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FROM THE CHAIR
Steve Rogers, Ohio State University

The Midwinter meetings in San Diego have ended—along with the 70-degree weather for many of us. It’s now February and that means those of us in the East and Midwest have returned to snow and freezing temperatures. But I’m happy to report that the MAGERT meetings went well, the Southern California weather was fantastic, and the scenery was striking at the 2004 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Diego.

For a number of members the conference began with the traditional Friday night MAGERT reception, held on the 16th floor in the Skyline Room of the Holiday Inn Harbor View. The reception was sponsored in part by a generous contribution from Map Link of Santa Barbara, California. At the reception MAGERT members were able to meet new colleagues and relax and reminisce with old friends from around the country. There was plenty of food and drink, and the room, with its large windows, provided us with a unique view of both the San Diego Harbor and a steady progression of planes landing at the busy San Diego Airport.

The next three days were filled with meetings, topped off Monday afternoon with a field trip to the San Diego Aerospace Museum Library and Archives. The museum library, founded in 1980, maintains a large collection of books, periodicals, and microfilm devoted to civilian and military aircraft, as well as the history of aviation in California, with an emphasis on the San Diego area. It also houses a large collection of photographs, brochures, scrapbooks, slides, and aircraft and engine manuals. One category of material in the library of particular interest to MAGERT members—of course!—was a collection of silk maps, used by Allied pilots during World War II.

ALA’s next conference will take place in sunny Orlando, Florida in June of this year. Plans are already underway for several MAGERT programs, including a presentation for the non-map librarian on how to find, work with, and use maps and other spatial data. A second program will be a general interest program based on Florida geography—focusing on immigration issues, hurricanes, and sinkholes. A third program will examine several scanning projects conducted at the University of Florida Map & Imagery Library, including the scanning of pre-1923 Sanborn fire insurance maps. Things are shaping up for an interesting and enjoyable conference. So make sure your summer plans include attending the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando.

The collection of survey data for the 3rd edition of the Guide to U.S. Map Re
sources continues. Chris Thiry, editor of the Guide, has extended the deadline for receiving surveys until March 31, 2004. If you know that your library has not yet completed and submitted a survey form for the new Guide, please do so or encourage the person responsible for the map collection in your library to send in the form by the end of March. The online survey can be found at http://www.mines.edu/library/maproom/forms/US_guide_survey.html

At this time I also must mention some discouraging news regarding MAGERT’s finances. As I have noted previously in this column, over the past several years there has been a continual decrease in MAGERT’s end-of-year balance. (This is the amount of money MAGERT carries over from one fiscal year to the next.) One of the principal reasons for the steady decline in our overall balance is the fact that for the past several years MAGERT has had no new publications for sale. New publications add to MAGERT’s revenues. (Other chief sources of income include member dues, MAGERT-sponsored workshops, and contributions.) Without new publications bringing in income, our organization’s yearly ending balance continues to decline. With a new Guide to U.S. Map Resources in the works and one or two other publications in their early stages, our financial picture should improve over the next few years. However, there is no guarantee of this, and the ALA Office of Finance has told me it is concerned about MAGERT’s finances. A couple of ways to address this situation is to have a dues increase and a corresponding increase in the price of base line for non-members—both possibilities discussed at recent MAGERT board meetings. MAGERT’s dues have remained at $15 (personal) and $45 (institutional) for the past decade. The price of base line for non-members has also remained at $15 for more than ten years. The Executive Board continues to study this issue and may make a recommendation regarding member dues and base line subscription rates for non-members at the Annual Conference in Orlando. Any proposed dues increase would need to be approved by members at the general membership meeting in Orlando. I will keep you informed of any developments regarding this issue.

DISCUSSION GROUP LEADER NEEDED

MAGERT is looking for a volunteer to serve as coordinator for its Research Libraries Collection Management Discussion Group. This discussion group, which meets at both the Midwinter Meeting and at the Annual Conference, is a forum for discussion (and possible action) on collection management issues concerning maps and other spatial data. The coordinator sets the topic(s) and facilitates discussion at the 2 annual meetings. If you are interested in volunteering for this position, please contact Steve Rogers at Ohio State University, Map Room, 211 Main Library, 1858 Neil Ave. Mall, Columbus, OH 43201. phone: 614.688.8774 e-mail: rogers.20@osu.edu
IFLA REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED

MAGERT is seeking a candidate to run for the position of MAGERT Representative to the IFLA Geography & Maps Standing Committee for the four-year term beginning in 2005. IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, meets once each year, usually in the late summer. A candidate for this position should be an expert in the field and should have a reasonable expectation of attending meetings of the Geography & Maps Standing Committee without cost to IFLA or to ALA. (In the past MAGERT has assisted with transportation costs.) Future IFLA Conferences will be held in Oslo (2005), Seoul (2006), Durban (2007) and Québec (2008). If you are interested in standing for election to this position, please contact Steve Rogers at Ohio State University, Map Room, 211 Main Library, 1858 Neil Ave. Mall, Columbus, OH 43201. phone: 614.688.8774 e-mail: rogers.20@osu.edu

WELCOME NEW MAGERT MEMBERS!

