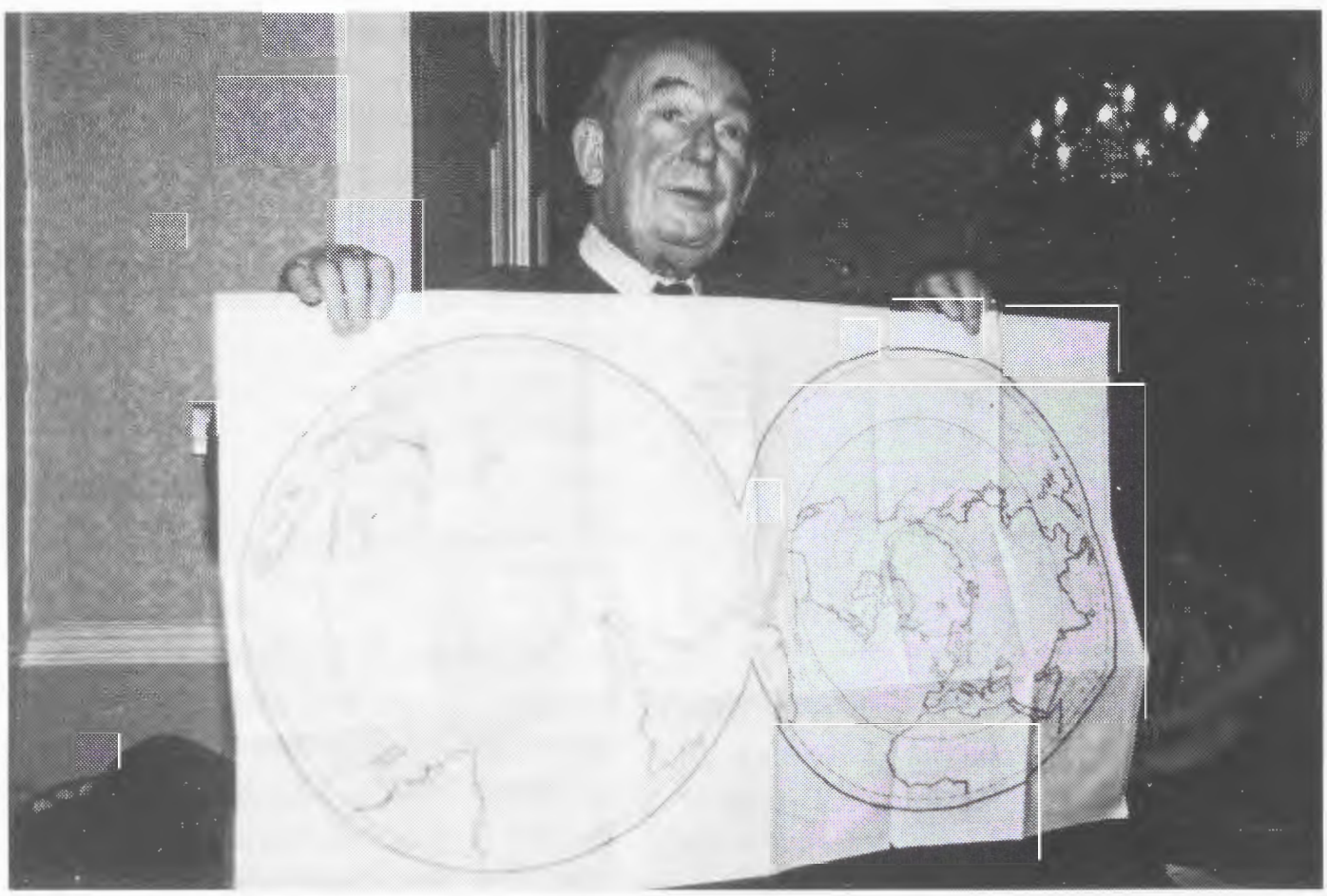
DAVID WEBB

* * * * *

The Farmers' Club Meeting 1996

Some thirty-five members and friends attended the annual informal meeting held at the Farmers' Club on the 30th January when a rich variety of maps and ephemera was produced for comment and discussion.

Susan Gole welcomed those attending and briefly introduced Rodney Shirley who was to chair the meeting, whom she said needed little introduction being already well known and having chaired these meetings since their inception.



Tommy Booth asking if anyone knows where his Carte Magnetique comes from.

Malcolm Young was invited to commence the proceedings and firstly showed a detailed map of Berlin as it was following the occupation in 1945 which had probably been issued as a guide for Service and civilian personnel. His next contribution was a manuscript estate map of 1753 which showed in very considerable detail every field of some six farms in Wiltshire. The map which had been a rare find had been acquired at auction following its arrival from Portugal!

Neil Taylor, who is very much involved in the Society's visit later this year to Riga spoke in interesting detail about an Atlas of Latvia which had been printed in Riga in the 1940s. He spoke of the political situation there over the years which was such that during the Soviet occupation the Atlas was considered a dangerous political document as it could have been of considerable use to an enemy; possessing it was a sign of independence tantamount to displaying the national flag.

Harry Pearce spoke about an inexpensive Blaeu map of Africa which he had acquired from a shop in Bloemfontein which did not deal in maps. The map which had been reproduced from a 17th century Blaeu original appeared to be on hand made paper and had been beautifully hand coloured.

Massimo de Martini collected maps of Genoa and showed a copper engraved map or plan of that city which he had acquired from a dealer in Italy. The map had needed restoration but this had been very well done and possibly dated from about 1680. It was suggested that the cartographer might have been the Visschers or another Dutch house, and the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris might be best able to identify and date the item.

Roger Brown produced an antique map of Clerkenwell and the Farringdon Road area, and Kitty Liebreich displayed a fun place mat from a restaurant in the Pyrenees which had a map of the world as a centre-piece.

Rodney Shirley said he was often asked what maps were going to be of value in the next hundred years, and he thought that the maps he had brought to the meeting might well fall into that category. His first offering was a large wall map of the Netherlands published about 1947–50, which was surrounded by large vignettes showing scenes evocative of that country during the German



Ray Eddy showing his copy of Camden's Britannia.

occupation — a graphic and moving memorial. When he had displayed the map during a talk he had given in Holland it had aroused many emotions and some of his elderly listeners had been so moved they were near tears. His second offering was a large map of the British Empire which had been published as a supplement to *The Graphic* in 1886 which gave a splendid decorative and pictorial representation of the Victorian era. His third map was of Scotland and had been produced by Bartholomew for the National Trust — again an attractive pictorial map surrounded by the arms of all the Scottish clans which had taken some fifteen years of negotiation to agree with those concerned.

Jenny Harvey had acquired a caricature map of England and Wales which had appeared on the cover of John Booth's book *Looking at Old Maps*. This map 'Britannia' had been published in London in 1791 by 'H Humphrey, No 18 Old Broad Street' with the letters 'G M' at the bottom right and a page number of 387. Interestingly on the reverse of the map which had a page number of 384 was a cartoon possibly by Gilray.

Ray Eddy circulated the fifth edition of Camden's *Britannia*. It contained very few maps, and Rodney, speaking on the various editions of Camden, felt that it came within the category of a historical work with maps rather than an Atlas.

Bob Bartlett showed a couple of Saxton maps of Staffordshire, one dated 1577 and one 1642 — the latter from the Webb edition of the Atlas which was possibly rather scarce. At this point the Chairman suggested that acetate sleeves although a little more expensive than the sleeves



Roger Brown talking about his recent acquisition, a map of Clerkenwell, London.

which were currently in use were in his opinion the safest way of storing and preserving valuable maps. Susan Gole said this would be covered in future issues of the *Journal*, commencing with an article 'Looking after Old Maps' [see centre pages of this issue].

After a break for coffee David Bravery produced a map of 'The Principality of Wales' by Richard Blome (1680) which had not appeared in Blome's Welsh Atlas. It was said that Blome had commissioned some of his maps from others, including Holler, and this could have been one of these, and published separately.

