IMCoS

JOURNAL

International Map Collector's Society

AUGUST 1982

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International Map Collector's Society

P.O. Box 581, Aston, Birmingham B7 4UB, England Tel: (038682) 619.

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EDITORIAL NEWS & VIEWS

OUR second Map Fair is behind us and we, as Officers of the Society, have good cause to be satisfied with the considerable effort put behind organising an event that we hope will become an annual 'must' in the cartographic fraternity. To achieve success, we needed the strong support of collectors and dealers alike, and the IMCoS extends its gratitude to all those who supported the Society on what has been, until now, an experimental effort. No more so. The IMCoS and our annual fairs are here to stay and the next dates for your diaries are 11th and 12th June, 1983.

Not least among our supporters have been the staff of *The Map Collector* led now by their new Editor, Valerie Scott who has been with the publication since its inception in December, 1977.

Valerie's rise' has been one of almost natural progression. When the idea of a publication devoted entirely to a world wide map fraternity was first conceived in the minds of David Lyon and Peter Scott, they needed two more members to complete the team. R. V. Tooley was approached to become the 'technical' pillar to the planned publication and Valerie, with her vast journalistic experience behind her, joined the threesome to add the essential literary touch. Thus with "Mick" Tooley as Editor, Valerie acted as Deputy and effectively managed the whole of the editorial work of *The Map Collector* from Issue No. 1. The announcement of her Editorship in issue No. 19 in June of this year is befitting her enthusiasm and energy and reflects her dedication to a cause that has done more for the collector than any other single event in the recent past. The IMCo wish her the luck she deserves and we look forward to a long lasting friendship in our mutual *raison d'être* — the pursuit of the betterment of the hobby.

Our next major event is the Amsterdam Symposium on 9th & 10th October and from reports we are receiving from Werner Lowenhardt, the Symposium Chairman, it would appear that this will be a great and worthwhile event. Our Dutch members promise to make everyone very welcome. You will find further details in this journal. We hope to see you in Amsterdam. YB

P.S. Having had to depart on a trip prior to the completion of the compilation of this Journal I extend my thanks to Faith Ashwood, our Advertising Manager, for once more stepping into the breach.



Valerie Scott, the newly appointed Editor of "The Map Collector" chatting with the Grand Old Man of the cartographic World R. V. Tooley.



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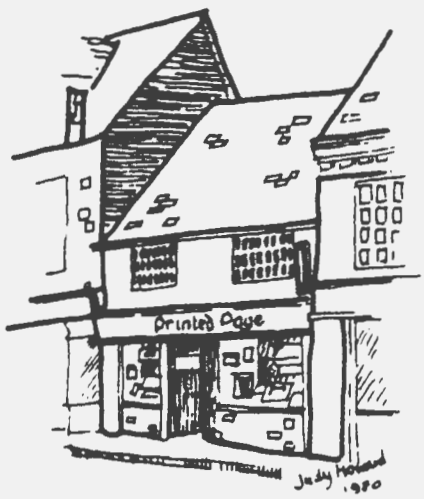
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IMCoS SECOND ANNUAL MAP FAIR
LONDON PENTA HOTEL
SUNDAY, 6th JUNE, 1982

Chairman's Report by Yasha Beresiner

THE Fair itself was preceded on Saturday evening by an informal dinner attended by some 35 members and at which we were greatly privileged to have R. V. Tooley as our Guest of Honour. The Penta catering facilities were excellent and the food quite delicious. The convivial meal was followed by our President Rodney Shirley welcoming our Guest of Honour. He was heartily praised for his incomparable cartographic achievements and we hope to see him at more of the IMCo functions in the coming years. Mick Tooley's response was appropriately to the point and his light-hearted style was highly appreciated by those present. Malcolm Young and Yasha Beresiner had their own exchange of public comments to the amusement of the gathering. The splendid evening drew to a reluctant conclusion nigh on midnight.

On the Sunday members of the organising Committee of the Fair were at the Penta by 6 a.m. and by the time dealers began to make their appearance at 8 a.m. the stands were well set. The spacious accommodation was appreciated by all and the 40 dealers, including representatives from Belgium, Italy, France and Germany, were well satisfied, notwithstanding the relative calm in world trading activities.

The IMCoS Map Fair, although of course primarily intended as a commercial venture, is proving to be an opportunity for meeting fellow collectors and dealers and was appreciated as such by the 500 or so who attended.

