base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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base line is an official publication of the American Library Association's Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT). The purpose of **base line** is to provide current information on cartographic materials, other publications of interest to map and geography librarians, meetings, related governmental activities, and map librarianship. It is a medium of communication for members of MAGERT and information of interest is welcome. The opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the American Library Association and MAGERT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below:

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FROM THE CHAIR

Most of the approximately 400 members of MAGERT are rarely able to attend our biannual meetings. It is not, however, absolutely necessary to attend meetings in order to contribute to MAGERT and the profession. There are many things you can do from the comfort of your home or office.

At our midwinter meeting in Philadelphia several committee chairs indicated that they could use help in putting publications on the Web. The Education Committee has a number of syllabi for courses in map librarianship and other materials that they would like to see put into HTML. Materials of interest to map catalogers are also candidates for putting up on our Web site. Among these, our Open-File Reports of county coordinates are high on the list.

A more ambitious project, which is just getting underway, is a plan for an electronic directory of map librarians. As an initial step, we are planning to survey our own members to obtain their E-mail addresses and institutional affiliations. This material will be put up on the Web if a person grants his permission. Ultimately this project might be extended to include people and institutions concerned with maps outside of MAGERT. If this project is to be a success, we will need help from people willing to compile and maintain the information.

Anyone interested in working on the directory, in putting existing documents in html, or in creating new publications for the MAGERT web site should get in touch with me (David Allen)

As always, our two publications, *Meridian* and *base line*, can use help from volunteers. Mark Thomas has been notably successful in getting people to write columns for *base line*. The most recent addition to his team is Jennifer Stone who will be writing a column on computer and electronic mapping. Anyone interested in writing a column or contributing to *base line* should get in touch with Mark Thomas. The staffing of *Meridian* is undergoing changes, and there are a number of opportunities for working on our flagship publication. Anyone interested in helping with *Meridian* should contact Donna Koepp, the chair of our publications committee.

— David Allen

FROM THE EDITOR

Please look in this issue for the new Electronic Mapping column from Jenny Stone, the GIS librarian at the University of Washington. Thanks, Jenny! Also, don't overlook all

the useful information on all aspects of map librarianship that was shared at the meetings at last ALA Midwinter and at last year's CUAC meeting; you'll find the minutes in this issue. We've also included a preliminary schedule (lacking room assignments) for the upcoming ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, so please join us if you can. In other ALA business, remember that MAGERT member Pat McGlammery is running for the "small Round Table" position on ALA Council, so look for him in your spring ballot package.

— *Mark Thomas*

USGS "MOTHER" RECORDS IN OCLC: UPDATE

In the last issue of *base line* we reprinted a table, originally in the June 1989 issue, showing the OCLC numbers for the "mother" records for the USGS 7½ minute topographic maps (treating each state's maps as a set). Vi Moorhouse of the GPO, who originally compiled the list, sent me a note with a several important points.

First, she pointed out that there were several corrections, additions, and updates printed in *base line*. I haven't yet had time to track these down in old issues, so I'd very much welcome anyone notifying me which issues these updates are in or about any changes that you know are needed.

Second, Vi points out that "the best search pattern for these basic quads still seems to be the one we listed originally." This is a "4,4" author/title search in OCLC: Geol, [first 4 letters of name of state].

Third ... a little bit of interesting history on these records. "After canvassing the whole U.S. map world (at that time), including MAGERT, GPO began to catalog each quad issued into OCLC. (We did not do this earlier when it was Ohio College Library Catalog, because at the rate we were receiving them it would have swamped their catalog.) GPO's original hybrid records could not continue to be used because of the use of a single OCLC no. for each edition in each state. Every time a new quad was added it canceled out the previous one and/or the basic record. ... 'Basic' records have now become 'Open-entries.'"

— *Mark Thomas*

MAGERT HOTEL, NEW ORLEANS

The MAGERT hotel in New Orleans will be the Prince Conti [pronounced con-tie], located at 830 Conti Street in the French Quarter. Rates for singles/doubles are $95, an additional person is $20. Rates do not include taxes. A four night minimum stay is required. To make a reservation call 1-800-366-2743 and identify yourself as a member of MAGERT. Reservations must be made on or before May 10, but it is suggested that you make your reservation as soon as possible to be sure of getting a room. The

hotel requires at least 48 hours notice of any reservation cancellation to avoid a one night's penalty charge. Additional information can be obtained at the French Quarter Hotels' web site at: http://www.frenchquarter.com. (Conference schedule on page 34.)

CARTOGRAPHIC USERS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, May 7, 1998

The 1998 annual meeting of the Cartographic Users Advisory Council took place on the campus of the United States Geological Survey headquarters in Reston, Virginia. Rae Mueller of the Earth Science Information Center and Hedy Rossmeissl had graciously provided local arrangements. Between 10:00 and 11:30 in the morning, the Council was given a tour of the Survey's headquarters and of the USGS Printing Plant by William A. Radlinski, a retired associate director of the U.S. Geological Survey.

After lunch, CUAC members were given a demonstration of the U.S. Geological Survey's prototype National Atlas of the United States web site. Mr. Jay Donnelly of the Survey began the demonstration by examining the hard copy 1970 National Atlas. Approximately 16,000 copies of the atlas were produced. Of these, 60% were distributed to libraries; 26% to governments; 14% to the public. At $100.00 in 1970 dollars, the percentage sold to the general public was quite high. The atlas was a product of the 1960s and included only 1 plate on crime and no maps on the national health—topics of considerable interest today.

Through focus groups, E-mail solicitations, and polls, the USGS has found that the citizens, businesses, and government want a National Atlas to provide a wider variety of information than presented in the atlas of 1970. First and foremost, they want graphic information illustrating quality of life issues such as health, crime, and the environment. They want to compare one region of the country to another to understand "How am I doing?" on such topics as distribution of federal tax dollars to the states or the quality of public schools. Also, there are "Geography for Life" standards issued by the National Council for Geographic Education that the USGS hopes to support through the new National Atlas program.

