base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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base line is an official publication of the American Library Association’s Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT). The purpose of base line is to provide current information on cartographic materials, other publications of interest to map and geography librarians, meetings, related governmental activities, and map librarianship. It is a medium of communication for members of MAGERT and information of interest is welcome. The opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the American Library Association and MAGERT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below:

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Printed on Recycled Paper
During the XIth Annual NACIS Meeting in Milwaukee, map librarians and users met to discuss establishing a shared agenda for the emergence of digital cartographic information in libraries. The following agenda items are offered as a point of departure for discussion and involvement by the library community in general and the map library community in particular.

Comment and dialogue are welcome and invited concerning these agenda items and/or the effectiveness of this as an exercise.

**AGENDA FOR THE NINETIES**

The roles of the library institution in the emerging field of spatially referenced information are:

- collecting/archiving,
- cataloging/indexing,
- networking,
- distributing
- and education.

*Collecting/Archiving*

The problems of collecting and long term storage and preservation of digital information, especially digital cartographic and database files with spatially referenced fields, need to be addressed. In the evolving arena of digital information, hardware, software, data formats and standards are critical. The problems of the nonstandard "publishing" of electronic information, the resultant problems of identification and procurement, as well as adherence to standard formats (as they are developed), demand attention.

Libraries, especially research libraries, store large quantities of material... and have for centuries. Problems of space, prioritized use, varieties of media format and preservation of information are continuing concerns. For example, libraries have confronted the problems of preservation and conservation of information materials with national and international strategies. These strategies have provided initiatives for insisting on materials being published on acid-free paper and on nationally coordinated comprehensive microfilming projects of brittle books, among others.

*Cataloging/Indexing*

Navigating through electronic information is confounded by the sheer volume of information, its dynamic and unpublished nature and its abstract, "virtual" dimension. As more sophisticated descriptive cataloging techniques are developed and standardized...
and made available, item level cataloging needs to focus less on the distribution media and more on the file, and indeed, field level. The multi-dimensional layering process of GIS analysis demands increasing refinement of the descriptive art of the library cataloger.

Libraries have developed, over the past centuries, sophisticated processes of bibliographic (and cartographic) control and access through the development of the descriptive and subject catalog record. These processes have culminated in recent years by the establishment of an international database of MARC (MAchine Readable CAtalogue) records. MARC formats exist for monographs, maps, serials, and among others, computer files. Currently, computer files are seen primarily as flat text files and software. The complex nature of GIS related data must be identified.

*Networking

Large numeric databases, which are the basis of digital cartographic formats, reside most comfortably, and are processed most effectively on intensive computers. These have been mainframe-type computers. Their effectiveness, however, is felt most keenly at the personal computer and workstation. This presents a dilemma which is, in part, solved by complex networking. Remote storage of information, ready distribution of data and appropriate linkages which connect available information need to be investigated and addressed.

Libraries have a long history of aggressively utilizing computer networks. Bibliographic utilities such as OCLC have existed and flourished for decades, distributing bibliographic citations and library holdings nationally and internationally. These systems have allowed for a high level of information sharing among the national and international library communities. More recently the Internet has allowed for interactive perusal of research library bibliographic databases like MELVYL, the system of the University of California, from remote sites throughout the world.

*Distributing

Data compilation continues to be the most difficult aspect of modern map production. GIS analysis' voracious appetite for information and the large and complex nature of numeric data files and databases are evolving. Distributing electronic information in appropriate file formats, with documentation, will streamline geographic analysis.

Libraries have developed extensive and complex distribution systems. Copying machines, microform copying, document delivery, and faxing are as much a part of those systems as are local, state, regional and national interlibrary loan networks.
*Education*

User education is a considerable hurdle to the effective use of GIS and digital cartographic information. GIS is an entirely new way of dealing with information, database management, image processing, and spatial analysis. College level, secondary and elementary curricula will be necessary. Staff education in the use, storage, extraction and retrieval of multi-dimensional files is an issue which will have to be dealt with in library schools.

