WINTER 2001 ISSUE No. 87

IM@S JOURNAL



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Journal of the International Map Collectors' Society

WINTER 2001 ISSUE No. 87

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Cover map: Detail from James Wyld: 'The United States of North America, with British Territories' (London, 1824). The Hermon Dunlap Smith Collection, The Newberry Library.

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From the International Chairman's Desk

Another successful, and most enjoyable, IMCoS International Symposium has come and gone. It was with some trepidation that most of us boarded aircraft to fly to Chicago, so soon after the tragic events of 11 Sept, but the welcome we received in Chicago and Milwaukee very soon allayed all our fears. We are most grateful to Jim Akerman, Bob Karrow, Susan Hanf, and to all their colleagues for making such splendid arrangements, and giving us such a good time. Many local map collectors also entertained us royally, with maps, food and wine, and I take this opportunity to thank them, on behalf of all the participants.

It was good to see the 'History of IMCoS' plaque presented by Malcolm Young on display in the lecture hall in Milwaukee. This plaque lists the organisers of the International Symposia, along with the Presidents and Chairmen of the Society (see page 38 of the *IMCoS History* for a picture of it). It is updated each year. Jenny Harvey had carried it across the Atlantic, and put it up behind the speakers in Milwaukee.

An amusing aside, during our visit on the post-symposium tour to Taliesin, the school designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The famous architect was apparently not very tall, and he constructed the foyer to his theatre with a very low roof, in order to enhance the impression gained on entrance to the theatre itself. His explanation was that tall people are 'a waste of materials'. One of the participants was not too keen to hear this, as he bumped his head on the lintel.

While we were at Madison, I put in a request to David Woodward, the editor, with the late Brian Harley, of the History of Cartography series. Our library has all three parts of Volume Two, but somehow got left off the reviews list for Volume One. We now have a copy, sent very promptly by David, and members are able to borrow it. Our thanks, David!

Last week I went back to the map exhibition at the British Library, and found it as fascinating as I had the first time round. I still didn't manage to take in all the maps on display (and read all the excellent captions), and will obviously have to go back once more. IMCoS has arranged two days of private visits, for members to be conducted by a member of staff from the Map Library. The full list of maps was published in the Autumn *Journal*. Members wishing to join a morning or afternoon visit on 16 Feb should contact the IMCoS Administrative Office.

The IMCoS Administrative Office has changed its venue. The Post Box number remains the same, but the tel/fax number has changed, and so has the post code. The new numbers are:

Tel/Fax: +(0)1296 392 511
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Brian Weston is usually available there on Friday mornings.

At the meeting of International Representatives held in Chicago, Robert

Clancy, our International Secretary, offered to maintain a list of map meetings throughout the world, in an attempt to avoid clashes in dates. So anyone planning ahead for map meetings in their own area is requested to contact him. His fax no is: +61 249 252169.

Another suggestion that came up at the meeting was that the two-years' membership requirement for eligibility to the IMCoS Travel Grants should be waived, and that they should be available for travel within the member's own country. As you are all aware, we have only ever had one applicant under the age of 32 for this grant of £300 to attend an IMCoS symposium, which is very disappointing. If you know any young person who likes maps, and after becoming a member of IMCoS, would like financial help to attend one of our symposia, please do get in touch with IMCoS Chairman.

Many members will be pleased to learn that the Holkham meeting has again been arranged in April, after it was cancelled in the wake of the foot-and-mouth restrictions last year. Apparently the deer have now been fenced off, and quite safe from any visitors who might bring infection. As numbers may have to be limited, members are requested to send in the application form as soon as possible. Those who applied last year, and did not retrieve their payment, should also apply, so that we know the exact number to expect. They should mark on the form that they have already paid.

The new Members' Directory is almost ready, but so far less than half our members have returned the slips that went out with the Autumn Journal. These slips asked for any additions/corrections to the address details of members to be sent back to the Membership Secretary, so that the Directory can be of more use to us all. So we will wait a few more weeks before printing it.

All the maps on televison lately showing Afghanistan remind me of a Nepali manuscript map I saw in a private collection in New Delhi, probably dating from the third quarter of the 19th century. It covered most of the territory between Yarkand in the east and Iran in the west, with the Amu Darya river (former Oxus) running through the middle. Kabul is prominently shown near the bottom of the map, surrounded by a ring of hills, just as I saw it on television before it was recaptured. Interestingly Mazar-i-Sharif is shown as a small appendage to the old town of Balkh, and called simply 'town of the bazaar'. It came to prominence only during the 19th century. Other names that keep cropping up in the news reports can also be found on the map, such as Kunduz and Khulm. Kandahar and Herat are both ringed by hills, and the former appears to have many forests or orchards around it too. Perhaps I will see these on television.

For me, this brought home how our interest in early maps can make modern history more relevant. If I did not know of this map, I would have had to learn my geography only from the models shown on television, good though they are, but the names would have had no special meaning for me. Now I feel that history has come alive (see page 67).

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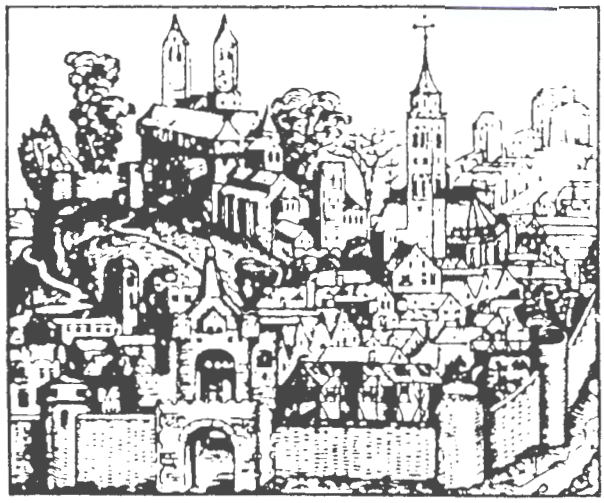
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The Future of the Private Map Collection

The title I proposed, 'The Future of the Private Map Collection' is, I now realize, ambiguous. It might be taken as suggesting that I think the future might hold *no* private map collections, that somehow the map collecting habit would atrophy and people who might otherwise collect maps would turn their attention to hand tools, or Hummel figurines. But no, my meaning is more personal than that. I want to address the question of what will happen to our collections when their chief curator is eternally retired, when the acquisition of maps and all things of this world shall cease, and we ourselves are deaccessioned. And although I am a librarian in charge of an institutional map collection, I hope to avoid charges of special pleading, for I am also a private collector (though of books), and I'd like to think that I can see several sides to the issue.

Intimations of mortality may be uncomfortable, and I imagine I am not alone in noticing a distinct increase in such thoughts in the past few weeks. But while all men are mortal, our stuff will very likely survive us, and we have considerable scope in deciding its fate. As far as I can tell (leaving aside such drastic and pathological possibilities as destroying our collections or having them interred with us), there are three main modalities by which we can provide for the future of our collections: by descent, by sale, and by gift. I should like to consider some of the implications of each of them. We should bear in mind that with any of these means of transmitting a collection to another generation, the more we can be active participants in the transmission, the more satisfaction and pleasure we are likely to get from seeing our wishes fulfilled, or ensuring that they *will* be fulfilled. If we die intestate, the state will figure out a way to effect transmission, but that would probably not be anyone's first choice.

The first mode is *descent*. We may assure that our collections pass to our children or other heirs. I have no figures, but I rather think this is now a relatively uncommon occurrence. America has never really had a tradition of great landed families, whose chattel remained in the great house to be treasured, enjoyed, squandered or loathed by subsequent generations. Even in England, where such a tradition *did* exist, more and more of the great private libraries (and great private houses) have been sold or dissolved. Most of us no longer expect our progeny to inherit our house, let alone share our interests, or to live in the same city or even continent. Obviously, if you do have children or other relatives who you know would appreciate your collection, such a bequest would make a wonderful inheritance and provide a firm basis for further collecting.

For most of us, I suspect, our collections will not pass on through *descent*; but rather through *sale* or *gift*. Let us first consider sale. There is, of course, a very long and honorable tradi-

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tion of selling collections. The sale catalogs of great collections and of great dealers have become important reference tools in their own rights. We might think of the Streeter sale catalogs, H.P. Kraus's catalog 124 of 1969 entitled *Monumenta cartographica*, the great Weinreb & Douwma catalog 6, devoted to maps of the British Isles (1970), the 51 issues of Ken Nebenzahl's *Compass for Map Collectors*, the catalogs of Jonathan Potter, Maphouse, Martayan Lan, and Arkway, countless auction catalogs, including the marvelous reference collection of our own Eric Wolf, so recently sold at Waverly Auctions.

There is something stirring about being able to track the provenance of an item as it passes through the hands of many private collectors. For some books, we have a record of amazing pedigrees, like the one for a copy of Shelly's *Adonais: An Elegy on the Death of John Keats* (1821), recently sold at Christie's (8-9 October 2001). It was inscribed by the author to Leigh Hunt, who in turn presented it to Thomas Love Peacock, through whom it passed to his grand-daughter, then into the trade where it was bought by Henry Herman, a dramatist, who sold it through Sotheby's to Thomas Jefferson McKee, who sold it through Anderson Galleries to another book dealer who sold it to William A Read, who sold it at auction to Fred Allsopp, from whom it ended up in the House of El Dieff, from whom Abel Berland of Chicago bought it in 1973. How marvelous, to know where this book has been for 180 years, and to know who has handled it, read it, perhaps gone into debt to buy it, treasured it. And to know that that circle will be unbroken, for chances are good that another private collector now owns and will cherish and protect it as befits a cultural and intellectual artifact. Mr. Berland, one of the great book collectors of the twentieth century, is still very much alive and active. He writes in an introduction to the two-volume catalog that he never saw himself as the owner of his books, but as their 'temporary custodian.' Mr. Berland delighted in being able to dispose of his collection by auction, because he wanted other collectors to be able to experience the joy that he felt during a fifty year odyssey in the world of antiquarian books. I must add that although he was courted by many libraries, he steadfastly resisted pleas that he donate his collection to any of them, on the grounds that 'they would only be locked up and no one would be able to enjoy them.'

With books (including, of course, atlases) the collector has a splendid opportunity to leave his trace in the form of a bookplate, for which the inside front board provides the perfect display panel. One of the more baroque displays is illustrated in the Berland catalog: it features no fewer than five bookplates, spilling over onto the free endpaper, and covering well over one hundred years. I am strongly of the opinion that far from preserving some theoretically pristine state of a document ('just as it came from the press') we should encourage and welcome such marking, as providing a record of the history of the documents in our

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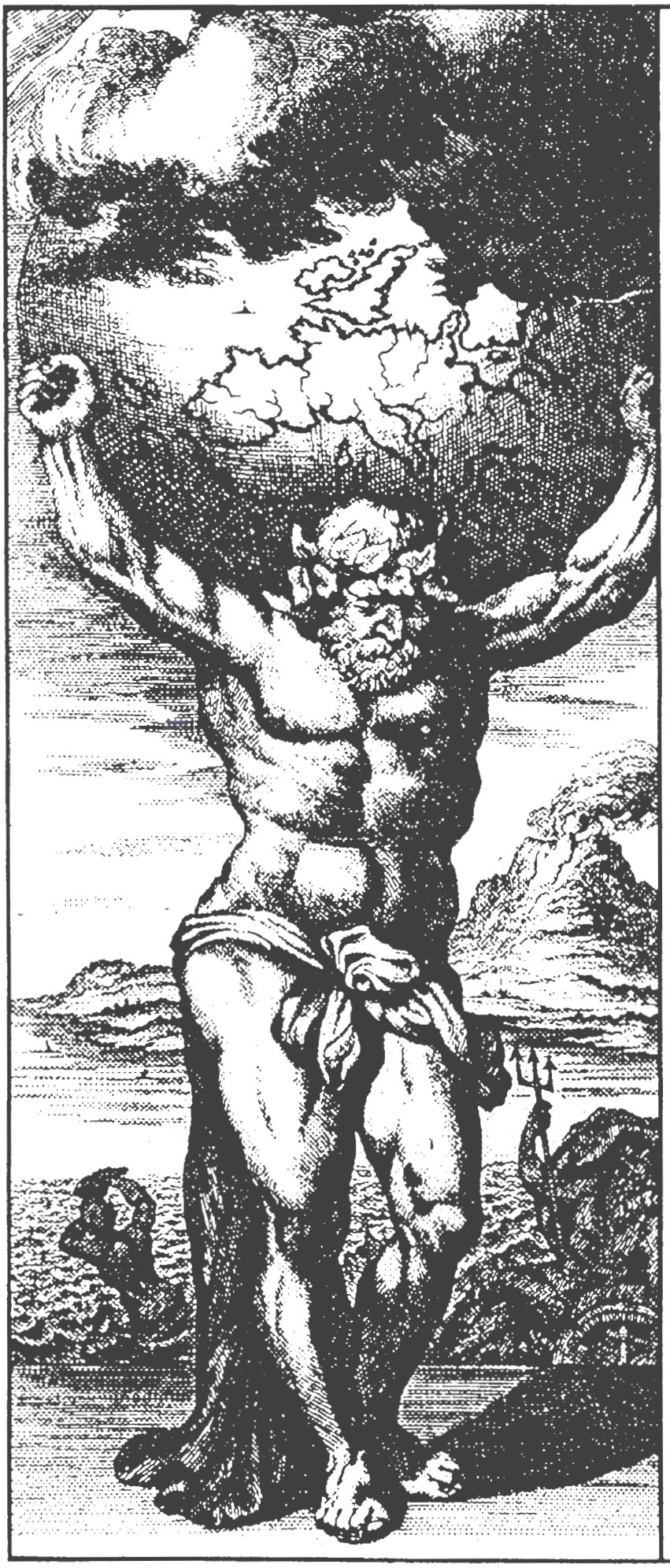
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care. The first and most obvious reason for an ownership mark is to prevent the loss, or misappropriation of the document. But after the first such marking, every subsequent mark confers another layer of authenticity, of historical documentation, of value added.

The practice of marking maps in private hands has not, I think, been widespread, although we have a few maps at the Newberry that bear on their versos the marks of a previous owner. But I should like to make a blanket recommendation to all of you, and I hope you will go home and carry it out. Have an ownership stamp made with your name, and stamp it on the versos of all the map sheets in your collection. One could, of course, use paper labels, including conventional bookplates, but I would argue for a rubber stamp on the basis of permanence. Labels can be easily removed and a map thief with a damp sponge could easily obliterate all evidence of your proud ownership. No, a rubber stamp is best, and there's pretty general agreement that the stamp should be placed on the verso, in the lower right quadrant, within the printed area of the map. Of course, one must take due care that the ink is permanent and does not bleed through. Such an ownership stamp will provide you with an opportunity (or several opportunities, for many book collectors have multiple bookplates) to create a tasteful, even artistic mark that will forever link you to that map. Dealers, I feel sure, will welcome this practice. Anything that establishes indelible links in the chain of ownership can only make their job easier, and a simple, well-designed stamp, tastefully applied to the verso, should hardly detract from a map's value. As John Carter said of bookplates, 'it is absurd to regard them as a blemish...unless the art work is so ugly as to qualify as a blemish in its own right' (*ABC for Book Collectors*).

It used to be that the options for selling a collection were basically two: sale at auction, or through a dealer. The internet has brought some amazing changes to the way antiquarian materials are exchanged today. It has become thoroughly intertwined with the two traditional modes of sale, so that we have online dealers catalogs and auction catalogs and can purchase or bid online. But utilities like e-Bay also make it possible for everyone to be his or her own dealer, to post your own maps to a global marketplace with access to millions of potential collectors, and, yes, also dealers. Nor are these options mutually exclusive – one can imagine selling parts of a collection through dealers, parts through auction, and parts through private sale online. When selling on e-Bay, one pays a small premium to e-Bay for the use of their site, and, of course, one is responsible for appraising, describing, listing, and preferably illustrating each item, for tracking the bidding, packaging, dealing with payment, postage, possible requests for refunds, etc., etc, all the services performed by dealers and auction houses.

