



JOURNAL



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Journal of the International Map Collectors' Society

AUTUMN 1988 Volume 8 ISSUE No.3 [CN34]

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Copy and other material for our next issue (Winter) should be submitted by **22nd October, 1988**. To facilitate the gathering of material, all items for **editorial** use should be sent to the Editorial Liaison Officer, Yasha Beresiner, InterCol, 1A Camden Walk, Islington Green, London, N1 8DY. Tel. 01 354 2599. **Advertising** copy, artwork, etc. should be sent to the Advertising Manager, Warwick Leadlay, Gallery, 5 Nelson Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 9JB. Tel: 01 858 0317.

From the Editor

ONE of the important features of any journal or magazine is its Letters to the Editor column. It is an excellent way of airing one's views on any subject, not least the contents of the journal itself, but on any topic within the scope of the society concerned. Members of IMCoS have shown themselves to have strong opinions about a multitude of cartographic subjects. We would like to develop our Letters to the Editor column; more particularly, we would like to hear from members on topics raised in each issue of the **Journal**.

If you have something to contribute, let us hear from you. If you have some-

thing to request or enquire into, write and ask about it. If you have something to criticise, tell us. We cannot promise to put the cartographic world to rights, but at least you will have an opportunity of letting others know your feelings or desires.

So, please! Keep the contributions for articles coming; let us know items of news, snippets of information, and write a letter to us. Don't forget that pictures, photographs and other such graphic items are also welcome.

GEORGE BEAL

The Maraldi-Cassini Triangulated Map of France, 1744

MEMBERS of IMCoS who attended the Symposium at the Science Museum last year, in June 1987, will recall the talk 'Measuring the Earth up to 1750' by James Smith. In the same session Yolande Hodson recounted the progress of military surveying under General Roy in Scotland which ultimately led to the launching of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain in 1791.

It is often overlooked that, well before Britain was properly mapped, a full and scientifically planned survey of France took place, using nation-wide triangulation methods. In 1986 I happened to buy in Paris a two-sheet map demonstrating the midway outcome of this enterprise, and as a result of the IMCoS Symposium, I was stimulated to delve more closely into the pioneering work of the French and the results they had achieved. First, about the map itself.

Reproduced in fig.1, the map is a relatively large one, 590 x 900mm in size, showing the coastlines and the main rivers, but without political boundaries. A large decorative cartouche (fig.2) contains the title, which (in translation) reads: A New Map which sets out the main triangulation network laying the foundation for a basic geometrical survey of France. Prepared by Order of the King by MM. Maraldi and Cassini de Thury... 1744'.

One of the mapmakers, Giovanni Maraldi, is relatively little known, other than as a senior colleague of his more famous partner César François Cassini de Thury, grandson of the cartographer Jean Dominique Cassini. Both men were members of the Académie Royale des Sciences (the French equivalent of the Royal Society in England), which commissioned and published the work.

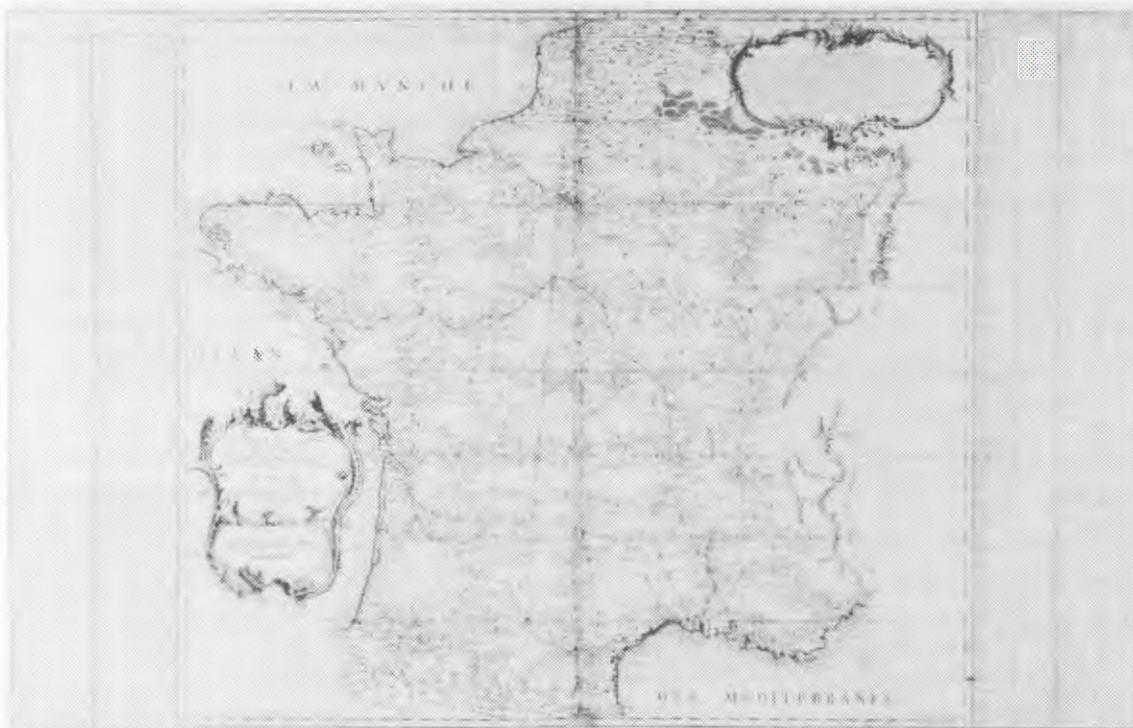


Fig.1: The Maraldi-Cassini Triangulated Map of France, 1744

According to other imprints on the map, it was engraved by Dheulland and the lettering was written by Aubin.

Another textual cartouche in the top right-hand corner explains that the map is divided into squares by lines drawn parallel and perpendicular to the central zero meridian line through the Observatoire Royale, a few kilometres south of Paris. For nearly two hundred years, Paris vied with London (Greenwich) as the origin for the world's zero meridian, until Greenwich's claim was affirmed by majority international vote in 1884. Even then France kept its own Paris Mean Time, one-fifth of a second different from GMT, until as recently as 1978. The lengths of the sides of each square on the map are indicated as 60,000 toises, slightly more than the measured length of one degree of latitude of 57,060 toises, or about 69 miles.

Across the map are plotted all the observation points used in the survey of France up to 1740, together with the network of triangles resulting from the angular observations made from one point to the other. With close examination, it is possible to distinguish by means of the conventional signs on the map whether the observations were 'signals', such as lanterns placed on specially constructed pyramids, or churches, forts, chateaux, hilltops or even individual trees. Seventeen shorter baselines, measured on the spot with as great exactitude as possible, are marked by darker lines connecting small circles. To the right and left are side borders containing lists of the main towns throughout France, together with their latitude and longitude, and their distances from Paris.

As a record of a national enterprise, the Maraldi-Cassini map has a history going back nearly 80 years. It was at a meeting of the Académie Royale des



Fig.2: Cartouche from the triangulated map of France by Maraldi and Cassini de Thury, 1744.

Sciences in 1668 that the problem of the mapping of France was first raised. As a result of an initiative by Louis XIV's chief minister, Colbert, plans were put in train to measure as accurately as possible, a base line south-west of Paris between Villejuif and Juvisy as the foundation for a proper national survey. This was completed two years later under the direction of the French scientist Abbé Jean Picard, using specially forged iron rods. A series of triangulation points were then plotted by means of angular observations around Paris, and the results published several years later by David du Vivier in a nine-sheet map, *Carte... Des Environs de Paris* in 1678, engraved by F. Delapointe.

Meanwhile, Picard was joined by Jean Dominique Cassini, who had been invited from Italy by Louis XIV to work at the Paris Observatory. As a result of their joint work, the chain of triangles was slowly extended along the meridian of Paris north to south and then, throughout the 1680s, from east to west.