MAGERT wishes to extend a welcome to the following new members registered with ALA from June through November of 2003. We hope their association with us and with map librarianship is long and fruitful, and we welcome them to become actively involved with the Round Table.

Jennifer B. Baker
Ravenna, OH

Kimberly Black-Parker
Tallahassee, FL

Douglas M. Campbell
Denton, TX

Ralph L. Erickson
Midvale, UT

Mary B. Hines
Pflugerville, TX

Andrea J. Japzon
Baltimore, MD

Karen A. Kuhn
Ann Arbor, MI

Leigh Mihlrad,
Albany, NY

Iqbal Mohammed
Kitchener, ON, Canada

Kate Simpson Moriarty
Chapel Hill, NC

Bill Olbrich
St. Louis, MO

Rachel Leigh Plaisted
Clarence Center, NY

Maryann Putt
Montgomery, AL

Suzan Marie Rawlings-Meyer
Hutto, TX

Joe Salem
Kent, OH

Gwen Sinclair
Honolulu, HI

Ann Smith
Berwick, Canada

Judy Strebel
Oakland, CA

Dean Walton
Richmond, VA

base line 25(1): 6
EXECUTIVE BOARD I MINUTES
ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Diego
Saturday, January 10, 2004

Present: Steve, Rogers, Dan Seldin, Mary McInroy, T. Wangyal Shawa, David Allen, Susan Moore, Carolyn Kadri, Richard Fox, Dorothy McGarry

Minutes of ALA 2003 Annual meetings, which appeared in the August and October issues of *base line*, were approved.

Announcements:

Steve Rogers reported that the MAGERT reception held on Friday, Jan. 9, 2004 at the Holiday Inn Harbor View in San Diego went well. Attendance was low, but the event was, nonetheless, enjoyable.

Mike Furlough has agreed to serve as the Acting Treasurer of MAGERT, replacing Mark Crotteau, until elections are held in the Spring.

The MAGERT Field Trip to the San Diego Aerospace Museum Library & Archives will take place on Monday, January 12, from 2:00–4:00.

New Business:

Round Table Coordinating Assembly

Steve Rogers and Susan Moore attended an ALA Round Table Coordinating Assembly meeting on Friday, January 9. This assembly serves as a conduit for information among Round Tables and units within ALA. Among other items, budgetary issues were discussed. Carol Kem of the ALA Budget Analysis and Review Committee (BARC) praised the annual BARC Financial Planning Seminar (held at every Midwinter Meeting) and urged Round Tables to send either their Chair or their Treasurer to this practical and useful seminar held on the Friday of ALA Midwinter. She also asked that, if the Round Table has a listserv, she be put on it, so that she can be aware of budgetary items that come up. [Danielle Alderson, the ALA Liaison to MAGERT, offered to set up such a listserv.]

Also discussed at the meeting was the ALA/Round Table policy on endorsing candidates for ALA offices. The policy strongly states that ALA (and this means Round Table) funds CANNOT be used to endorse specific candidates. The current policy may be reexamined by ALA Council this spring.

Map Libraries Interest Group at CUAC

David Alan raised the issue of proposing a resolution to the representatives of the other map libraries that attend the Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC) Annual Meeting, that a regular meeting be established during that meeting to discuss matters of mutual concern. The Executive Board discussed the proposal and asked David to draft the resolution and bring it to the Executive Board II Meeting to be held on Tuesday, Jan. 13.
motion on the resolution was deferred until then.

**IFLA Representative**

Steve Rogers announced that by June 2004 MAGERT must submit a nominee for membership as a new representative to the IFLA Geography & Maps Standing Committee, to replace Alice Hudson, whose term expires in 2005. IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, meets once each year, usually in the late summer. The new term will run from 2005 to 2009 with the potential for renewal for another four years. A candidate for this position should be an expert in the field and should have a reasonable expectation of attending meetings of the Geography & Maps Standing Committee without cost to IFLA or to ALA. (In the past MAGERT has assisted with transportation costs.) Future IFLA Conferences will be held in Oslo (2005), Seoul (2006), Durban (2007) and Québec (2008).