The USGS plans to incorporate these desires and interests into the new National Atlas. The Survey will also take advantage of the great advances made in electronic access, information management, and delivery technologies that did not exist in 1970 in the new atlas's maps. As an example of how the Survey has used new multi-media technology in information delivery, Donnelly presented a map of the United States showing the monthly change in vegetation which resembled a film strip of 12 scenes automatically moving from one month/season to another.

At the present time, the Survey is working to make the National Atlas available on the web. The Atlas probably will not appear as a bound atlas and a CD-ROM version has not been entirely ruled out.

The National Atlas as demonstrated is not merely a collection of maps. The Atlas has a high degree of interactivity that allows users to select and view various data layers and to build queries around place names and thematic data. Links to data and other data sites abound.

In the 1960s the USGS cooperated with several governmental agencies to bring a variety of thematic data to the 1970 edition of the National Atlas. This tradition will be continued in the new National Atlas, but with even more cooperating agencies, such as the U.S. Dept. of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. Mr. Donnelly also talked about the possibility of soliciting data from the governments of Canada and Mexico in order to produce authoritative North American maps. Beyond the government, the Survey hopes to bring in private partners to help develop appropriate software to view the atlas and with the marketing expertise in order to distribute the atlas as widely as possible, software development and marketing being two arenas where the federal government has lagged behind the private sector. What the Survey and other federal agencies want to concentrate on is their strength: accuracy and authoritative data.

The first offering of National Atlas maps on the World Wide Web should be available by June 1. In order to properly read and build maps, you will need Netscape 4 or Microsoft Internet Explorer 4 with frames enabled. The site's address is http://www.usgs.gov/atlas.

Another federal web site of note to map librarians that Jay Donnelly demonstrated is the "Recreation.gov" site: http://www.recreation.gov/. On the web site, one can build an inquiry by choosing a state, activities (hiking, winter sports, hunting, etc.) and, if necessary, selecting a federal agency. A visitor to the site can also select the recreation area itself (Crater Lake National Park, Helena National Forest, etc.) and find what recreation possibilities exist in that unit. Recreation.gov is linked to the National Atlas.

National Atlas maps can be downloaded in the form of a "shape file" which can supported by a variety of GIS systems. Map professionals are encouraged to visit both the National Atlas site and the Recreation.gov site and to send comments through the web page.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
Hedy Rossmeissl

Hedy began the USGS presentation with information on the DRGs and the DOQs. For the Digital Raster Graphics (DRGs), the scanned map data is complete for the entire country. Two areas will not be offered by the USGS—California will be handled by Tiel Data Center, which is a semi-state government agency, and the Tennessee Valley Authority will make additional changes to the data for their region. The first generation DRG CD project will be abandoned because of software problems. The DRGs are

available now on CD for $32.00 per 1 degree by 1 degree block and are accessible through the Global Land Information System (GLIS). USGS and GPO will work on a mechanism to get the data out to depository libraries. USGS is not planning to send data to state ESICs. Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and a few other states have posted their state's DRGs to the Web.

The Digital Orthophoto Quadrangles are about a quarter to a third done for the U.S. Only limited areas are being completed in county CD format (North Carolina, Minnesota, and parts of Pennsylvania and Kentucky). USGS is looking at other formats and is committed to getting copy to GPO. All of the U.S. will be done by 2001 or 2002. Data for areas that are complete are available from the EROS Data Center by the quarter quad for a base price plus $7.00 per file. These are large files: 55-60 Mb, uncompressed. The data is also available in compressed form, although full resolution is needed for some applications.

USGS has joined in a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Microsoft to provide compressed DOQs on the Web in late June. Microsoft's Terraserver site (http://www.terraserver.com) will allow users to "find your house on the Internet." Users can download an image in GIF format.

USGS is collaborating with the Library of Congress to get historic topographic maps into their scanning project. There are over 300,000 USGS maps in the LC archives.

USGS will be producing fewer folded maps in series. Folded geologic maps authorized after August 1996 in the "I" series (Miscellaneous Geologic Investigations) will be named Geologic Investigations Series. Any project approved before this date will have the old series name, so maps in the "I" series will have mixed series names for a few years. Most thematic maps will now be issued as "I" maps. As an aside, books will be mostly Professional Papers. Water Resource Investigations will continue to be issued.

To update information on the 7.5 minute topographic maps, Hedy mentioned that the USGS will create new topographic maps digitally and keep digital flies, but continue to distribute in paper format. Revision is done by a raster process that allows USGS to revise more products. USGS hopes to step up revisions to 1,000+ by 1999. Cooperation with state agencies will drive the revision program. High demand quadrangles will also be revised. USGS and the Forest Service will cooperate to make revisions for Forest Service areas. There will be no jump into producing maps on demand at the present time.

Update on map distribution
The brown catalogs will be phased out. Map lists will have longitude and latitude, plus order numbers, added. An independent printer produces those maps, which are distributed through GPO, and those printed by USGS are distributed via Denver. USGS will be working with GPO to put shipping lists on the Web. When claiming, claim USGS-produced maps from USGS and GPO-produced maps from GPO.

Denver inventory will have each title barcoded. Reprint maps will have no date change, but will have barcode added. If maps undergo the photoinspection process and have minor corrections, there will be a date change.

USGS is considering scanning historical aerial photography as a project in the near future.

Friday, May 8, 1998

U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO)
Robin Haun-Mohamed

Robin Haun-Mohamed, U.S. Government Printing Office, Library Program Service, was the first speaker at the Friday, May 8th meeting.