When selling at auction, the charges vary from house to house and sale to sale. Typically, both buyer *and seller* pay the auction house a premium



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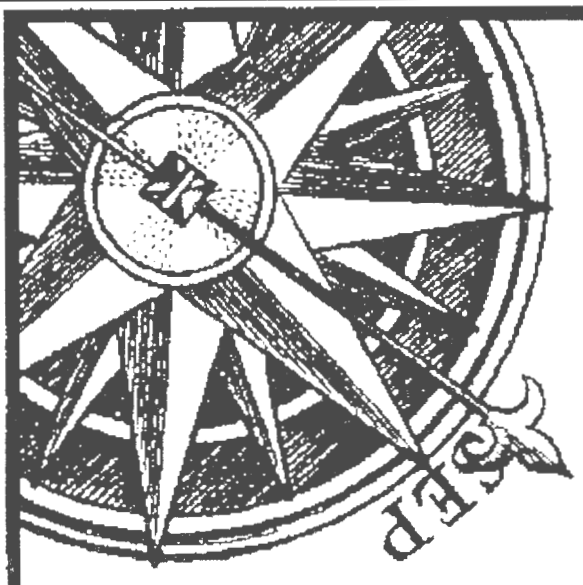
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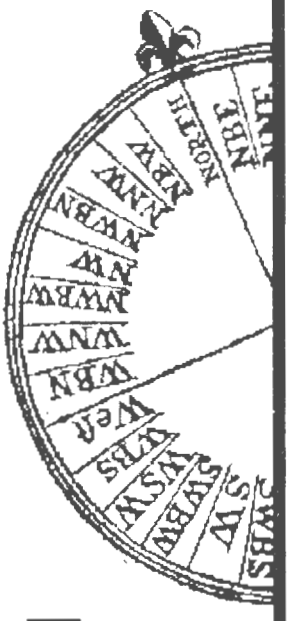
of up to 17.5% on the hammer price. Should items not be sold, because they do not make the reserve, the seller has to make other arrangements for their disposal, and may still be charged a premium for the house's efforts in his behalf. An auction, especially a large, splashy one in rooms in New York or London, accompanied by a fine catalog, is no doubt a heady experience. For a collector to be present to witness vigorous bidding for objects which he had possessed for a long time would certainly provide a sense of closure, punctuated with drama and even excitement, that might well compare to the initial joy of forming the collection. Of course, like all 'open outcry' trading, antiquarian auction results can be quite volatile, and not every collector will feel himself properly rewarded for his efforts.

Selling directly to a dealer can be expected to be a more predictable, possibly even more pleasant, transaction. Many a collector has built up strong ties, not excluding genuine friendships, with the dealers who have helped them to assemble their collections. Many a dealer has handled the same map two or three times (I wonder what the record is?) and there is a nice kind of symmetry in disposing of a collection through the same dealer or dealers who helped one to assemble it. One has a nice sense of circularity, of the reincarnation of the objects of one's desire as they again enter the eternal cycle. Selling to a dealer means a lump-sum payment, perhaps less than one's expectations at auction, but also less the premiums, agony, ecstasy, and possible 'bought-ins' of the auction room.

The third means of disposing of your collection is by gift. If your financial situation allows you consider this mode, there are a wide number of options for giving away a collection. Two occur to me which are certainly possible and have undoubtedly been practiced, although I can cite no specific instances. One can imagine a younger, enthusiastic collector of limited means, to whom one might give an entire collection (I would be grateful if anyone can cite me an instance). Or how about a collector who disposes of a collection piecemeal, giving particular items to particular collections. I know of occasions in which a library has been given first choice of items in a collection, with the balance being sold or passed on to the family. More common, probably, is the gift complete, the transferal of a collection *en bloc* to a library, museum, or other cultural institution. I'd like now to tell you two stories about map collections that made their way from private to institutional ownership.

The first is a remarkable collection of 1500 items assembled by a very astute dealer-cum-collector. This collection includes a medieval world map, numerous maps from Ptolemaic atlases, maps by Oronce Fine, Munster, Ortelius, Mercator, Blaeu, Sanson, representative maps of all parts of the world, with a heavy emphasis on the Americas through the 19th century. There is not an important cartographer, publisher, or school of cartography that is not represented by at least one, and perhaps a dozen exemplars. And, the



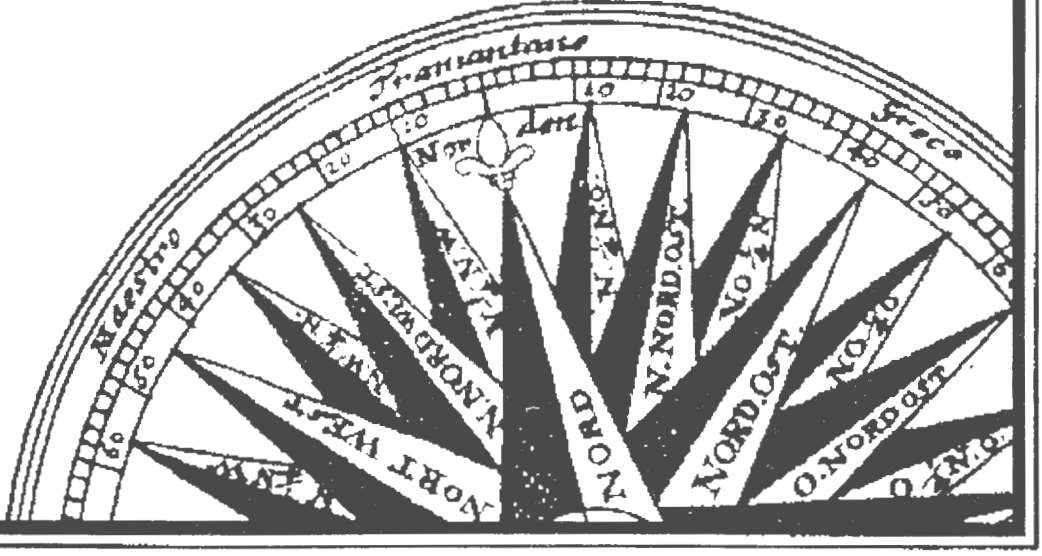


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maps are backed up by an extraordinarily rich collection of cartographic reference books. The collection was given to a university with an enrollment of 20,000 students in a major urban area. The university librarian was very enthusiastic about the collection, and during his life, the collector/donor worked hard to catalog it, to publicize it with attractive exhibits and handsome exhibit catalogs, and saw that new acquisitions were periodically made to it.

That collector died in 1990, leaving the collection without its curator and without an endowment. Five years later, a newly retired member of the history faculty (someone who had been very enthusiastic about maps) was named honorary curator of the collection, which remains intact and presumably sees occasional use. I very much doubt, though, that the 2,000 volume reference collection has been kept up, or that many new maps have been added. The university catalog shows no courses in the history of cartography and I find no evidence of any exhibitions in the past decade. What will be the fate of this collection when even the unpaid curator is gone? Have I described Abel Berland's 'collection locked up where no one will see it'? Would the world of scholarship and collecting have been better served if this collection had been given to another institution or folded back into the trade?

For a very different scenario, consider the University of Southern Maine, with an enrollment about 10,000 students and located in a small city. There, an initial gift of two cartographic collections of around 1500 items (many of them, to be sure, atlases and books with maps) were systematically added to by one of the original collectors and attracted substantial additional gifts, so that the collection now boasts some 60,000 maps. The university provided prime space in a new library building, The original donors and others have provided some endowment income, and a paid staff of five is engaged in cataloging, exhibiting, teaching about, servicing, and adding to the collection. An active program of outreach engages kindergarten through 12th-grade teachers in learning to use old maps in their curricula, regular exhibitions and an active web presence keep the collections in public view, and a friends group provides additional support.

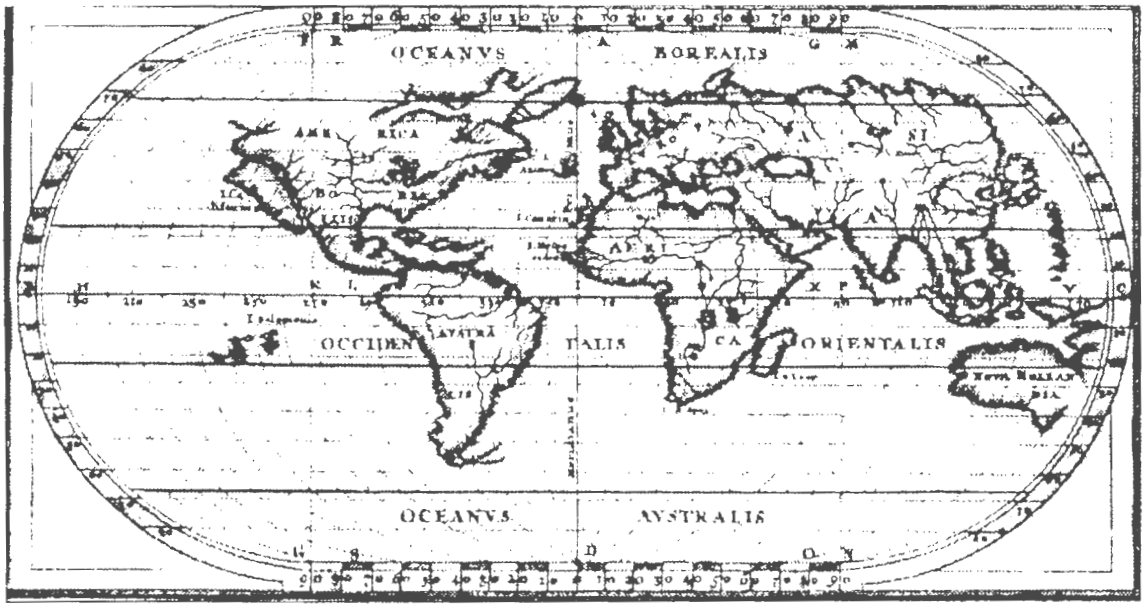
Now it's certainly not my goal here to try to disparage any individual or institution, or to suggest that there was anything less than great good will and a desire to make a difference behind the first gift that I cited. My point is simply that good collections and good will alone are not enough to make a satisfying private collection into a useful public one. The moral, I guess, is 'If you build it, they will not necessarily come.' Collection size is certainly important, but it is not everything – we must also consider the size of the institution, the size of the budget, the size of the imagination and energy behind it

To be able to give something to another, as a spontaneous expression of friendship or love, is one of the great human virtues; is itself a gift. To accept a gift graciously and with a full understanding of its meaning is to

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acknowledge a human relationship, which may be regular and intimate or infrequent and distant, but still, a human relationship. It seems almost churlish to insist on forethought, and written documentation, but there is much to recommend this kind of 'planned giving', especially when it involves an individual and an institution. In any kind of giving, both giver and recipient have expectations, whether they have consciously formulated them or not. The collector wants to know, and *needs* to know, among other things,

Will the library understand and appreciate her gift?

How will the gift fit in with other materials already in the library?

What is the library's history with regard to gifts and benefactions like the one proposed?

Can or will the library preserve the materials adequately?

What will the library do with duplicates? How does the library define a 'duplicate'?

How will the collection be cataloged and made accessible to readers?

What commitment can or should the library make toward continuing and expanding the collection?

and last, but certainly not least,

Can I deduct the value of my gift as a charitable contribution? Who will determine the value?

For its part, the institution also has questions about proposed gifts. Many of the concerns are the same, although the emphasis will be slightly different. A library must ask itself, for instance:

How does the proposed gift enhance the work we are doing?

Will this gift take our collection in new directions? What is involved in the decision to go there?

What percentage of this gift is likely to be duplicates?

Are our hands being tied by the collector's demands about the sale of duplicates, or about the housing, display, or cataloging of the collection?

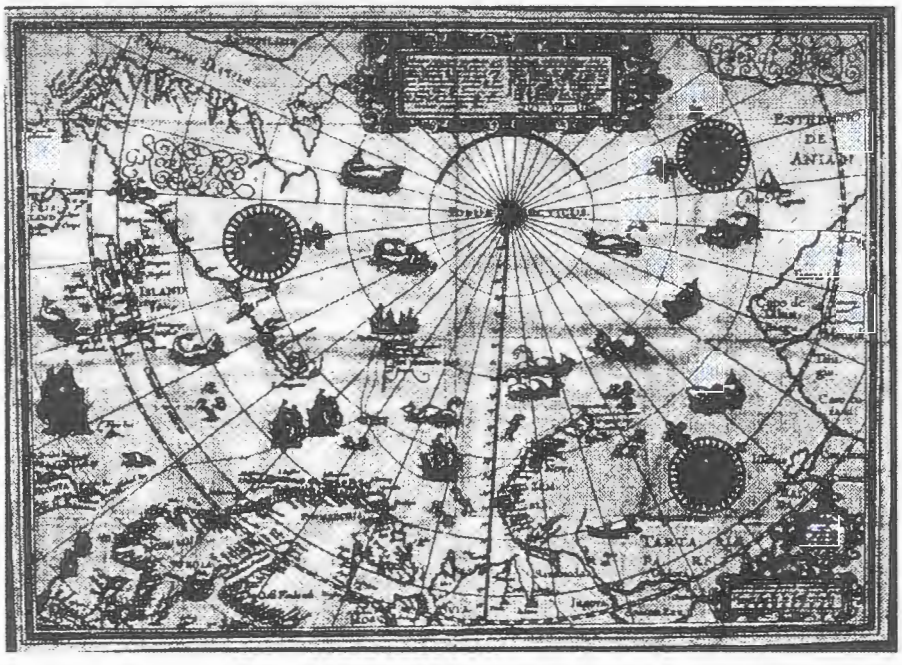
Is there another institution that would provide a more comfortable home for this collection?

Do we have room for this collection, staff to catalog it, funds to maintain it?

For both parties to answer these questions satisfactorily requires considerable thought about goals and means. The gift giving will be a happier experience all around if there are clear understandings on these points at the outset, and I highly recommend having a written document as the basis of the gift.

One underlying factor that comes into play is the relationship between the size and comprehensiveness of the collection to be given and the size and comprehensiveness of the institution intended to receive it. There is probably a 'critical mass' which a collection has to reach before it can have a serious impact on a given institution, and one might want to select an institution with that in mind. A dozen maps of an English county, for example, would probably weigh lightly in the scales of the British Library, but might be a major attraction for a local library or

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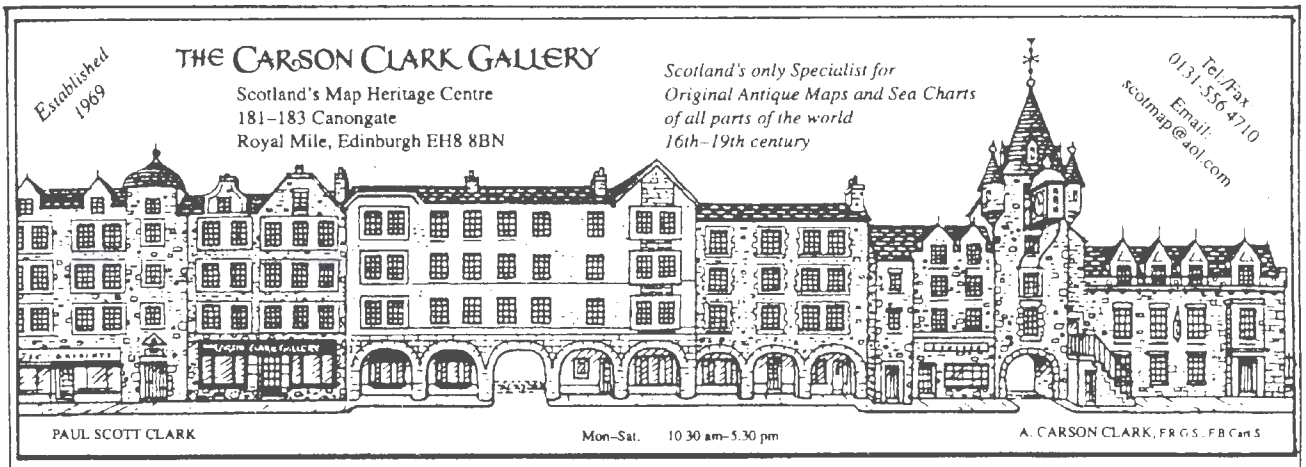
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museum. The general principle is obvious, but it is difficult to be dogmatic. Clearly, the more comprehensive the collection, and the more coherent the collection, regardless of size (in other words, the more value that has been added by the collector) the more research value it will have for an institution. I can easily imagine being very interested in a collection of maps of an area that would be largely, or even entirely, duplicated by maps already in books and atlases in the Newberry Library. Such a collection, intelligently assembled, and coherent in its organization, would represent significant 'value added', and the convenience of being able to store and service it as a unit, without culling books from all over the library, might make it powerfully attractive. On the other hand, a smaller or more miscellaneous collection, though it might contain great and valuable items, will have more limited research value and might be a better candidate for sale.

The possibilities are almost endless, and the choice is yours. I urge you to make it with as much forethought as you can and to *enjoy* the process, whichever mode you choose, as much as possible.

In the mean time, happy collecting, live long and prosper, and stamp your maps!

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AGSC, the Milwaukee Years, 1978-2001

Twenty three years ago, in 1978, a fleet of 16 large moving vans arrived in Milwaukee from New York City, delivering to University of Wisconson-Milwaukee, the library and map collection of the venerable American Geographical Society of New York. This move, perhaps the greatest in American library history, gave Milwaukee's young university a geographic research facility that is unique among colleges and universities in America—even equalling or exceeding the map collections of eminent Ivy League institutions. When it arrived at UWM, the AGS Collection was conservatively valued at $30 million. We have no good way to determine with any certainty the value of the collection today, but I think it not unreasonable, considering the tremendous growth in the antiquarian book and map trade over the past two decades, that the collection's value has likely doubled—we routinely handle items worth tens of thousands of dollars.

What I would like to add, however, is that the real value of such a collection is not expressed in dollars and cents, but rather in its worth to our constituents: our students, faculty, staff, visiting scholars and members of our local community. I feel confident that this measure of value is also constantly on the rise as we meet the geographic information needs and develop programming to both educate and entertain increasingly large numbers of people.

