



NEMO Newsletter

Quarterly Journal of the North East Map Organization

NUMBER 55

July 2005

Welcome aboard!

Settle in for a two year cruise 'cause I volunteered to succeed myself (it beats the loooong pause waiting for a nomination for the next capt'n during the annual business meeting).

If you attended the annual meeting I know you share my happy memories. If you didn't attend, y'all join us this coming year. Back to that in a minute.

First though I want to give a big THANK YOU to our presenters:

Janet Fairbairn "Developing the Allen's Pond Guide: A competitive team project"

Mark Jacquith "Maps as Tools for Title Searching"

Ronald Grim "Mapping the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial"

Christian Jacqz "Massachusetts Participation in the United State Map"

More than one attendee told me how interesting and informative they found each session.

There is more about each presentation in this newsletter.

Not to be left out of the thank yous are: Joanne Perry, the past Captain who leaves a big pattern to follow, Thelma Thompson, the very patient secretary and Heather Hoffmann the equally patient treasurer AND David Betuca (the patience is assumed) newsletter editor and webmaster extraordinaire.

This coming year some volunteers will consider revising the timing of and offerings at the annual meeting to the purpose of attracting more attendance. I look forward to your suggestions or comments.

Paige Gibbs
Captain NEMO

Words From the Former Captain

It was a fine meeting this June at Massart in Boston. Those of us who were there enjoyed the opportunity to hear wonderful speakers, engage in spirited discussions, and eat wonderful food. For those of you who missed it, we missed you and hope you come next year.

Friday morning we had our regularly scheduled Business Meeting. Paige Gibbs is taking over the job of Captain as well as the tasks generally assigned to the First Mate, with the addition of a NEMO Meeting Planning Committee. They will be meeting later this summer and autumn so if anyone has ideas, suggestions, or concerns, contact Paige. She will be delighted to receive your input.

There was much discussion as to "wither NEMO?" as we noted that the number of attending members has dwindled. We are concerned about NEMO's future, who are our members, should we change our meeting dates, restructure our mission and/or membership?

We must all think long and hard as to what we want to do. Pulling together a meeting requires a great deal of effort. It would be nicer if more people attended and participated.

So, during the next few months, think about NEMO and what you want it to be for you...how can NEMO support and serve you?

Fondly,

Joanne M. Perry
Past Captain



North East Map Organization

Business Meeting

June 3, 2005

Captain Joanne Perry formally convened the business meeting, which continued the informal discussion that began during breakfast. The meeting recessed to hear the morning speaker and reconvened at noon. Discussion in both sessions centered on ways to increase attendance at the NEMO annual meeting, and reexamination of NEMO's core membership and their needs. Among the topics were possible changes in meeting time and place, meeting structure and meeting content, as well as efforts to recruit and retain members.

Time and Place

There was consensus that the early June meeting time was difficult for many librarians and university academics and impossible for K-12 educators. The New England Library Association meeting was mentioned as one possible partner for a joint meeting. July might work as a possible time for a stand-alone meeting.

There is still some support for alternating locations between Boston and other parts of the northeast, but also a recognition that this year's location did not bring as many attendees from the immediate area as had been hoped. Thelma Thompson suggested that the University of New Hampshire might be a suitable meeting location for next year or a subsequent year. Alternatively, NEMO could investigate coordinating with Simmons' continuing education program.

Structure

The present meeting schedule, starting in the afternoon and formally concluding about 24 hours later, works well for those traveling from a distance, but may not be as convenient for those nearby. An alternative would be a daylong meeting with an evening speaker. The NEMO business meeting could be scheduled on the day prior to or the day after the event. Offering separate pricing for different events might encourage part-time attendance.

Content

It might be worthwhile to organize the meeting around the needs of a particular group (K-12 teachers and the current core constituency of librarians were mentioned as possible targets), or around very practical hands-on skills (such as map encapsulation, cataloging, or metadata). Offering continuing education credit might be an incentive for attendance. It will be important to identify

and survey non-members, as well as current members, to determine what they see as unmet needs that NEMO might address. Such a focused approach would represent a change in NEMO policy, which in the past has sought to offer meetings that contain "something for everyone."

Membership

David Bertuca currently sends mailings to both current and recently lapsed members. There are about 35 members and a mailing list of about 60 names. All the meeting attendees were encouraged to send to David names of colleagues who might be prospective members. There have been some problems with delays in acknowledging members' renewals and with confusion over the payment of membership dues as part of the meeting registration process.