The date for next year's Map Fair has already been established for Sunday, 12th June to be preceded by a London Symposium on Saturday, 11th June and already promises to be a well-attended event with considerable anticipation of a rejuvenated market which will benefit all.

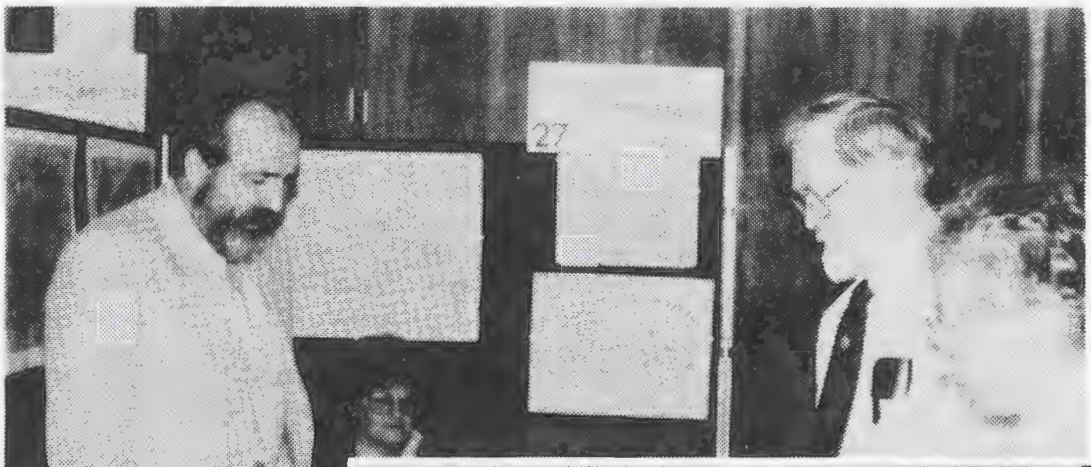
As Chairman I wish to use this opportunity to thank those already mentioned for their great assistance and particular our dealer members and the Map Fair Committee.



Jonathan Potter, member of the organising committee of the map fair, at his table . . . with Brian Kentish of Oxford 'viewing' in the background!



Rodney Shirley, IMCoS President, welcoming our guest of honour R. V. Tooley at the IMCoS Dinner on the Saturday.



Italian member and dealer Marcello Broseghini of Modena shown displaying some of his maps to collectors. Mrs. Broseghini sits pensively in the background.





Above: Helmut Weiss of Brussels, Belgium at his well stocked table, talking with two of the many visitors to the Sunday Map Fair.

Above: Ray O'Shae and his assistant Richard Hewlett in deep conversation with a collector at the Sunday Map Fair. On the next day Ray was on his way to Houston, Texas to open the newly established Galle.



Right: The Map Collector stand at the IMCoS Fair attracted a great deal of attention, and was 'manned' by two ladies, Valerie Scott and Barbara White.

Waterloo

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"WRITINGS ABOUT MAPS"

By "COSIMO"

THE attraction of maps is primarily visual, and remains so however much our understanding and appreciation of them is enhanced by what is written about them, whether in magazine, catalogue or textbook. I have come to the conclusion that there is a minor literature of or concerning maps and map-making, although I am not referring to the rather grandly titled field of cartobibliography. What I have in mind are the not infrequent references to our subject, both in works of fiction and non-fiction, by writers well and less well known. Some of these I find intriguing and I would like to share them with you in this and future issues of our Journal.

My first extract is by Joseph Conrad, that brilliant teller of stories in the English language, whose native tongue was Polish and whose first calling was the Merchant Service. It is from his 'Romance of Travel' which appeared as a general introduction to a serial work called "Countries of the World" in 1924.

"I have no doubt that star-gazing is a fine occupation, for it leads you within the borders of the unattainable. But map-gazing, to which I became addicted so early, brings the problems of the great spaces of the earth into stimulating and directing contact with sane curiosity and gives an honest precision to one's imaginative faculty. And the honest maps of the nineteenth century nourished in me a passionate interest in the truth of geographical facts and a desire for precise knowledge which was extended later to other subjects.

