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http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/index.cfm

Volume 30, Number 1
February 2009
**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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**Advertising Rates:** For one issue: full page $100; half page $50; quarter page $25. Opposite “Great Moments in Map Librarianship”: full page $150; half page $80; quarter Page $40.

Send graphic or word processing file as an email attachment to the editor or mail hard copy to editor. Submissions will be re-formatted to the extent necessary to fit the size and proportion requested. Consider that the final size and proportion of a full page is 5.5 x 8.5 inches. Advertisers will be invoiced. Mail checks to the MAGERT Treasurer, payable in U.S. dollars to ALA-MAGERT.
base line is published electronically six times a year: in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Single printed pre-2008 issues of base line are available at a cost of $5.00 per issue, U.S. and Canadian orders; $7.00 per issue for all other foreign orders. Checks, payable to the American Library Association, should be mailed to Jim Coombs, base line Production Manager, Maps Library, Missouri State University, 901 S. National, #175, Springfield, MO 65804-0095.

Members of MAGERT can access base line as a benefit of their memberships. Non-member subscription rates are $25.00, U.S. and Canada; $30.00 for all other foreign subscriptions. Checks, payable to the American Library Association, should be mailed to Peter Linberger, Subscription Manager, base line, Bierce Library, University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-1709. Tel: 330/972-8230. Fax: 330/972-7225. E-mail: pl@uakron.edu

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FROM THE CHAIR
Carolyn Kadri, University of Texas at Arlington

It was good to see all of you who managed to get to Midwinter in Denver this year. We missed the rest of you who could not make it and hope that you will make it to Annual in Chicago this summer.

A celebration of the 30th meeting of MAGERT will take place at our reception currently being planned for Friday, July 10th, 2009. I am also working on a map tour. As of the date of this writing, the details of where the reception and tour will be have not been worked out completely. I will send out an announcement via the MAGERT list serv as well as Maps-L when these plans are set.

We have two programs scheduled for Annual in Chicago. The first one is on Saturday, July 11th, at 1:30 P.M., and will be conducted by David Rumsey, who will discuss “Giving Maps a Second Life with Digital Technologies.” Using imaging software, GIS, and popular applications like Google Earth and Second Life, Mr. Rumsey has given new life to old maps, both in their dissemination and in our ability to analyze and understand them, thereby unlocking the information held in maps for use in a wide range of disciplines. He will discuss and demonstrate how he offers these software tools and a growing number of digitized maps themselves on his free public online map library. The second program is on Monday, July 13th at 1:30 P.M., and will be conducted by Chris Kollen and Paige Andrew. It is entitled “Maps as a Research Focus in Librarianship: Examples from the Field.” Presenters will discuss the development of original ideas for research, processes to get leaves approved, management of projects, and finishing projects on-time. Specific examples will showcase historic cartographic research projects, and discuss challenges and successes with the research process along the way. Specific projects to be showcased include developing an extensive carto-bibliography and creating a geodatabase, entitled, “Arizona Historic Census Geodatabase: Providing Access to Historic Census Data” and “19th Century Maps of Pennsylvania: A Cartobibliography.” This program is co-sponsored by the Library Research Round Table.

In addition, you will learn about an exciting opportunity for MAGERT to partner the WISE+: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Librarians course that will be taught this summer at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Information Sciences. Kathy Weimer, Pete Reehling, and Carol McAuliffe, Chair of the Education Committee, will bring you up to date on how this activity relates to MAGERT’s mission and the recently completed “Map, GIS and Cataloging
In the ALCTS/MAGERT Interest Group on Map Cataloging, Colleen Cahill of the Library of Congress, will demonstrate how to customize *Cataloger’s Desktop*, an online cataloging tool widely use by catalogers.

These are just a few examples of activities that MAGERT will sponsor at the Annual Conference in Chicago. The committee chairs and discussion leaders will have more details pertaining to activities in their respective groups when we get closer to the Annual Conference.

Hope to see all you there.

Carolyn 🌸

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**Editorial Group Formed to Develop DCRM(C)**

**DCRM(C): Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Cartographic)**

**Current status**

An editorial team has been appointed to develop DCRM(C). The initial plan of action calls for a review of *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Books) (DCRM(B))* and *Cartographic Materials: A Manual of Interpretation for AACR2, Second Edition (CM)* to identify 1) areas of conflict between the two standards, 2) lacunae in CM, whether or not they are addressed in DCRM(B), and 3) areas where existing guidance from practices and other sources (such as LC’s Map Cataloging Manual) usefully addresses conflicts and lacunae.