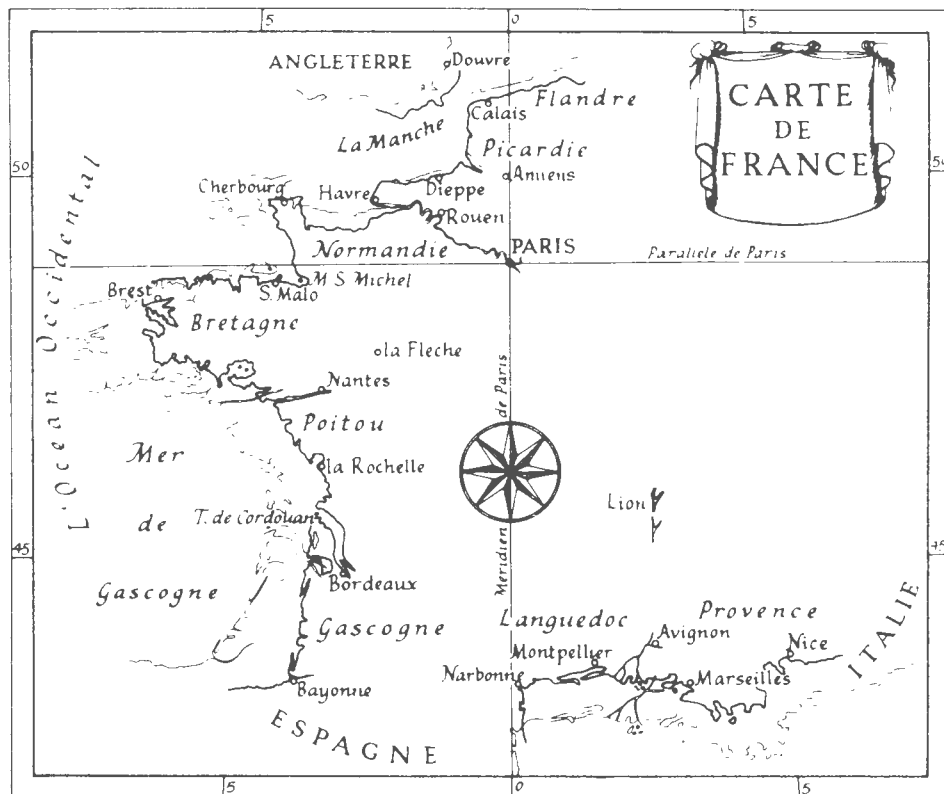


Fig.3: France, from the 'Carte de France corrigée... sur les observations de Mrs de l'Académie des Sciences', 1693, showing the revised position of the coastline.

Progress was slow because money from the Treasury was continually being diverted to support Louis XIV's military excursions aimed at extending the frontiers of France.

Finally, the Académie des Sciences published their famous map of 1693 showing the new, properly calculated, coastlines of France superimposed against the old coastlines established by Sanson. Both the Atlantic and the Mediterranean coastlines, according to the new measurements, had had to be moved about half a degree – almost thirty-five miles – inland, making France a much smaller country than had been supposed. When shown this map (fig.3), Louis is reputed to have said wryly that the labours of his geographers had cost him more territory than a disastrous campaign.

Whether as a consequence of this meeting or not, national mapping operations were relegated for the next 30 years while scientists on both sides of the Channel grappled with two related

and fundamental problems in geodesy – what was the length of one degree of latitude, and what was the true shape of the Earth? According to Newton, the Earth was oblate or flattened at the poles, but the main body of French scientists headed by Cassini's son Jean II held that it was flattened at the equator, or prolate.

This dispute was not finally settled until two expeditions had been sent, one to Peru and one to Tornea in Finland, to make accurate measurements of a degree as close to the equator and as far north as practicable. As a result of the observations of these experiments, Newton's theory was proved to be right, and the oblate nature of the Earth was generously acknowledged by Pierre Moreau de Maupertuis, the leader of the northern expedition.

In 1733, with support from Louis XV, Jean Cassini II re-launched the survey of France. Proposals were agreed for a full set of triangulated observations to be made covering the whole country, based

on a fresh survey of the meridian of Paris and the latest geodetic conclusions. The third generation of Cassinis, his son César François Cassini de Thury, worked on this survey for the next decade, re-checking previous findings and providing a complete national framework of measurements. For instance, Picard's baseline south of Paris was re-measured five times in 1740, and the observations from over 800 triangles had to be verified and reconciled to eliminate error.

The team's findings were published in 1744 in the two-sheet map compiled by Maraldi and Cassini de Thury. A more detailed and larger-scale map on 18 sheets was presented to the Academy in 1745, including some additional surveys carried out between 1740 and 1745. In spite of all the effort undertaken so far, it was recognised that the triangulation network only formed a base from which to mount a comprehensive large-scale topographical survey of France.

This was now embarked upon, and completed by Cassini de Thury's son Jacques Dominique in 1789. It was drawn on 180 sheets to the scale of 1:86,400 or approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " to the mile; by far the most ambitious mapping project attempted by any country. The same principles were adopted by the British Ordnance Survey, which linked to the French system by means of

night-time cross-Channel observations in 1787.

Single sheets from the Cassini survey may occasionally be obtained from map sellers. However, the Cassini-Maraldi two-sheet map is less common, and two of London's dealers, Jonathan Potter and Tooley-Adams do not recall an example in their hands for over six or seven years. When I saw it in a Parisian map-seller's shop, I felt it was out of the ordinary, although at the time I did not appreciate its full historical significance. There was an additional bonus in that the price of 300 Ffr., or just over £30, seemed exceptionally reasonable!

Biographical note: Because four generations of the Cassini family were involved in the French national survey, their identities are often confused. Their life-spans were as follows:

Cassini I Jean Dominique Cassini	1625-1712
Cassini II Jacques Cassini	1677-1756
Cassini III César François Cassini de Thury	1714-1784
Cassini IV Jacques Dominique Cassini	1748-1845

RODNEY SHIRLEY

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England County Map specialist. Lists sent. **Mrs D.M. GREEN**, 7 Tower Grove, Weybridge, Surrey. Tel: 0932 241105.

Antiquarian Maps and Prints c.1550 to 1890. Write or phone for our latest catalogue. Postaprint, Taidswood, Iver Heath, Bucks. SL0 0PQ, U.K. (Phone Denham - 0895 833720).

Further reading:

1. Lloyd A. Brown, *The Story of Maps*, Boston, 1949, reprinted New York, 1979. Chapter IX 'Survey of a Country', pp.245-255.
2. G.R. Crone, *Maps and Their Makers*, reprinted Folkestone, 1978. Chapter 10 'The Reformation of Cartography in France', pp.85-88.
3. Yolande Hodson, *The Military Influence on the Official Mapping of Britain in the 18th Century*, **IMCoS Journal**, June, 1987.
4. Yolande O'Donoghue, *William Roy 1726-1790, Pioneer of the Ordnance Survey*, London, 1977.
5. J.R. Smith, *The Figure of the Earth up to 1750*, **IMCoS Journal**, Autumn, 1987.
6. J.R. Smith, *From Plane to Spheroid*, Rancho Cordova, 1986.