"For a change had come over the spirit of cartographers. From the middle of the eighteenth century on the business of map-making had been growing into an honest occupation, registering the hard-won knowledge, but also in a scientific spirit recording the geographical ignorance of its time. And it was Africa, the continent out of which the Romans used to say some new thing was always coming, that got cleared of the dull imaginary wonders of the dark ages, which were replaced by exciting spaces of white paper. Regions unknown! My imagination could depict to itself there worthy, adventurous and devoted men, nibbling at the edges, attacking from north to south and east and west, conquering a bit of truth here and a bit of truth there, and sometimes swallowed up by the mystery their hearts were so persistently set on unveiling.

"Among them Mungo Park, of western Sudan, and Bruce, of Abyssinia were, I believe, the first friends I made when I began to take notice — I mean geographical notice — of the continents of the world into which I was born. The fame of these two had already been for a long time European, and their figures had become historical by them. But their story was a very novel thing to me, for the very latest geographical news that could have been whispered to me in my cradle was that of the expedition of Burton and Speke, the news of the existence of Tanganyika and Victoria Nyanza.

"I stand here confessed as a contemporary of the Great Lakes. Yes, I could have heard of their discovery in my cradle, and it was only right that, grown to a boy's estate, I should in the later sixties done my first bit of map drawing and paid my first homage to the prestige of their first exploration. It consisted in entering laboriously in pencil the outline of Tanganyika on my beloved old atlas, which, having been published in 1852, knew nothing, of course, of the Great Lakes. The heart of its Africa was white and big.

"Surely it could have been nothing but a romantic impulse which promoted the idea of bringing it up to date with all the accuracy of which I was capable. Thus I could imagine myself stepping in the very footprints of geographical discovery. And it was not all wasted time. As a bit of prophetic practice it was not bad for me. Many years afterwards, as second officer in the Merchant Service, it was my duty to correct and bring up to date the charts of more than one ship, according to the Admiralty notices. I did this work conscientiously and with a sense of responsibility; but it was not in the nature of things that I should ever recapture the excitement of that entry of Tanganyika on the blank of my old atlas."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE NORTHPART OF CANADA

IN the May issue of ANTIQUE COLLECTOR I came across your advertisement for the Second Annual Map Fair and Exhibition which was held on 6th June at the London Penta Hotel, — the most important annual gathering of collectors, dealers, academicians and all those interested in maps and cartography.

I purchased this magazine in an effort to find suitable outlets for a Canadian publication I have just been asked to promote by the Canadian publisher. The book — THE NORTHPART OF AMERICA by Coolie Verner and Basil Stuart-Stubbs is a beautiful, facsimile atlas of printed maps from the beginning of the sixteenth century, in a limited edition of 1500 signed and numbered copies.

Would you please inform readers of your JOURNAL that I shall be pleased to send them a detailed brochure which explains why it would be a very welcome addition to any collector for his library.

I look forward to hearing from IMCoS members and should like to thank you in advance for any help you can give me.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can possibly be of any assistance to you or your Society in the future.

PAM DOBBINS

Canadabooks International
4 Valley Avenue
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IMCoS SYMPOSIUM, AMSTERDAM
13th & 14th November, 1982

IN the leaflet produced relevant to the Symposium and distributed at the June Fair our President, Rodney Shirley, made the following comments.

'We have to thank our Dutch colleagues in Amsterdam for their initiative and energy in organising this, the Second IMCoS Symposium to be held on 13th and 14th November, 1982.

I am sure you will agree that they are providing an excellent menu for us, including an access to three world-famous institutions with unrivalled collections of maps. The high spot of the gathering will be the buffet/dinner Symposium at the celebrated Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky on the Saturday evening.

For those coming from the United Kingdom a number of very economical travel packages are available. This will be just the right opportunity for wives to come along as well as enjoy the architecture and cultural ambience of Amsterdam. I very much look forward to meeting you all, especially our Dutch and Continental enthusiasts, on this occasion.'

Although the Symposium does not commence until Saturday morning members are invited to assemble at the Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky, Dam Square, Amsterdam on Friday evening, 12th November between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. Registration takes place at 9.15 a.m. on the Saturday morning for a 9.30 a.m. departure by coach to the 'Algemeen Rijksarchief' at The Hague. The party will return to Amsterdam for lunch and the afternoon has been left free for shopping, visits to map dealers and other places of interest.

The Symposium meeting commences at 6 p.m. in 'La Voliere Audubon' and the evening's speakers will talk on Dutch Cartography and Cartographers of the Low Countries. A hot/cold buffet/dinner will be served during the course of the evening and proceedings are expected to conclude around 10.30 p.m.

