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# base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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

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## FROM THE CHAIR

Pete Rheeling, University of South Florida

Planning for the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia is proceeding on schedule. A notable change to the midwinter schedule involves separating the GIS/RS Discussion Group and GeoTech Committee sessions. The GIS/RS Discussion Group will now be a dedicated forum for librarians to discuss issues associated with providing services and collection assets to patrons engaged in geographic information systems and remote sensing activities. The GeoTech Committee session will include addressing initiatives that MAGERT may want to pursue in association with the upcoming CUAC conference. Joe Aufmuth, GIS Librarian at the Univ. of Florida, will be leading the GIS/RS Discussion Group and he also serves as Chair of the GeoTech Committee. The Friday tour and reception is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Free Library of Philadelphia. Rich Boardman, Head of the Map Collection, will be giving a tour/presentation of the Free Library's map collection which is especially strong in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania maps as well as Delaware Valley aerial photos. MAGERT members and guests should expect an enjoyable evening of historical cartography along with good food and drink. 🌍🍷



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### EXECUTIVE BOARD I MEETING

ALA Annual, Washington, D.C., June 23, 2007

**Attending:** Scott McEathron (Chair), Pete Reehling, Bradley Wade Bishop, Kathy Weimer, Carol McAuliffe, John Lawton, John Olson, Mary McInroy, Jan Dixon, Joe Aufmuth, Steve Rogers, Matthew Parsons, Dorothy McGarry, Dan Seldin, Nancy Kandoian, Colleen, Cahill, Michael Smith, Katherine Rankin, Betsy Eggleston.

Scott McEathron, Chair, welcomed the members of the Executive Board and guests and thanked outgoing Officers.

#### **Round Table Coordinating Committee**

Scott gave a summary of the Round Table Coordinating Committee meeting that he attended on Friday, June 22.

The AAAS assessment of the Web Page was discussed. There is a place in the Round Table kiosk area in the Convention Center for voting on potential Web pages.

## **Updates from Programs**

### **Preconference**

Nancy Kandoian gave a report of the preconference that she conducted along with Seanna Tsung and Carolyn Kadri—“Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old: Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources.” The preconference was co-sponsored by ALCTS, GODORT, RBMS, and MAGERT. RBMS was particularly involved and one of its members spoke at the meeting. John Hébert, Chief of the Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, provided the introduction and welcome. The preconference was very well received. There were 38 attendees. It grossed about \$14,000. The major expenses were for the audio-visual setup, catering, and the cost of copying the handouts. Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of ACRL is encouraging the preconference organizers to create a separate manual on rare maps. The possibility of publishing the handouts was discussed and was referred to the Publications Committee where it will be taken up as part of that meeting. [Please see announcement on page 20—Ed.]

### **Library Security for Maps**

Jan Dixon reported on plans for the program on Library Security for Maps to be held on Sunday afternoon. She has been working with David Cobb and

Jenny Johnson and other members of the Task Force on Library Security for Cartographic Resources. They have been able to arrange for the participation of Chris Schmeisser, Assistant U.S. Attorney General and prosecutor in the Forbes Smiley map theft case. The panel also includes David Cobb, moderator, Edward James Redmond, Library of Congress Geography and Map Division, Alice C. Hudson, New York Public Library Map Division, and Rob Lopresti, Western Washington University. It should be an interesting and full program. The other responsibility of the task force, developing guidelines for library security for maps, will be discussed at the Map Collection Management Discussion Group meeting.

### **Conference Program**

Scott McEathron reported that the program “200 Years of the Coast Survey” has taken shape and he predicted that it would go off smoothly. The two speakers both work at the NOAA Central Library. They are historian and writer/geographer John Cloud and NOAA Central Library Reference Librarian Mary Lou Cumberpatch. They will speak on the mapping aspects of the U.S. Coast Survey.

### **Heads of Map Collections Meeting**

Scott informed the Board of a conversation that he had with the outgoing president of WAML on the possibility of setting up a meeting for the heads of map libraries in conjunction with the CUAC meeting. It is hoped that such a meeting can be held in the Midwest.

## **Treasurer**

MAGERT's treasurer, Karen Kuhn, has resigned. Mike Smith has volunteered to take over as interim treasurer until the next regular election.

## **Emerging Leaders Program**

ALA is planning to continue to fund the Emerging Leaders Program. The Board discussed ways to participate in the Program, either by sponsoring or by providing a project for the participants to work on. Matthew Parsons, who was sponsored by MAGERT last year, spoke about the Program and the types of projects that might be done. Members were interested in continuing to be involved. The Chair left the decision on what form this involvement will take to his successor.

