**base line** is an official publication of the American Library Association’s Map and Geospatial Information Round Table (MAGIRT). 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 MAGIRT 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 MAGIRT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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**Advising 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.

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December already! It’s hard for me to believe, as it is 61 and sunny in southern Illinois today. I hope that, wherever you are, this finds you looking forward to a joyful holiday season and new year.

I would like to begin by pointing you to a separate article in this issue by our past chair, Paige Andrew, chair of the Nominations and Awards Committee. We are looking for candidates for both elected positions and committee chairs. Whether you have served within MAGIRT before or not, I encourage you to consider putting your name in. We have an extraordinary group that I have had the pleasure of serving for a number of years. I think that you will enjoy the experience and get to meet more of your map colleagues.

In addition to finalizing plans for Midwinter (more about that below), we have also been VERY busy looking forward to Annual in Orlando. We are planning a joint pre-conference with GODORT on data visualization, a follow-up to the sessions in San Francisco. This will be much more hands-on and in-depth. Look for more information in the spring.

A few months ago, we submitted a proposal for an Emerging Leaders project centered on the digital archiving of MAGIRT documents, especially with the creation of the ALA Institutional Repository (ALAIR). As of this writing, we have not yet heard if our proposal has been accepted. Hopefully we will know by Midwinter.

Speaking of which, Midwinter always seems to come quickly after the holidays - much more so this year! The schedule of MAGIRT meetings and events is on page 6 of this issue. Vice-chair Louise Ratliff has organized a tour of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library. The current exhibit, Women in Cartography, will be available for us to view as well as the recently recovered stolen map. There are a number of articles online, including this one from the Boston Globe. Following the tour, we will be gathering at the Champions Sports Bar for a Dutch treat dinner. Louise will be providing details soon. I hope you can join us for one or both social events!

Wishing you all happy holidays! Be safe, stay warm, and have fun!
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A digital elevation model (DEM) of Rapa, French Polynesia, photogrammetrically derived from IKONOS stereo satellite imagery. The digital terrain model was used to orthorectify QuickBird imagery (shown partially draped on top of the DEM).

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BIBFRAME Training at the Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is testing BIBFRAME for bibliographic description through a pilot project that began in August 2015. Forty Library of Congress catalogers, including three cartographic cataloging specialists participate in the Pilot, with instruction by four Library of Congress staff members in the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division (COIN). Pilot participants are now creating dual cataloging records in Voyager and BIBFRAME for each resource.

The LC BIBFRAME Pilot will test bibliographic description in multiple formats and in multiple languages. Training for the Pilot participants consists of three modules described below:

Module 1: Introduction to the Semantic Web and Linked Data

- The purpose of this module is to introduce the Semantic Web, linked data concepts, and some basic tools.
- The course will discuss the role of semantically linked data in creating useful web services and connecting datasets on the web. The module will provide a very basic overview of the terminology, terms, and tools used for Semantic Web applications.
- The module will contrast the limits of our current MARC based environment with the promise of integrating our data more fully with Semantic Web resources to enhance user services.

Module 2: Introduction to the BIBFRAME Tools

- This module contains assigned readings and videos that reinforce concepts introduced in Module 1. The module also introduces the BIBFRAME Initiative and tools for exploration with BIBFRAME in advance of a decision to implement and create PCC BIBFRAME Profiles.

Module 3: Using the BIBFRAME Editor for Bibliographic Description

- The purpose of this module is to introduce LC BIBFRAME Pilot participants to the BIBFRAME Editor and the RDA Profiles that will be used in the Pilot.

Slides, manuals, exercises, and online quizzes could be found at [http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/bibframe/](http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop/bibframe/).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, January 8</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>TBD (Afternoon)</td>
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<td>Tour of the Leventhal Map Center</td>
<td>Boston Public Library</td>
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<td>TBD (Evening)</td>
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<td>Dutch Treat Dinner</td>
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<td>8:30am-10:00am</td>
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<td>Online Presence Oversight Committee (OPOC)</td>
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<td>GeoTech Committee and GIS Discussion Group</td>
<td>BCEC-208</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00-4:00pm</td>
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<td>Map Collection Management Discussion Group</td>
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<td>8:30am-10:00am</td>
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<td>BCEC-153c</td>
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<td>10:30am-11:30am</td>
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<td>BCEC-107c</td>
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<td>BCEC-153c</td>
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<td>4:30pm-5:30pm</td>
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<td>Program Planning Committee</td>
<td>Westin-Douglass</td>
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MAGIRT Nominations Status Report
We Need You to Participate!

