



NEMO Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter of the North East Map Organization

NUMBER 48

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From the Bridge

As the World turns... so also does the cartographic universe. So many changes are taking place in mapmaking, data gathering, display and printing, and even in the use of maps. Now it seems that being able to read a map is not as important, which is a bit of a shame. But, I feel confident that there are many who still appreciate good cartography, the elegance of well drawn maps and charts, and the wealth of information that appears on every map that is produced. Organizations such as NEMO are more than a group of like-minded enthusiasts. We are also the bridge between the traditional world of maps and the dynamic, sometimes unstable electronic, technology driven mapping systems.

This is not to say that the new technologies are bad or imperfect—to the contrary, the new tools for creating maps and geographic images are fascinating and offer so many possibilities for interaction and for putting geography into the hands of everyone. GPS systems that are affordable and easy to use by anyone, allows us to navigate through the world with ease, and gives many the chance to do their own map making. The curious mind can learn more about the world with such devices. Cartographic software and other hardware devices puts this same potential into the reach of many more than was possible only a decade or so ago.

I grew up with map and compass, various simple tools for measuring and calculating, and the interest in how the world worked, and so this interest is now multiplied by the exponential developments from new technologies and the availability of all sorts of equipment that allow me to get direct answers for a myriad of questions. How high is that hill? How far is it from here to the towers in the distance? What lines up with the direction of the road I am on? So many things that can be learned, so many experiments, so much that there is difficulty more in trying to find time to research, or time to become proficient in any of these areas.

If it is hard for someone with a little background, it must be harder still for those with no experience (and for those with a great deal of experience too). Some of the tools still require a bit of ability and knowledge to understand the results of readings, or to make interpretations of the streams of data that pulse into the system. It is a time of great possibilities and a time of frustration, depending on how you view things.

That is again why being part of the North East Map Organization is a good thing. Participation encourages each member to learn, to try to understand, and to continue to maintain the support for mapping and geography that is needed in the 21st century. We are the explorers and discoverers in a new age where the territories are not visibly defined as a

shoreline or mountain range, but instead may be abstract or hidden, or maybe even lost in a sea of information. Thinking of us as mutual explorers and traders in the new world, not only supports our efforts, it expands and improves the lives of those we serve, and whom we meet along our journeys. That is something to think about as we prepare to start another year into the future.

And, speaking of participation, I wish to remind everyone that the *NEMO Newsletter* is a good publication because NEMO members provide submissions and are supportive of the efforts of the Editor, David Bertuca (Me!). I thank all of you for submitting and for reading. Please keep sending stuff and consider submitting if you have not done so. More is always better and your ideas, thoughts, articles, and comments are what makes our organization strong and fun. Share your explorations with your fellow travelers!

The NEMO Web site is always looking for submissions of ideas and URLs for presentations you create on the Web or collections you have or wish to promote. If your collection has a Web site or you create special pages on maps, map cataloging, cartography, collections, etc., please send them to me for use on the NEMO Web site. I try to find member-prepared pages as I go, but if your page is not there it is probably not because I didn't think to add it: I may just not have gotten to finding it yet. If there is something you created that you wish to add links to, let me know.

Finally, the annual meeting is a great place to actually spend time with your friends and colleagues in the map world and participating is the ultimate in sharing. Consider making a presentation, even a short one, on something that you have accomplished, or are doing, or have researched. Contact Captain-elect, Pat McGlamery and offer suggestions of presentations that you are willing to make, or of ideas for him to consider finding a speaker. The best way to make the NEMO meeting a success is to join in and speak up.

If there is anything that you think of that we can do to make NEMO better, or if you have any comments, etc., please let me know.

*Into the ships now, and
prepare for a voyage of
discovery!*



David Bertuca
Captain NEMO



Daisy says woof!

New York State Coordinated Project for the Preservation of Maps

New York State has awarded a group of institutions a grant for the preservation of historic or special maps in their collections. The project, which runs from September 2002 through June 2004, will allow for the preservation of about 1,900 maps over the course of the entire grant period. The items will be properly cleaned and given various treatments as needed, including flattening, dry cleaning, tape removal, deacidification, encapsulation, and repair of major tears.