On Sunday delegates should assemble at 10.15 a.m. in the hotel foyer for a walk through Old Amsterdam to the Maritime Museum where the morning will be spent visiting the Map Department. There will be a break for lunch from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. after which a visit to the Amsterdam University Map Library has been arranged and the Symposium Weekend will conclude at approximately 5 p.m.

The Symposium registration fee is £39 per person and includes lunch and dinner on Saturday, return coach trip to the Hague and all museum entrance fees.

Rooms are available at the Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky with a special price for the nights of Friday 12th and Saturday 13th November of £58 per single room and £74 per double room. These prices are inclusive of a Royal Dutch buffet breakfast and all taxes. British Airways return fares to Amsterdam are £71 per head if booked before 12th August, 1982. Fares may be increased on 1st September. Further information and copies of the Symposium leaflet are available from:

Werner Lowenhardt, Esq.,
P.O. Box 2216,
1000 CD Amsterdam,
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IMCoS MEET AT CAMBRIDGE

MEMBERS of the IMCoS gathered at Cambridge on Saturday 3rd July for what turned out to be a double bill programme of exceptional interest. The first session took place at the University Library where (by kind permission of the Librarian) we were welcomed by Roger Fairclough, the Head of the Map Department. Inside the Map Room a display of maps had been laid out for us; a small but distinctive selection from the University Library's large collection of 900,000 maps and 12,000 atlases.

As one of the five UK copyright institutions, the Cambridge University Library has received a copy of every book published in the kingdom since 1677, and of every map since the middle of the nineteenth century. (How remiss of the early custodians not to have insisted on receiving every map from the beginning!) There is also an active acquisition programme, two-thirds being diverted to modern maps and one-third being spent on building up their collection of early cartographic material.

For instance, in recent years the Map Room purchased the Gardner atlas of Speed's proof maps, including as an interleaved bonus the unique William Smith-William Rogers map of Cheshire in early colour. Other fine items on display included a portolan of the Aegean, atlases by Blaeu and Saxton, the unique 'Invasions' map of c.1601 by Speed, the splendid large world map of 1625 by William Grent (the prototype for Speed's world map of a year later), the Loggan-Overton Cambridge, and two vividly coloured manuscript maps of the Shan Hills in Burma.

Other maps of the last century included railway, canal, and bicycling maps, and the latest chart of the Falkland Islands which was scrutinised with many topical remarks. Turning the pages of Braun and Hogenburg's *Civitates Orbis Terrarum,* what should the author find but another copy of the very rare 'Foolscap' world map, forming the visage of a jester's head and cap with bells.

Mr Fairclough's succinct comments on the Library's collection and on the maps on display much enhanced our viewing. We are very grateful to him for arranging our visit and for the friendly way he answered our questions. After the Library session a pleasant walk took us to the Garden House Hotel where another display of maps had been laid on, this time from the collection of Charles Wood, by whose courtesy we also enjoyed a glass of sherry as an aid to our appreciation in a most civilised manner.

In the afternoon, the programme continued with Charles Wood's illustrated talk 'Early Maps of the City and County of Cambridge'. Members were much impressed by the study and preparatory work that had gone into the talk, recounting the cartographic history of the town and county since the sixteenth century. Because of its interest, Mr Wood's talk is being transcribed for publication in the next issue of the JOURNAL. With warm expressions of thanks to the speakers the meeting closed at 4 pm.

RODNEY W. SHIRLEY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OLD maps are such fascinating and beautiful objects that it is hurtful to see them disfigured. Conversely, careful restoration of a damaged map can only enhance its appreciation and value. But what about the long-standing practice of putting on colour? What kind of rationale can help us decide what to do about maps passing through our hands?

I am troubled by this issue, as I am particularly fond of finely coloured maps. In the past I have coloured maps myself; a few well (I think) but most I am not proud of. I confess that I still have the occasional map coloured for me professionally, but increasingly I find I prefer the original black and white impression. Unfortunately, mass colouring of old maps is still practised by some map dealers, English and foreign, using colourists who must be unfeeling or new to their art.