## **Vice-Chair's Report**

The MAGERT exhibit booth has been retired. We are now exclusively using the kiosk provided in the ALA Membership Pavilion to display our publicity. ALA is providing such space for all of the Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables. While there is considerably less space in the new kiosk, it is in a much higher traffic area and it is considerably easier to set up. We are paying \$90 for the computer set-up but we are not paying for the space. This arrangement will obviate the need to replace the display boards in our old exhibit booth.

## **Past-Chair's Report**

Wangyal spoke about discrepancies between the MAGERT Organization

Manual and actual practice. For example, according to the manual, the Vice-Chair is responsible for organizing all social events, while, in practice, the Chair has been making arrangements for the reception. He suggested that following the manual would make the job of the Chair easier. The incoming Vice-Chair will discuss this with the incoming Chair. There has also been some misunderstanding about how the MAGERT honors award should be presented. The manual has been updated to change the primary communication venue for the Board to MAGERT-L, with MAPS-L being the secondary venue.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The newly appointed treasurer, Mike Smith, will be pulling together the numbers and reporting at the General Membership meeting on Tuesday.

## **Secretary's Report**

Betsy Eggleston thanked the Board for a wonderful four years as secretary and asked that the members send their reports to her for inclusion in the minutes to be published in *base line*.

## **ALA Staff Liaison's Report**

John Chrastka, director of the Membership Dept., has announced that next year the ALA membership pavilion will have a "featured day" to highlight various Round Tables. If MAGERT would like to participate, one whole day will be dedicated to MAGERT and maps. John would like the Round Tables to give him ideas to work with around this theme. He has also asked that we send

more articles to ALA Direct and he offered to work with us on that.

## **New Business**

### **Membership Dues Increase Proposal**

John Lawton handed out copies of his proposal for a MAGERT dues increase, previously discussed at ALA Midwinter in Seattle. The original proposal featured a plan for different levels of dues for students, first-year members, library support staff, and regular members. The revised proposal eliminates the levels for first-year members and library support staff and is simply a proposal for the addition of a category for LIS students. In implementing this class of membership, it is hoped that more students will be interested in joining MAGERT and thus the membership will be increased in the long run.

The Board discussed the proposal and its implications for the budget and for membership numbers. A motion was made and seconded and the proposal was passed.

### **CUAC 2009/2010 Meeting**

Joe Aufmuth, CUAC representative along with Wangyal Shawa, reported on early plans to hold another conference of map organizations in either 2009 or 2010. Scheduling and location were discussed. Board members recommended aiming for 2010, establishing a tradition of holding a conference every five years. Colleen Cahill recommended that CUAC contact John Hébert at the Library of Congress in regard to sponsoring the conference and hosting it. The American Geographical Society

Library at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee was suggested as an alternative venue. The Board's overall recommendation was that planning for the event begin immediately.

### **ALA Council on Non-Library Issues**

Mary McInroy, ALA Council Representative for the smaller round tables, asked for MAGERT's feedback on the question of the ALA Council issuing statements on non-library issues. The Board recommended that the Council not issue such statements.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,  
Elizabeth Eggleston,  
Secretary 

# ELECTRONIC MAPPING

C.C. Miller, Purdue University

## I Might be the Reason Libraries are Slow to Innovate

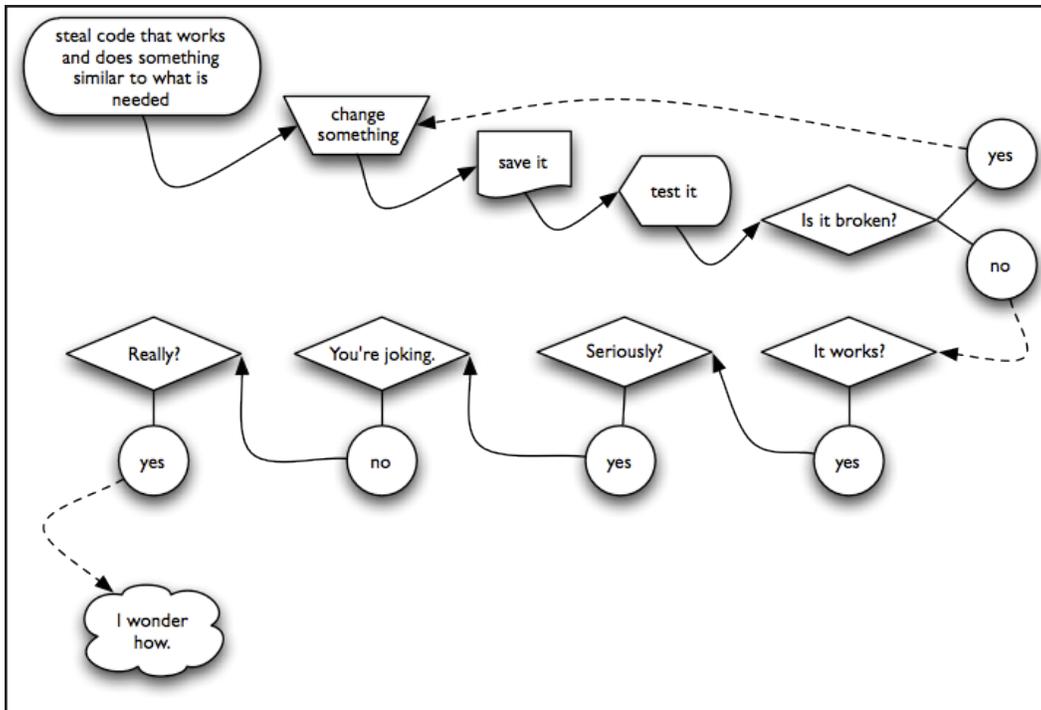
I just wrapped up my first year at Purdue Libraries. This year alone I've been to CNI in Phoenix, ALA in D.C., and a Geosciences Network (GEON) Cyberinfrastructure Summer Institute for Geoscientists (CSIG) in San Diego, among other in-state events that showcased GIS and geoscience applications, and it turns out I'm a major sucker. In fact, I've secretly begun to fear that I am the reason academic libraries have trouble keeping apace of the information technologies being pushed, stretched, and advanced—every day—by agile dot coms and open source projects. To wit:

```
if (isset($_REQUEST['qtable'])) {
    $qtable = $_REQUEST['qtable'];
} else {
    $qtable = "baj_area_2002";
}
$queryFull = 'the_geom from (select the_geom,i,j,icell,jcell,val,log(val) as
lgval from vulcan.k10m inner join vulcan.' . $qtable . ' on
(k10m.i=' . $qtable . '.icell) and (k10m.j=' . $qtable . '.jcell) where val>0) as foo
using unique the_geom';
```