The Project Vendor is the Etherington Conservation Center (ECC), of Greensboro, North Carolina; Web site: <http://www.donetherington.com/>. ECC has performed preservation on collections from a number of major institutions and their experience and resources will allow us to make our maps last much longer than they currently would have.

The institutions included in the project are: SUNY Buffalo, Columbia, Cornell, University of Rochester, SUNY Stony Brook, and Syracuse University. Several NEMO members have been named project directors for their respective institutions. **David Allen** will conduct the work at SUNY Stony Brook, and **David Bertuca** is handling operations at SUNY Buffalo. A detailed abstract of each of these projects appears below.

Soil Maps Preserved at SUNY Stony Brook

Several research libraries in New York State have received a grant for map preservation from the state's library conservation/preservation program. This is the most recent of several cooperative map preservation projects carried out by New York State libraries in recent years. In this round SUNY Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse will select a total of 680 US 15' maps published between 1888 and 1944. Columbia will select 360 nineteenth and early twentieth century New York City maps. SUNY Stony Brook will preserve 360 county soil maps. And Rochester will select 240 additional maps published before 1951 depicting New York State Geology and mineral resources.

This grant will enable SUNY Stony Brook to preserve a significant portion of its nationwide collection of nearly 1500 soil surveys published prior to 1950. The 360 maps selected for preservation will include all of those covering areas in the Northeastern United States. Many of these maps have been too brittle to unfold, and their flattening and encapsulation will make it possible to use them for the first time. These maps will be listed in a database that will be made available to researchers over the Internet. Eventually they will also be cataloged.

Early soil maps are used by a variety of researchers. They often show soil conditions in areas that have since been built over, and are not recorded on modern soil surveys. They are also useful for revealing stream and drainage patterns that have since been altered. In addition they show roads, buildings, and other structures that may not appear on USGS maps, since the publication dates of soil surveys often fall between those of early 15' maps. These maps receive particularly heavy use from geologists, historians, and archeologists.

—submitted by David Allen

Historic New York State Topographic Maps Preserved at SUNY Buffalo

The University at Buffalo has a large collection of historic topographic maps of New York State and Pennsylvania, about 300 of which will be selected as part of the grant for preservation. As a mark of the historic importance of the USGS 1:62,000 (15') topographic maps, the University at Buffalo Libraries has already cataloged their entire collection at the sheet level, using national MARC format cataloging standards. These maps, ranging from the mid 1890s through the late 1950s provide historic references to the areas covered, as well as to the surveying and cartographic techniques used to produce the works. The popularity of these maps for use by geologists, geographers, genealogists, historians, and planners, among others has put a strain on their condition over the time that the collection has been available. Preservation will give the collection a longer lifespan and will allow access to those whose interests in the data appearing on the maps might not be satisfied as readily.

The project will assist the UB Libraries by supplementing the preservation work so far accomplished by its own Center for Book Preservation and will allow for the eventual completion of preservation of the entire New York State historic topographic map collection, and will also make it more possible to begin work on the Pennsylvania topos. Although this work is not the ultimate in preserving the valuable data, while still allowing access, it is the most practical at this time to maintain the original documents of the collection.

—submitted by David J. Bertuca

New Tool Allows Blind To Read Maps

Students in a software engineering class at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill—with help from the professor—have developed a tool that blind and visually impaired people can use to read maps. The Blind Audio Tactile Mapping System (BATS) uses a trackball to move a cursor around on a map. As the cursor passes over different parts of the map, the system plays audio information so the user can “read” the map. For example, names of places on the map are pronounced by a voice synthesizer. When the cursor goes over water, the user hears the sound of crashing waves; over land, the user hears horses galloping. The professor teaching the class in which the tool was developed said it could become an open-source application, and it can be downloaded now from the project's site <http://www.cs.unc.edu/Research/assist/bats/>.

--submitted by Nancy Kandoian

[fn: *Wired News*, 25 September 2002

From: *Educause* September 25, 2002.]

Current Officers (2002-2003)

Captain	David J. Bertuca	dbertuca@buffalo.edu
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Members in Focus

Congratulations to the University of Connecticut's Maps & Geographic Information Center (MAGIC) and the University of Idaho's Library, who received Special Achievement in GIS Awards at the ESRI User Conference in San Diego, CA. Below are excerpts from the Press Releases describing the award and the work being done at these great libraries. The full text of the Press Releases is available at:

www.esri.com/sag

Congratulations, Patrick (UConn) & Lily (UIdaho)!

