

JAN 08 1990

History of Cartography

Dept. of Geography, University of Wisconsin, 443 Science Hall, 550 N. Park St., Madison, WI 53706-1491, U.S.A. Tel: 608 263-3992

NEWSLETTER 13

15 December 1989

All of us at the History of Cartography Project want to wish you a very happy holiday season.

We know that everyone is anxiously awaiting Volumes 2 and 3. Looking back on the beginnings of the Project, we can see how far we have come and how much the Project has grown. Originally, Volume 1 was supposed to include all the Asian cartography, the cartography of non-literate peoples, and the reception of Ptolemy's *Geography* into Europe. This material now will be treated over the course of five physical volumes (Volume 1; Volume 2, Book 1; Volume 2, Book 2; and parts of Volumes 3 and 4). As you can imagine, this is both exciting and exhausting for the editors, as well as frustrating for contributors who are anxiously waiting for their chapters to appear. However, we feel very strongly that the expansion will prove to have been the wiser course of action; this synthesizing work is not likely to be repeated for many decades to come. We are determined to try to do it right and not cut corners on either the meticulous checking of references and quotations, or on the other details that we hope you have already found useful in Volume 1.

Amsterdam Conference on the History of Cartography

The 13th International Conference on the History of Cartography in Amsterdam was one of the best attended ICHC conferences. In between the seven days of activities, Co-Editors David Woodward and Brian Harley were able to meet with Project authors and advisors, as well as making many new friends and contacts. The "Open Market" poster session was a very successful addition to the traditional lecture format. We expect to see more sessions of this kind in the future.

Volume 1 News

The second printing of Volume 1 became available last year. The new impression gave us the opportunity to correct some small errors that had been pointed out to us. The later printing included a postcard so that purchasers could get on our mailing list. A few new reviews have appeared, and sales continue to be steady, with more than 2,100 sold.

Volume 2 Update

The past year has been one of great progress on Volume 2. When we remember that we had originally envisioned this Volume as the smallest of the series, we are very enthusiastic about the amount and quality of material we've amassed. The volume is now too large to be published in a single binding; it will appear as two separate books, each about the size of Volume 1: Volume 2, Book 1, *Cartography in the Traditional Islamic and South Asian Societies*, and Volume 2, Book 2, *Cartography in the Traditional East and Southeast Asian Societies*. The three largest sections of the volume are in the hands of external readers. The final section will reach them early in 1990.

The Islamic section went to Press reviewers in March. In addition to describing the terrestrial cartography, the section examines Islamic cosmographical and celestial traditions and includes several discrete chapters on Ottoman mapping. The first reviewer described the section as admirable and authoritative, taking special note of the impeccable scholarship. We expect a second reader's comments later this month.

In 1980, when we first discussed the possibility of a study of South Asian cartography, we had envisioned an essay of about 3,000 words. Instead, Associate Editor Joseph Schwartzberg has compiled a massive amount of material, examining--among other topics--town plans, cosmographical works, and "hybrids" between Western and indigenous South Asian materials, all discussed in the context of this culturally and religiously diverse region. But we are aware that the study of South Asian maps is still in its infancy; Schwartzberg describes his 100,000 word contribution as a platform from which we hope future efforts will be launched. This section went to the Press readers this fall.

The section on East Asian cartography, sent to readers this summer, brings to fruition of the Chinese section's chronological and thematic perspectives, a dual vision demanded by the vast and complex material. We are kept busy staying abreast of artifacts constantly being uncovered in archaeological digs. For example, we recently saw photographs of eight maps dating from sometime between 240 and 140 B.C. found in Gansu Province. These include a fragment of what is surely the earliest known map drawn on paper.



UNIV. OF WIS.-MADISON

GEOGRAPHY LIBRARY

Project Miscellany

We were extremely pleased with the acknowledgement the *History* received in the preface to Susan Gole's new book *Indian Maps and Plans*. This is one of the results we have always hoped for from the Project: an expanding community of scholars building creatively on each other's information and ideas.

The LOOK section of March 16th's *Wisconsin State Journal* featured the Project on its front page. In mid-April, we hosted an open house as part of the Medieval of Academy of America annual meeting, and that weekend the Chicago Map Society met in Madison to hear David and Brian speak about the Project.

Sub-projects

Terra Cognita, the planned television series on the history of cartography, is on hold for the time being, awaiting news from funding agencies. Last spring the TC team put together a complete script for one of the episodes: Research Associate Kevin Kaufman's work was transformed by commentator and novelist Rod MacLeish into an exciting exploration of mapping from Columbus to the Enlightenment.

Kevin also completed the historical introduction to the facsimile catalog for the John Carter Brown Library exhibition of the George Parker Collection of maps of the Great Lakes: *The Mapping of the Great Lakes in the Seventeenth Century*. The book and portfolio of map facsimiles, published this fall, has been beautifully printed by Meriden Press, and the work makes it possible for scholars to conveniently compare the maps of the period.

Milwaukee Activities

The Office for Map History, which Brian directs, has completed the planning phase of the major exhibit "Maps and the Columbian Encounter," a cooperative effort with the Newberry Library, the James Ford Bell Collection, the William L. Clements Library, and the American Geographical Society Collection. The facsimile exhibition will go on tour in June 1990, and the original maps will be on display in 1992. The exhibit is funded by NEH.

In 1989, the AGS Collection Fellowship Program supported Hu Bangbo (Academia Sinica, Beijing); Guntram Herb (University of Wisconsin-Madison); Hillary Ray (Hunter College); and Ihor Stebelsky (University of Windsor).

Next April Dr. Helen Wallis, O.B.E., will give the first annual Arthur Holzheimer "Maps and America" Lecture: "Columbus and the Early Maps of America: Islands and Mainland in the Ocean Sea." This new series promises to be a welcome addition to the Midwest's varied activities in the field.

Editors' Outreach

In April David organized and chaired a paper session on medieval geography at the Medieval Academy of America annual meeting in Madison; in May his talk "Cartography and the Abstraction of the World Picture" was the Banquet Speech at an interdisciplinary conference at Lehman College: *Imagining New Worlds*, a stimulating interchange among art, cultural, and theological historians, along with philosophers and other humanists. In August, he went to the International Cartographic Association meeting in Budapest, a fascinating city, in his role as a member of the U. S. National Committee for the ICA and as a presenter in the poster session.

David's other talks included "What's Wrong with the National Topographic Map?" (Chicago Map Society, October); "The History of Cartography," (University of Chicago, November), and "Paolo Forlani Veronese and the Venetian Map Trade," (Newberry Library, December).

Brian has presented papers on "Deconstructing the Map" (Northwestern University, January), "The Map as Text: a Humanities Approach" (Baltimore, March), "The Myth of the Great Divide: Art, Science, and Text in the History of Cartography" (Amsterdam, July), "New Directions in the History of Cartography" (John Carter Brown Library, October), and "Maps and the Columbian Encounter" (San Francisco, December).

Funding

Funding continued from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, the National Geographic Society, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, and a number of individuals. We have recently sent proposals for renewed support to the Henry Luce Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, along with a request for new support from the Japan Foundation. In addition, the Newberry Library has been supporting Project authors in their research at the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center. Author Catherine Delano Smith was in residence last spring, and David has been there this fall. We would like to express again our gratitude to all our donors for sustaining our Project.



89055462162



b89055462162a

UNIV. OF WIS.-MAD

GEOGRAPHY LIBRARY