**MAGERT Budget Issues**

Steve introduced the topic of MAGERT declining assets. The Round Table’s account has been steadily losing money at a rate of about $1000 per year. The chief money makers for the organization have been members’ dues and the sale of publications. Since no new publications have come out in the last few years, most of the current income is from dues. While membership and income from dues has remained about the same, this is not enough to cover current expenses, which include issuing base line, AV for meetings, receptions, etc.

As a solution to this problem, it was suggested that MAGERT dues might be raised from $15 to $18 or even $20. Another suggestion was that we could sell t-shirts at ALA 2004 Annual in Orlando. Steve said he was eager to pursue the idea of creating a t-shirt with anyone who is interested.

**Education Committee Chair**

David Allen is stepping down as the Chair of the MAGERT Education Committee. Executive Board members were invited to submit nominations for a new chair of that committee.

Meeting was adjourned.

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**EXECUTIVE BOARD II MINUTES**

**ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Diego**

**Tuesday, January 13, 2004**

**Present:** Steve Rogers (Chair), Dan Seldin, Mary McInroy, Michael Leach, Carolyn Kadri, Richard Fox, T. Wangyal Shawa, David Allen, Nancy Kandoian, Susan Moore, Betsy Eggleston

base line 25(1): 8
Guest: Michael Gorman, Candidate for Vice President/President Elect of ALA

Announcements:

Steve Rogers asked for feedback from members on whether there had been any scheduling problems during the conference. The only reported problem was with the Executive Board I meeting on Jan. 9: the room assignment had been changed without prior notice to committee members.

Michael Gorman, candidate for Vice President/President Elect of ALA spoke briefly to the committee about his candidacy.

IFLA Representative

Steve Rogers announced that by June 2004 MAGERT must submit a nominee for membership as a new representative to the IFLA Geography & Maps Standing Committee, to replace Alice Hudson, whose term expires in 2005. IFLA, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, meets once each year, usually in the late summer. The new term will run from 2005-2009 with the potential for renewal for another four years. A candidate for this position should be an expert in the field and should have a reasonable expectation of attending meetings of the Geography & Maps Standing Committee without cost to IFLA or to ALA. (In the past MAGERT has assisted with transportation costs.) Future IFLA Conferences will be held in Oslo (2005), Seoul (2006), Durban (2007) and Québec (2008).

Map Libraries Interest Group at CUAC

David Allen brought before the Board a resolution aimed at promoting a regular meeting at the Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC) Annual Meeting that would be a venue for cooperation among map librarians. The resolution was discussed and suggestions were made for some revisions in the original wording. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the resolution in the following form:

Whereas, there are many areas in which organizations concerned with maps and map librarians might work together to achieve common goals, including publications, online projects, and sponsored workshops; therefore, the MAGERT Executive Board requests its representatives at the Cartographic Users Advisory Council to propose that representatives of member organization discuss matters of mutual concern at CUAC meetings.

Issues from Committee Meetings

Karl Longstreth has announced that he is interested in stepping down as the convener of the Research Libraries (Map) Collection Management Discussion Group. Steve Rogers will put a note in base line asking for a volunteer to replace Karl in that position.

David Allen will be stepping down as chair of the Education Committee. Scott McEathron will be the new chair of that committee.
In the Publications Committee, David Allen has proposed that the MAGERT web site provide a venue for an irregular online serial, which he is tentatively calling Cartographic Contributions. This publication would contain articles on map librarianship, cartography, and on maps in general. The articles would be scholarly, above the level of what would be normally published in *base line*, more along the lines of the former MAGERT publication, *Meridian*, but without book reviews. Articles could be published with color illustrations. It would be peer reviewed and would therefore require a review board. Copyright would be left to the author, allowing him to use this as a sounding board for articles that might later be developed for other publications. David has volunteered to serve as editor. A resolution was passed by the Executive Board, authorizing the Publications Committee to publish the online serials as described above.

Other business from the Publications Committee included a proposal from David Allen and Melissa Lamont that we explore the possibility of digitizing back issues of the ceased publication, *Meridan*. Melissa has expressed a willingness to scan the issues and make them available on the MAGERT website. If the Executive Board agrees, the Publications Committee will discuss more specific questions, such as whether or not the issues would be searchable and what form they would take. The members of the Executive Board discussed possible problems, such as loss of revenue from sales of the hard copy and copyright issues. The general consensus among Board members was that the impact on MAGERT income would be minimal. The Executive Board turned the matter back to the Publications Committee, consenting to the proposal, with minor concern about revenue. The Publications Committee will also confirm that *Meridan* holds the copyright to the articles published in it.