University of Connecticut's Homer Babbage Library Honored for Accomplishments

The University of Connecticut's Homer Babbage Library, chosen from more than 100,000 organizations, will be honored on July 11 for its innovative use of geographic information system (GIS) technology. ESRI, recognizes organizations that provide substantial benefits to society through their use of GIS technology. The Special Achievement in GIS award ceremony takes place at the Twenty-second Annual ESRI International User Conference in San Diego, California, among thousands of GIS professionals.

"I am thrilled to see our users apply GIS software to truly make a difference in our world. Each of the organizations being honored today has helped expand the use of GIS technology and improve our quality of life," says Jack Dangermond, ESRI president.... and... The University of Connecticut's Homer Babbage Library is being honored for its Map and Geographic Information Center (MAGIC). Since 1989, MAGIC has collected and provided access to digital geospatial data. The Center has over 20,000 files of geospatial data for Connecticut ranging from transportation to soil layers, as well as census geographies and data for the past three decennial censuses. This information along with the library's 180,000 maps, some 50,000 aerial photographs, and vector data is available to the university and the community. MAGIC is user-driven and configures its site to ensure an efficient distribution of spatial data. A partnership with the University of Connecticut Center for Geographic Information and Analysis has given MAGIC additional support and ideas of what the library should be. MAGIC pushed for an ESRI Virtual Campus university site license to give faculty and students the tools needed to use the data on MAGIC."

Special Libraries Association Annual Conference

NEMO member **Paige Andrew** had a busy SLA Annual Conference this year in Los Angeles. As Chair of the Association's Committee on Cataloging not only did he conduct the Committee's annual Business Meeting but he also served as co-moderator to two programs that the Committee co-sponsored to serve the members of SLA. The first program shared, through the knowledge and expertise of three professional catalogers in the field, recent changes to the "rule book" for catalogers, *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules*, which will be published in a new edition this month. The co-moderated program was "Changes to AACR2R and Their Impacts on Cataloging." The second program served as both an update to OCLC's ongoing change to a web-based interface design and merging of several separate databases and also a formal introduction to what OCLC calls this new product, "Connexion". Titled "Extending the Cooperative: OCLC's Web-based Cataloging Desktop," the program will likely be provided at next year's annual

conference with updates from the previous year added. Both programs were well received and well attended.

NEMO Member Co-Delivers Part of ALA Preconference Workshop

Susan Moore, map cataloger librarian at the University of Northern Iowa, and **Paige Andrew**, faculty maps cataloger at the Pennsylvania State University, co-taught the "Physical Description" portion of a two-day preconference workshop at the ALA's Annual Conference in Atlanta in June. Sponsored by the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services Division, Cataloging & Classification Section (ALCTS) and the Maps and Geography Round Table (MAGERT) of ALA, the workshop was titled "Map Cataloging: Learning to Describe Cartographic Materials." With 65 individuals in attendance from a variety of places and institutions in the United States and Canada, this was the first time he jointly taught a map cataloging workshop and found it to be a fun challenge. The other units of the workshop were titled "Subject Analysis and Classification," taught by Elizabeth Mangan; "AACR2 Changes to Chapter 3," taught by Velma Parker; and "Cataloguing Digital Geospatial Data," taught by Grace Welch.

Member Highlight

Thelma Thompson, NEMO Secretary

I attended my first NEMO meeting last June at UConn and enjoyed meeting the NEMO members who were there. Since I volunteered and was elected as NEMO secretary, I thought that I should take this opportunity to introduce myself more formally to the organization.

I have been at the University of New Hampshire's Dimond Library since November 1999. My official title is "Government Documents Librarian," but, as the second librarian in the documents department, a large portion of my responsibilities involve the map collection. It is a relatively small collection consisting primarily of US Depository maps and nautical charts. There are also some other idiosyncratic maps that I am sure could tell interesting tales about how they came into the collection. Why do we have those 1:5000 land use maps of the Philippines, for instance? Or those World War II era topographic maps of Yugoslavia that look like they have been well used? Even a small collection has these intriguing mysteries.

