

THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY

Fall 2008 Newsletter

Volume Five, *Cartography in the Nineteenth Century*

We are delighted to announce that Professor Roger Kain formally agreed in June to be editor of Volume Five. All six volumes of the series are now either complete or underway. Kain's first task will be to consult with the Volume Four and Volume Six editors about the process of designing an interpretive encyclopedia. The structure of the volume will be determined by the nature of cartography in the

nineteenth century, when mapmaking became heavily institutionalized, industrialization and its political stresses created new needs for maps, map use increased to encompass even the working poor, and the word 'cartography' was coined and popularized. If you have the good fortune to meet Kain, we hope that you will join us in welcoming him to the History of Cartography Project team!



The UK's Ordnance Survey epitomizes the growth and institutionalization of European governmental surveys in the nineteenth century. The topographic map reproduced in detail here stemmed from a defensive military survey begun in the 1790s. The map was first published in 1809, fifteen years before the name "Ordnance Survey" was used and fifty years before the survey was established as a permanent institution of civil government. Exeter, shown above, was the site of Project co-founder Brian Harley's work on the early Ordnance Survey and is home to Roger Kain, editor of Volume Five.

Photograph courtesy of the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford (C17.25.c.1 (26))
Size of the entire original: 59 x 88 cm; size of the detail: ca. 5.5 x 6.3 cm.

Introducing Professor Roger Kain



Roger Kain is a well-known figure in the field of map history. His award-winning monograph, *The Cadastral Map in the Service of the State* (Chicago, 1992), co-written with Elizabeth Baigent, made a substantial methodological contribution to the history of cartography. The book is a comparative examination of tax mapping undertaken throughout Europe and the European colonies in order to understand cadastral surveying as an active agent and instrument of socio-political change. It is required reading for all students of map history. This work continued with Kain's chapter in Volume Three of the *The History of Cartography*—"Maps and Rural Land Management in Early Modern Europe"—and several contributions to Volume Four. He is also widely known for his synthesis of the large amount of material on the mapping of England since 1660 for *English Maps* (London, 1999), with Catherine Delano-Smith. Since 1995 he has been an associate editor of *Imago Mundi*, the primary journal for map history.

After taking his B.A. and Ph.D. from University College London, Kain joined the University of Exeter's department of geography as a lecturer (assistant professor) in 1972. There, he became Montefiore Reader, succeeding *History of Cartography* co-

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founder Brian Harley, who had moved to Milwaukee in 1986. Among other career highlights, Kain became the Montefiore Professor at Exeter in 1991, received the D.Lit. from the University of London in 1998, and was a member of the council and then vice-president of the British Academy. He has just started his seventh and final year as Exeter's Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research. In recognition of his services to scholarship and research, he was appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honors List in 2005.

Kain's doctoral training was in the study of past landscapes—in his case, nineteenth-century Kent—through field and archival work and in particular through contemporary large-scale maps. This prepared him for a very successful career researching the histories of large-scale maps in nineteenth-century Britain and analyzing their content. His research began with the post-1836 tithe surveys, a uniquely English genre of cadastral surveys undertaken to support the replacement of annual tithes by a monetary rent-charge, and continued with enclosure surveys and urban mapping. These studies have produced not only respected articles and monographs, but also important bibliographies of the plans and associated records. In this, Kain has been a pioneer of ambitious digital publications (for more details, see www.sogaer.ex.ac.uk/geography/research/historical/hist_of_cart.shtml). Kain has consistently sought to understand these different British surveys in light of pan-European trends in cartography.

Kain's qualifications and experience show his deep commitment to the history of cartography generally and his extensive knowledge of the nineteenth century in particular. Add in his editorial and managerial skills, and it is evident that Kain is ideally suited to edit Volume Five and provide successful leadership from development to publication.

Volume Three, *Cartography in the European Renaissance*

We are pleased with the first published review of Volume Three by David McKitterick, Fellow and Librarian at Trinity College, Cambridge ("*The History of Cartography at the Crossroads*," *Imago Mundi* 60 [2008]: 227-33). In this thoughtful review essay, McKitterick reflects on Volume Three, the larger series, and the field as a whole. The volumes in the series, he notes, carry an "air of authority that suggests that the subject has come of age." The hallmark of the series, exemplified by the way in which Volume Three sits between the sciences and humanities, is its "determined interdisciplinarity." McKitterick details the organization and content of Volume Three before discussing several questions he sees arising from its themes. We should not "be misled into thinking that these vast volumes represent definition for all times," he warns. "The best books do not provide all the answers. They also give rise to questions." He concludes that the volume is "imaginatively conceived and expertly presented," and deserves "the widest possible readership."

Congratulations to Margie Tower, whose index to Volume Three received the American Society for Indexing's 2008 H. W. Wilson Award, which honors creativity in addressing unusual or difficult subject matter and highlights the importance of excellence in indexing. The award committee "noted the completeness of the index and particularly praised her precise yet evocative choice of wording that draws readers in and encourages them to look up the references in the text" (www.asindexing.org/site/WilsonAward.shtml). In her acceptance speech, in addition to explaining the history and goals of the Project and how she went about indexing the volume (a sixteen-week job!), Tower noted how much cartographers and indexers were alike. "With sometimes fierce obsession and persistent curiosity, indexers map the knowledge that we find in a given domain, be it a traditional text, a Web site, or a data

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base. For cartographers and indexers alike, our jobs are about mapping knowledge of *some thing* in a way that we can move away from it yet find our way back." The Project was privileged to have someone as experienced, competent, and pleasurable to work with as Tower.