Libraries have offered bibliographic instruction beginning with the use of the card catalog in elementary schools to workshops on navigating Dow Jones Online and BRS Afterdark. Map librarians are used to the user who needs to be helped with the graphics format of maps, and readily supply interpretive legends, advice on scale and projections. The standardization of MLS curricula and the degree have established a consistent professional foundation. This foundation has been the underpinning to shared cataloging, interlibrary loan, and collection development.

Patrick McGlamery, Map Librarian, U-5M Homer Babbidge Library, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06268 Tel.: 203/486-4589 E-mail: libmapl@uconnvm

**ADDRESSING SMALL LIBRARIES**

Greetings!

Sorry to be so tardy with this column, but these have been a VERY busy few months. After ALA I took a little time off to see friends and relatives and visit a few new (to me) counties in the Midwest. Upon my return, the intensity level took a turn towards maximum. Our college is in the process of seeking accreditation, and the visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation team took place in October. All of you who have experienced the process can easily relate to the massive amount of work involved in the self study and seemingly endless meetings. The library is always scrutinized closely. Sad to say, neither maps nor our map services were an issue. That is a shame, although I can't say I really expected the map holdings to be one!! Maybe someday they will!!? After all, there is a certain core of maps and accessory tools that should be in virtually every academic library, if not every library in general.

In late November I was asked to instruct the introductory physical geography course for spring semester. This should be great fun, but a rush to prepare. I expect more than a few ideas for this column will be spawned by the teaching angle. I already anticipate several bibliographic instruction and collection development topics. More on this later.

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To continue the question and answer dialog, the questions for this issue concern the natural scale indicator and preservation.

Q: Where can one obtain a "natural scale indicator?" (Ontario, Canada)

A: It just so happens that Meridian 6 (1991) provides the answer. According to a note in that periodical, the Natural Scale Indicator is no longer available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, but it can be obtained from Memorial University of Newfoundland Cartographic Laboratory. The address given is:

Professor Clifford H. Wood, Director
MUNCL, Department of Geography
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 3X9, Canada

The cost is $7.50 (U.S.) and should be prepaid.

Q: Previous question on conservation (Vermont.)

A: The Geoscience Information Society has formed an Ad Hoc Committee on Preservation Issues chaired by Connie Wick. The committee is charged with investigating appropriate preservation concerns in the geoscience area and articulating those concerns to its membership and the geoscience community at large. (GIS Newsletter, no. 128, February 1991 and no. 132, October 1991).

MAPS AVAILABLE

The Springfield City Library (MA) has over 300 7.5 minute orthophotoquads (1:24,000) covering the state of Maine available. These date between 1975 and 1979 and are available as a single collection for the cost of mailing.

If you are interested, please contact Ed Lonergan, Map Desk, Springfield City Library, 220 State St., Springfield, MA 01103. (EL)

The Free Library of Philadelphia has the following maps available to anyone that wants them:

1. BENELUX--Ravenstein--1:500,000--1985/86
2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA--Pocket Map--1:800,000--1979/80
3. GERMANY--Ravenstein--1:800,000--1985/86
4. DENMARK--Ravenstein--1:500,000--1985
5. NETHERLANDS--Ravenstein--1:400,000--1986

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6. NORWAY--Ravenstein--1:800,000--1986/87
7. ROMANIA/BULGARIA--Ravenstein--1:1,000,000--1983/84
8. SCOTLAND--Ravenstein--1:500,000--1984
9. SPAIN/PORTUGAL--Ravenstein--1:1,000,000--1985/86
10. VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, LAOS AND THAILAND--National Geographic--1967

If you are interested, please write or call Rich Boardman at Free Library of Philadelphia, 1901 Vine St., Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel.: 215/686-5397.