MAGIRT Honors Award:
As of the end of the work day on December 8th no nominations have been received by any of the members of our Nominations and Awards Committee. While we are not currently up against a deadline, we look forward to receiving letters of nomination for this award in the near future. As a reminder, the MAGIRT website for the Honors Award is located here: http://www.ala.org/magirt/honorsawards

Slate of Candidates for Officer Positions:
While the ballot for voting on changing our Bylaws to establish an Assistant Treasurer position is still open for a few more days, a report by our Chair at the December 2015 Executive Board meeting indicates that this change stands a good chance of passing. With that in mind I am going to include this new position in this report unofficially, for informational purposes only.

Here is the status of the slate of candidates for the three Officer positions.

  Vice Chair: no candidates
  Secretary: one candidate
  Assistant Treasurer: one candidate

And here is the status of volunteers for chair or leader positions.

  Publications Committee Chair: no volunteers
  Online Presence Oversight Committee Chair: no volunteers
  GIS Discussion Group Leader: waiting for confirmation from existing Leader; also one volunteer
  ALCTS CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Interest Group Leader: existing Leader willing to continue unless another volunteer comes forward

For your assistance, a directory of existing 2015-2016 MAGIRT officers, committee chairs, discussion leaders, interest group leader, and publications editors/managers can be found here: http://www.ala.org/magirt/officerscommchairs

Summary:
At this stage the members of the Nominations and Awards Committee will shortly be approaching individual MAGIRT members that we have identified as potential candidates for Officer positions in person with a goal of establishing a complete slate by December 31st. In order to meet ALA’s deadlines for completing forms to stand for election we must have a slate in place no later than January 28, 2016. Won’t you join the current leadership team in assuring a bright future for MAGIRT?

Paige Andrew
MAGIRT’s Past Chair and Chair, Nominations and Awards Committee
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“It is mathematically impossible to represent a round thing on a flat thing without serious distortion.”—Ann Morgan, The World Between Two Covers: Reading the Globe, p. 26

As we finish up another year, we can reflect upon all the changes in the World that create the need for new maps. Changing technology impacts the style and types of maps being produced, yet the map still holds value and interest for a wide range of uses.

Gift Ideas


What is better than a new map? A new map each month. Calendars abound and ones with maps are plenty. This particular calendar features a selection of maps from the British Library’s collection. Maps cover the period from around the 15th to 19th Centuries. Previews may be found online. This is a good gift for anyone.


This calendar also features old maps, mainly from the 15th to 17th Centuries. Previews may be found online. This is also a good gift for anyone.


This calendar features maps of the continents and several large countries, from the late 19th to early 20th Centuries. Images and the background have a period look to them and the calendar is printed on a creme surface.

Again, it is a worthy and different gift idea. There is also a small desk version available (ISBN: 9781619926974). Cavallini Papers & Co. produces a selection of items with similar map themes. Visit their catalog http://www.cavallini.com/. Cavallini maintains an archive of 19th Century prints, charts, maps, and travel guides, from which it reproduces a wide array of items.

Vintage Map Wall Calendars for 2015-2016
http://www.cafepress.com/+vintage-map+calendars

Cafe Press has a series of map poster calendars available. Each is 11 x 17 inches and features a map and the full year calendar on one sheet. Map images include: Pictorial Map of Charleston (1872), Beijing, China (1914), Mexico (1855), The World (1801), London (1860), and others. They also offer several 12-month wall calendars featuring maps. These are nicely printed and ready for display.
Most mappers have probably wrapped a gift or two using old maps. It is hard to resist, but sometimes there isn’t a map around that can be spared. The British Library has reproduced a set of wrapping paper, based on original maps in their collection; you now have the ability to wrap in style. Included are 12 sheets of wrapping paper that have been bound into a notepad that is easy to remove and use when needed. The papers are 19.5 x 27.5 inches; enough to handle a wide range of items.