Volume Four, *Cartography in the European Enlightenment*

Work on the entries for Volume Four progressed steadily during the first half of 2008. We are happy to report that 39% of the total entries are written (many thanks to our hard-working contributors!); one-third of these have been edited, revised, and passed on to the Madison office for reference and fact checking. Work on procuring illustrations has begun. Only 15% of the volume's entries remain in the early phases of invitation and negotiation with potential contributors. In the next few months, we expect to assign those to contributors who can then begin writing by December of this year. At that point, work will be underway for every entry in the volume.

Such encouraging progress helped strengthen the grant proposal submitted in July to the National Endowment for the Humanities, which requests continued support for the History of Cartography Project. The endowment's support and yours, whether you are an academic contributor or a sponsoring friend, are vital to bringing

the last three volumes of the *History* to completion.

As his editing and directorial work continued, Matthew Edney returned to the University of Southern Maine in September 2007, after a generous leave, to be appointed Osher Chair in the History of Cartography and to resume teaching. His ability to split his time between Portland and Madison is testament to the power of modern technology—email and airplanes in particular—allowing him to be a moving extension of the Madison office. Edney traveled further afield to participate in conferences and to give lectures related to the Project: Bath, UK (New World Cartographies conference), Richmond (Library of Virginia, to present the annual Voorhees Lecture), and Chicago (Renaissance Society of America, to chair a session on mapping in Renaissance Italy that featured contributors to Volume Three). These wide-ranging events highlighted the importance of maps in a variety of fields and to diverse audiences.

Coeditor Mary Pedley's travel for the History of Cartography Project took her to France, where she spent a splendid month in Paris as a visiting lecturer at the École nationale des Chartes. Participating in the courses offered to young historians at the École also allowed Pedley to meet with many of the France-based contributors to Volume Four. She hosted a *réunion de travail* on the afternoon of March 17, through the generosity of the University of Chicago Press and the good will and hospitality of



Cláudia Damasceno Fonseca, Valéria Pansini, and Júnia Ferreira Furtado, three of the France-based contributors to Volume Four who gathered for a reception in Paris last March. Damasceno and Furtado are contributors for entries on Portuguese America, and Pansini has written entries on military mapping and surveying.

the Bibliothèque nationale de France, which provided a most amiable venue in the Département des cartes et plans. Meeting Volume Four contributors allowed Pedley to answer many questions about different aspects of the volume, to put faces to names, and to encourage contributors to meet and coordinate their entries with each other. The hour of intense discussion was followed by an even more convivial hour of informal conversation and refreshments. Such a gathering is always beneficial to a project as large and complex as *The History of Cartography*, which draws in members of many different disciplines, historical periods, and personal interests. In addition, it creates the human bond of friendship for the Project, one of the many benefits of being a participant in such a small but diverse field.

Volume Six, *Cartography in the Twentieth Century*

With financial details for our new five-year National Science Foundation grant resolved, Volume Six editor Mark Monmonier ramped up his efforts reading and editing submitted manuscripts in late August, with the support of Karen Cook and Joel Morrison, now officially on board as associate editors. All three attended a general editorial meeting in Madison in September.

In May the University of Chicago Press published Monmonier's new book *Coast Lines: How Mapmakers Frame the World and Chart Environmental Change*. During the year he continued to represent the geospatial community as a member of the Coastal Elevations and Sea Level Rise Advisory Committee, formed under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to advise the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on a key aspect of climate change. On May 30 he presented "Persuasive Cartography in the Era of the Internet" as the closing keynote address at II Congrès Català de Geografia (Second Catalan Geographic Conference) in Barcelona, Spain.

Since August 2007 Volume Six has benefited from the able assistance of Syracuse University doctoral student Jeremy Bryson. In late June, Bryson moved to Idaho for research on his dissertation, but he participated in the project over the Internet until late August, when Effie Scott, a recent University of Chicago graduate, became the Volume Six graduate research assistant in Syracuse.

The 23rd ICHC (12 – 17 July 2009) Maps, Myths and Narratives: Cartography of the Far North Copenhagen, Denmark

The International Conference on the History of Cartography (ICHC) is the only scholarly conference solely dedicated to advancing knowledge of the history of maps and mapmaking, regardless of geographical region, language, period, or topic. The conference promotes free and unfettered global cooperation and collaboration among cartographic scholars from any academic discipline, curators, collectors, dealers, and institutions through illustrated lectures, presentations, exhibitions, and a social program. In order to expand awareness of issues and resources, leading educational and cultural institutions sponsor each conference. Conferences are held biennially. The 23rd ICHC is organized by the Royal Danish Library in conjunction with Imago Mundi Ltd.

Call for Papers: Deadline for proposals is
1 October 2008

More information about the conference and call for papers may be found at www.ichc2009.dk

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Akerman, James R., ed. *The Imperial Map: Cartography and the Mastery of Empire*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008. From the fifteenth series of the Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography.

Ledyard, Gari. Korean-language edition of "Cartography in Korea." Seoul: Sonamoo Publishing, forthcoming. Translated from *The History of Cartography*, Volume Two, Book Two: *Cartography in the Traditional East and Southeast Asian Societies*, ed. J. B. Harley and David Woodward.

Monmonier, Mark. *Coast Lines: How Mapmakers Frame the World and Chart Environmental Change*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008.

Safer, Neil. *Measuring the New World: Enlightenment Science and South America*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008.

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