An example of badly-written, librarian-produced php code that eventually improved to status "acceptable"

This is a small sample of some hacked-up and bloody php code that takes some user input and joins tables of data in one database to polygon grid maps sitting in a different (spatial) database. Nice, right? And I can tell you that it's in service of a very rewarding interdisciplinary collaboration between computer scientists, atmospheric modelers, and a librarian. But how do I know it's a hack job? I know because I wrote it, and you can be sure that this is just a sample of much greater crimes against quality web programming to be found in the rest of that php file. It works, but that's sort of not the point.

The point is that I'm programming at all, that I'm the sucker who didn't go get a proper web programmer to translate my ideas about information interoperability and interface design and metadata integration into a usable online system. There are a number of reasons why I have no business programming web applications, even if they are mapping applications. Certainly not least of these is the fact that my workflow looks something like this:



Standard workflow when writing code for mapping applications

Luckily, with enough of these iterations and enough hours spent on it, I can produce something useful. *Columbo* reruns are good for this; they're long and the pace is...well it was the '70s and time wasn't in such a hurry, I guess. But the fact that I can ultimately produce something isn't very impressive. Infinite Monkey Theorem, if anything. But my time spent listening to presentations about successful GIS- and map-related projects this past year has hammered home the notion that librarians *must, must, must* grant-fund our projects, however large or small, so that our great ideas can be translated to technologies and applications by those with the talent to do so and not get bogged down waiting for an all-thumbs armchair codewriter like me to figure out how to do it for himself.

Yes, yes: of course we should be going for grants. But in thinking this over

I've begged myself to answer a more universal question: why am I coding mapping applications? The answer I'm working on speaks not only to the evolution (not necessarily sophistication) of user expectation regarding geospatial materials, but also suggests that geoinformation literacy and interoperability and preservation and findability and metadata...all these things librarians care about...are increasingly visible and acceptable components to research and curricula.

So the first thing is that academics are using slick, fast, intuitive web applications and are seeing with greater or lesser clarity, that this kind of interaction with information (either for discovery, analysis, or dissemination) can greatly improve their research or teaching or course projects. For example, the more students see that easy online maps can help answer

simple questions like “where’s a good coffee place in between here and there” (a.placebetween.us) or nontraditional questions like “how do personal feeling and opinion about place relate to official geography?” (hood.theory.org), the more they begin thinking spatially about other questions, and then more and more complex questions. So librarians do more map applications for students because, to put it a little simply, nothing excites them more about spatial thinking and spatially-enabled information than seeing their work in an online mapping environment. Nobody has been jaded enough yet, I guess, that it has become old hat.

But the fact that “students want it” isn’t enough to warrant as much time doing this as I spend. Like many GIS Librarians, I’ve taken an awfully liberal stance toward what will be appropriate and applicable to GIS service. In fact, I’ve begun to wonder if my position title should be changed to Geoinformatics Librarian, since GIS *per se* is usually a component of a greater effort toward increasing the use and awareness of metadata, the interoperability of datasets and systems, and generally enabling geospatial facets to projects that didn’t have them before. This kind of proselytizing can get a librarian into trouble:

Me: If you really want this to be available and usable online, users will have to be able to move between variables easily, move around the map easily and read full metadata about any

single data element easily. And in order for the data and analyses themselves to be reusable all of it should be fully-described enough to not deter potential users who can’t afford to investigate all of this for themselves when they want to use this system.