I came to map librarianship through a rather roundabout route teaching high school science in New Hampshire and holding a split position as geology laboratory instructor and reference librarian at a small liberal arts college in Iowa. Before coming back to New Hampshire, I spent many summers doing bedrock geologic mapping in northern Vermont for the Vermont Geologic Survey as part of the USGS STATEMAP program. I have to say that summer fieldwork is one of the things that I miss most in my position at UNH (although I do not miss the yearly trek back and forth from Iowa). Otherwise, I am enjoying the challenges and rewards of working with maps and documents. Like many libraries we are defining new roles regarding digital maps and geospatial data. At the same time we value the resources of our paper map collection and seek to make them more accessible.

I also appreciate very much the members of organizations like NEMO who are generous in sharing their expertise. I look forward to future NEMO activities.

New York City Neighborhoods



For the study of New York City neighborhoods, there are three electronic sources: *The Digital Atlas of New York City* by Professor William A. Bowen <http://130.166.124.2/NYpage1.html> is a good source of information based on census data of 2000.



There are two map sources providing information on neighborhoods of the five boroughs. *New York: A City of Neighborhoods* by the New York City Department of City Planning (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/neighbor/neighbor.html>), and the maps

found in *The Encyclopedia of New York City*, edited by Kenneth T. Jackson, published: New Haven, Ct.: Yale University Press, 1995.

The *New York City Neighborhoods Map* that I am developing, is based on this work and it will soon be available electronically [at the UB Libraries Web site and also from the NEMO Web site].

The two above mentioned maps are not the same. For example, the Department of Planning calls the Village, **Greenwich Village, West Village, and East Village**. Kenneth Jackson's maps use only two names: **Greenwich Village and East Village**. This is the version that I prefer. *See you in Manhattan!*



Ernie Woodson

"What good is running if one is on the wrong road?"—English Proverb

Carto Clips

20th International Conference on the History of Cartography June 15-20, 2003

Harvard Map Collection, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (June 15-17, 2003)

Osher Map Library, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME (June 18-20, 2003)

The biennial international conferences on the history of cartography (ICHC), held under the auspices of Imago Mundi, Ltd., bring together a wide array of scholars who are interested in all aspects of the production and consumption of maps: historians of cartography, historians of science, art historians, geographers, cartographers, literary scholars, librarians, archivists, other historians, students in other cognate disciplines, map collectors, and map dealers.

Full details of these activities, together with information about conference fees, hotels and other accommodations, and the social program, together with registration forms, will be found at <http://www.ichc2003.org> (updated regularly). Questions about the conference should be addressed to info@ichc2003.org.

Fellowships for 2002-2003

The American Geographical Society Collection, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries welcomes applicants for **Helen and John S. Best Research Fellowships**. Stipends of \$375 per week, for periods up to 4 weeks, will be awarded to support residencies for the purpose of conducting research that makes direct use of the Collection. The Fellowships will be tenable between December 2, 2002 and November 28, 2003.

The Collection, the former research library and map collection of the American Geographical Society of New York, has strengths in geography, cartography and related historical topics.

Applications must be postmarked by September 16, 2002. For further information, write, call or e-mail the AGS Collection, P.O. Box 399, Milwaukee, WI 53201-0399, (414) 229-6282 email: agsc@leardo.lib.uwm.edu.

Web site: <http://leardo.lib.uwm.edu>

Christopher Baruth AGS Collection



Maps of Ground Zero



We have additional copies of the Ground Zero maps of the World Trade Center area after the attacks and during the cleanup. If you are interested in obtaining copies, they are available for a modest cost that includes shipping/handling. Please send your request, with a check (make check out to: **North East Map Organization**) for \$4.00 per map, to David Bertuca (address on page 8). Requests for 2 or more maps, are \$3.00 a map. (Foreign requests, please send payment in U.S. funds and add \$2.00 for the first map, and \$.75 for additional maps).

Please make sure to include your return address with the request. You must specify whether you want the **Dec. 2001** or the **March 2002** map (or if you want both).

These are available on a first come/first served basis until we run out. You may tell your friends if you want.