Other business:

There was no formal report by NEMO's representatives to the Cartographic Users Advisory Council and other NEMO members attending the recent CUAC program in Washington, DC on "Map Libraries in Transition." In lieu of a report, David Bertuca will publicize the CUAC website, where all the presentations are posted, in the NEMO newsletter. He will also include short written summaries prepared by the CUAC representatives [*see this issue*].

David also called for volunteers to write short summaries of the presentations from this year's meeting for the July NEMO newsletter.

In the absence of the Treasurer, her assistant reported that the organization is "solvent" with a current balance of \$3383.31, with some checks to be cashed and some of this year's meeting expenses not yet paid.

The minutes from the 2004 business meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Both the Treasurer and Secretary indicated a willingness to continue in their offices. The primary task of the First Mate is to organize the annual meeting. Paige Gibbs offered to continue in this capacity, provided she had the help of a meeting committee. Thus, next year Paige will be both Captain and First Mate. Anne Graham and Nancy Soderberg volunteered to work on the meeting committee.

David Bertuca reported that Columbia University Press supported this year's meeting in a modest way. Brochures are available on their online gazetteer. Next year, with more lead-time, we can expect more substantial support from Columbia.

The group commended Paige and David for their work on organizing and publicizing this year's meeting.

Action items arising from the meeting:

1. Current members should send names of other possible members to David Bertuca.
2. David Bertuca will send out a survey of needs and meeting preferences to an expanded mailing list.
3. The meeting committee will work with the survey results and the ideas generated in today's meeting in planning the 2006 meeting.
4. CUAC attendees will send David information for the newsletter, as will volunteers who summarize 2005 NEMO presentations.

Respectfully submitted
by Thelma Thompson

**Report on Research Libraries Professional Travel
Nancy Kandoian, Map Division, NYPL**

**Report on the 2005 Nemo Meeting
(North East Map Organization)**

June 2-3, 2005
Boston, Massachusetts

This year's meeting took place at MASSART (the Massachusetts College of Art), very close to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and conveniently located on a branch of the green line of the rapid transit system. We have been trying to meet alternate years in the Boston area, though the group focuses on and has membership in the various New England and Middle Atlantic states. Attendance at the meetings definitely makes an upward blip when we meet in Boston. We had more than twenty this time (as opposed to somewhere around 15 last year in Providence), and we drew in some first-time attendees from MIT (civil engineering librarian), Harvard (undergraduate science librarian), and the Maine Historical Society (map and image librarian), as well as a Boston free-lance archivist.

The program began with a graphic designer, Janet Fairbairn, who teaches at U.Mass. Dartmouth and the Rhode Island School of Design. She told about a class competition to develop a map and guide to a local natural area, Lloyd State Park and Allens Pond. Bringing her perspective of design issues to the group, she made a point of how important color is to the communication powers of the map. From the examples she showed, it was clear that the geographic issue of orientation and the cartographic issues of generalization and scale are also important factors in the maps' usability for park visitors. Economics has an impact, too; the winner of the competition was a one-color brochure that the park could afford to reproduce,

while the multi-color runner-up would have been the first choice had there been funding to make it available.

Mark Jaquith, a long-time NEMO member, gave a formal talk on a subject that he has informally regaled us with at many a meeting. Formerly an employee of a map publisher, he has in recent years worked for/with his wife, Heather Hoffman, also a long-time NEMO member and an attorney specializing in real estate. As a title searcher, Mark frequently uses maps to parse out the mysteries and histories of property in and around Suffolk County, Mass. While he must use the indexes and documents of "recorded" land and "registered" land in the county offices, some going back to the 1600s, he often finds clues to aid his searches on maps in the offices, in libraries, archives, and historical societies, and on web sites. He showed us examples of some of these documents and the kinds of maps that have lent clues with landowners' names, divisions of parcels, rights of way, and the like. Storied lands of old, such as the Boston Common, and newly in-demand parcels, such as riverside land in Allston, which Harvard University is eyeing for purchase, were part of the picture.

Our dinner speaker was Ronald Grim, formerly of the Library of Congress Geography & Map Division, but recently appointed Curator of the new Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library. While his formal talk centered on various exhibitions around the country that have celebrated the Lewis and Clark bicentennial (including mention of NYPL's 2001 exhibition, *Heading West*), he began his talk by describing his new situation at BPL. He has been fascinated by discoveries of the cartographic holdings of various collections within the library, and the special strengths—eye-opening and unique even to someone who might have thought he had "seen it all" at the Library of Congress. For example, he told us about the rich holdings of urban bird's-eye views of New England cities and towns, and by New England artists, many of which are lacking from LC's large collection. And he found variants of early Sanborn fire insurance maps of Boston that had not been previously recorded.