Them: Great. How do I do that?

Me: D’oh!

And so it goes that in order to help faculty or students practice what we’re preaching, a librarian might have to pitch in on system design. And this would be great. Ask any of the GEON principal investigators how they integrate data from so many different distributed, interdisciplinary data sources into a dynamic geoscience map application and they’ll draw a simple flowchart, which essentially models what they, as researching faculty, needed. Ask them how that all happens and they won’t know in much detail because a team of computer scientists, funded by a grant no doubt, had built the system to spec. Following this model, librarians should be doing a lot more system design, but a lot less implementation. Now, the novelty of GIS and the smallness of most libraries GIS means that this luxury isn’t always available, of course. And there will always be applications that are too small to be grant-funded or otherwise just...aren’t. This is when the increasing interest in interdisciplinary research can benefit us (or any librarian) greatly,

and so far I've met no resistance in academics to working collaboratively with a librarian. But when we must do this work ourselves, it's incumbent upon us to trumpet the results (if they're presentable) and generally do anything we can to make sure researchers and faculty think of these issues before they write their grant proposal or syllabus so that the great ideas of librarians can be folded into the workloads of those who are being paid to turn great ideas into working machines. In this way, the theory goes, the pace of library research and initiatives must match the pace of the fields and disciplines with which we're collaborating. Put more simply:

Us: Did you like it when you deposit a table in your database that it's

immediately available in a menu online with a little balloon full of metadata that pops up telling you what's in the table and what it means and you can immediately see the table data classified and mapped against layers that sit in a completely different database you don't have to even think about?

Them: I do.

Us: Well...just imagine what somebody who knew what in h#\$ll they were doing could have built. 

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

David J. Bertuca, Map Librarian  
University at Buffalo Libraries Map Collection

Autumn this year is a bit strange: occasional days have been cold and crisp, typical of fall, but most days have been very warm, more like August, and even the wildlife sounds at night have a late summer atmosphere. School is well underway and mid-terms are approaching along with an increase in requests for maps and research materials for a variety of assignments.

More times I am asked for digital copies of maps so that professors can show them for classes, or students

approach requesting satellite images and e-maps to use for various assignments. This means that I do a lot of hunting in the collection and online. It also means that I discover a large quantity of maps online of all varieties. I wish I could share more of these, as they are always a thrill to uncover, even the odd or off-beat ones (which are kind of neat on their own). Exploring the thousands of maps in the universe not only makes me a resource, it also gives me a sense of satisfaction and wonder at the infinite creativity of the

mind.

There are so many maps appearing that when I finish reviewing ones for this column, I have many more than would fit so I usually file the others, but more often come up with more the next issue since the supply outpaces our ability to keep up with such a pace. I continue to try to describe maps and books that I have actually viewed, and avoid ones that you probably heard about elsewhere (Maps-L and various map organization newsletters give you a regular infusion of new items, so I leave titles they mention out when possible since you already have seen them—I am only a supplement to their wonderful efforts).

This issue I am giving a selection of new and interesting titles, along with some Web sites that you might find helpful to your collection, or at least interesting in their own right. Some have a more wintery theme, but all are definitely worth viewing.

## Maps

Fick, Steven; Fridriksson Signy. *North Pole: International Polar Year, 2007-2008; South Pole: International Polar Year, 2007-2008*. [Ottawa, Ont.]: Canadian Geographic Enterprises, 2007. 2 maps on 1 sheet: both sides, col.; 48 x 65 cm., folded to 17 x 17 cm. Scale: 1:11,000,000.

In time for the International Polar year, this map provides nice views of the top and bottom of the world in good detail. Relief is shown by shading, gradient and bathymetric tints, and spot heights. It is produced by *Canadian*

*Geographic*, with the cooperation of the National Atlas of Canada.

South Pole : International polar year, 2007-2008 / Canadian Geographic ; cartography director.

See also the **International Polar Year** section below in “Online Maps and Internet Resources.”

### ***Global Map of HIV/AIDS 2007: Prevalence, Prevention and Protection.***

5<sup>th</sup> ed. Bradford-on-Avon: Maplecroft, 2007 (ISBN: 1905070012). 1 map: col.; on sheet 42 x 59 cm. Scale: not given.

Disease spread and research on treatment and prevention make up a very large body of available publications and web materials. The study of epidemiology is even one of the key generators of maps, atlases, and GIS resources. Some of the first thematic maps were done as a tool to help solve the mysteries of epidemics (see John Snow’s cholera map of London; Internet view: <http://www.ph.ucla.edu/epi/snow.html>).