Cartographic Curiosities

[Note: This report did not appear in the July 2002 issue; it was inserted in the online edition of issue no. 47. Here is the meeting report.]

Our first speaker at NEMO 2002 was **Fred Musto**, curator of the map collection at Yale. For the purposes of this presentation, he limited the definition of Cartographic Curiosities to items of only two dimensions, printed on paper. Within these limits, he produced a couple of dozen fascinating and delightful examples from the Yale collection.

Myths and Misconceptions: He divided the subject into five categories. The first was “Myths and Misconceptions.” Most of us are familiar with the early maps of North America showing California as an island, but he opened his slide show with one of the earlier maps of the North Atlantic showing the locations of some major islands, most particularly Friesland, which is shown to be as large as Iceland and easier to reach from Europe. The map was said to be based on a voyage to that region in 1388. Subsequent investigations have failed to confirm the existence of many of these islands. The second slide was an Ortelius map of Iceland. The main attraction here was the menagerie of amazing sea monsters, none of which seem to be on display at Sea World. Also shown was a beautiful map of the Garden of Eden and vicinity. The exclusive walled community is located in scenic, desirable Mesopotamia (Open house Sunday from 12 to 2). Perhaps inspired by the wondrous Hanging Gardens of Babylon.

Shape: The second set was maps with shapes inspiring the map maker. Examples shown were a 1581 map of the world that he called a cloverleaf (trillium perhaps), showing Europe, Asia, and Africa as the pointed leaves with Jerusalem at the center. another slide was a 1698 map of the Swiss Canton of Zurich as a lion’s head.

Fantasy: Third came fantasy. While I was expecting Middle Earth and Narnia, what he had for us was something that I’ve seen less of. That is, depictions of virtue

and emotion in the form of a tourist guide to life. We were shown the road to matrimonial bliss, the path from hell to heaven, and the siege of the heart by cupid being bombarded by feminine wiles.

Surreal: His next group consisted of what he termed surreal. These were maps with regions caricatured. His examples were all of Europe and there were some great ones. My personal favorite was one expressing the great animosity between France and England circa 1800. The scene

is England as a somewhat corpulent John Bull forcefully expelling fecal boatloads of Royal Marines from an anal Southampton across the channel onto a then sullied Normandy coast. Many other examples were shown that make one long for better editorial cartooning than we see today.

Games and Puzzles: To wrap things up he briefly discussed cartographic puzzles and games. He only brought one example to illustrate this category, but it was delightful. Dating from the mid 1700s it showed a path of small circular maps about 1" in diameter that showed various locales around the world. Two or more players would start at one end of the path and advance toward the end by rolling dice to determine the number of

spaces to move while trying to avoid any of the trick spaces that would send you back or capture you for a time. While these games were reportedly used as pub games for adults, I find it remarkable how similar this one is to the several rounds of Candy Land that I played with my four year old last night.

The presentation ended with a question period which focused on what sort of thing he sought out for the Yale collection. The gist of his answers suggested that he has a generous annual budget and that, in addition to the rare and historically important, he also sought to preserve and collect the cartographically curious.

—Submitted by Mark Jaquith

[Editor’s note: For more on Cartographical Curiosities, go to Yale’s Web page:

<http://www.library.yale.edu/MapColl/curious.html>



For Your Information

New World Map Unveiled in Northampton

An alternative view of the world was created right here in the Pioneer Valley. Ten Thousand Villages at 82 Main Street will host a very special map unveiling from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Friday evening October 4, 2002. Publisher Bob Abramms of Amherst will give a guided tour of a number of maps that stretch the mind! Everyone who attends will get a free copy of the new Hobo-Dyer Map!

While the purpose of most maps is to pursue some sort of an agenda, the purpose of the new Hobo-Dyer is to inform the public that every map HAS a hidden agenda. The Hobo-Dyer is an Equal-Area map, like the Peters map.

The Hobo-Dyer map does this one better! Not only is south on top, but the map is centered on the Pacific Ocean. The Hobo-Dyer map is printed on both sides: It is south-up with Australia in the center on one side, with the more traditional north-up (and Africa-centered) on the other. Both images are exactly the same, but side-by-side you can hardly believe it!

