base line

a newsletter of the Map & Geography Roundtable

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

From the editor ......................... p. 3
New Map Library ......................... p. 4
Nebenzahl Lectures ..................... p. 5
National Gazetteer ..................... p. 6
CUAC ........................................ p. 8
MOUG Meeting in Ann Arbor .......... p. 9
MAGERT Committees .................... p. 9
Pubs Update .............................. p. 10
Shorter Pubs Notice .................... p. 11

Volume 1 - No. 1
Base Line is an official publication of the American Library Association's Map & Geography Round Table. The purpose of the newsletter 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 the medium of communication for members of the Map & Geography Round Table and welcomes information and short articles of interest to its members.

Editor: David A. Cobb, Map & Geography Library, University of Illinois Library, Urbana, IL 61801
Assoc. Editors: Mary L. Larsgaard, Map Librarian, Arthur Lakes Library, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO 80401
Charles A. Seavey, Government Publication & Maps; Zimmerman Library, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131

Articles and shorter notices intended for publication in Base Line should be submitted to the editors and all material is subject to editorial review. The authors alone are responsible for their contributions which may or may not represent those of the American Library Association or the Map & Geography Round Table.

MAGERT OFFICERS
CHAIRPERSON
David A. Cobb
Map & Geography Library
418 University Library
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) - 333-0827

SECRETARY
Richard Fox
Geography and Map Division
The Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20540
(202) - 287-8512

Base Line is published quarterly. Beginning with the first issue of 1981 an annual subscription will be $12.00. Members of MAGERT will receive the newsletter as a part of their membership. Personal and institutional members of ALA are invited to choose membership in MAGERT for an additional $7.00 and $10.00 respectively. Additional information may be received by writing to: American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

© American Library Association
Published by the Map & Geography Round Table
A base line is often considered the beginning stage for a mapping survey. It therefore seems appropriate that we use this title to inaugurate MAGERT's newsletter. I believe someone once said that MAGERT represents "... the dawning of a new age in map librarianship," and Base Line will be only one expression of the growth of this new organization.

It seems long ago when Charley and I arrived in Chicago to attend our first ALA Midwinter in January 1980 to petition ALA to form the Map & Geography Round Table. Just six months later we found ourselves in New York with a constitution, a paper session, and some excellent wine and cheese parties! As we prepare for our first "official" ALA Midwinter meetings, we can look forward to our San Francisco meetings with four paper sessions, three additional meetings, a field trip, and more wine and cheese parties! We have come a long way in only one short year and, although there were many persons who gave us assistance along the way, a special thanks must be given to the Government Documents Round Table and especially Fran Buckley Jr. from the Detroit Public Library. Not only did Fran provide us with a "temporary home" under the ALA umbrella, but he also made a very supportive statement on our behalf before the ALA Committee on Organization.

It was also VERY CONVENIENT that ALA chose to revise its dues structure this year. First year members to ALA will pay annual dues of $25.00 for membership and, for only $7.00 more, you can join the Map & Geography Round Table and receive this newsletter free.

Also, I should tell you that Mary Larsgaard has not disappeared. She was granted a "short leave of absence" as chief editor in order to work on other numerous projects she seems to always have going.

Finally, the editor is looking for additional sources of information on meetings, publications, and news of collections and acquisitions. If you are interested in becoming a contributing editor for Base Line, please contact either Mary or myself.

David A. Cobb
University of Illinois

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR ITALY -

Details have been announced of the Ninth International Conference on the History of Cartography to be held in Pisa, Florence, and Rome from May 30 to June 5, 1981. The work sessions will be held at the University Congress Hall, Pisa; the Congress Hall of the Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza, Florence and the Sala Igea of the Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana, Rome. No specific subject areas are planned for the papers but several sessions will be devoted to the History of Cartography in Italy. The Conference is being organized by the Domus Galilaeana in co-operation with the International Society for the History of Cartography, Iuago Mundi and the Italian Institutes. Those interested in participating must write to Secretario della IX Conferenza Internazionale di Storia della Cartografia. Piazza Paganica, 4, 00186. Roma, Italia.
NEW MAP LIBRARY IS BORN -

Southwest Missouri State University, in Springfield, MO, is the location of a new regional resource for cartographic materials in the Ozark region. The SMSU Library moved into a new building in July-August 1980, and the Map Collection began operation on August 23. It is located adjacent to the government documents collection.

The 150,000 maps in the collection were "donated" by the SMSU Dept. of Geography and Geology and by Drury College, a local liberal arts school and former U.S. government documents depository. Besides the U.S. government maps, the new collection contains aerial photography, thematic atlases, globes, roll maps, tourist information, and a set of folded topographic maps that patrons can take into the field.