**Special Events and Materials**

2015 is the two-hundredth anniversary of the publication of the first geological map of Britain by William Smith (1769-1839). Smith pioneered the system of mapping that modern geologic maps follow today, with use of color and various conventions that are standard on such maps. As part of the celebration of this event, the original map has been reproduced and all sorts of activities have been sponsored by various organizations. The following items relate to the map and the anniversary.


The British Geological Survey produced this map, to complement their 2014 folded reproduction of William Smith’s 1815 map. It depicts modern geological bedrock data in the style of Smith’s
nineteenth century cartography. If you have the original, the maps may be viewed side-by-side to compare the present with the past.

The BGS has also published a reproduction of the text that accompanied William Smith’s map: *A Memoir to the Map and Delineation of the Strata of England and Wales with part of Scotland*, which has been remastered from an original held in their Library.

Together these will offer geology professionals and students, good display and exhibit materials and resources for introducing geological sciences. The maps and memoir would be worth having if you select geology materials. The current map or the reproduction of the original will make a nice gift for any map enthusiast, or for someone looking for a large display item.

**Britain’s First Geological Map** (Natural History Museum)  
[http://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/first-geological-map-of-britain.html](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/first-geological-map-of-britain.html)

For background on William Smith’s map, this online exhibit gives a good overview. Included is a download version of the map.
**Geology of Britain Viewer** (British Geological Survey)
http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html

This GIS viewer shows geology of the United Kingdom. Separate layers for surface and bedrock, along with other layers may be displayed. A transparency slider allows 0-100% overprint of base map.

Base maps can be selected from choices, including street map, satellite, National Geographic style, and William Smith 1815 map. The Smith map is a georeferenced facsimile of the original so that you may overlay the map onto current data.

**Maps and Viewers** (British Geological Survey)
http://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/mapViewers/home.html

This site contains UK geology maps and data. The following are some of the data sets available:
- BGS Maps Portal: Links to a collection of geologic maps, covering a wide range of topics; Coverage from 1832 to present -- Offshore and Onshore GeoIndexs to offshore datasets collected or obtained elsewhere. Includes: boreholes, seabed samples, geology, geophysics, hydrocarbon wells -- London Earth: soil geochemistry viewer displays interactive geochemical maps for a selection of environmentally sensitive elements in Greater London -- Quaternary domains: Visualising domains represented by consistent geomorphological features -- Rock stress: The BGS Rock Stress viewer generates rose diagrams for user selected boreholes.

**Make-a-Map** (British Geological Survey)
http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/makeamap/map.html

The rocks in Make-a-map are divided into sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous rock units, which are then subdivided by geological period.

Fill in periods and types of layers. Create a map that can be downloaded and printed. All layers can be turned off to create an outline of the UK.
William ‘Strata’ Smith (1769-1839): Maps, sections and other material from the Library collections of the Geological Society relating to the civil engineer and father of English geology.  
https://www.flickr.com/photos/geologicalsocietylibrary/sets/72157649250448759

This is a photo exhibit honoring the bicentennial of Smith’s ground-breaking geological map of the United Kingdom. It contains digitized images of Smith, his maps, sketches, and a variety of textual materials.

William Smith’s Maps: Interactive  
http://www.strata-smith.com/

This website is a “bicentennial celebration of the first geological map of England and Wales in 1815.” It was funded by a grant from the UK Onshore Geophysical Library (UKOGL) http://ukogl.org.uk/. The site contains a wealth of data, maps, and information that has been gathered from a variety of collections.

Materials are presented “free-to-all” as an educational resource. Included are maps, GIS viewer, biographical materials on Smith, and many articles additional resources.

The GIS viewer has an impressive list of layers, including the original map. All have transparency sliders and may be turned on or off to suit the analysis that is desired. There is a feature that is embedded within the map. You can select a region and obtain additional maps (in pdf form), with more links to geologic sections and other materials.