Chris Swedburg, the Ten Thousand Villages store manager, says "We're really excited to have Bob come and share stories about how and why maps are created. The Peters map has been a central message in our Ten Thousand Villages education and outreach efforts. Now we can't wait to see the new Hobo-Dyer map!"

This provocative new map is the result of collaboration among leading cartographers, radical designers, graphic artists, and organization development consultants. The cartography was done by British cartographer Mick Dyer. The "Hobo" part of the Hobo-Dyer name represents the two Amherst entrepreneurs who commissioned the map — Howard Bronstein (ODT's president) and Bob Abramms (ODT's founder).

Bob's presentation will include a wide array of stunning images of different ways to see our world. The basic philosophy of ODT, Inc. is: "It takes many points of view to understand the truth." Or said another way, "We can only understand our world if we are willing to look at it from a variety of perspectives." ODT's recently published book, **SEEING THROUGH MAPS**, makes this point powerfully and effectively.

Bob Abramms is the editor of **SEEING THROUGH MAPS**, and the author of a number of award-winning books on diversity in the workforce. He has been a seminar leader and professional speaker for over two decades, and brings humor, insight, and perspective to the ways we construct reality.

Chapter One of **Seeing Through Maps: The Power of Images to Shape Our World View** can be read on the web at

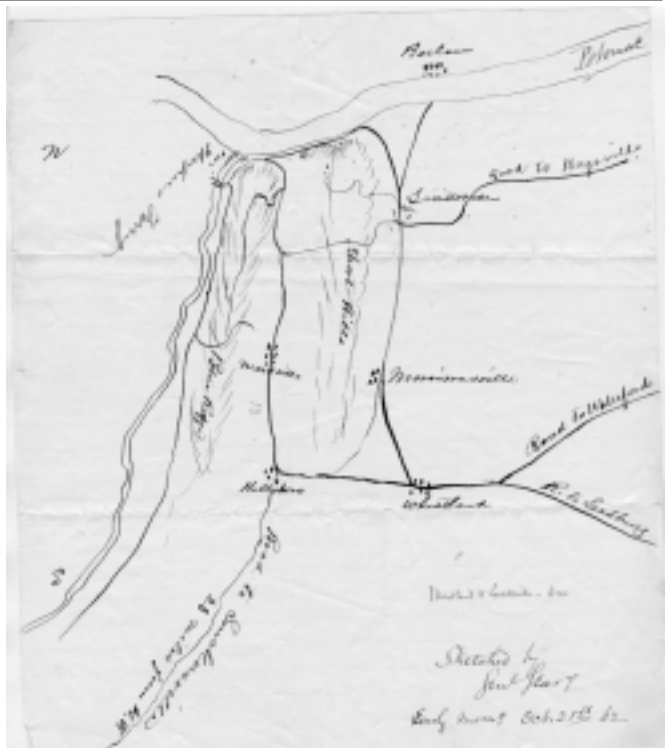
<http://www.diversophy.com/maps.htm>

Media kits are available from Ann Hopkins, Media Relations Coordinator, 413-549-1293; seeingmaps@aol.com. For directions to the Ten Thousand Villages store contact Chris Swedburg at 413-582-9338.

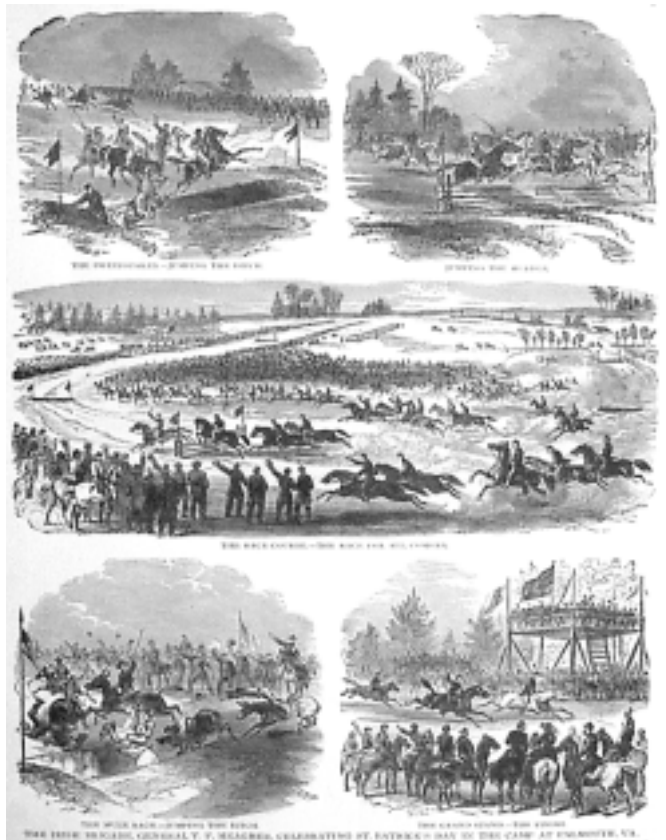
You can also take a closer look at this map and others at:

