



NEMO Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter of the North East Map Organization

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From the Bridge

We are in different, changing, troubling, scary, difficult, angry, etc. times. One can select any number of adjectives and they still do not seem to describe one's feelings. It is still so incomprehensible for me to think that the events of September 11, 2001, really happened. I know that they did and, in spite of everything else, we must go on with our lives and hope for the best. On behalf of the entire membership of NEMO, I want to extend our deepest sympathies to everyone who lost a friend or a family member on September 11, 2001. We are thinking of you.

We continue to plan for NEMO 2002. No location has been confirmed as I write this column but there are some good leads and I hope that we will be able to make an announcement by the end of this year. The dates are set, Thursday-Friday, June 6-7, 2002. It is never too early to ask people for a list of potential speakers. If you have a topic you would like to present, please contact David Bertuca or me. Or, if you know of someone that would be worth contacting, please let us know. I look forward to hearing from you and enjoy these beautiful fall days before winter is upon us.

Take care and be safe.



Jim Walsh Captain NEMO

Nemo Meeting Thanks

Belated thanks to some Mount Holyoke people who helped make the walking tour of the campus at our 2001 annual meeting a success. Peter Carini, the Director of Archives and Special Collections, lent us a historical map of the campus which helped to answer some questions about the age of the various buildings. Jon Caris, Steve Dunn, Cecile Vasquez, and Al Werner, of the Department of Earth and Environment, made possible our visit to the GeoProcessing Lab. And our own NEMO member Lisa Brainard, also an alumna of Mount Holyoke College, helped lead the group and answer questions.

—Nancy Kandoian



October Issue in November

The usual course of publication is to begin gathering data and submissions about three weeks prior to the month of the issue. While this schedule was to be followed in mid-September, events in America caused a distraction from the process and the editor lost track of time and did not get reorganized to maintain the normal schedule. Additional activities at home and work pushed a number of activities back causing a ripple effect that slowed everything down.

We apologize for the delay and will be back on schedule following this issue. We also ask that you take a moment to remember those who perished and who survived the tragic events in September, and that you think about how the future can be improved to minimize the chances of such acts being repeated anywhere.—David Bertuca, NEMO Editor.

"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home—so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any map of the world." — Eleanor Roosevelt

New Mapping Technique May Help Pinpoint Oil, Gas Reserves

By Alexandra Witze

Dallas Morning News 10/28/01

Geologists may soon help oil and gas companies squeeze every last drop out of their discoveries. A new mapping technique, developed at the University of Texas at Dallas, peers inside the Earth to outline underground geology in stunning, three-dimensional detail. The resulting images could help researchers better understand the nature of oil and gas reservoirs--which otherwise remain hidden from sight. "We're really adding a whole new dimension to the information that's available," said UTD geologist George McMechan, one of the project's leaders. Oil and gas companies, including BP and Chevron, are funding part of the research. They hope it will help them exploit known deposits, rather than having to spend money to look for new ones.

This summer, the UTD team--including McMechan and sedimentologist Janok Bhattacharya took measurements along a sandstone cliff near Kaycee, Wyo., that may provide insights into the great Prudhoe Bay oil field off northern Alaska. The Wyoming rocks serve as an easily-accessible analogy to buried reservoirs.

"Because it's exposed you can study it in detail, and you can really see what's going on," McMechan says.

Terry Wiseman, an exploration geologist with BP in Houston, says his company will use the UTD research to save time and money when drilling for oil. The new information can help companies create better computer models of exactly how large a given reservoir is and how much oil it still contains. "Ultimately we use (the data) to assess the uncertainty in production for our fields," said Wiseman.

Oil and gas form when the remains of dead organisms become buried under great pressure, which converts the remains into hydrocarbons - molecules made of hydrogen and carbon. The oil and gas become trapped in certain areas by less-porous rock layers, by geologic faults, or by a salt dome. The trick for petroleum geologists is to discover these hidden deposits and measure their extent.