The American Geographical Society of New York, originally called the American Geographical and Statistical Society, was founded in 1851. The Constitution adopted on October 9 of that year stated that 'The American Geographical and Statistical Society of New York is instituted for the collection and diffusion of geographical and statistical information.' Further, the Society was to publish transactions with maps and illustrations, and to 'possess a library with a collection of maps, charts and instruments.' From these beginnings, the collections rapidly grew, and, already by 1870, the collection was recognized as the 'largest and most valuable' of its type in the United States. Later, at the conclusion of World War I, the Federal Government centered the preliminary work of its delegation to the Paris Peace Conference, Woodrow Wilson's famous 'Inquiry' at the Society's headquarters so as to be able to draw on the resources of its library and map collection.

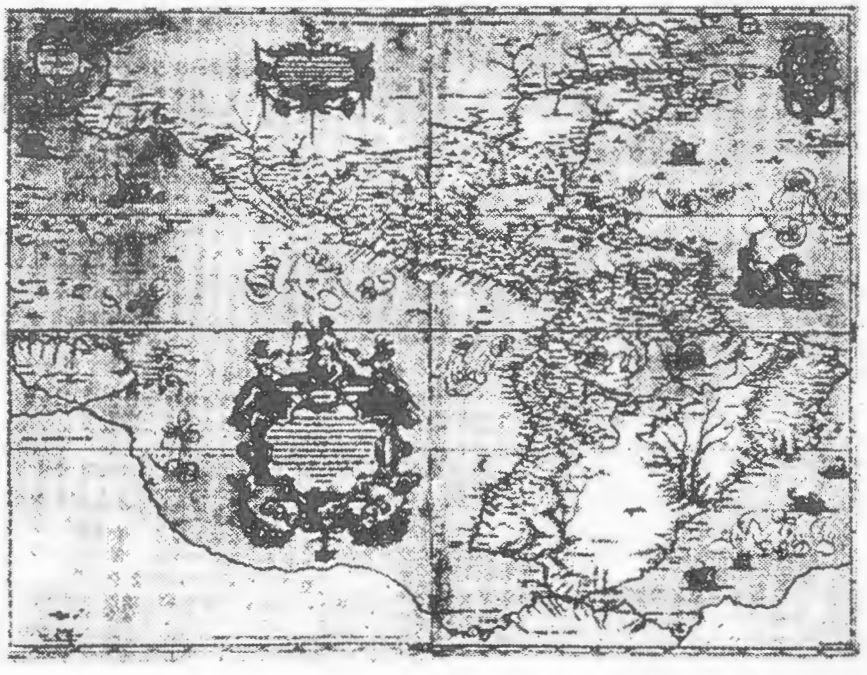
The founders of the Society were diverse in their interests and professions, and consisted of map makers, scholars, jurists, diplomats, soldiers, explorers, clergy and businessmen. There was no *a priori* attempt to define what geography was, and the collection that developed was suffi-

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Above: 'Ubique' carved in stone on the old AGS building in New York.
Below: The Map Room in New York.

ciently broad in scope to encompass the interests and needs of such a broad constituency. For over a century, the Society remained a strong, creative force by developing a vigorous publications program, sponsoring exploration and undertaking major cartographic ventures. At the very close of his 1951 volume celebrating the centenary of the AGS, the famous geographer, librarian and AGS Director, John Kirkland Wright wrote:

'Only a prophet and a seer could foretell what lies beyond the gateways to the Society's future. Reputed to be blind, the Fates spin mighty cords out of small and little-noticed threads and sever the skeins of things that promise greatness. Yet one cannot but believe that they have an eye with which they have watched the Society for a hundred years and that, when they have seen things wisely planned and well begun, the shears have been withheld. The needs for geographical understanding are too urgent, and the American Geographical Society's record of achievement in meeting these needs is too impressive, to warrant doubt that Destiny will continue to look with favor on our institution as its second century unfolds.'

Although, not outright severed, the Fates took to snipping at the skeins over the next couple of decades. The generous donors of the past disappeared, the society's endowment dwindled while its expenses rose. By the 1970s, the library could no longer be adequately staffed or collections properly built or maintained. Furthermore, the Fates snipped away at the Society's Audubon Terrace neighbourhood, making it accessible to only the bravest souls. On top of everything else (literally), the roof developed leaks, and resources for its repair could not even be mustered.

It was at this time that the Society indicated the desire of affiliating with another institution. Word of this reached UWM Geography Professor, Barbara Borowiecki, who thought, 'Why not UWM?' and took the idea to Bill Roselle, the library director at the time. The enthusiasm of these two people proved contagious, and before long the Chancellor and UW President also supported the effort. (It perhaps didn't hurt that both were geographers, and that the President, John Weaver, began his professional career with the AGS). Ultimately, the UWM bid was accepted by the Society in 1976, but then the legal battles began. The State of New York was most reluctant at the time, to lose yet another cultural institution. The matter dragged on in court for two years, with the Society paying the legal bills. Finally, on July 26, 1978, a justice of the New York Supreme Court signed an order freeing the collection to leave the state. The Society, however, remained in New York where it continues its active program of publication and geographic education.

What I intend to do over the next quarter hour is to take you back to New York on the eve of the move, try to convey a sense of the effort involved, follow the convoy to the

awaiting crowd in Milwaukee, briefly describe the Collection, and outline its development in Milwaukee, physically, but also in term of its growth, its preservation, its improved access, and its agenda in terms of its publications and its outreach programs.

Carved in stone on the old AGS building in New York is the Latin motto of the Society, *Ubique*, which can be translated as 'everywhere', and was meant to convey the idea that 'everywhere' is the domain of the geographer. In the mid 1970s when the Society's resources were becoming other than ubiquitous, the AGS Council made a bold decision, one to keep their motto from becoming the answer to the question 'Where is the AGS Collection ?'

On September 30,1976, the AGS Council voted unanimously to move the Society and its collection to Milwaukee. Prior to 1978, the AGS was housed in a handsome building at 156th and Broadway in New York.

It was actually part of a campus of institutions known as Audubon Terrace. The institutions included: Museum of the American Indian; The Hispanic Society of America; The American Academy of Arts and Letters; the National Institute of Arts and Letters; and the American Geographical Society.

The loading began—thousands of maps had been stored in such pasteboard fliptop boxes which were shelved in heavy oak units—some built-in. Library Director Bill Roselle, the man behind the move, conferred with police regarding security. After a journey of some 1500 kilometers, the convoy reached Milwaukee

On Sunday, August 13,1978, the library prepared to formally receive the Collection, and a crowd assembled to meet the first vans. Awaiting the arrival were Chancellor Werner Baum, AGS President Nolte, Mayor Henry Maier and Library Director Bill Roselle. AGS Executive Director Sally Meyers greeted Governor Martin Schreiber, UWM Library Director Bill Roselle began the reception ceremony. On the rostrum with him were Prof. Barbara Borowiecki, AGS President Richard Nolte, UWM Chancellor Werner Baum, UW President Edwin Young (who had just taken over from John Weaver), Gov. Martin Schreiber, Mayor Henry Maier; and Giovanni Leardo, (incognito). For a fleeting moment, AGS Executive Director Sally Meyers and Associate Library Director Bill Moritz inspected empty library space that would never be the same again.

After three years of work, the AGSC was officially open to the public.

Collection Description

I will at this point attempt a very brief overview of the collection. There are over 485,000 maps and charts of all types covering the world at a wide range of scales. Included are the major national topographic series, navigational charts and a wealth of thematic maps detailing the full range of physical and human factors. The Collection dates back to the Leardo Mappamundi of 1452.

Over 9000 atlases including a collection of 23 editions of Ptolemy's



The loading begins.



Our Leardo mappamundi, no longer incognito, going on display in Milwaukee for the first time.

geography dating back to the 1478 Rome edition. Also included are hundreds of world, sea and regional atlases produced by the greats of atlas publishing: They include Ortelius, De Jode, Mercator, Hondius, Jansson, Blaeu, Sanson Coronelli, Robert and Homann to name just a few. We also have a very fine collection of nineteenth century state and county atlases.

The AGSC's large collection of monographs dates back to the first printed geography—De *Imagine Mundiof* Honorius Augustodunensus, printed in Nurnburg in 1472—and includes, in abundance, works on geographical thought, exploration and discovery, military geography, history of cartography, descriptive regional works and reference works. With respect to periodicals, Chauncey Harris and Jerome Fellman concluded shortly before the move that the AGSC was 'the leading American library in recorded holdings of the older geographical serials... [and] for recent geographical serials, the American Geographical Society and the Library of Congress have an impressive lead over all other libraries in the United States. '

We currently have a collection of 81 globes which includes special thematic globes as well as historic pieces such as a 1613 Hondius-Veen globe and an 1831 Wilson matched pair.

The AGSC has an excellent collection of pioneer western photographs portraying such things as archeological





Above: An early interior shot of the display case and the map area in Milwaukee. Below: The AGSC reference area and digital spatial data station (with a view of our Geochron).

sites, physical phenomena, Western railroad building and native peoples. But, in addition, there are tens of thousands of photos taken around the world documenting a wealth of geographical themes, such as those taken by Louise Boyd in Poland in 1934.

Collection Development since 1978

Since its arrival from New York in 1978, the AGS Collection has grown from 615,000 items to around 1.1 million today, an increase of nearly 80 percent. This figure does not even count the large number of volumes of monographs and serials, which are entered into the Research Catalog but are physically housed in the Golda Meir Library stacks. Growth statistics include increases of 37% for maps, 57% for atlases and 25 % for globes. A wide variety of new cartographic items are added to the Collection every year. An nusual Buckminster Fuller 'Globe' was given to the Collection at the time of 1996 globe symposium.

In addition to the latest materials, the Collection has made a number of significant retrospective acquisitions. The greatest of these is the extremely important Holyland map collection assembled by Kenneth Nebenzahl while writing his book, *Maps of the Holyland.* This collection of more that 150 rare maps and books, dating from 1482, when combined with the AGSC's existing holdings, makes us one of the world's centers for the study of maps of the Holy Land, an excellent microcosm of the history of mapping in general.

Directly related is a rare relief model of Palestine given to AGSC in 1996 by the National Museum of American Jewish History of Philadelphia. This striking item was brought to Milwaukee and restored by local donors.

The photographic collections have increased by a staggering 253%. Examples include the Krayczk photos of China; the Harrison Forman Collection consisting of slides, prints, negatives and films; and the Light, Roeming, Platt Mayer and Reed Collection to name just a few.

Certain items found in the Collection today could not likely have been present in the collection 25 years ago. The Department of Agriculture gave 200,000 Landsat images to the AGSC by in 1981. The AGSC also has a burgeoning digital spatial data collection the service of which now requires a spatial data librarian to handle the complex transactions which are increasingly becoming a way of life in today's map and geography collections.

Preservation

Restoration and preservation of the AGS Collection have always been taken very seriously by the AGSC and Golda Meir Library Staffs. Three major grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation have enabled the restoration of over a thousand rare books, atlases and maps.

Many hundreds of rare maps were also treated, including, for example, the charts used by Lindbergh in planning his famous 1927 flight, and a unique turn of the century Inuit manuscript map of the Belcher Islands in Hudson Bay, from

Robert J. Flaherty, author of *Nanook of the North.* One of our Cook manuscript charts, can be lined up to show the eastern coast of Australia which he charted for the first time in 1770. Other specialized restoration projects include Humboldt's autographed copy of the Cruz Cano map of South America which was restored through a grant from Milwaukee's German Fest, Inc.

During the past five years, hundreds of maps have been restored and encapsulated in-house permitting, once again, the use of materials that would normally be considered too fragile to handle.

Access

We have just completed the second year of a seven-year project to recatalog all of the books, serials, maps and atlases in the Collection for entry into the national bibliographic infrastructure. This is a project supported jointly by the UW System and UWM. Some of the 37000 monographic titles in the AGSC Circulating collection have already been recataloged. Our reference collection has also been completely recataloged, and we've begun work on maps and serials.

The AGSC has geographic access to 240,000 sheet maps in its topographic map collection through its own automated system called Geodex. The graphic display module of Geodex indicates at a glance that the AGSC has the entire set of 1:50,000 maps of France. With over 350,000 total entries in system, Geodex is one of the world's largest automated cartobibliographies.

The challenge of providing digital spatial data services to patrons has required the investment in a some rather sophisticated computer equipment, which includes Unix and NT workstations, a scanner, cd-rom burners and a 36 inch color inkjet plotter.

Publishing

Since its move to Milwaukee, the AGS Collection has been responsible for continuing the compilation and publication of *Current Geographical Publications.* In addition, there have been two special issues of *CGP,* a large G.K. Hall volume of *Maps in Books and Periodicals,* seven entries in the AGSC Special Publications Series, with one in the works, and a group of miscellaneous publications.

AGSC staff members also participated in the production of *Maps from the American Geographical Society Collection*— a videodisc on mapping produced with the help of a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Published by William C. Brown.

The World Wide Web has enabled the AGSC to become involved with Electronic publication. Our home page and the electronic version of *Current Geographical Publications* is available world wide. In the last year we began publication of a WWW version of the AGSC research catalog, known as the Online Geographical Bibliography or Geobib. Geobib contains 85,000 bibliographic records covering the period from 1985 to date.

Promotion of the AGSC

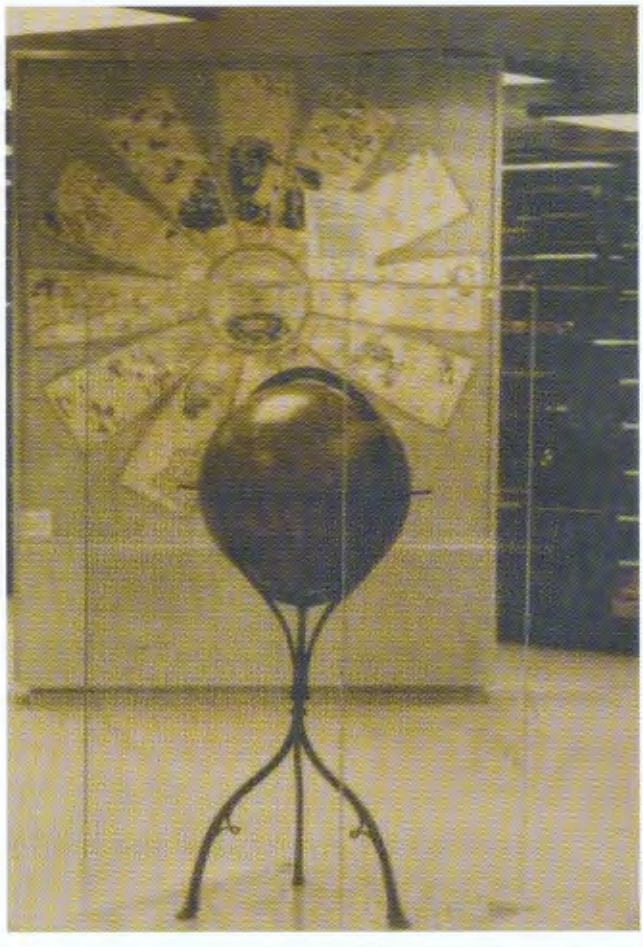
Exhibits have always played an

important part of the mission of the Collection. An early exhibit related to an NEH funded study called 'Multiple Perspectives on the American West.'

This program took place shortly after the Collection's arrival in Milwaukee. The materials studied were photographs, prints and maps. Over the past three years, the AGSC has been able to offer research fellowships thanks to an endowment from Helen Best in memory of her late husband, John S. Best. We have had fellows from New Zealand, the UK, Russia as well as the United States.

What has become a springtime tradition in the AGSC is the Holzheimer 'Maps and America' lecture series which is generously sponsored by Jan and Art Holzheimer. The series has included lectures by the late Helen Wallis, Michael Conzen, Elizabeth H. Boone, Alan K. Hendrikson, Alexei V. Postnikov, Mark Monmonier, Alice Rechlin Perkins, Norman Thrower, David Buisseret and Richard Stephenson. Last May we were able to hold a symposium commemorating the sesquicentennials of the AGS and the AGSC. The lectures are always supplemented with an exhibit of Collection materials.

In 1996, the AGS Collection played a role in the formation of the Map Society of Wisconsin, which usually meets in the AGSC. And we are already into the fifth year of our UWM's Academic Adventurers series. Prof. Xavior Baron recently gave a multi-media presentation on London's Notting Hill Carnival. The series has become extremely popular, frequently attracting 100 people or more.



At the Globe Exhibit: one of the two large panels displaying Art Holzheimer's Coronelli globe gores with our Behaim globe replica in the foreground.

A highlight of 1996 was the Globe Exhibit and symposium sponsored by the Holzheimers. Also on display was the President's Globe, a 50 inch wooden model which Prof. Arthur Robinson helped produce, on permanent loan from Memorial Library at UW Madison. The exhibit brought in many viewers, and a lot of good publicity.

Finally, based on the enthusiasm of the school children brought in through our outreach program, it seems clear to us that geography has a secure future.

CHRISTOPHER BARUTH

Map Collectors & Collections... Or, Would you buy a previously owned, probably inaccurate map from this man?

Those of you who have persevered since last Thursday have seen a goodly number of inaccurate, second hand maps, celestial as well as terrestrial, which we refer to as 'Cartographic Treasures'. You have been spoken to — at considerable length — about making, publishing, selling and buying maps, atlases and globes in past centuries.