Christian Jacqz, the Director of MassGIS, the Massachusetts state agency that handles the state geographic information system on a well-managed, ever-modernizing website, gave a slightly technical but still stimulating and accessible talk on his system, its state interface (<http://www.mass.gov/mgis/>), and the federal interfaces of the National Map (<http://nationalmap.gov/>) and Geodata.gov (<http://www.geodata.gov/gos>) that include some data provided by the states. Massachusetts seems to be on the leading edge of web mapping (along with

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Current Officers (2004-2005)

Captain	Paige Gibbs	pgibbs@UMassD.Edu
Capt.-Elect	Paige Gibbs	pgibbs@UMassD.Edu
Secretary	Thelma Thompson	thelmat@cisunix.unh.edu
Treasurer	Heather Hoffman	jaquith@thecia.net

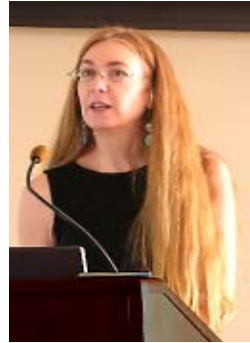
Meeting Report continued from previous page...

some other states, including New Jersey), working toward the “open source model” with software. He credited the influence and assistance of nearby MIT software people. He discussed issues such as use of Java client versus html/Javascript, GIS viewer tools, open GIS concepts, browsing as opposed to searching, metadata, memoranda of understanding with various state agencies that provide data, much responsibility versus little authority. When questioned by the librarians in the audience, he addressed backup tapes and snapshots and archiving, “a consciousness that we don’t really have that we should.” But overall, he showed an inspiring level of public service accomplishment and attitude for making public information accessible.

At our business meeting we did some soul-searching about the audience we want to reach with NEMO, and about how to attract more members and more people to our meetings, as we seem to be tottering on the edge of viability. One member suggested meeting during the summer to hopefully attract K-12 educators; others thought it would be difficult to attract people to meetings in the summer months. Another said we had tried to be too much all things to all map people, and we should develop more of a focus. The feeling that I expressed was that the bulk of our membership is librarians, and so we should build on that strength. It seemed that the organization was formed (in 1987) partly with the model of the successful regional Western Association of Map Libraries in mind, and partly with the multi-disciplinary North American Cartographic Information Society in mind. But we haven’t been able to match the popularity or strength of either. With some program planning volunteers for next year, and our member from University of New Hampshire tentatively offering to host the 2006 meeting, we decided to try offering a one-day workshop as part of our annual meeting, on one of either of the usually high-demand topics of map cataloging or in-house map preservation. If we can settle on dates and location and get the word out about our program with more lead time than usual, we should be in a good position to attract more attendees next year.



Designing of an Audubon Sanctuary Guide as a Class Competition



Janet Fairbairn, Professor in the Design department at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, spoke to the NEMO annual meeting about the design project she conducted in a junior level class: designing of an Audubon sanctuary guide as a competition.

Janet lives near Allens Pond in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. The pond and surrounding area has recently been added to a Massachusetts Audubon Society sanctuary. The society approached Janet about designing a trail guide for the sanctuary addition. Responding to this request Janet incorporated the project into a junior level design course as an individual design competition.

The Massachusetts Audubon Society stipulated several features of the sanctuary that had to be emphasized in the guide. To help the students prepare for the project and to reinforce the points to be emphasized the students were given a tour of the sanctuary. Janet described to the NEMO audience the design issues that were addressed by each student. Since the product was a guide, it was not necessary to conform to strict cartographic standards. Consistent scale was not as important as clear graphic and text information. The guide had to be easily folded so that it could be kept in a pocket. As funds are always limited in non profit organizations the guide had to be economical to reproduce.

Janet shared the relevant design issues: color (intensity, hue, combination) the placement of key information, the choice of information vehicle (text – and which font and size - or graphics or both), how to convey information in an easily apprehended manner.

The students met the design criteria in a variety of forms. Some of the guides were three dimensional – made out of materials found in the sanctuary, there were highly colorful presentations and minimalist designs.

The society made the decision on which completed project would be reproduced by the society as the official guide. Although the Massachusetts Audubon Society selected a black and white guide, because it was the least expensive to reproduce, the society is raising funds to reproduce another guide which was presented in warm pastels.