Doreen Green spoke on a collection of maps of the River Thames dating from the 1840 William Tombleson map; a later edition printed in strong colours by Rey-



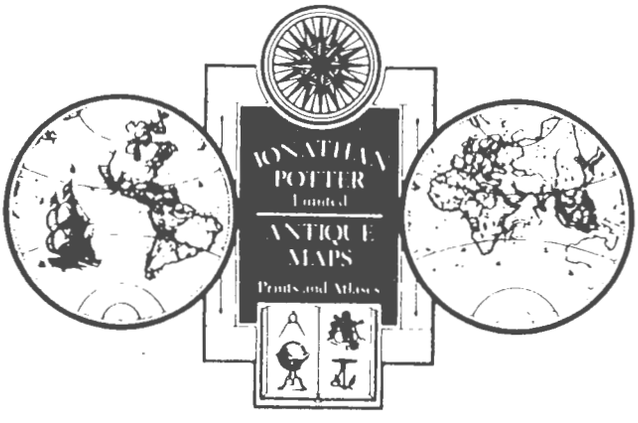




Doreeen Green describing three of the maps from her series of pictorial maps of the River Thames, with help from Rodney Shirley and Alan Bartlett to hold up what is probably the longest known map ever made.

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nolds and an even later edition of the same map by Bacon. There followed a map from the *Illustrated London News* of 1849 in three vertical strips, 'A Guide for Excursions on the River Thames', and another map compiled from the three strips but published in one vertical map. She followed this with the 'Oarsmen and Anglers Map of the River Thames' published by Stanford towards the end of the century and another dated 1880. The presentation concluded with a Thames map printed in colour from the 1920s which must surely be one of the longest maps of the Thames ever produced!

Chris Terrell circulated an interesting map published by Imperial Airways in 1934 priced at 2/= showing the Cairo to Cape air route. The publication included an article 'The Story of Flight' — the first flight having taken six weeks to cover 7,500 miles, whereas in 1934 it could be covered in nine days! The map which had been compiled by Shell was said to be identical to that used by the pilot!

Eugene Burden next spoke interestingly about a military map of 1792 detailing Army manoeuvres in the south of England which involved some 7,000 soldiers. George III reviewed the troops and there was a march past. There were some 50,000 spectators who appear to have joined in too. Every unit taking part was detailed with its Commanding Officer and the map had been signed by one of the officers taking part. The proceedings evidently ended with young ladies chasing the soldiers over the Heath!

David Webb produced his usual bag of unusual items which included beer mats, credit cards and ladies powder compacts, which all showed maps in various forms, also a 'Hunting Map of Warwickshire and North Warwick District' by Burgis & Colbourne.

Tommy Booth spoke of his researches to date on a series of sea charts showing magnetic variations dating from the 1870s and circulated his most recent acquisition which apparently came from the same series of French charts, 'Carte Magnetique des deux Hemispheres', each sphere being some 18" diameter. He was still trying to establish the cartographer, the exact date, and reasons for publication.

Ian Harvey produced a couple of Ellis British county maps from an atlas issued in 1766 by Carington Bowles and Robert Sayer , one of which was printed single-sided and the other with another county verso.

Neil Taylor, who is organising travel for the International Symposium at Riga in October, endeavoured to establish from amongst those present who were planning to participate how many wished to extend their stay to see more of Latvia.

Susan Gole mentioned a number of enquiries received from members, and the Chairman suggested the best course would be to put the enquirers in touch with people who might be able to help them.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to those attending. The meeting had been conducted with the Chairman's usual wit and wisdom and the meeting's thanks were expressed succinctly by Ray Eddy. And so concluded another most enjoyable and entertaining evening at the Farmers' Club.

TJB

UK News and Events

June 21–23rd, 1996
IMCoS 15th Annual Symposium

The Royal Geographical Society is the host for this year's annual symposium. It promises to be an exciting and interesting event, with four papers by renowned speakers, and many maps to view. Members who were present at the last time we visited the RGS, in 1986, recall the event with happy memories. With this issue of the Journal the registration form is mailed to every member. You are requested to complete and return it as early as possible, as this makes it easier for the organisers to gauge numbers, and thus keep the costs down in future.

Last year we returned to the Royal Over-Seas League for the Annual Dinner, and participants all agreed that it was a good decision. We will be there again this summer, and instead of a formal 'after-dinner' speaker, Membership Secretary Jenny Harvey has a surprise in store. It will, I am sure, prove to be a most enjoyable evening.

The following day the Map Fair will be in the new location, the Forte Crest Bloomsbury Hotel, in Coram Street, very near the Russell Hotel and its book fairs. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a request for donations to our Bargain Counter. All proceeds from the sale of maps donated by members goes to increase the advertising budget for the following year's Fair. Members who would be available to help man the IMCoS desk and other duties are requested to get in touch with Harry Pearce (Tel: 0181-769 5041).

Sir George Fordham Award

The Royal Geographical Society has instituted a new award for contribution/s to the field of cartobibliography. Nominations are sought for the first 'Sir George Fordham Award for Cartobibliography', to be made in 1996. The award will be made tri-annually by the RGS, in association with the Institute of British Geographers. Nominations, with an outline curriculum vitae of the nominee and reasons for the nomination, should be sent by 31st July 1996 to: The Keeper, Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR.

The JB Harley Research Fellowships in the History of Cartography

The Trustees are pleased to announce the third series of awards, as follows:
Professor Lisa Blansett (Florida International University). 'Cartographies: British fiction and mapping 1660–1817'.
Molly Bourne (Harvard University). 'Francesco II Gonzaga and early Renaissance map collecting in Italy' (to be taken up in 1997).

So far these awards have been given to seven scholars wishing to take advantage of the great riches in the historical cartographic collections in the London area. Each fellowship has been for the sum of £400, to cover a two-week stay, and the recipients have come from Belgium, Canada, New Zealand, UK and USA. The American Friends of the JB Harley Research Fellowships, Inc., has recently been established to receive tax-deductible donations in USA. Further information is

available from: The Map Library, The British Library, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG.

A National Exhibition of Parish Maps
Barbican Centre, London, Concourse Gallery
14th May – 30th June, 1996

Common Ground is initiating a series of exhibitions of Parish Maps during 1996. The project was launched in 1987 with 'Knowing your Place', a touring exhibition of commissioned artists' maps. Since then hundreds of maps have been made by a large range of people and for many different reasons.

A Parish Map shows those things that people care about in their place, the everyday and common place as well as the rare and beautiful. They can be, and have been, made by anyone, groups or individuals. They are painted, sewn, sung or animated, can be of the street, estate, village, or civil parish, whatever people define as their place. This will be the first time that these maps will have been seen together. This exhibition will give both Common Ground and the mappers the chance to show how effective social activity can be in raising awareness, demonstrating creativity and sparking off local action.

The exhibition will tour many parts of the country, including Taunton (12 Aug–6 Sept); Portsmouth; Ely (1–20 July); Daventry (7 Sept–5 Oct); Kidderminster; Carlisle; North Allerton; Cranbrook Library, Kent (6–21 July), and many local venues, in church halls, community centres, theatres, schools and libraries. Further information is available from Beatrice Mayfield or Sue Clifford, Common Ground, Seven Dials Warehouse, 44 Earlham Street, London WC2H 9LA. Tel: 0171-379 3109. Fax: 0171-836 5741.

Note from the Editor: These maps are fascinating. One of the original commissioned maps was by an Indian artist, and showed the 'centre of his world' — the area around Lords Cricket Ground, with the MCC tie, and other symbolic features. Helen Wallis was particularly pleased to see it, since it was her home ground, and bought many postcards of it. I showed a slide of it recently during a talk on maps showing sacred areas, in addition to purely geographical features, to a group of design students, and it received wide acclaim. This is a fine example of what might be the collector's prize possessions of the future. I highly recommend a visit to the exhibition.