She began with an explanation of AskLPS on GPO Access, which pulls together several areas at GPO. It includes the inquiry form, Web Tech Notes, FAQs and News, FDLP contacts page, and the LPS Directory. There is passworded version and a non-passworded version. The non-passworded part will ask for an email address. It is primarily designed for use by the public, but professionals may use it also. The passworded part will default to our depository number and institution name, so that we will not have to fill in that information. Inquires on AskLPS@GPO.gov will be given priority over paper forms. Responses to questions should come within 10 business days to our inquiry. An immediate message will automatically be sent to acknowledge that an inquiry has been received. Web Tech Notes includes "whatever happened to…," updated weekly. FAQs and News consists of more news than FAQs. In the past this type of information would have been put on GOVDOC-L, but now this information will be put on News. The FDLP Directory is the official GPO Library Program Service Directory. Robin recommends that we check Tech Notes and FAQs weekly before sending in an AskLPS inquiry to see if our question may have already been answered.

The shipping list files are now electronic and timely. They are currently in WP6.0 format. They will eventually be in Word format.

There has been a Memorandum of Understanding signed with NIMA to bring material back into GPO for distribution. GPOs DDIS (Depository Distribution Information System) was not being matched at NIMA, so depository selections were not being kept up to date. This means that NIMA will send maps and other material to GPO for distribution with other depository material. This will go into effect later this month.

In an update on the electronic transition, Robin reported that GPO is now ahead of the pack or even with some agencies. On the administrative side a lot has been done to make the transition to a more electronic program. The shipping lists are now on the

web. Item selections are now being made by selective depositories online. New passwords will be used for the next update and these passwords will not be given to any outside agencies. The item lister has been available for about a year. It is updated monthly. The Union List of items selected is updated on the Federal Bulletin Board monthly.

There has been considerable activity in establishing partnerships. There are service and product partnerships. One service partnership is the Documents Data Miner (DDM). This service allows the users to create custom inquiries with a variety of GPO data-bases. For instance, a list of holding libraries in a given state or region could be created for a particular GPO item number. The DDM is in partnership with Wichita State University. Examples of a product partnership can be found in the variety of Department of State documents mounted at the University of Illinois, Chicago, Library and in the Department of Energy's Infobridge.

Since a meeting following the Federal Depository Conference with Donna Koepp, Brent Allison, Hedy Rossmeissl, Rea Muller, and Barbara Poore, Robin has talked again with Hedy and Rea about a consortium to provide access to the DOQs. She expressed the importance of working on this to GPO. Permanent, long-term access is a big concern to GPO. Minnesota is almost finished loading the DOQs on the Internet. Kentucky and Pennsylvania are working on it but are not sure they are going to continue in this format. There is a probable need for compression software, but not relying on propriety software, because GPO would have to pay the licensing fee for that software.

DOE Infobridge, a product partnership that will make Department of Energy reports available on the Internet will soon be in place. GPO picked up the cost of building of the bridge, which is the actual distribution mechanism. Any agreement of this kind will have to go through the Congressional Joint Committee on Printing or the Oversight Committee for approval.

Robin reported that the Digital map of the World (V Map Level 0) from NIMA will be in the depository library program. Robin sent a request to Jim Lusby again recently for a status report on this product. The Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2020 CD-ROM will be in the program also, but LPS has not received this yet.

Robin distributed new Recommended Specifications for Public Access Work Stations in Federal Depository Libraries for 1998. There is a May 15 deadline for getting our comments back. This is also on the Web.

NOAA has moved to print-on-demand distribution only. In the past, 200-300 charts a year were distributed. They are going to update more often and this will result in about 6000 charts a year. Do we really want to receive that many paper charts? NOAA is

doing this under a CRADA. GPO wants to build into the CRADA the ability for depositories to contact NOAA for charts on demand, so that we don't have to have 6000 charts a year. We could request on demand as often as we would need. We have until October to give GPO feedback on this issue. Robin asked us to consider what is best for our institution and what is best for the depository program.

GPO's offering of government information products available via the Internet through its Pathways Services "Browse Electronic Titles" was discussed (http://www.acccess.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/btitles.html). URLs on this service are updated weekly. There are 19 pages now, and it is much faster than it used to be. There are about 3000+ titles. Agencies don't always let GPO know when things change. Internet resources are being worked on by two full-time people. There are more fugitives in electronic resources than in paper. Part of the problem is changing URLs and things that disappear or appear without the approval process.

If we have an electronic product, can we get rid of physical product? This issue is going to general counsel. If we are getting something in physical format, it will continue in physical format for the moment, even if the information is available on the Internet. This is according to the recommendation of the Depository Library Council.

The Serial Set will continue coming in paper through the 104th Congress. After that, except for Regional depository libraries, it will come in fiche. Regionals, posterity libraries, etc. will still get the Serial Set in paper. It will continue in fiche for others. Fiche still costs the same as it did 20 years ago.

Robin then fielded questions from the Council. Richard Spohn asked why more delicate paper being used for CIA maps? Robin was not aware of this, but will check on it. There are paper specs that should be adhered to.

Dan Seldin brought up the subject of NOAA maps and their program of electrostatic copies of nautical charts on demand. Aeronautical charts are not being considered for on-demand printing at this time. Libraries could set up a standing order with NOAA, perhaps under GPO auspices but administered by NOAA. Robin expressed her concern about how GPO would catalog the charts. Another concern was about turn around time for on-demand NOAA nautical charts. Fred Anderson might have more information on this later this afternoon. NOAA wants to do the right thing by depository libraries and is putting a lot of effort into planning at this time.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is trying to establish a subscription service for their reports.

U.S. Bureau of the Census
Tim Trainor

Census Bureau products are "changing dramatically" according to Timothy Trainor, Chief, Cartographic Operations Branch. He discussed development and dissemination of current and future products of the Bureau.