To see the original guide selected use the internet with this address:

http://www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/images/maps/allenspond_trails.gif

—Paige Gibbs, UMass Dartmouth

Map Use in Real Estate Title Examination



At the 2005 NEMO meeting I gave a talk titled “Map Use In Real Estate Title Examination.” My wife, colleague, and fellow NEMO member **Heather Hoffman** helped me prepare my text and answer questions. As all of my work in this field has been done in Massachusetts, the following relates to the practice in that state only.

I broke it into sections as follows:

What is a title exam and why is it done?

In this section I explained that the reason we do this is to be able to tell a purchaser or lender the important facts relevant to a particular piece of real estate. In Massachusetts real estate records are kept in the county Registries of Deeds, and that is where we do our work. The basic process is to trace the ownership history of the land back at least 50 years (after that time, mortgages and many restrictions expire if not extended), and then to examine all the entries in the index books to the records for each owner for their period of ownership plus the number of years that the municipality is allowed to update their tax assessment records. We are looking for anything that will “encumber” the property. That would be mortgages, liens, attachments, easements, restrictions etc.

Registered land and recorded land

Here in Massachusetts there are two systems of land records. Most land is what is called recorded land, and is kept track of by the registry in the usual manner of recording deeds and other documents that are copied into record books for reference.

If there are problems with title to a parcel of land that are not curable by normal means, you can take your case to a branch of the state courts called the Land Court for registration. If your petition is successful, the court will decree that you are the owner of the land and issue you a Certificate of Title. This will be bound into a “Certificate Book” with a Land Court plan titled with your case number superscripted with the number 1. It will show the lot as drawn by a certified engineer or surveyor based on an instrument survey to court specifications.

Why we use maps

One of the main questions we must answer in our report is “What is locus?” That is, where is the property, how big is it, what shape is it? The easiest answer is to say that it is a lot on a particular plan. If there is no plan recorded showing your property then you must rely on

the description in the deed. In such cases, I like more evidence. If I can obtain a town assessor’s map for example, I will compare it to the description. If there is a plan recorded, it has legal precedence over a written description.

In some cases you may have a good plan showing the house lot that is being conveyed or financed, but not of the larger parcel it was carved out of. If the description of the old farm that was subdivided up to make your lot is vague and refers to landmarks such as “the pine tree,” “the ditch,” and “the post in the pile of stones,” this is a point at which I start looking for old maps of the area. I will look for references to names of owners and abutters homesteads and farms. Roads, streams, swamps, and stone walls are also looked for, as they are likely to survive for some time and to appear on maps. Older assessor’s or tax maps can also be quite helpful in convincing you that you have the right piece of land in your old deed.

A good title examiner will use whatever resources he can find to help answer the questions raised, including maps. These can include street maps, assessors maps, taking plans, street layout plans, utility and other easement plans, historic atlases, Sanborn maps, railroad val maps, fill and harbor bulkhead line license plans, USGS topographic maps, old and new (I particularly like Thelma Thompson’s UNH site serving up historic Topos of New England, <http://docs.unh.edu/nhtopos/nhtopos.htm>), historic maps, aerial photos, state and municipal GISes (Massachusetts GIS: <http://www.mass.gov/mgis/>). They also have a listing of municipal GIS sites that have assessor’s parcel maps. (The url is www.mass.gov/mgis/muniweb.htm). The Boston Atlas (http://www.mapjunction.com/places/Boston_BRA/main.pl?ht=768) is the most useful to me, as I do most of my work in Boston. Play around with the 5 layers and the dozens of useful items you can display.—Mark Jaquith

(Right) After dinner speaker Ronald Grim, recently appointed Curator of the new Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library.

(Below) Christian Jacqz, the Director of MassGIS



NEMO 2005 Meeting





MASSART
Boston

2005 CUAC Meeting Notes

Thelma Thompson

Pierce: USGS reorganization is consolidating related activities — the National Atlas, Geospatial OneStop, Federal Geographic Data Committee and Interior Dept. enterprise GIS — into a National Geospatial Programs Office. The purpose is to create a national spatial infrastructure based on partnerships with data providers at all levels. The goal is a frequently updated, automatically generated, digital replacement for the 1:24,000 topographic maps, including a print-on-demand service. Participants questioned Pierce on USGS's archival plans and Pierce in turn proposed further "working/listening sessions" to work with libraries to meet their needs.

Guy: Guy presented data on the current status of independent map/travel information retailers who are under pressure from web sites, chain bookstores, print-on-demand kiosks and digital map products sold directly to consumers. Fewer stores sell specialized maps. Surviving independent stores rely on knowledgeable staff and sometimes on sales of related non-cartographic products or web-based commerce.