**History and background**

At the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California, the Bibliographic Standards Committee accepted a proposal to develop a manual for the treatment of early and rare cartographic materials as part of the Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (DCRM) suite. This project is supported by the Library of Congress Policy and Standards Division (formerly the Cataloging Policy and Support Office), the ALA Map and Geography Roundtable (MAGERT), and members of the cartographic and rare materials communities. The new manual will be known as *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Cartographic)*, or DCRM(C).

Descriptive cataloging of early and rare cartographic materials in libraries and other institutions currently relies on chapter 3 of *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition (AACR2)* and *Cartographic Materials: A Manual of Interpretation for AACR2, Second Edition (CM)*, prepared by the Anglo-American Cataloguing Committee for Cartographic Materials and edited by Elizabeth U. Mangan. CM is a comprehensive, general work that includes...
suggestions for the treatment of early and rare materials, much of it drawn from *Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books (DCRB)*, which has now been superseded by DCRM(B).

With an increased focus on the security of rare cartographic materials, there is a need for a standalone set of rules that covers the treatment of atlases, maps, and globes, both printed and manuscript, including the analysis of cartographic works in books or other resources, and can be used by any institution that houses these materials. The creation of a standard will eliminate the need for each institution to develop extensive local practices for the treatment of rare cartographic works, and will make it possible for institutions with smaller collections to benefit from both the sophisticated tradition of rare materials cataloging and the awareness of the cartographic community of the particular qualities of our materials.

**DCRM(C) editorial team**

- **Laurence S. Creider**, Special Collections Librarian, New Mexico State University
- **Todd Fell**, Catalog Librarian, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University
- **Carolyn J. Kadri**, Special Collections Cataloger, University of Texas at Arlington Library
- **Nancy Kandoian**, Map Cataloger, New York Public Library
- **Manon Théroux**, Head, Cataloging & Metadata Services, George Mason University
- **Seanna Tsung (chair)**, Senior Cataloging Specialist, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress

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**ELECTRONIC MAPPING**

C.C. Miller, Purdue University

“Geography? Where’s That?”

So surely you know where to get your Starbucks now. You can get a little context for your Wikipedia entries, geotag your photos, and even do some heavier lifting with geographic names authority control.¹ There are maps available online for all of this. Or maybe you’re just looking for some decent trash,² like to know when bad stuff goes down,³ like to hear first-hand accounts of surfing accidents,⁴ or, if you walk on the shadier side, need to know all the zip codes in which Ludacris claims to have—please forgive this—his hos.⁵

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1. [www.geonames.org](http://www.geonames.org)
2. [www.garbagescout.com](http://www.garbagescout.com)
3. [www.incidentlog.com](http://www.incidentlog.com)
4. Including this riveting account: “Went ‘over the falls’ on a 6 to 8 foot day and found the fin of my surfboard when it hit my head underwater. I think I visited an instant care in Ventura.” — [http://www.mapbuilder.net/users/ecrisser1/70876](http://www.mapbuilder.net/users/ecrisser1/70876)
5. [http://strangemaps.wordpress.com/?s=ludacris](http://strangemaps.wordpress.com/?s=ludacris)
Hos or no, there aren’t many who will argue this boom in web mapping isn’t, generally speaking, progress. Cartographophiles may not like the homogenization of web map art, and “pure” GIScientists might thumb their noses at the lighter weight of the great majority of these new web apps, true. But never minding that the former must still have their hands full from the shift away from parchment and the latter must be blind to the exciting “heavy” mashups happening all over academia, we can probably agree this is an exciting and productive time for electronic mapping.

But what about geography? Well, that might be different. I was talking to a colleague the other day about expanding a small project we did that was built around a widespread geographic misperception in the West, and we freely tossed out plausible hypotheses for how not understanding relative geography (even just political geography) might impact other kinds of xenoperceptions, including cultural, historical, and ethical. For Americans to underestimate how densely-populated most of the industrialized world is is to underestimate how much more importance there is on land per square unit. Likewise, think of how much the big, loud American archetype—all elbows and cowboy hats and jeans, sized “ample”—can be tied to how much room we have in our countryside, cities, cars, doorways, and toilets.

So the question is whether the saturation of the web with maps and location-based services can—by whatever the virtual electronic equivalent of osmosis might be—passively improve our exposure to and appreciation of the geographies of not here. Perhaps, too, how we as makers of some of these portals into (or at least users of) geography, can possibly help the cause along.