The new map librarian is Jim Coombs, who has a B.S. in Geography and an M.L.S. specializing in map librarianship from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Mr. Coombs spent the last two years as Assistant and then Acting Geology Librarian at the University of Illinois.

The address is Map Collection, 349 Library, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, MO 65802, telephone (417) 836-5105.

WHILE ANOTHER REORGANIZES -

The University of California at Berkeley recently announced that patrons should find it easier to locate and use the library's maps and atlases. Plans have been approved to centralize the Main Library's two map collections. The Bancroft's collection of historic cartographic materials will be merged with those of the Map Room. Bancroft will retain ownership of its maps and atlases, but they will be housed and serviced in the Map Room. Bancroft's non-rare maps will be interfiled with the Map Room's holdings, while its rare materials will eventually be housed in a security storage and reading area to be constructed within the Map Room. The bibliographic records for materials in the two collections will be merged. In addition to improving access, the Bancroft's rare maps will be better protected in their future quarters. A few multi-sheet titles will be transferred to the Map Room during the summer (1980), but the bulk of the Bancroft move will not take place until after the remodeling of the Map Room - several months away. In the meantime, patrons should continue to be referred to the two separate units. Effective September 1st, Phil Hoehn has become head of the Map Room - he will continue to be responsible for the Bancroft map collection as well.

STATUS OF MEXICAN MAPPING -

The Centro de Asesoría y Distribución de Información Estadística y Cartográfica has just issued a 32-page index showing the status of various map series in Mexico from the 1:5,000 Cartas Urbanas to the 1:5,000,000 Carta Geográfica. Interested persons should contact the above office at Balderas 71, Mezzanine, Mexico 1, D.F.
The Cartographic Users' Advisory Council has scheduled important meetings with the U.S. Geological Survey and the Defense Mapping Agency during January and February of 1981. This is the first official contact with DMA for CUAC and the results of this meeting should be of interest to all map librarians. The next issue of Base Line will include a full report of their meetings with both DMA and USGS.

The sixth Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., lectures in the history of cartography at the Newberry Library, began on Thursday evening, October 30, with George Kish, Professor of Geography at the University of Michigan, speaking on, "Maps and globes and the decorative arts: a geographer's view," which chiefly dealt with rare and beautiful globes, including the one in Leningrad - the inside of which may be used as the location for a game of bridge. Following Dr. Kish's paper was a reception in the exhibit area of the Newberry Library. The next morning, Jürgen Schulz, Professor of Art, Brown University, spoke on "The use of maps in Italian mural decorations," a scholarly disquisition on map murals. He was followed by Ulla Ehrensvard, Chief, Division of Maps and Prints, The Royal Library, Stockholms, whose paper on "The decorative and iconographical use of color in cartography," was a superb discourse on the reasons for the use of certain colors on maps. The afternoon's lectures began with David Woodward, Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Wisconsin and former Director of the Herman Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography, who spoke on "Calligraphy, typography and cartography," pointing out how type styles used in pre-1900 maps changed. He was followed by James A. Welo, Associate Curator, Worcester Art Museum, whose paper, "Eclectic Embellishment: the sources and development of cartographic ornamentation in the Netherlands," traced the voyages of cartouches from pattern books onto maps and from there on to other maps. The Saturday morning lectures were Samuel Y. Edgerton, Jr., Professor of Art, Williams College, who spoke on "The heritage of the cartographic grid: from mental matrix to mapamundi," and Sveta V. Alpers, Professor of the History of Art, University of California, Berkeley, on "The mapping impulse in Dutch art."

The Thursday and Friday lectures were held in the Newberry Library while the Saturday program was in the Columbus Drive Auditorium of the Art Institute. During the lectures there were concurrent exhibitions on art in cartography at the Newberry Library and the Art Institute.

Mary Larsgaard
The first national gazetteer of the United States, containing over 1 ½ million place and feature names, is being prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

"The Gazetteer will represent the first official and complete listing of geographic names of the United States," said Donald Orth, who is the executive secretary of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

"In addition to being a primary reference tool for libraries and local, state and federal government agencies, the gazetteer will provide uniformity in the written use of names and their applications," Orth said.

The National Gazetteer will contain such information as:

- Official name of natural or cultural feature,
- Kind of place or feature named, such as lake, river or mountain,
- County in which feature is named,
- Geographical coordinates (with the heads and mouths of streams, canyons and valleys identified),
- Date name became official according to U.S. Board on Geographic Names,
- Elevation of place or feature, where appropriate,
- U.S.G.S. map or maps on which feature may be found.