ADVERTISING IN THE IMCoS JOURNAL

Members will have noticed that the number of advertisements in our Journal has been steadily decreasing over the last couple of years. We need the income that they provide, in order to keep the subscription rate at its present very low level. Please try and persuade your favourite dealer to have a regular advertisement in all four issues of the year. The rates are extremely low, since the readership is minutely targeted—at all of you who are reading this now! And you all love maps! And most of you collect them. So please help your society by finding more dealers to advertise with us.

The IMCoS Series of Occasional Papers

At the meeting of the International Representatives in London last June, it was suggested that IMCoS should take a more active roll in providing information to its members as well as the general public on the collection, study and storage of antique maps. The three pages that follow are the result of this decision. They have received imput from many members, but the main task of compiling this first paper is the work of Hans Kok, IMCoS representative in The Netherlands. It is being printed here, within the Journal, so that all members will come to learn of the series. We plan to distribute it also with the Summer issue of the Journal, due out on 1st June, just before the Map Fair. Eventually it is planned that we will supply a folder to members, so that all the leaflets can be safely stored together.

At present a series of ten leaflets is planned, as tentatively listed below. The one printed opposite is the third in the series, though the first to appear. It is expected that they will be issued one per year, with later revisions if required.

The fourth page of each leaflet will give information about IMCoS, with an address for those who would like further details and an address to contact the Society. It will also provide space for dealers to attach their name and address, should they wish to do so. We hope that they will make copies of each leaflet, and perhaps give them away to all their customers. This would serve many purposes. Firstly, it would provide a simple and straightforward guide to new collectors about starting, keeping, researching and storing their map or print collection. It would advertise the dealer, at the marginal cost to them of copying the leaflets. And it would provide information about IMCoS to a wider group of people, whom we might not otherwise have been able to reach.

The Chairman would welcome any suggestions from members, both about the series, and the way in which the information is being presented. The series as planned at present would appear under the titles listed below.

1. Judging a map's condition
2. Distinguishing fake from real
3. Looking after antique maps and prints
4. Photographing your maps
5. Framing and hanging maps and prints
6. Small repairs to antique maps
7. Cataloguing map collections
8. Insurance for map collections
9. Libraries and museums with maps
10. Map Societies worldwide

IMCoS Bulletin No. 3
Looking after Antique Maps and Prints

Compiled by Hans Kok

A. Purchase and Transportation

Never buy a framed map without looking at it unframed.

Hold the map against the light and look at it from the back. This way it will be easier to detect flaws such as restorations, cut margins, holes and other defects.

Do not fold maps, except along the original centre-fold, if the map has been bound into an atlas.

Ensure the map/print is wrapped up properly:

Flat cardboard on both sides, with the cardboard larger than the map on all sides. Or:

Rolled and wrapped up in paper. For better protection place rolled map into a cardboard or plastic tube. The more brittle the map the larger should be the diameter of the tube. Where there is old verdigris (green colour that has soaked into the paper and oxidised with age), the paper may be very brittle, and should, by choice, not be rolled at all.

Handle the package carefully, avoiding pressure, liquids, sharp edges and protusions en route.

If mailed, postage stamps will be overstamped (cancelled), so ensure there is sufficient padding between the stamp and the map.

Enclose a business card, and write the name and address of the owner on the outside, in case the parcel is lost or left somewhere.

If the map is transported in framed condition, with glass, tape over the glass area in order to restrict damage, if the glass should break.

Keep the receipt for future reference, including insurance matters, or note the details in a separate register for the purpose. If purchasing maps abroad, note the prevailing rate of exchange.

Value-Added Tax, Sales Tax and Import Duty are not usually applicable to maps over a hundred years old.

B. Viewing and Handling

Lift the map using both hands, or slide it across without lifting it at all.

For repeated handling, the use of white cotton or synthetic gloves is recommended to avoid thumb marks.

Covering a map with a sheet of mylar placed will protect it from skin-grease.

Ensure that a well-lit, clean and flat surface is available. This should be larger than the size of the map, and double if several maps are to be viewed together. This ensures ample space to slide the top map off in order the view those below.

If the map has been rolled, unroll it carefully and use paperweights to hold the map flat. Longer, lighter weights are preferable to heavier round or square ones. Even before a weight is removed, the paper may roll up again, tearing along the edges of other weights, especially if there are already minor tears at the margins. A ruler with a heavy weight on top will prevent this.

Do not lean on the map; paper is fragile, and any protuberance under the map could cause permanent damage.

Be careful where you place magnifying glasses, etc., certainly not under the map.

Do not write on the map or map margin. If writing is essential use a soft pencil (type 4B or softer) and write only in the margin, or on the reverse side of the map, with as little pressure as possible. If an eraser is necessary, try and match the paper quality with the type of eraser.

Do not apply any stamps, labels, stickers, book marks to either the front or the reverse of the map. Do not use embossing of any type.

C. Storage

Store maps away from direct sunlight. The best conditions are: room temperature ($\pm$ 18°C/55°F) and relative humidity $\pm$55%.

In general rapid changes in temperature or humidity are more harmful than gradual alterations.

In tropical climates (temperatures consistently above 26°C/80°F and humidity above 75%), de-acidification is recommended, unless a stable air-conditioned situation can be guaranteed. Restorers specialising in paper

restoration are generally able to do this. A lesser alternative is to use a dehumidifying unit in an enclosed space.

If map is to be hung, select a wall with as little direct light as possible. Blue colours especially will fade quickly, other colours will lose their freshness and paper will brown.

As soon as possible place the map in a protective passe-partout, with or without a clear plastic sleeve.

The face of the map may be protected separately by using an acetate-type (or mylar) sheet inside the passe-partout.

Avoid regular plastics and polythenes, as they contain softeners which will damage the map over time.

Do not store several maps in one folder for long periods of time. If this is necessary, do not place heavy objects on the folder (colours may transfer from one map to another, or from one side of a folded map to the facing side).

For longer periods or permanent storage,use a hinge-backed conservation mount. These mounts are made of archival cardboard — which is completely acid-free — or barrier-board, where the core material contains acid but the surface layers are acid-free. Non-acid-free cardboard browns easily; barrier board will show its brown core at the cut edge, though the treated surface will not brown. Archival cardboard will not brown even at the cut edges.

Acid-free board is generally white or cream-coloured. If a colour effect is desired, any coloured board should be separated from the map by a lining of acid-free board.

Information supplied on ready-made mounts is not always reliable; also different material may have been used for the two sides of the mount.

The question of whether maps should be stored in a vertical or a horizontal position remains unanswered, with no agreement among the experts.

D. Framing

Never trim the margins of a mapto make it fit a frame or passe partout.

Never glue the whole surface to a cardboard or wooden board.

No lover of early maps can afford
NOT to have a subscription to

THE MAP COLLECTOR



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- news and views
- how to care for your collection
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The Royal Geographical Society, London

The Royal Geographical Society has, for over 160 years, been a national and international focus of geographical research, information and exploration. It has a current membership of some 13,000, including Fellows, Associate Fellows, Educational Corporate Members and Corporate Members.

The objectives of the Society are defined in its original Royal Charter, namely: 'the advancement of geographical science and the improvement and diffusion of geographical knowledge'. As part of these objectives, the Society seeks to:

Stimulate awareness, interest and enjoyment of geography and environmental matters in people of all ages and from all backgrounds.

Act as an authoritative voice representing and promoting geographers in Britain and overseas.

Act as a focus for geographical research, and initiate, support and, where possible, fund geographical research, including field projects overseas.

Promote and enhance the value of geography in education

Provide a national geographical information resource and a database of geographical expertise.

Give training and advice to those organising expeditions.

The **Library** holds more than 150,000 books and receives over 800 periodical publications on all aspects of academic geography and related disciplines, travel and expeditions.