Since I have been guilty of trafficking in such things for close to five decades, it was suggested that you might be amused to hear of some of the people and some of the maps encountered along the way.

It is a particular honour for me to be addressing IMCoS, as this Society, in 1984, honoured me with the second IMCoS-Tooley (now Wallis) Award; placing me between Valerie Scott and Rodney Shirley, in what has become a veritable pantheon of persons in this field, most far more deserving than I.

My wife, Jossy, strongly asserts that a post-mortem examination will reveal a map covering the inside of my scull. She remembers hearing that at age ten, in 1937, I acquired Idaho, the 48th and most fugitive of my collection of gratis state road maps provided in those days by the oil companies; which I crudely bound as an atlas and unfortunately long since have lost. Incidentally, Jossy is still upset that our friends Sarah Tyacke and the late Helen Wallis used part of the Henry Fielding quote, 'Map me no Maps, Sir, my Head is a Map', for their festschrift entitled *My Head is a Map*, commemorating R.V. Tooley's 75th birthday. Jossy had long thought that title should be the epitaph for my gravestone! I say, perhaps on hers as well, after sleeping for over forty years under the nine-foot National Geographic world map papered to the ceiling over our conjugal bed.

Jossy presented to me in 1953 the first two volumes of what would become our reference library, four years before we became full-time dealers: Lloyd Brown's *The Story of Maps* and R.V. Tooley's *Maps and Mapmakers*. Later, I called on America's most prominent rare book dealer, H.P. Kraus, to announce my entry into the trade, and he offered three sterling pieces of advice: first, he stated paternally, build yourself as great a reference library as you can, the better the reference library, the better the dealer; second (reflecting his Austrian origins), always make sure your passport is valid and handy — a phone call at any moment can have you running for a plane to buy a collection before someone else gets there first; and third, move to New York immediately, you will never make a living in Chicago!

When we began our business in 1957, the map trade was small. The

booksellers Francis Edwards, Ltd., in London, had the largest map department in the world, directed by that same Mr. Tooley. The majority of cartographic materials entering the market-place arrived via London auction rooms, where the Edwards firm was a major player. They bought most of the atlases that came under the hammer, bringing to their very active guillotine defective copies, (and hopefully only defective copies!) whose contents could better serve society dispersed, than held in incomplete volumes.

Orderly distribution occurred as dealers came to Tooley on their periodic buying trips: German maps to German dealers, Dutch to Dutch, Italian to Italian. We competed for Americana.

In preparing for my first buying trip, I wrote the Edwards firm to make an appointment with the famous Mr. Tooley. Upon arriving in the map department of their shop, a gentleman appeared, thrust out his hand in greeting, thereby flaring open his linen office jacket, revealing four vest pockets, each with several dripping paint brushes! He smiled broadly and said, 'I'm Mick Tooley, how do you do,' and a friendship of almost thirty years had begun. My introduction to Tooley and to 'contemporary' colouring was simultaneous!

In the late fifties there were hardly as many map collectors as there are map societies today. Maps were purchased either for decorative purposes or as graphic documentation of the history, and progressive geographical perception, of a place or region. Those are still good reasons to acquire maps, and intensive and comprehensive such collections are still being formed. However, the explosion of interest during the past five decades has been accompanied by an ardent curiosity about the history of map making itself and its relationship to many other disciplines.

We now see focal points for the study of the history of cartography not only here at the American Geographical Society and at the Library of Congress, but at Chicago's Newberry Library Smith Center and, in Maine, at Portland's Smith Center — two different Smiths. Both of these Smith Centers provide environment and encouragement for scholars to pursue research in this field, and are supported by collections of range and which were mostly assembled first privately, then donated.

As in any form of collecting, the motives of the institutional curator often differ dramatically from those of the amateur. The collector can allow his taste more range, permitting creativity and idiosyncrasy. The curator generally follows an institutional plan. A classic example of the former is the Smiths of Germantown, Pennsylvania, — Lawrence Meredith Clemson Smith and his wife, Eleanor Houston Smith. They personified a virtual American 'royalty' with their families tracing back through many generations of prominent Philadelphians; in Eleanor's case, to the time William Penn. Their tastes were remarkably broad, ranging from music—they founded Philadelphia's first classical music F.M. radio station — to their pioneer organic farm on the Maine coast. Their map collection was also broad. It

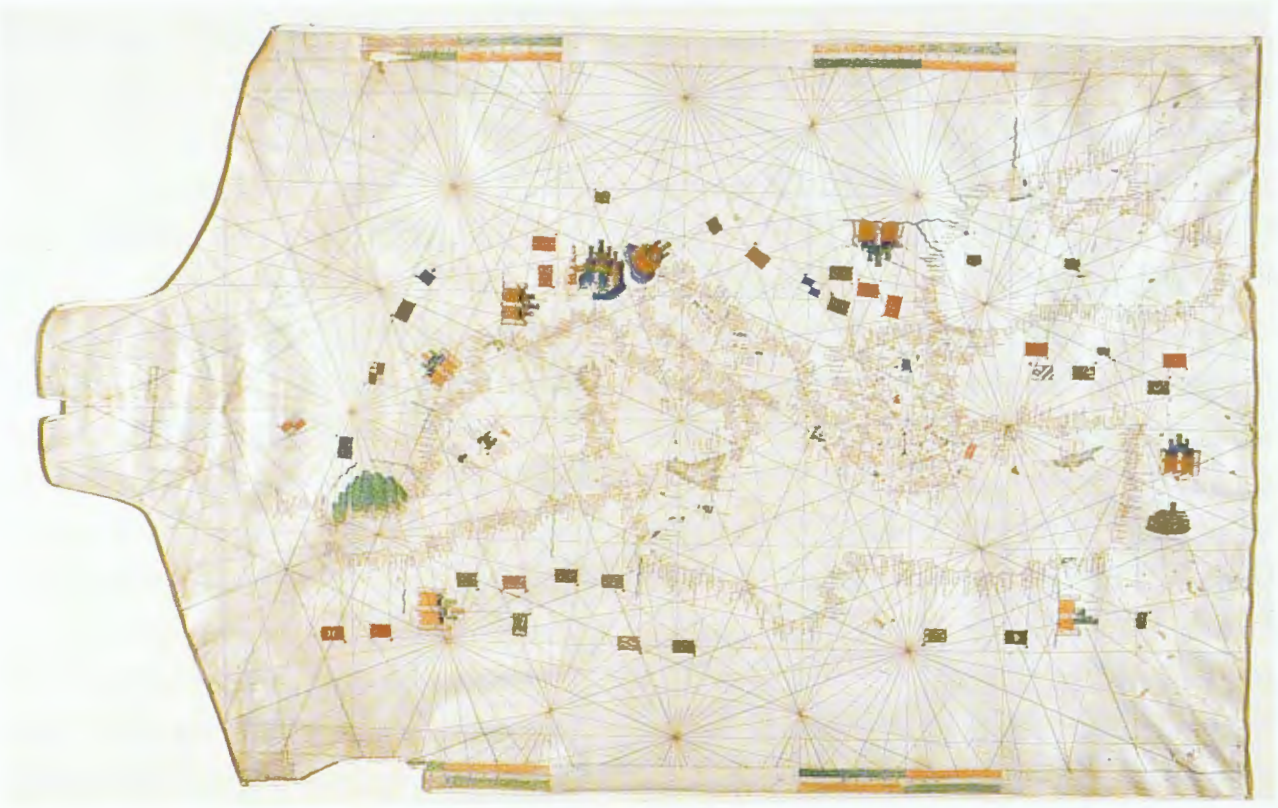
encompassed maps derived from the early European voyages of discovery to nineteenth-century surveys of Maine, and they loved globes. Eleanor's favourite early maps were those by Ortelius, from whom she always maintained she had descended, stimulating her earliest interest. Her husband referred to her lightheartedly as 'nèe Ortelius, though with documentation.' Today, the Smith Collection with its hundreds of rare maps, atlases and globes, together with Harold Osher's complimentary collection, forms the backbone of the active Smith Center program at the University of Southern Maine.

Hermon Dunlap Smith, Chicago corporate and civic leader, served long and effectively as the Newberry Library's Board Chairman. 'Dutch' (as he was known) and Ellen Smith lived on the shore of Lake Michigan, had a cabin for birding on the Des Plaines River, and a summer cottage in Ontario near Sault Ste. Marie. The three locations were related in the annals of pioneer French exploration in North America, and early on Dutch Smith formed an intellectual attachment to the history and geography of the region, from the time of Champlain to the growth of Chicago. For fifty years he assembled a significant collection of explorers' narratives and original maps, focused primarily on the Great Lakes, the Upper Mississippi, and the Illinois country. Incidentally, Smith was responsible for recruiting Lloyd Brown from the Peabody Library in Baltimore to become director of the Chicago Historical Society, thus providing me the opportunity to begin a long friendship with the other of the two icons—Tooley and Lloyd I Brown—of whom Jossy had coincidentally made me aware, years earlier.

Dutch Smith founded the Center for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library in 1972, the first such establishment of its kind. At the dedication he told a delightful tale of how, as a small boy in New York, he had, quote 'somehow assembled the topographic map sheets covering the entire course of the Hudson River, from the Adirondacks to Manhattan Island, stuck them together with adhesive tape, and produced a monstrosity which, when unrolled took up the entire hall of our small apartment and confined my three brothers and sisters to their bedrooms until it was re-rolled.'

Mr. Smith emphasized that the establishment of the Center had been inspired by the success of, and interest in, the series of lectures in the history of cartography which Jossy and I had established at the Newberry in 1963, in honour of, later in memorial to, our handicapped son, Kenneth Jr.

Raleigh Ashlin Skelton, superintendent of the map room at the British Museum, delivered the first series of those lectures. His subject was an historical survey of the study and collecting of maps. Various vicissitudes delayed work on the manuscript for the press, and sadly when it arrived it had to be published as a memorial volume, since Peter Skelton had prematurely in the interim. His lectures were carefully edited and annotated by David Woodward and augmented by a bibliography compiled by Robert



Petrus Roselli. Ms portolan chart. Majorca, 1447.

Karrow, containing all the publications of the man considered 'dean' of historians of cartography in the English-speaking world. The book, published by the University of Chicago Press, has become a minor classic.

David Woodward, first Curator of Maps at the Newberry, became the first Director of the Smith Center in 1972, and was series editor for the Lectures' publications. He was solely responsible for the innovative third series, from the original concept through editing and publishing the papers. *Five Centuries of Map Printing* earned excellent reviews and is still often cited as is his well-known *Art and Cartography*.

The program has now run for 38 years. Ten monographs published by the University of Chicago Press have appeared or are in press. The 13th series, 'Maps and Narratives', held in October, '99, is in press, and Mary Pedley's excellent series delivered last week is right behind it.

People often ask what is the oldest map we've owned. In our case the oldest is also perhaps the finest. The Petrus Roselli manuscript portolan sea chart made in Majorca in 1447, is drawn and painted on parchment and, significantly, carries in the neck the signature and date. This brilliant example of a late medieval portolan is remarkably well preserved. The maker was the leader of the influential Majorcan School of Cartography, at its zenith. Roselli's use of Catalan language on this previously unknown chart helped to resolve the controversy over whether he was of Catalan or Italian origin.

Roselli includes the entire Mediterranean coast and Black Sea. This type of purely navigational chart is character-

ized by simplicity of design. Topographical and cultural information about the interior is omitted in favour of detailed delineation and toponomy of the shoreline. Medieval castles symbolize vital coastal, commercial and religious centers and heraldic flags indicate sovereignty. At Istanbul, a Byzantine flag emphasizes the pre-1453 date of the chart's origin.

The manuscript descended through the Florentine family that commissioned Roselli to produce it in the 1440s. The last of the line left it to an order of nuns who had a house in Berne as well as in Rome. Thus this map which I could not have exported from Italy was conveniently sold to me in Switzerland. A private collector bought it from us in 1967, and ten years later sold it back to us, (albeit with the decimal point in the price somewhat re-arranged!) We sold it a second time, again to a private collector, and because 'hope springs eternal' perhaps we may some day have the opportunity to acquire it once more.

Early on we published a serjes of map catalogues which ran for over 25 years entitled *The Compass for Map Collectors*. When *Compass, Number One* was issued, customer number one was a gentleman who purchased a map of America from the Lafreri School of Italian sixteenth century engraved maps. Thus began a long, treasured relationship with Dr. Dallas Pratt, lasting until his death a few years ago. Dr. Pratt collected maps of the world and America from the discovery period—primarily sixteenth century imprints. An elegant bachelor gentle-

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Original copperplate of the first map engraved in America. By Antonio Ysarti, Mexico, 1682.

man of broad and refined taste, he lived at Kips Bay in Manhattan in two joined townhouses with a magnificent two-story library.

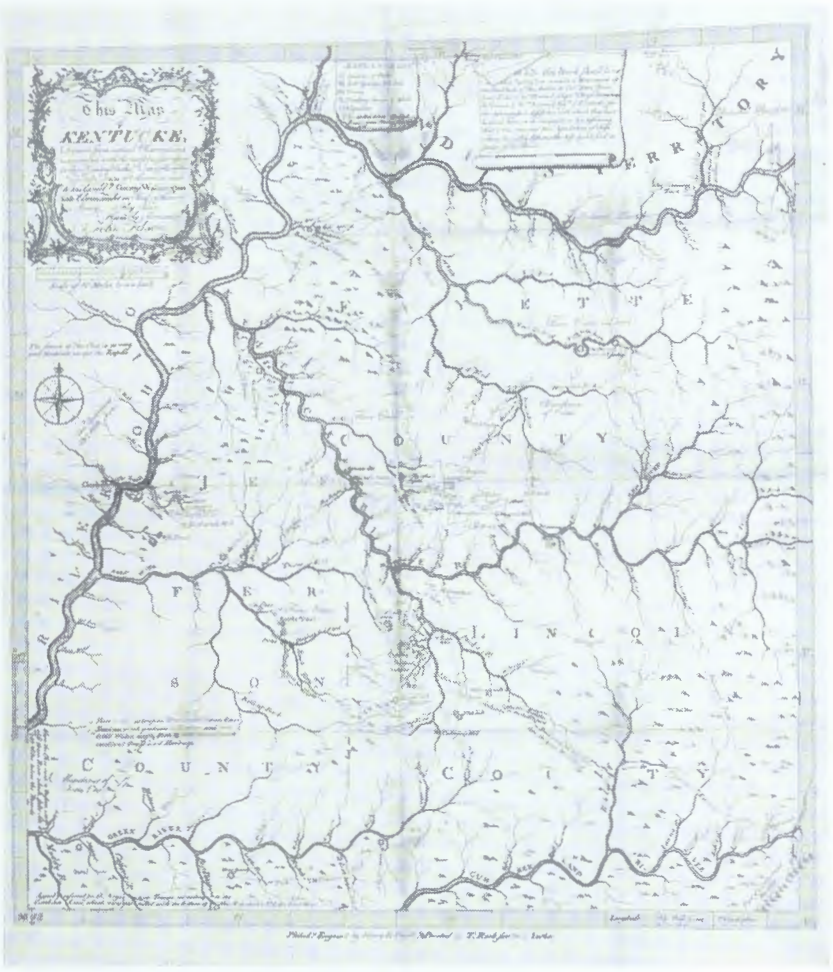
Dr. Pratt's love for his maps did not permit their being hidden in portfolios, drawers or print racks. Most were framed. They hung up and down the corridors leading to his bedroom. The four bedroom walls were covered with maps, ceiling to floor. A few of his sixteenth century books, acquired because they contained important maps, such as a Gastaldi-Ptolemy or Honter atlas, were also framed, in a shadow-box with the book opened to his favourite map.

The heart of his collection was the Venetian six-sheet woodcut cordiform Turkish world map attributed to an enigmatic figure known as Hadji Alimed. This dramatic production, measuring 4 1/2 x 4 1/2 feet, was framed, glazed and mounted on the canopy over his four-poster bed, facing down—the last thing he looked at the end of the day for 25 years.

Hadji Ahmed's map and I have followed each other since the '50s when I bought at auction in London Sir Percival David's copy, now at the John Carter Brown Library. Franco Novacco's outstanding collection in Venice, comprising the most comprehensive privately held group of sixteenth century Italian maps, went to the Newberry in the 'sixties via our firm. Included was his fine example of Hadji Ahmed's cordiform. We acquired the Newberry copy, now made duplicate, and placed it in Dallas Pratt's collection. Thus, of the eight or nine prints of the Hadji Ahmed map known, we have handled three.



Raleigh Ashlin 'Peter' Skelton at the inaugural Nebenzahl Lectures. Chicago, Newberry Library, 1966.



The first state of the first map of Kentucky. By John Filson, Philadelphia, 1784.