The list of data sources provides links to other Internet resources on William Smith and the map, along with contemporary maps by other notables. An interesting section of the website provides samples of Smith’s map using other 18th and 19th Century map projections. Additional links on this page refer to resources on map projection, georeferencing, the Prime Meridian, and other topics.

Finally, the contacts/links page contains links to supporting geological libraries and organizations. Entitled: UK Onshore Geophysical Library, this page is a portal to more UK geology information.

The site is a great tool for educators and students, from high school through adult learner. The materials are well presented and offer quite a bit of data. It is a great site to bookmark for the future and a good place to send geology students.

Maps

Amazonia, the Human Impact. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 2015. 1 map: color; on sheet 57 x 79 cm, folded to 13 x 20 cm. Scale: 1:8,500,000. 1 cm = 85 km. 1 in. = 134 miles.

The Amazon River Basin covers an area equal to the entire 48 contiguous United States and contains more than 16,000 known species of trees, and thousands of species of animals, plants, fish, and other inhabitants. It includes parts of eight different countries and one colonial dependency.
This map (issued as a supplement to *National Geographic*, Nov. 2015) provides a current state of the Amazon Basin. It shows the entire region, indicating land cover: forests, crop and grasslands, wetlands, and infrastructure (major roads and railroads). It is easy to see developed areas and regions with potential for resource exploitation. Ancillary maps describe: resources, altered landscape, and managed areas.

The verso, titled “Amazonia, Vital and Fragile” contains cross section images of several main forest types, giving visual details of the flora and fauna found in each. A small ancillary map shows the various river systems that make up the entire Amazon watershed. Images of some of the main birds and animals are located along the margin and across the verso.

This map is attractive and clearly shows Amazonia overall and in small representative sections. It will be useful to students from grade school through adult learner and provides a good representation of the current environment and ecology of a major natural resource region in the World.

**Atlases**


“Lost in a book? There’s a map for that.”--Book jacket

Maps can be used to describe places and content that is factual, and they can also draw powerful visuals of fictional or imaginary places. The theme of this book is to show the world as it would appear in literary classics, such as *The Odyssey* (showing the route in the book), *Hamlet* (Interior of Elsinore Castle), *A Wrinkle in Time*, *Watership Down*, and others. It can be used by a reader to supplement their reading and enjoyment of these works. It would also be good to use when studying a work because maps of places in fiction can help the discussion of those works.

The maps range from cartographic style to artistic and graphic creations. They are interesting works on their own and make the stories they represent more visual to the reader.

The contents list the works that are mapped and discussed in this book:
The voyage of Odysseus (from *The Odyssey* / by Homer) -- Elsinore (from *The tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark* / by William Shakespeare) -- No man is an island (from *Robinson Crusoe* / by Daniel Defoe) -- The course of true love (from *Pride and prejudice* / by Jane Austen) -- Ebenezer Scrooge: time traveler (from *A Christmas Carol* / by Charles Dickens) -- Up from slavery (from *Narrative of the life of Frederick Douglass, an American slave* / by Frederick Douglass) -- The Pequod and its quarry (from *Moby Dick*, or, *The whale* / by Herman Melville)
-- Route zero (from “A narrow fellow in the grass” / by Emily Dickinson) -- Phileas Fogg’s incredibly credible circumnavigation (from Around the world in eighty days / by Jules Verne) -- Huckleberry Finn’s Mississippi River journey (from Adventures of Huckleberry Finn / by Mark Twain) -- An education (from “A report to an academy” / by Franz Kafka) -- Infinite intelligence (from “The library of Babel” / by Jorge Luis Borges) -- Converging paths (from “The Lottery” / by Shirley Jackson) -- Journey to nowhere (from Invisible man / by Ralph Ellison) -- The waiting room (from Waiting for Godot / by Samuel Beckett) -- Flannery O’Connor’s family vacation (from “A good man is hard to find” / by Flannery O’Connor) -- The wrinkled time continuum (from A wrinkle in time / by Madeleine L’Engle) -- The warrens (from Watership Down / by Richard Adams) -- Those who leave and those who stay (from “The ones who walk away from Omelas” / by Ursula K. Le Guin).

The multi-level nature of the book makes it useful for high school through adult reader, for students in a variety of disciplines, and for general entertainment. Younger students might find this book worth viewing while they read their favorite novel. This book would be at home, not only in a map collection, but also in general collections.