The **Map Room** houses the Society's collection of more than 900,000 maps, atlases and charts. It is the largest private collection of maps in the world and is complemented with a unique collection of over 5,000 contemporary expedition reports. The Map Room is freely open to the public for consultation.

The **Archives** comprise documents, correspondence and diaries which record the Society's history and which therefore cover British exploration and geography since 1850.

The **Picture Library** has over 500,000 images, combining historic archive photographs, such as Sherpa Tensing on the summit of Everest, with contemporary slides of people, places, flora and fauna from all corners of the world.

IMCoS at the RGS

The information given above has been taken from the 'Information for Prospective Fellows', and provides only a very brief idea of what the RGS means to all of us who love maps and travel. It will be agreat privilege for IMCoS members to return there for our 15th Annual Symposium this summer.

The registration form for the symposium is enclosed with this issue of the JOurnal, and members are requested to complete and return it as early as possible. Join us for a great day!

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International News & Events

1996 15th International Symposium
Riga, Latvia
6–9 October
Contact: Dr Janis Strauchmanis
Tallinas 83–40, LV-1009
Tel: 371 7 29 05 72
Fax: 371 7 22 50 39

1997 16th International Symposium
Budapest, Hungary
26–29 September
Contact: Dr Zsolt Török
Dept of Geography,
Eötvos University
Ludovika 2, 1083 Budapest
Tel: 36 1 134 2785

1998 17th International Symposium
Tokyo, Japan
Tentative date: early October
Contact: Mr Hideo Fujiwara
Inokashira 5-2-5, Mitaka,
Tokyo-181

Invitation from Japan

We are very happy to announce that IMCoS has received an invitation from Mr Tatsuo Morohashi, Chairman of The Antique Map Society of Japan, for the 17th International Symposium to be held in Tokyo in 1998. The dates will probably be in early October, and the symposium will last for three days. The venue will be in Tokyo, with possible post-conference ours to Kyoto and/or Kobe.

The symposium will cover the history of Japanese maps, both made in Japan and in Europe. There will be visits to museums and libraries, and a special exhibition arranged by the Society.

A visit will also be made to Tsukuba, north-east of Tokyo, to see maps at the Geographical Survey Institute. A decision as to whether a map fair will be held in association with the symposium will be taken later.

Dealers who would be interested in taking a stand at such a fair might like to express their interest by writing direct to Mr Fujiwara at the address above.

News from Finland

Kjarten Gunnarsson writes:

As you probably know I have been a collector for many many years, Iceland and the northern hemisphere being my particular areas of interest. Last year, as I planned to retire as an apothecary (71 years of age) I realised that my collection had grown considerably (nearly 100 maps) and as practically all the maps were framed, I wondered where I might keep the collection. Twelve of the maps were donated to our new State Library (with the assistance of local authorities), and the rest of the collection was bought from me by five of the main banks of Iceland recently and donated to the same library on the occasion of a special function. Most of the collection is now on display there for a few weeks. I was happy to find that interest in old maps is on the increase and we can now look optimistically to a future time when a map department will finally be a reality in the State Library. Then, perhaps, IMCoS might have a mini-symposium here!

Exhibition in Germany

More than a hundred maps belonging to our president Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke will be on display at an exhibition in Hamburg opening on May 23rd, 1996 (closing in October). Held at the Museum of Hamburg History, the emphasis will be on the southernmost part of the earth, covering Patagonia, Teirra del Fuego, the Falkland Islands, Terra Australis, Antarctica and the South Pole. As well as maps there will be globes, nautical instruments and presentations of sailing vessels which passed Cape Horn.

News from Hungary

Zsolt Török announces the publication of a new map in his *Atlas Collectus* series, Cartart Factsimile. This is the world map by Hartmann Schedel, first printed for the *Liber Chronicarum* in Nuremberg in 1493. On the verso is the small world map by Johann Schönsperger, first published in Augsburg in 1496. Zsolt's address is inside the back cover of this issue, for members who wish to contact him.

News from Turkey

F. Muktar Katircioglu has sent this report:

1995 has been a very mixed year regarding antique maps in Turkey. It started extremely well, when the Prime Minister's office, which was being refurbished, ordered two maps of Anatolia, a Mercator and a Seutter, together with two further maps of the Ottoman Empire, another Mercator, and an Ortelius, all in old colouring. This was the first time that an official office had purchased antique maps, and we were all hopeful that it would encourage others to show some interest in this field. However, it was not to be, and we continued throughout the year on a steady but low level of demand until the third quarter, when demand plummeted to around the zero level. This was mainly due to the political uncertainty with the elections coming up in December and its inconclusive result, which meant that a lot of companies planning their New Year gifts cancelled them at short notice. Similarly the rate of inflation (85%) and the continual devaluation of the local currency (up to 80.5%) meant that prices of antique maps, while continuing to rise in the main markets, were soon priced out of reach for the local market.

However, your local representative continued his efforts to educate some sections of the possible consumers, by lecturing to one of the main Rotary groups, as well as showing examples from his own collection. As in previous years, he held two open house meetings to talk about and exhibit antique maps. In November, we had a series of lectures by Professor Dr Ulla Ehrensvärd from Stockholm University who gave a three talks on: Mapping the Ancient World; Christian Dogma and Arabic Science as reflected in Medieval Cartography; and Surveyors of Sea and Shore.

From Croatia

Miljenko Lapaine writes:

Following your enquiries about IMCoS members when we met in Vienna in September, I can give you some news. Mrs Ankica Pandzic still lives in Zagreb and works in the Historical Museum of Croatia. Mrs Anica Kisic works at the Museum of Dubrovnik Navigation, in Du-

brovnik.

A good book has been published recently in Croatia. It is the *Atlas Monumenta Cartographica Maris Adriatici Croatici* (Cartographic Monuments of the Croatian Adriatic) by Mithad Kozlicic. The book consists of 392 pages, hardbound, 16 illustrations, 275 maps, 566 bibliography items, index with about 6100 geographic terms, written in Croatian, including 25 pages summary in English, Italian and German. ISBN 953-174-032-1. The price is about 100 German marks. Further information is available from the publisher: AGM d.o.o., Mihanoviceva 28, 10000 Zagreb. Tel: 385-1-455-2252. Fax: 385-1-455-2286.

Chairman's Visit to Riga

I went to Riga last weekend through the kindness of Neil Taylor of Regent Holidays who offered the flight ticket and hotel voucher, so that I could meet our organiser Janis Strauchmanis and discuss arrangements for the 15th IMCoS International Symposium in October, 1996. I arrived in the late afternoon after a very comfortable flight on an Air Baltic Avro from Gatwick, a good half hour before schedule, but the baggage was already waiting to be collected though there had been no delay at all through immigration and customs.

Hotels

The Latvia Hotel is a great landmark for those not too good at finding their way around a new place — it is 26 stories high. Its Soviet origins are obvious, and it is far from new, but the room was a reasonable size, clean, well equipped, and the arrangements for breakfast were quite adequate. My only complaint might be the thinness of the walls between the rooms; luckily I did not have very noisy neighbours. All the staff were polite and helpful at all times. Many of the symposium functions will be held at the Latvia.

For those who prefer a hotel with more stars, Regent Holidays is also making arrangements in the Hotel de Rome. I had a look at the rooms there too, and can warmly recommend them. It is not more than 500 yards from the Latvia, so returning after the Symposium Banquet will not be a problem. In fact almost everywhere that participants are likely to go is within easy walking distance from both hotels.

Registration

Participants who arrive in Riga on Friday will be able to register on Saturday morning at the Latvia Hotel; the registration desk will also be open all day on Sunday. Janis will arrange for some of his students to conduct participants on a walking tour of the old city on the afternoons of both Saturday and Sunday, so that the groups would not be too large at any one time.

For those with time to spare, I can recommend a day trip to Cesis, 100 km east of Riga and on the edge of a national park. It can be reached by bus or train (public transport is very cheap), and is a charming little town. When I went it was covered in snow, and the museum in the old castle was closed (being a Sunday); I look forward to the opportunity to wander along its winding streets when it is green and leafy in October.