Buying trips to Paris were always an adventure. One interesting custom of French dealers is occasionally to syndicate acquisitions. This can result in somewhat comic antics, such as when a prospective buyer declines a very special item offered by a dealer on the Right Bank which, by the time he proceeds to his next appointment with a dealer on the Left Bank, miraculously materializes to be offered by the second dealer for reconsideration, sometimes at a more realistic price. The example that comes to mind relates to one of the more exciting cartographic artifacts we have handled. At the end of a fruitful visit with a good friend and colleague in Paris on the Right Bank, from whom I had bought important items for years, he ushered me into his office behind the shop. In a grave and conspiratorial tone, he said, 'Kennet, I have the very most important thing for you—the original copper for the first map engraved in America!' We discussed it at great length, and when I interrupted to inquire of the price, it was so staggering that I was obliged immediately to decline with great, incalculable, regret.

Arriving by taxi through Parisian traffic to my next appointment on the Left Bank, I was shocked to be shown the very copperplate, which had preceded me there by breathless courier, via the underground. The Left Bank dealer explained that he was also one of the owners, and proposed a downward revised price. After protracted negotiations, and a meeting of the *five* owners to pass on my offer, I left Paris—with



Ms map of the world attributed to Inacio Moreira, Japan, ca. 1600.

the treasure. It is now in the Library of Congress.

The copperplate engraving, the first printed map made in the Western Hemisphere, whose title translates as, 'The Newest Map of San Diego Province in New Spain', was produced in Mexico to illustrate a 1682 chronicle of Mexico and New Mexico. The area shown is the territory of the Franciscan Order. Included is not only the topography, but even indications of the substance and design of its buildings.

Early maps were printed from wood-blocks or copperplates. The blocks frequently deteriorated and have not survived. The plates often were re-engraved or otherwise recycled.



Original engraved copper-plates from the 16th through 18th centuries are rarely found, those from important maps, almost never.

The photograph of R.A. Skelton at the inaugural Nebenzahl lectures in 1966 reveals his elegant, small finger calling attention to the first map of Kentucky, drawn in 1784 by John Filson, an associate of Daniel Boonee and the first settlers there. The example at which he is pointing had long been considered the first issue of the first edition of this cornerstone American map. It came to the Newberry Library in 1967 when the Library and our firm jointly acquired the Frank C. Deering Collection of rare frontier narratives in Saco, Maine. It

was the only known example of the first state of Filson's map of Kentucky, formerly owned by the Kentucky historian and bibliographer, W.R. Filson; and of course known as the Jillson Filson!

Over twenty years later we purchased what was offered as the second example of that first state of Filson's map. We brought it to the Neberry to compare with their copy. As map curator Bob Karrow and I studied the two, side by side, we each noticed a different small variant. Bob then photocopied onto clear acetate sheets the new example, and superimposed them onto the Jillson-Deering- Newberry copy. This revealed several places where Newberry's map contained information not yet engraved on the copperplate when the newly discovered example was printed. We thereby uncovered the previously unknown earliest state of this landmark American frontier map.

The bibliography compiled by Wheat & Brun which carefully records all known maps printed in the U.S. through 1800, cites nine states of this engraving with a census of locations. We then prepared a new census and wrote an article that appeared in the *Map Collector* announcing that the true first issue had come to light. Now this Amrican frontier rarity is in the Library of Congress.

In Japan, foreigners normally do not have direct access to suppliers or customers, a tradition rarely circumvented. These contacts are carefully channeled through Japanese agents. An exception proved the rule. We were approached by an American collector serving on the Board of a Japanese corporation, informing us that a Japanese associate wished to dispose of his collection of Japanese woodblock maps. We arranged to meet the collector in Tokyo and experienced the rare occasion of visiting his home. Toward the end of a very long evening viewing maps and after completing negotiations, my host produced a tightly rolled scroll containing a European world map of no interest to him, which he gratuitously added to my purchase.

Later, after a restorer in Chicago preserved it flat, my research began. It was a manuscript map of the world from circa 1600, made in Japan by a Portuguese Jesuit map-maker to illustrate the progress of Christianity throughout the world. It had a Maltese cross drawn on the Christianized nations and some of the place names were in Portuguese. I could go no further. The configurations of some parts of the world, particularly North America, defied identification of a source.

In 1993 the XVth International Conference on the History of Cartography took place in Chicago, and among the delegates was a Portuguese scholar, Alfredo Pinheiro Marques. We discussed this map and he returned to Portugal with a photograph of it from which he performed further research. Shortly afterwards the Portuguese government sponsored a scholarly symposium commemorating the 450th anniversary of the Jesuits in Japan. Professor Marques read a paper attributing our map to Inacio Moreira, a trained map-maker with the Jesuits in Japan be-

ginning in the 1580s. The Portuguese press considered it a newsworthy discovery. An article in *Mercator's World* illustrates and describes this map and Marques' attribution. One has to have an occasional dose of good luck to survive 45 years selling used maps and books.

No map printed on a flat surface can be as accurate as a globe Map projections are devised to control the distortion that must occur when transferring the delineations on a sphere to a flat surface. So why don't we just work from globes? As this audience knows, they are three dimensional, fragile and endlessly troublesome to provide care and feeding.

Comparatively few have survived, particularly prior to the nineteenth century. When occasionally an example turns up from an important map-maker it generates considerable interest.

We once acquired from Switzerland a pair of Willem Janszoon Blaeu's 5 1/2 inch diameter globes in their original mountings of oak and ebony stands with incised brass meridian rings. Produced in 1616, this is the only pair known to have survived excepting those in the British Library.

They were bought from us in the 'sixties by a collector who later traded them back for maps, for the reasons just alluded to regarding the awkwardness of globes. During the 'seventies the renowned rare book library at the Tenri Buddhist Missionary University in Japan was actively pursuing acquisition of European materials on exploration and map-making. Thus, these well travelled globes continued their global journey to Nara on Honshu Island where they now reside, presumably in perpetuity.

George H. Beans, the great map collector of the 1920s to '50s invited me to visit his 'Tall Tree Library' in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania in the early 60s, when he began dispersing his collection. I purchased from him a number of the single-sheet Italian sixteenth century engraved maps of Mr. Beans' collecting specialty. And, the only Lafreri Atlas we have owned, (it was Lafreri who in the sixteenth century first illustrated his assembled-to-order map volumes with the figure of Atlas on the title-page).

At the end of our negotiations, opening a small closet door to retreive my coat, I almost stumbled over a pair of globes on the floor. 'What are these, Mr. Beans?' I asked. 'Nothing,' said he, 'just an old pair of modern globes, and you can see, my cleaning woman has knocked them with the vacuum cleaner.' 'Would you like to sell them?' I inquired, having noticed they were by James Wilson of Vermont, America's first globe maker. (Coincidentally, this was a subject on which I had recently become an instant 'expert', because I was on my way to talk to the Friends of the University of Vermont Library on that very topic.) With a look questioning my sanity, Mr. Beans sold me the broken globes. I had them shipped to R.R. Donnelley's Graphic Conservation Department in Chicago for restoration.

Two weeks later Ralph McAleer, chief cartographer at the National Geographic Society, telephoned. They wanted a pair of Wilson globes for the



Celestial and Terrestrial globes by James Wilson, America's first globe-maker.

permanent exhibition in their new Explorers' Hall, opening in two months. 'Ralph, I said, 'you can not call up and order a pair of extremely rare, 150 year old globes for immediate delivery, even if you are the National Geographic Society. It might take years to locate a pair. And, — yes I have them. They are being restored at Donnelley's. For me the work will take six months, but no doubt for National Geographic Society (whose magazine Donnelley's happened to print at the time), they will have them for your opening.' And, of course they did.

A London dealer contacted us to say he had just bought the library formed by the Robinson family, eighteenth century statesmen who became Lords Grantham. Included was a pen and ink manuscript map that he said looked eighteenth century, and seemed to cover part of America. Would I buy it? I was interested. When the photo arrived, I had a vague suspicion of having seen the map before. It delineated the upper Ohio River, from the Lake Erie coast in the north, to Cumberland, at the headwaters of the Potomac to the south. I reached for the 1932 George Washington Atlas,

and there it was, reproduced from the manuscript in the Public Record Office, London, varying but slightly from ours. Well, what did we have?

At the age of 21, Washington, as a militia lieutenant, volunteered to Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia for his first military mission: to carry an ultimatum to the French commander of Fort Le Boeuf, near today's Erie, Pennsylvania, demanding that the French evacuate



Ms map of the upper Ohio Valley in 1783 by George Washington.

their newly built forts in the area extending to the future site of Pittsburgh. This was the first move by the British in what became in North America the French and Indian War. The historical significance of Washington's little known expedition to Fort Le Boeuf was enormous.

This map, on the right, is the original source of the manuscript Dinwiddie transmitted to London which is now in the Public Record Office shown at left. It contains the same topographical, textual, and place-name information but in abbreviated and less finished form.

Lord Grantham, from whose papers it came, was Secretary of State for the Southern Colonies in North America, and it was to his office that Governor Dinwiddie rushed Washington's official report and his map. The following month he sent the other copy of the report and map to Lord Halifax, head of the Board of Trade and Plantations, which copy ended up in the Public Record Office. A careful comparison of the two revealed that the Halifax example was copied from ours. I shall not even begin to describe the dilemma into which this placed us regarding which of our clients should be offered this extraordinarily historic document.

An unexpected call from Houston some years ago set us off on a different kind of cartographic adventure. The caller asked to bring in a manuscript map of a Caribbean cay to be authenticated, fee no object. He claimed to have an original pen and ink chart by Sir Francis Drake showing where Drake buried his treasure, thought to be off the coast of Belize. I told him we could not authenticate Drake's handwriting, but we would date the paper and the ink to at least the century in which it was written.

He arrived the following morning via his personal jet, accompanied by

two well dressed but unsavoury looking characters, replete with briefcases and bulges in their suit coats hardly concealing their weaponry. The 'gentleman' stationed one of his associates inside, the other outside, the door of our shop. He said he had organized an expedition which planned to sail immediately from Houston to Belize in an LST, which is a World War II tank landing ship. It would be armed in order to protect the unearthed fortune from pirates. And he was serious.

He further explained that the 'Drake map' had been recently removed from a safe deposit vault in a Mexico City bank. Its owner, in whose family the document had been for generations, was part of my client's syndicate. His two companions, who never uttered a word, were looking after the owner's interest and they were very serious.

We examined the map. The paper, ink and handwriting appeared to be sixteenth century. In a darkened room with an ultraviolet lamp, we found no emendations, eradications or alterations. We advised the client that there was no evidence to indicate the map was not genuine and of the period, while there also was no evidence to indicate who drew it or where the island it delineated was located. The 'gentleman' paid our fee from an enormous roll of hundred dollar bills and departed with his associates.

We have never heard a word about this expedition. I am sort not to be able to show you a slide of the map, but I am afraid if I had one I might not be here today. You may take that either way.

Had time permitted, I would have enjoyed telling you of some experiences in appraising, including a week in Winnipeg that Jossy and I shared with that wily rascal with an awesome knowledge of Canadian cartography, Ed Dahl, IMCoS's representative for those places in North America north of the United States. The Hudson's Bay Co. retained Ed and me to appraise their early cartographic archives. What maps we were privileged to view—and challenged to value! —including the ledgers of Peter Fidler the young Hudson's Bay Co. agent who travelled to western Alberta in 1801 bringing back the famous manuscript map derived from the Blackfoot Indians; the map which helped sort out the complicated hydrography of the Rocky Mountain system.

Or, of another unique experience when, after ignoring my protestations of ignorance about twentieth century mapmaking, a high executive of a giant corporation dispatched me to that oxymoron of a place, Comfort, Texas, to appraise the original artwork by Hal Shelton for his great natural colour relief maps that were the basis for many beautiful and realistic airline maps. To shorten a long tale, the Shelton Collection lives, at the Lib. of Congress.

I could go on forever. We have had such a great time with the maps *and* with the people involved with them.

I will leave you with a final thought: Do be careful about associating with anyone who might try to sell you a previously owned, probably fallacious map!

KENNETH NEBENZAHL

IMCoS 20th International Symposium, 11 - 16 October, 2001 Chicago and Milwaukee, USA

Our 20th International Symposium was held this year in two centres, namely Chicago as well as Milwaukee, some one and a half hours (by train) apart. Over 120 IMCoS members attended, this number being swelled at most functions in Chicago as well as Milwaukee by members of museums and libraries, of American map societies, as well as by members of the public. Throughout, we were hosted by a series of institutions including the Newberry Library (at whose building all of the Chicago lectures took place), the Adler Planetarium, Chicago Map Society, the American Geographical Society Collection of the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and the Map Society of Wisconsin with 12 additional sponsors, both corporate and private. I must also mention that for those of us (including myself) who arrived jet-lagged, and were bounced straight into our really very fully occupied days, life was made very much smoother by the additional hosting, instant friendship and advice given by volunteer members of the Chicago and Wisconsin Map Societies.

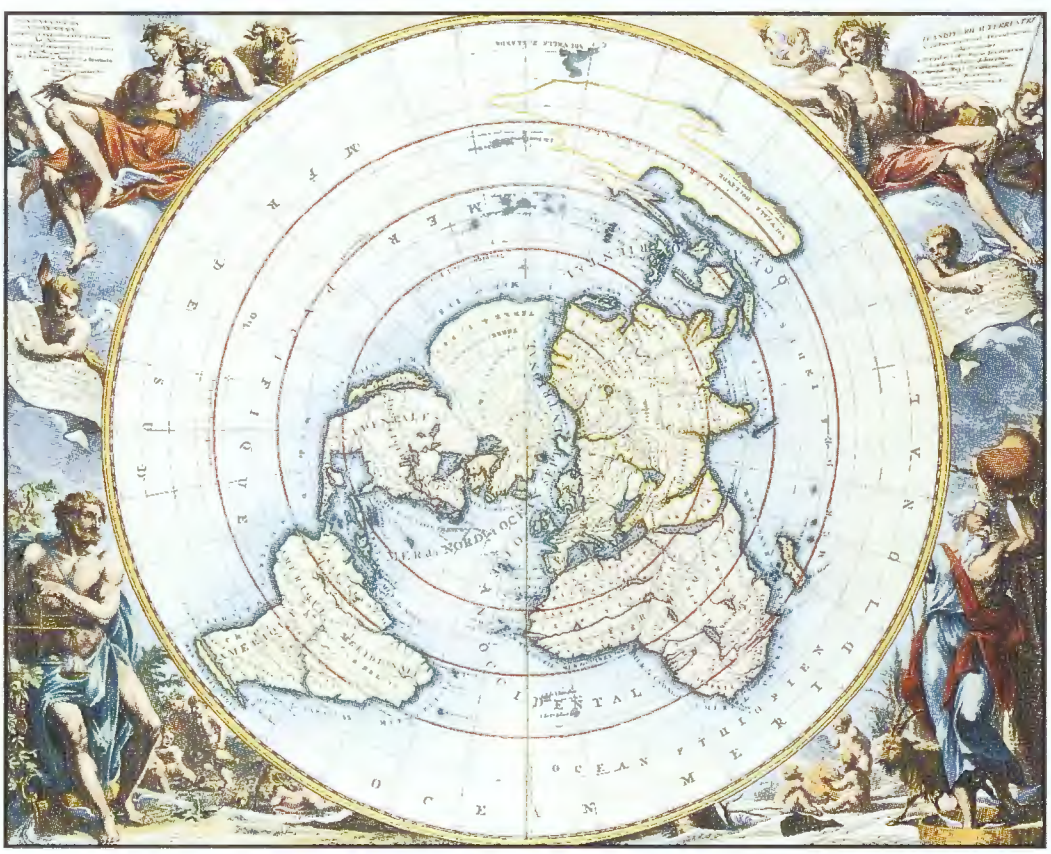
The base for the Chicago sessions together with the timing of our Symposium, enabled us also to enjoy the Fourteenth Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography, under the title of 'A Taste For Maps – Commerce and Cartography in Early Modem Maps'.

At registration, we received a smart and very necessary Newberry Library shoulder bag containing our totally indispensible 'Vademecum - the Program & Handbook for Participants in the International Map Collectors Society 20th Annual Symposium', Catalogue to the exhibition of 'Cartographic Treasures' at the Newberry, a number of other cartographically related items, as well as leaflets on Chicago together with a roll of map reproductions and posters. An extremely generous bundle of 'goodies'.

Our formal activities commenced on the evening of Thursday 11th October with welcoming remarks from Charles Cullen, President and Librarian of the Library, followed by James Akerman, Director of the Library. 'Jim', who is also Director of the Herman Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography, is extremely affable and erudite, and explained all logistics to us prior to activities and introduced all lecturers

Dr Mary Pedley, Principal Lecturer at the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan, gave three illustrated lectures on October 11th and 12th on the above overall theme, concentrating specifically on the situation in France and Britain in the 18th century. Lecture titles were 'Getting to market: From map to print in London and Paris', 'Giving pleasure to the Public: Adding up the cost' and 'Good map/Bad map: Telling the difference.' These three lectures amounted to a marathon, in-depth investigation, fluently given and well received, though it seemed clear that the research she had undertaken and on which she had based her papers, had been substantially greater from French sources than from English. However, this in no way de-

JONATHAN POTTER
Limited
ANTIQUE MAPS
Prints and Atlases



Pieter van der Aa's spectacular version of Cassini's planisphere, published in Leiden, in *Nouveau Théâtre du Monde ...*, *c.*1713

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Top left: David Rumsey showing us wizardry on his computer. Top right: Speakers in Milwaukee (from left) Christopher Baruth, David Woodward, Bob Karrow, and Ken Nebenzahl. Centre: In the Newberry auditorium. Left:

tracted either from the interest of or content of any of the papers.