The Gazetteer is expected to be completed by 1982 with individual state chapters finished earlier. New Jersey, Indiana, Colorado and Kansas are targeted for completion in the next several months. The publication should help eliminate the duplication and large expense incurred by other levels of government, industry and institutions in developing similar files of official names and their application to meet their specific needs.

Hundreds of different kinds of feature names will be included; cultural features such as population places (cities, towns, counties); dams and reservoirs; national, state, and local parks; military installations; airports; railroad crossings; cemeteries; churches; and schools and hospitals. Natural features covered will include streams, bays, summits, islands, valleys, beaches, lakes, forests, swamps, channels, gaps, canals, cliffs, springs, trails, flats, and harbors.

As part of its mapping program, the U.S. Geological Survey began cataloging names as early as 1892 and began producing a series of state gazetteers as an aid to finding geographic features on atlas sheets published by the USGS. Compilation began under the direction of John Wesley Powell, the second director of the USGS, and gazetteers for 12 states, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Territory of Alaska, and Indian Territory (Oklahoma) were published between 1894 and 1906.

The USGS, in cooperation with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, now plans to publish the National Gazetteer on a state-by-state basis. All volumes of the National Gazetteer will be published as chapters of USGS Professional Paper 1200, and each will be identified by state, name and date. For more information on the gazetteer program, contact: Donald Orth, U.S.G.S., Branch of Geographic Names, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 22092, telephone (703) 860-6331.

USGS News Release
NEW PROGRAM IN MAP LIBRARIANSHIP

Roman Drzniowski will be teaching courses in a recently instituted degree program in Map Librarianship at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Library School. Interested persons may obtain a brochure on this program from: Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Library Science, POB Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Riley Moffat's cartobibliography of Utah maps, titled: Printed maps of Utah to 1900: an annotated cartobibliography. (WAML Occasional Paper #8, price not yet set) and the latest, #7 is Harold Otness' Index to nineteenth century city plans appearing in guidebooks, 1980, $6.00. Contact Stan Stieven, Library, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES FILM CONVERSION PROJECT -

The crash program to convert 6.4 million feet of volatile nitrate film to safety-base acetate was recently completed by the National Archives at a cost of $1.4 million. The project was launched shortly after a fire at suburban Suitland, Maryland in late 1978. Once in full operation, the project converted up to 800,000 feet of film a month, a rate 600% greater than the conversion rate before the blaze.

Conversion was achieved in several steps. First, the nitrate movies were prepared at Suitland. Then they were transported in small lots to the Archives building in Washington, D.C., where they were timed, washed, and duplicated on special quality acetate stock provided by the Kodak Company. The duplicate footage was then inspected, and if approved, the nitrate master was destroyed.

Although the National Archives has now surmounted its nitrate film problem, there remain two other bodies of nitrate material to deal with: two million photographs and 50,000 still pictures. Work on converting them will begin next fiscal year, or sooner if Congress votes a supplemental allocation of $987,000 sought by the Archives.

JOIN HAGERT IN SAN FRANCISCO

Sessions:

- New Developments in Map Librarianship
- Introduction to Maps in Libraries
- Mapping the Transmississippi West
- Microcartography Update
- Open-CUAC Meeting at NCIC-West
The Cartographic Users' Advisory Council (CUAC) is composed of six map librarians representing four professional organizations: ALA's Map and Geography Round Table, SLA's Geography and Map Division, the Geoscience Information Society, and the Western Association of Map Libraries. The Council articulates the desires and needs of the map library community to the various map producing agencies of the federal government. Starting as a committee of SLA G&M in 1978, the group originally dealt with the U.S. Geological Survey on a variety of concerns: distribution, map numbering systems, the depository program, and better communication from USGS, among others. In 1980 the committee began a dialog with the Defense Mapping Agency concerning the long moribund DMA depository program. The committee subsequently decided that it could be much more effective if it represented the full width of the map library community, and the "Council" was born. As a result of Council actions, USGS Open File Reports are now being distributed by the Government Printing Office, and we expect the DMA depository program to be re-vitalized during FY 1981.

If you have problems, complaints, ideas, suggestions about federal maps or mapping programs, please send them to a Council member. They have the lines of communication within the federal government to deal with almost any issue. The Council members are:

Charles A. Seavey (Chair)
Head, Government Publications & Maps Department
Zimmerman Library
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

David A. Cobb
Map & Geography Library
418 University Library
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

Hart Phinney
Arthur Lakes Library
Colorado School of Mines
Golden, CO 80439

Nancy Pruett
Geology/Geophysics Library
University of California
405 Hilgard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Kathleen Zar
Map Collection
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

Stan Stevens
Map Collection/Library
University of California
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

LSCA GRANT TO COLORADO
The Arthur Lakes Library at the Colorado School of Mines has obtained an LSCA grant for a Colorado map access project, which in the main involves putting Colorado maps, 1859-1900, on OCLC and generating a fiche cartobibliography at the end of the project.

