

# THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY

## Newsletter 2005: Summer

### New Leadership

Matthew H. Edney has joined the History of Cartography Project as the new Project director and now works from the Madison office. Since receiving his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1990 under the supervision of series cofounder David Woodward, Dr. Edney has maintained close ties with the Project and with scholars in the field. His work has explored various themes in map history including imperial cartography (*Mapping an Empire* [Chicago, 1997]), Enlightenment cartography, and the cartography of early America. His comprehensive research on the theory, methodology, and recent historiography of map studies has influenced the structure of the later, encyclopedic volumes of the *History of Cartography* series. Dr. Edney has been Associate Professor of Geography-Anthropology and American and New England Studies and faculty scholar at the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education at the University of Southern Maine since 1995. In 1998 Dr. Woodward appointed Dr. Edney as coeditor for Volume Four, the Enlightenment installment of the *History of Cartography* series, a role that he will continue. Dr. Edney is a Director of Imago Mundi, Ltd., Chair and President of American Friends of the J. B. Harley Research Fellowships, Inc., and was an organizer, with Yolanda Theunissen and David Cobb, of the 20th International Conference on the History of Cartography (June 2003). He joined the Project team in Madison, Wisconsin, in July 2005.

(Interview with Dr. Edney on page 2.)

### *Cartography in the European Renaissance, Volume Three*

Due to the size and complexity of Volume Three, we anticipate that copy editing of the 1.3 million word manuscript will be complete by the end of this year. This spring we sent most of the black and white photos and color plates to the Press, compiled a massive bibliographic index, and worked to complete original line drawings and reference maps. It is encouraging to see so many necessary prepublication tasks nearing completion.

### *Cartography in the European Enlightenment, Volume Four*

It is exciting to see the results of Matthew Edney and Mary Pedley's groundbreaking efforts to orchestrate the shift to an encyclopedic structure for Volumes Four, Five, and Six of the *History of Cartography*. Volume Four is the forerunner of many structural changes in the series and planning has required hard work and innovation. Before seeking preapproval for pub-

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Sebastian Münster's map of Polonia et Vngaria from Ptolemy, *Geographia Universalis* (Basel: Henricus Petri, 1540).

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lication by the University of Chicago Press, the entire volume was conceptually designed, its entry term list refined, word counts allocated on a strict “word budget” that included citations, and page space reserved for illustrations. Successfully navigating the Press’s rigorous approval process in spring 2004 was a major achievement. Since then, the editors, working closely with editorial staff at the Press, have created a 15-page contributor manual, planned a process for contracting authors, and designed a system to track progress from identifying potential authors to reference-checking final manuscripts. The editors wrote scope and contextual descriptions to guide those who will be researching and writing entries, and potential contributors have been identified for half of the entries. Since the volume is planned as a one million word 650-entry encyclopedia written by approximately 150 contributors, this has required immense dedication, creativity, and perseverance.

Dr. Edney’s 2004-05 appointment as Visiting Associate Professor in the Program in American Culture at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, near the William L. Clements Library where coeditor Mary Pedley serves as Adjunct Assistant Curator of Maps, allowed these editors to engage in productive and collaborative discus-

sions that made such involved planning possible. Letters inviting scholars to contribute to the volume will be mailed in early fall 2005, and the first manuscripts for Volume Four should arrive in the Madison office this winter. Although scheduling no longer allows D. Graham Burnett to work as a coeditor for Volume Four, he has become a contributing member of the advisory board for that volume. Dr. Burnett remains involved in plans for the History of Cartography Project as a whole.

### *Cartography in the Twentieth Century, Volume Six*

Editor Mark Monmonier’s primary task this year has been to prepare a detailed prospectus for Volume Six. He spent considerable time refining content—grouping entry terms into clusters to ensure completeness and to provide a logical hierarchical structure for the encyclopedia.

We are pleased to announce that the University of Chicago Press Board of Directors did indeed approve publication of Volume Six in the spring. This is a significant milestone. For major reference works, the Press arranges peer review after the planning stage, when the concept and strategy can be vetted, rather than when work is complete and a massive manuscript submitted. Five external reviewers were asked to comment specifically on the proposal’s comprehensiveness, currency, and accuracy and to provide overall assessments. The anonymous reviewers commented that the volume was “astoundingly well organized” and “reveal[ed] a coherency of vision.” They were “impressed with the extensive preliminary work” and observed that the volume is on track to “be a lasting and high quality source of valuable knowledge.” The reviewers also provided useful insights, which will be reflected in editorial refinements to the scope descriptions and the volume’s introduction.