<http://www.odt.org/Index.htm>

The above announcement is strictly for your information and is not an endorsement for the projections and map products that are being displayed. This column could have been called *Cartographic Controversies*.



Sketch map of Harpers Ferry, Va. (now West Va.) drawn October 1862.



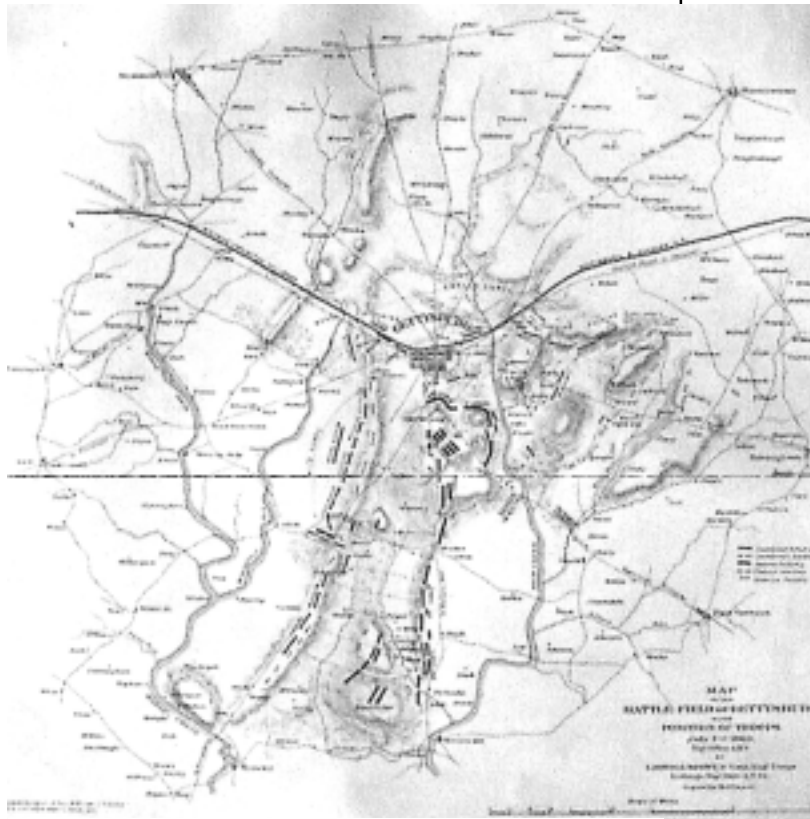
Artists for the news weeklies often made sketches of troops in camp, as well as in combat. This hand-colored, woodcut engraving is from *Leslie's Weekly*. It shows members of the Irish Brigade, under General T.F. Meager, celebrating St. Patrick's day in their camp at Falmouth, Virginia. The brigade created a makeshift racetrack, and conducted trials of speed for entertainment.

The Role of Maps and Prints in the Civil War

by Walter Schneider

Walter Schneider is a 1956 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He served as a Navy pilot during the Vietnam war, and received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of California at Berkeley in 1969. Dr. Schneider is a freelance writer, with a particular interest in the military history of the United States.

Throughout the Civil War, maps and printed images played crucial roles for the military and civilian populations of the Northern and Southern states. This article will discuss the types of maps and prints that were available during the war, and their many uses.



Map of the battlefield at Gettysburg, showing the positions of troops on July 2nd 1863. Drawn by Confederate cartographers at the battle, for Robert E. Lee. Published by the United States government in the 1895 Atlas to Accompany the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.