Meeting was adjourned.

Betsy Eggleston, 
Secretary

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**CHANGES TO USGS PUBLICATION SERIES**

*Posted to GovDoc-L on January 16 by Hui Hua Chua of Michigan State (relying a posting to GeoNet by Nancy Blair of the USGS).*

The U.S. Geological Survey has made significant changes in its publication series. A Fact Sheet will be published soon on the revisions.

You can send your questions about the changes to me ([nblair@usgs.gov](mailto:nblair@usgs.gov)) and I will answer them or direct them to someone who can.

Nancy Blair, Chief Librarian  
U.S. Geological Survey Library  
[nblair@usgs.gov](mailto:nblair@usgs.gov)  
703-648-4305
REVISED USGS SERIES

The increased emphasis on an interdisciplinary approach to research has led the U.S. Geological Survey to revise its scientific publication series.

The series resulting from this change are designed to accommodate a broad range of research topics in biology, geology, geography, and hydrology.


The following titles will be discontinued and absorbed into the revised series: Biological Science Report; Bulletin; Digital Data Series; Geologic Investigations Series (I-maps); Hydrologic Investigations Atlas (HA-maps); Information and Technology Report; Miscellaneous Field Studies Map (MF-maps); Techniques of Water Resources Investigations (TWRI); Topographic Instructions; and Water Resources Investigations (WRI).

The list below outlines the scope of the revised series and their relationship with the discontinued titles.

**CIRCULAR**
Scope: General science and public policy topics related to the mission of the USGS
Numbering: No change
Example: Circular 2345

**DATA SERIES**
Scope: Release of basic data sets, databases, computer programs, etc.
Incorporates: Digital Data Series; Information and Technology Report
Numbering: Continues the numbering of Digital Data Series, without the DDS prefix
Example: Data Series 55

**FACT SHEET**
Scope: Brief descriptions of USGS science and products
Numbering: Uses year-number; numbers start with 3001+
Example: Fact Sheet 2004-3001

**GENERAL INFORMATION PRODUCT**
Scope: Topics of general interest in a variety of formats (pamphlets, postcards, posters, bookmarks, teacher kits, etc.)
Numbering: Sequential
Example: General Information Product 1
**Professional Paper**
Scope: Premier series of the USGS containing comprehensive scientific reports
Incorporates: Biological Science Report
Numbering: No change
Example: Professional Paper 3456

**Open-File Report**
Scope: Interpretive information that must be released immediately, preliminary information, or information that does not warrant release in one of the other USGS series
Numbering: Uses year-number; numbers start with 1001+
Example: Open-File Report 2004-1001

**Scientific Investigations Map**
Scope: Scientific results of studies presented as maps, charts, stratigraphic sections, or other large illustrations
Incorporates: Geologic Investigations Series (I-maps)  
Hydrologic Investigations Atlases (HA-maps)  
Miscellaneous Field Studies Maps (MF-maps)  
Water Resources Investigations Report (WRI) maps
Numbering: Continues the numbering of I-maps, without the I-prefix
Example: Scientific Investigations Map 2456

**Scientific Investigations Report**
Scope: Significant data and interpretations of lasting scientific interest but generally narrower in scope than Professional Papers
Incorporates: Biological Science Report  
Bulletin  
Information and Technology Report  
Water Resources Investigations Report (WRI)
Numbering: Uses year-number; numbers start with 5001+
Example: Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5001

**Techniques and Methods**
Scope: Descriptions of procedures for collection, analysis, or interpretation of scientific data
Incorporates: Information and Technology Report  
Techniques of Water Resources Investigations (TWRI)  
Topographic Instructions
Numbering: Continues the numbering of Techniques of Water Resources Investigations (TWRI)
Example: Techniques and Methods Book 8, Chapter A, Part 3
New Maps

In the Hood

All big cities (and many smaller ones) are divided into neighborhoods, those sections often named after geographical features, distinguishing landmarks, the ethnic background of their residents, or some historical event from a distant past. Most such neighborhoods have changing and ill-defined borders, and are notoriously difficult to indicate on a map. Out of such a discussion on neighborhoods grew the idea for “Big Stick Neighborhood Maps,” which attempt to locate and plot all the neighborhoods in several large cities. The author seems to have relied on a number of sources, particularly real estate brokers who, by economic necessity, are presumably more attuned to these sorts of questions. But the mapping process is fraught with difficulties, since even long-time residents would be hard pressed to come up with boundaries that all would agree upon.

