

ISSN 0272-8532

# base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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<http://magert.who.edu>

Volume 23, Number 3  
June 2002



**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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312/944-6780

Published by the Map and Geography Round Table

**base line** is published six times a year: February, April, June, August, October, and December. Single issues of **base line** are available at a cost of \$3.00 per issue, U.S. and Canadian orders; \$4.00 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, Southwest Missouri State University, 901 S. National, #175, Springfield, MO 65804-0095. Claims for the current volume year should also be made to the base line Production Manager.

Members of MAGERT receive **base line** as a benefit of their memberships. Nonmember subscription rates are \$15.00, U.S. and Canada; \$20.00 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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#### **MAGERT WEB SITE:**

<http://magert.who.edu>

## FROM THE CHAIR

Mark Thomas, Duke University

By the time you read this, the ALA Annual Conference will be over and Mary McInroy will be your new Chair. With several years at the helm of MAGERT's Membership Committee, Mary knows the concern of our members, and I know she has the energy to speak for those concerns.

My instincts and casual observations tell me that map collections and map librarianship are becoming marginalized in this era of tight budgets and the in search for trendy ways to market libraries. MAGERT membership, nonetheless, has remained fairly constant over the last few years. Hopefully, these optimistic numbers prove my instincts wrong.

Those of us interested in maps and geographic information need to remain advocates for our collections and for the work we do to ensure that we get the support we need within our institutions. Beyond our institutions, I urge everyone to remain involved at a regional and national level through communication with mapping agencies and through activities in professional organizations, such as MAGERT. 



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## MAGERT ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following newly elected officers of the Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT) of the American Library Association (ALA), with terms to begin following the ALA Annual Conference this June:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, 2002-2003:

Steve Rogers, Ohio State University

Treasurer, 2002-2004:

Mark Crotteau, Boise State University

Also after ALA Annual, Mary McInroy (University of Iowa) will become Chair and Mark Thomas (Duke University) will become Past Chair. Thanks to all MAGERT members who voted.

The full MAGERT roster is available at: <http://www.uni.edu/moore/magrostd.html>



## WELCOME NEW MAGERT MEMBERS!

MAGERT wishes to extend a welcome to the following new members for February of 2002. 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.

Robert Dalton  
Durham, NC

Daryle Maroney  
Decatur, GA

John Fillicaro  
Brighton, MI

Harry Meserve  
Felton, CA

Peter Kraus  
Salt Lake City, UT



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### HELEN AND JOHN S. BEST RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

*K The following announcement was posted to MAPS-L on May 16 by Christopher Baruth of the American Geographical Society Collection at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.*

#### **Fellowships for 2002-2003**

The American Geographical Society Collection, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries welcomes applicants for Helen and John S. Best Research Fellowships. Stipends of \$375 per week, for periods up to 4 weeks, will be awarded to support residencies for the purpose of conducting research which makes direct use of the Collection. The Fellowships will be tenable between December 2, 2002 and November 28, 2003.

The AGS Collection, the former research library and map collection of the American Geographical Society of New York, has strengths in geography, cartography and related historical topics. Applications must be postmarked by September 16, 2002. For further information, write, call or e-mail:

AGS Collection,  
P.O. Box 399  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0399  
Tel. (414) 229-6282  
E-mail [agsc@leardo.lib.uwm.edu](mailto:agsc@leardo.lib.uwm.edu)  
Web site: <http://leardo.lib.uwm.edu>



# NEW MAPS AND BOOKS

Fred Musto, Yale University

## New Maps

### Michelin Men

Michelin's maps, like their tires, have a long tradition of quality and are favorites of map users throughout the world. The company has published two series of detailed road maps of France at a 1:200K scale, both with distinctive yellow covers and with their customary numbering system. One series covered the country on 17 large 39 x 60" sheets numbered from 230 to 246. The other "yellow" series, designed more for travelers, was comprised of 40 smaller (20 x 55") maps, with tourist information added to the cartography.

Now Michelin has issued a new series of tourist maps of France that apparently replace the older 1:200K set. Consisting of 45 maps numbered from 301 to 345, the new series uses primarily a 1:150K scale, with some sheets at 1:175K. An index identifies places of interest to tourists, and some have city plan insets. If your collection is a little thin on maps of France, this would make a good basic reference set. \$7.95 each from Map Link.