At the risk of pontificating to the converted — both dealers and collectors — may I urge all of you to:

1. Think twice or thrice before committing uncoloured maps to be coloured.
2. Recall whether the map would normally have been coloured at the time of issue; for instance virtually no German or Italian maps of the sixteenth century are to be found in contemporary colouring, and most eighteenth century maps were issued uncoloured.
3. If the impression is a sharp dark one, leave it as such.
4. If for reasons of enhancement, colour is decided on, seek out professional colourists who work carefully from contemporarily coloured originals.
5. Be disgruntled when offered inappropriately coloured maps by dealers. It may not be their fault or responsibility, but at least map collectors' preferences are made known.

Members' views on this contentious topic will be welcomed.

RODNEY W. SHIRLEY
President

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GUIDELINES FOR STORAGE AND DISPLAY OF MAPS

by Johan M. Hermans

LIKE all documents and works of art on paper, maps will deteriorate very rapidly when kept under unsuitable conditions. Temperature, humidity, light, adhesives, most mounting board and plastics can all contribute to the ultimate destruction of image and paper. The following are a number of guidelines for the design of storage and display materials. These will minimise physical and chemical deterioration and are based on: British Standards; 54 54, 1977, Baynes-Cope A. D. & Collings T. J. 1980 and Baynes-Cope A. D. 1981.

Any surfaces on which the map rests, or with which it comes into close contact, should be smooth and free from harmful chemical substances such as volatile acids, alkalis and plasticisers.

The map should be retained in place by straps or a frame of a material that has no chemical effect on it.

Most colours and coloured papers are liable to fade when exposed to light and especially when exposed to ultra-violet light, which is present in daylight and in light emitted from some fluorescent tubes. So light should be excluded from exhibited displays (curtains, UV.-Perspex or film-filtering).

Temperature and humidity should be controlled, a constant temperature between 13°C. and 18°C., and a relative humidity between 50% and 60% is recommended.

For most collectors this ideal condition is very difficult to attain, but it is essential that an attempt should be made to have as little fluctuation as possible in temperature and consequently R.H. It also should be stressed that high temperatures are harmful, not only in their own right but also because they lower the R.H. Glass-fronted cabinets can act as heat traps, and it is vital to ensure that this does not happen. Such a case must be placed where the sun cannot reach it at any season of the year. Cases, boxes and other closed containers also act as heat traps, and so proper air circulation should be provided for. Wood is a good device for controlling the R.H. (although not in direct contact with the map). The relationship that exists between the cellulose and moisture will act as a stabiliser.

It is very unwise to use metal-case containers as a store, unless there is very exact temperature control or a large amount of cellulose padding. In addition dust should be minimised. Regular airing and inspection of the stored maps is essential, to check for mould, insect attack, discolouration, brittleness and any other form of deterioration.

'Safe' Material specifications:

**Paper.*
- Should be free from Lignin.
- Should have a pH. between 5.5 and 8.5
- Should be free from Alum — Rosin sizing.
- Should be free from any harmful additives and coatings.

**Adhesives.*
- Should have a pH. between 5.5 and 5.8.
- Should have a low proportion of additives and free from added calcium and zinc chlorides and acids.
- Should be as nearly colourless as possible.
- Should be reasonably resistant to attack by mould.
- Simple procedures should be adequate to reverse them.
- No alum must be present.

**Textiles.*
- Should be free from chemical additives.
- Have a pH. between 5.5 and 8.5

**Wood.*
- Should be seasoned and free from harmful chemical additives or coatings.
- Should not be bleached.

**Plastics.*
- Should be free from halogenated compounds, eg. PVC.
- Should be free from plasticisers.

**Storage boxes and envelopes.*
- If made from board or paper; should conform to the requirements for paper (above).
- If adhesives used; should conform to requirements for adhesives.
- Staples should be guaranteed not to rust.
- If plastics are used; should conform to requirements for plastics.

Finally: Unless suitably qualified, please do not attempt your own 'restoration' and do not for instance make temporary repairs with self-adhesive tapes. This might cause more long term damage than there ever was before. Modern conservation restoration is highly specialised and should in this case be left to properly qualified paper-conservators. Advice, testing and recommendations in connection with the above and conservation, repair and cleaning of maps and other works of art on paper can be obtained from the following.

Mrs. M. Schuelein	Mr. J. M. Hermans
20 Eton Villas	115 Dale Avenue
London NW3	Edgware
Tel. 722 5744	Middlesex HA8 6AA
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Further reading:

Collings T. C. & Baynes-Cope A. D.; Some specifications for materials and techniques used in the conservation of Archives (Journal Society of Archivists, Vol 6, No. 6).