Websites

9 Ways to Get the Most out of Google Maps

Do you use Google Maps on your phone or tablet? It has some great features and for various applications can be very helpful. Google Maps has a lot of less known features and they add new ones all the time.

This article (Tech Insider, Dec. 4, 2015) offers a series of deeper features that may be of interest. Some of the things you can read in this article include: finding the cheapest gas on your route, sharing your location with others, finding the nearest bathroom in an airport, or navigating inside
large buildings, such as train stations and malls. You can even use Google Maps without being connected to the internet.

Each tip is listed with instructions on how to use it. Helpful graphics of screen displays support the text. The instructions are short and enough to complete the tasks listed.

This article is handy to have in hand when you are trying to figure something new on your phone or tablet. A few related articles may also be helpful, including one on how to use Google Maps when you don’t have an Internet connection.

Books


“Cities are places of hope and dreams, of vision and order, as well as centres for destruction and conflict. Although cities are not creations of the modern era, for many people they represent the core element of life as we live it today…” [p.12]

To many, urbanism seems to be new to history, yet great cities grew and developed for thousands of years. Mapping of cities has followed urban progress as humans attempted to visualize their surroundings.

*Metropolis* is a wonderful history that covers urban centers from the earliest times; it is even more special because it describes the cartographic representations of these cities and is rich in good quality illustrations of the maps. Virtually every page has a map, and many of the maps are full-page.

Starting with the 1250 B.C.E. terracotta fragment of Nippur, the book introduces the city with its various aspects, strengths, and weaknesses. Each chapter covers a specific period (e.g., The Renaissance City) and describes the period, a sampling of cities during that period, along with maps showing samples to illustrate the text. Each chapter ends with a case study providing a more detailed look at one city in maps.

The last chapter discusses the future of urban development, and of maps. Changing technology in cartography has created entirely new methods of visualizing space. Some of the new mapping concepts are being used now, while the future holds all sorts of conceptual designs.

The maps are varied and offer a diverse collection of city views. The text provides a narrative on the city through historic periods.

This work is great for high school through adult learner and will appeal to planners, cartographers, historians, artists, others. Its size and design makes it worthy too, as a gift.

Between 1572-1617, a great city atlas, the *Civitates orbis terrarum*, was published. Edited by Georg Braun and engraved by Franz Hogenberg (with assistance from a hundred cartographers and local artists), this beautiful collection of 546 town map engravings became a model of urban cartography and civic studies. This new publication displays almost half of these prints in a high quality printing. The book contains plans, bird’s-eye views, and maps for major cities in Europe, and for important urban centers in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The work highlights the best urban maps from the late 16th Century and provides a picture of life during the period. Also included is new text plus extracts from Braun’s original work. For artists, historians, urban planners, and for those interested in cartography, this book will be appreciated by students and professionals from high school through adult. It is definitely a worthy atlas for any collection.


Maps have been used for centuries to describe and analyze events, history, and a wide range of themes. Throughout this time, the map provided a vivid visualization that could be understood by most readers.

This publication contains a selection of 300 maps and a number of illustrations, from all periods and places that show specific events and themes, allowing us to compare and learn about the World. An international group of professionals and academics selected for their special features to provide good examples of cartography and its utility. Every type of map and chart is represented. The maps go from ancient to digital and range through most of human history.

The maps have been paired to provide interesting comparisons of technique, subject nature, and content, and along with the text, each grouping is thought-provoking and will give the reader an
interesting experience. The text describes the maps in context of their cultural impact and as a reflection on the time and place where the maps originated.

Also included are a comprehensive illustrated timeline of the history of cartography, biographies of leading cartographers, and a glossary of cartographic terms. The layout and presentation of the maps are good. This is a great selection of maps and the book is worth viewing from a design aspect.