EHRENBERG NEW CHIEF OF LC'S GEOGRAPHY AND MAP DIVISION


"Mr. Ehrenberg has served as acting chief of the Geography and Map Division since March 1991, and as assistant chief since October 1979. The division, with a staff of 42 persons, is responsible for maintaining the Library's comprehensive collections of four million maps and charts, 52,000 atlases, and 7 million remote sensing images. It is the largest map library in the world.

"From 1966 to 1979, Mr. Ehrenberg was associated with the Cartographic and Architectural Branch of the National Archives and Records Service; he served as director of that division from 1972 to 1979. Previously he was a cartographer and photogrammist with the U.S. Aeronautical Chart and Information Center (now the U.S. Defense Mapping Agency - Aerospace Center).

"Mr. Ehrenberg serves as the Library of Congress member to the United States Board on Geographic Names and is chairman of the Board. Since 1983 he has been the Geography and Map Division's representative to the International Federation of Library Associations, Geography and Map Libraries Section. He also represents the Library on the U.S. National Committee for the International Geographical Union, is a corresponding member of the International Cartographic Association's Standing Commission on the History of Cartography, and serves on the Advisory Council of the International Map Collector's Society.
His publications include *Scholar's Guide to Washington, D.C. for Cartography and Remote Sensing Imagery* (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1987); *The Mapping of America* (Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1980); and more than 30 other monographs, essays, bibliographies, articles, and exhibition catalogs. Currently he is on the editorial boards of Meridian and Terrae Incognitae. He also serves as a series editor for " *Exploring the American West: A Smithsonian Reprint Series*," which is published by the Smithsonian Institution Press.

"A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Ehrenberg received both bachelor's and master's degrees from that institution. His major fields of study were history and geography. He was a Council on Library Resources Fellow in 1973 and the recipient of a six-month study grant from the U.S. Department of Education and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars for 1984-85. He received National Archives and Records Service Commendable Service Awards in 1971 and 1978. Mr. Ehrenberg served with the U.S. Navy from 1955-58."

(Library of Congress Press Release #91-173, submitted by NBu and HD)

**ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT**

The following is an excerpt from a report on the joint meeting of the British Cartographic Society and the International Cartographic Association held in Southampton, England, on September 5-8, 1991. The report was written by Alberta Auringer Wood and originally appeared as a message on the electronic discussion group MAPS-L.

This was the 28th annual technical symposium and included a workshop of the Map Curators Group. Dr. Andrew Tatham, Map Curator at Kings College, London, was the organizer for this workshop. He chaired it and gave an overview paper asking the questions:

1) How far have computers solved the map curators' problems?  
2) Have they merely created new problems? and  
3) What can you do if there is little prospect for change?
Regarding the first question he queried those present about their situation in 1981 and now. More than ten people indicated that in 1981 they were only using manual cataloging methods and three indicated they were planning on how to use automation; while in 1991 four or more were actively automating, two or more were experimenting with automation, three were planning for it, and four were still using manual means.

The next speaker was Murray Parkin, Higher Mapping & Charting Officer, M.R.L.G., who spoke on "MODMAP: a practical experience of advancing from sheet card to computers." This is a tremendous project to convert the cataloguing for a collection of about 900,000 maps, and an annual accession rate of ca. 20,000 items, from a 20 element manual system to a 69 element computer system. At the moment, 40 contract staff are working in two shifts with eight regular staff who compute coordinates and generate series records. Mr. Parkin outlined the pitfalls, such as increased cataloguing time, and the advantages, such as data retrieval.

Then Chris Perkins, Map Curator & Hon. Lecturer, Dept. of Geography, University of Manchester, and Philip Guest, Research Associate, John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester, gave a presentation on "Cutting Corners in Automated Map Library Systems". They noted the problems with using MARC, and felt that a critical issue is cost, having found that half an hour was the average input time for a thematic map. The inventory of machine readable map cataloguing records was noted and 25 replies have been received from 60 forms sent out. They indicated that the advantages of using automated systems to catalogue spatial data outweighed the disadvantages.