McQuillan: IFLA's Special Libraries Division, Geography and Map Libraries Section is taking the lead in a proposal to create guidelines and standards to help map librarians justify their collections and services to administrators and to better serve their constituencies. This was one of several times during the conference when the need for a clearinghouse for library map scanning projects was suggested.

Wai and Godfrey: INSIDE Idaho is an example of a successful grant-funded, state-wide GIS service initiated by a university library documents department. Persistence and expertise have overcome skepticism that the library is an appropriate location for a state GIS clearinghouse. Creation of metadata is a key component of the system.

Shawa: Most US academic map libraries have been so dependent on the Federal Depository Library Program as a source of basic maps that they typically have limited funds for purchases relative to funding levels for other parts of their library collections. Users' expectations have also risen creating demand for more extensive collections. Because location-based information is a component of nearly all disciplines, collections of digital and paper maps and of data need to cover a wide variety of scales, geographic areas, and attributes.

Sweetkind-Singer: Sweetkind-Singer described two initiatives. The first is a map library collaboration that includes Stanford and all the libraries of the University of California system. The special needs of map collections inspired this collaboration, which includes collective cataloging, ILL services at the map library level, a detailed collection plan and infrastructure to hold it all together.

The second part of the talk described attempts to keep track of all map scanning projects that involve California maps and to coordinate standards, archiving, and the like as much as possible. The group is in the process of developing a clearinghouse.

Chadduck: Records created by GIS activities of Federal agencies are one of NARA's priority electronic record formats. NARA's goal is to create a sustainable archive that will provide preservation and access free of specific hardware and software requirements. Their focus will be supporting web access to geospatial information, not the delivery of tangible products.

Russell: GPO remains committed to its mandate to ensure no-fee, public access to Federal publications, most of which are now available electronically. They recognize the need to provide more tools and training to all librarians, not just depository librarians. They are embarked on ambitious projects to create permanent legacy tangible collections at mirror sites, as well as digitization of these materials and retrospective cataloging. They plan to continue distribution of paper maps as long as agencies produce them and electronic formats do not provide optimum usability. The revision of the GPO manual will include a section on maps and geospatial data.

Participants raised questions on the periodicity of data capture, whether there would be any future plans to vectorize cartographic information rather than simply scan it, how the "usability" of paper versus digital formats would be determined, and whether local data included in the National Map would be part of the Depository program.

Faundeen: EROS was originally created to archive Landsat data and continues to receive large amounts of other satellite data on an ongoing basis. They also maintain a large collection aerial photography film. Faundeen has been involved in setting up a life cycle-based records management system. Some data, which is outside of their scope, is going to NARA or to other agencies. They work closely with NASA to provide reciprocal, redundant storage of some data. They are actively increasing preservation efforts, particularly of older film and early digital tapes. They purchase and maintain equipment needed to access obsolete format materials, and are committed to data migration.

Brown: Brown outlined some of the trends in GIS from the perspective of a major software developer. GIS is both moving up to large servers and down to handheld devices. It is no longer confined to GIS professionals. The Geospatial OneStop 2 portal will use a Google interface and will expand the federated approach in which web services and data become more distributed. One library role is to help define archiving protocols and to act as a node in the network providing access to historical collections.

Goodchild: The University of California at Santa Barbara has been a leader in creating ways to search by geographic location. The Alexandria Digital Library relies on a MARC-compliant subset of FGDC metadata and a gazetteer. Having mostly collection-level metadata rather than that at the level of the individual object, the proliferation of formats, existence of non-standardized themes, and changes in geoid models are a few of the challenges that create a Tower of Babel situation for the SAP (spatially aware person). Goodchild argued that both the library model (search and find a given information object) and the information model (answer a query rather than deliver a specific object) are valid approaches given the heterogeneity of information sources and needs.

A lively discussion touched on many factors. His work is clearly based on consideration of human as well as technological issues. ADL for instance is built on the rule of 10: a child of 10 should be able to find something useful on the site within 10 minutes. Users find the concept of scale very difficult. One needs to build on people's use of the concepts of proximity and connectivity. Searching needs to incorporate a user's local knowledge. Portals need to find a way to capture more sophisticated information on how sites are used.