First the premise: geographic literacy (in Americans at least) is poor. In fact, scratch “poor” and insert “laughably bad.” An easy place for proof is the 2006 National Geographic/Roper Public Affairs and Media 2006 Geographic Literacy Study Final Report, which found that “most young adults...demonstrate a limited understanding of the world beyond their country’s borders, and they place insufficient importance on the basic geographic skills that might enhance their knowledge” because, “by and large, majorities of young adults fail at a range of questions testing their basic geographic literacy.” Yikes! Their report turns the screws a little further:

Taken together, these results suggest that young people in the United States—the most recent graduates of our educational system—are unprepared for an increasingly global future. Far too many lack even the most basic skills for navigating the international economy or understanding the relationships among people and places that provide critical context for world events.

National Geographic and its partners are trying to remedy this embarrassment with an education campaign called “My Wonderful World,” which targets the problem with games, events, and advertising and some deputiza-

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tion of volunteers to help attack other fronts. So that’s nice and laudable. In the meantime, countless map mashups are deployed daily, location-aware gadgetry rolls off of shelves, Wolf Blitzer streaks up his touch screen with his greasy, hairy reporter paws, and the web-savvy world is exposed to more and more place and geography. So an interesting question is whether this exposure, alone, can help?

My colleague and I intend to tackle this question beginning this summer, and surely there are others whose interest in mainstreaming spatial technologies has been enkindled lately, but I’m worried. I’m worried that at best—at best—our modern electronic mapping tools will not increase our awareness of geography and relative space. This is hopefully not true of heavy GIS—GIS people can generally handle themselves, let’s say, and we’ll assume that GIScientists would do well on the National Geographic/Roper poll (knowing the fallacy of the assumption, yes). But it may very well be true for our general, educated, online population.

First let’s allow for a sense of geography to be the issue. Beyond political geography and the ability to spot Iraq on a map (although that would be nice), let’s say we’re only after a better general sense of where we are in relation to the world—Where Colorado sits latitudinally relative to Spain? What it really takes to get from Alaska to Australia? How many other ways there are to center a map or globe? How much area South Koreans have to live versus U.S. Americans? That sort of stuff. In order for this sense of geography to improve, we’ll need exposure to relative geography, to “upside-down” pictures of our places, of isometric views, and some fly-through capabilities and data might help. So here we’re okay. Globe viewers like Google Earth and NASA WorldWind (among a growing menagerie of others) help a lot. We’ve never been able to move around the globe more swiftly, for sure. But I almost wonder if this is counterproductive in a way. The blue marble is so easily traversed, so deftly handled that the expanse and scope and power of this planet is, possibly, reduced. I’m surprised to find here that this is the video game argument that war, for example, is so sanitary in video games that the idea of war becomes dangerously removed from its harsh truths. Still, I’ve been reading Dallas Murphy’s loving *Rounding the Horn* and I can’t help but think that the scalawags and salts whose hands and psyches were so calloused by repeated (or failed) trips around Cape Horn would soil their slops to see how easily us lubbers can “sail” around the world. And how much we take it for granted.

To be glib, sliding over the Gaza Strip in a globe viewer is one thing, but to understand the power of that land is quite another. Seeing it can help. Spending time there (virtually) can help—even raise questions—but what will stick?

Leaving that as an open question, let’s move to the less-than-best scenario, the one in which exposure to increasing amounts of online mapping apps actually shrinks our geographic perspectives. Google recently announced “Latitude,” a way to track and allow tracking of people’s geography. Never minding
that there were perhaps countless ways to do this already (Fire Eage, BriteKite, Twitter among them), it’s another speed increase in the race to geo-enable, well, everything. Including our selves. Debate if you like the merits of knowing that Dave from Accounting is right now picking up lunch at his local Big Boy, we are able, with less and less effort, to pinpoint, track, and map everything. But locally, right? So we know the locations of many more things, people, and resources (and faster), but almost always relative to ourselves, to where we are in our cities, at large scales. If we’re always zoomed-in to our micro geographies—knowing whose Tweets come from where a person was when their iPhone snapped that picture of a bicycle accident—is our sense of space and place and geography able to grow at all?

