History of Cartography

J. B. Harley
Dept. of Geography
University of Exeter
Amory Building, Rennes Drive
EXETER EX4 4RJ ENGLAND
Tel: Exeter (0392) 77911 Ext 705

David Woodward
Dept. of Geography
University of Wisconsin
443 Science Hall
MADISON, WI 53706 U.S.A.
Tel: 608 263-3992

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NEWSLETTER NO. 7
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TO OUR AUTHORS, ADVISERS, AND FRIENDS

It has been over a year since our last newsletter, and we apologize that we have not kept in closer touch. The final details for Volume 1 have consumed most of our energies, but we are now beginning to focus on the other volumes.

Please find enclosed a new brochure on the project which summarizes the contents of the whole project. If you would like more copies of this to introduce and explain the project to other people, please let us know and we will send you as many copies as you require. Some of our authors have found them useful for including in correspondence to libraries for reference information or illustrations.

Asian volume

Please note that we have added a volume covering the history of cartography in the traditional Sinic, Indic, and Islamic cultures. Volume 1 of the History was originally intended to include both the western and the Asian contributions to cartography from prehistory to the fifteenth century. We were concerned, however, that adequate space and attention be devoted to the cartographic traditions in the Asian cultures, which, with very few exceptions, have been seriously slighted in the Western literature.

The volume and quality of the material that we received on prehistoric, ancient, classical, and medieval cartography in Europe, comprising a 2,000-page typescript with over 3,200 notes and references and several hundred illustrations, led us to conclude that the early Western and Asian traditions should be separated, and that each be given a volume of its own. This we felt would provide us with the long-sought means of giving full justice to the traditions of cartography in the Asian cultures.

Personnel

We were extremely pleased to be able to add Anne Godlewska, Ph.D. candidate in the history of cartography from Clark University, as Assistant Project Director. Anne joined our staff full-time in March 1984 and will take over coordinating activities for Volume 4. She will

be contacting authors for Volume 4 shortly. Maureen Reilly continues as program assistant responsible for the day-to-day management of the project. Elaine Stroud (Ph.D. History of Science) left as of 30 June after three years with the project. Jude Leimer (M.S. Cartography) has continued on half-time since her hiring last summer and she and Elaine have checked some 3,000 footnotes for Volume 1. Matthew Edney, a Geography graduate student, arrived in the fall of 1983 and immediately took over the job as Illustrations Editor, funded by Graduate School cost-sharing. Two other Geography graduate students began work in early 1984 on the Project: Chingliang Liang began work on the footnotes for the Asian volume in February; and Irena Fraczek, a student from Poland, is gathering material and drafting timelines for Volume 1. Barbara Weisman, an undergraduate student in cartography, is compiling a master reference list for all volumes.

Volume 1 Status

The manuscript for Volume 1 was sent to the University of Chicago Press in January 1984. Following their normal procedure, the entire manuscript was read by a reader of their choice, who had several dozen pages of detailed comments and suggestions. Parts of the manuscript were radically overhauled, and it was submitted to the second reader whose verdict is expected any day. We feel that, but for a myriad of small details, especially involving illustrations and reference matter, the volume is in its final stages. Publication is expected in Fall '85.

Volumes 2 - 4

Fifteen articles of the new Asian volume, Volume 2, have been received, comprising 89,300 words, thirteen articles for Volume 3 comprising 101,000 words, and six articles (27,000 words) for Volume 4. Volumes 5 and 6 are still only in outline form, but we have been successful in identifying several potential authors for these volumes. Any suggestions for authors will be most welcome.

Illustrations

We are happy to report a gift from Jack Monckton, a map collector in Chicago, of $2,500 toward the purchase of illustrations, transparencies, and slides for Volume 1. Final ordering of illustrations and requests for permissions is now underway. We have sought and received permission from the Press to increase the number of illustrations, both black and white and color, in each volume. The press will also accept any number of linedrawings. Thus do provide us with as many illustrations as possible. We particularly value those which have not yet been published or which are not commonly seen.

Word counts

Our policy on both word counts has undergone modification due to experience gained from work on Volume 1. It is often difficult for us to know what length of essay will be required to cover the subject
according to the standards laid down in the guidelines to the authors. There is no question, however, that a little too long is far preferable to inadequate or incomplete coverage. We never intended the word counts to be rigid, but hoped that our authors would write to the natural length of their subject.

Word Processor

If any authors have access to a word processor which is compatible with the CPT 6000 or 8000 series, it would help us immeasurably. Almost anything that has a C/PM interface will work.

New Fellowship

David Buisseret, Director of the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at The Newberry Library, Chicago, has asked me to draw your attention to a new fellowship, for which the first applications will be due in the middle of August 1984. The Center is offering one $25,000 annual or two $12,500 six-month fellowship for research in the history of cartography. While the fellowship is primarily intended for use at the Newberry Library, there would also be an opportunity for fellows to consult other libraries in Chicago, Milwaukee and Madison and to visit the headquarters of the project. We would like to encourage you to apply.

Travel support

Our fiscal year ends on 31 August 1984. If you are planning on making a research trip to be supported by the project this summer, we must have prior knowledge of the anticipated budget. We have a small amount of funding still available for this purpose. If you are anticipating foreign travel, the National Endowment requires that this be approved by them beforehand. Please let us know immediately if you are expecting to claim reimbursement for travel undertaken before 31 August. Once the allocated funds are used, we will not be able to honor claims.

Thank you for all your help and participation so far.