Carroll: Carroll's experience at National Geographic Society has provided him first-hand knowledge of changes in cartography as it has developed both at that institution and in the broader context. Democratization of the geospatial enterprise is creating a community in which geospatial information is created and used by a group of people beyond the professionals. Challenges arise in determining the provenance of data as it is used and reused. It is also problematic to attempt to freeze dynamic information in time.

Osrud: The traditional Federal government role of collecting, owning and making freely available geographic data is being superseded by a business model in which data is merged from various sources, licensed and access is limited. Osrud recommends a two-tier approach in which some information is available in a National Commons where individuals can post and acquire data, and a National Marketplace for commercial data. After some point in time, marketplace data would be donated to the commons. Data sharing will require simple ways to create metadata and a Creative Commons-type license so that initial credit can be retained as data is reused, limitation of liability for how others use the data, and some tangible benefits for participants such as long-term archiving.

Strawn: The Harvard Geospatial Library is organized around library principles, using metadata to organize the collection and provide access to it. HGL standards exceed FGDC in that records either clearly define codes for attributes or point to the location of a full data dictionary. Strawn notes that "none" is an allowed, but not helpful, response for Thesaurus Type in the FGDC standard. HGL uses LCSH as well as Geonet Names. Many users find information about a specific area by zooming in on a map rather than searching by place name. The Harvard Libraries' catalog provides complementary OPAC access to the collection. It is important that catalogers be able to create MARC records with more of the elements of the FGDC metadata and contribute these records to OCLC.

Giller: In recent years, USGS has entered into various agreements with non-governmental entities for joint projects. Microsoft's development of Terraserver to provide access to topographic maps and DOQs is one of the most widely recognized efforts. Problems arise when information formerly in the public domain becomes copyrighted, such as happened with the Global GIS data when USGS began to partner with American Geological Institute. Participants pointed to this product as well as the withdrawal of DOQs from the Depository Program as USGS decisions that were particularly problematic for libraries. Commercial products tend to take a short-term view, whereas libraries stress long-term access and preservation.

CUAC 2005 ...In Transition

by Mark Jaquith

Future of the Paper Map

Dr. Robert Pierce, National Geospatial Programs Office

The Future of the Paper Map from the USGS Perspective

The USGS is moving from a paper to digital environment, providing paper maps on demand, but seeing Geospatial One Stop as the technology of the future.

The trend is to unify and simplify multiple mapping programs by providing a new governance structure and develop products that are faster and more economical to produce.

Russell Buy, Omni Resources

A Commercial View of the Future of Paper Maps

Between the consolidation of map producers (Rand McNally & Mapsco buying up smaller map producers), and super bookstores (B&N and Borders) driving out the specialty map stores, he finds that purchasers have shifted their attention to the Web as developments there have made viewing and downloading cartographic materials more convenient. He believes that paper maps will go away but that digital products will not take their place in the regular bookstores as there are insufficient sales.

David McQuillan, University of South Carolina

Role of the Paper Map in Libraries

IFLA is in midst of developing international standards for map collections.

Collections are standing as clearinghouses for particular sets/types of cartographic materials and collaborating on major preservation projects. Major needs are in areas of annexing and scanning.

Developing Digital Cartographic Collections

Lily Wai and Bruce Godfrey, University of Idaho

Can Librarians make a Difference in the Geoworld? The Story of INSIDE Idaho.

Massive amounts of grant money enabled UI to establish an interactive numeric and spatial data engine ("center") within the library to distribute data to any interested parties.

T. Wangyal Shawa, Princeton University

Collection Development Policies for Maps and Geospatial Information

Libraries have depended upon the FDLP for decades to support collection development and allow expansion of collection breadth and depth. Current reduction of federal support will mean that collection development policies will have to be refined: redefine core collection and collection levels. Seek data from state, local, and campus providers. Avoid data bundled with software and purchase scanned data at highest dpi as is possible.

Julie Sweetkind-Singer, Stanford University

Cooperative Collection Development and Scanning of Cartographic Materials

For 30 years the University of California Libraries have considered their holdings as a single collection for the purposes of collection development. Campuses traded maps and focus areas to reduce duplication of expenditures and simplify reference requests as well as working on collaborative scanning & cataloging projects.

Future of Cartographic Information Collections

Clint Brown, ESRI

The Role of GIS in Libraries for Geographic Information Management

GIS leads to a rediscovery of geography because GIS is based on geographic and cartographic processes. GIS is moving from the desktop up to the server and down to the handheld unit. GIS is evolving to a federated approach with information nodes around the Web. Libraries will be one of the information nodes providing cataloging, archives, and data publishing.