International Map Collectors' Society

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31st December, 1987

1986

	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions	3,619.79	4,023
Annual Fair	2,666.93	1,362
London Symposium	106.00	156
Annual Dinner	279.41	(343)
Interest received (net)	569.53	23
Sundry	57.77	3
	7,299.43	5,224
EXPENDITURE		
Journal	5,501.15	4,422
Less Advertising	(747.60)	(1,867)
	4,753.33	2,555
UK Meetings	329.35	225
Overseas Activities (net)	–	4
Membership costs	186.21	681
Printing and Stationery	120.36	20
Postage	199.35	–
Officers' Expenses	43.75	93
Insurance	50.00	25
Library	22.00	–
Accounting Services	575.00	298
Bank Charges	4.50	–
	6,284.07	3,901
NET INCOME BEFORE TAXATION	1,015.36	1,323
CORPORATION TAX	233.97	75
	781.39	1,248

Subject to Audit

International Map Collectors' Society

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st December, 1987

1986

	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	–	1,523
Cash on short term deposit and at bank	10,046.75	6,678
	10,046.75	8,201
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors and accrued expenses	(2,453.82)	(1,397)
NET ASSETS	7,592.93	6,804
Represented by:		
Three year members' fund	1,816.21	2,058
Life members' fund	1,633.82	1,384
	3,450.03	3,442
Income and expenditure account		
Balance brought forward	3,361.51	2,114
Net income for the year	781.39	1,248
	4,142.90	3,362
	7,592.93	6,804

Subject to Audit

Committee Meetings

Held at the Farmers' Club,
3, Whitehall Court,
London, SW1A 2EL,
in the **Oak Room**:

Wednesday, 14th September, 1988.
Wednesday, 12th October, 1988.

Wednesday, 9th November, 1988.
Wednesday, 14th December, 1988.

Overseas representatives are welcomed
to these meetings if they are in London.
Meetings are held from 5.30 p.m. to
7.30 p.m.

Writings About Writings on Maps

LEST the title of this article seem unduly complicated, let me explain: the theme for this year's UK Symposium and Map Fair was the decorative aspect of cartography, so I felt that some quotes about writings *on* maps, in other words, lettering, would not come amiss. It has always seemed to me that the utility of lettering on maps, the conveyance of essential information which cannot adequately be done pictorially, tends to obscure its not infrequent beauty. We read and absorb the information, and can only too easily overlook that the symbols used often have decorative value in their own right.

R.A. Skelton puts lettering into context with the other elements of map design in his *Decorative Printed Maps of the 15th to 18th Centuries*:

'The map-maker's art is graphic and linear; he expresses geographical facts by drawn outlines and symbols. Conventional signs are a device which enables a feature to be recognised without the necessity of providing a written label such as 'mountain', 'wood' or 'town'. Yet legends cannot be dispensed with, although the skilful and conscientious cartographer will aim at Mercator's reputation of 'banishing them from the map'. In all but outline maps, lettering must be used for the title, for information about the scale, compass points and other 'memorables', and for place-names. All these legends, especially the names which are written over the face of the map, have to be harmoniously combined with the geographical outlines and decoration; they must be easily read, but economical of space; and the character and importance of features must be indicated by grading, in size and form, the lettering selected for place-names. To these

problems, which still arouse controversy today, cartographers of different periods have found solutions satisfying the conditions of their engraving technique and reflecting contemporary fashions in handwriting and lettering. That this is a vital element in map design is shown by the intimate alliance which existed for over two centuries between the arts of calligraphy and cartography.'

Skelton continues by outlining some early developments in map lettering:

'Before Mercator's time map-engravers experimented with a variety of inscriptional lettering and book-hands. In the 15th-century Italian editions of Ptolemy, with maps engraved on copper, the legends are entirely done in finely proportioned Roman capitals of different sizes derived from monumental inscriptions; but the maps of the first German edition (that of Ulm, 1482), like other woodcut maps of the time, use capitals only for the names of continents, countries and oceans, sometimes enclosed in scrolls or boxes. For all other names and legends small letters ('minuscules') were employed; the more angular forms were adapted from gothic, the more rounded from the 'caroline' minuscules used in the book-hands of contemporary scribes and letter-cutters. In Johann Schnitzer's world map of 1482 in the Ulm Ptolemy, both styles of lettering may be seen, but the distinction between pointed gothic and rounded 'roman' (in both upright and cursive forms) soon became more clearly observed. In the engraving of maps, as in the design of printing types, national tastes asserted themselves, and gothic lettering has since the early 16th century been preferred by German cartographers.'

Map lettering did not, of course, de-



Part of the chart of New Belgium and New England from Dudley's Arcano del Mare.

velop as an entirely separate type of lettering. In fact, the overall design of early MS maps, their lettering, and decoration more generally, their colouring or illumination, differ from other MSS of the period only in terms of content, and not form. During the 15th and 16th centuries, Italian Humanist scholars, influenced by 11th and 12th century MSS using the Carolingian (caroline) scripts, developed new minuscule which became the modern lower case eventually. Classical Roman inscriptions provided the basis for pen-made capital letters which complemented the minuscules.

As Skelton goes on to explain:

‘When copper came back into vogue for the engraving of maps, italic writing, developed by scribes of the Papal chancery from cursive caroline minuscules, had already been adopted by humanists for the writing of Latin and introduced into book-printing by Aldus Manutius at Venice. Although it was a cartographer, Gerard Mercator, who made the flowing italic hand popular in north-west Europe, his copy-book of 1540, “the oldest specimen of cursive handwriting in the Low Countries”, makes no reference to its use in maps but commends it merely as the proper script for Latin texts, “elegant in form, easy to write, and exceptionally legible”. Italic became popular with map-engravers not only because it was suitable for writing Latin, the *lingua franca* of map legends from the 15th to the 18th centuries; they found too that its qualities, which were readily reproduced on the copper plate, enabled names to be correctly and neatly placed and to be elaborated by flourishes and ligatures which contributed to the decorative effect of the map. Although the vernacular style was retained by German cartographers supplying a national market....and gothic has been intermittently used by others for ‘display’ purposes, italic and roman

scripts in combination have held their own in map-lettering to this day.

‘In maps of different periods the forms of these scripts, following contemporary taste, have varied in the proportion and slope of letters and in the manner of connecting them. Italian engravers of the 16th century.....employed a small and slightly inclined lower-case italic akin to the aldine book-types, with few ligatures, and roman capitals for the more important names. The cartographers of the Netherlands, with Mercator’s example before them, preferred a fluent, sloping hand with italic capitals which, in larger names, became elaborate arabesques of swash letters and flourished ligatures. Mercator’s practice had been sober, but the work of Hogenberg, van Langeren, and Hondius shows the wanton gaiety with which his successors filled the empty spaces on their maps. By contrast the finely drawn roman capitals which they sometimes used instead of italic..... successfully avoid over-emphasis by their lightness and open spacing.

‘These extravagances, of which Dudley’s Italian engraver...provides an even more striking example, were common in the copy-books of writing-masters. By 1600 the brilliant line of the copper plate had been found to serve the calligrapher’s technique no less aptly than the map-maker’s, and from this time a close connection existed between the two crafts, especially in England’.

The accompanying illustration of the chart of New Belgium and New England from Dudley’s *Arcano del Mare*, certainly confirms the decorative extravagances of his engraver. The scale as well as the quality of the work is remarkable. As Oswald and Margaret Dilke pointed out in an article on Dudley in *The Map Collector* (June 1982).

‘The calligraphy of the *Arcano* is in

SURVEY
To High Roads of
England and Wales
Planned on a Scale of one Inch to a Mile,
Including the Seats of the
Nobility and Gentry,
and every object worthy of remark,
whether situated on, or contiguous to the Road.
EDWARD MOGG.
Vol. 1.



London
Published June 2nd 1822 by Edward Mogg, A. 51, Charing Cross.

The title-page from the first volume of Edward Mogg's book of road maps, published in 1822.

Florentine style and was executed by Antonfrancesco Lucini, who claimed to have taken twelve years of work, domiciled in an unknown village outside Florence, and 5000lb. of copper to complete the engraving.'

Incidentally, it has somewhat puzzled me that the lettering on indigenous Chinese or Arabic maps has seemed always to have a subordinate and entirely functional role. Chinese ideographic images, with their pictographic origins, have been developed as a high art form in their own right. Arabic calligraphy has a strong graphic beauty and the words flow in a way which gives visual unity to a piece of writing. Nevertheless, one looks in vain to see a flowering of these scripts on maps comparable to that which occurred in the West. Skelton finally describes how lettering ceased to have such a decorative role in map design:

'...during the 17th and 18th centuries map-lettering in all countries was modelled as much on the improving design of book types as on that of scripts, although 'display' lettering in great variety continued to appear in titles. In Holland the exuberance of the school of Hondius was less popular than the more sober style of Blaeu, who preferred smaller and more regular lettering and used flourishes and swash letters with restraint.