Symposium Sessions

The sessions, on the mornings of Monday and Tuesday, will be held in the University lecture theatre, as the historic hall suggested earlier might not have had adequate space, and if the weather turns bad might have been too

cold. A full panel of speakers has now been organised, so there will not be time for further participants to give papers. It is expected that Janis will himself set the scene by giving an overview of cartographic history in the Balkans. Then will follow introductions to the collections that we will be visiting that afternoon, in the National Library, and in the Museum of the History of Riga and Navigation. In both places exhibitions of maps organised specially for IMCoS will be on display, covering town plans of Europe, historical maps of Sweden and the Balkans, and treasures from the collections.

Sessions on the second morning will include papers about the map holdings in Lithuania and Estonia, the status of conservation of maps in the Balkans, and important historical maps of the area. In the afternoon a visit to the map collections in the Archives of the History of Latvia has been arranged (a short bus ride away from the centre of town).

Languages

The papers at the symposium sessions will be in either English or German. It is expected that translations into either language will be available, for the full paper or for the abstract.

Map printer Jana seta

I was escorted around the map-preparation department of this most enterprising company, and met Janina Bluma, Manager of the International Dept, and Janis Turlajs, Editor-in-chief of the Cartography Dept. Though the company is only four years old, it is far ahead of many simailar cartographic establishments abroad, since it was able to go almost straight into the most modern technology for the preparation of maps — and maps are only a very small part of its business! They are producing really accurate maps and town plans of the region, a great improvement over some they told me about currently being printed elsewhere! It is hoped that participants will have the opportunity to see their workrooms for themselves — and purchase some of their new, and old, maps.

Full-day tour

A tour by bus is being arranged for Wednesday as part of the symposium proceedings, though the aim will be to see something of the countryside rather than more maps. Kuldiga is about two hours drive west of Riga, and is 'one of the district's prettiest towns', according to the Bradt *Guide to Latvia* (highly recommended for all participants to obtain before going there, a straight-forward, down-to-earth commentary on all you are likely to see or need in Latvia). The town has a long history, and its architectural style is an 'eclectic combination of Renaissance, Baroque and Gothic', mixed with Germanic looking living quarters and trade buildings.

In the afternoon we will drive to Rundale, south of Riga, Latvia's 'most ornate, expensive and lovely palace', a smaller copy of the winter palace in St Petersburg, and designed by the same architect. It is now frequently used for official government entertaining.

Post-symposium tour

Regent Holidays is arranging a three-day tour to Lithuania, leaving Riga on Thursday afternoon by bus for Kaunas, and proceeding thence on Saturday evening to Vilnius. Those flying back to London will be able to go direct from Vilnius to London on Monday, instead of returning via Riga.

I thoroughly enjoyed my weekend in Riga, and am looking forward to returning in October. Already participants from 19 countries are registered. The earlier fear that we might have to restrict numbers has gone, and I now expect that final numbers will approach those of earlier international symposia. Don't miss this opportunity to see a fascinating country for yourself.

Letters to the Editor

The Map Collector
48 High Street, Tring HP23 5BH

Dear Madam

Despite many vicissitudes a team of us are about to produce Volume One of a new edition of *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers*. Volume One will contain A to J and Volume Two K to Z.

This is really a last call for additional names or any other information which members of IMCoS could provide, i.e. birth and death dates of mapmakers, correct titles, earlier entries which were incorrect.

Many of you have already given invaluable help and information but we want to be sure that everyone who has spotted mistakes or omissions has let us know. Your help will be acknowledged in the book.

Write, fax or e-mail either Valerie Scott or Jo French at the above address.

Tel: (0)1442 824977
Fax: (0)1332 827712
e-mail: gp86@dial.pipex.com

Many thanks
Valerie Scott, Editor, *The Map Collector*

410 Triphammer Road
Ithaca
New York 14850
Tel: (607) 257-6533

Dear Madam

I am interested in finding and acquiring a map showing the old medieval English 'ridge and furrow' field system. As I understand it, surveys showing these long, thin strips of land were often made when the lands involved were enclosed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Having originally studied medieval history, I have always been fascinated by old field systems, but have never run across a suitable example of such a survey on my trips to England. Hopefully your organisation might know who would deal in maps such as these.

My fax number in the United States is (607) 257-3849, and I would welcome any suggestions from your members. We travel to Great Britain at least twice a year, and I would love to be able to acquire a map such as this on some future visit.

Very truly yours,
John Young

MAP FAIR BARGAIN COUNTER

The Bargain Counter at the IMCoS Map Fair is designed to encourage new, and young collectors starting their interest in early maps. The maps are all donations from members, and priced very very cheaply, not more than £20. If you have any maps you would like to donate to the Bargain Counter, please contact the Map Fair Organiser:

Roger Brown
160 Croxdale Road
Borehamwood,
Herts WD6 4QB
Tel: (0181)207 6244

13 Route de Presinge
1241 Puplinge, (Geneva), Switzerland
Madam

Those of our members who commemorated the 400th anniversary of Mercator's death at the IMCoS symposium in Antwerp in 1994 might be interested to learn that the cartographer is remembered and honoured not only by map collectors, historians and cartographers. As shown on the enclosed clipping from the *Tribune de Genève* of 9 February 1996, the Swiss watch industry (Vacheron Constantin) has produced a watch in memory of Gerhardus Mercator which has a Mercator map of three continents — Europe, Africa and Asia — on its dial. As it is a platinum watch I did not think it worthwhile to inquire about the price!

Sincerely
Warren W. Furth



Drake in America

In an article in *The Sunday Times* (London) of 28 January1996, John Harlow reports the discovery of the first English settlement in America in Oregon, founded by Sir Francis Drake. Members at our International Symposium in San Francisco last year will remember the many references to this 'so far unidentified' settlement (Thrower, p.4), and discussion as to how far north Drake actually sailed, and landed.

Now a team of British-led archaeologists has located the foundations of what may have been his wooden stockade at a tiny bay 500 miles farther north than he was thought to have travelled. They are in Whale Cove on the coast of Oregon. According to Harlow:

'Bob Ward, an amateur historian from Manchester, was intrigued by the anomolies in the official accounts. "The chief account refers to muskrats, which are unknown in California, and the type of Indian hut was wrong too. Last summer I drove down the coastline and overlaying contemporary sketches with the real view, found Whale Cove." '

Returning later with professional archaeologists armed with ground-probing radar, Ward discovered what he believes are two of the four sides of a diamond-shaped stockade. 'There are rotting timbers in a 300ft line just a few feet under the surface, lying exactly where they were shown to be in the sailor's sketches. The other walls have eroded away.'

Ward's dicovery has apparently received mixed reactions: 'fascinating, but a long way from proven'; 'rubbish, Oregon is just too far out of the way'; 'it could explain stories of a fair-haired tribe of Indians in Oregon'.

How should IMCoS remember our second President?

In her will Helen Wallis very kindly left the sum of £500 to IMCoS, with no instructions as to how it might best be put to use. At a recent committee meeting, suggestions were put forward, and it was decided that we should consult all our members, and try to find out their opinions.

The ideas so far proposed include:

Purchase of books on cartography for the IMCoS Library (all books so far held by IMCoS have been gathered by donation only).

Replacement of the IMCoS-RV Tooley Award by the Helen Wallis Award.

The new series of IMCoS Occasional Papers on map collecting, conservation, etc, might be named the Helen Wallis Series.

An Award might be instituted for the best article submitted by first-time writers who have not so far been published in the IMCoS Journal. This would be open to all, not only IMCoS members, and might be publicised in geography departments in schools, colleges, etc. The actual award would have to be small, perhaps £50 each year, and a specific topic might be named each time.

One of the papers presented at either the Annual Symposium or the International Symposium might be given prominence, and called the 'Helen Wallis Lecture'.