Chief among these programs now underway is Census 2000. Some initial changes in Census geography have been instituted including doing away with the BNA (Block Numbering Areas) in favor of Census Tracts. Census Designated Places (CDP) will have no minimum population threshold and census blocks will have 4 digit codes with an estimate of 8-10 million blocks in 2000. One of the principal means of dissemination for both the decennial and 1997 economic censuses is DADS, the Data Access and Dissemination System, an electronic system based on Internet technologies to deliver the information to the public. DADS was first developed as a prototype in 1996 using a small data set to test its architecture. Since then it has been updated substantially through suggestions from focus and user groups. DADS 1997 was the first to deal with geospatial data and included a geographic browser. Further advancements are proceeding and data sets will not be incorporated into DADS unless accompanied by metadata. It will be the main data delivery vehicle for Census 2000 data to the public.

Tim envisions a three tiered system. Tier one, presenting basic summary data, will be free. Tier two will consist of predefined data tables and will probably be fee based. Tier three will involve massive amounts of processing and cover the smallest level of data on a national level and will also probably be fee based. DADS will be the access mechanism for the 1997 Economic Survey, and there will not be many printed reports.

The American Community Survey (ACS) has been designed to replace the information collected on the long for, which should have its last appearance in 2000. The ACS is not a head count and is not intended to replace the decennial census. When fully implemented in 2003, data collection for the entire country will be collected on an annual basis and compiled into annual and multi-year products. A prototype CD was completed in April including a mapping component.

Mapping products, including TIGER/Line, will be available on both CD and through DADS. Maps for blocks, counties, and other government units will be available in MIM and PDF file formats and use color. Census maps will be accessed through CD-ROMs, and hard copies will be available on demand from various sources. Work is currently underway on an electronic 105th Congressional District Atlas. It will be available on CD-ROM and will print on both color and black and white printers.

The Bureau is currently working on making available on their web page examples of their map products; the examples, however, will not reflect everything that is produced or available. The Map Gallery site is accessible off of the TIGER/Line page.

Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
Barbara Poore

The National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) is working to make the sharing of data easier through the establishment of clearinghouse nodes and the organization of metadata.

Use of a clearinghouse helps advertise the quality of your data sets and can address issues of quality in the metadata. The reasons for not using Web indexes are that they are limited. They are not able to target specific searches, have limited support for concept searches and search engines don't support fielded searching (e.g. date, coordinate, other numeric). And finally, many databases used are not accessible through the web and a clearinghouse would help make them accessible. Establishment of nodes makes data available locally and the assumption is that most requests for geographical data are of your local area. A clearinghouse node uses a Z39.50 protocol server.

All federal agencies are required to document their data based on metadata standards. Implementation has been spotty, with a better response from state and local agencies. There are 75 servers at the clearinghouses and the number is growing every day. Metadata forms the basic vocabulary for searching within clearinghouses. It is possible to perform a fielded search. Metadata performs different roles including those of inventory, a catalog for search and retrieval with a format similar to MARC, and documentation.

The metadata standard contains 300 data elements of which many are compound and others have their own value. One problem is that many believe it to be too complicated. As a result, there is a struggle with the user community who on one hand believes it to be too complicated and on the other hand are saying "but we need this."

Metadata standards have been taken up by the ISO (International Standards Organization) and there is committee draft in review now. It is expected that the FGDC standard will be adopted by the end of the year by ISO and will have even more widespread use than now.

To have it be machine readable, it is necessary to standardize fields. SGML (standard generalized markup language) is being used to enforce structure and help in presentation, while XML (eXtensible Markup Language) offers more flexibility in terms of programming and provides control over fields and tagging.

Ms. Poore indicated that they would like to see a more active role by the Library community, especially Map Librarians on metadata issues. Reasons include our knowledge of cataloging; we know what our users want; and our focus on service. In addition, they would like to see some of the depository libraries become regional clearing-

house nodes with responsibilities of collecting information about local data sets and serving them to a more national audience or pointing users to national data. Gateways possibly could be located at GPO or USGS that would allow users to access the data we are holding. The benefit to federal agencies is that national agencies would have access to local data but would not have the cost of storing nationally.

Clearinghouse Grants

In order to continue to promote interest and participation in the regional approach to managing large collections of geospatial data, the FGDC continues its partnership-funding program. Awards have been given for four years and consist of three programs: the Cooperative Agreements Program, the Framework Demonstration Projects Program, and the NSDI Benefits Program. The Cooperative Agreements Program supports development of clearinghouse nodes. Grants in the range of $40,000 fund projects "to create clearinghouses of geographic data linked to the Internet, to advance the NSDI through education, to develop NSDI standards, and to help organize and strengthen state-wide or regional programs for geographic data sharing." Programs are directed at different audiences with the primary goals of having this metadata collected and distributed effectively and efficiently to users.

Listings of current NSDI Clearinghouse Projects with libraries or universities can be found on FGDC web page at the address: http://www.fgdc.gov/ Cooperative_Partnerships/ and include the state, year of grant, organization involved, and project contact. The Cooperative Agreements Program awards require some matching funding from the recipient.

National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA)
Jim Lusby

After a demonstration of Microsoft's Terraserver, CUAC reassembled in the conference room to hear James Lusby's report about the National Imagery and Mapping Agency.

NIMA's mission is to provide timely, relevant, and accurate imagery, imagery intelligence, and geospatial information in support of national security objectives. The core NIMA business is to perform imagery analysis and geospatial information production, to manage and task the collection operations, and to ensure dissemination of primary and secondary imagery, imagery products, and geospatial information. Organizationally NIMA resides between and is comprised of elements of both the Defense Department and the Central Intelligence Agency. There are thirteen different teams within NIMA and Mr. Lusby is part of the National and Civil Support Team.

Mr. Lusby is working with Robin Haun-Mohamed at GPO to improve distribution of NIMA map products. In May of 1998 the distribution center for nautical and aeronau-

tical products in Philadelphia will close and the Defense Logistics Agency in Richmond, Virginia will become responsible for distribution. In the future it is likely that depository libraries will be re-surveyed for NIMA products and GPO will oversee the maintenance of library selection records and distribution to depositories. The Defense Logistics Agency will supply GPO with the needed numbers of products.