'Legends were no longer used for decoration, but were subordinated to the cartographic outlines and to the ornament concentrated round the cartouches and in the border. In the late 17th and early 18th centuries the letter-forms used in maps, like those of type faces in books and 'copper-plate' hands in script, became wider, rounder and more open; ligatures and swash letters disappeared from the face of the map. Here, as in the parallel development of conventional signs, we see the cartographer bringing the auxiliary elements of his map into

subjection to its geographical content.'

In spite of this 'subjection', we can see a further flowering of cartographic lettering in some of the later printed type-faces, especially in the form of map titles and atlas title pages. In view of the exhibition of decorative cartographic title pages and frontispieces which was organised at this year's Map Fair by Rodney Shirley, it seems entirely appropriate to accompany this article also by an illustration of the elaborately lettered title-page from the first volume of Edward Mogg's 1822 book of road maps.

COSIMO

The Land of Norumbega

This is a multi-disciplinary conference on the exploration and settlement of Maine and the North East of USA. It is of interest to historians, cartographers, geographers, anthropologists and art historians, and will take place on 2nd-3rd December, 1988. Presenters and participants include John Allen, University of Connecticut; James Axtell, College of William and Mary; David Buisseret, Newberry Library; J.B. Hartley, University of Wisconsin; David B. Quinn, University of Liverpool; James Welu, Worcester Art Museum; John A. Wolter, Library of Congress, and David Woodward, University of Wisconsin. Further information is available from the Maine Humanities Council, P.O.Box 7202, Portland, Maine 04112, USA. Tel. (207) 773 5051.

Answer to 'WHERE IS THIS?'

A mystery map appeared in our last issue (Summer, 1988). The answer to the question is that the map shows the surface of the planet Venus.

Numbering System for the Journal

In the past, errors have occurred in the numbering system used for the **Journal**. The present issue is correctly numbered, but in the interests of members, we now supply a complete list of issues

of the **Journal**, showing the Volume and Issue numbers which were shown in the past, followed by a corrected list which follows the numbering system now in use:

Month or Season and Year	Volume & Issue Nos [as published]	Corrected Issue Number
September 1980	Vol.1 Issue 1	1
November 1980	Vol.1 Issue 2	2
February 1981	Vol.1 Issue 3	3
May 1981	Vol.1 Issue 4	4
September 1981	Vol.1 Issue 5	5
December 1981	Vol.1 Issue 6	6
February 1982	Vol.2 Issue 1 [CN7]	7
May 1982	Vol.2 Issue 2 [CN8]	8
August 1982	Vol.2 Issue 3 [CN9]	9
November 1982	Vol.2 Issue 4 [CN10]	10
February 1983	Vol.3 Issue 1 [CN11]	11
May 1983	Vol.3 Issue 2 [CN12]	12
August 1983	Vol.3 Issue 3 [CN13]	13
November 1983	Vol.3 Issue 4 [CN14]	14
February 1984	Vol.4 Issue 1 [CN15]	15
May 1984	Vol.4 Issue 2 [CN16]	16
June 1984	Without number (Map Fair/Exhibition Issue)	17
August 1984	Vol.4 Issue 3 [CN17]	18
November 1984	Vol.4 Issue 4 [CN18]	19
February 1985	Vol.5 Issue 1 [CN19]	20
June 1985	Without number (Map Fair Issue)	21
Autumn 1985	Vol.5 Issue 3 [CN21]	22
Winter 1985	Vol.5 Issue 4 [CN21]	23
Spring 1986	Vol.6 Issue 1 [CN22]	24
June 1986	Without number (Map Fair Issue)	25

Continued on page 17

Letters to the Editor

'Eyes on the Heavens'

I WRITE to make a correction to my article, 'Eyes on the Heavens. The Making and Use of Terrestrial and Celestial Globes', printed in IMCoS Journal No.27, 1987. This gives (on page 9) the traditional date for the Farnese celestial globe, the earliest extant globe, namely c. 130-100 BC. In my presentation at the IMCoS Symposium, 1987, however, I reported the important discovery by our member Vladimiro Valerio that the globe is Ptolemaic, and should be dated as 2nd century A.D.

Unfortunately, the text which I submitted to the editor for publication was of an earlier draft, lacking my manuscript correction. I express my regret to Vladimiro Valerio for this error and would refer members to his paper

in *Der Globusfreund*, Nr. 35-37 (1987), comprising the proceedings of the VIth International Symposium of the Coronelli Society held in Amsterdam in September, 1986.

HELEN WALLIS

The Beacons Map

SINCE the Beacon map mentioned in Cosimo's article in our Spring issue is in fact an amended version of the original MS map dated 1585, it is more likely to have been based on either the Saxton or Anonymous maps. Since most believe the Anonymous itself is based on Saxton, it is probably safer to credit Saxton as the source. In any case, it is earlier than Phillip Symonson's map of Kent, printed in 1596.

Date	Declination	Date	Declination West	Date	Declination West
1580	11° 15' E	1817	24° 36'	1871	20° 10'
1622	6° 00' E	1818	24° 38'	1872	20° 00'
1634	4° 06' E	1819	24° 36'	1873	19° 58'
1657	0° 00'	1820	24° 34'	1874	19° 52'
1665	1° 22' W	1858	21° 54'	1875	19° 41'
1672	2° 30' W	1859	21° 47'	1876	19° 32'
1692	6° 00' W	1860	21° 40'	1877	19° 22'
1723	14° 17' W	1861	21° 32'	1878	19° 14'
1748	17° 40' W	1862	21° 23'	1879	19° 06'
1773	21° 09' W	1863	21° 13'	1880	18° 57'
1787	23° 19' W	1864	21° 03'	1881	18° 50'
1795	23° 57' W	1865	20° 59'	1882	18° 45'
1802	24° 06' W	1866	20° 51'	1883	18° 40'
1805	24° 08' W	1867	20° 40'	1884	18° 32'
1806	24° 15' W	1868	20° 33'	1885	18° 25'
1809	24° 22' W	1869	20° 26'	1900	16° 52'
1812	24° 28' W	1870	20° 19'	1910	16° 03'

Table to show magnetic declination near London

For those interested, there are at least three other versions of 'Beacons' maps: 1. John Harris, 1719; 2. Another Anonymous map (miniature), c.1750; and 3. Dodsley, 1750, with reprints (i) c.1800 and (ii) c.1820. The MS original is currently on loan to the Maritime Museum, Greenwich, for the Armada Exhibition.

TONY BURGESS

Table to Show Magnetic Declination

I ENCLOSE a photocopy of the relevant

page from Gerard L'E. Turner's *Antique Scientific Instruments* [Blandford Press, Poole, 1980]. This follows an enquiry by Mr Clifford Stephenson, our member who lives at Huddersfield. I have not been able to trace any book from which this table has been taken: it could be original research, of course. It occurs to me that somebody may know where to look for the varying magnetic declination at Tynemouth/Newcastle (my own area) or Huddersfield/Leeds.

R.S. TAYLOR

Numbering System for the Journal

Continued from page 15

Month or Season and Year	Volume & Issue Nos [as published]	Corrected Issue Number
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Winter 1986	Vol.6 Issue 4	27
Spring 1987	Vol.7 Issue 1	28
June 1987	Without number (Map Fair/Exhibition Issue)	29
Autumn 1987	No. 27	30
Winter 1987/88	No. 28	31
Spring 1988	Vol.8 Issue 1 [CN32]	32
Summer 1988	Vol.8 Issue 2 [CN33]	33

Member's Recent Find

An almost complete set of folding county maps by Shepherd & Sutton and R. Groombridge, c.1844 has been found recently by a member. These are an interim state of the Pinnock/Archer

wood-engraved maps issued in 1835, and the later issues in 1849 and 1863 by Thomas Johnson. It is hoped to publish a detailed article after further research into the relevant states.