Maps have always been essential for strategic planning by military leaders during wartime, and the Civil War was no exception. At the beginning of the war, both the Confederate and Union armies were hampered by the fact that very few detailed maps of the potential battlegrounds were in existence. Neither the federal nor the state governments had commissioned extensive topographical maps of U.S. territory. Military strategists were forced to turn to the private sector, obtaining maps and atlases from publishers, libraries and even individuals. State and city maps by publishers such as Tanner, Colton, Johnson and Mitchell were often the most detailed maps available, and they were valuable resources for Northern and Southern military planners.

As the war progressed, surveyors and cartographers on both sides worked hard to create accurate maps of existing and potential conflict sites. In this endeavor, the Union mapmakers had a distinct advantage. Almost all of the military surveying equipment was under Northern control, as well as the means to mechanically reproduce maps for use in the field. In spite of these obstacles, the Confederate mapmakers did a remarkable job. Surveying teams were sent throughout the South, and they produced detailed maps which became invaluable resources for the Confederate army.

In 1895, three decades after the end of the Civil War, many of the battlefield maps drawn by both sides were published by the U.S. government. This 1895 printing marked the first and only time that official Civil War battle maps were made available to the general public. Those maps are now prized by collectors because of the interesting details they provide about troop placement and geographical features on each battlefield.

While maps were crucial to the Union and Confederate militaries, printed images played a fundamental role in influencing public opinion during the war. Most of the images that were available to the general public on both sides came from weekly news publications such as *Harper's*, *Leslie's* and the *Illustrated London News*. Because *Harper's* and *Leslie's* were published in the Northern states, they generally reflected the Union sentiment in their coverage of the war. Reporters and artists from both publications accompanied the Union army, and sent dispatches to their editors on a regular basis. During battles and skirmishes, the artists would sketch the action. Their drawings would be sent immediately to the publishing houses, where they were etched into blocks of wood and printed as illustrations to the reporters' articles. Many famous American artists such as Winslow Homer and Thomas Nast began their careers as sketch artists for *Harper's Weekly*.

The Confederates, for obvious reasons, would not allow the Northern press to accompany their military during the war. The only major news weekly allowed to do so was the *Illustrated London News*. Because the British government was an ally of the Confederacy, English artists and reporters were able to document the war from a Southern perspective. It should be noted, however, that even though the Northern publications had a Union bias, their engraved battle scenes often depicted heroics by Southern as well as Northern soldiers.

Today, Civil War-era images and articles from *Harper's*, *Leslie's* and the *Illustrated London News* are a prized resource for collectors and historians. They offer us a rare opportunity to see some of the most famous events

in American history presented as breaking news. The detailed, engraved images from those pages are a window to the past, showing events that were sketched as they happened, by some of the most well-known artists of the 19th century.

Many of the items mentioned in this article can be viewed in the collections of museums and academic libraries throughout the United States. For research purposes, the Library of Congress maintains one of the best collections of Civil War maps and prints. The library's photo duplication service will make copies of most materials for a small fee. More information about the Library of Congress collections can be found at their web site: <http://www.loc.gov>.

For those Civil War enthusiasts who are interested in purchasing original maps and prints—not reproductions—the most extensive and lowest priced selection is available from Prints Old and Rare, in Pacifica, California. The Civil War page on their web site can be viewed at <http://www.printsoldandrare.com/civilwar>. They also have a page dedicated exclusively to the Confederacy: <http://www.printsoldandrare.com/confederacy>. The material on the web site is just a small percentage of their entire inventory, so collectors are encouraged to call them at (800) 879-6277 with special requests.

NEMO 2003

Upcoming Details

We will meet in the Boston area, the date and place will be announced soon. Watch for details!

Reserve June 15-20, 2003 for the 20th International Conference on the History of Cartography organized on behalf of Imago Mundi, Ltd. by the Harvard Map Collection, Cambridge, Massachusetts and the Osher Map Library, Portland, Maine. <http://www.ichc2003.org>; e-mail info@ichc2003.org; telephone +1 (207) 780-5951; Department of Conferences, University of Southern Maine, 68 High Street, Portland, ME 04101, USA.
—submitted by Yolanda Theunissen

The NEMO Newsletter

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