There is a trend within NIMA to put more products into the depository program, including 1:250,000 scale maps of various places around the world. The US Geological Survey now offers for public sale topographic maps of Vietnam. Current thinking is that the 1:250,000 mapping could also be sold by USGS, provided indexes and catalog entries are available too.

NIMA, like many other federal agencies, is moving away from paper to electronic formats. As such, a decision has been made by the Board on Geographic Names and NIMA to discontinue printing the foreign gazetteers in paper. Microfiche will also be discontinued. Instead, names will be available through CD-ROM and the Internet.

In answer to a question, Mr. Lusby said that even though 1:250,000-scale mapping will soon be available, the restrictions that applied to earlier quarter million scale series 1501 "JOGs" still hold, namely, the copying and circulation prohibition.

National Park Service (NPS)
Nancy Haack

Nancy Haack, from the Division of Publications at the Harpers Ferry Center represented the NPS. The National Park Service has two service centers to assist the 375 parks across the country. The first is the Division of Publications at Harpers Ferry, WV, and it produces visitor maps and maps current Park information, roads, trails, and other features. The NPS Technical Information Center in Denver (http://www.nps.gov/dsc/tic/) is responsible for planning, buildings, landscaping, and GIS activities.

The NPS makes maps of all NPS parks and sites that include a visitor guide on the reverse side. The NPS Cartographic Resources URL is: http://www.nps.gov/carto.

The Harpers Ferry facility provides interpretative media and information about the individual Parks, creates exhibits for the parks, outdoor exhibits, and park films, and provides preservation of objects. Their facilities include a conservation laboratory. Preservation of historical objects includes things like George Washington's uniform, historic paintings, equipment, and flags. The goal of historic preservation is to stabilize and preserve for proper interpretation. The web page contains additional information on their activities.

In earlier times, there was no consistency in format, size, or content of the NPS site folders. A New York graphics designer and folks at the Harpers Ferry facility designed and developed *Unigrid* to standardize graphics and production components. As a result, maps have gone to a very high graphic look and have come a great distance from the days of scribing and peel coats.

Maps are done in the graphic program Adobe Illustrator 6.0, resulting in colors and screens of a higher quality. They have experienced problems using Adobe Illustrator 7.0, so they plan to continue using 6.0. In the old days, their products were based on original maps, but now the NPS simply downloads DLG files and cleans up line work. They are able to portray shaded relief nicely using Adobe Illustrator.

Eighty-five percent of the NPS visitor maps are digitized or are in process of being digitized and available through the web site and are available to download in the original Adobe Illustrator format or in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format. The remaining fifteen percent have not been scheduled for different reasons, including the case of the Channel Islands, a question of how best to portray them given how spread out they are and the diversity of island sizes. Converting to the digital format and posting on the web site is happening at a rapid rate.

The *National Park System Map and Guide* has been revised and the new version is available. The publication *Index to the National Parks* reflects NPS holdings during a particular session of Congress. Therefore, the index does not reflect changes that have taken place under a different Congress. Maps that are produced jointly by the USGS and NPS are determined by the NPS Washington Scientific Office, not the Harpers Ferry Unit.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Ocean Survey (NOS)
Fred Anderson

Fred Anderson of the National Ocean Survey's Office of Aeronautical Charting and Cartography (AC&C) discussed the move of AC&C to the Department of Transportation's Transportation Administrative and Service Center (TASC), the NOS Nautical Chart print-on-demand CRADA (Cooperative Research and Development Agreement), and AC&C's direct distribution to depository libraries.

1. AC&C move to DOT
The National Ocean Survey wants to concentrate on coastal issues. Aeronautical Charting does not fit this focus. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) asked the Inspector Generals of the Departments of Commerce (of which NOAA is part), and Transportation to see where AC&C should go. The Inspector Generals recommended that AC&C should go to the FAA. It was decided that the FAA was not a good fit

either because the FAA is a regulatory agency and AC&C is a service agency. TASC was a better location. The legislation is at OMB and will go to Congress at the end of the fiscal year. The move will take place on October 1, 1998 if Congress approves.

One of the main advantages of TASC is that AC&C will retain the revenues from sales that now must be returned to the U.S. Treasury. This additional funding will allow the development of new products. Through agreement, AC&C will continue to print and distribute nautical charts through FY 1999. AC&C will implement its modernization plan that will allow for a fully digital production process from chart compilation to the generation of negatives for printing. By 2002, the four locations of AC&C will be co-located along Metro's Green Line in College Park of Greenbelt. This new building will require 90,000 square feet of office space and 110,000 square feet of industrial space. This new building will include a government owned, contractor operated warehousing and distribution operation. TASC encourages expansion of business practices. This will allow AC&C to expand its customer base and product lines. AC&C will take over NIMA public sales. They envision a "National Navigation Information Center," where they would provide distribution of various government publications on navigation. NOS will continue to compile the nautical charts and AC&C will be a contractor to print and distribute the charts.

2. Print-on-Demand CRADA
Since AC&C will no longer be part of NOAA, they want to get out of the printing business. The plan is to give the raster files to a private third party who will reproduce them on a high-speed raster plotter. An overnight shipper will then send the charts to sales agents around the world. The prices will increase and the sales agents' discounts may decrease. Through FY 1999 AC&C and the CRADA partner will compete in nautical chart sales. The partner will do a market survey during this year. Large vessels are required to have the latest charts. Recreational boaters and other small craft are not required to have the latest charts. This market survey will see what the demand for nautical charts is and determine a pricing structure. At the end of 1999, there will be an evaluation to determine where they are in the process. Richard Wilcox of NOAA is the project leader of the CRADA team. A team member, Barbara Grey, is working with Robin Haun-Mohamed of GPO to determine a plan to keep the nautical charts in the Depository Program. It is not certain that nautical charts produced by the CRADA partner are government publications. NOAA will continue to be legally responsible for the data in case of accident.