STOP PRESS: Due to the dispute in the postal service, this issue will reach members rather late. At the time of going to press, no agreement had been

reached with the postal workers and management. Unfortunately, alternative methods of distribution proved to be too expensive.



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Annual General Meeting, 1988

THE 7th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in London at the Farmers' Club on Tuesday, 12th May, 1988. The Chairman welcomed all those present, and presented his report to the meeting. He said the past year had again been a most successful one, with the Society growing in both size and status.

The Chairman listed the meetings which had taken place during the past year, starting with the London Symposium, Dinner and Map Fair held in June. This was followed in September with the Jerusalem/Haifa Symposium, which was organised by the Israel Map Society under the able direction of Eva Wajntraub. It was very successful, with members attending from all parts of the world.

In November, 1987, Rodney Shirley organised a London Meeting at the Farmers' Club, where members brought along their favourite maps and gave a short talk on them. About 30 members attended, and all agreed that the meeting had been a success. In March, a Regional Meeting was held at Durham University, with talks by Professor P.D.A. Harvey and Mr M.J. Blakemore on 'Earliest English Estate Maps', and 'Maps – their Historical Role in Society'. This very interesting and successful meeting was organised by Jim Wallwork, the Society's N.E. England Representative.

The Chairman said a new departure had been made in the production of the *Journal*. Stephen Luck had resigned from this post, and a professional editor, Mr George Beal, had been appointed.

The UK Symposium this year would be held at the Bodleian Library Oxford,

followed by the Annual Dinner and the Map Fair on 18th-19th June this year. The Yugoslav Symposium organised by Dr Novak and his committee is scheduled for 30th September to 3rd October this year. Future venues for Symposia are Athens in 1989, and Washington in 1990, Reykjavik in 1991, and Munich in 1992.

The Chairman thanked all officers of the Society for their work over the past year, and paid tribute to our President, Dr Helen Wallis, for the continued enthusiasm and advice she freely gives to the Society.

The Secretary and Treasurer then gave a brief report, and circulated the Accounts for 1987. The Society's finances are quite sound, and there will be no increase in the subscription rate this year.

The election of the following then took place:

Re-election of the President:

Dr Helen Wallis, OBE

Directors:

Janet Green, USA

Executive Chairman:

Tony Burgess

International Chairman:

Malcolm Young

Re-election General Secretary:

Harry Pearce

Re-election Membership Secretary:

Caroline Batchelor

Re-election International Secretary:

Themis Strongilos

Executive Officers:

Terry Kay, Rod Barron,
Cathy Slowther and
J.S.Jackson

The retiring Chairman, Malcolm Young, then thanked all members of the

Continued on page 21

Summer, 1988

THE 1988 summer Symposium took the form of a visit to the Bodleian Library at Oxford. A coach-load of IMCoS members, some with partners, sped to Oxford where they met those who had gone by car, bringing the total to the maximum that the library could accommodate – eighty in all.

The time before lunch was spent in seeing nearby colleges. We were lucky to have the expert services of three undergraduates, Alex Batchelor and his friends, to guide us round the colleges they know so well. They took keys from porters' lodges and leading us around the signs saying 'No visitors beyond this point', showed the quadrangles, halls and libraries with a quiet sense of pride.

Their enthusiasm shone through, and they have us more of a sense of belonging than any professional guide can impart. It was their last day as undergraduates, their final term was coming to an end, and we wish them good luck in their adult life.

Lunch was brought to us in the Convocation House, and as we sat sipping sherry and eating open sandwiches, there was much chatter, meeting and greeting, catching up on members' news, and some speculation as to the use these benches had been put to in years gone by. As an afterthought, Charles Mould, Secretary of the Library, casually mentioned that the Commons had met here for eight days at the end of March, 1681, summoned by King Charles II so that he could dissolve Parliament and thus prevent the passing of the 'third exclusion bill'.

We ate in illustrious surroundings. One member observed how well everyone seemed to know each other, but in fact, many were attending a Symposium for the first time. The shared interest

and the general feeling of bonhomie had quickly made friends of us all. As we lolled, somnolent, on the wooden benches, Dr Mould gave us a quick background to the history of the Library, founded first in about 1320 in the adjoining University Church of St Mary.

The magnificent Duke Humfrey's Library was completed exactly five hundred years ago, but it was in 1602 that the Bodleian Library was formally opened to readers, after Thomas Bodley had refurnished the library and restored the roof. Since 1610 one copy of every book, paper and periodical published in the country has been deposited in the library; nowadays every year, two and a quarter kilometres of books are offered for selection, and most find a home here. With a staff of less than four hundred, and facing further retrenchment, it is a staggering task to house so many books, and yet have them quickly available to readers. So fund raising has been added to the librarian's role.

After lunch came the highlights of the visit – rare maps that are not normally on view, but which had been carefully exhibited for IMCoS members. Again in three groups, ably guided by Dr Mould, Mary Clapinson (Keeper of Western Manuscripts) and Bill Clemmell (Assistant Secretary), we were taken first through the Divinity School with its stupendous fan-vaulted ceiling to Duke Humfrey's Library. Here scholars have read for centuries at the wooden desks, inspired by the sight immediately before them of Ortelius atlases, leather bound and weighty, with a smell of learning about them, volume after volume in the original binding of books rarely seen, but known from reference works, sometimes the one single copy of a rare book here at the end of one's arm.

Above is the painted ceiling with the arms of the University and those of Bodley himself. The other three sides of the Bodleian quadrangle house the Upper Library, which used to be the Art Gallery. Just under the ceiling, and running through all three long rooms, is a frieze of portraits of scholars from the earliest times till the 17th century, when the frieze was painted, two hundred and twenty-two heads in all. At some stage it had been plastered over, and its existence forgotten, until a slip of a trowel during repair work after the last war revealed colour beneath, and the whole frieze once more came into sight.

A long walk underground, past thousands of metres of book stacks, led us to the Map Room. The star attraction is the Gough map of Great Britain. Drawn in about 1360, it is the sole surviving example from its time of a map that had no involvement with the ecclesiastic world maps, then so common. The cartographer is unknown; Richard Gough, whose name it bears now, was the antiquarian who gave it to the library in the early 19th century. It had no antecedents that have survived, and it had no equal in cartographic knowledge and clarity for two hundred years. It is a treasure beyond compare, and we were privileged to see it. The last few facsimiles at the old price were snapped up by members who took this opportunity to make a valuable purchase.

In a separate room, Betty Fathers (Superintendent of the Map Room) had arranged an interesting exhibition of more of the library's rare maps. Here was Higden's world map in his manuscript *Polychronicon* of about 1347. Piri Reis's topographical work on the islands and coasts of the Mediterranean attracted a lot of attention. It was open at the Island of Rhodes, and great restraint was required not to attempt turning the pages

to see other maps.

There was an Ortelius map fitted into the visor of a fool's cap, Aphrica by Matthias Quad, and an early manuscript map of Virginia by John Smith. Large-scale manuscript maps of manors and counties gave way to rare examples of printed maps by names well known and unknown. It was tantalising to have so rich a spread before us, but there was no time to give the study it warranted. Luckily Maureen Pemberton was there to take orders for slides and library publications.

It was a most satisfying visit, and those of us who live near enough will surely be tempted to return. Despite their busy life, Dr Mould and his staff devoted their Saturday afternoon to IMCoS with humour and enthusiasm, and it was much appreciated. We missed the presence of our President, Helen Wallis, but enjoyed the recommendations she had made for the special exhibition from 5,000 miles away in Los Angeles. After the Chairman's initial approach, Stuart Jackson and Eila Campbell co-ordinated the arrangements, and the result was an experience that will be pleurably remembered by all of us lucky enough to participate in it.