Possibly. That is, it’s feasible that increasing access to geographic context will help. If more news sources—more anything sources, I should say, which will include blog posts, microblogging, and any number of Web formats in addition to news and essays—are more easily geographic, then perhaps we will absorb more context. Some news sources will throw placenames to maps. Great. Some companies, like MetaCarta, have developed clever ways to process all raw content and algorithmically extract geographic references (to be acted upon however their client might like). Fantastic. This is the GeoWeb, spoken of widely and evolving quickly (and slowly, but that’s probably a topic for another day). It promises more and more nifty ways to use geographic data, but I’m not yet convinced the GeoWeb promises better geographic literacy. This isn’t a GIS problem, for one thing. Geoinformatics, maybe, but only if geoinformatics wants to go far beyond research applications (thus far it seems to not be interested). It could be a Web developer problem (it is for sure to some degree), but could it not also be a Maps/GIS Librarian problem? Who better?

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**New Maps and Cartographic Materials, Along with Other Items of Interest**

David J. Bertuca, University at Buffalo
Libraries Map Collection

It’s 2009, and the year is already rolling full-speed ahead. So is the supply of new maps and carto-related materials. We have a variety to choose from and I will list a very brief selection of items that I hope you will find useful in your collections.

Some of the materials listed below are not only good to know about, they...
are good concepts for map producers. As an example, I was in a phone store recently and though I consider a cell phone to be a good item for emergencies, and for taking quick snapshots, many see portable phones as others see microcomputers. There are phones that allow users to surf the Web, send and receive e-mail, get GPS-driving instructions, and a wide array of other features. Some of the Web sites below are already useful to phones that are so equipped.

Granted, I still am not too thrilled at trying to use a large map on a PC screen, let alone a 2-inch display, but it is going to become more ubiquitous in the near future.

Articles

Several recent articles of note:


War has always been a driving force in human endeavor, often providing advances as a by-product. Cartography through the ages held a significant prominence for the power struggles among nations and peoples. This article describes the modernization of cartographic principles during the post-Renaissance through the pre-modern ages.

The emphasis of the article is on changes in military mapping in the eighteenth century and includes mapping wars for public interest (home-front).

Maps

Eastview Cartographic Recent Additions
http://www.cartographic.com/additions/

Eastview offers a number of maps and digital data sets for countries and regions that are excellent for a variety of uses. Some materials are expensive (often from difficulty in obtaining data), however if they meet the needs of your patrons, this is the way to go. Check the current selection of maps, including:

Chinese Navy Nautical Charts
http://www.cartographic.com/

(Under "New Editions" click on "Chinese Navy Nautical Charts")

Collection of charts (most range between 1:2,000-1:50,000 scale)

**Malaysia Topographic Maps**

1:50,000 Scale: [http://www.cartographic.com](http://www.cartographic.com)

(Search Malaysia topographic in Search Box at top right section of the home page)

1:63,360: [http://www.cartographic.com](http://www.cartographic.com)

(Search Malaysia topographic in Search Box at top right section of the home page)

**Geological Map of Namibia.**


**EVCmap 1000 North Korea Country Vector Dataset**

[http://www.cartographic.com](http://www.cartographic.com)

(Search North Korea vector in Search Box at top right section of the home page)

Small-scale GIS vector topographic base-map of North Korea. The vector base-map was created at the 1:1,000,000 scale extracted from Soviet source materials. Data has been translated into English. The dataset may be used as a base layer for GIS projects.

**EVCdem 30 Albania 30m DEM**

[http://www.cartographic.com](http://www.cartographic.com)

(Search Albania dem in Search Box at top right section of the home page)

Digital Elevation Models of Albania, and portions of adjacent countries, at 30m resolution, derived from 1:100,000 scale topographic maps, with 20m contours.

**Atlases**


The professors who developed the World Mapper Web site ([http://www.worldmapper.org/](http://www.worldmapper.org/)) have published a selection of their work in this atlas. It is a statistical geographer’s view of the world, covering every aspect of people, animals, and environment, and the interactions of life on Earth. Data is displayed using “cartograms”
to visually describe each topic. The atlas contains 366 full-color cartograms divided into six topical categories and 16 subcategories (see contents below). Included is accompanying text, bar graphs by region, and statistical rankings by country (e.g., top ten, 10 highest, 10 lowest). Includes bibliographical references (p. 392-400).

Contents: The resourceful world: Land area and population — Travel and transport — Natural resources and energy; The trading world: Globalization and internationalism — Food and consumables — Minerals, natural products and petrochemicals; The economic world: Manufactured goods and services — Wealth and poverty — Employment and productivity; The social world: Housing and education — Communication and media — Health and illness; The perilous world: Death and disaster — War and crime; The environmental world: Pollution and depletion — Extinction and endangerment.