3. AC&C wants to initiate direct distribution to Depository Libraries
For several years, NOS has wanted to take over the distribution to Depository Libraries. This will allow receipt before the charts' effective date. AC&C is also willing to distribute NIMA charts since they are already responsible for public sales.

4. Additional Items

The new chart catalogs will not come out until December 1998 because AC&C cannot put the Department of Transportation logo on anything until Congress approves. A new product is a Nautical Chart User's Guide, which will be in this summer's GPO survey. Coast Pilots will be upgraded with color graphics. Paper aeronautical charts will continue for the foreseeable future. NIMA has stated that it will need paper charts through the year 2007.

Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division (LC G&M)
Ralph Ehrenberg

The G&M Division acquired about 100,000 items last year, of which about 87,000 have been added to the collections. Many duplicates will need to be given away through the Summer Program, although there are only two participants this year. Last year's acquisitions included many topographic maps from captured documents, especially 1930's era topographic maps of primarily Eastern Europe and Asia. The Division has acquired many 1:200,000 Soviet topos covering Asia, Africa, and Soviet satellites, and has ordered 1:100,000 coverage of China. These are used heavily in the reading room, and ironically aren't restricted like many of the large-scale AMS/DMA series.

The division also received a donation of drawings of mid-nineteenth century Pacific Railroad Surveys done by Gustavus Sohan from a descendant of Mr. Sohan.

Another project underway is to remove maps from copies of the American State Papers and the Serial Set, with plans to scan then in the future. The Geography & Map Division has already removed some 17,000 sheets from the Serial Set and placed them in flat files.

Veterans Associations have been contacted as part of a solicitation program to acquire donations of World War II maps held by ex-military personnel. The Geography and Map Division has a collection of about 4500 CD ROM's and is working to increase it.

In the area of processing and cataloging, the Cataloging Unit is now fully staffed with 15 catalogers. Digital cartographic data is now being cataloged using USMARC. NIMA is converting its cataloging to MARC, and LC is working with them to help in sharing cataloging duties. Betsy Mangan is revising the Cartographic Materials Manual used for interpretation of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules II (AACR2). The main changes are in the area of digital cartographic data. The AACR2 Committee will be meeting at LC in September.

The Division is using "adequate level" cataloging to process the backlog in the "single-sheet" or "title" collection, focusing currently on U.S. maps. The Heezen-Tharp collec-

tion of about 10,000 maps relating to plate tectonics is being processed with contract help. Maps removed from books and journals during the brittle book program are being transferred to the Division, about 6,000 maps so far. Many of these are late nineteenth and early twentieth century thematic (e.g., geologic) maps. They are relatively unusual items, not normally found in Map Collections.

Reference services were fully staffed again. There may have been a slight decline in walk-in use, but email questions have increased. GIS facilities, created within the last few years, reside in the Reading Room. The facilities were funded by corporate donations and provide access to Freehand, Magellan, and ArcView. A reference technician has the duty to create maps for Congress and the Congressional Research Services (CRS). Contractors are assisting in setting up Arc View.

The National Digital Library Program has the goal of making five million items available on the Internet. It went online last June 9 with 26 maps and during the first week received 70,000 hits. The site has averaged 30,000 hits a month since. This compares with 2,000 readers per year and 10,000 phone and written requests for information. There are nearly 1000 Panoramic Maps on the site. Five full-time staff are focusing on scanning map projects relating to Americana and genealogy. Scanned maps are saved in three basic formats: huge TIFF files for archival purposes; much smaller GIF files for display on the screen; and compressed files utilizing MrSID, (Multi-resolution Seamless Image Database). MrSID reduces the large TIFF files down to about 5-7 Mb. This June, Lizard Tech will be giving away the MrSID viewer, allowing users to download compressed images to their computer and view them, recreate the original TIFF files, or print them. (The Panoramic Maps are in the public domain.)

The American Memory Project is targeting K-12 and future G&M scanning projects will include the City Ward Maps, National Park Service Maps, and County Land Ownership Maps.

A recent CRADA (Cooperative Research and Development Agreement) with the E.D.R. Sanborn Company will allow them to scan the several hundred thousand sheets of Sanborn Fire Insurance maps in the Division's collections, along with the 250,000 in the company's collections, and put these on the Internet over the next 10 years. Users will be able to print a screen view or order a full copy from Sanborn. LC will archive the database after scanning is completed. The first images will go online this summer. They have scanned about 1,900 so far.

Two support groups actively helping the Division are the Philip Lee Philips Society, now publishing a newsletter and an Occasional Paper series, and the Center for Geographic Information, whose corporate members provide hardware, software, and technical assistance support to the Division. This technical support has included a workflow analysis that will allow the increase in scanning from 7 to 24 maps per day.

MAP AND GEOGRAPHY ROUND TABLE
EXECUTIVE BOARD I

Saturday, January 30, 1999
Mariott Hotel, Salon L
Philadelphia, PA

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 by David Allen, Chair.
Those present introduced themselves.

ASCLA Presentation

Mr. Allen introduced John Day from the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA), who had asked to come and speak to the Board about the possibility of MAGERT joining with ASCLA. ASCLA has been asking various ALA Round Tables if they would be interested in becoming part of this division. Since the initial invitation two years ago, the Independent Librarians Round Table has decided to join ASCLA. Benefits of being part of a division include the ability to publish standards and guidelines and more staff support from the ALA offices.

David Allen asked why ASCLA was approaching MAGERT to join. Mr. Day responded that the Association had asked several Round Tables that appeared to have similar interests to the Association. The Government Documents Round Table had studied joining ASCLA for several months and put the issue to a vote of the full membership, where it was voted down.

Joining with ASCLA could also increase MAGERT's presence. A topic of discussion at the Round Table Coordinating Committee was whether or not a Round Table could issue a statement as a Round Table of the American Library Association. There seemed to be an indication that Round Tables cannot issue statements, while Divisions can.