The receptions at the Museum on both evenings following the conclusion of the lectures were very animated as participants nibbled, drank and mingled with others discussing their particular cartographic interests, or as it is in the writer's case, obsession. At these receptions, and at other such opportunities as arose during the following days, many new friendships were created, delight expressed as members refound old friends met on previous occasions. A great deal of information, as well as names and addresses were exchanged.

During the Friday evening reception, Robert Karrow and Jim Ackerman both showed groups around the Newberry's fascinating and large exhibition of its Cartographical Treasures, arranged in two halls.

The Library bookshop was much appreciated by all those attending, many of whom left the building weighted down with purchases. The shop staff managed to maintain a constantly changing display of cartographically related books, very well displayed both on the tables outside the shop and within.

The writer cannot recall any other venue where such a wide display of map books has been available. Saturday morning saw the closing session of the Nebenzahl Lectures, prior to which we were entertained by three short but interesting papers.

David Woodward of University of Wisconsin-Madison, and editor of *The History of Cartography* series, spoke on 'The Map Trade in Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century Italy', Peter van der Krogt of the University of Utrecht spoke on 'Hondius-Jannsonius versus Blaeu, and Markus Heinz of the Staatsbibiothek, Berlin, on 'Commercial Aspects of the Map Trade in Eighteenth Century Germany'. Early afternoon on the same day saw the formal opening session of the 20th International Symposium of the International Map Collectors' Society, also within the Newberry Library. Participants were first welcomed by Jim Ackerman, who was followed by our President, Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke who responded and spoke in glowing terms of our Society.

Following these opening formalities, we were all (I believe almost without exception) impressed, astounded and entertained by the illustrated talk by David Rumsey, special guest speaker, who introduced us to the electronic future of map photographing and recording, which has already arrived. His talk was entitled 'Looking into the Future of Historic Maps; The Internet and GIS.' As he explained, all that is required is an electronic camera with a resolution capability of several million pixels, a good map illuminating set-up to achieve a constant overall level of illumination, a good and fast computer with a substantial memory, ('together with a modest knowledge of computers') - in order to record and, if required to examine on computer or by projection, at virtually any magnification required, the whole or any part of any image recorded. Needless to say, the capability exists to reproduce, in full colour, any of these images. David is in the process of putting a large number of these images on the internet for general use.

For those like myself, beginners on the computer, David's talk could only be described as a profoundly fascinating introduction to the future tools which are in

fact now becoming available to researchers and museums, all explained in a way that we could all understand in theory, even if did not yet have the personal capability in ourselves to get involved in this wizardry. Following the lecture, many members enjoyed one of the three tours available, an Architectural River Cruise, Bus Tour of Architectural Highlights or, that chosen by me –the Walking Tour. As the heavens opened for the entire afternoon, I sensibly decided not to participate and remained fairly dry. On Saturday evening, members were invited to a reception at the office of Roger Baskes, who, together with his wife Julie, was one of the sponsors and organisers of the programme prepared for us. Roger has over the years amassed an amazing collection of some 10, 000 'books with maps' as he modestly describes them, ranging from renaissance atlases to early Baedecker guides. His criterion for potential inclusion in the collection, as I understand it, is that the publication must include at least five maps Having browsed through parts of the collection on three occasions, I can state without fear of contradiction that any library would be overjoyed to acquire this unique collection. On Sunday most members participated in one of the several tours available. My personal choice was to join that of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, the completion of which in 1849 created a water route between the upper Misssissippi and the Great Lakes, resulting in Chicago becoming established as the major metropolis of the mid-continent, directly as the result of the canal which enabled grain from the mid-west to reach the markets of the east. The tour was an eye-opener, not only for the sheer scale of the project (but the canals are only now used to a minimal extent) but in particular to force us to realise how relatively recent was the opening up of the American mid-west and the west coast. Historic buildings visited en route, of great significance to Americans, were positively modern to those of us from the 'old world'. This comment is made in no derogatory sense. The USA really is a relatively recently settled country, and unless the historical timescale is understood, its difficult for some of us to appreciate the extraordinary achievements which have resulted in the melding of so many diverse immigrant groups, all originally speaking a 'Tower of Babel' multitude of languages, into the world's most powerful nation over a relatively short period. Returning with our coach direct to the Adler Planetarium on the Chicago waterfront, we were warmly welcomed, and enjoyed both the very fine exhibition of early astrolabes and related old scientific instruments as part of the 'Tracing Constellations through History' exhibition as well as the extensive and tasty buffet meal that followed.

(Very) early Monday Oct 15th. participants were bussed to the University of Wisconsin –Milwaukee where cartographic items forming the 'Treasures of the AGS Collection' were very conveniently and widely spread, well protected, around the working/researching area of the Golda Meir Library, thus enabling all to view exhibits without crowding.

After lunch. John A. Wanat, UWM Provost & Vice Chancellor and Peter Watson-Boone, Director of the library, warmly welcomed us to the Symposium on Maps, Collections and Collecting in the American Heartland. Their were three speakers : Chris Baruth, Curator, gave us an overview on how the American Geo-


NEW AND ACCVRAT MAP OF THE WORLD
NO
buyers
premium
Want
to SELL
that item !!
Maps
Prints..
Books...
We have
thousands of
BUYERS waiting!
Reach a wider market
place your classified advert or auction NOW
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Top left: Hans Kok inviting members to Amsterdam next year. Top right: Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke thanking Jim Akerman for organising the symposium. Centre: Members at the tribute to 'Chicago Portage'. Bottom: the new Art Museum in Milwaukee, designed by Calatrava.

graphical Society Collection developed into its present form Robert W Karrow Jr., Curator of Special Collections as well as maps at the Newberry Library (where he first commenced working over 30 years ago) spoke interestingly on the thesis that private map collectors who previously had acquired maps by descent, at sales and by gift, were now increasingly buying at auction and 'on line'. He stated that where these collections were to be gifted to institutions, it was essential that this be to an organisation where the collection would be both developed and accessible. He concluded with the biblical sounding 'blessing' . 'Happy collecting, live long and prosper'.

That doyen of American map dealers, Ken Nebenzahl, who with his wife sponsored the lecture series in Chicago in the name of and in memory of their late son, talked most amusingly and in a highly personal and self-deprecating manner on 'Collections and Collectors : or Would you buy an Old and Probably inaccurate Map from this Man?' Ken commenced as a map dealer in the 1950s, at which time, he said, Ronald de Vere Tooley of London, the grand old man of maps, was the centre of the trade and at the time the main international source of old maps.

David Woodward, who had been the first map curator of the Newberry Library but is now at the Wisconsin - Madison University, gave an update on the *History of Cartography* (of which project he is main editor)— regrettably it seems that the eagerly awaited Volume 3 will not be available until about 2003.

The symposium banquet was held at the Milwaukee Art Museum, a brand new building of stunning design by the Spanish architect Calatrava, right on the lake front, that had been formally opened just the previous evening. Chris Baruth introduced John Hébért, Chief, Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress, who gave an interesting talk, mentioning among other things the recently acquired Waldseemüller world map of 1507. This was the final event of the Symposium which was then wound-up, farewells said and those not going on the following day's 'A fall tour of southern Wisconsin' were bussed back to Chicago.

The October 16th all-day bus tour gave us a good picture of the American mid-west and was primarily related to locations and buildings designed by the legendary American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, active during the latter part of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20thcentury. The scenic drive was to his home and to view other buildings either designed by or with strong connections to this man who, even before his death, had achieved cult status. A fascinating two cassette video of his life, personal problems and his achievements shown on the in-coach screens complemented very well all that we had been shown

Those on this final tour spent 2 nights at a local hotel from which all made their independent ways back their homes in far flung places.

Though no fault could be found with any of the superb arrangements made for us, and though all lecturers really were excellent, unfortunately a mood of sadness, almost of despair, pervaded all the proceedings arising directly from the September 11th New York, World Trade Centre calamity, possibly the most wicked and evil act undertaken — allegedly in the name of religion - since the Second World War. I believe that even though I have not

discussed the matter with all of our participants, that I can and should express on behalf of all of us, heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the People of America and those others who lost dear ones.

RICHARD A. DOMB

Cartography on Chicago's North Shore

Many IMCoS members elected to take an optional tour to visit three private map collections on Chicago's north shore. Early Sunday morning, a busload of people first visited the map collection of Barry MacLean. His collection of late 18th to mid-19th century Americana material includes several thousand map-sheets, atlases, wall maps, pocket maps, books and globes. There is a strong emphasis on 19th century county atlases and wall roller maps. World wall maps by Bleau and Hondius were on display among his county wall maps. His extensive collection is spread out in two separate office buildings. Mr. MacLean greeted us in one building; while his wife MaryAnn and Tom Hall, his curator, greeted us in the other building. We spent almost two hours wandering through numerous offices in each building in order to view the interesting maps. Frequently Mr. MacLean would hang the county map of an employee's hometown on the wall in the employee's office.

A short bus ride took us to the home of Jan and Art Holzheimer. Within the entrance foyer were portraits of Hondius, Mercator, and Ortelius. The Holzheimers provided an informative 'Guide-to-Maps' in each room that described the maps hanging on the walls of that room. The maps on display could best be described as 'unique cartographic treasures'. Included were world maps by Schedel, Sylvanius, Fine, Arnoldi, and Bleau. Waldseemuller's 'Admiral's Map' and Smith's maps of Virginia and New England were among some of the other displayed maps. There was an ornately colored Jansson map of Great Britain and a set of Coronelli globe gores. Unfortunately, the hour was late, and we had to leave for lunch.

Lunch was graciously provided by Jack Ringer at a near-by pizza parlor. After lunch, we went to Mr Ringer's home. Jack served in Korea with the United States Army, and then he worked in Burma and the Philippines for the United States Information Service. An interest in maps of Southeast Asia developed, and we had an opportunity to view his collection. Numerous maps were on walls, tables, and chairs. His collection introduced us to the maps of Southeast Asia — an area of mapping that was not familiar to many of us.

The bus trip back to Chicago gave us an opportunity to view the exterior of many fine homes along the shore of Lake Michigan. We returned to our hotels tired, but pleased that we had an opportunity to visit three interesting map collections.

JOHN W. DOCKTOR

The *Chicago Tribune* (10 Oct) recorded our visit: 'The exhibition ... was designed for connoisseurs belonging to the International Map Collectors' Society, which opens its 20th annual symposium at the library Saturday.

'It is a measure of the importance of the library's collection that the London-based society made up of collectors, dealers, librarians and academics, chose to come to Chicago.'



The Shires of Lothian and Linlithgow, the only Pont manuscript engraved by Jodocus Hondius in about 1612. It was later printed and published in the Henricus Hondius–Joannes Janssonius atlas of 1630 and then 1633. Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland, is clearly marked in the centre of the map. Courtesy Rodney Shirley

Timothy Pont and the Mapping of Scotland

At the end of September 2001 I attended a lively seminar held in Edinburgh called 'Pont's Worlds', the culmination of a five-year study of the Scottish map-maker Timothy Pont under the auspices of the National Library of Scotland.[1] The seminar was full of interest, with an authoritative book, *The Nation Survey'd: Timothy Pont's Maps of Scotland*, published at the same time.[2]

The seminar in the imposing premises of the Royal Society of Edinburgh was well attended by representatives from Scotland's universities, academic institutions, museums, local bodies, and a wide variety of special focus heritage and cultural groups. There were, however, very few attendees from south of the border.

Timothy Pont is less well known outside of Scotland and, lik his contemporary Christopher Saxton of England, there is little direct information about his life and work. Between the late 1580s and 1600 (one map only is dated 1596) Pont seems to have journeyed around a large part of Scotland, sketching the land and recording over 20,000 place names. In 1601 he became minister of Dunnet, Caithness, on the remote northern coast of Scotland and is presumed to have died soon after in 1612 with his maps unprinted. Almost all that remains are 77 manuscript maps on 38 sheets which since the 1920s have been in the possession of the National Library of Scotland.



Fig. 2. One of the least tidy of the Pont manuscripts, showing the area around Glasgow and Clydesdale. It is not surprising that Blaeu had difficulty in deciphering some of the manuscripts passed to him. Pont ms. 34, part.
From The Nation Survey'd, Courtesy Trustees of the National Library of Scotland

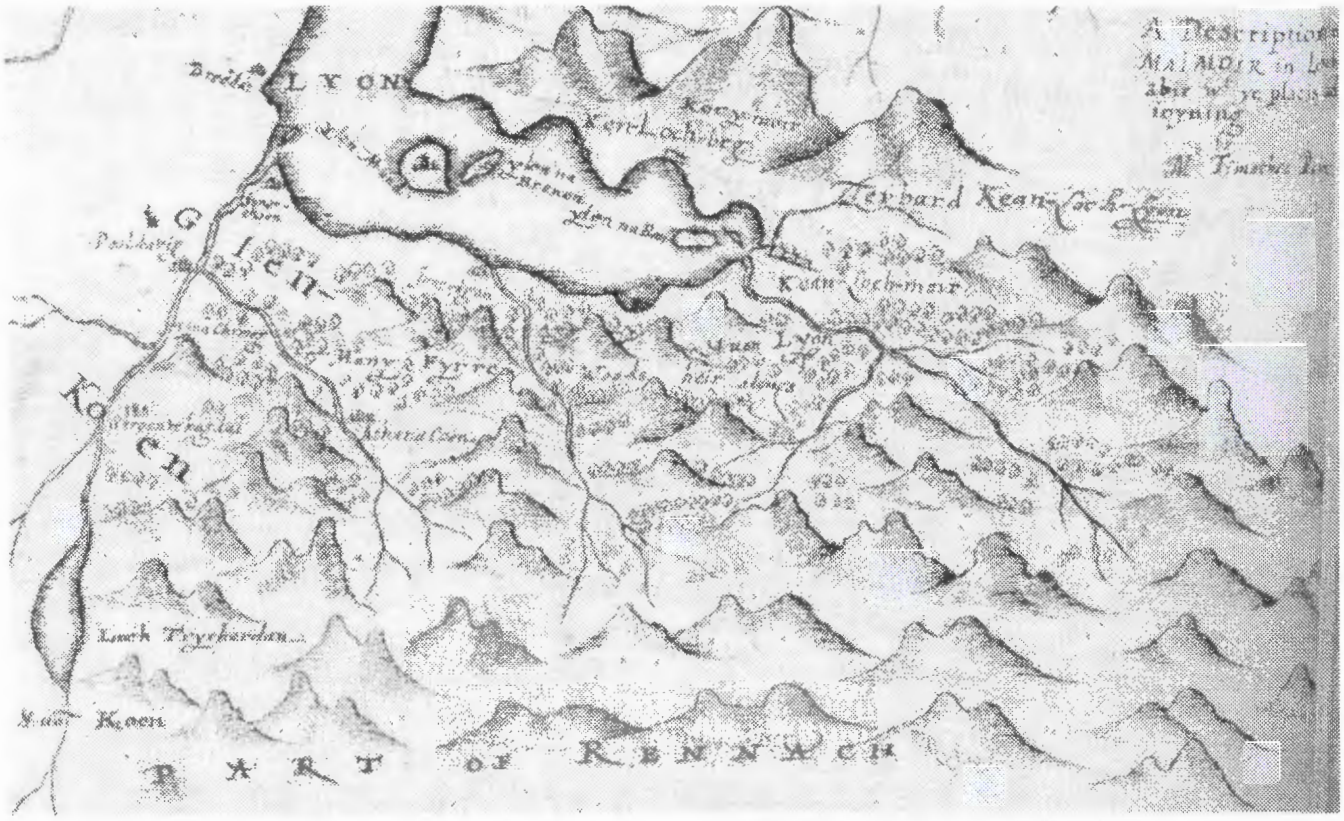


Fig. 3. One of the more finished manuscripts by Pont, showing Loch Leven and Glencoe in Argyll. It possibly has been redrawn by another hand. Pont ms. 13, part. From The Nation Survey'd, Courtesy Trustees of the National Library of Scotland

There is a complex after-history to Pont's original manuscripts.[3] In the 1630s Willem Janszoon Blaeu in Amsterdam was seeking material for an intended atlas of Scotland. Enquiries elicited the existence of Pont's manuscripts in the hands of one Sir John Scot, who either despatched most of the manuscripts to Blaeu or (the sequence of evidence is debated) by agreement sought the help of the Scottish geographer Robert Gordon of Straloch, to clarify, correct, and rework them. Pont's manuscripts as now existing can be seen to vary from very untidy field sketches (Fig. 2) to more finished maps almost ready for engraving (Fig. 3). They vary widely in scale, orientation, shape and size. The hand of Robert Gordon (and his son James) is evident on several of them.

The 45 finely engraved regional maps in Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland, which was not finally published until 1654 as part V of his *Atlas Novus*, are far removed from Pont's untidy originals. But they are clearly his by examination, contemporary correspondence, and by the acknowledgement phrase 'Auct. Timoth.Pont' (or similar) on many of them. Three general maps of Scotland are credited to Robert Gordon of Straloch.