In any case, these hand-drawn maps are colorful and fun, if not particularly precise. They are also light on street-level detail, usually indicating only those roads that form boundaries between neighborhoods. Maps are currently available for Chicago, Boston-Brookline-Cambridge, Milwaukee, Minneapolis-St. Paul, St. Louis, and Seattle. (There is also an interesting Archdiocese of Chicago Parishes map.) The Chicago Neighborhood Map is in its second edition, corrected and expanded, evidently in response to much critical comment. All the maps measure approximately 26 x 39" and sell for $25 (S&H included). While they certainly cannot be taken as definitive references, they are likely to be of interest to past and current inhabitants of the mapped cities, and would also make good gifts for urban-dwellers, map lovers or not. Sample images and further information can be found at http://www.bigstickinc.com

Rough Maps

Rough Guides, one of the better travel guide series, has begun publishing a new line of maps. They are designed to compliment the guides but can also serve as nice reference maps. The maps are created by the World Mapping Project, a German publisher that went under the name Ray Maphouse when it issued its first maps a few years ago. Their maps are noted for their fine cartography, detailed yet clear and attractive, and the Rough Guide series, while similar, has improved on the originals.

A comparison of the Rough Guide map of Cuba, published in September 2003, with the original World Mapping Project version issued in 2000 shows several significant differences. While the cartography seems nearly identical...
at first glance, there are many changes evident on close inspection. Most apparent is the increase in the number of places identified on the map. The depiction of roads is also different, and even the typography varies. While the scale (1:850K) and size (24 x 36") of the two-sided maps are the same, the Rough Guide version includes a comprehensive place-name index along the bottom of the sheet, increasing its overall size by several inches. And most significantly, the Rough Guide maps are printed on rip-proof and waterproof Polyart paper, a great advantage if the maps are heavily used.

Some 17 city and 20 country and area maps are currently available. Many of the country maps focus on less-commonly mapped (but evidently frequently traveled) places such as Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Morocco, Sri Lanka, Tenerife, and Trinidad & Tobago. The city maps are not so distinctive, covering the usual tourist spots—Paris, Rome, Amsterdam, Brussels, Prague, etc. All the Rough Guides maps sell for $8.95 and are available from most online book dealers. A complete list of titles can be found on their web site. http://www.roughguides.com

Walls and Settlements

East View Cartographic is offering several maps dealing with Israeli settlements in the West Bank and the controversial fence barrier that is being constructed between Israeli and Palestinian areas. The map of Israeli Settlement Locations, produced by the “Peace Now” organization, shows the names and locations of over 100 settlements in the disputed areas, including those established before and after the February 2001 election, dismantled settlements, and those established after the Aqaba summit of June 2003.

The Wall in the West Bank, a 1:250K map developed by “Palestine Land Development Information Systems,” shows the existing and projected location of the separation fence, with Israeli and Palestinian settlement areas indicated. Another map, compiled by “B’Tselem, the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories,” is done at a 1:150K scale and shows similar information on the completed and projected fence line and the settlement areas. As always, the political agenda of their creators has to be taken into account when considering the accuracy and content of these maps. All are available from East View as raster images for $49.95 or as 21 x 31" laminated paper plots for $69.95 each. http://www.cartographic.com

While I admire East View’s entrepreneurial spirit in creating these products, their pricing methods are always a concern. A little digging on the Internet will locate the sources of these maps, and libraries with access to a color plotter can produce their own versions for considerably less expense. For example, The Wall in the West Bank map, among others, is available for downloading at the website of “Stop the Wall: The Grassroots Palestinian Anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign” http://stopthewall.org, and settlement
maps can be found on the B’Telem site http://www.btselem.org.

The Road to Kashgar

I admit that I had not heard of *The Karakoram Highway* until I saw this title listed on Omni’s website. The “highway” is a road that runs through northern Pakistan from Islamabad to Kashgar in southwestern China. The spectacular mountain scenery along the route apparently appeals to adventure travelers (a term that will never be applied to me). The author, John Callahan, responsible for the “survey, footwork, and artwork,” has spent years traveling along this “China/Pakistan Friendship Highway” which runs through a corner of the world that is seldom mapped this well.