Most of the cartograms and graphs use 2002-2004 vital statistics. This atlas is good for high school through adult. Cartograms are easy to understand and added text and statistics provide background. Even though the maps are online, having a print edition that can be accessed from the shelf, especially where online access is limited for users, may be a good alternative.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/index.html
(Search for cartograms in Search Box)

Web Sites and Resources

Maplandia
http://www.maplandia.com/

Maplandia.com provides a searchable world gazetteer based on Google Maps. Over “2,000,000 places all over the world are divided into many geographical categories according to continents, countries and administrative regions.”

This site, not affiliated with Google, offers search capability specific to geographical feature locations. Enter search terms and choose from a list of matches. These are pinpointed on the map. Matches are only to those features that were identified by Maplandia to date (two-million is a small number when dealing with all the names in the world).

Input is partly by users so that if you have a place name in mind, you can provide the data on it, along with any annotations, links, etc., and have it become part of the database. This means that some features will have more data than others, but it also means that for some places, you might find more data than you could anywhere else.

Results include coordinates and data on each place. A sample search for “Jutland” brought up (http://www.maplandia.com)
an entry for a populated place in New Jersey:

original name: Jutland
geographical location: Hunterdon County, New Jersey, United States, North America
geographical coordinates: 40° 37’ 22” North, 74° 57’ 53” West

and a Google Earth map pin-pointing the feature.

In this case, only one “Jutland” was in their database (not the best known location in Denmark). However, with more people adding locations, the data will increase.

Another example shows more data, including an annotation on the feature [http://www.maplandia.com](http://www.maplandia.com)

(Search *Cuddapah* in the Search Box)

“Welcome to the Kakarla Sivakumar House google satellite map! This building placemark is situated in Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh, India and its geographical coordinates are 14° 3’ 37” North, 78° 45’ 1” East. Original name (with diacritics) of the place is Rāyachoti. See Kakarla Sivakumar House photos and images from satellite below; explore the aerial photographs of Kakarla Sivakumar House in Rayachoti area. This placemark was added by siva.”

Features are indexed in a number of ways besides name, allowing for groupings of similar features, etc.

A neat feature of Maplandia is that you can locate places relating to news events. You can specify a date and get places/maps relating to events happening on that date [http://www.maplandia.com/news/](http://www.maplandia.com/news/). Data covers 2005—. Each result includes links to related BBC news articles using the BBC News RSS feed.

**Google Maps Mania**

[http://googlemapsmania.blogspot.com/](http://googlemapsmania.blogspot.com/)

Subtitled: “an unofficial Google Maps blog tracking the websites, mashups and tools being influenced by Google Maps” this is a great source for finding unusual maps and also for getting creative ideas.

This blog contains all sorts of map-related data with the theme being Google Maps-inspired creations. It has a variety of great maps that users can view to get ideas for their own mash-ups and other map concepts.

For some materials (e.g., newspaper articles), links may not exist, however, there are loads of links that show some great uses of Google Map, for example “Fill That Hole” [http://fillthathole.org.uk/report](http://fillthathole.org.uk/report) lets drivers in the UK report potholes, obstructions, or other road hazards, giving exact coordinates by “sticking a pin” into the map at the correct location. Users may then view the map to see other hazards along routes they might be taking.

**Cartes et Plans (Investir en Zone Franc (IZF))**


This French site provides political maps of French-speaking African countries (La Zone Franc CFA). Some countries have only simple maps while others are detailed. It is useful especially for teachers needing a quick map to display in class, or for use to include in papers and assignments.
Maps appearing here cover countries and places having relief-related disasters and emergencies, or human rights situations. Current situations are featured at the top of the page, and the indexes by country or ‘emergency’ allow you to locate specific maps.

**Islam, the Modern World, and the West**
http://www.uga.edu/islam/countries.html

Professor Alan Godlas, University of Georgia maintains this site as a teaching resource. It contains data and maps on Islamic countries and relations with countries worldwide. It is part of his Islam and Islamic Studies Resources site (http://www.uga.edu/islam/). There are map links all through the page, with one section “Populations, Maps, and Countries of the Muslim World” (http://www.uga.edu/islam/countries.html#Data) showing a concentration of maps, including maps showing Islamic populations and countries.

Some links go to commonly used map sites, but the page does provide a concentration of maps and data specific to the topic. One page, Muslims, Islam, and Iraq (http://www.uga.edu/islam/iraq.html#maps), links to maps and resources on Iraq from a variety of sources.

