



NEMO Newsletter

Quarterly Journal of the North East Map Organization

SPECIAL MEETING ISSUE

NUMBER 68

August 2010

First Notice

North East Map Organization 25th Annual Meeting

June 2-3, 2011

 BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY 



NEMO Annual Meeting Planning or

What to Know and Ask to Get the Show on the Road

by Paige Gibbs

Many NEMO members have had a turn at planning the annual meeting. For the NEMO newsletters leading up to the annual meeting of June 2-3 2011 I am going to share with you the time line in real time of how to organize a small meeting.

David Bertuca has posted an excellent meeting checklist on the NEMO website:

<http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/nemo/meetings/NEMO-Meeting-Checklist.pdf>

Northeast Map Organization Annual Business Meeting

Minutes

June 4, 2010, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Attendance: Lucinda M. Hall, captain, Thelma Thompson, captain-elect, Anne Graham, Secretary, Heather Jacquith, Treasurer, other NEMO members and guests.

1. Thanks were given to those who helped with the meeting planning.
2. A discussion of the grant for small scale map scanning and digitization project produced initial ideas for finalizing the draft application and a group that will complete the application and prepare it for publication in the October 2010 NEMO news letter. The group of volunteers includes Lucinda Hall, Mark Jacquith, Geroge Carhart, David Bertuca, Thelma Thompson, and Erica Jacquith as Facebook promoter.
3. New officers include: Fran Pollitt as Captain-Elect, Thelma Thompson as Captain, Anne Graham as Secretary, Heather Jacquith as Treasurer. Fran Pollitt will replace Thelma Thompson as one of NEMO's two CUAC representatives for the term 2011–2013. Anne Graham's CUAC representative term is from 2010 – 2012.
4. A possible location from the 2011 NEMO annual meeting is the Boston Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Graham, Secretary



North East Map Organization Annual Grant for Small-Scale Map Scanning and Digitization Projects [Draft]

Purpose:

The purpose of this grant is to support small organizations that want to digitize maps in their collections but lack extensive expertise and resources. For all applications, NEMO will provide feedback on how well the proposed project meets digitization best practices and, if necessary, suggestions for improvements. One project will be chosen for partial funding as described below.

Amount of Grant:

NEMO will provide a grant of \$500.00 to be matched by \$250 in funds from another source. Match can include paid staff time, supplies, equipment purchase and the like.

Eligibility:

The grant is available to small, non-commercial organizations such as public libraries and local historical societies located within the NEMO primary membership area (New England and Mid-Atlantic states). K-12 schools who wish to cooperate with a local organization (for instance, to digitize and use local maps in their curriculum) are also eligible to apply.

You will be asked to document your status by one of the following:

- Number of library patrons
- Number of members
- Number of students and/or teachers
- Non-profit (excluding schools) annual budget

Application Procedure:

Review the NEMO best practices for map scanning and digitization website <http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/nemo/meetings/nemo2010-dlp.html> and any other sources you wish and be prepared to demonstrate how your project incorporates these practices.

Fill out and submit this application form by the deadline [insert].

Options for discussion:

1. Due date ca. April 1: Applications will be reviewed by NEMO Grant Committee and grants will be announced at the NEMO Annual Meeting, which generally occurs in early June.

Meeting Summaries

Comment

Comment: One theme that ran through three of the talks at this year's NEMO meeting was how complex significant cartographic projects are and how long it can take to create them. NEMO attendees were treated to behind-the-scenes views of three projects: two atlases and a geologic map.—

Thelma Thompson

Map Digitization for Small Institutions

Pre-Meeting Workshop

Workshop resources: <http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/nemo/meetings/nemo2010-dlp.html>

Digitization Services. *Frances Pollitt, Maine Memory Project*

Frances Pollitt, cataloger for Maine Memory Network and NEMO member presented information about the Network. (www.maine-memory.net) Maine Memory is an online digital museum dedicated to displaying historical source documents related to the history of Maine, including maps, letters, photographs, museum objects, brochures, posters, diaries, etc. Hosted by the Maine Historical Society in Portland, the network includes contributing partners from over 200 collecting institutions, such as historical societies, libraries, and museums. A few of these institutions are located outside of the state, including the National Archives Northeast Region repository, Longfellow National Historic Site in Cambridge, and Kings Landing Historical Settlement in New Brunswick.

Ms. Pollitt encouraged participation by audience members' institutions, especially if historic maps of Maine, New England, or North America are in their holdings. It's easy to become a contributing partner, and the entire process is free, compliments of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the State of Maine's legislature.