Members are invited to send their comments / suggestions / further ideas to IMCoS Chairman/Editor (address on page 3).

1996 Ristow Prize Competition

Each year the Washington (DC) Map Society awards the Ristow Prize for cartographic history and map librarianship to honour Walter W. Ristow, one of America's premier cartographic authors and map librarians. The winner receives $500, WMS membership, and publication of the paper in their journal The *Portolan*. Deadline for submission is June 1, 1996. The competition is open to full or part-time students. Details may be obtained from competition chairman Hubert Johnson, 2101 Huntington Ave, Alexandria VA 22303. Tel: (703) 960-7815.

Warburg Lectures

The next three lectures in this series are:

March 21: **Ralph Hyde**. 'The Climax of a Tradition: Samuel and nathaniel Buck's Long View of London'

April 25: **Prof. Christian Jacob**. 'Mapping the earth *versus* Mapping the Sky: from Hevelius to Flammarionn'

May 16: **Dr Frank Kitchen.** 'Cosmo-chorographer: The Life and Work of John Norden'

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 8th May 1996 at 6.0 pm

The Farmer's Club, 3 Whitehall Court, London

AGENDA

1. President's Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of AGM on 10 May 1995
4. Chairman's Report
5. Executive Officers' Reports
6. Approval of Audited Accounts for 1995
7. Election of Officers
8. Any other business

Note: Members wishing to propose names for election should send them to the Secretary to arrive at least two weeks in advance.

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Book Reviews

The British Library Companion to Maps and Mapmaking, by Rebecca Stetoff. London, British Library. 320pp, 55 colour & 150 B&W illustrations, £25.

Rebecca Stetoff's *The British Library Companion to Maps and Mapmaking* is a finely produced book of over 300 pages encompassing, in more than 350 entries, potted descriptions of a vast variety of topics relating to cartography. It is, however, the very width of the book's coverage which is both its attraction and its downfall; nevertheless, one must consider the book in relation to its intended market, which would not specifically be the antique map collector.

The entries fall, according to the introduction, into the following broad categories: biographies of mapmakers, geographers and explorers; important maps; exploration and expeditions; geographic and cartographic organisations; mapmaking techniques; types and uses of maps; regions of the world. It will be apparent from this selection how much ground the book attempts to cover. Bearing in mind the target readership of 'armchair travellers and serious researchers alike', the book provides numerous nuggets of information but, inevitably, lacks the depth in any one topic to really satisfy the serious enquirer. Also, and crucially, it falls down on cross-reference and further external references. Surely the key to the usefulness of such a book, which advertises itself as an introduction to the subject, is in its ability to correctly direct the reader in need of further information.

Admittedly, my review is from the point of view of one whose interest is primarily in the history of printed cartography, but then so will be that of the majority of people who read the review. However, it must be said that most people who appreciate old maps also have, at least, a passing interest in cartography in general and, given that, in the broadest sense of maps and mapmaking the book is an interesting and enjoyable compendium.

The book is attractively designed with numerous illustrations, a few of which, sadly, are so reduced as to be of little use. Diagrams illustrate various aspects of surveying, navigation and cartographic and geographic principles. Rebecca Stetoff is an American author of numerous publications and the book's style, not least its spelling, indicates this origin. North American aspects of the content are far better covered than British, and I suspect that, despites its title, the British Library involvement in the book's production was minimal. How else could such basic errors as the dating for the Isidore of Seville T-O map of 1472 be given as 1482, or the dating for the illustrated Nicolas Visscher-style Americas map, clearly showing California as an island, be given as 1611?

Other niggles ... how can a 200 word description of George Braun and the *Civitates Orbis Terrarum* not mention Frans Hogenberg? ... why no mention of John Speed's *Prospect of the Most Famous Parts*? ... why no reference to *The Map Collector* magazine, *Imago Mundi*, and the Society for the History of Discoveries

RODERICK M. BARRON

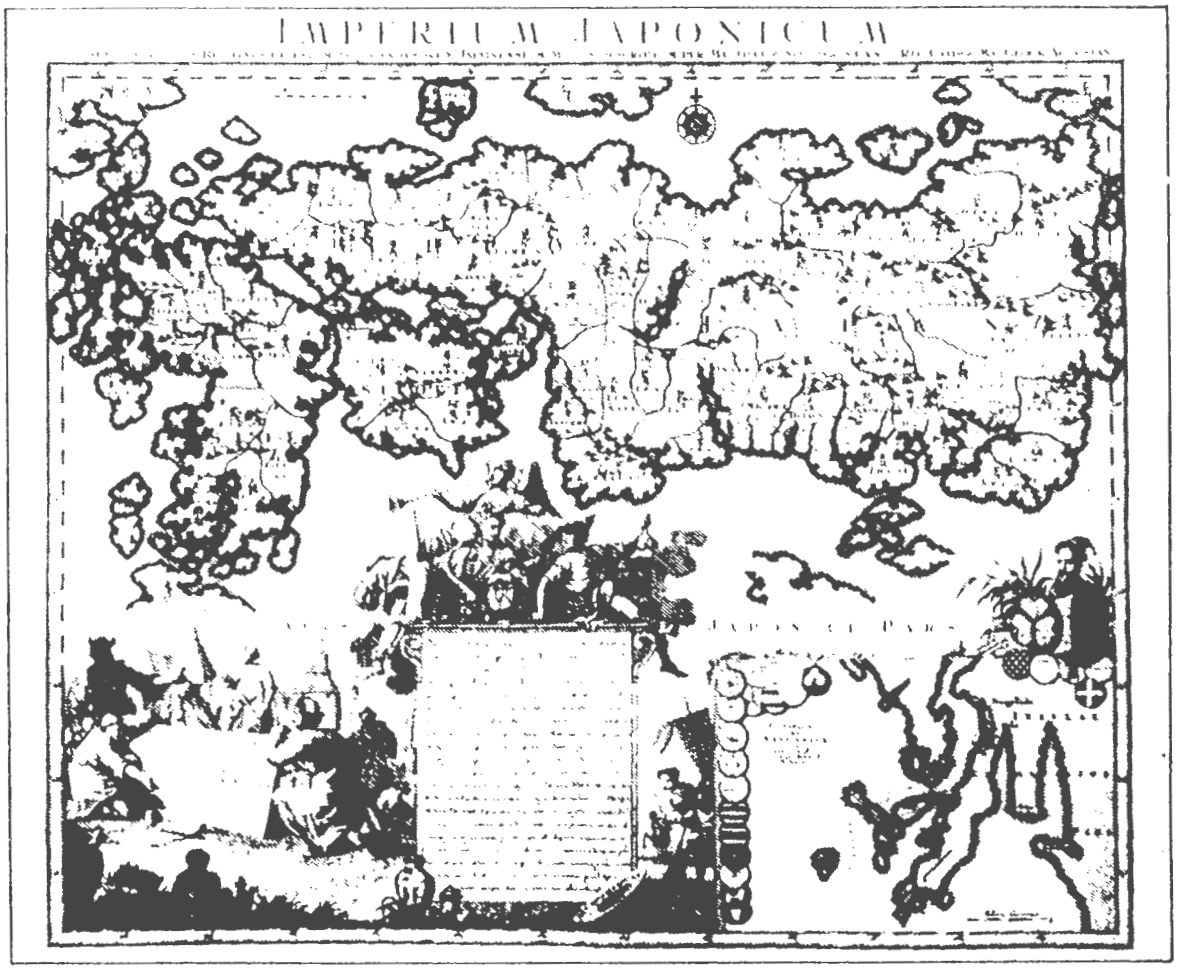
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in Appendix 2 'Organisations and Publications related to Maps'? ... why no mention of Chubb, Skelton and Hodson as County map references, Moreland and Bannister's *Antique Maps*, and Helen Wallis's *Cartographical Innovations* (the heavyweight version of much of what this book would try to be)? ... etc.