Joseph Winkler asked for a description of the Board of Directors of ASCLA. The Board is composed of the chairs of each of the sections (State Librarians, Independent Librarians, Multitype Librarians, Libraries Serving Specialized Populations), two members at large from the Specialized Populations Section, and two general members at large. They represent their own sections but they also work in concert as the Board of Directors for the division.

ASCLA's interest in having MAGERT join the division is that this would increase the size of the division. It is currently the smallest division in ALA. Membership will probably not increase through the constituency currently being served, so the only avenue available is to increase the constituency. The division is not competing with SLA for membership, as they are not complimentary.

Mr. Day then left to attend another meeting. Discussion focused on the amount of autonomy MAGERT would maintain if we decided to join ASCLA, what dues members of the division currently pay, how much overlap there is between MAGERT and the rest of the sections, how interested MAGERT is in issuing standards. The Executive Board decided that Mr. Allen would send a letter to Mr. Day indicating that since there are a number of changes occurring with the Round Tables, MAGERT chooses not to join ASCLA at this time, but that the issue could be revisited in two years time.

Round Table Coordinating Committee

Tracking in the Programs

David Allen and Joseph Winkler attended the Round Table Coordinating Committee, where a number of issues were discussed that are potentially of great interest to MAGERT. Three-quarters of the meeting was spent discussing an issue that had been brought to Mr. Allen's attention a few weeks prior to Midwinter. By the 2000 annual conference, ALA will be arranging programs into "tracks" or "themes." Within the "tracks," there will be "threads." Examples of "tracks" given at the meeting included: meeting new needs, technology, and collection management. The program will be set up so that various tracks would be flagged in some manner. The idea is to make the programs easier to follow and more coherent, especially for those new to ALA. Currently there is concern that the programs are overwhelming and confusing to those who do not attend regularly. There was a good deal of discussion about this issue.

There will be a coordinating committee that will oversee the tracking of programs. The round tables will have some sort of representation on this committee. There were concerns expressed at the meeting that there is the potential for the committee to exert undue control over the creation of programs and a reduction of freedom for those creating the programs. There were assurances that this would not happen and that the committee would not attempt to reduce the number of programs. A potential benefit may be that the tracks may draw in those who normally don't attend MAGERT programs. This may be an attempt by ALA to do what MAGERT, LITA, and GODORT try to do with the liaison task force of coordinating programs in that way.

The idea seems to stem from the fact that there is a lot of redundancy in the programming currently being offered by the various committees, round tables, and divisions, who do not know what the other groups are planning. Some state library associations have been using tracks at their state conferences and spoke to the benefits of doing this. Using tracks could result in a conference program where various sessions would be flagged with icons to make it easier to select sessions of interest. There is still a question as to who selects the track the program will fall into, whether it is the coordinating committee or the group planning the program. This has not yet been determined. Throughout the meeting, the proposal was called a "draft" or a "work in progress,"

though it does seem as if it is largely in place with a few questions remaining to be resolved. A brown bag lunch was held the Sunday of Midwinter to continue the discussion.

Elections of Council Members

Under the new organizational structure, the round tables are to be represented on ALA Council. The larger round tables each have their own representative to the Council, while the smaller round tables will elect a joint representative. This will take place on the upcoming ballot. At the end of the Round Table Coordinating Committee, representatives of each of the smaller round tables got together to determine how the election would be done. Each Round Table would nominate at least one person to run. The deadline for nominees was February 10. ALA will then put together a ballot with the 6-7 candidates which will be sent to all members of the small round tables. The winning candidate will then represent the concerns of all the small round tables. It was felt that there should be some coordination of concerns post-election and it was felt the people nominated by the individual round tables should work together with the individual elected to Council. The procedures are provisional and may be changed in the future.

Who Speaks for the ALA?

Can the Round Tables take public positions on issues? The Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) sent a letter to the Boy Scouts of America objecting to the policies of BSA in not allowing homosexuals to work with the Boy Scouts. SRRT signed it very clearly "The Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association." This was bounced back to ALA Council, since ALA has an affiliation with BSA. SRRT apparently passed a resolution to encourage ALA to drop the affiliation with BSA. The manual for Round Tables very clearly states that the Round Tables can take positions on issues as long as the Round Table clearly states that this is the position of the Round Table and not the position of the full ALA organization. Council states that this position contradicts the overall ALA policy and Round Tables can't separate themselves from the full ALA organization. Those in attendance on the MAGERT Executive Board have an understanding that as long as a disclaimer along the lines of "The views expressed here may not represent the view of the American Library Association" that the Round Tables could take public positions on issues. Mr. Allen will draft a letter to ALA to express support for Round Tables' right to state positions.

Other Issues

Round Tables will be asking for a monthly column in American Libraries to serve as a way of getting information.

There was a request that each Round Table get one free copy of the mailing list of the Round Table.

Mr. Allen received a multiculturalism and diversity survey from the ALA Council Committee on Minority Concerns and Cultural Diversity. The questionnaire has about 5 questions about the cultural diversity of the Round Table. One of the questions concerned whether or not we would send a representative to a standing forum on multiculturalism. Given the group we draw from, there appears to be little MAGERT can do to increase diversity.

Membership Survey

The Board has discussed in the past putting up the membership list on the web. Mr. Allen remembered that in the past we decided not to put E-mail addresses up as a privacy concern. Since many people have their ALA publications sent to their homes, that is the address that appears in the membership list. MAGERT would be interested in listing the institution where the individual is employed. The list received from ALA would require a great deal of work. The suggestion was made to survey the membership to gather the information needed. The directory is now available on CD-ROM. There is a need felt for having some way of contacting the membership other than MAPS-L. The Membership Committee will investigate ways of obtaining a membership list of MAGERT.

Committee Reports

Small Map Collection Discussion Group: having their first meeting at 11:30.

Nominations and Elections: need candidates for chair-elect and secretary by Feb.12th and a candidate for Council by the 10th.

Budget Review Committee: there will be a meeting on Sunday.