Though designed for college studies, this site would appeal to high school students as well. It provides a wealth of materials relating to Islam throughout the world.

**UniMaps**
http://unimaps.com/index.html

The home page states that “We have specialised in the exploration and the colonial era of Africa, and the domination of France and England of the Middle East during the same era, and equally in the current political situation in both areas,” but there are Asian-theme maps as well. The maps and commentaries give users a greater understanding of the political and geographical areas.

Included are pages for African and Middle Eastern countries, including: maps, flags, vital statistics, climate graphs, and other data. The maps are visually clean and appealing, with a location map showing the country’s position on the continent.

Good historical maps for both continents are also available. In addition, UniMaps has also created maps of Oceania nations, along with flags, as well as some historical maps of China. Also, there is a “placenames” gazetteer for Africa, Middle East, and “historic” names for those regions. It lists names that are included on the site’s maps.

A page called “In Focus” (http://unimaps.com/infocus.html) links to pages with maps and text, devoted to a variety...
of topics, including: “Aral, the dying sea” (with a great map), “The Name Game” listing countries with old name/new names, and “Okavango Delta, Botswana,” showing a clear map of this interesting feature.

Overall, this is a great place to find maps and geographical data on countries, a wonderful place to find maps for a selection of Pacific islands, and a resource for materials for use by teachers and students. This site would be useful for grade school through adult.

The World Gazetteer
http://www.world-gazetteer.com/

Here is a comprehensive set of population data and related statistics. Data is broken down for each country by state or other administrative division and for cities. Use the “Place Index,” “Table of Contents,” pull-down menu, or site-search to locate data. Data is from census and other sources.

Statistical data for cities also includes lat/long coordinates and other details. The “Links” page provides access to top geography and statistics providers on the Web. The Web site is easy to navigate, pleasant and clear in design, and provides data from accurate sources.

This site would be useful to students and adults at any level. It gives ready-reference and more detailed choices for studying places in the world.

Languages of the World (Ethnologue.com)
http://www.ethnologue.com/

This Web site is “an encyclopedic reference work cataloging all of the world’s 6,912 known living languages, Ethnologue.com is a place where you can conveniently find many resources to help you with your research of the world’s languages. Ethnologue.com is owned by SIL International, a service organization that works with people who speak the world’s lesser-known languages.”—Main page.

Ethnologue contains a wealth of materials for language study, and part of its development includes maps and geographic data relating to where specific languages are used.

“The language data you will find on this site came from the Ethnologue database. Once every four years we take a “snapshot” of the contents of the database and publish it along with language maps for many of the countries of the world. The most recently published edition of the Ethnologue database is Ethnologue: Languages of the World, 15th Edition [ISBN: 9781556711596]. The language data from the fifteenth edition is presented in this searchable Web version.”

Over fifty years of effort make this a comprehensive listing of information about currently known languages of the world. Contributions and use by linguists and other researchers worldwide make the database rich with data and relationships between languages.

Language maps are a most interesting feature. Maps show locations of the world’s living languages and include most of the countries of the world. Print versions of the maps appear with each
new edition and maps can be viewed from continent and country pages on the site.

Also included are bibliographies containing thousands of published works that provide research aid for scholars or anyone studying languages. Computer resources include software tools; some of these are free. Additional pages and resources add to the value of this site.

This Web site is useful for scholars, researchers, and students in linguistics, anthropology, sociolinguistics, literacy, and related disciplines. High school students may find a good amount of material for their projects as well.

GeoEye-1 High-Resolution Satellite Imagery

http://www.landinfo.com/geo.htm

The text I include here is mostly quoted from the site since they describe what they do better than I might (better for readers who use this data regularly).

“GeoEye-1, the world’s highest-resolution commercial color imaging satellite, was launched on September 6, 2008 from Vandenburg Air Force Base in California. This newest satellite offers extraordinary detail, high accuracy and enhanced stereo for DEM generation. GeoEye-1 will simultaneously collect Panchromatic imagery at 0.41m and Multispectral imagery at 1.65m. Due to U.S. Government Licensing, the imagery will be made available commercially as 0.5m imagery. GeoEye-1 has the capacity to collect up to 700,000 square kilometers of Panchromatic imagery (and up to 350,000 square kilometers of Pan-Sharpened Multispectral imagery) per day.”—Main page.

“Land Info is a provider of worldwide digital topographic map data (DRGs, DEMs & vector layers), high-resolution satellite imagery (GeoEye-1, WorldView-1, QuickBird & IKONOS) and processing services such as DEM generation from stereo pairs, vector feature extraction, ortho-rectification, tonal balancing, mosaic output and wavelet compression.”