Michael Goodchild, University of California – Santa Barbara
Future Directions for Geolibraries

While the “user market” is moving toward an information model that answers queries independent of the source; the library model searches/finds objects and serves as gatekeeper. There will always be competition among agencies/levels of government/private and public sector and there will be segmentation as not all providers will want to be part of a unified whole. Hence the need for both models to be retained.

Allen Carroll, National Geographic Society
National Geographic: From Paper to Digital to Distributed Mapping

Spatial data on the Web liberates specialized data to general use, allows maps to provide access to data, allows data to be shared and merged, and turns users into mapmakers. There have been lots of changes in the past 80 years that National Geographic has been producing maps.

Data Copyright, Licensing and Access Issues

Harlan Onsrud, University of Maine at Orono
Licensing Geographic Data and Services: Vision for a National Commons and Marketplace

The government feels that it is not going to be able to gather and maintain much of the total amount of spatial data desired by society and as a result a “national spatial marketplace” or national commons will need to be developed with incentives for acquiring and sharing information. Citizens will need to be able to deposit data because the “specialists” won’t be able to develop it fast enough. There needs to be a template made available for metadata that takes only 5-10 minutes, otherwise no one will provide it.

Tim Strawn, Harvard University
The Idea of Discovery: Planning and Implementing Access to Geospatial Data at Harvard

Harvard has developed a Web-based geospatial library which includes, among other items, 6000 data layers, 18th century city maps of New England, 15-minute topographical maps. Nice interface, uses LC Subject Headings and Geonet Names Server as the base thesaurus.

Julia Giller, USGS Technology Transfer Office
Technology Transfer Opportunities and Cartographic Information

[No summary written]

CUAC Breakout Session Notes Increasing Awareness of Map and Spatial Data Collections Gary Fitzpatrick, Moderator; Thelma Thompson, Recorder

Those who attended this session represented primarily academic institutions, but there were also participants from national libraries, special libraries, commercial interests, and federal and state agencies. Thus, the initial question “Who is our audience?” had a number of specific answers. However, we identified three general groups that we all wished to reach: our administrators, others within our institutions, and those beyond the institution.

Making administrators or others who control funding aware of collections and services is vital to continuing support for our programs. We discussed several examples of two basic strategies targeted to administrators: providing gifts and offering space for meetings or events.

Those in government were more likely to actively provide cartographic gifts to legislators, governors, or administrators within their agencies. One academic institution purchased and provided on extended loan a map of an area of particular interest to an incoming high-level administrator. Many map libraries probably do not have areas suitable for hosting meetings, but those that do may wish to consider opportunities such as providing space for forums that are typically part of campus visits of candidates for administrative positions.