The very fact that the book gives a definition for Antique Maps is indicative that it is not aimed at antique map collectors — to quote, 'The term antique is a slippery one'; nevertheless, for the generally interested, the armchair traveller, the US market and the map enthusiast, as opposed to specialist, the book has much to offer.

JONATHAN POTTER

Portolans Procedents de Colleccions Espanyoles Segles XV–XVII. [Portolan Charts from Spanish Collections; a catalogue of the exhibition organised on the occasion of the 17th Conference of the International Cartographic Association (ICA)], Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya, Barcelona, 1995. Size 300 x 300 mm; 371pp; 191 main colour illustrations plus 26 colour illustrations in the text.

The origin of the portolan chart has been extensively studied by scholars over the past 40 years, with a notable analysis of their development up to 1500 by Tony Campbell in volume I of the Harley-Woodward *History of Cartography*. Examples of portolan charts are rarely seen by the average collector except on visits to leading national institutions where a selection of charts — usually relatively limited in scope — may be on display.

Occasionally a major exhibition is mounted to bring together a wider selection, and it was on the occasion of the 17th Conference of the ICA (International Cartographic Association) in Barcelona in 1995 that over 50 portolan charts and atlases were brought together from libraries, archives and collections in Spain for the first time. The catalogue of this exhibition is in itself a very substantial hardback volume with over 370 pages and 191 excellent colour reproductions of the portolan charts on display. The charts depicted span nearly 300 years and range in date from c.1400 to 1674, including the full contents of 16 portolan atlases.

The earliest portolan charts date from the middle of the thirteenth century but only a score of extant examples can be dated before 1400. Portolan charts are essentially practical documents to help mariners sail from port to port; initially in the Mediterranean but later wider afield. They are typically drawn on vellum, show the coastlines and ports in detail, and are criss-crossed by directional or rhumb lines radiating from compass roses. Inland, little is shown except for local flags or vignettes of the major towns. But they present a wealth of coastal place names and, for the Mediterranean, their accuracy is astonishing. Later portolan charts in particular may be brilliantly embellished and coloured, making them among the finest surviving artefacts of the map-maker's art.

Examples from the Barcelona exhibition included some early Mediterranean portolani but also many examples worldwide. Individual charts include twelve of the whole known world (among them the often-cited Juan de la Cosa chart of 1500

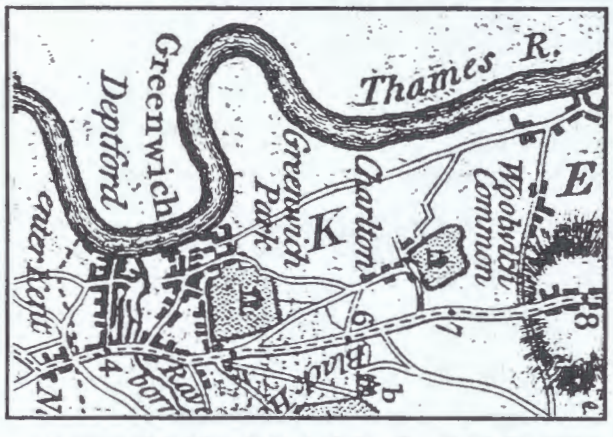
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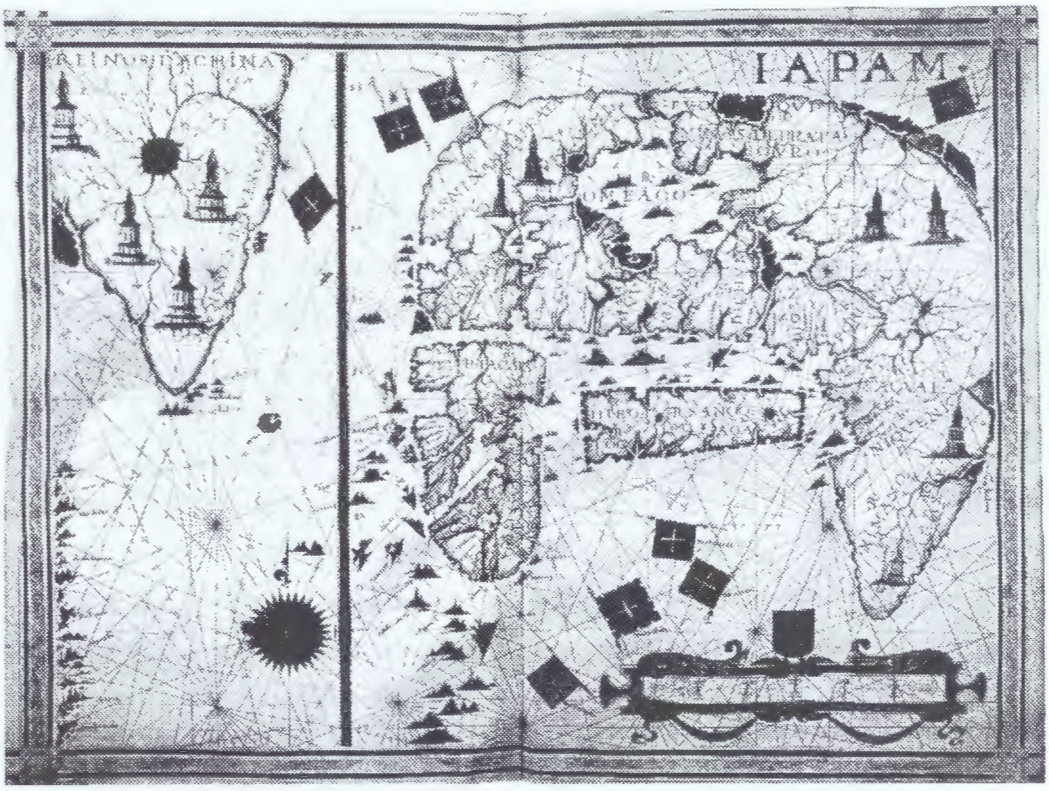
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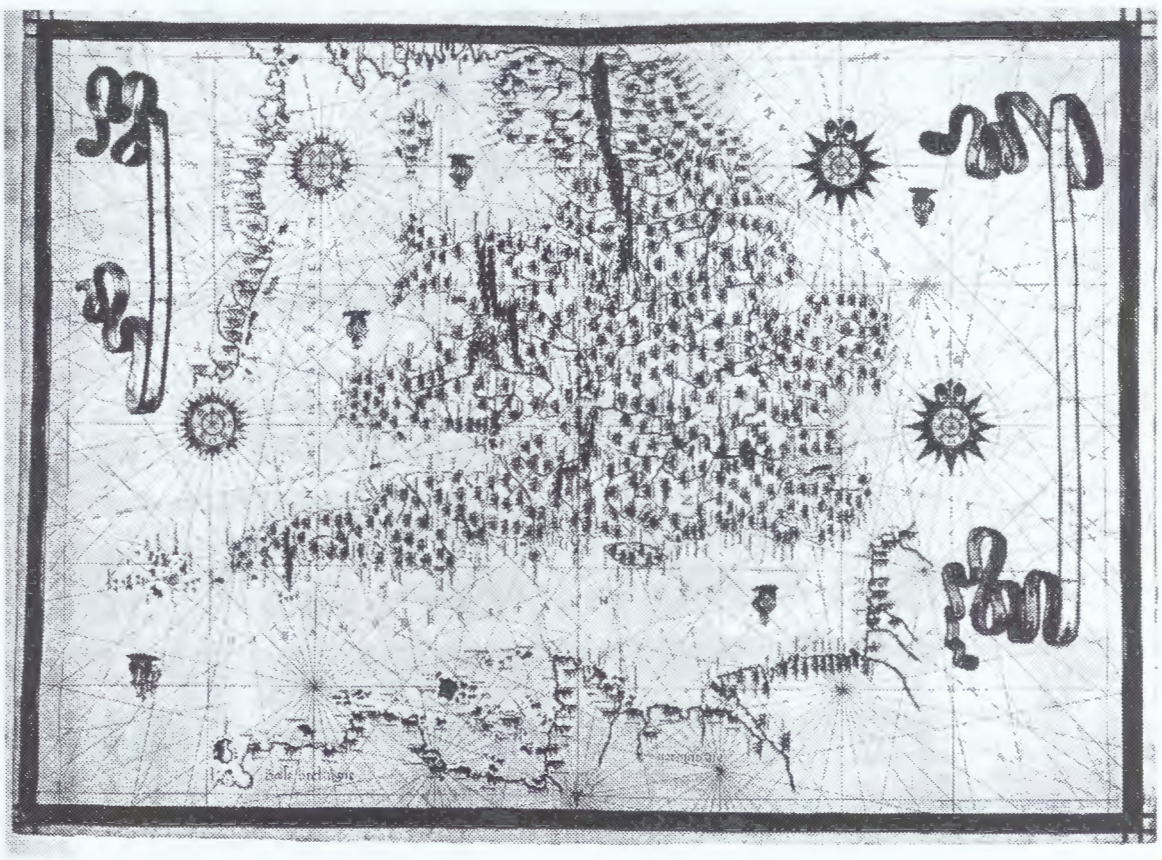
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Two examples from the book: (above) Japan from the 14-chart atlas by Ferñao Vaz Dourado, Goa, 1568. Vaz Dourado's outline of Japan, although divergent from reality, was copied by other Portuguese and Dutch cartographers.
(below) England from the 13-chart atlas by Joan Martines, Messina, 1587. Martines' chart bears a strong resemblance to the manuscript map of England (and Ireland) prepared by Laurence Nowell c.1564.