The final speaker of the afternoon was Dr. Tatham who discussed "A European View". This was an overview of automated map cataloguing systems in Europe based upon the biennial meeting of the Groupe des Cartothecaires of LIBER that he’d attended in Paris in the autumn of 1990. Progress is being made at the University of Ghent (as a supplement), University of Oslo, in Switzerland, at Leiden and the Royal Library in the Netherlands, and in France (most impressive of the systems discussed, he felt).

Please send map cataloging news to Katherine L. Rankin, Catalog Dept., Library, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89154 or to my email address krankin@nevada2.bitnet or krankin@nevada.edu (Internet).
NEW MEMBERS

Hello! Here are the latest new members: Winifred E. Harris (Abbotsford, BC, Canada), Catherine VanSonnenberg (La Jolla, CA), Susan A. Foster (Cedar Lake, IN), and F. Alden Moberg, (Salem, OR). Welcome! We hope that we’ll have a chance to meet you at ALA! Come to some of the meetings and receptions! We’re always happy to see new people.

KAIN AND BAIGENT
WIN NEBENZAHL PRIZE

(From announcement by James R. Akerman)

"Last month, on the occasion of the Tenth Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr. Lectures in the History of Cartography, it was announced that the Nebenzahl Prize had been awarded to Roger Kain of the University of Exeter (England) and Elizabeth Baigent of Oxford University for their work entitled Cadastral Maps in the Service of the State: A History of Property Mapping in Europe and Her Colonies. This book is now at the University of Chicago Press for publication.

The Smith Center established the Nebenzahl Prize in 1978 for book-length manuscripts in the history of cartography. Submissions for this award may be sent at any time to the Smith Center. Any manuscript judged worthy of the Prize will be published by the University of Chicago Press, and the Prize carries a monetary award of $1,500. The first Nebenzahl Prize was awarded to Professor Josef Konvitz of Michigan State University. His book Cartography in France, 1660-1848: Science Engineering, and Statecraft was published in 1987." (JRA)

**Atlas of Newfoundland and Labrador.** St. John's, Newfoundland: Breakwater, 1991. $34.95 plus $3 s&h. Available from Breakwater, P.O. Box 2188, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 6E6, Canada.


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Nuhfer, Edward and Mary Dalles. A Guidebook to the Geology of Lake Superior's Apostle Islands. Platteville, WI: Nuhfer and Dalles, 1991. $5.50, $7.00 if a purchase order. Order from Nuhfer and Dalles, 1554 West Main St., Platteville, WI 53818. (NB)


The Samuel Thornton Sea Atlas. 172 charts on 22 color microfiche. $450 (includes s&h). Published by MicroColor International, Inc., 85 Godwin Ave., Midland Park, NJ 07432. A MicroColor 6100 Map Reader is also available from the same company for $695 plus s&h.


CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note that Katherine Rankin, Cataloging Editor for base line and Chair of the Membership Committee, has a new mailing address: 3189 Brazos St., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Her telephone number remains the same: 702/739-3062.
FROM THE CHAIR

As I write this "From the Chair" column, the temperature outside is in the single digits and the wind chill is, well you don't want to know! However, Midwinter is only one week away, as is the hope of a warm climate in San Antonio. We can only hope!

Speaking of Midwinter, by the time you read this column Midwinter will have come and gone and, with any luck, it will have been a successful and productive set of meetings. For those of you who attended Midwinter this year, I would appreciate your comments and input on the shortened schedule for MAGERT meetings (having the meetings end on Monday instead of Tuesday). I will pass on you comments to Pat McGlamery so that he can take this into account when he does the schedule next year.

In this issue you will find a preliminary schedule--and I stress preliminary--for the Annual Conference in San Francisco. The San Francisco Planning Committee will have met during Midwinter and a more definite schedule will be one result of their deliberations. I will include updated and revised San Francisco schedules in the April and June issues of base line (I will also post the schedule on MAPS-L and GOVDOC-L).