If even these are more than you need, an affordable alternative is Michelin's road atlas of France (*France, Atlas Routier*), done at the same 1:200K scale. It comes in several versions, including a 16 x 11" spiral bound edition

of 242 pages for \$20, a 12 x 9" paperback (subtitled *Tourist and Motoring Atlas*) with 416 pages at \$20, and a similar sized hardback for \$25. All three versions include a place name index and some 75 city and town plans.

### Australiana

Hema Maps has compiled a concise and complete record of the activities of Australian Armed Services in conflicts throughout the world in the form of a map titled *Australians Remembered - Lest We Forget*. Created with the cooperation of the Australian War Memorial, it features a political world map that shows all the conflicts in which Australians have been involved, differentiating the conflicts by color-coded boxes. Inside the boxes are the units involved in these conflicts. Also on the map is a matrix showing where and when Australians have been involved in peace-keeping forces. The map is framed by depictions of medals of the Australian Armed Forces, and on the reverse is a list of all 102,000 names of Australians who have fallen in battle. Compressing a tremendous amount of information in a small package, *Australians Remembered* would be a nice addition to collections of Australiana or militaria. \$14.95 from Map Link or Hema (<http://www.hemamaps.com.au>).

Those readers with connections "Down Under" might already know that 2002

is Australia's "Year of the Outback." A trip into that remote area of the country would be more enjoyable with Hema's *Australia's Outback Map*, a comprehensive road map with full terrain detail. The map, priced at \$9.95, is bordered by images representing a cross section of all of the Outback, while on the reverse is a month-by-month list of all of the events scheduled to celebrate the year.

### **JOG-Mania**

Many of the 1:250 JOG (Joint Operations Graphic) charts produced by NIMA are theoretically if not practically available to the public. Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be much rhyme or reason as to what is released, or when. Scattered, unsystematic, coverage is available for many areas throughout the world, occasionally for areas where little else is available. A few countries seem complete (e.g. Cuba, Haiti/Dominican Republic, Venezuela), some are largely but not fully covered (Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru), and many areas are untouched. Omni Resources claims to have about 1000 of the approximately 4200 JOG sheets, but availability seems to fluctuate. Their website has a graphic index that indicates which sheets are available (<http://www.omnimap.com>).

### **World Heritage**

Since the signing of the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heri-

tage, UNESCO has been adding sites to its World Heritage List. The sites, whose "outstanding values should be preserved for all humanity," now number over 700, including such U.S. locales as Yellowstone and the Statue of Liberty. (An up-to-date list can be found at: <http://whc.unesco.org/heritage.htm>)

Map Link has created a *World Heritage Sites* map that shows the location of the official cultural and natural heritage sites as of 2001. The 1:40M, 26 x 37" map numbers and color-codes them into five categories: endangered, natural sites, cultural sites, historic towns/cities, and mixed sites. On the reverse is brief descriptive text for each entry. The map retails for \$9.95, but if you can wait a while, a similar World Heritage Map is available for free from UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7 place de Fontenoy, 75352, Paris, France.

### **Briefly Noted**

An interesting item that's been around for a while is a map titled *Native Languages and Language families of North America*, first issued as an accompaniment to volume 17 ("Languages") of the *Handbook of American Indians* published by the Smithsonian in 1996. A revised and enlarged edition of the map, which indicates the location and classification of all the native languages and major dialects of North America, was issued by the University of Nebraska Press in 1999. Sixty-two "Language families" are color-coded on the map, with over 400

languages and dialects located by number. A classification table of all the languages is included. It's available in two versions, a 38 x 50" "Wall Display Map" for \$19.95, and a smaller 20 x 22" folded study map at \$14.95.

For those who still don't have enough to worry about, Map Link has just produced *World Terrorism - A Reference Map*. Carrying a 2002 imprint, but sure to be soon out-of-date, the world map locates hundreds of terrorist incidents around the world from 1967 to the present, with the date and a brief description of each occurrence. On the reverse is a chronological listing of all the incidents. The 27 x 39" folded map lists for \$9.95.