Until now, geologists have had to crawl over the surface, puncturing the ground with wells to see the story that is unfolding below ground. But wells can be expensive - about \$2 million apiece in the Prudhoe Bay region, said Bhattacharya - and oil companies want a cheaper way

to delve inside the Earth. Bhattacharya, who worked for Arco before joining UTD, says the best strategy requires understanding the arrangement of sediments often found with oil deposits. Most of the world's oil reservoirs lie in sandstone - rock formed from sand grains cemented together, often along river bottoms. On the surface, undisturbed sandstone looks like a neatly stacked layer cake. But in certain environments, such as in a river or river delta, the layers form at a characteristic slant, he said. That slant, or "dip," can affect how geologists perceive what is happening underground. As a result, geologists might not be able to drill two wells to a certain depth and be sure both wells are tapping the same rocks. The dipping layers may skew the picture, Bhattacharya said. So the UTD team has been visiting sites where sedimentary rocks, similar to oil-rich rocks in Alaska and elsewhere are exposed, high and dry. "The general notion is that the physics of how rivers and deltas operate is the same throughout geological history," said Bhattacharya. [Note: for details go to the UTD Sedimentology Stratigraphy Home Page of Janok P. Bhattacharya:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/~janokb/>

Carto Clips

Caspian Sea Region Map Available

In response to recent events, National Geographic Maps released The Caspian Sea map, a 1999 supplement, for sale. The map covers the area from Turkey in the West to Kazakhstan and Pakistan in the East at a scale of 1:7,100,000. The reverse features art, text and thematic maps relating to cultures of the Caspian region. A new map of Afghanistan, Pakistan and The Middle East, based on cartography in the National Geographic 7th edition World Atlas, at a scale of 1:6,087,000, was published in October.

The December issue of *National Geographic Magazine* will include a new supplement map of Afghanistan and Pakistan at a larger scale and with greater detail, backed by a dynamic satellite image of the region, thematic maps and a timeline of Afghan history. This map will later be released for sale to the general public.

Commemorating an earlier war, National Geographic has published a map on the 60th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, with maps, text and photographs detailing the attack, and the 1942 map of the Pacific Theatre of War on the reverse. Information at 800-962-1643.

Or visit the National Geographic Maps Website: www.nationalgeographic.com/maps.--Eric Riback

NEMO Archival Materials

Send materials for the archives to:

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Digital Earth, Paper Earth

Here is the first announcement for the spring meeting of the **Western Association of Map Libraries** (WAML) in Santa Barbara, March 21-23, 2002, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

You need not be a member of WAML to attend. We haven't figured out the registration costs yet but probably it will be around \$30. I realize this is the same time as the meeting of the Association of American Geographers; I had to select a time at the end of spring quarter here, in order that persons attending would be able to find a place to park. Visit the Web site:

<http://www.sdc.ucsb.edu/~mary/waml2002.html>

Lie of the Land: The Secret Life of Maps

Free exhibition, with accompanying events programme
Pearson Gallery, British Library, 96 Euston Road, London
NW1 2DB. 27 July 2001 to 7 April 2002

"What we see on a map is rarely the same as the land under our feet. Some maps deliberately set out to deceive. Many show a selective view and reflect only the interests of the people who made them. Stunning maps from ancient to modern reveal a secret world for you to discover. In every case there is more than meets the eye..."

Admission is free. Visit the Web site: <http://www.bl.uk/> (containing both information and a virtual tour of the exhibition)

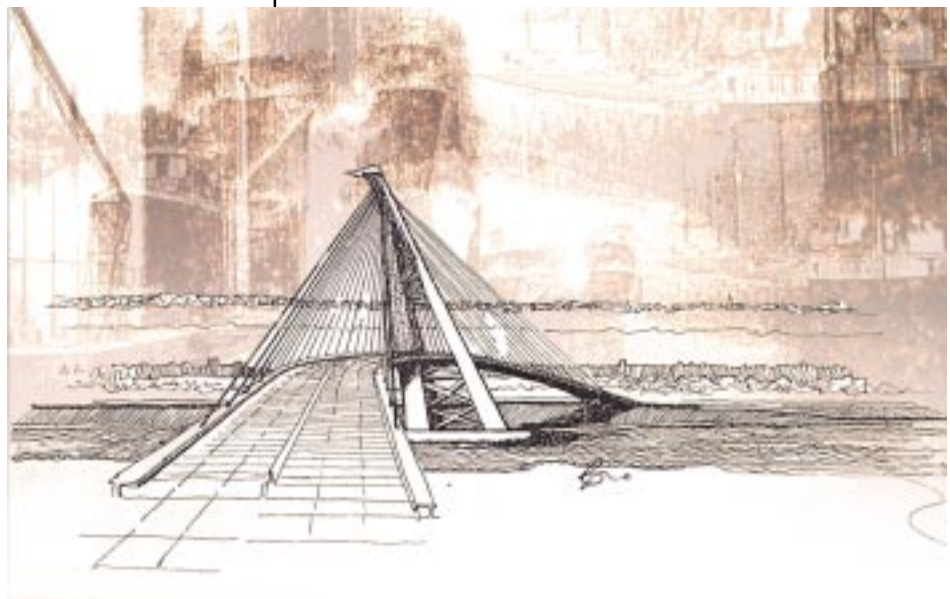
The exhibition will be accompanied by a series of talks. The first, on Tuesday 31 July at 18.15, will feature Peter Whitfield, 'The Discovery of the Pacific: a Continuing Mystery' [about the Waldseemüller world map of 1507, just acquired by the Library of Congress]. For further details about this and later talks, and for information about booking and paying, please see the exhibition web pages. Seven events are described, up to 19 September. Details of others, extending to April 2002, will be posted later, so please make a point of returning to the website. No catalogue or leaflet is available but it is possible that something may be produced in due course. Please check the website again later on.