Also in this issue is the information on the MAGERT/GODORT Hotel for San Francisco. The hotel for San Francisco is the Savoy Hotel. A special thanks to LaVonne Jacobsen, who found the hotel and made all of the arrangements. The information that LaVonne provided is very detailed and complete and should answer any questions you might have.

Although it may seem a long way off, San Francisco and the Annual Conference will be here before you know it. Keeping that in mind, please give some thought to serving on any of the MAGERT Committees and Task Forces. Inform the respective chair and/or coordinator, Pat McGlamery, or myself if you are interested in becoming more active in MAGERT. If Pat and the chairs and coordinators have names early on, it will make the appointment process so much easier and efficient.

That's all for now. Enjoy the rest of the issue.

Jim Walsh
Chair, MAGERT

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The MAGERT/GODORT Hotel will be the Savoy Hotel, located at 580 Geary Street (between Taylor St. and Jones St.). The Savoy Hotel is 2½ blocks from Union Square and about 8 blocks from the Moscone Convention Center. The major block of rooms is set aside from Friday, June 26, 1992 through Tuesday night, June 30, 1992. A smaller block of rooms is available for June 24th and 25th and for July 1st -- 3rd.

***Call the Savoy Hotel directly to make reservations***
(1-800-227-4223)

**Room Rate:**

$89.00/night + 11% tax

Rooms have a queen-size bed or two twin beds. The hotel has just been refurbished in the European manner -- including feather beds and pillows. Persons with allergies may request no feathers. You may also request a smoking or non-smoking room while choices remain.

Reserve early to get your preferences! The rooms and group rate will be held no longer than Sunday, May 24, 1992. Be sure to specify the Map and Geography Round Table or Government Documents Round Table to get the special group rate.

Transportation: The hotel may be able to include a discount Supper Shuttle coupon with the reservation confirmation mailed to you for airport transportation. The hotel parking costs $16.00 per day. Public transportation passes are available for 3 days ($10.00) or 7 days ($15.00). As the cable cars cost $2.00, these can be a good bargain. (Muni transit rates are subject to change, of course).

The Savoy Hotel has been beautifully renovated to reflect its original 1915 elegance when it was built by the Gumps (an important San Francisco import/department store family). Continental breakfast is included as well as an afternoon tea and sherry on the Mezzanine. One of the best restaurants in town, the Brasserie Savoy, is...
part of the hotel. The chef and the restaurant/bar have been critically acclaimed for its seafood and for its French-inspired ambience.

LaVonne Jacobsen
J. Paul Leonard Library
San Francisco State University
415-338-7053

MAGERT ALA ANNUAL
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

*****PRELIMINARY*****
June 26, 1992 -- July 1, 1992

Friday, June 26, 1992
8:00 p.m. -- 11:00 p.m. Open house, MAGERT Suite, Savoy Hotel

Saturday, June 27, 1992
8:00 a.m. -- 9:00 a.m. MAGERT Executive Board I (Jim Walsh)
9:30 a.m. -- 12:30 p.m. **GODORT Federal Documents Task Force Update
11:30 a.m. -- 12:30 p.m. Constitution and Bylaws Committee (Jenny John-
son)
Education Committee (Jim O'Donnell)
Maps in Small Libraries Task Force (Ann Sanders)

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New Members and Executive Board Lunch (Jim Walsh). {All are welcome}. Place to be announced.

MAGERT Program #1: To be announced.

No Conflict Time; ALA Opening General Session

Sunday, June 28, 1992

ALA Fun Run/Walk

Cataloging and Classification Committee (Chris Kollen)
GeoTech Committee (April Carlucci)
Publications Committee I (Peter Stark)

Cartographic Statistics Task Force (Charley Seavey)
**RBMS/GODORT/MAGERT Joint Committee on Rare Documents (Jim Walsh)
Membership Committee I (Kathy Rankin)

MAGERT Program #2 (Co-sponsored by GODORT): TIGER and 1990 Census Data; or How to Handle a Wild Cat! (Jim Walsh)