Dr. Monmonier benefited from several conference calls with Linda Halvorson (chief reference editor at the University of Chicago Press) and her staff, who supplied guidance on the matters of style, format, and encyclopedic structure. He also appreciated the excellent assistance provided by Karen

Culcasi, who has worked on Volume Six at the Syracuse office since June 2004. She recently defended her dissertation proposal and was awarded a fellowship that will support her field work in Egypt. We thank Karen for her excellent contributions to the volume and wish her the best with her own research.

This summer Dr. Monmonier used the Volume Four contributor handbook as a template, revising it to accommodate the unique requirements of Volume Six. He fine-tuned the word-count budget for Volume Six entries and allocated suggested numbers of illustrations and citations. Dr. Monmonier expanded the list of potential contributors that he and Dr. Woodward had developed and created a plan for inviting participation by potential contributors. Next, he will refine the generic scope descriptions and, as time permits, draw on scope notes (compiled during the development of the list of entry terms) to customize the generic descriptions for individual entries. The fall can then be devoted to recruiting contributors and working with staff at the University of Chicago Press, who issue formal contributor contracts. Dr. Monmonier hopes to have at least half the entries under contract by January 2006.

### **ICHC 2005: Budapest**

The 21st International Conference on the History of Cartography, held in Budapest, July 2005, was a great success. *History of Cartography* editors presented papers in a special session on Volumes Four and Six (organized by incoming History of Cartography Project director Matthew Edney).

After a brief introduction given by Jude Leimer, managing editor, on the current status of the series, Matthew Edney described the process of designing the structure for *Cartography in the European Enlightenment*, Mary Pedley spoke about the nature of cartography during that period, and Mark Monmonier discussed cartography after 1900 and the design of *Cartography in the Twentieth Century*. The session was expertly chaired by Catherine Delano Smith, who also—with Alessandro Scafi, Jessica Maier, and Adele Haft—participated in a special memo-

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rial session for David Woodward. The full program of talks and a list of poster presentations can be downloaded from the internet at <http://lazarus.elte.hu/~zoltorok/ichc/program.html>.

Although the conference schedule was packed with sessions and workshops, *History of Cartography* editors made time for many productive meetings with potential contributors to Volumes Four and Six.

## Interview with Matthew Edney



Photo by Paula Abbott.

Matthew H. Edney

Dr. Edney arrived in Madison this summer to take up his post as Project director for the *History of Cartography* series. Reference editor Jennifer Martin asked him a few questions about his interests and career.

*How did you become interested in the history of cartography?*

I've always been interested in history and in maps: when I was four, I traced maps from atlases. I moved away from history during high school and decided to study geography at University College London, where I could focus on land surveying. Once there, I rediscovered history in the form of historical geography.

In my third-year seminar with Hugh Prince (research methods in historical geography), I read *Period and Place* (Cambridge, 1982, ed. Baker and Billenge), then just published. In his contribution, J. B. Harley kept referring to old maps, archival materials, and actual landscapes as sources of historical evidence. Reading it, I realized that I could combine my seemingly disparate interests in land surveying and historical geography by studying the history of cartography. It's obvious

in hindsight, but at the time I had no idea that such a thing was possible.

I wrote to Harley about possibly studying with him in Exeter. Prince had also mentioned historians of cartography in the U.S.A., particularly David Woodward at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. (My first thought was, where's Wisconsin?) I'm a firm believer in serendipity: when David offered me a research assistantship, I gave up my plans to become a professional land surveyor and instead headed for Madison for what has turned out to be an amazing and intellectually stimulating career.

*What were some of your first impressions of Madison or the United States?*

It was incredibly hot! And I was amazed at the size of the university. David took me for a drive when I arrived and the campus just went on and on and on. I discovered what an intellectually and socially fun place this is. I was very impressed by the libraries and the access to resources.

*Among your scholarly interests is the relationship between mapping and imperialism. How did you become interested in this topic?*

One of the first things I did at the UW was to investigate potential master's thesis topics. I began by searching for materials on the British Ordnance Survey; in the process, I found on the library shelves George Everest's 1847

account of the Great Arc in India. Unfortunately UW's collections could not support either topic. Instead I turned to a set of hybrid surveys in post-Civil War U.S.A. From 1874 through 1892, the federal government hired university professors with federal money and equipment to survey thirteen states to correct existing maps for use by each state. I used the topic to explore the influence of political structure on cartography at a time when federal-state relations were in great flux.

Then serendipity struck again, when I re-encountered British India as I was finishing the M.A. This became my dissertation topic. I wanted to understand what the British thought they were doing when they sponsored geodetic surveys across India in the early nineteenth century and how that related to European concepts of science and rational government. I argued that the British created a specific institutional structure for surveying India to distinguish themselves from Indians and in the process significantly refined their ideologies of empire and rationality.