While web sources have become the best way to convey critical map and data packages, print maps are useful to put a large, graphic picture together for various uses. This map offers one example, providing a global view of the state of HIV and AIDS. The map also includes text and color illustrations, along with five maps showing HIV/AIDS prevalence by region.

### ***Congressional Districts of the 110th Congress of the United States, January 2007-2009.***

Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007. 1 map: col.; 81 x 110 cm. Scale: 1:5,000,000.

Display maps showing congressional districts and matters relating to American governance are handy for use in class, at polling places during elections, and for use when discussing the U.S. legislative process. This map offers current data and also has a web counterpart (see Online Maps below). It provides: state, county, and statistically equivalent boundaries as of January 1, 2000 and includes lists of senate and house membership by state. Insets show Alaska and Hawaii and ancillary maps show American protectorates: Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

See also "Online Maps and Internet Resources" below for electronic versions of this data.

Gillespie, Raymond; Royle Stephen A.; Gearty, Sarah (cartographer). *Belfast c. 1600 to c. 1900*. Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2007 (ISBN: 1904890202) (*Irish Historic Towns Atlas*). 1 map: col.; 108 x 95 cm., folded to 19 x 13 cm., in cover 21 x 14 cm. +; 1 booklet (19 p.). Scale: 1:5000.

Belfast, the main city in Northern Ireland, is the focus of this new, large-scale map. It provides a look at the city over the past 300 history-making years. Based on the 2005 Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland map, it shows the development of the city through strife, conflicts, and struggling progress. An accompanying booklet, subtitled *the making of the modern city*, is a narrative history that complements the map. This map is a good contribution to Irish and British history studies as well as urban planning research.

Bush, P.; Fuller K. *Energy Map of Egypt*. London: Petroleum Economist, 2007 (ISBN: 1861862466). 1 map: col.; 97 x 86 cm.

Cartographic data showing the state of energy production are becoming more valuable than ever, not only for engineers, but for economists, environmentalists, and other types of studies. This map shows the state of power-generating resources in Egypt, focusing mainly on petroleum and gas production activities.

Relief is shown by gradient tints. The map shows oil and gas fields, export and import terminals, pipelines and refineries. There are two insets showing the Nile Delta and Gulf of Suez basins, as well as relevant tables.

Fuller, K. Bush P. *World LNG Map: 2007 edition*. London: Petroleum Economist, 2007 (ISBN: 1861862911). 1 map: col.; 86 x 143 cm., folded to 30 x 21 cm.

Another example of a map from the same publisher is this one showing liquefied natural gas production and transportation. It is a world map showing relief and depths with gradient tints.

The map includes listings of plants and terminals, statistical data, 10 inset maps showing locations of LNG terminals, and 2 ancillary maps showing "Existing LNG importing and exporting countries," and "Future LNG exporting and importing countries as at March 2007."

*Indonesia: Scale 1:2,400,000*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Vancouver, B.C.: International Travel Maps, 2006 (ISBN: 1553412494). 1

map: both sides, col.; 74 x 191 cm., on sheet 67 x 100 cm.

Indonesia, another major oil producer, is a vast union of islands and archipelagos containing a disparate set of cultures. This map does not discuss oil but instead is a well-drawn, colorful country map that can be used by tourists, travelers, and by those who are studying the region.

It is mainly a road map, but the inclusion of relief, shown by gradient tints and spot heights, along with visual sea-depths shown by gradient tints provides a lot more than the basic tourist aid. To fit the entire nation, the map is printed on both sides, each showing the Eastern and Western halves. Included are the usual ITMB notes, place indexes and color photos.

***South Australia Hot Play Map.*** Perth, Australia: Intierra Ltd.; [Toronto, Ont.]: The Northern Miner, 2007. 1 map: col.; 68 x 60 cm., on sheet 69 x 93 cm., folded to 18 x 25 cm. Scale: [ca. 1:1,800,000]. Map accompanies the February issue of: *The Northern Miner* (ISSN: 0029-3164).

For those of you who are still considering striking it rich, and who have noticed the soaring gold prices, this map might just be your thing. This map shows current “hot plays,” or sites of major precious ore deposits that are being mined in Australia. The map was included as a supplement to a mining journal but is also available separately. Its true use is for major corporate mining operations but geologists and mining engineers may find it helpful.

The map includes an index to mines, a table and location map. The verso has five ancillary maps: Gold – Copper-gold +/- uranium – Heavy mineral sands – Copper – Uranium; and indexes. It would probably not be a useful map for general use since mining such as this changes location rapidly, but someone in mining and large-scale investing might be interested. Geologists focusing on mining of precious ores would find the journal and the continually updated maps of use. Refer to the *Intierra* Web site below for more maps.