There is one oddity among Pont's maps. His manuscript of Lothian and Linlithgow (which includes Edinburgh) was engraved for an Edinburgh book-seller Andrew Hart by Jodocus Hondius, almost certainly before 1612. An unusual feature is that, unlike other Pont maps, roads are shown. However no copies seem to have been printed at the time and the map first appeared in the Mercator-Hondius *Atlas* of 1630 (Fig. 1). As Pont's manuscript of this area subsequently disappeared, Blaeu copied his 1654 map of Lothian and Linlithgow di-

rectly from that of Hondius.

The Pont Project seminar was the fifth and last one in the series. It included illustrated talks by Jeffrey Stone of Aberdeen University who has led the research and interpretation of Timothy Pont and his maps since the 1960s with many articles to his credit. Charles Withers (Edinburgh University) persuasively re-defined the mapping of Pont in chorographical rather than geographical terms. Catherine Delano Smith drew parallels relating Pont's work to contemporary mapping in England. Other speakers, Chris Fleet (National Library of Scotland), Lawrence Keppie (Glasgow University) and Andrew Macdonald (Dundee University) respectively discussed Gordon's maps derived from Pont's original survey, Pont and the Antonine Wall, and Pont's ecclesiastical context.

As with all good conferences or seminars there was an exhibition as well. The Royal Society of Edinburgh provided one of the venues for a small travelling display called 'Mapping the Realm: Timothy Pont's portrait of Renaissance Scotland'. This consisted of ten large flexible panels with text and pictures exploring Pont's life, the background to his manuscripts and how his maps came to be incorporated into volume V of Blaeu's *Atlas Novus* in 1654. This was an imaginatively conceived display which combined clear but authoritative text with many illustrations of maps and other features relating to Pont and his time. The layout and the quality of colour reproduction was of a very high standard. The flexible panels could easily be dismantled and set up elsewhere, with eight further locations in Scotland scheduled to host this exhibition up to May 2002.

A further advantage was that a high level of illumination could be provided. Those IMCoS members who in June 1999 visited Hereford Cathedral's exhibition of the Hereford world map and other rare medieval material may remember groping through the blacked-out exhibition area which was of necessity dimly lit and extra-securely cased to safeguard the precious material loaned for the occasion. It seems to me that with 21st century photographic and digital imaging techniques there are many benefits in having well-lit displays of top-quality images which can easily be moved from one location to another. Inevitably there are substantial costs, and risks, in moving scarce library original around the country or across the world.

Coincidentally, a recent newspaper review article by Brian Sewell, critiquing the Hieronymous Bosch exhibition in Rotterdam (which closed in November 2001), says '... the paintings are so poorly lit as to be virtually invisible in the mixture of gloom and reflection...' He concludes that the argument against lending pictures to so-called block-buster exhibitions is irrefutable.

REFERENCES

1. Further informnation about Project Pont can be obtained from the National Library of scotland, 33 Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SL. Tel: 0131 466 3813. E-mail: maps@nls.uk Web site: www.nls.uk/pont
2. Ian C. Cunningham (ed.) *The Nation Survey'd: essays on late sixteenth-century Scotland as depicted by Timothy Pont*, National Library of Scotland, 2001. There is a full bibliography.
3. This is summarised in R.A. Skelton, *County Atlases of the British Isles,* Map Collectors' Circle no. 41, 1968, pp. 97-109. For a later interpretation of the evidence see the article by Jeffrey Stone, 'Timothy Pont: Three Centuries of Research, Speculation and Plagiarism' in *The Nation Survey'd.*

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The Charm of the Antique Map [in 1926]

An atlas is the sum of all adventure, the quintessence of the romance of travel. But modern maps are severely scientific, tutorial and utilitarian, associated chiefly with the class-room or the office. While immensely improved in scope and accuracy, and possessing a certain beauty of form, due to the resources of modern colour-printing, they have lost that touch of the romantic and the picturesque—not to say the imaginative—which marked the geography of bygone days. It is only in the maps of fairyland, made for children's picture-books, that such qualities now appear.

Lately, however, there has been a great revival of interest in the productions of antique cartography; a new use for them has been found as items in home decoration, along with models of old ships; and, above all, they have become a quarry for collectors. Most opportune, therefore, is the publication of a delightful volume on the subject (from which we give a double page of colour reproductions—namely, "Old Decorative Maps and Charts" by Arthur L. Humphreys, F.S.A., F.R.G.S., with illustrations from engravings in the Macpherson Collection, and a Catalogue of Atlases and Chart-Books in the Collection, by Henry Stevens (London: Halton and Truscott Smith, Ltd; New York: Minton, Balch, and Co., 73s 6d. net).

Mr. A.G. H. Macpherson's great collection of marine prints and kindred illustrations, including dsome of the finest extant maps and atlases—always generously placed by him at the disposal of writers and students—has been the inspiring source of many recent books on the history of ships and navigation. The present volume is perhaps the most alluring of them all. It contains seventy-nine exquisitely reproduced plates, of which nineteen are in full colour, ranging in date from 1482 to a776.

Apart from their value to the historical student, as representing the growth of geographical knowledge, these old maps possess an intrinsic fascination—they make so many contacts with science , religion, and philosophy, and they hold a peculiar place in decorative art. The old cartographers adorned their maps with the same loving care that a medieval monk would devote to illuminating a missal. They decorated them with ornamental borders and heraldic shields or emblems, and filled the blank spaces with miniature pictures of ships, buildings, cities, hunting figures, and travel scenes, navigating instruments, animals, birds, and—in particular—fishes and sea monsters. Among the last, in an early map of Palestine, is seen Jonah's whale, whose jugular capacity has of late been rehabilitated. The colour plates also include two beautiful star charts of the northern and southern hemispheres, containing all the mythological figures associated with the

constellations.

The history of map-making from the earliest times is traced by Mr. Humphreys in a long introduction that combines scholarship with literary charm, while he gives useful information for collectors on market values. He carries the story from Anaximander (born B.C. 612), said by Strabo to have been the first who represented the world upon a map, through Heroditus, Marinus of Tyre, and Ptolemy in ancient times, to the Renaissance editions of Ptolemy, the sixteenth-century Dutch works of Mercator and Ortelius, and a host of later cartographers, both foreign and English.

The catalogue by Mr. Henry N. Stevens, F.R.G.S. (son of the well-known Anglo-American bibliophile, the late Henry Stevens of Vermont), is a very able and important piece of work.

English literature supplies Mr Humphreys with some interesting references. Pepys records that in 1660 he "fell a reading of Speed's Geography"; and his fellow-diarist, John Evelyn, advocated wax relief maps. Swift writes in satiric vein—

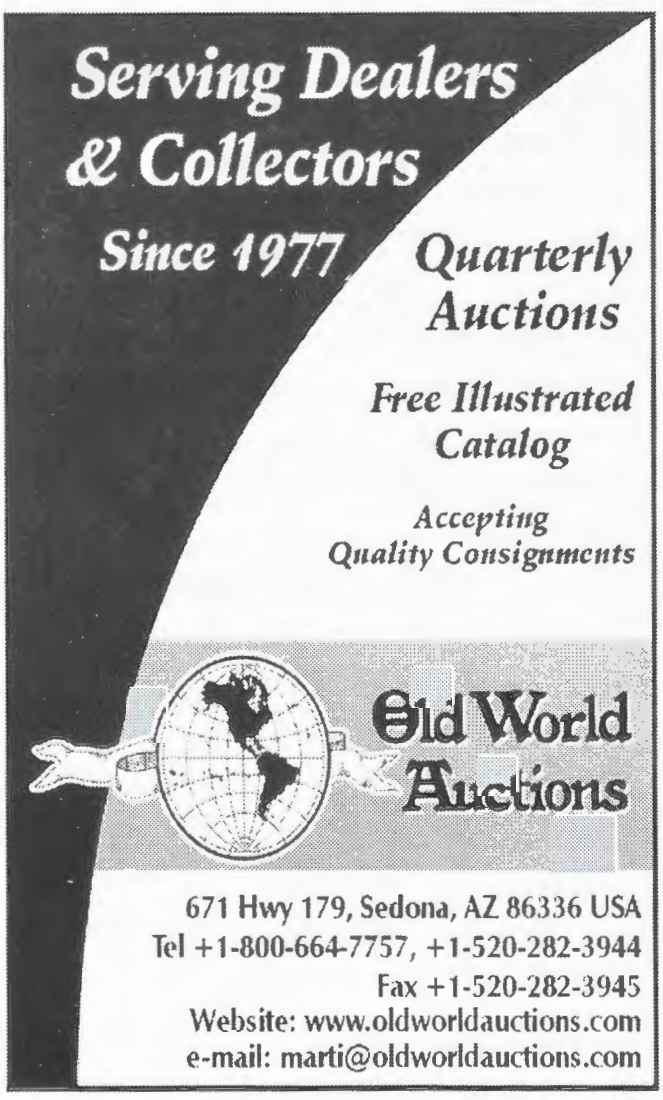
So geographers in Afric's maps
With savage pictures fill their gaps,
And o'er unhabitable downs
Place elephants for want of towns.

To these allusions we might add Shakespeare's scene in "Henry IV." (part I, Act III. Sc. I), where the conspirators are counting their territorial chickens, and Glendower says to Hotspur and Mortimer—

Come, here's the map: shall we divided our right?

Shakespeare was writing about 1597 of events that occurred in 1403. What map of England did Glendower use? According to Mr. Humphreys, maps were then chiefly ecclesiastical and fabulous; and Ralph Higden's map (later fourteenth century) showed England with only fourteen towns. Christopher Saxton's 1579 atlas "was the first collection of county maps done for England." Possibly Shakespeare knew Saxton's maps and "retrojected" them some two centuries into Hotspur's day.

[Book review from *Illustrated London News*, Dec 11, 1926. Supplied by Ed Dahl.]



International News & Events

2002 21st International Symposium
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29 Sept-2 Oct
Contact: Hans D. Kok, Poelwaai 15,
2162 HA Lisse, The Netherlands.
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E-mail: hanskok@introweb.nl
Symposium Secretariat:
Lidy Groot Congress Events,
Museumplein 5A, Amsterdam, or
POB 83005, 1080 AA Amsterdam.
Tel.++31 20 6793218
Fax: ++31 20 6758236
E-mail: info@LGCE.nl
For guided tour/welcome reception on Sunday:
Amsterdams Historisch Museum,
Kalverstraat 92 or Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 397, (two entrances)
1012 RM Amsterdam
Tel ++31 20 5231822
For Symposium venue on Monday and Tuesday:
Het West-Indisch Huis, Herenmarkt 99,
1013 EC Amsterdam
Tel. ++31 20 6257528
Fax ++31 20 6206211

2003 22nd International Symposium
Nicosia, Cyprus
14-16 October. Two- and Five-day Pre-Symposium tours around Cyprus

2004 23rd International Symposium
Italy, possibly Verona and Florence

2005 24th International Symposium
USA, Denver, Colorado

2006/7 25th International Symposium
Feb 2007, Guatemala

* * * * *

The 21st IMCoS International Symposium at Amsterdam

Invitation

The IMCoS Symposium in 2002 will take place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Twenty years after the initial International Symposium, IMCoS returns to the city where the very first international symposium was held.

You are cordially invited to attend this conference, which will take place on **Monday September 30, Tuesday October 1 and Wednesday October 2.**

Registration

The registration fees vary for those registering before or after June 1, 2002, as derived from the postmark. As sizeable payments have to be made early by the organizing committee, we request you to return the form as soon as possible, as we need to determine the number of reservations required. Payments will be possible by direct bank transfer, certified checks in Euros and specified credit cards (the Euro is the new currency in use after January 1, 2002 in the European Union). Current prices will be converted into Euro; apart from inflation, prices will remain the same, but expressed in Euro, the numbers only will be different. Currently, the rate of exchange is approximately U$ 0.90 for one Euro. The registration fee includes participation, coffee and tea during breaks, lunch on Monday, a canal ride by boat, bus tours and entrance fees. The official IMCoS Dinner on Wednesday evening

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is also included.

Please return the enclosed form as indicated.

On-site registration

On Sunday September 29, from 1500 hrs onwards, a registration desk will be set up in the restaurant of the Amsterdam Historical Museum where you may pick up the conference information package. Registration is also possible on Monday at the Symposium venue at the West Indies House from 0800 hrs onwards.

Conference programme

The conference programme reflects the glorious past of the country, which has always exceeded expectations, based on the country's size and number of inhabitants. On the day of arrival (Sunday September 29) a guided tour of the Amsterdam Historical Museum will start at 1545 hours, terminating in the Museum's Restaurant, where the City of Amsterdam will host a welcome reception.

Day 1 (Monday September 30) is dedicated to the struggle against the sea, winning land from and loosing land to the waters, as this of course caused maps to change accordingly. A visit to the Waterboards of Rijnland in Leiden and Delfland in Delft completes the day, with a field-visit before going back to the hotels.

Day 2 (Tuesday October 1) and **Day 3** (Wednesday October 2) are devoted to the United Dutch East India Company (Verenigde Oost-indische Compagnie: V.O.C.), a remarkable company indeed, which also produced its own maps and charts worldwide. The afternoon trip on Day 2 is to the Rijksmuseum, where a special exhibit ('The Dutch encounter with Asia'), although already closed to the general public, will be re-opened specially for IMCoS.

Day 3 calls for a change of venue away from the West Indies House to the Maritime Museum, also located in Amsterdam. The day starts with a canal-ride to the Maritime Museum, where the last presentations are held, followed by a visit to the Museum's displays.

The Symposium will be officially closed here, but in the evening the IMCoS Annual Dinner will be held in 'The Grand', now a hotel, but previously a town hall of the City of Amsterdam.

Hotel reservation

Hotel space is difficult to reserve in the City; although we have been working on the problem since February 2001, the situation remains difficult in Amsterdam itself. We therefore recommend that you book as early as possible. A list of hotels to choose from is supplied, detailing distance from our place of venue and supplying other relevant information. Booking late may cause you to stay in hotels away from the centre with consequent problems of getting to the venue in time in the morning.

Transportation

Transportation is easy by train, bus and boat; for buses and trains Dutchmen hardly use timetables as these run very frequently indeed. Taxis are harder to come by and are considered expensive; normal living expenses are generally low. Bringing your car to Amsterdam is not such a good idea, as parking and traffic problems are severe. The use of public transport is recommended; details will be provided on registration upon arrival. Multi-disciplinary tickets are available, allowing use of streetcars, buses and

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boats. After arrival at the airport, transportation to the city is easiest using the trains from the lower level after clearing customs. Tickets are available from vending machines and the railway ticket-office. These are all located in the hall at ground level and not at the lower level railway tracks. The trip to the city main station ('Amsterdam Centraal Station') takes maximum 20 minutes, depending on the type of train and its number of stops. Although most hotels will be close to the station, when travelling with bags, a taxi is probably the best option to get to the hotel.

Weather

Held in the early days of autumn, you may expect anything in terms of weather, ranging from pleasantly warm and sunny during the day and cool at night to rainy and windy all day. Temperatures will be between 12 and 25^0 Celsius (54 to 78 in Fahrenheit) during the day. The Netherlands are a compact country and in case of adverse weather the tourism infrastructure is such that limitless indoor-activities (arts, museums and otherwise) are available without the need to cover large distances.

Optional Tours

After the Symposium, optional tours are available; there will be a 'North-tour' and a 'South-tour', starting on Thursday morning and lasting till Saturday afternoon, returning by 1500 hrs to Schiphol Airport/Amsterdam and the city hotels as required. The distance from Amsterdam will be such that a return to the city will remain possible on an individual basis without undue complications. The North-tour will be more quiet and 'historic' as compared to the South-tour, which will be more modern and 'technical'. Both tours, however, will contain something 'cartographic'. The city of Enkhuizen, with its glorious V.O.C. past, will be visited during the North-tour, which will also include the 'Enclosing Dam' and a visit to a re-built Dutch East India ship, apart from other items of interest. The South-tour is presently scheduled to a 'gang' of windmills at Kinderdijk, the Rotterdam harbour and the impressive Delta-project, keeping Zeeland safe from the waters of the North Sea. The cities of Middelburg and Breda will also be featuring in this tour.

The tour price will include transportation, hotel, coffee and tea, three lunches, two dinners and most entrance fees, where applicable.

Liability

The organization is done under the responsibility of IMCoS' Representative for The Netherlands, who will be personally liable for any losses accrued in the process. We would like to point out that the Organizing Committee does not accept responsibility/liability for individual medical, travel or personal costs. Participants are advised to take out insurance as required.