National Geographic has been expanding coverage of its Trails Illustrated series of topographic maps outside the U. S. Its "Adventure Map" collection began in 2000 with four maps of the trekking areas of the Himalayan regions of Nepal. NG's latest Adventure Map is of *Costa Rica*. The 1:350K topo map, which uses shaded relief, is printed on waterproof, tear-resistant paper. The 38 x 25" sheet shows the complete road network, highlighting the Pan-American highway, indicates protected area boundaries, and includes a detailed inset map of San José as well as country information. Available for \$9.99 from the National Geographic Store (<http://shop.nationalgeographic.com>).

Swiss publisher Karto Atelier, noted for their maps of the Himalayan regions and the Greek isles, has issued a new map of *Cambodia*. In addition to a road map of the entire country at 1:750K, it features maps of the Angkor

Wat Area at 1:150K, the city of Phnom Penh at 1:15K, Ream National Park at 1:150K, and several other cities. The "GPS Compatible" map sells for \$15.95 from Map Link.

The National Library of Scotland has one of the largest map collections in the world.

They also have a terrific website to which they have recently added over 700 high-quality map images. The three collections in their Digital Library include 300 maps of Scotland from 1560-1769, Timothy Pont's 16<sup>th</sup>-century manuscript maps, and some 400 military maps of Scotland (<http://www.nls.uk/maps>). And if you're traveling near Colonial Williamsburg this summer and can't get enough of all things Scottish, there is an exhibit titled "At the Edge of the World: Mapping Scotland," which highlights 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century maps and atlases that show the development of the mapping of that country.

## New Books and Atlases

**A**ntique Map Price Record on CD-ROM. Cambridge, MA: MapRecord Publications, 2002. \$149. Since 1983, the bible for determining prices for old maps has been the *Antique Map Price Record*, originally published by David Jolly under a slightly different title, and since 1992 by Jon Rosenthal and Kimmel Publications. Published annually, then semi-annually with the last two volumes, the series has served as a permanent record

of prices of maps listed in dealers' and auction catalogs. Now the AMPR has evolved into an electronic publication which also fulfills a long-felt need for some sort of cumulative volume.

The CD-ROM version, which is labeled "Volume 17, 1983-2002," includes all the records from the previous 16 volumes plus more than 5000 entries for 2001-2002, for a total of over 80,000 records. The CD is searchable by a number of fields including map-maker, map title, date of publication, seller, or year of AMPR entry. A Windows edition is available now, with a Macintosh version expected later this summer. The initial price of \$149 seems reasonable, and future updates will be priced lower. Even if you have all the print volumes of this series, this CD-ROM makes searching for information much easier, and anyone who gets questions about the value of old maps will find it a godsend. For ordering information see <http://www.maprecord.com>.

***Mapping the World: Maps and Their History.*** Nathaniel Harris. San Diego: Thunder Bay Press, 2002. 304 p. This is a beautiful book based on a simple concept: a history of cartography told through descriptions of "great maps." The 73 maps chosen as examples range from a Babylonia world map on a clay tablet to modern satellite imagery. Each is illustrated in color on a double-page spread, with a brief discussion of its significance, and a series of close-ups showing some of its key elements. A two-page section following each "great map" places it within either its historical context, the development of cartography, or world

exploration.

The big names are all here—the Peutinger map, Al-Idrisi's world map, Juan de la Cosa, John Smith's New England, Moll's "Beaver Map," Lewis and Clark—as well as some lesser known, such as Greenville Collins' nautical charts in *Great Britain's Coasting Pilot* (1693), Diogo Homen's manuscript atlas maps of Africa and Asia (1558), and James Reynolds' *Geological Map of the World* (1849). The attractively reproduced maps overwhelm the skimpy but informative text, making this a visually appealing introduction to the history of mapping rather than any kind of definitive study. This would be a good addition to all collections and a great gift for map lovers, so buy one for your library and one for yourself.