***Minnesota's Wind Resource.*** St. Paul, MN: WindLogics, 2006. 5 maps: col.; on sheets 28 x 22 cm. + 1 v. (8 leaves; 28 cm.). Also available online: <http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/content.do?contentid=536887066&contenttype=EDITORIAL&agency=Commerce>

The 2006 wind maps were developed for the Department by WindLogics, a Minnesota company that is at the leading edge of wind resource assessment using atmospheric modeling. The maps were produced for the Minnesota Department of Commerce to assist in developing wind powered resources. The 2006 maps show wind speed resources at 30, 80, and 100 meters, as well as capacity factor and energy production estimates for a 1.65 MW wind turbine at 80 meters. In addition, the maps have been developed at a finer data resolution than previous maps (500 meters vs. 750 meters).

There are also 2006 Wind Map GIS Files for use with software, such as ArcMap, for further analysis, review, and publication by external parties. Layers such as counties and roads and

other information are not provided here but may be available through the Land Management Information Center at the Department of Administration. Each file is approximately 5.1 MB.

Data sets include: Wind speed at 30 meters — Wind speed at 80 meters — Wind speed at 100 meters — Capacity factor at 80 meters — Estimated annual energy production at 80 meters.

The accompanying booklet is an overview and methodology guide entitled *Regional Wind Analysis: State Wind Speed Map*. This work would prove useful to environmental engineers and can be used to assist modeling of similar resources in other states.

## **Online Maps and Internet Resources**

### **The International Polar Year, 2007-2008**

Earlier in *base line* I reviewed maps and resources relating to both the IGY and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary-inspired International Polar Year. The year is into full swing now and research activities are streaming back on the ice floes as all sorts of Polar projects are starting. The following Web sites are among key ones that you can use to locate data, images, maps, and knowledge-generating tools for your clientele.

**International Polar Year**  
<http://www.ipy.org/index.php>

The official site of the combined campaign on the Poles that includes resources, research, images, and all

sorts of related materials. There are also sections for teachers and students. One focus of the IPY site is in providing an "... unprecedented opportunity to demonstrate, follow, and get involved with, cutting edge science in real-time." It is a good place for educators and researchers, as well as anyone with an interest in geography and the world environment.

NOAA has its related Web site and includes a 193-page document: *Resources on Polar Research in the NOAA Central Library Network: a Selected Bibliography* that contains a wealth of data and resources; many of these are hot-linked to the cited resources. It is a great tool for locating Polar and environmental research.

### **International Polar Year, International Program Office**

<http://classic.ipy.org/start//>

As long as you are thinking of ice, this is another good site to visit. This site is still in development but already offers news, education materials, and research on IPY-related activities.

### **IPY: Canada Government Official site**

[http://www.ipy-api.gc.ca/index\\_e.html](http://www.ipy-api.gc.ca/index_e.html)

Another site of interest to North Americans is Canada's efforts to contribute to this international initiative.

**National Geologic Map Database**  
<http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ngmdb/imlibRe-direct.html>

This USGS site contains citations and electronic editions of geologic maps

and documents allowing one to search for various reports and maps for a variety of main subjects. It has recently been merged with the Geoscience Map Catalog and allows powerful searching for over 78,000 maps, images, and data products from 350 publishers.

Searches can range from general "Place Name" to "Comprehensive" and there is a search by state that uses a map and state list to start the search parameters. Search results can be refined for selecting only maps, or reports, etc., and display in citation form with the format clearly noted. Both electronic facsimile and printed maps/reports are displayed in results. The database is almost complete and provides the ability to search deep into geologic publications.

There is also the **Geologic Names Lexicon** (GEOLEX) [http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Geolex/geolex\\_home.html](http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Geolex/geolex_home.html) containing more than 16,072 entries for lithologic and geochronologic unit names. Within this database is included the North American Stratigraphic Code (AAPG), and almost all entries from "Stratigraphic Nomenclature Databases for the United States, its Possessions and Territories," DDS-6, 1996.

### **Geologic Maps**

<http://www2.nature.nps.gov/geology/usgsnps/gmap/gmap1.html>

Another useful USGS Web site provides an instructional guide to using geologic maps. It includes sections on reading geologic maps, symbols and colors, map interpretation, and more information.

***District Maps of the 110th Congress***  
<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS71752>

This electronic resource is part of the USGS National Atlas Web site. It contains data on congressional districts for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and provides a ready-reference tool for locating boundaries fast. For a large-size print version of the data, there is a map (see "Maps" above).

The interface is good and provides a large amount of data easily. This is a useful site for business, political science, and history majors, as well as for citizens' groups and election organizations.