To see samples of their work go to the gallery (http://www.landinfo.com/gallery.htm). They also have pages comparing resolutions and image types so you can see easily the differences. This is useful for anyone wondering what level is best for their needs. An example from the gallery is: LIDAR-generated 3d image of lower Manhattan (http://www.landinfo.com/Sept11LIDAR.htm).

And for the fun of it, go to their GeoTrivia page (http://www.landinfo.com/resources_trivia.htm).

This source of geo-data is mainly for professional-level users, but also may be useful to college researchers or to governmental organizations needing satellite or DEM data on specific locations.
Geological Survey of Namibia (Mapping Division)
http://www.gsn.gov.na/mapping.htm

Geological and structural maps are always in demand, but sometimes difficult to locate, or to purchase. This site contains a viewable map of the country and links for acquisition of additional maps. (see also: Eastview Cartographic (above) for acquiring 250k-scale maps.)

Also on the Web site is an index to 250k geological maps, which has hot links to low-resolution maps: http://www.gsn.gov.na/geology_maps.htm.

Simplified Tectonostratigraphic Map of Namibia
(Scale 1:7,000,000)

Also from the Survey, this map shows major tectonic and stratigraphic domains of the country.

Tree Search (Rocky Mountain Research Station)
http://www.treesearch.fs.fed.us/pubs/23252

Treesearch is an online database of publications by research and development scientists in the U.S. Forest Service, including research monographs published by the agency as well as papers written by their scientists but published by other organizations in journals, conference proceedings, or books. Research results behind these publications have been peer reviewed to ensure the best quality science.

The goal is to make available in full-text, all new books, chapters, and articles beginning with 2004, and to add older publications as they can. It is the largest freely-available collection of online forestry research in the world, with over 24,000 publications. Search by author, keyword, originating Station or date.

Fatbirder
http://www.fatbirder.com/index.php

If you love to watch birds, study birds, or know someone who is a birder, Fatbirder is a great site to visit. Its scope covers resources about birds, birding & bird watching for birders. It has “hundreds of pages & tens of thousands of links about birding everywhere in the world; a page for every country & state; every bird family; books, guides, forums, reserves, accommodation, trip reports, bird clubs, ornithology, twitching, conservation, optics, holidays.” —Main page.

The site has links not only to identification sites, but also sites where you can find out about the birds of specific places that you might be visiting, local reserves, places to stay, trip reports, bird clubs, and more. It evolves because of contributions of birders, photographers & ornithologists from all over the world.

Fatbirder is a great site for learning anything about birds and bird-watching.
There is something here for everyone from child to adult. Photographs, maps, and information are well-done. It is a good link to add or to bookmark.

An example of what to expect can be seen on the following Web page:

**Birding Africa**
http://www.fatbirder.com/links_geo/africa/

If you are going to Africa to watch birds, this page will assist in everything from what to expect, to where to stay, and when to go. It includes essays by others who traveled the continent, photographs and descriptions of local species, and other data, including maps.

**DNA Tribes**
http://www.dnatribes.com/

Want to know more about your genetic ancestry? “DNA Tribes Genetic Ancestry Analysis” is a service that uses genetic material inherited from both maternal and paternal ancestors to measure your genetic connections to individual ethnic groups and major world regions. Your top ranked results indicate places where your blend of ancestry is most frequent and where your genetic ancestors left the strongest traces.”—Web site.

A number of DNA analyst projects exist and commercial DNA testing is also available. This operation is similar but has some interesting ways of showing your data and providing you with answers to your question of “where do I come from?”

While only an in-depth analysis can provide detailed matching to specific ancestors, DNA Tribes does a good job to the level that it is designed to show. Included in the analysis are maps and text to help you to trace your ancestors’ travels around the world.

The theme of the site uses the analogy of tribal relationships to help describe your connections to the past. Included in Your DNA Tribes® report are the “Detailed World Map of Genetic Territories,” “World Region Match” analysis that measures your genetic connections to major genetic regions identified exclusively by original research, and a map “A New Genetic Map of Interconnected World Regions” that helps you to put yourself into the context of others being tested (http://www.dnatribes.com/sample-results/dnatribes-global-survey-regional-affinities.pdf).

Genetic testing on this level can be useful for generalized studies in human migration, and would be of interest to grade- or high-school activities. It is also interesting for families and friends, and just for curiosity’s sake.