***Historical Atlas of Jerusalem.*** Meir Ben-Dov. New York: Continuum, 2002. 400 p. \$50 (ISBN: 082641379X). Despite its title, this work has the look and flavor of a historical encyclopedia rather than an atlas. Thirteen chronological chapters cover the history of Jerusalem from 3000 BC to the present, with each chapter subdivided into brief sections on a variety of topics. The work is heavily illustrated with drawings, photos, and maps, all in black and white. No listing of illustrations is given, but only a relatively small percentage (perhaps 25%) are actually maps or plans of the city. The text is interesting and the illustrations make it enjoyable to browse, but it is probably more suited for a library's circulating collection rather than a map collection.

***Penguin Atlas of Endangered Species.*** Richard Mackay. New York: Penguin Books, 2002. 128 p., pbk. \$20 (ISBN: 0142000728). Another in a series of nice little atlases from Penguin, this volume covers some 40 topics within 6 broad chapters (e.g., “Fragile Regions,” “Endangered Birds”), each topic given a two-page map spread and brief explanatory text. The maps are necessarily small but well-done, and the text informative. A concluding section has world tables listing “Protective Ecosystems and Biodiversity” and “Threatened Species” for every country. A useful item, appropriate for all library collections.

***Lewis and Clark Trail Maps: A cartographic Reconstruction, Volume II: Beyond Fort Mandan (North Dakota/Montana) to Continental Divide and Snake River (Idaho/Washington)—Outbound 1805; Return 1806.*** Martin Plamandon II. Pullman, WA: Washington State University Press, 2001. 222 p. \$75 (ISBN: 0874222427). This is the second book of a projected three-volume set delineating the Corps of Discovery’s entire outbound and return trek. Similar in format to the first volume (reviewed in the Dec. 2000 *base line*), 180 modern black and white topo maps are overlaid with maps indicating the terrain and river courses at the time of the exploration. Also included are excerpts from the journals and descriptions of significant geographical features. When complete, this set will be a valuable addition to the voluminous historical writings on Lewis and Clark. The second volume is available in three formats, hardbound and spiral bound

for \$75, and a paperback edition for \$55.

***National Atlas of Slovenia.*** Ljubljana: Rokus Publishing House, 2001. 191 p. (ISBN: 9612092133). This is a handy little atlas for a country for which little else is available. Slovenia’s first national atlas—*Geografski atlas Slovenije*—was published in 1998, an impressive production with 360 pages of text, pictures, and thematic maps, most at 1:750K scale. This new atlas reduces the page size to 8 x 11” and the scale of the base shaded relief maps to 1:1M. Portions of the text are abridged, but, more significantly, this version is entirely in English. The usual topics are covered within the broad areas of “Population,” “Economy and Infrastructure,” etc., but with an occasional surprise, such as a map of “Settlements with Vacation Residences,” and a small section of reproductions of antique maps. A nice addition to any map collection.

***Cairo: The Practical Guide, Maps 2002.*** Cairo: American University in Cairo Press, 2001. 52 p., pbk. \$8.95 (ISBN: 977424687X). Since 1975, the American University in Cairo has been publishing probably the best guide to that city. Designed more for foreigners who take up residence there rather than casual tourists, the *Practical Guide* is now in its 12th edition. An accompaniment to the guide, but available separately, the *Maps* volume covers all the principal areas of metropolitan Cairo and Giza. The 37 maps are clear and

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(see *New Maps* on page 13)

# ELECTRONIC MAPPING

Guest Editor: T.Wangyal Shawa, Princeton University

## How to Access the Free National Elevation Dataset from the USGS Web Site

We were informed at the ALA Annual Conference 2001 in San Fransico by the USGS representative that USGS will discontinue free 24K DEM (Digital Elevation Model) in SDTS (Spatial Data Transfer Standard) format from their web site and will make seamless National Elevation Dataset (one arc-second, which is approximately 30 meters resolution for the contiguous United States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico with NAD 83 and a resolution of two arc-seconds for Alaska with NAD 27) accessible free for the public to download if the file size is 10 MB or less. Recently they made NED data accessible through this web site <http://edcnts14.cr.usgs.gov/Website/seamless.htm>. I evaluated their site to see how everything works.