MEMBER WINS AWARD
The CIS/GORDT/ALA "Documents to the People" Award for $1,000 to promote professional advancement has been awarded to Sandra K. Faull, Documents Librarian, New Mexico State Library.
The Maps Online Users Group (MOUG) met in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan, October 6-8, 1986. This meeting/workshop was primarily oriented to RLIN users new to MOUG. The sessions on Monday, October 6, were basically informational about the structure and activities of the Research Libraries Group (RLG) and its automated system RLIN. In addition, Ms. Susan Heron of RLG spoke about the use by and support for map users of the RLIN system. This support includes the preparation of "MARC Tagging Workbook: Maps" being developed by RLG.

Searching capabilities of other online systems, including Library of Congress, SDC, and Lockheed, were also discussed. Sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday covered map cataloging, including AACR II changes, and MARC tagging.

Jim Minton, map librarian at the University of Michigan and the host and organizer of these meetings, did an excellent job in arranging for an extremely full and informative program. Additional evening and luncheon sessions included a demonstration of the RLIN system and talks on "Modern Cartography" and "Remote Sensing-Mapping Application at ERIM."

Elizabeth U. Mangan
President, MOUG

Since our meetings in New York our committees and representation have grown and the names below are given for your information:

Representative to RTSD Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

Bob Karrow (Newberry Library)

Representative to the Anglo-American Cataloging Committee for Cartographic Materials

Mary Larsgaard (Colorado School of Mines)

Representatives to the Cartographic Users Advisory Council

Charley Seavey (New Mexico)
David A. Cobb (Illinois)

Membership Committee

Julian Green (Chair, Harvard)

Constitution & By-Laws

Pauline Gunter (Chair, Alaska)

Nominating Committee

Bob Karrow (Chair, Newberry)

San Francisco Program Committee

Charley Seavey (New Mexico)
Phil Huehn (UC, Berkeley)

Philadelphia Program Committee

J.B. Post (Philadelphia Free Library) and others to be appointed.
USGS INDEXES STILL AVAILABLE -


Text Products Section
Distribution Branch
U.S. Geological Survey
604 South Pickett Street
Alexandria, VA 22304

Annual index volumes for 1971-1979 are available free. The Text Products Section also has many older volumes from various USGS publications series such as the Professional Papers and Bulletins. Inquire as to availability (by series #) and price.

NOS CIVIL WAR CARTOBIBLIOGRAPHY -

The National Ocean Survey recently published National Ocean Survey Cartobibliography: Civil War Collection. Compiled at the NOS map library at Rockville, Maryland, it is an annotated cartobibliography of civil war maps in the NOS collection. As one might expect, there is a nautical slant to the collection, but dry land is well represented in maps done by the Topographical Engineers and the Army Corps of Engineers. It is available for $4.00 from:

Superintendent of Documents
Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Or, try begging a copy from the map library at 1-301-443-8005!

WESTERN EXPLORATION -

Vanguard of Expansion; Army Engineers in the Transmississippi West, was recently published by the Army. It is a brief (150 pages) history of Army exploration west of the Mississippi River. Prior to the Civil War, western exploration was institutionalized in the Topographical Engineers whose members produced many of the most important western maps of the time. After the war, civilian agencies started getting into the exploration business, culminating with the formation of the U.S. Geological Survey in 1879. The Army contribution was a major one, and Vanguard of Expansion ... should be part of the collection of anybody dealing with the history of cartography - $4.50 from the Superintendent of Documents.
SHORTER PUB NOTICES -

Atlas of Ireland. Order from Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. IR 645.


Choro-topographical map of the northern provinces of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Facsimile reprint. Order from Muller Bookstores, P.O. Box 9016, 1006 AA, Amsterdam. £250.

Oil and gas map of China, 1979. Order from Petroleum News, 12/4 146 Prince Edward Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong. $40.00.