The book provides a good introduction to the world of maps and their impact on humanity. It is good reading for high school through adult learner and will inspire and generate discussion, and provide new visions into the world of maps. It would be a valuable asset in any collection.
Maps have been drawn for centuries, with varying levels of complexity and accuracy. Cartography has developed into an art and science of properly rendering spacial relationships to create useful and informative tools. But, another, older side to map creation is the “illustrated” map. Illustrated maps can be less technical and often show a freer level of creativity and imagination. From simple, ancient sketches of the landscape, through modern visual maps of tourist areas, this branch of cartography is uninhibited by the use of standards and exact measurements that cartography would expect.

The book focuses on illustrative forms of map making and covers over 2000 years of artistry, ending in illustrators’ concepts of contemporary mapping. Included are works by map artists that show the styles and processes involved in these creations. It also describes how this artistic license is accepted, understood, and appreciated by viewers. The author calls this type of map “the creative non-fiction of cartography”--Introduction

Maps began as abstract conceptual visualizations of the landscape. Early humans painted spatial works on cave walls to show hunting grounds or historic events. As time went on, maps became more exacting, but the artistic aspects continued to develop throughout history. Bird’s-eye views, concept maps, maps that parodied reality; these and other maps have entertained and held the interest of generations of viewers. Illustrated maps could show a level of reality without giving too much detail, to assist national interests or to focus on specific themes. This book discusses the history, the purposes, and the creators of these types of maps. The selection of maps, along with the text and accompanying illustrations give the reader a good learning experience.

This work will be useful to art and creative design students from high school through adult, and provides many examples of illustrated maps. It gives a good idea of the processes and uses of this form of map, as well as examples that will assist professionals and students alike.


Here is another new book about illustrated and creative maps, which describes artistic cartography along with a discussion of techniques for drawing maps.

This work covers the contemporary map world and how illustrated maps are used for promotion and advertising, for showing unique and creative views of the landscape, and for visualizing concepts to make a point. The examples shown are by artists and illustrators worldwide, who create maps that are being used for these purposes. The author explains why these works are becoming more popular and in demand.

This book will be useful for artists and designers, as well as for communications and marketing people who want to find ideas for use in their field. It is appropriate for students from high school through adult and is a good companion to the above title The Art of Illustrated Maps.

Here is yet another discussion of non-conformal mapping. It is also a good example of the non-serious side of cartography. The content is a selection of ‘cartographic curiosities’ mostly from the British Library that show artistic, humorous, and non-traditional visualizations. The works include both regular maps and unusual formats, such as puzzles, games, dishes, and styles that caricaturize geographic features or that express non-spatial concepts (e.g., maps of emotions). The works are illustrated with good quality images. The variety is diverse. It is entertaining and thought-provoking.

The book will appeal to high school through adult learners and is useful to historians and artists. This would also make a good gift item for a mapper.


Portland, Oregon is often cited as a good, all-around city that offers examples of a diverse population in a multi-faceted environment. In this book, the authors have created a series of 150 infographic maps that describe Portland. Topics include: microbreweries, liberals, food trucks, wild coyote encounters, diversity/tolerance rates, and other similar themes. Some of the graphics cover more esoteric topics.

What this book does is to offer visuals on Portland that are more descriptive than just the text alone. Each graphic has a textual description that provides background to the visual. The book also gives professionals a good model to use for works on other cities, states, or other geographical regions. It can be used as a model of various forms of spatial analysis in similar situations.

The book mixes traditional map techniques with modern graphic design to produce a dynamic picture of Portland’s population and unique features. It will be useful to design students, cartographers, artists, and urban planners and promoters, providing a model for works about other places. It would be good in any collection supporting these fields of study.

If you have not had enough of illustrated maps, this book should give you another chance. This book contains stylized maps from one artist whose Internet maps became popular a year ago. Martin Vargic has produced a collection of artistic, design-style maps covering a variety of usual and not-so-unusual themes. In this work are titles, such as: The Music Map, The Map of YouTube, and others. Some maps are of popular concepts, while others include unique topics.

This work will also be of interest to designers and to artistic mappers. It is entertaining and in some places, humorous. It would be at home in high school through adult library collections and will inspire and amuse.


The American Revolution was inevitable; it was the culmination of years of events that shaped the history of North America. The wars in America, prior to the Revolution showed the need for a nation that could support and protect itself.

