

THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY



The last map in a series of three in the Atlas méthodique (1755) identifies the names of rivers, bodies of water, and important physical features not present on the first two maps (see back). Mapmaker Jean Palairé's approach was to slowly introduce students to an increasing number of geographical details to build confidence and mastery without overwhelming the young mind. He wrote that this method of cumulative content was designed so "the objects are arranged in memory by degrees and according to the need to know in order to study with success." The History of Cartography Project also aims to help students—and others—expand their knowledge and gain a deeper understanding of maps.

MAPS TELL US MORE THAN SIMPLY HOW TO GET THERE FROM HERE. AS ONE OF THE OLDEST FORMS OF HUMAN COMMUNICATION, THEY EXPRESS THE MANY WAYS WE ATTEMPT TO UNDERSTAND THE WORLD.

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November 2016

Greetings from the History of Cartography Project.

Each fall we write to friends to let you know about progress on the series and to ask for your support. If you have donated in the past, thank you; we hope you will renew or even increase your giving. If you have never donated—please consider doing so. Private contributions are critical to our work and will help us sustain the unprecedented pace needed to complete this unique project.

Schedule to complete the series

- **Volume 4:** Intensive work is focused on submitting the entire Enlightenment manuscript with 484 entries and about 975 illustrations for press production in summer 2017.
- **Volume 5:** Substantial progress is being made by hundreds of authors and editors, who are preparing 430 nineteenth-century entries. Submission to press is planned for early 2020.
- Our volumes require about two years for copyediting, preparation of galley pages and page proofs, indexing, printing, and binding. We expect Volume 4 to appear in 2019 and Volume 5 in 2022.

Make a difference—your gift will help complete the series by 2022!

Continuing intensive editorial preparation and exacting manuscript review are costly. Donations will ensure that the volumes are richly illustrated; the quotations, references, and facts are accurate; the layout and style are useful; and the index is comprehensive. In short, we intend to meet the high standards readers have come to expect from the *History*. Your gift will pay for editorial research, translation, fees to reproduce images, and more.

May we count on your support?

Many thanks,

Matthew Edney, Project Director

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Atlas méthodique

Jean or John Palairet (1697–1774) was an example of the peripatetic life led by many mapmakers in eighteenth-century Europe. Born in France, probably of Huguenot Protestant parents, he found work in the United Provinces of the Netherlands, becoming the agent for the States General in London. While in the Netherlands, he was a tutor to the Prince of Orange, William IV, who in 1734 married Princess Anne, daughter of Britain's King George II. This connection proved fortuitous for Palairet, who soon became tutor to George II's other children, including William Augustus, duke of Cumberland. Settled in London but traveling frequently to the Netherlands, Palairet authored several pedagogical works, including the *Nouvelle introduction à la géographie moderne* (London, Amsterdam, Berlin, The Hague, 1754), in three small (*duodecimo*) volumes, dedicated to William

V, Prince of Orange, the six-year-old son of William IV, who had succeeded his father as Prince of Orange and last Stadtholder of Nassau in 1751. The *Atlas méthodique* of 1755 was designed to accompany this introduction.

Though larger in size than many school atlases, which were often designed to fit a pocket or a satchel, the folio-sized *Atlas méthodique* contains simplified, brightly colored maps, typical of a style to suit a young student's digestion. The maps are also colored in a particular way to facilitate the study of the situation of states, provinces, rivers, and other natural features, as described in his *Nouvelle introduction*, which also contained very simplified descriptions of the continents, organized in a typographic layout.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to every map dealer, scholar, collector, family foundation, and Project friend who has made a donation. This year we have chosen to discuss maps in this space instead of listing all your names, but we continue to value your generosity. Contributions help at all levels, whether given as single gifts or as recurring monthly donations. We also hope you will join us in acknowledging those below: our primary sponsors, foundations and individuals who have provided more than \$150,000, and participants in a recent major matching campaign. Thank you again to all our supporters.

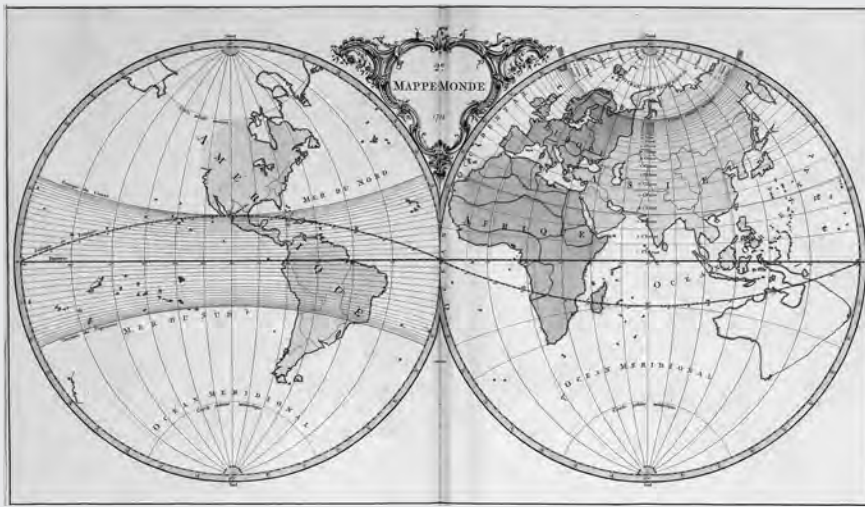
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All images are from Jean Palairet, *Atlas méthodique* (London: J. Nourse and P. Vaillant, 1755). From the top: "1^e Carte de l'Europe. 1754," 49 cm × 57 cm; "2^e Mappede-Monde 1754," 41 cm × 72 cm; and "III^e Carte de l'Europe. 1754," 49 cm × 57 cm (also detail on front). Background on the front is from the marbled paper used on the cover of the atlas. Courtesy of the David Rumsey Historical Map Collection.