GEOPHYSICS INDEX

An index of USGS aeromagnetic and aeroradioactivity maps for most states is available free from Regional Geophysics Branch, USGS, Box 25046, MS 964, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225

.GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Riley Moffatt has prepared an excellent 5p. bibliography on maps, atlases, and gazetteers for genealogical research. Dated October 1980, it is available from the Map Room, Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

National Lands Index is available from Micrographics Laboratory, James A. Michener Library, Univ. of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639. Cloth, 464p., $50. Fiche (15), $30.
The University of New Mexico Map Collection is searching for some missing USGS Folios of the Geologic Atlas of the U.S. to fill in their collection needing Numbers 3, 7, 12, 56, 162, 163, 177, 178, 193, 219, and 220. They are willing to trade numbers 1, 8, 11, 185, 187, 188, 189, 196, 200, 201, 202, 204, 205, 206, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 118, and 227 from their duplicate collections on a one-for-one basis.

Contact: Peter Ives, Map Room, General Library, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.

A very helpful pamphlet with information on public land terms is available from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 2515 Warren Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001.

The University of New Mexico's Technology Application Center announces the first atlas of New Mexico. Information concerning all facets of the state has been collected and compiled into maps, text, and tables by 26 contributors including professional meteorologists, geographers, historians, economists, and demographers. The book will be available to all libraries at a 10% discount off the $9.50 selling price. Order from: Technology Application Center, University of New Mexico, 2500 Central Avenue, S.E., Albuquerque, NM 87131.
SPECIAL TO THE HAP OF HI. ST. HELENS -

A special topographic map showing the Mount St. Helens area immediately before the volcano's eruption of May 18 has just been published by the U.S. Geological Survey.

The four-color, 36x39 inch map, covering parts of Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, and Skamania counties in Washington and Columbia County in Oregon was prepared to aid general planning in the devastated areas. As new aerial photography of the area becomes available, USGS cartographers will revise the map to reflect surface changes that have occurred as a result of the eruptions. A post-eruption map should be available in a few months.

The current pre-eruption map, drawn on a scale of 1:100,000 (1 inch = about 1.6 miles), shows not only the shape and elevation of Mount St. Helens prior to the eruption but also the surrounding area of about 3,000 square miles affected by the volcanic action.

Copies of the map, "Mount St. Helens and Vicinity," are available flat or folded and may be purchased for $2.00 from either Branch of Distribution Office in Arlington, VA or Denver, CO.

JOURNAL OF CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY

In its first year of publication, Editor Alvar W. Carlson has an outstanding editorial board to ensure the quality of the new journal. Members of the board are Arnold Alanen, Wisconsin-Madison; Robert Bastian, Indiana State; George Carney, Oklahoma State; Richard Fran-Caviglia, S.E. Arizona Govt. Organization; Charles Gritzner, South Dakota State; Richard Jackson, Brigham Young; John Jakle, Illinois; Robert Janiskee, South Carolina; Gregory Jeane, Auburn; Dean Louder, Laval; Allen Noble, Akron; Alice Rechlin, Valparaiso; and Peter Wacker, Rutgers.

To subscribe to the semi-annual journal, write to Alvar W. Carlson, Editor, The Journal of Cultural Geography, Geography Department, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403.

ATTENTION: CARTOPHILATELISTS

Available from Robert H. Power, The Nut Tree, Vacaville, CA 95688 is a postcard-sized color map of the world (ca. 1580), in celebration of the circumnavigation of the World, 1577-1580 (400th anniversary), British Virgin Islands official anniversary tribute honouring Sir Francis Drake, with 4 inset stamps of Drake, Queen Bess, and so forth for $3.20. The stamps may also be purchased in blocks of 4 or in gutter strips. A stamp illustrating Drake's route past Tristan da Cunha is also available.
MAGERT OFFERS NOTEPADS -

Below is a copy of the notepads being offered for interested persons. Impress your friends, send them notes and let them figure out who MAGERT is! More importantly, let's spread the MAGERT word! (Price not yet set!)

CONTACT:

David A. Cobb
Map & Geography Library
418 University Library
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

"Let's Make MAGERT Infectious!"

Join ALA Now
And Be Glad!

You'll save: The special half price for New Personal Members is $25; students $10; non-salaried or retired librarians $15; trustee and lay members $20; foreign $30 (effective 1981 calendar year).

You'll receive: American Libraries and its LEADS job listings; reduced rates at ALA conferences; discounts on ALA monographs; eligibility to vote and hold office; an excellent group insurance plan; the backing of the most influential library association in the world.

Yes, I Will Join!

Charge my dues of $ to my

VISA or Master Charge. (Master Card)

Card number
Expiration date
Signature
Type of membership
Name (please print)
Mailing Address
City State Zip

*Upon receipt of application, you will receive additional information on ALA divisions and round tables and how to get the most from your membership.

Public Information Office
American Library Association
50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611

Charge it to Visa or Master Charge.