*Is this when you became interested in Brian Harley's work on power and mapping? (I understand that the University of Toronto Press is about to publish your work on J. B. Harley's theories on cartography and power.)*

Not really; I did the dissertation with little direct influence from Brian. I had  
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(continued from page 3)

### Cartography in Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Fresh Perspectives, New Methods

35th Medieval Workshop  
Sponsored by the Committee for Medieval Studies,  
Univ. of British Columbia, Vancouver, October 28-29, 2005

The scope of the conference will match that of the *History of Cartography*, Volume One, *Cartography in Prehistoric, Ancient, and Medieval Europe and the Mediterranean*, ed. J. Brian Harley and David Woodward. Eighteen years after the publication of that seminal work this conference will offer a unique forum to highlight, distill, and reflect upon the remarkable progress made in so many areas since 1987, thereby honoring the memory of the joint editors, and in particular David Woodward, who died in August 2004. Looking to the future, the conference is also specifically designed to foster closer interaction between scholars of antiquity and of the Middle Ages who study or use maps. For more information, please contact: Richard Talbert (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), email [talbert@email.unc.edu](mailto:talbert@email.unc.edu), or Richard W. Unger (Univ. of British Columbia), email [richard.unger@ubc.ca](mailto:richard.unger@ubc.ca).

engaged with some poststructuralism—especially Edward Said’s concept of Orientalism—in the dissertation, but not consistently. It was only after 1990, when an art historian at SUNY-Binghamton, Gordon Bleach, turned me on to critical theory, that I really started to come to terms with the ideas about power and mapping with which Brian was wrestling. As a result, about forty percent of *Mapping an Empire* (Chicago, 1997), the published version of the dissertation, was new.

The University of Toronto has just informed me that the monograph on Harley is ready to ship. I am very pleased that this work is now published, twelve years after I started work on the project. [For ordering information, see below.]

*What kind of research can we expect in the future?*

At the moment, I’m working on the ideology of public discourse and the production and consumption of maps of colonial New England. This stems from my move in 1995 to the University of Southern Maine. In preparing an exhibit for the Osher Map Library, on a revolutionary-era map of New England, I ran across the work of William Douglass, who was a doctor, botanist, and geographer, among other things. Douglass’s own map turns out to be very effective in giving access to how maps and mapmaking shaped critical public discourse on both sides of the Atlantic during the eighteenth century. The project has thus expanded far beyond the original essay; right now, I’m reworking it into a monograph and a series of articles.

*The Origins and Development of J. B. Harley’s Cartographic Theories*, Monograph 54, *Cartographica* 40, nos. 1-2 (2005) Matthew H. Edney

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## Editor’s News

In addition to his work on Volume Four of the *History* series, **Matthew Edney** has spent the last academic year at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, teaching senior undergraduate research seminars in cartographic history that utilized that university’s extensive map collections.

Dr. Edney completed an intellectual biography of History of Cartography Project cofounder J. B. Harley [see sidebar]. This biography traces Dr. Harley’s ideas about the nature of maps and cartography from his Ph.D. in historical geography to his controversial essays of 1988-1992 via his collaboration with David Woodward on the *History of Cartography*. In a similar historiographic mode, Dr. Edney contributed “Putting ‘Cartography’ into the History of Cartography: Arthur H. Robinson, David Woodward, and the Creation of a Discipline” to a special issue of *Cartographic Perspectives*, no. 51 (2005): 14-29. His essay considers the cross-fertilization integral to both men’s work on academic cartography and cartographic history. Dr. Edney also gave the lead lecture for the 2004 series of the triennial Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography on “The Irony of Imperial Mapping” and is preparing several essays for publication on colonial New England’s cartographies.

**Mark Monmonier** used his spring 2005 research leave to develop the prospectus for Volume Six and initiate a new book project tentatively titled “Coastlines,” which uses a focus on the land-sea boundary to trace map history from the era of portolan charts through geodetic triangulation, plane-table surveying, photogrammetry, and digital cartography, with special attention to the shoreline as a volatile cartographic feature, a hazard zone, a fragile environment, an anchor for offshore territorial boundaries, and a proxy for sea-level rise. In February Mark presented the keynote speech at the 2005 GeoTec Event in Vancouver; in March he attended the GeoTools 2005 coastal GIS conference in Myrtle Beach; and in April, at the annual meeting of the

Association of American Geographers in Denver, he presented a paper on racially contentious place and feature names on topographic maps. Other travels during the semester included a History of Cartography Project editorial meeting in Madison in late April (where he was joined by Matthew Edney and Mary Pedley) and two trips each to New York City and Washington, D.C. Dr. Monmonier is a member of the newly formed National Research Council panel on Planning for Catastrophe. In April he received an Excellence in Graduate Education Award from the Syracuse University Graduate School. His book on controversial geographic names (*Fighting Words: How Names on Maps Claim, Defame, and Inflamm*) has been copyedited and is scheduled for publication by the University of Chicago Press in early 2006, possibly under another title.