which is the first realistic map to show the New World), as well as charts of Africa, the Far East, West Indies, and individual countries such as England and Japan. There is no index or summary of the charts but many of the most prominent chart-making names and families are included — Vespucci, Benincasa, Vallseca, Vesconte, Vaz Dourado and the Homem, Russus, Prunès, Martines, and Olive or Oliva families. The reproduction of the full contents of all the atlases is especially valuable and, indeed many of the constituent charts are of exceptional beauty.

The practice of portolan chart-making reflected the conservatism of makers and users and it changed little over several hundred years, in spite of the wider dissemination of printed charts. Manuscript portolan charts were still being produced as late as the early 1700s, and the final chart depicted in the Barcelona catalogue is dated 1674 and is by a little-known English chart-maker, Andrew Welsh.

To supplement the illustrations the work has substantial informative text which is printed first as a series of nine essays in Spanish and then (as an appendix) helpfully repeated in Catalan, French and English. The (English) translation is generally excellent, except for an unfortunate slip in the essay discussing the two main schools of portolan makers, which is titled 'Italics versus majorcans, a perverse dilemma' instead of 'Italians versus Majorcans . . .'. The nine essays by Vicenç M. Roselló Verger are:

1. Introduction
2. Italics [sic] versus Majorcans, a Perverse Dilemma
3. The Toponymic Material
4. The Vignettes of Cities
5. Colours and Forms: the Islands, Deltas and Coastline of Emporadà
6. The Charts and Atlases of the Olives
7. The Atlases
8. The Portolan Chart from the 'Convent de la Mercè'
9. The Chart by Gabriel de Vallseca (1439).

Twenty-six colour illustrations (and a full bibliography) are printed within the Spanish-text section only.

Apart from Spain, the main holdings of portolan charts are in Portugal, France, Italy and the United Kingdom. The British Library has a very substantial collection indeed. As far as I am aware no comparable exhibition of material from all British sources has ever been assembled and it would be a magnificent enterprise to arrange. Could this be a worthwhile challenge from a group of munificent sponsors, perhaps to celebrate the move to St Pancras, or the Millennium?

IMCoS is grateful to its Spanish Council Member Sra Montserrat Galera i Monegal, who was closely involved in the Conference organisation, for kindly providing a copy of this superlative work to the IMCoS Library.

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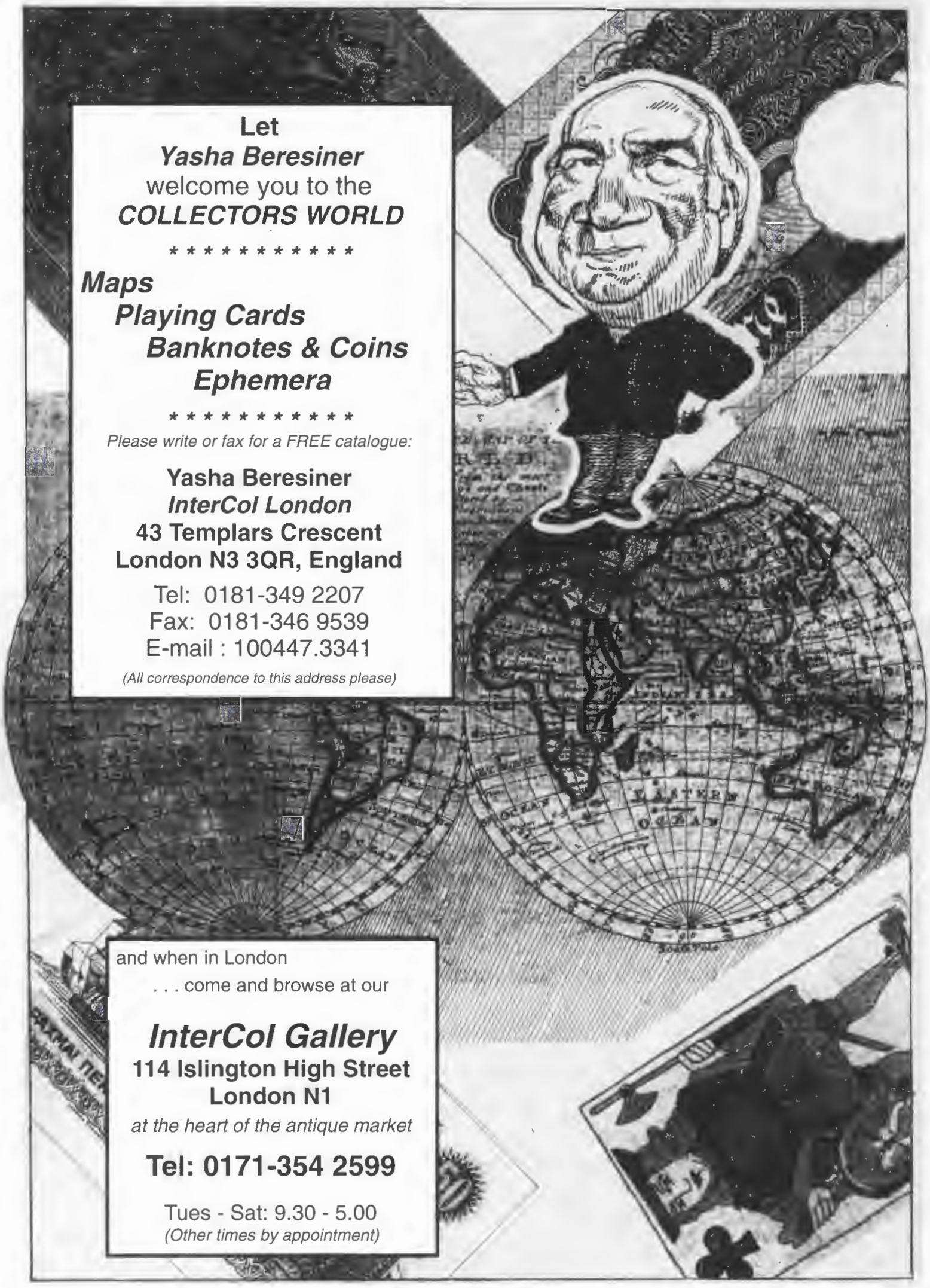
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