The cartography on the 1:1M, 33 x 24" folded map, which uses hypsometric tinting for elevations, is very clear, uncluttered, and quite attractive. One of the most interesting and useful features are the inset maps, most at 1:10K, of some 15 towns along the route—places like Yarkand, Gulmit, Karimabad, Gilgit, and Rawalpindi—that I guarantee are not to be easily found elsewhere. Printed on heavy paper for those who might be daring enough to travel there, it’s also a great map for armchair adventurers. $24.95 from Omni Resources. http://www.omnimap.com

Karto Atelier of Switzerland, aka Gecko Maps, has produced an excellent new map of *Cambodia*. One of the few devoted solely to that country, and the most detailed, the 26 x 36", 1:750K map has attractive cartography, legends in several languages, and insets on Provinces of Cambodia, distances, climate, etc. On one side is a map of the entire country, while the reverse features a good 15K-scale map of Phnom Penh, maps of several other cities, and one of the Angkor Wat Area. $15.95 from Omni.

For those who just can’t get enough of Lewis & Clark, Time Traveler Maps has a new poster map. *Lewis & Clark and the Corps of Discovery 1803-1806* is definitely more poster than map, with the route of the explorers nicely traced but overwhelmed by historical notes and the beautiful artwork of “renowned Western historical artist” Glen Hopkinson that covers the 26 x 36" sheet. Any history buff would be proud to hang it on his wall. The “standard” edition retails for $17.95, while a “fine art print” on high quality paper is available for $39.95. http://www.mapz.com

Briefly Noted

Raven Press, which produces a series of beautiful state maps, has completed mapping all fifty with its new *North Dakota*. The 1:500k, 35 x 51" sheet sells for $30 ($50 laminated). Raven maps are particularly striking in their portrayal of elevation, so N.D. is perhaps not the best example of their fine artwork. Other recent (2002) additions to their line include Nebraska and Iowa (which aren’t exactly Switzerland either). Raven also produces a very attractive 35 x 58" “Countries of the World” map for $40. http://www.ravenmaps.com,

...
ITMB bills its new *Greenland* as “the only travel map of Greenland available.” The 1:1.5M scale map has lots of sidebars and footnotes on Greenland’s history and culture. Those who don’t like to drive in foreign countries will be heartened by the fact that no road information is included “because all intercity/village travel is done by either dogsled or helicopter.” $8.95 from MapLink or Omni.

**New Books**

* Historical Atlas of the Arctic. Derek Hayes. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre; Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2003. 208 p. $60 (ISBN: 1553650042; 0295983582). Canadian Derek Hayes has published several historical atlases dealing with northern climes, most recently the *Historical Atlas of Canada* (2002) which was somewhat unusual in its total reliance on original historical maps. The *Historical Atlas of the Arctic* follows the same model, using reproductions of over 300 historical maps to tell the story of the growth of our understanding of the far north from the earliest explorations to the present day. The 27 brief chapters touch on a variety of topics, but roughly follow a chronological arrangement. Some are only two or three pages, while a couple (those on the early 19th-century explorations of Ross and Parry and John Franklin, and on the later expeditions in search of the lost Franklin) are more extensive and seem to reflect the authors personal enthusiasms. The text, while interesting and well-written, takes up less that a fourth of the book. The emphasis is clearly on the maps, which are nicely displayed in color on an adequate 9 x 12.5" page size. And the maps are worth the attention. Many are unusual, seldom seen and rarely reproduced, and for this reason the atlas is a good addition to most collections.

* Charting Louisiana: Five Hundred Years of Maps. Edited by Alfred E. Lemmon, John T. Magill, and Jean R. Wiese. New Orleans: The Historic New Orleans Collection, 2003. 383 p. $95 (ISBN: 0917860470). This magnificently produced work on the mapping of Louisiana is one of those stunning works that would be impossible to publish at an affordable price without heavy outside funding. Fortunately The Historic New Orleans Collection, a museum, research center, and publisher focused on the history and culture of New Orleans and the Gulf South, has that kind of support. Six concise essays provide historical and cartographic background on Louisiana from the earliest discoveries along the Gulf Coast through the 20th century, but the accompanying images are the book’s real glory. The nearly two hundred maps and other illustrations, entirely in color, are beautifully reproduced on the highest quality paper (making it one of the heaviest books I’ve hefted in years). All the maps rate full-page (and often two-page) spreads over a very generous 12 x 15” sheet size. While the maps themselves are focused on a somewhat limited area, the book should appeal to anyone with an interest in cartography and history, or even fine printing. It would make a great addition to any
map collection, and an impressive gift for someone with connections to the Bayou State.