SUSAN GOLE

Annual General Meeting

Continued from page 19

committee for their support during his eight years of office, and wished Tony Burgess every success in his new appointment. He made it clear that he was always ready to give any assistance necessary to the new Chairman, and in his capacity as International Chairman was be available to Themis Strongilos, International Secretary, at any time.

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From the Chairman's Desk

OUR thanks go to those members [and families] who worked so hard to make yet another successful Symposium, Dinner and Map Fair weekend. We must also thank Jonathan Potter and his staff for the Reception on the Friday evening. As always, the weekend was an ideal opportunity to meet members old and new, from home and abroad; a pleasure that was too short-lived.

The Committee are currently organising a visit to the Barbican Centre, London, to view the exhibition 'Panoromania', and hear a short lecture on this subject by Ralph Hyde. This will take place towards the end of November.

Late Note. The November Meeting at the Barbican Gallery has not yet been confirmed in time to be published in this issue of the *Journal*. Will all members who are interested in attending this function please inform the Hon. Secretary. He will circularise them directly when the final information becomes available.

British Library Visit

It is hoped to include a visit to the British Library in January to view their latest exhibition 'What Use is a Map?' Details will follow in the Winter *Journal* issue. Jim Wallwork (U.K. North Eastern Representative) is currently planning our Spring Regional Meeting, sometime in March or April 1989, in York.

Having just noted two Regional meetings, I am well aware that whilst it is comparatively easy to organise such meetings in the U.K. where 250 miles is the maximum distance involved, arranging similar meetings abroad is not so simple. Nevertheless, if any member feels that they could carry out a similar

function overseas, please let us know how we may help. I am sure that our overseas members would enjoy such events as much as we do in the U.K.

Members' Suggestions

1. Several members have requested that we publish a section free to collector members. The idea is to run a limited list of their collectors' wants, swaps, sales of duplicate maps, etc. Whilst this could present some problems if it gets out of hand, the Committee have agreed to a trial run, to appear in two or three issues. The item will then be reviewed. So, it's over to you collectors to test the idea. Members' comments on this or any subject by way of Letters to the Editor will be welcome.

2. A member has suggested the idea of a 'Theme Weekend' on maps, similar to those operated by large hotels on antiques, etc. These weekends could be expensive, but the suggestion is to hold such a function at an up-market guest house set in its own grounds in the West Country. This establishment has specialised in theme weeks or fortnights in the recent past. This weekend could be especially tailored to fit IMCoS, and would call for lots of planning by those concerned. If we are to proceed, we need to know the level of support that such a weekend would receive. The estimated cost is likely to be in excess of £200 per person, inclusive of meals, speaker and so on. It would run from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. Members comments or suggestions on the idea would be welcomed, whether they are by letter, telephone or directly to those concerned.

TONY BURGESS



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Further Notes on the Senex Road Books

MY APOLOGIES to members for the delay in compiling this promised update on the variations to be found in the Senex road maps, but my researches took longer than anticipated.

First, let me eliminate a myth presently in print (Chubb, Tooley and Beresiner), and repeated by me in my article in 1983 on the Senex editions. The 1767 and (1770 as yet unseen) editions listed as variations in Kitchen's *Post Chaise Companion* are in fact entirely different publications, related only in that they are extremely close copies of Senex's work. I was first alerted to this when I discovered a later Senex edition dated 1780 published by R. Wilkinson; these plates are unchanged from the 1757 edition. This discovery prompted me to pay very close attention to the Kitchen plates, and to find that in addition to differing compass pointers, all have minor variations to those of Senex.

There is still some research to be done on the French, Jeffreys and Sayer & Bennett publications, but further research is necessary before I will feel confident about placing their relationship into perspective with the Senex/Bowles/Wilkinson publications. For instance, I now know that there is an edition later than 1775, because I have several loose maps, but as yet, I cannot locate the complete book.

Senex Editions

1719 (i) Published by J. Senex. 2 vols. All of this early edition has single-sided plates. Plate number is below right.

1719 (ii) Published by J. Senex. Most, if not all, of this later edition is printed

single-sided. Two (Nos. 11 and 30) have additions to the plates.

Plate 11 Strip iv. After St Vincent's Rocks, add 'amongst these rocks are found those crystals called Bristol Stones'.

Plate 30 Strip i. 'Kingston Bridge' 'Black Bull' 'White Hart' 'Capt Paggans Almes House Esq' 'Plumes' 'Royal Oak Inn' 'To Croydon' 'To Lambeth' 'To Dulwich' 'To Deptford'. Caroon House becomes 'Dr Chenys School'.

1742 Published by M. Senex. '2nd edition'. Double-sided, maps as 1719 (ii).

1742-1748 Assumed 3rd edition (not yet located) since the next located edition is identified as being a 4th edition.

1748 (i) Published by M. Senex. 4th edition, maps as 1719 (ii).

1748 (ii) Published by J. Bowles. Maps as 1718 (ii).

1757 (i) Published by J. Bowles and Son. Plate Nos. now above R & L., e.g. plates 11, 30 and 31. This latter plate also has the I. Senex script erased and re-engraved slightly lower and to the right at the top of strip iv. The original name site now has a note 'N.B. from Tunbridge to Southborow. 2m 1/2 Tunbridge Wells 2m 1/2'. There is also a sailing ship added at the top of strip vi. In strip i at Mileage 6 to the left of the road and below 'To Eltham' add 'PL 20'.

On Pl. No. 11, the major addition is an extra map 'Bath to Bristol' filling the formerly empty part of strip vi. In addition, on strip iv add 'Plates 59, 60, 87 shew various roads from Bristol'. This cross-referencing to other plates appears to be the main alteration to the maps on

Continued on page 27

An Exhibition of Cartographic Title-Pages and Frontispieces: a Review

IMCoS broke new ground at this year's annual Map Fair in the Forum Hotel, by having on display an exhibition not of items of a purely cartographic nature, but of items intimately bound up with (or rather, disbound from) cartographic works. Rodney Shirley, having suggested a couple of years ago the adventurous idea of such a theme, courageously mounted the same.

The items used came from both his own collection and from the kind loans of other collectors and dealers; some were for sale. Usefully, the annotated 'Catalogue of Exhibits' of 202 listed items was available in the **Journal** distributed at the IMCoS weekend events (item No.122 was later found to be a duplicate of No.117; item No.6 was also withdrawn, and an extra item, No.106a – from Heinrich Scherer's 1700 *Atlas Novus* – was added at the last moment.

Having read Rodney's two-part article in *The Map Collector*, which dealt largely with the history and interpretation of the symbolism contained in many title-pages, viewers of the Exhibition were especially fortunate in being able to see so many items 'life-size', and for some of the coloured items, so vivid. This is not to decry *uncoloured* engraved decorative title-pages or frontispieces: stripped of colour which can also hide or falsify any fault or weakness, the art and craft of the designer and printer can thus be seen more clearly and their skills admired at their more basic level.

Taking the Exhibition and various accompanying notes as a whole, it seems contradictory that a title-page to a cartographic or geographic work should

not automatically include – if it had some decorative elements – maps or charts or globes. On the other hand, it also seems to me that no attention has been given to maps as a decorative or symbolic element in non-geographical works.

For example, a book on botanical observations mainly in Europe by P. Pena and M. de l'Obel, *Stirpium adversaria nova* (London: T. Purfoot, 1570-71) contains a detailed map covering Europe and the Near East (including the Garden of Eden!), northern Africa, and the eastern Atlantic. This interesting gem is illustrated, along with a dozen others containing real or imaginary maps, in *A catalogue of engraved and etched English title-pages: down to... 1691* by A. Forbes Johnson (Oxford: for the Bibliographical Society, 1934).