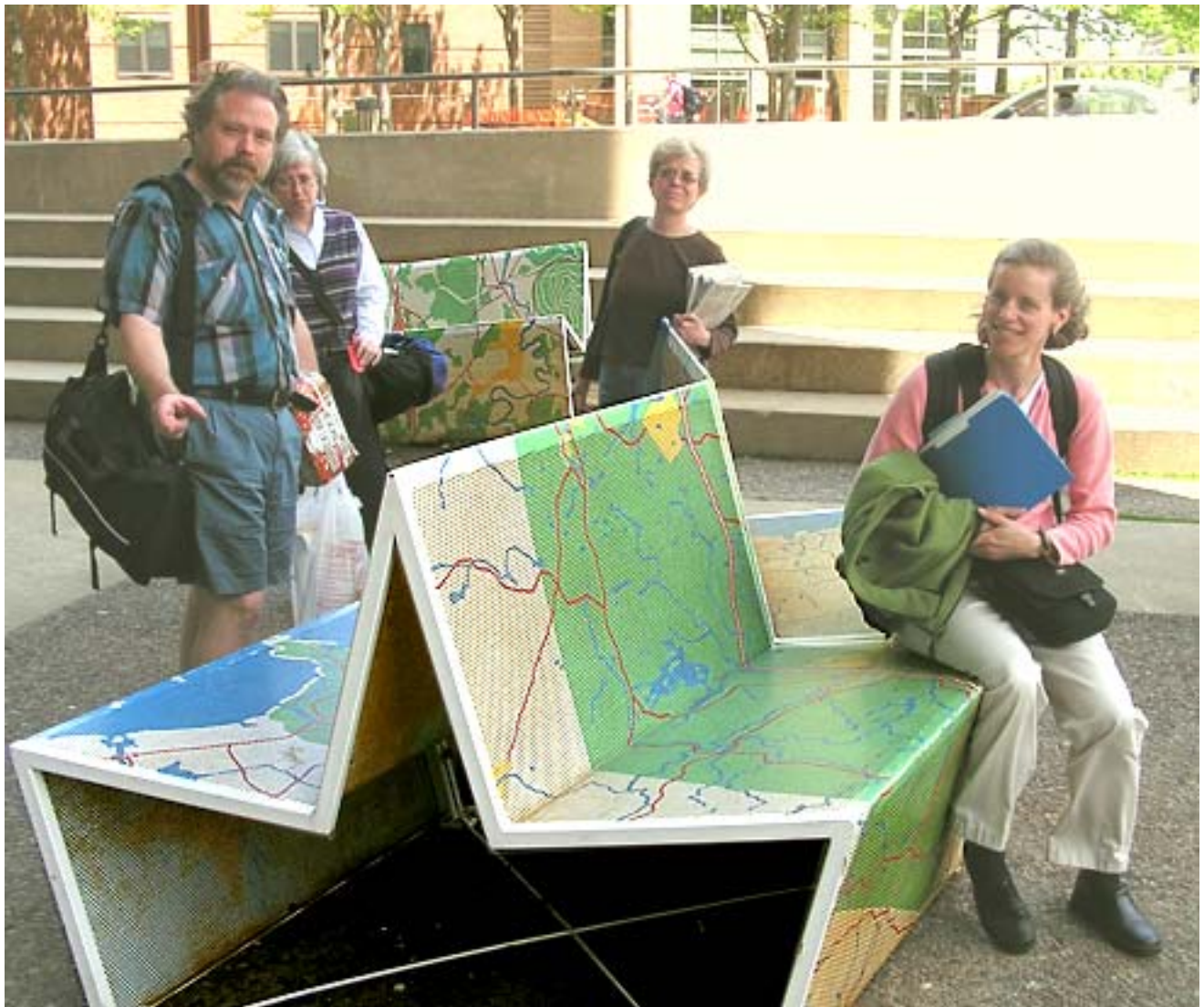
Map librarians within academic institutions mentioned several means of reaching out to teaching faculty to provide curricular support. After identifying departments who do not have their own GIS support, librarians can visit departments with presentations and generic samples and, in addition, create sample exercises based on local curriculum, or take data that faculty have already published and show how it can be presented in GIS.

In-house exhibits can reach both the local community, and, with good publicity, bring visitors from beyond the institution. It can be valuable to exhibit maps in areas of high traffic rather than solely within the map collection. Participants’ suggestions varied as to how long their exhibits lasted and whether they were tied to other circumstances such as current events, online exhibits, lectures and the like. Having a handout related to the exhibit is useful and may also be displayed online.

Online exhibits offer the opportunity to reach an even wider potential audience. One initial decision is whether or not to archive the exhibit. Not all are suitable for long-term preservation. Less formal web pages created in response to current events help demonstrate the relevance of the library and its resources.

Web map services offer different approaches depending on whether their purpose is to show a sample of materials within a collection, or to make an entire collection is available online, or to provide information about collections located in many institutions. A web site may be used to document the contents of a map or data collection by means of maps showing coverage of different types of material, or by means of a searchable or browsable text-based catalog. It may provide static images of some or all the maps in a paper map collection. Provision of restricted data to one’s own community is a concern. Clearinghouses have the broader role of directing users to data or collections beyond what they may own or maintain themselves. Those in the breakout group who are involved in creation and maintenance of geospatial clearinghouses offered caution as to the significant costs entailed. Finding ways to link your data to existing clearinghouses may be more feasible. Geospatial One Stop is a primary means by which GIS users locate geospatial information, so having metadata harvestable by GOS is a key step. FGDC metadata can be used for scanned or paper maps.

At several points in the conversation, participants mentioned the necessity of working with media to publicize events and exhibits. Friends groups and local or regional map societies are other important allies. While Friends of the Library are fairly common, Friends of the Map Collection itself, or in one case Friends of GIS, may be suitable for some institutions. Hosting map society meetings or professional meetings either onsite or as a sponsor at another location brings your resources to the attention of map enthusiasts or geospatial professionals.



Look! Right outside the door at MASSART, someone left a folded map on the street!



Boston skyline as seen from MASSART



Boston at Sunset, June 2005



Coming in another issue: Thoughts on Aerial Imagery
(view of Romulus, NY weapons storage site).

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NEMO (North East Map Organization) is dedicated to serving as a unifying body for all who use, produce, collect, and market maps and cartographic information in the Northeast; 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.

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