The Maryland State Archives Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland 1608-1908. Edward C. Papenfuse and Joseph M. Coale III. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003. 223 p. $69.95 (ISBN: 0801872359). This is a much-revised successor to The Hammond-Harwood House Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland, 1608-1908, published in 1982. It attempts to bring together “the best available examples of maps of Maryland from the earliest times to the modern era of map making.” While not quite as lavish as Charting Louisiana, described above, it’s still a very attractive book. There are significant improvements over the first edition, with increases in length (127 to 223 pages), the number of maps described (141 to 178), and even page size (11 x 14" to 12.5 x 14"), and many changes to the informative text. Perhaps most significantly, the map reproductions, mostly black and white in the earlier version, are now entirely in color and nicely printed on finer paper. Even if your library has the first edition, there are enough changes and improvements to make this a worthwhile acquisition.

Historical Atlases: The First Three Hundred Years, 1570-1870. Walter Goffart. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003. 512 p. $65 (ISBN: 0226300714). This labor of love by a respected medieval historian attempts to trace the origin and development of historical atlases from the 16th and 17th centuries through the 19th. Goffart devotes three chapters to a discussion of atlases produced in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, each of which is followed by a chapter reviewing history maps of the Middle Ages included in those atlases. Concluding the work is a catalog of nearly 800 maps and atlases, in an unusual arrangement that takes a while to decipher. This is an erudite, scholarly work, and one that has to be worked through slowly. While the writing is readable, it’s sometimes overwhelming in its detail. Most of the materials mentioned the average map person (myself included) will never come across, and even the author admits to not see some of this stuff himself despite visiting some 60 collections throughout the world. But there’s nothing else like it, and to use a reviewing cliché, it’s a book that will reward careful reading. For larger map collections, and dedicated map historians.

& Territory; People & Places; Colonial Societies; The Formation of National Societies; and The Challenge of Development, each with 25 to 30 subsections comprised of approximately two pages of text and one or more maps and charts. The nearly 400 color maps are straightforward and well-done, with emphasis placed on clearly conveying information rather than creating flashy graphics. But the best part of the work is the exceptional text, which is authoritative and comprehensive. The authors have succeeded in their stated aims of creating not only a cartographic reference work, but also “a book that can be read as an integrated history of Central America.” A necessary acquisition for almost any size collection.


_USA Today_ used to be called “McPaper” because of its fast-food-like qualities (quick read, brief articles, not too heavy or in-depth). Often accused of dumbing-down the news, someone once quipped that if it ever won a Pulitzer it would be for “best investigative paragraph.” _The World through Maps_ might be called a McMap history, since it provides an overview of the history of cartography, from the very beginnings (maps carved on rocks) to the present, with an absolute minimum amount of text. Fortunately Short, an academic geographer and author of _Representing the Republic: Mapping the United States 1600-1900_ (2000), knows his material, and the 77 brief essays on a wide range of topics are well-done. Most are standard fare, but a few surprises appear, e.g., “Indigenous Maps of Sub-Saharan Africa,” and “Maps as Propaganda.” But it’s still mighty difficult to adequately summarize subjects like “Scale and Projection,” “Maps of South America,” “19th-century City Maps,” and “Maps and the Military” in less than two pages of text. The writing is merely a framework for the 200 illustrations of maps, which are judiciously chosen and beautifully reproduced in color. While certainly not a reference work, it’s still an attractive introduction to maps for the beginner or casual browser, and a good gift idea.


I enjoy pictorial maps and other forms of “cartographical curiosities,” so I found this book particularly appealing. Difficult to describe, it’s basically a collection of imaginative and imaginary “maps,” although more traditional map folk might question whether some of the inclusions could even be considered cartographic. The text, what little there is, seems to be an afterthought, included mainly to break up the parade of illustrations. The maps, to put it mildly, are rather unusual, and many creep over to the wild and crazy side. But it’s certainly a fun book to browse through, and you’re not going to find many of these maps elsewhere. A great and reasonably-priced gift for the map enthusiast.

There was a recent discussion on MAPS-L concerning small-format world atlases [see below]. But if you want the biggest and, in the opinion of many, the best world atlas, the Times is still the king of the hill. A new 11th edition has just been released, but apparently only outside of the U.S. The reference maps and 72-page thematic introductory section have been completely updated from the 1999 10th edition. The 250 pages of maps are done in the distinctive Times cartographic style, and the gazetteer index lists over 200,000 place names. Sure it’s expensive, but if you can afford only one definitive atlas, this would be the best choice. Until it shows up in a U.S. edition, you can obtain a copy from British vendors, or order it online from amazon.co.uk where it’s discounted 35%.

http://www.amazon.co.uk

SMALLER WORLD ATLASES

The following messages regarding smaller format atlases were posted to Maps-L in January. The editor thought the information was worth reprinting in base line.