Their web site will give you a few options when you click on the above web page. I clicked on link called "Go to Map Interface." Once you click on this link, you will see a map of the United States. To download the data, you need to select an area. The best way to select an area is, if you know your area's location, to use the *Zoom In* tool to select a general area that you are interested in downloading and then use the tool under **Order** called *Define Order Area with Mouse*, to select an area. Once the area is selected, click on the dollar sign (\$) under **Order** called

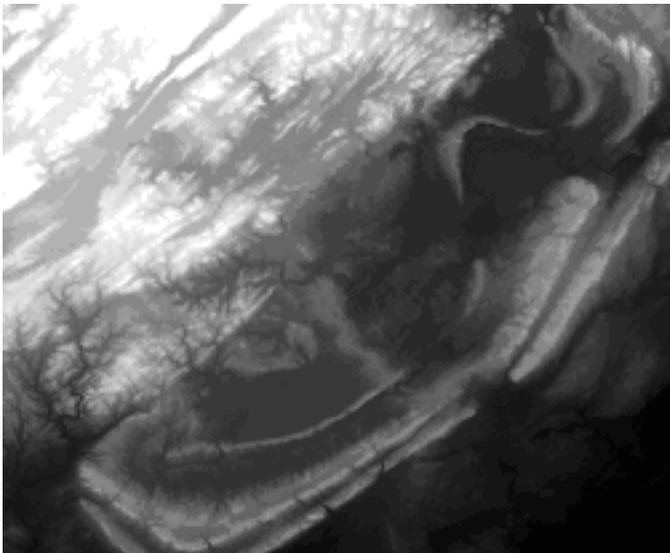
*Order Currently Defined Area*. This will open another window called *Seamless Data Order Summary Page*. In this page, you will find coordinates of selected areas, output file formats, delivery options, file size of the area you selected, and a button to place an order.

There are three different output file format options. The ArcGrid (Arc/Info proprietary format: data will be delivered in a workspace, and the workspace is not compressed.), GRIDFLOAT and BIL (both are non-proprietary formats). I found the best output file format option is BIL-meters because it is the smallest file size. Here is an example: the area that I selected for evaluation was 40.597029N, 74.693802W SW corner and 41.010032N, 74.177549W NE corner. When I selected file output format as ArcGrid, file size was 11.51 MB whereas, GRIDFLOAT output format file size was 10.66 MB, and BIL-meters file format size was 5.54 MB. If I selected either ArcGrid or GRIDFLOAT file formats, then I need to pay to \$75.00 total, which includes \$25.00 for cost of the data, \$45.00 for base charge, \$5.00 for handling.

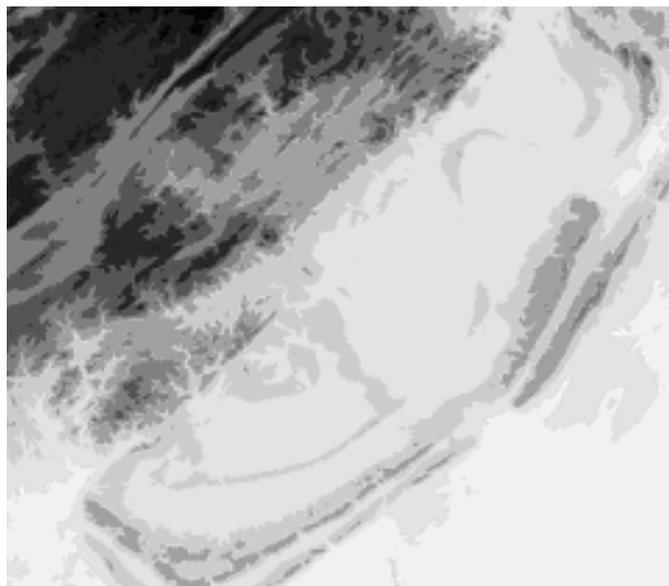
Once I made the decision to get a file in BIL-meters format, which is free because it was less than 10 MB and was ordered via FTP (File Transfer Protocol), I clicked on the button to place an order. (If I order BIL-meters file format on CD-ROM then I have pay a handling fee and base charge.)

When I clicked on **Order** it opened another window called *Verify Your Customer Information*. There you need to give contact and shipping information, and there is a place to write a note, if you want. After filling the information, you get options of selecting whether the information is correct or not. When you click on the **Yes** button, it will open another window that will give you information about what you have ordered.