The compiler, basing his information on A. Hind, thought that the cartographer/engraver was either A. Ryther, R. or F. Hogenberg. The names, however, when not in their Latin form, are chiefly Italian; and the city-state 'Venetia' – with a wind-rose in mid-Adriatic – is the sole Italian place named. Would this not point to either an Italian engraver or to an Italian map used as a model? Does any reader of the IMCoS **Journal** have the answer?

It would be an interesting, enlightening and useful line of cartographic research for collectors to search for title-pages from non-geographic works, and also – when possible – to determine the sources of the maps. This has been done for, perhaps, only one such item: R. Elstrack's title-page for Sir Walter

Raleigh's *History of the world* (1614), which is discussed in Corbett and Lightbown's *The comely frontispiece* (1979). But is the map in F.H. van Hove's title-page to J. Worlidge's *Systema Agriculturae* of 1675 imaginary? Or real, as the plan of Lindley manor at the bottom of F. Delaram's title-page to William Burton's *The Description of Leicester Shire* of 1622 (the manor was inherited through Burton's great-grandfather James, thus explaining its significance as a decorative element)?

Rodney himself noted in his article in *TMC*, the meaning of the title-page to Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (1570) was to be discovered in reading

the preliminary matter following it. Sets of explanatory verses were often provided to elucidate the sometimes obscure symbolism depicted. They were variously announced as 'Frontispicii Explicatio' – as in the *TOT* example – or as 'The Mind of the Frontispiece', 'The Mind of the Front', 'The Argument of the Frontispiece', or simply as 'Epigram'; and similarly in other languages. It is now probably worthwhile for collectors to ask for not only a title-page or frontispiece, but also the 'legend'! This would, of course, also ensure that more of the contents of a broken atlas or book survived.

FRANCIS HERBERT

Further Notes On the Senex Road Books

Continued from page 25

this edition.

Some plates now have a note outside border below centre, also most plates have a cross reference note inside the border; i.e. 'See plate...'

On Pl. No. 30, strip iii at 34 miles 'To Chidinfold' erased and replaced by 'To Midhurst and Chichester, See Pl. 40'. Strip vi at 55 Miles on the left of the road below 'To Chichester' add 'See Pl. 89' and on the right below 'To Winchester' add 'Pl. 40'.

A further feature common to 55 plates is a note in rather small print added along the bottom of the strips outside the border.

1757 (ii) Published by J. Bowles and Son. Alterations on over half the plates, e.g. Pl. 31 – Senex [cult is erased, and replaced by 'The Direct Horizontal Distance of Rye from London is 51 miles'. This type of alteration only appears on the last map of each complete route, usually at the top right. Pl. No. 30, top

of strip vi 'Direct Horizontal Distance 66 Miles' added. Pl. No.11, strip iv, added vertically at the bottom 'Horizontal Distance from London 104 m'. The words 'Horizontal Distance' appear on many maps, and are the key words for this edition.

1759 Published by J. Bowles. Maps as 1757 (ii).

1762 Published by J. Bowles. Maps as 1757 (ii).

1780 Published by R. Wilkinson. Maps as 1757 (ii).

Most maps have some variation or addition, but some will only have amendments on either 1757 (i) edition or 1757 (ii) edition and not on both. It would be impossible to list all the plate numbers in a short article like this.

In closing, may I record my thanks to the staff of the British Library Map Room, the Royal Geographical Society Map Room, and Brotherton Library, Leeds, for their willing help. Any errors are all my own! A belated thanks for David Smith's comments following my last article in 1983.

DAVID WEBB

A Few Words from the Past Chairman

THE first meeting of IMCoS took place on the 13th September, 1980 at the National Liberal Club in London. At that meeting the Society was formed and I was elected your chairman.

At the Annual General Meeting on the 11th May this year, I had great pleasure in handing over my duties as chairman to your new chairman, Tony Burgess. Tony will be well known to you as our Librarian, and to those members who met him at the Symposium in Helsinki and Barcelona. Recently, Tony has been our IMCoS Committee Chairman, and has therefore a good knowledge of the workings of IMCoS, with its many ramifications.

I know Tony will bring new ideas to the Society. To those that do not know Tony – he is a friendly and modest man, easy to approach, likes to keep a low profile, and is a systematic operator. I wish him every success.

Tony Burgess's first step as our new chairman was to persuade me to help Themis Strongilos, our Director and International Secretary based in Greece, who has done so much for the Society. In my retirement, I have offered to help Themis in any way I can as International

Chairman, and also to relieve Tony of some of his work load. Themis is now busy with the Athens Symposium, 6th – 8th October, 1989.

We were very pleased to see Dr Novak at the London Symposium, with the two Professors Jasna Tomičić and Ankica Pandžić from Yugoslavia. We are looking forward to our visit to Zagreb and Dubrovnik, 30th September – 4th October this year.

On a personal note, and on my retirement as your chairman, I would like to thank my President, past-President, the members of our Council, the many guest speakers, the map librarians and the Institutions worldwide, also the map dealers at home and overseas, for their willing assistance in helping me and the officers establish IMCoS as an international organisation.

I would also like to thank the Directors and International Representatives, the past and present members of the Committee, the appointed officers, our editors of the *Journal* and many others who have given up their time so willingly.

Finally, my thanks to Yasha Beresiner, who encouraged me to take over as chairman.

At the Annual Dinner, I was so surprised to receive the IMCoS-Tooley Award, that I was lost for words! I thank you for this award, which is a great honour, and which I accept on behalf of all those mentioned above who have done so much to help me make IMCoS a success.

A special thanks to my Committee for the lovely magnifying glass for my retirement and 70th birthday. Thank you all.

MALCOLM YOUNG

Library Notes

Catalogues received: Antique Maps and Prints; Postaprint; Waterloo Fine Arts Ltd.; A.J. Coombes O.S. maps; the O'Shea Gallery: Heraldry, Naval & Noble, 1588-1788; D. & E. Lake Ltd.; Jonathan Potter Gallery; Warwick Leadlay Gallery.

Additions to the Library: Maps and Plans for the Local Historian and Collector [D. Smith, 1988]; Maps for Local History [P. Hindle, 1988].

Jonathan T. Lanman 1917 – 1988

JONATHAN Lanman, co-founder of the Washington Map Society, and editor, since its inception in 1984, of the Society's serial publication, *The Portolan*, died of respiratory failure on 23rd February, 1988 at his home in Bethesda, Maryland. A memorial service was held, on 29th February, at Georgetown Presbyterian Church, in Washington, D.C.

Dr Lanman, a native of Columbus, Ohio, received undergraduate and medical degrees from Yale University. He served his internship at John Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, and his residency at Sydenham Hospital in the same city. He was a U.S. Navy medical officer in the Far East during World War II.

After the war, Lanman had a second residency at the University of California in San Francisco, following which he held a Public Service fellowship in California. John and his family moved to New York City in the 1950s, and from 1960 to 1972 he was chairman of the department of paediatrics at the State University of New York's Downstate University Medical Center in Brooklyn. He was professor of paediatrics at the New York University Medical Center from 1972 to 1976. In the latter year he transferred to the Washington, D.C. area, and served two years as director of the Center for Research for Mothers and Children, at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

Jonathan Lanman early exhibited an interest in cartography, and he acquired his first historical maps while still an undergraduate. His wartime service in the Far East stimulated an interest in early Asian cartography, which led to

further map purchases. It was during the last quarter century, however, that he focussed major attention on augmenting his collection of maps and globes, and immersing himself in the literature on the history of cartography. The first half of this period was spent in New York City, the latter half in Washington, D.C.

After retiring from the National Institutes of Health in 1978, John's major interests were his cartographic collection, and study, research and writing about old maps and globes. He read scholarly papers at several International Conferences on the History of Cartography, and at national meetings of the Society for the History of Discoveries. He was the second president of the Washington Map Society, and served for several years on the council of the Society for the History of Discoveries.

In late 1987, Chicago's Newberry Library published Lanman's *On the Origin of Portolan Charts*. During his declining months, John composed a book that relates his joys and satisfactions in collecting and studying old maps and globes. Completed just days before his death, it is entitled *Glimpses of History from Old Maps*.