ALCTS/CCS/MAGERT Map Cataloging Discussion Group (Nancy Kandoian) Monday, June 29, 1992

**CIS Breakfast

MAGERT General Membership Meeting I (Jim Walsh)

Publications Committee II (Peter Stark)
Research Libraries Acquisitions Group Task Force (Mary Larsgaard)
2:00 p.m. -- 4:00 p.m. MAGERT Program #3: Maps for General Library Collections; or You can Get There from Here (April Carlucci)

4:30 p.m. -- 5:30 p.m. Cartographic Users Advisory Committee (Alice Hudson)
Membership Committee II (Kathy Rankin)
New Orleans/1993 Conference Planning Committee (Pat McGlamery)
Publications Committee III (Peter Stark)

7:00 p.m. -- 10:00 p.m. MAGERT Reception, UC Berkeley Map Collection (This will take place at the same time as a GODORT Reception, which will take place at the UC Berkeley Documents Collection. (The exact time and room locations will be published in a subsequent revision of this schedule.)

8:00 p.m. -- 10:00 p.m. No Conflict Time; ALA Membership Meeting I

Tuesday, June 30, 1992

8:00 a.m. -- 9:00 a.m. MAGERT Executive Board, II (Jim Walsh)

9:30 a.m. -- 12:30 p.m. MAGERT General Membership Meeting II (Jim Walsh)

12:30 p.m. -- 2:30 p.m. Lunch and debriefing (NOTE: An afternoon field trip may be scheduled for this afternoon and in lieu of the lunch/debriefing. We are looking at a trip to U.S. Corps of Engineers in Sausalito and a visit to their Stream Table: The Bay Area Hydrographic Model (scale 1' = 1 mile).

Wednesday, July 1, 1992

8:00 a.m. -- 8:00 p.m. MAGERT field trip to Hopland, CA and the Fetzer Winery and the Tattinger (Champagne) Winery (Wendy Hassibe)

**These are meetings which are not scheduled by MAGERT but, traditionally, have been held on these days and times. These times will be confirmed when the master schedule is received from ALA Conference Planning.

base line 13(1): 18
This publication is finally starting to look like its old self! I hope the type is easier to read; I increased the font size a bit. We're trying a bulk-mail experiment with this issue as a cost-reduction measure. Those of you who have e-mail, would you please let me know when your issue arrives? My address is njb@psulias

About Contributing Editors... They are people who submit material that is used in base line. These can be news releases, citations, comments, short articles or bibliographies (Margaret Brill's recent TIGER bibliography comes to mind), or anything else that might be of use and/or interest to the readers. Without people taking the time to put contributions in the mail, base line could not function. Occasionally there are initials within an issue which are not listed under Contributing Editors. This means that the contributor is listed elsewhere: either as a feature editor or as a MAGERT officer. If two people contribute the same item, I list both people as contributors. I hope this clarifies matters, and I apologize for not responding personally to the person who asked (I lost the letter.)

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GREAT MOMENTS IN MAP LIBRARIANSHIP

SOMWHERE IN THE DEPTHS OF A FEDERAL BUREAUCRATIC AGENCY...

THOSE MAP LIBRARIANS SURE ARE A PESKY BUNCH!

I'LL SAY! NO MATTER HOW MANY MAPS WE SEND THEM ON THE DEPOSITORY PROGRAM, THEY KEEP DEMANDING MORE!

I KNOW WHAT'LL GET 'EM!
LET'S PUT OUT A VOLUMINOUS SET OF LARGE-SCALE MAPS SHOWING SOMETHING TOTALLY MEANINGLESS, AND UPDATE IT FREQUENTLY!!

YEAH! AND WE'LL DELAY SHIPPING THE NEW EDITIONS SO THAT BY THE TIME THEY'RE RECEIVED THEY'LL BE OUT-OF-DATE!

JIM COOMBS 1/92

HEY! IT'S THE 40s! WON'T YOU HAVE TO PUT IT ON CD 55

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