Does anyone know of a recently published small format world atlas? We would like something that patrons could hold and photocopy easily. We know about the Essential World Atlas published by Oxford University Press, but their most recent edition is ©2001, and we would like something more up-to-date.

Katherine Rankin, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

I recently made a project of looking at the 2003 “smaller” (concise, desktop, essential, compact, quick, etc.) world atlases out there, and found there were many, including:

DK Compact World Atlas (Dorling Kindersley Pub, 2003) will suit your photocopying needs. It’s approximately 11 x 8.5", lightweight (192 pages total, softcover), and each page has a location map and legend (ideal for copies). Disadvantages are (as you may guess): it has only 60 maps and 20,000 gazetteer entries.

DK Essential, 2003, is very small at 8.5 x 5", and also has 60 maps and 20,000 entries, in 256 total pages.

The DK Concise Atlas of the World (2nd ed., 2003) may be a bit larger and heavier than you may have in mind. It has the most pages of maps (197 of 350 pgs. total) and a sizable gazetteer (75,000 entries), and is ca. 13.5 x 10.25".
Oxford New Concise, 2003, is about the same size. It is second to the above in gazetteer entries (55,000 entries) and maps (128), and has 22 nice articles with graphics.

Oxford Essential (3rd ed., 2002) is copier-friendly (ca. 11 x 9" softcover), but from 2002. It has 96 pages of maps and 35,000 entries (176 pgs total). A bonus (to my mind) is that the gazetteer has the lat-longs listed, unlike the others.

Hammond World Atlas (4th ed., 2003) is 14.5 x 11", has 181 pages of maps and 110,000 place name entries. Its section of 48 pages of satellite imagery make it stand out.

National Geographic Concise Atlas of the World, 2003 is another larger one (13.5 x 10"). I’m not sure of the number of index entries or maps (127 pages total).

I also know that American Map Co. has a 2003 atlas, and The World Almanac has a 2004 atlas (15 x 11.5").

I hope this helps and is not too confusing—there was certainly much more out there than I would have guessed!

Kimberly C. Kowal, University of Minnesota

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**METEORITE IMPACT CRATER MAP**

*Paraphrased from a post to Maps-L on January 23 by Sue Ann Gardner of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.*

In case some of you haven’t heard of it, I just purchased a map sheet from Science Mall USA entitled, Meteorite impact craters on the Earth, (Jensan Scientifics, 2002). It’s quite attractive and informative—it has a good index of craters and lots of text and color illustrations—and is on heavy, slick paper. You can order it for $16.00 plus $6.90 S&H from [www.sciencemall-usa.com](http://www.sciencemall-usa.com).

—Sue Ann Gardner

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**J B HARLEY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY**

*Posted to Maps-L on January 14 by Tony Campbell Hon. Sec., Harley Fellowships.*

The Trustees of the J B Harley Research Fellowships Trust Fund are pleased to announce the eleventh series of awards, offering support at the newly increased rate of £300 (sterling) per week. The fellowships are designed to assist research in the London map collections:

base line 25(1): 20


Professor Dr Sylvia Schraut (Universität Mannheim, Historisches Institut, Germany) ‘Comparing historic school atlases 1870-1960 (Germany, Austria, Great Britain and U.S.A.)’ (3 weeks).

Professor Lindy Stiebel (University of KwaZulu-Natal, English Literary and Cultural Studies, South Africa) ‘Thomas Baines, cartographer: mapping Australia (North Australian Expedition map 1856) and Africa (South African Gold Fields Exploration Company maps 1872)’ (2 weeks).

A record number of 21 applications was received this time. For details of past awards, numbers of applicants, and extracts from previous Fellows’ reports, see http://www.maphistory.info/harlflws.html [part of the ‘Map History’ gateway site].

For information about applying for a Fellowship (closing date 1st November) please email or write (preferably saying where you saw this notice) to:

Tony Campbell, Hon. Sec., Harley Fellowships, 76 Ockendon Road, London N1 3NW, UK  t.campbell@ockendon.clara.co.uk

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Hey Flatlanders! How come you're so flat?

Yuk! Yuk! Yuk!

Yeah, where's your slope?

Oh no! It's those mean ol' mountain states again.

Just ignore them.

Hey, boss. The topographic bullies are at it again.

Don't make me come in there!

Ha! You got no relief!

The map librarian is in.

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