Jonathan Lanman is survived by his wife, Janet Edgerton Lanman, of Bethesda, a daughter, Jacquelyn Sheehan, of Barnesville, Maryland, and a son, Jonathan T. Lanman, Jr., of New York City. A second son, Jeremy M. Lanman, died in 1980. The distinguished Lanman collection of early maps and globes will enrich Yale University's Map Library.

WALTER W. RISTOW

Mediaeval Maps at Durham

OF THIRTY maps and plans of English localities known to survive from before 1501, four are products of the Benedictine priory of Durham and are preserved among the muniments of its successors, the Dean and Chapter of Durham.* Made originally in the fifteenth century, they have remained in the archives of Durham Cathedral ever since.

Of these four manuscript maps, two are drawn on paper, one on a parchment roll, and one is copied into a parchment book. The first three can be dated within some fifteen years of one another *circa* 1430 to 1445, while the lost original of the fourth, which has come down to us only through the copy made between 1510 and 1520, almost certainly dated from the same time. Three of the maps were designed to illustrate questions arising in lawsuits between the monks and their neighbours, while the fourth was intended to depict a controversial boundary between neighbouring estates both belonging to the monastery.

Two of the areas covered by the Durham maps are within the city of Durham, the other two a few miles away. One map shows a row of burgage plots in one of the city streets and their relationship to an arable close belonging to the monastery. Another, by depicting an alteration which had taken place in the course of the River Wear, sought to prove that a road leading out of the city was not an ancient right of way, so that no public rights were prejudiced by the effects of flooding caused by a monastic mill-dam.

A particularly effective map displays on a parchment roll the course of the

Tursdale Beck, four to five miles south of the city, with its tributary streams and a complex of mill-races. A less successful plan is the one copied into a monastic cartulary, which seeks to elucidate the boundary between the two estates at Witton Gilbert, three miles from Durham; this is so schematic as to suggest that it was as difficult to interpret when made as it is today.

All the Durham maps are strictly utilitarian and not meant to be decorative, although features such as buildings, hills and trees are shown in elevation. The Tursdale map uses a conventionally meandering course to indicate a length of stream where no features of interest occur, but magnifies the scale at one significant point, while compressing the east-west dimension at another so as to fit the map to the roll.

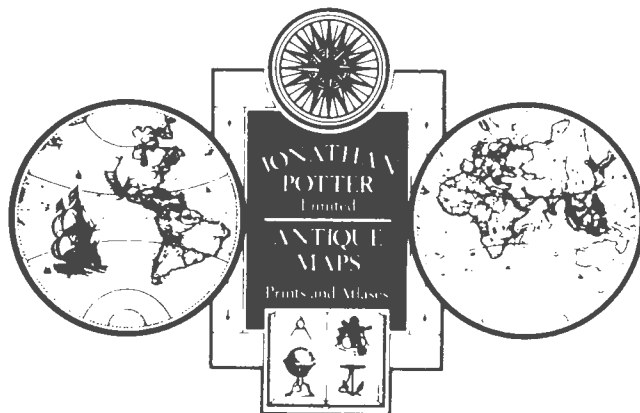
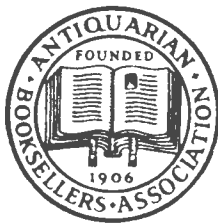
Consistent scale is, indeed largely lacking in these maps; on the other hand, orientation receives attention, although in only one instance is north at the top of the map. These maps are, indeed, experimental, in that the practice of cartography was as yet sporadic, and had no accepted conventions. Indeed, it is the opinion of Professor P.D.A. Harvey that in the Middle Ages, the idea of making a map may have occurred independently to individuals in various parts of England, and it so, the Durham maps appear to represent one such occasion.

M.G. SNAPE

*See *Local Maps and Plans from Medieval England*, ed. R.A. Skelton & P.D.A. Harvey (Oxford, 1986), which includes full accounts, with photographs, of the four Durham maps.

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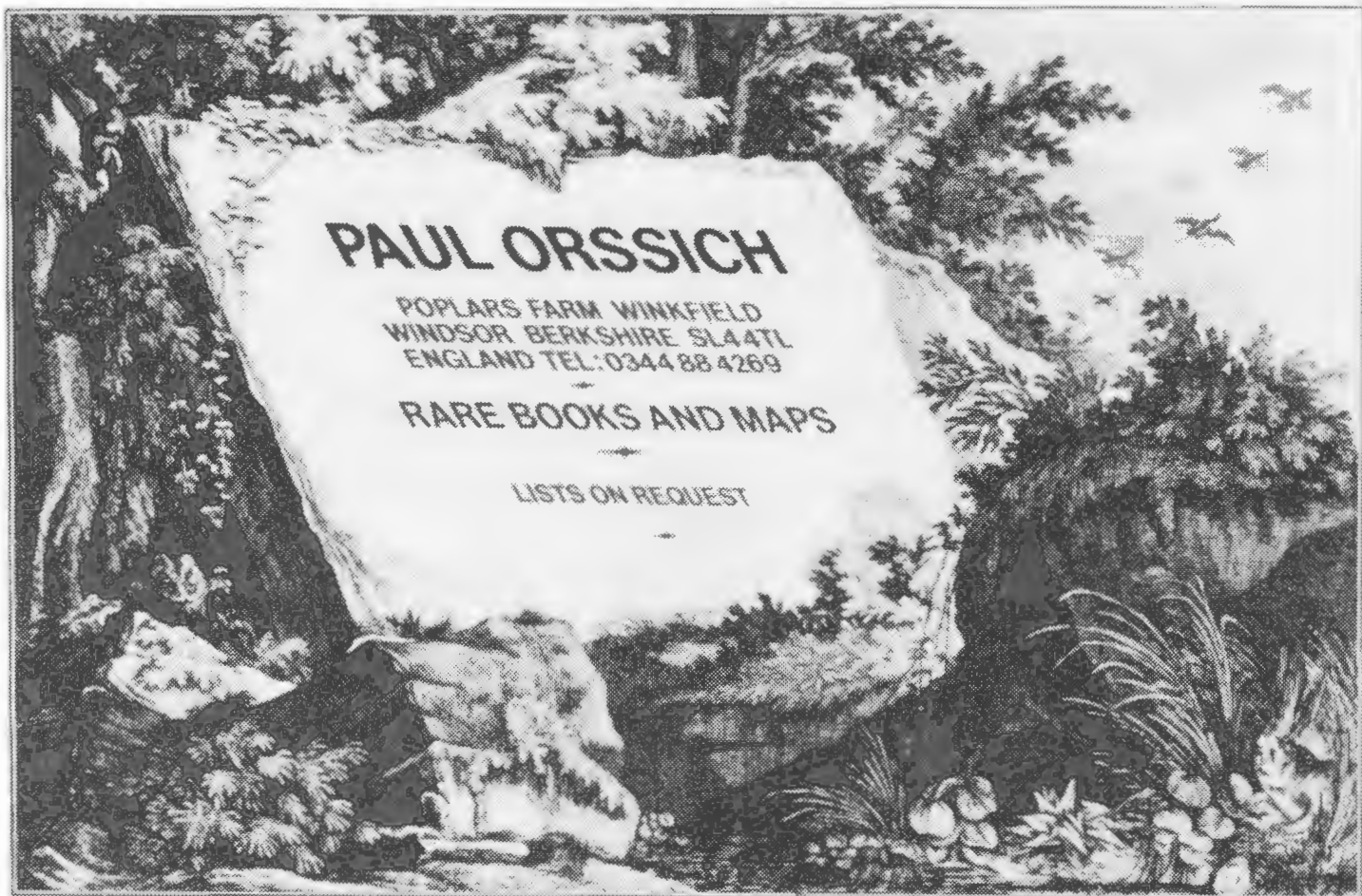
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