Volume Four coeditor **Mary Pedley** and the staff at the Clements Library enjoyed Matthew Edney’s presence on campus during the 2004-05 academic year, which drew attention to the importance of maps in historical research. Dr. Pedley’s book, *The Commerce of Cartography: Making and Marketing Maps in Eighteenth Century France and England*, based on her 2001 Nebenzahl lectures, was published by the University of Chicago Press in June 2005. She also wrote “Louis Charles Karpinski and the Cartography of the Great Lakes,” *Michigan Historical Review* 31, no. 1 (2005): 166-99. Professor Karpinski was a member of the department of mathematics at the University of Michigan and was a map collector, dealer, and noted historian of Great Lakes cartography.

At the International Cartographic Conference in Spain, July 2005, the International Cartographic Association awarded **David Woodward** a Diploma for Outstanding Services for his “wide-ranging talents and profound contributions to the field, including his direction of the monumental History of Cartography Project.” Dr. Woodward also was the recipient of the 2004 Royal Scottish Geographical Society Centenary Medal. [See photo on page 5.]



Photo by Gavin Anderson.

*David Woodward was the recipient of the 2004 Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS) Centenary Medal, which is awarded annually in recognition of outstanding contributions in the field of geographical enquiry and the development of geography as a discipline. Professor Woodward received the award for his many distinguished contributions in cartography.*

*Above: Rosalind Woodward, wife of the late Dr. Woodward, accepted the Centenary Medal from RSGS President The Earl of Dalkeith at the President's Reception and Awards Dinner, October 2004, in the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, in the presence of HRH The Princess Royal, who is a Vice-President and Honorary Fellow of the Society.*

## Funding News

We are grateful for our funders unwavering confidence during the transitional period that began with cofounder and editor David Woodward's death in August 2004 and concluded with the hire of Matthew Edney as Project Director. The National Endowment for the Humanities recently awarded the Project a two-year grant beginning July 2005, and the National Science Foundation continues to provide support via a five-year grant that began in August 2003. The Salus Mundi Foundation and Madison benefactor John Taylor also renewed major contributions this year. Their gifts have enabled the Project to subsidize the production costs of Volume Three and to create the entirely new academic staff position of History of Cartography Project Director at the Madison office. We also thank the University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate School for supplying partial support for reference- and illustration-editor positions.

## Madison Office News

We extend special thanks to Professor **James E. Burt**, chair of the Geography Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, for his excellent service as interim director of the History of Cartography Project from September 2004 to June 2005. His willingness to step forward enabled work on the series to continue without interruption after David Woodward's death.

**Janet Manser** joined our staff in July as financial administrator, replacing **Rose Barr**, who left the Project to pursue a career in phlebotomy. Also moving on this year was **Jeffrey Bernard**, a graduate student who worked as a reference editor from September 2002 through January 2005. We welcome Jan, wish Rose our best with her studies, and congratulate Jeff on his new appointment with the Ohio Legislature Service Commission.

Congratulations to reference editor **Jed Woodworth** and his wife Shawna on the birth of their son Benjamin Charles on 26 June 2005 and to illustration editor **Dana Freiburger**, who received a National Science Foundation grant to participate in the East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute at the University of Tokyo this summer.

## David Woodward Memorial Fellowship Available

Applications are solicited for an annual two-month fellowship made possible by the generosity of Arthur and Janet Holzheimer. The purpose of this fellowship is to attract a scholar to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus to research and write on a subject related to the history of cartography. The fellow chosen for the 2006-07 academic year will focus on the period 1640-1800, the European Enlightenment, with research appropriate for Volume Four of the *History of Cartography* series. For more information, please contact:

Loretta Freiling, Institute for Research in the Humanities

Phone: (608) 262-3855

Fax: (608) 265-4173

Email: [freiling@wisc.edu](mailto:freiling@wisc.edu)

Application deadline: 15 January 2006.

## Donor Acknowledgments in Renaissance Volume

Contributors to the History of Cartography Project are acknowledged in published volumes in the series. The next volume published will be Volume Three, *Cartography in the European Renaissance*, and some friends of the Project have set personal goals about how they would like to be acknowledged in that volume.

As you may have noticed on the back page of this and all our newsletters, we designate categories of giving. Donors enter the Founder and Sponsor categories when their life long cumulative contributions reach \$5,000 or \$15,000, respectively. For Volume Three, acknowledgments in the other categories will be determined from the highest single gift received per donor since 12 August 1998 (when acknowledgments were prepared for Volume Two, Book Three).

If you would like information about your giving history, please call Beth Freundlich at the Madison office (608) 263-3992 or send her an email message at [eafreund@wisc.edu](mailto:eafreund@wisc.edu). Beth can report on your cumulative donation total, your highest gift, and the dates we received your contributions.

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