Digital images of historic objects are uploaded onto MMN from the member institution's location. The minimum digital size is 5 MB, but larger sizes are preferred. 40 MB or larger allows for the 'zoom in' feature to be used. Especially for maps, this is useful.

Contact Frances Pollitt, Maine Historical Society, fpollitt@mainehistory.org if you are interested in becoming a partner.—*report by Frances Pollitt*

Faceted Navigation for a Digital Map Collection *David Anderson, University of Maryland*

With a faceted navigation, you search and then navigate efficiently from a large set of results to a small set of results. The design choices for faceted navigation include:

- Which facets to use
- What order they should appear?
- Flat or Hierarchical
- Rules of Display

He used David Rumsey's site to illustrate faceted searching. You can narrow your search on the left. You can remove filters to zoom out.

Flat facets display a simple list of values. There is no hierarchical display of structure. You just have a long list.

Hierarchical displays place results in hierarchies depending on the rules. The rules can be complicated. You may get a long list, but the list is organized on certain values. There are 3 basic Facets:

- ▶ Place (where)
- ▶ Time (when)
- ▶ Theme (what)

A map database can be a model for demonstrating a geographic hierarchical facet for an online map collection. One facet place is themapdatabase.com Africa.

The Time Facet narrows search results by hierarchical time periods.

The Theme Facet expresses the subject of a map. The following is a theme facet:

Military
Civil War
Gettysburg

Challenges to facet navigation:

- ▶ Need more facets such as cartographer, publisher
- ▶ Political entities change over time
- ▶ Handling regional maps or maps showing date ranges

He ended with this Haiku:

*Public domain maps
Faceted navigations
All records, one place*

—report by Lucinda M. Hall

The Making of The Historical Atlas of Maine: Process, Content, and Form. Dr. Stephen Hornsby

Dr. Hornsby described the long process involved in the creation of the soon-to-be published

Historical Atlas of Maine. This atlas was conceived about fifteen years ago. Funding includes the University of Maine, the State of Maine and the National Endowment for the Humanities, but involved relatively modest resources compared to well-known atlases such as the National Geographic *Historical Atlas of the United States*. The goal of the project is an atlas that is based largely on new research but presented in a format that is accessible to general readers.

Showing examples from the atlas, Dr. Hornsby described his work. Creation of the atlas involved identifying the key chronological periods, determining how best to portray them and seeking authors with

expertise and willingness to conduct additional research. Maps in the atlas include both reproductions of historic maps from as close as the Osher Map Library and as far as major European collections, and maps commissioned to illustrate the ongoing research in the cultural and environmental history of Maine.

After Dr. Hornsby's talk, we will be looking forward to the expected publication of the atlas by the University of Maine Press in 2011.—report by *Thelma Thompson*

MIT GeoWeb: Simplified Searching for GIS Data and Maps.

Lisa Sweeney, Head of GIS Services, MIT Libraries



MIT GeoWeb <http://web.mit.edu/geoweb/> makes it easy to find geospatial data hosted by the MIT Geodata Repository, MassGIS and the Harvard Geospatial Library (HGL). Lisa Sweeney demonstrated searching within GeoWeb. A video with this demonstration is available: <http://libraries.mit.edu/gis/teach/geoweb-help.html>.

GeoWeb is capable of searching map records as well as data sets. It was created at MIT with open source software.—report by *Anne Graham*.

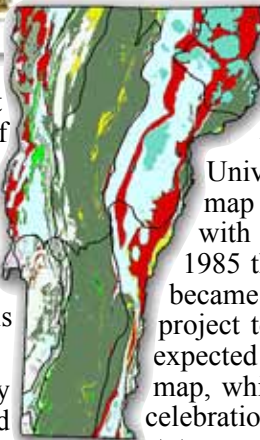
Creation of the Forthcoming Bedrock Geologic Map of Vermont—An Evolution from Analog to Digital Mapping Techniques.

Gregory Walsh

Although the format and content of the geologic map of Vermont are different and the processes of scientific research and

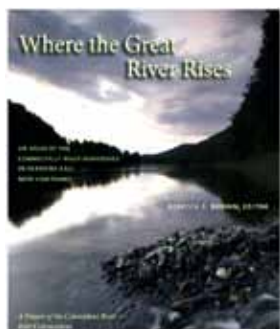
compilation are understandably quite different, the Vermont map shares with the two atlases the characteristic of having been a long-term project. Dr. Rolfe Stanley of the

University of Vermont conceived of the map in the early 1980s and began research with graduate students to that end. By 1985 the Vermont Geological Survey's role became coordinator of a joint state-USGS project to produce the map. The new map is expected in 2011, fifty years since the last state map, which was in turn published in 1961 in celebration of the centennial of the previous state map.