Throughout the 18th Century, maps were key to the many struggles of the Americas. This book provides a good selection of maps from the period that represented major actions and campaigns of the French & Indian War and the American Revolution. Along with the maps, the text and illustrations put the maps into the perspective of the events that led to the final independence and birth of the United States. Some of the maps are rare and previously unpublished.

The images are reproduced in high quality and clarity. The authors have intimate knowledge of the maps of the period and have written a good history to describe and to place the maps into their proper context. The maps cover a series of important battles and theaters, as well as various themes relating to the road to Revolution.

This book will appeal to historians, cartographers, and to those with an interest in the 18th Century struggle for North America, or in World colonial history. It would be appropriate for high school through adult learner and is a good atlas for any collection.

Railroads and mass transit systems have fueled the growth and success of more major urban centers in the World. When using the rail systems, travelers need ways to find their way around. Maps need to be produced that offer clear, easy to understand directions. The rail transit map is both a cartographic and a design issue, requiring good use of color, line, and simplicity. The styles that appear throughout the World vary in their layout, but design techniques are quite similar.

This book is an “Expanded and updated edition of the world’s first collection of every urban train map on earth.”--Cover

It is laid out along the same lines as the transit maps that it describes. The table of contents uses color and graphic layout to speed the reader on their way. The book includes an introduction to rail transit systems, with history and development through time. Then the author goes into the cities and for each, the history and various maps show the routes during various times in the city’s history, along with a current map of the system.

The book is very thorough and there is a lot of detail for each entry, even down to smaller cities. For some, the entry might be part of a column of text, with a map; for others, the entry continues for a number of pages. The details of routes, and statistics, along with information about stations and future developments, is rich.

For travelers, this is a useful tool. Urban planners and historians will find it useful as well. It will be helpful to college through adult learner. This book would also be fascinating reading for those with an interest in cities, railroads, and for detail-oriented readers.


Travel does not always involve physically transporting oneself between two places. Most of us make journeys each day without leaving our regular routines, or even without leaving our own mind. Generally, this called imaginary or fantastic travel, but it is still real. Reading is a form of travel in that we can see the universe through the thoughts and experiences of others.

If reading is a form of travel, then the library is the transport station; entering a library is like going to a place where you can instantly be transported in time and space. “Step inside and you can travel almost anywhere in the world and back as far as 3,000 years.” This is the opening of a new book that explores the World through the writings of authors from all corners of our planet. Ann Morgan gave herself the task of reading a book from every nation during the period of one year. This work is both a personal journey and an exploration of the state of the World’s literature.

The author begins by defining the development of books, from the age of Gutenberg through modern electronic books. She discusses the state of publishing from early times (e.g., 50 years after Gutenberg’s first print volume, there were 27,000 titles in print--p.10), through the present, where thousands of publications are being produced every year (she states that, currently there are 500 new books being released daily just in England and Ireland--p.3).
This history is useful to the story because the author describes her fascination with books and how she handles the fact that she cannot read everything. She also explains how she got started with the project of reading books from around the World in one year. The book is about this attempt (she got through 197 books) and about the characteristics of writing in different countries.

Though this book is mainly a memoir of the author’s study of international literature, it is also a geographical work in that she discusses the diverse nature of writing with its international distinctions. In some countries, writers are influenced or controlled by the policies of their government or by cultural traditions. Writers have different situations to work under and this is reflected in their writing.

This work is also a description of the future of books. The nature of publishing is affecting what choices we will have for reading. Electronic publishing, economics, control over the industry all have an effect on who gets published. As librarians, this is of great concern, but mainly because of the impact that this will have on readers.

Included in the book is a list of the books that were read, in country order, along with an extensive bibliography.

This book will appeal to literature students, as well as to contemporary anthropologists and to librarians. Anyone interested in books will find this to be an enlightening experience.


Theft of collection materials has always been a concern, but in the high-tech age of accessible catalogs, it is now easy to build shopping lists of items to steal. When someone begins to steal specific items on demand, the situation becomes more critical. Rare books, manuscripts, maps, and any materials that are irreplaceable, have become the target of theft worldwide. This is not new. Rare items have been in demand since the pharaohs were buried with their treasures. But greed, desire, and advanced techniques for stealing have exacerbated the situation.