Baynes-Cope A. D.; 1981. Caring for books and Documents, British Museum publications.

British Standards Institution; 1977. The storage and exhibition of Archival material, BS.54 54.

Clapp Anne F., 1978. Curatorial care of works of art of paper on paper Intermuseum Conservation Association.

Editor's Note — The members of the Society and the visitors to our Second Annual Map Fair in June will have had a fascinating insight into the subject matter of this brief article.

IMCoS FUTURE MEETINGS

CHESTER MEETING — SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER, 1982

This meeting is being held in conjunction with the Second Northern Antique Map Collectors' Conference at the Grosvenor Hotel, Eastgate Road, Chester from 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The morning talk will be given by Dr. D. de Vries of Leiden University on 'Early Dutch Maps' and the afternoon auction will be followed by a talk on 'Seventeenth Century Dutch Map Houses' by John Goss of Sotheby's. The registration fee is £18 covering Conference fee, morning coffee, afternoon tea and full smorgasbord lunch with wine.

AMSTERDAM SYMPOSIUM — SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 13th & 14th NOVEMBER, 1982

Our Second Annual IMCoS Symposium has been organised by our Dutch members under the guidance of their Symposium chairman Werner Lowenhardt. We look forward to seeing you all in Amsterdam in November and further details about the Symposium can be found elsewhere in the JOURNAL.

LONDON MEETING — SATURDAY, 15th JANUARY, 1983

A special double programme is planned for the IMCoS meeting in London next January. In the morning there will be a visit to the British Library, organised by Mr. Peter Barber of the Manuscripts Department and will provide a unique opportunity to see some of the extremely rare manuscript maps and charts from the Library's collection. In the afternoon we are arranging a contrasting session on 'Starting a Map Collection', with contributions from both searchers (collectors) and suppliers (dealers). Make a note in your diary now!

BIRMINGHAM MEETING — SATURDAY, 26th MARCH, 1983

The Birmingham meeting will incorporate the Society's Annual General Meeting and further details will be given in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

IMCoS THIRD ANNUAL MAP FAIR — SUNDAY, 12th JUNE, 1983

At their last Committee meeting your Executive Board decided to hold the 1983 IMCoS Map Fair in London on Sunday, 12th June.

Next year the Fair will be preceded by a London Symposium on Saturday, 11th June and a Dinner in the evening.

Please put these dates in your diaries now and make plans to attend this important London weekend.

BOOK REVIEW

New Zealand Atlas of Coastal Resources
Editor: Dr. Philip Tortell of the Commission for the Environment

This exciting and comprehensive collection, of all the available information on coastal resources and their use in New Zealand, is a unique publication. It is the largest book ever printed and bound by the New Zealand Government Printer, and the first to have a vinyl cover. It is lavishly illustrated with photographs and diagrams, and has 16 full page maps and a gazetteer. The data supplied by the 27 contributing parties, falls into five basic categories: economic resources; ecological resources; recreational resources; oceanographic resources and sensitivity of the coastline to oil pollution. Of wide appeal, its series of clear symbols, indicate the type of coastline, the major ports and tonnages, the coastal townships and their road access, commercial fishing and marine farming activity, species of fish and shellfish marine mammal colonies and bird colonies, recreational areas of interest to big game fishermen and anglers, boaties and yachties, surfers and divers.

The scale adopted for the maps is 1:500,000, which conforms to the NZMS 242 series and the maps are in four colours: blue for economic resources, and for value ratings of the sea, in three shades; purple for the ecology; green for recreation; brown for the text and as a base colour. This spectacular book was first published in December 1981 and is proving to be of great interest to students of the earth sciences, to engineers and teachers, planners, fishermen and marine farmers, cartographers, printers and publishers, world wide.

This successful blend of technology and idealism, producing a source of educational material and a planning tool of a high standard, may well serve as a precedent for future publications of this type.

Specifications: 60 pages, 594mm × 420mm; soft vinyl cover; encased in storage cylinder; text set in 11 12 pt Melior type printed on Mataura Chart; silk screen printed cover on unsupported vinyl glued by hand on to end papers.

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Every two years an international directory of current research in the history of cartography and in carto-bibliography is compiled by E. M. J. Campbell and P. K. Clark. Entries for the 1983 issue are now being invited from everyone actively carrying out research into early maps and map making; forms to fill in can be obtained from:

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