Much of Greg's talk, focused on how the collection of field data and cartographic production shifted from analog to digital methods over the long span of the map's creation. Pace and compass mapping was augmented by GPS; hand drafted and colored maps by Adobe Illustrator; earlier digitization techniques by more sophisticated ones. Vermont is a small state, yet the new map will contain more than 500 bedrock units and more than 9000 individual polygons. The old and the new will coexist in the new map formats: paper, PDF, GIS data and Google Earth application.—

report by Thelma Thompson



Where the Great River Rises: An Atlas of the Upper Connecticut River Watershed in Vermont and New Hampshire. Barry Lawson

Like the Maine atlas, the idea for this atlas was incubated for quite a while before various pieces fell into place through

the work of the Connecticut River Joint Commission, support from Dartmouth College and initial funding from the NH Charitable Foundation. Eventually, Federal agencies as well as government agencies in both states were involved.

Lawson described a process of surveying schools, historical societies, and libraries to determine their interests, and then recruitment of authors with specific expertise and hiring of a cartographic firm to create maps. Again, other atlases provided inspiration, in this case the state atlas of Oregon and the *Rural Landscape Atlas of Ireland*.

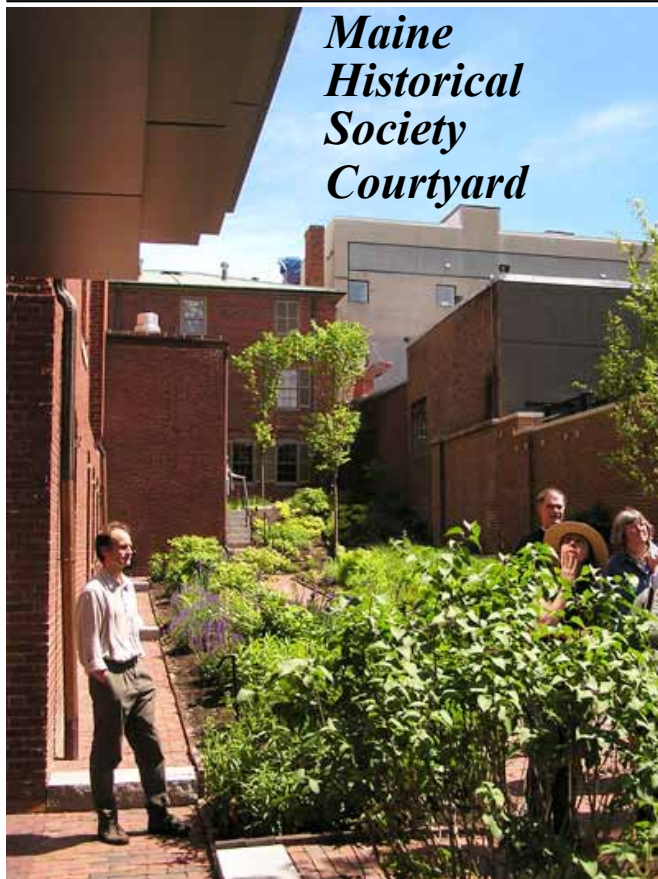
The atlas was published in 2009 by The University Press of New England. The press is comfortable with subsequent publication on the Web. At this point funds are not available although Lawson's initial survey found strong interest in an online atlas.—*report by Thelma Thompson*





NEMO 2010

Maine Historical Society Courtyard



Osher Map Library Digitizing Studio



NACIS 2010 Annual Meeting

St. Petersburg, Florida

October 13-15, 2010



<http://www.nacis.org/2010/program>

Join mapmakers, map users, map librarians, and map enthusiasts in St. Petersburg, Florida October 13-15 to talk about the thing we love - maps! You'll find NACIS a great place to share research, recent projects, and expertise with colleagues from around the nation, the continent, and the world.

The meeting will be held at the beautiful

Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront

333 First Street South

St. Petersburg, FL 33701-4342

<http://www.StPetersburg.hilton.com>

(800) 944-5500 - Hotel Reservations

Please use "NAC" when making reservations.

Rate: \$119.00 single/double

Reserve your room by September 12, 2010

to receive special room rate.

Registration will be open soon.

The program will be updated as planning continues. Please check back regularly for more information.