### **Intierra Mapping (Intierra Resource Intelligence)**

<http://www.intierra.com/content.asp?c=Maps&p=Services&pid=3>

Intierra Resource Intelligence is a company with a main focus on Australian and Canadian mining operations, but it also offers a suite of electronic and hard copy maps on other world regions. They produce maps each month covering lease activity in Australia and "Hot Plays" (current hot mining regions) in Canada. They can also produce customized maps. Intierra's products include maps and GIS, and the Web site shows sample maps that can be downloaded and viewed.

Their main focus is producing commercial maps, but this may be helpful to researchers needing mining or geological-related maps for areas and sites that are not available elsewhere.

## **Personalized Pirate Treasure Map & Adventure Story**

[http://www.print-art-etc.com/Pirate\\_Treasure\\_Map.html](http://www.print-art-etc.com/Pirate_Treasure_Map.html)

I came across this Web site quite by accident while looking for references to modern-day piracy and the cartoon-humorous side of me couldn't resist sharing it with you all.

“Are you looking for a unique, memorable and just very cool item as a gift or for yourself? Do you dream of the Caribbean...pirates...buried treasure...adventure and romance? We can help you realize your fantasy (OK...maybe not with Johnny Depp).” —promotional page.

There is an artist who creates custom treasure maps based on data that you provide. You become the co-author/cartographer of a simple adventure story with map. You can make an unusual gift for someone special (or for someone with a bizarre sense of humor).

Using the online form, you select the leading lady, the hero, the name of the island, and other attributes (12 altogether) and the artist completes the story and treasure map to go with it. Place the order and once it is ready, you will receive a custom-made 24 x 36-inch treasure map containing your story. It is not the most sophisticated custom mapping service around, but it is probably among the most unusual.

## **Books**

*Managing World Heritage Sites*  
/ edited by Anna Leask and Alan Fyall. Oxford; Burlington, Mass.:

Butterworth-Heinemann, 2006 (ISBN: 0750665467). xxiv, 294 p.: ill., 24 cm.

A thorough work describing the management and preservation of officially-defined World Heritage sites. The chapters cover all aspects from managing a site, to marketing and promoting it, as well as topics such as tourism and its impact on a site.

Partial contents: World heritage site designation — Implementing the World Heritage Convention: what happens after listing? — Stakeholders and community participation — Marketing issues and World Heritage Sites — Visitor management at World Heritage Sites — Tourism's contribution to World Heritage Site management — Juxtaposing the timeless and the ephemeral: staging festivals and events at World Heritage Sites — Information communication technology applications for World Heritage Site management.

Included too are case studies on specific sites, including: Visitor management at Stonehenge; Sustainable development in tourism for Machu Picchu; Managing visitor impacts at Lijang, China; Tourism development, empowerment and the Tibetan minority: Jiuzhaigou National Nature Reserve, China; World Heritage listing: the case of Huangshan (Yellow Mountain), China; The megalithic temples of Malta: towards a re-evaluation of heritage, among others.

Also included are bibliographical references and index. This would be a good tool for persons involved in studying or performing historic site management or curatorial duties.

Zurick, David; Pacheco Julsun; Shrestha Basanta Raj; Bajracharya Birendra. *Illustrated Atlas of the Himalaya*. Lexington, Ky.: University Press of Kentucky, 2006 (ISBN: 0813123887; acid-free recycled paper). 1 atlas (xv, 211 p.): ill. (chiefly col.), col. maps; 26 x 34 cm.

This is a large atlas that covers the entire Himalayan Mountains Region. Maps and illustrations show this vast and rugged region, and documents the effects of nature and people on the Himalayas, along with sections on resources and conservation, and exploration and travel. The maps show relief using contours, shading, and gradient tints. The atlas also includes bibliographical references (p. 191-193) and indexes.

*Hong Kong Guide 2006*. Photomap ed. Hong Kong: Survey & Mapping Office, Lands Dept., 2006 (ISBN: 9625671625). 1 atlas (416 p.): col. maps; 27 cm. +; 1 pair of 3-D glasses.

Published one year short of the tenth anniversary of returning to China's domain, this guide to streets and features of Hong Kong offers a contemporary look at the city, which could be coupled with older street guides to study the city's economic, physical, and other progress through time. Along with its companion volume: *Names of Hong Kong Places*... (see next title), the guide is valuable to travelers, locals, and anyone needing to refer to spatial studies on the city-state.

A key feature of this guidebook is the use of remote-sensing images allowing

one to see buildings, streets, and other features as they appear from above. This can be helpful for finding your way, and also for studying the landscape of Hong Kong (even if you do not go there in person).

“This atlas contains 146 pages of photomaps and large-scale conventional line maps. Readers can have a bird's eye view of the landscape from the photomap and then obtain detailed geographic information from the corresponding conventional line map. It also contains comprehensive public transport information and simplified indexes of about 10,000 names of places, streets, major estates and buildings, and declared monuments.”—publisher's description.

As a “gadget” feature, there is a three-dimensional photo of Shouson Hill/Wong Nai Chung in that can be viewed with the included glasses. Not a big feature, but stereo-views, especially ones such as this, are always a treat.