New Rumsey Collection Online Maps

An additional 1,050 images have been added to the David Rumsey Collection online Web site – www.davidrumsey.com. The total number of online maps and other images as of September 1, 2001 is 5,468. One of the map sets added is:

David Burr. *Atlas of the State of New York, 1829*. 51 maps, 1st edition. One of the earliest State atlases in the U.S.; includes maps of all the counties and a large map of New York City.

–Philip Hoehn, Librarian
David Rumsey Collection



Member in Focus

On October 4, the University at Buffalo held its annual Convocation, where NEMO member **David Bertuca** was honored by the University president with a "UB Star" award, recognizing him along with a small group of others, for his creative production of a multimedia presentation that has successfully assisted in increasing undergraduate enrollment this year. Out of a large group of nominees, less than 10 were chosen to receive this honor.

A recent announcement states; "The "UB Stars" Awards are personally selected and presented by UB President William Greiner. David's Award cites his contributions to the multimedia digital graphic and sound production, "UB: A Leader for the 21st Century." This presentation, celebrating the achievements and environment of the University, was initially presented to rave reviews at UB Day in Albany, then during the spring Preview Day, at Commencement, and at many locations during University recruitment activities in the summer months. Joining David as awardees for the multimedia show are Ray Volpe, UB Micro, Mary Weatherston and Kevin Corbett of the Office of Admissions."

Desiderio: 2101

City of Desire: an Exhibit of Visions of the Buffalo, New York Landfront.

The University at Buffalo, Center for the Arts recently exhibited twenty intaglios by architect Bruno Freschi, showing his "vision of Buffalo and the landfront on Lake Erie 2101 A.D." These detailed works (see example below) are plan views or maps of the area along the lake shore. The unusual exhibit ran from September 7-October 6.

—Ernie Woodson

Where We Are Going, There Are No Maps

It is hard to believe how many things have changed in an instant. Activities and functions that we take for granted, concepts that are accepted without thought, routines that are automatic—all of these have changed.

We are now focusing our attention on local security, while also observing remote parts of the World. People are trying to understand exactly what happened in September and to make sense of it in their own terms.

Such an act, with its following consequences, is beyond our ability to make sense. There are no instructions to give us assistance, no guiding principles to lead the way; there are no maps to use that will tell us just where we are and where we are headed.

It is up to each individual to find the way, and to decide the best path to take. Government can provide leadership and an external defense system, but we must be the instruments of change. We need to lead and to follow depending on the circumstances. We need to continue with the lives we have begun and to do so as well as we are able. Most of us will succeed and will maintain our lives, while making life in general better for all.

Supporting the study of geography and improving access to maps and data, we can do our best to help people to better understand the World with all its complexities. By promoting learning we can assist in changing views, perceptions, and perhaps even opinions. This may provide the knowledge to those who someday might resolve some of the World's differences, and give the answers needed for someone to draw a new map of where we are heading.—DJB

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We invite and welcome contributions and suggestions. Please submit all materials to the editor using e-mail, 3.5" PC or Macintosh disk (in Word, RTF, or ASCII format), or by sending a typewritten document. Newsletter submissions and questions on submissions should be directed to:

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NEMO (North East Map Organization) is a group dedicated to serving as a unifying body for all who use, produce, collect, and market maps and cartographic information in the North-east; increasing communication between all interested in maps; and working with state, regional, and national organizations and government agencies in dissemination of maps and cartographic information. NEMO's principal region is CT, DE, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

Subscriptions are included with membership in NEMO, which is fifteen dollars per year. Back issues for the current year will be included with new memberships.

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