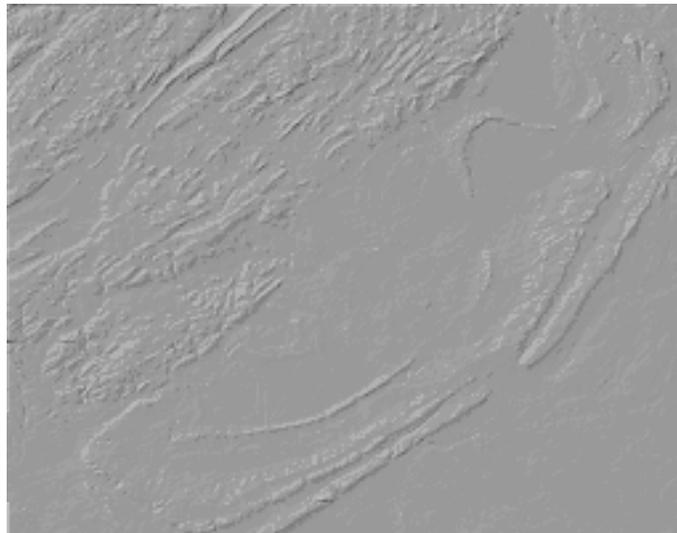
After roughly two hours (according the USGS web site you will get the data through FTP within 24 to 48 hours), I received an email informing me about the FTP site from which I could download the data. Since the data is in BIL-meters format and is compressed, I uncompressed the data using WinZip software. After uncompressing the file, I opened ArcView and its Spatial Analysis Extension. Then I added the data in ArcView as an image.



After that, I converted the image data into Grid format by selecting *convert to Grid* from *Theme menu*.



If you want to create a good shaded-relief map on the Grid data, then you have to make sure that both horizontal and vertical units are the same. The data that I downloaded was not in the same units, that is, the horizontal unit was in decimal degrees, and the vertical unit was in meters. I projected the data into UTM, Zone 18, and the units in meters using ArcToolbox, because the data that I downloaded was from Northeastern part of New Jersey. Once the data was projected, I added the data in ArcView and created a beautiful shaded-relief map by selecting *Compute Hillshade* from *Surface menu*.



The seamless National Elevation Dataset product looks good, unlike the old 24K DEM data where sometimes you find a problem with edge matching and missing data. The NED data not only provides you elevation data when you download, but also provides other vital information with the data, such as area coverage files in Shapefile and Arc/Info coverage formats and their quad names, individual quad's original datum information, information about when it was tiled, and metadata in HTML, SGML, XML and text formats. I strongly recommend this web site to people who like to get free elevation data for the United States. 

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***New Maps*** (continued from page 10)

uncluttered, with indexes for street names and places of interest, and symbols highlighting notable landmarks and useful locations, all in a slim 8 x 6" booklet. The *Maps* volume is a reasonable \$8.95, while the 256-page *Guide* itself sells for \$15.95. More information can be found at the AUCP website (<http://www.aucpress.com>), but the books can also be ordered through Amazon.com. 

## NORTHWESTERN BOUNDARY HUMILIATION

κ The following announcement was published in the *Monthly Catalogue: United States Public Documents* (no. 177, September 1909), p.103.

The full report of the American Members of the joint English and American Northwestern Boundary Commission was transmitted to the State Department in October, 1869, but was not printed and is now lost. Some humiliating results have followed this loss. For all available information, see Geological Survey bulletin 174, by Marcus Baker, published in 1900. This is also published as H. doc. 748, 56th Cong. 1st sess., in serial volume 3952. 

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MAGERT member Mike Furlough partakes of the bountiful hors d'oeuvres at the MAGERT reception at the 2002 Midwinter meetings in New Orleans. We thank our sponsors for making our Friday evening welcome receptions possible.

Great Moments In Map Librarianship by Jim Coombs

ALRIGHT! ROAD TRIP!  
ATLANTA HERE WE COME!  
I'VE GOT THE MAPS!

WE DON'T NEED  
NO STINKIN' MAPS!



WELCOME  
TO  
MEXICO

HMMM...  
MAYBE WE SHOULD  
LOOK AT A MAP...



JIM COOMBS 6/02