**Map Hero**
http://www.maphero.com/index.html

“Welcome! You’ve found what you’ve been looking for! Whether it’s a map
illustration for advertising, editorial, travel product, or museum display purposes, or the original design for a folded map product, you’ve come to the right place. Nothing tells a story like a map. Let me help you tell your story.”—Matt Kania (Web site owner and artist).

Map Hero is a company that produces custom or special purpose maps of all types, and for a variety of purposes. The cartography ranges from pictorial to highly-accurate topographical maps. The mapper will produce maps on demand, in whatever quantity needed.

The maps shown as examples give a good idea of the quality and accuracy of the work. Maps are rich in color, using good map design principles, and showing a high level of utility for the target user.

Interesting Technology

Although not many of us may use professional tools like the following ones, I felt compelled to include these products because I think some of our research or commercial clients might be interested in hearing about them, and also because they are pretty neat.

ikeGPS
http://ikegps.com

The “verifiable, fast, safe GIS data solution.” ikeGPS is a powerful and unique device enabling verifiable field GIS data capture more quickly and safely than ever before. ikeGPS uses “point and shoot” laser GPS technology allowing field users to remotely capture positional data for any target up to 1000 meters distant, keeping the user safe and boosting efficiency while reducing field time significantly.

Here is a product that most of us will not need, but which might be worth telling our clients and users about. ikeGPS allows the user to capture data and download it and a target image, directly into ArcPad. Data from the instruments (laser, compass, inclinometer, GPS) can be optionally stored in an ArcPad shapefile.

This small (11.8” x 4.3” x 3.1” 2.6 lbs.) device can be connected to a PC, has a touch screen, 3.5” diagonal display, and gives very accurate measurements. It contains a 12 channel GPS, has an antenna, with option to add an external one, and supports SBAS (WAAS, EGNOS). The digital camera shoots 24 bit color at resolutions (depending on model) between 1.3 Mega Pixels (1280 x 1024) to 3.2 Mega Pixels (2048 x 1536).

C Tech Development Corporation
http://www.ctech.com/index.php

Provider of software for 3-D analysis and visualization for the earth sciences. The product is designed to create 3-D and 4-D (time) studies of geo-features. Useful for earth sciences research and visualization. Among the types of 3-D visualizations created by users are the following:

• High-resolution topographic relief and digital aerial photography
• Groundwater flow regimes and presenting 3-D modeling results
• Above-ground facilities including buildings and storage areas
Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old: Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources

The Workbook used and issued to participants during the June 2007 ALA preconference on cataloging early maps and atlases is now available to purchase for $40. The Workbook includes illustrations and cataloging examples taken from sheet maps, atlas plates and atlases, focusing on early and pre-twentieth century cartographic materials. Elements of description, transcription, mathematical data and supportive research are some of the areas covered by the Workbook. The price includes shipping and handling.

Orders should be sent to Jim Coombs, MAGERT Publications Distribution Manager, Maps Library, Missouri State University, 901 S. National, #175, Springfield, MO 65897  E-mail: JimCoombs@missouristate.edu  

Just for Fun

Risk on Google Maps
http://blog.tmcnet.com/blog/tom-keating/google/risk-on-google-maps.asp

One of the most popular games in the world is “Risk” and it was only a matter of time before someone thought of making a Google version of it. Since the game’s main component is a map, it will make for interesting “research” for your leisure time some evening, or for demonstrating to patrons what Google Maps is capable of.

This site is just for fun and may be of use to anyone who loves looking at the far-out ways that maps enter our lives. (It is also good for those who long for the chance to rule the world.)

Conclusion

The chill of February will give way to the March thaw; we have already returned to longer daylight. For those who live more to the south, things will be warming up compared with today. Thank you again for reading, and for our joint interest in the universe of cartography and geography. –DJB

• Below-ground facilities including underground storage tanks and sewers
• Three-dimensional geologic models including block and fence diagrams
• Groundwater plumes and changes in groundwater chemistry over time

Free DVD and demo software shows how it can be used. This would be a great tool for university earth science teaching and researchers.
DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME AT THE CONFERENCE?

YES, BUT MY ASSISTANT SAID SHE'D THINK OF NEW WAYS TO PROMOTE THE MAPS LIBRARY WHILE I WAS GONE, AND I'D BE SURPRISED ...

WELL ... MAYBE WHILE THEY'RE UP THERE THEY'LL SEE THAT THERE'RE MAPS IN THE DRAWERS ...