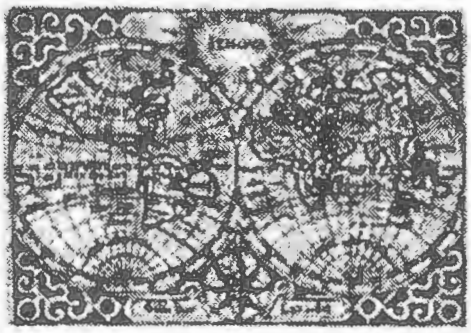
We trust the above sounds enticing enough for our members to participate: for further information, contact the organizing committee or the Symposium Secretariat. **Remember, however that hotel bookings are to be made on a personal basis.**

HANS D. KOK

Dawn Rooney writes from Thailand

I just came across a new web site that I thought might be of interest to members. It was started in June this

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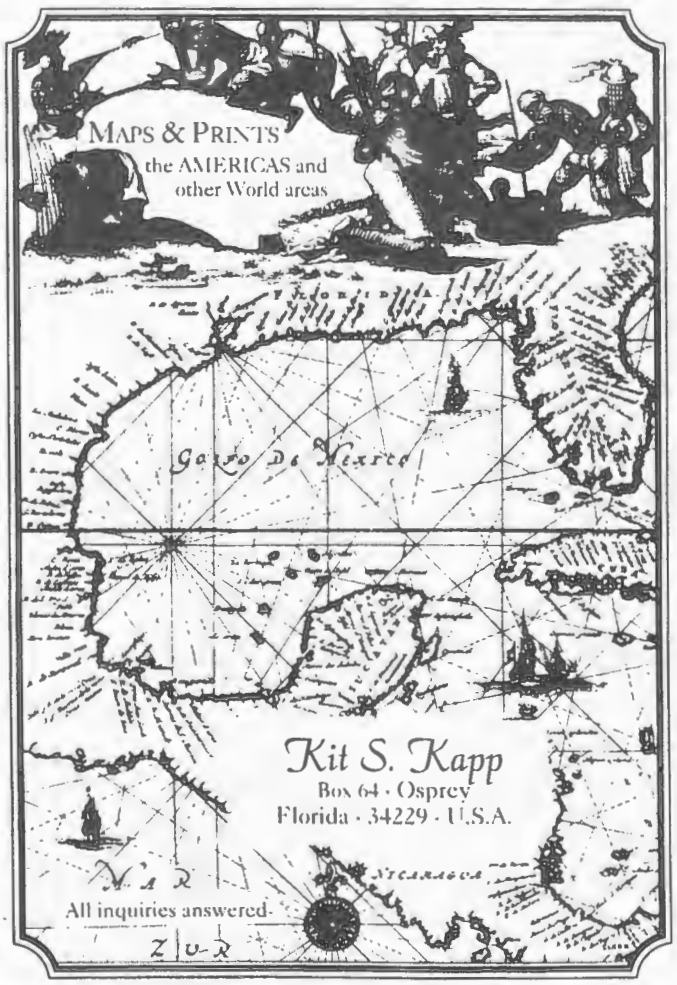
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year by Stanfords. The address is:
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Although you are required to register, the newsletter is free. It has a section on 'Maps in Literature' that promises to be interesting. Each month it features a 'Cartographic Quotation' and encourages visitors to send in their favourite quotation and win a Stanfords' recommended title of the month. The September quotation was from *The Siege of Krishnapur* by JR Farrell and included references to maps of India. The site includes Book Reviews and in September reviewed *Maps that Changed the World — A Cartographic Mystery* by Peter Whitfield. The August newsletter featured an Icelandic Tectonic Map. It's worth checking out!

* * * * *

UK News & Events

Visit to Holkham Hall

As reported in the last issue of the *Journal*, this visit has been rescheduled for 13th April 2002. As numbers may be limited, please complete and return the registration form as soon as possible.

If you applied last year, and have not withdrawn your payment, please send in the form again, marking it 'Already paid'.

June 2002

The registration form for the June weekend in London is included with this issue. Note the changed venue for the Map Fair, and the new order of events. The weekend will commence with the Dinner at the Overseas League, St James, and the Reception will be held at Olympia on our return from the Public Record Office at Kew.

Diary of forthcoming IMCoS events

2002

15 Feb	Informal Evening at the Farmers' Club, Whitehall, London
16 Feb	Visit to British Library Exhibition, tour conducted by a member of the Map Room staff
17 Feb	Informal Meeting at the Farmers' Club, London
13 Apr	Visit to Holkham Hall, Norfolk
7 June	IMCoS Annual Dinner
8 June	IMCoS Symposium at Public Record Office, Kew
9 June	IMCoS Map Fair, Olympia, London
30 Sep-2 Oct	21st International Symposium, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Maps and Society Lectures, Warburg Institute, London

6 Dec	Dr Daniel Birkholz: A Crack in the Bedroom Map: Gender, genre, and the reception of cartography in early 14th century England.
10 Jan	Nicholas Crane: Mercator: the man behind the myth
31 Jan	Anthony Payne: Interrogating the Map; the concept of accuracy in early modern cartography
28 Feb	Rolf Loeber: 16th and 17th century Irish Maps: Evidence for Gaelic settlements

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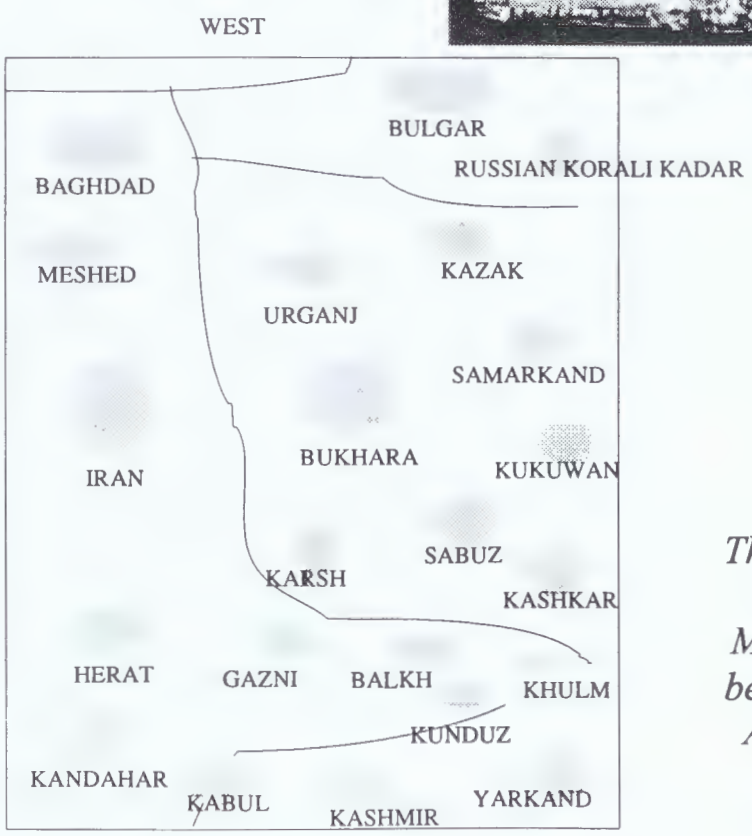


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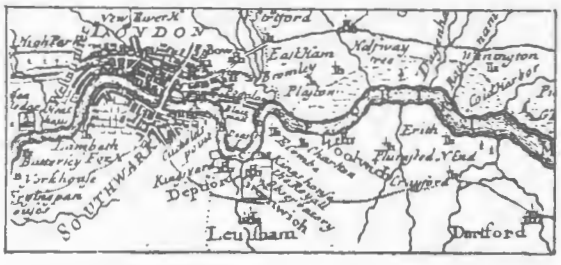


The Nepali map referred to on page 3, with a schematic translation (left). More information about this map can be found in: 'A Nepali Map of Central Asia', South Asian Studies, *8, 1992, pp 81-89.*
A few offprints are with the editor.

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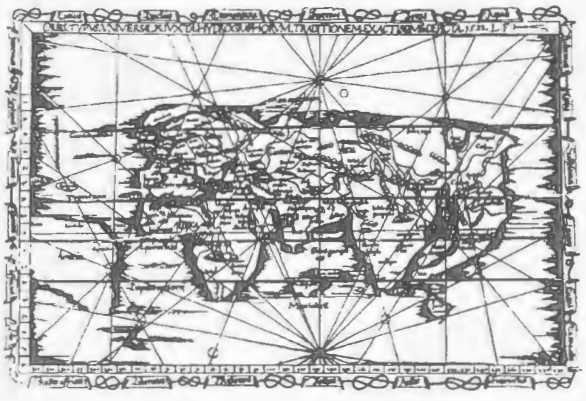
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MAP COLLECTOR PUBLICATIONS

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MCP, in conjunction with Early Map Source, announce publication of Volume II (E-J) of the revised edition of *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers* edited by Josephine French, consulting editors Valerie Scott and Mary Alice Lowenthal. 462 pages, 74 portraits. 'The compilers … are working their way through the alphabet, revising, weeding out and adding new information and (for the first time, references). It is a gigantic task. Three cheers for them!' (Ralph Hyde, *Print Quarterly*).

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Book Review

The Makers of the Blueback Charts: A history of Imray Laurie Norie & Wilson Ltd, by Susanna Fisher. Imray Laurie Norie & Wilson, St Ives Cambridgeshire, 2001. x +158 pages, 48 bw and 17 colour plates. ISBN 0-85288-458-3

Bluebacks were the charts of choice for the navigators of merchant ships in the mid 19th century. 'They were used in the ships that carried the seaborne trade of industrialised imperial Britain', a grand role which they fulfilled with aplomb, with florid lettering and coastlines firmly drawn. They were published by private publishers, not the Admiralty, and their name came from the blue linen or paper backing which made them more robust for use at sea.

Susanna Fisher's fascinating book traces the origins of these charts, reviewing the development of the English chart trade from its origins in the late 16th century. She relates the histories of the chartmakers but do not imagine that this is a dry business history. These were small family firms whose fortunes depended on the characters and energies of the individuals running them. And characters there were, such as John Hamilton Moore in the 18th century, who described himself as 'having a propensity for genius' but who was accused by his rivals of robbery, debauching his servant, baseness, dissimulation and fraud.

Plagiarism was usually the main cause of contention. The chartmakers gained their information from the merchant ships which they supplied and from the publications of their colleagues. Despite three copyright Acts in the 18th century it was hard to make accusations of piracy stick. Sayer's other dodgy dealing included misleadingly elevating to the rank of captain the Lieutenant James Cook (no relation) who had surveyed Fowey.

The firms often struggled to turn a profit from their core business of charts, sailing directions and nautical tables, so they commonly taught navigation as a sideline and diversified in other ways. Sayer and Jefferys' publications were not limited to cartographic works; they were charged with selling indecent prints during a trip to Paris in 1768. Imrays in the 19th century sold navigational instruments and also stationery such as cargo books. Wilson's pre-war Anchor Press printed not only nautical books but also jam jar labels. From the late 19th century, Norie & Wilson began to focus on yachtsmen, gave tuition to 'sea-going yachting gentlemen' including Lord Brassey of Sunbeam circumnavigation fame, and ran a yacht chandlery business. The amalgamated firm even undertook yacht deliveries for a brief period before the Second World War, employing Frank Worsley, who had navigated Shackleton to South Georgia in the James Caird lifeboat (He was said to be happiest when the work was dangerous.)

The main plot of the story is how the various firms, frequently at daggers drawn, came to settle their differences in the face of a common threat – the Admiralty – and develop their impor-

tant niche in modern chart production. There were six private chart publishers working in London in 1800. In 1904 they amalgamated into one.

The private chartmakers' relationship with Admiralty Hydrographic Office was a complex one. The Office was established in 1795, sold charts to the public by 1821 and the stream of new charts increased to a torrent under Beaufort. Although naval surveyors were disparaging of Bluebacks as a matter of principle, officially they were tolerated. Beaufort permitted and even encouraged the private chartmakers to use the results of Admiralty surveys, in the interests of increasing the safety of navigation.

It was the Board of Trade regulations, requiring up to date and accurate charts, and the Courts of Enquiry into shipwrecks which gradually persuaded merchant captains to convert to Admiralty charts. It was true that the Blueback makers were not exactly at the cutting edge: Norie continued using rhumb lines into the 1840s. The Admiralty chart correction system was well ahead of what the private firms could provide. Nevertheless, as late as 1899 the Hydrographer, Admiral Wharton, regretted the decline of the private chart trade, complaining that to have such vast calls on the Admiralty charts wears the plates out and generally gives a great deal of trouble.

The biggest blow fell in 1929 when the Admiralty at last insisted that a royalty must be paid before any information could be taken from an Admiralty chart. It then offered Imray Laurie Norie & Wilson the sole agency for sale of Ad-



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miralty charts, on condition that the firm stopped publishing its own charts. When the firm discovered that they were only being offered a one-year contract, they turned it down. Norie's Nautical Tables and specialist products for fishing and yachting saved it from extinction. The fishing chart list, after the boom-time when territorial fishing limits were revised, fell victim to the mid-1970s decline in North Atlantic fisheries. Yachting is now the mainstay of the business which is still family run, preserving a remarkable tradition.

This book is highly enjoyable and a valuable work of scholarship.

GILLIAN HUTCHINSON

The following books have been received for review:

Dordset Maps, by David Beaton

'Cartography of Persia', in **Encyclopaedia Iranica**, by Cyrus Ala'i

Reading the World, edited by Metthew Edney and Irwin D. Novak

The Maps of Ortelius and their Variants, by Joseph Q. Walker

Astrology, a History, by Peter Whtifield

CD-Rom Series: **The Features of the Territory**, supervised by Prof. Marco Piccardi.

It is unfortunate that no UK member has found time to arrange for these books to be sent out for review, despite pleas in the last few issues of the *Journal*.The books will be passed on to the IMCoS library, but it is feared that publishers may stop sending us books if they are not regularly reviewed.

Not much time is required, and postage will be reimbursed by IMCoS. Please contact the Editor, if you would like to do it.

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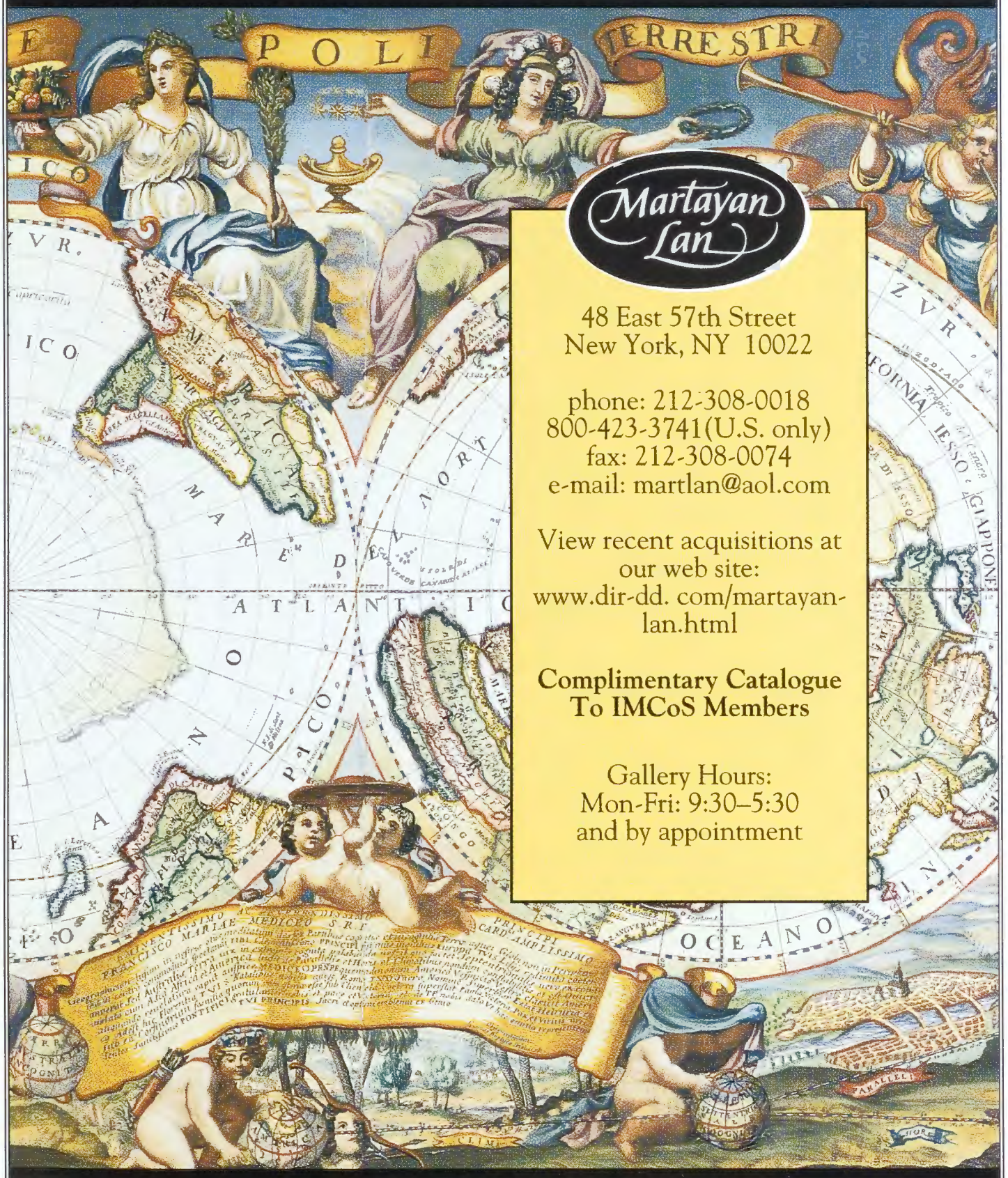
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