**Wadsworth-Longfellow
House**

In the News

Penn State Project to Share Pennsylvania Sanborn Maps

Pennsylvania State University Libraries' Donald W. Hamer Maps Library launched a project a few months ago to catalog, scan, and mount all of its Pennsylvania Sanborn maps to the Libraries' website. NEMO member **Paige Andrew** is leading the cataloging effort along with the members of the Maps Cataloging Team. Each community mapped by the Sanborn Map Company (and its prior iterations) in the second half of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth in the state of Pennsylvania will receive a bibliographic record for each year that it was published, with the individual years being considered separate editions. For instance, Sanborn mapped the city of Bedford, Pennsylvania in the years 1885, 1891, 1896, 1901, 1907, 1912, and 1924; so seven different records were created. As a bibliographic record is created it then is converted to ContentDM metadata, and the metadata is attached to the scan files so that when the images are mounted on the website they will be accompanied by pertinent metadata.

As the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Collection website notes, "The digital collection will slowly be growing as we continue our efforts to scan all public domain editions of the Sanborn map collection." To date images for about fifteen Pennsylvania communities can be found at:

<https://secureapps.libraries.psu.edu/content/sanborn.cfm>, with many, many more to be added in the coming months.

Paige Andrew Leads Cooperative Cataloging Effort at Penn State

The Cataloging & Metadata Services Department (formerly the Cataloging Department) of the Penn State Libraries is no stranger to being invested in national cooperative cataloging initiatives since the mid-1990s. In addition, Paige has been at the forefront of this effort since arriving at Penn State in 1995 by bringing with him the OCLC Enhance Participant Status for the maps format, something that he originally earned as a cataloger at the University of Georgia. In the intervening years, he has trained with fellow staff and faculty members in the Department and earned "independent" status in several of the Library of Congress' Program for Cooperative Cataloging national programs. Specifically, the programs that the Department became involved with are the Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO), Subject Authority Cooperative Program (SACO), the Cooperative Online Serials (CONSER) program, and now the final one, the Monographic Bibliographic Record Program, or BIBCO. The three formats of materials that Penn State was eligible to pursue within the BIBCO program are

monographs (books), cartographic materials, and video-recordings (in the future, we will pursue the remaining formats such as music).

It is this final LC cooperative program, BIBCO, that Paige volunteered to lead and coordinate on behalf of his Department. A group of "original catalogers" made up of both faculty and staff first received external training via a one-day workshop on February 19, 2010. After this training was completed the Library of Congress assigned an external Reviewer to the Penn State BIBCO group (which turned out to be two individuals from Columbia University) and the Penn State catalogers began a "testing" phase in mid-March in which each person either created an original record using the BIBCO national-level cataloging standard or enhanced an existing bibliographic record created by another institution using the same standard. Over the course of the next 3+ months each person in Penn State's BIBCO cataloging group succeeded in passing this external review testing phase, and on July 12, 2010 were formally considered as "independent" and a fully participating institution in BIBCO. With this goal achieved, Penn State Libraries' Cataloging & Metadata Services Department becomes only the 21st institution to be participants in all four of the Library of Congress' national cooperative programs!

Members in Focus

Paige Andrew Honored in 2009

NEMO member, Paige Andrew, Penn State University Libraries, Map Cataloger, was awarded the 2009 Nancy B. Olson Honors Award by OLAC



(Online Audiovisual Catalogers), which he received at the ALA Annual Conference in 2009. The award recognizes his broad contributions to both the cataloging and map librarianship professions.

The annual Nancy B. Olson award (formerly called "OLAC Award") recognizes and honors a librarian who has made significant contributions to the advancement and understanding of audiovisual cataloging. The Awards Committee selects a recipient based on nominations received, subject to approval by the Executive Board at the midwinter meeting.



Save the Dates!
25th Annual Meeting
 June 2-3, 2011 — Boston

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We welcome contributions and suggestions. Please submit materials to the editor by e-mail, 3.5" disk (PC/Mac (Word, RTF, or ASCII, tif, jpg)) CD-ROM, or by sending a typewritten document. Submissions and newsletter questions should be directed to:

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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, and Ontario/Québec.

NEMO Membership is \$15 per year. Membership year runs June-May and *NEMO Newsletter* subscriptions are included with membership. Back issues for the current year are included with new memberships. To join, send a check for \$15 payable to **North East Map Organization** to:

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 fax: 866-954-6119

e-mail membership-related questions/address changes to:

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**24th Annual Meeting
 Summaries**