*Names of Hong Kong Places, Streets and Buildings (With Community Facilities)*. Hong Kong: Survey & Mapping Office, Lands Dept., 2006 (ISBN: 9625671633). 200 p.; 27 cm.

Companion to *Hong Kong Guide 2006* (above), this is a directory of streets, buildings and other significant features enabling a visitor or resident of the city the means of finding his or her way. For non-natives, these two books are useful as well.

*Names of Hong Kong Places* contains more than 40,000 names of places, streets, housing estates, buildings and

community facilities, along with respective grid references to the *Guide* (above). For details and samples of both books, visit the SMO Web site: <http://www.landsd.gov.hk/mapping/en/news/news20060315.htm>.

Wade, Tasha; Sommer, Shelly. *A to Z GIS : an Illustrated Dictionary of Geographic Information Systems* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Redlands, Calif.: ESRI Press; Independent Publishers Group, 2006 (ISBN: 1589481402). xvi, 268 p., ill.; 21 cm.

Here is a useful book both for GIS users and for those needing to understand what GIS is (and what it does). The authors are a librarian and an ESRI library project coordinator making this a good work for librarians and GIS specialists. Illustrating terminology makes visualizing concepts far easier to understand and remember. This book would be a good addition to any university library and to larger public libraries dealing with adult learners and professionals.

## Audiovisual Materials

Recently I was fortunate enough to review a new DVD documentary. *The Fever of '57* tells the story of the race for space, world politics during the Cold War, and a bit on post-war American society. On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched a rocket that would lift into orbit a small metal sphere with four antennas attached. *Sputnik* became the first man-made object to be placed into orbit around the Earth. This one event touched off 18 months of frenzy, fear, excitement and tension around the globe as people tried

to grasp the true meaning of the Soviet leap into the Space Age.

The film is a well-constructed collection of contemporary film clips (many unseen before now), interviews, sounds, and narration to make a lively history that anyone from high schoolers through adults could enjoy. The producers have also prepared companion teaching materials to be used by educators and is available on their Web site. The film review is available in *Educational Media Reviews Online* at <http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/emro/emroDetail.asp?Number=3002>.

## Conclusion

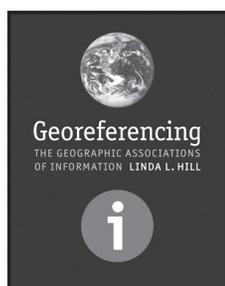
Hope you have an awesome autumn and find all sorts of maps and carto-interesting items to enjoy!—DJB 

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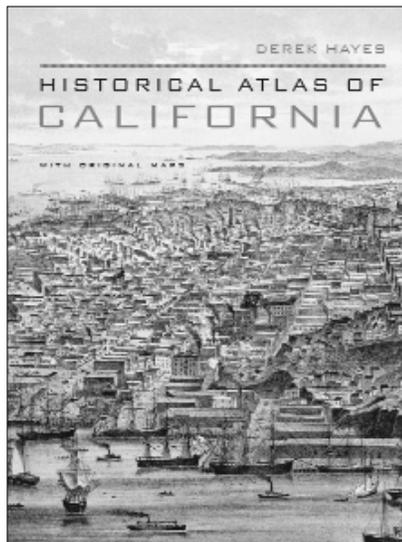
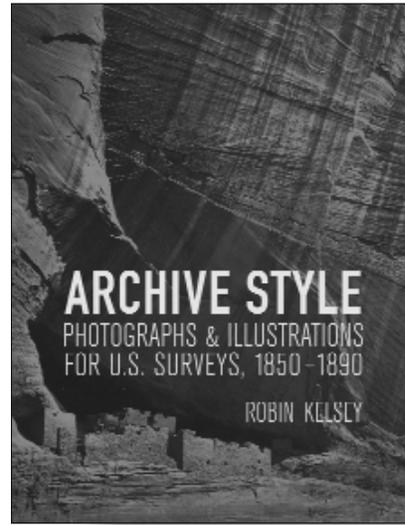
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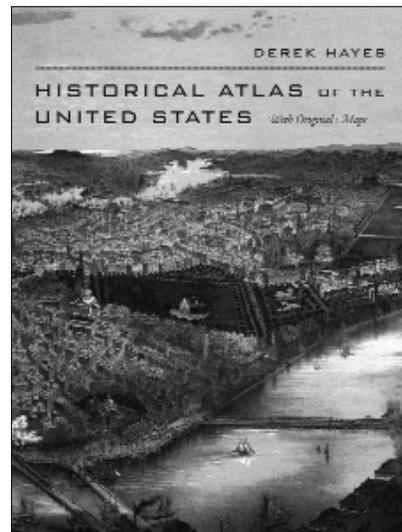
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