In the map world, we tend to think of peoples’ interests as being honorable; their enthusiasm for cartographic materials is genuine and the quest for knowledge and the vision of the rare is altruistic. We would like to think that patrons are good and that the market for maps is civilized and noble. However, the underside of every story is darker than what we can imagine and this makes it harder to determine the best way to provide access to materials while guarding their existence.

For major collections, security is a primary function of staff. Having millions of dollars’ worth of materials, or priceless objects, is a gift and a nightmare. Promoting our collections, providing access; these things are our reason for being and our means to survival. A collection that cannot be seen is not a collection.

When theft occurs, it affects us all. Lost materials, lost knowledge. We expect that the map thief is a shady character who sneaks about, watches and waits; taking advantage of opportunities to move at the right moment. But, when the theft comes from an unexpected source, or from someone who is perceived to be above reproach, it destroys trust in everything.
The activities of E. Forbes Smiley are known by many in the map world and in special collections. I remember when the first e-mail arrived, describing the theft of maps. At the time it was merely an alert, warning other collections that this occurred. At the time, it was something that got small attention by those who were concerned. As time passed, and more thefts were discovered, and then later when Mr. Smiley was implicated as the culprit, we all realized that the extent of his actions were greater than was uncovered.

This book details the recent (past few decades) series of events and provides lessons for collections everywhere. The length of time that thefts occurred, the number of items, and the impunity of the perpetrator, is a case study that should be read by everyone. It is a story about the thief, his world, the types of people who traffic in stolen materials, and the aftermath of dealing with the loss and betrayal of trust by curators and collections. It is noteworthy to mention, that more materials are unaccounted for than the thief claims and that the book addresses this as well. The damage done is like any disaster: the full extent will never be known and cannot be resolved.

What sets this narration apart from the usual tale of crime is that the author had direct contact with the thief, and with principle players, and in a series of interviews, was able to gather a more rounded account than would normally be possible. The reader can see many disparate pieces of the puzzle and assemble the details into a comprehensible account they can understand. The truth becomes more incredible once this understanding takes place.

The author adds a narrative to the story that makes it more interesting for the reader. This will help anyone who might otherwise not read the book, thinking that it is just a “dusty library” story. Not that it needs it; the story has its own momentum and enough complexity to match a work of suspense.

It is interesting to note, that the author describes Mr. Smiley as being drawn into this dark world, almost as if he could not help himself. A similar story can be found in a book that I read and reviewed early in *baseline (The Island of Lost Maps*, 2001 (9780767908269). The thief was name Mr. Bland (there seems to be a trend in names for map thieves).

This book will find its way into the general public, which is good because the story should be better known. College through adult readers will find the work interesting and useful. It will be of interest to anyone who studies crime, but it also is important for librarians and curators, collectors, and others who need to understand the workings of this system. There are lessons to learn and this work will be worth acquiring for not only map collections, but for collections of all kinds.

Note: while doing some background research when reading this book, I was reminded of a useful title for map collections: *Map Collection Security Guidelines* (MAGERT), 2010. This is available at the MAGIRT website [http://www.alala.org/magirt/sites/ala.org.magirt/files/content/publications/ MAP%20COLLECTION%20SECUR.pdf](http://www.alala.org/magirt/sites/ala.org.magirt/files/content/publications/ MAP%20COLLECTION%20SECUR.pdf).

**Conclusion**

Enjoy the holidays and have a happy new year.–DJB
Great Moments In Map Librarianship  by Jim Coombs

SO HOW DOES HE DO IT?

I DUNNO. LET'S ASK MY DAD. HEY DAD! HOW DOES SANTA CLAUS DELIVER TOYS TO KIDS ALL OVER THE WORLD ON CHRISTMAS EVE?

WELL, HE STARTS AT THE INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE AND TRAVELS WEST. EVERY TIME HE CROSSES A TIME ZONE, HE GAINS AN HOUR. IN ALL, HE GETS AN EXTRA 24 HOURS ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

YES, THAT WAY, I HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO PLAY WITH THE TOYS AND POLISH OFF THE COOKIES YOU CHILDREN HAVE LEFT ME!