CUAC: People might be interested in attending the end of the Federal Agency Update. The final few speakers might have some information on spatial information.

GeoTech: Looking for two more speakers for New Orleans.

The Chief of the LC Geography and Map Division position is open.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Moore, Secretary

☛ *The minutes to the Executive Board II meeting from ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia, along with the Treasurer's balance sheet showing MAGERT's financial standing for fiscal year 1997/98, will appear in the next issue of* base line. —ed.

NEW MAPS AND BOOKS

New Maps

Kurds, Turks, and Iraqis

Kurds have been much in the news lately, but locating them cartographically is difficult. One interesting map published in Paris by the Institut Kurde de Paris and titled simply "Kurdistan" shows areas inhabited by Kurds in southern Turkey and parts of Iraq, Iran, and Syria. The large map, 33 x 42" at a scale of 1:1,700,000, is undated, but the Library of Congress has guesstimated 1992 on its cataloging record. Although not greatly detailed and with no topographic information, the map does show areas of mixed ethnicity, towns, roads, airports, oil resources, and pipelines. Available for $29.95 from Omni Resources (http://www.omnimap.com).

Detailed maps of the world's "hot spots" are frequently difficult to obtain, since countries like Turkey and Iraq keep a tight reign on their topographic mapping and don't normally distribute them to vendors. One solution is to purchase Soviet military maps, which seem to be a prime source of western currency for some entrepreneurial types in the former USSR. These once-classified maps are available in large-scales for most of the world, including those areas for which little else is available. The maps themselves are of generally good quality and recent vintage, although there often seems to be a range of dates on the sheets contained in each series. The main drawback, of course, is that they're in Russian. But if topo information is what's needed, the symbols are easy to figure out.

They are available from several sources, including two firms that specialize in materials from Russia and the former USSR, East View Publications in Minneapolis and Four One Co., Ltd., in Ontario. Both, for example, offer various large-scale topo coverage (1:50,000, 1:100,000, 1:200,000, and 1:10,000 city maps) of Turkey, Iraq, Iran, etc. They're not cheap, but costs vary among vendors and there seems to be some room for price negotiations. East View is also willing to sell individual sheets from these series. Competition is strong among these vendors, and marketing is becoming more creative. Many map libraries may have received E-mail on the Missing Maps promos that East View is running (and if you haven't, they would be delighted to add you to their list). Check out their web site at (http://www.missingmaps.com) and the Four One site at (http://www.fourone.com).

Reproductions of Historical Maps

The Maryland State Archives offers a number of publications for sale, including several reproductions of historical maps of the eastern U.S. Examples include Bowen's 1752

map of the Chesapeake Bay region, a 1673 map of Virginia and Maryland by August-
ine Herman, and Ogilby's "Nova Terrae-Mariae Tabula" of 1671. The maps are
available individually or in portfolios. They're nicely done and reasonably priced at $10
(or less in the portfolios). A complete list and ordering information can be found at their
website: (http://www.mdarchives.state.md.us).

Historic Urban Plans has added three new colored images to their Souvenir Series of
facsimiles. The 17th century maps include Jansson's 1670 map of Europe; Hondius's
Asia, 1606; and the Nicholas Visscher 1650 map of the Holy Land. Sizes range from
12 x 18.5" to 14.5 x 19.5", smaller than most of their reproductions, but still a bargain
at only $7.50 each.

Africa Travel

The *Kampala Tourist Map* is the latest title published in the Macmillan Travellers' Map
Series. The single-sided sheet map of Uganda's capital city measures 25.5 x 36"
unfolded, and features a detailed 1:8,500-scale street plan of central Kampala. It
includes street names, hotels, restaurants, embassies, banks, airline offices, travel
information and places of interest along with an index. An inset map of the Greater
Kampala area is at a scale of 1:100,000. The map legend is in English, German and
French. £5.95.

Another recent title in this series is the *Zambia Traveller's Map*. One side features a
topographic map of the country, a wildlife identification chart, and some travel informa-
tion. The reverse has larger scale maps of several locations and plans of Victoria Falls,
Livingstone, and Central Lusaka. The map has been "checked and approved by the
Zambia National Tourist Board." £6.95.

Briefly Noted

For those attending the ALA conference in New Orleans, and anticipating a little
exploring off the narrow trail from hotel to convention center, Berndston & Berndtson
has a new (1999) *New Orleans City Streets* map. The laminated 1:30,000 scale map,
with downtown New Orleans at 1:11,000, goes for $6.95. (ISBN 3897071800).

For those who like the warmth but not the humidity of the Crescent City, Nelles offers a
1999 map of the *South Pacific Islands* at 1:13,000,000 with special maps of all major
islands including Easter Island. $8.95 (ISBN 388618661X).

If you're driving down to Rio, Quatro Rodas has recently published a new version of its
Brazil Road Map, probably the best road map of the country. The 1:2,500,000 map
(with Amazonia at 1:7,000,000) is in Portuguese, with index and mileage chart. $14.95
from Treaty Oak ($12.95 from Omni).

The Bundesamt für Landestopographie has produced an attractive Satellite Map of Switzerland,
compiled from Landsat 5 images obtained during 1990-1994. The 1:300,000 map is $35.95 from Omni Resources.

ODT Inc. seems to be a consulting firm specializing in cultural diversity. They also seem to be enamored of the Peters Projection, and have produced a number of products using this map, including a 35 x 50" *Peters World Map* for $15 ($25 rolled and laminated), a *Peters Mini-Map*, 11 x 17" for $5; *Peters Map Postcards* (10 for $6), and a *Peters Geo-Learning Pack* for $30. More information at (http:// www.diversophy.com).

Maps International, the promotional arm of Lovell Johns Ltd. noted for their "'Huge' World Map," evidently feel they've got a good thing going. They've now produced a new "'Huge' Europe Map" which measures about 53 x 73" at a scale of 1:3,200,000. (http://www.lovelljohns.com)

Most libraries get maps produced by the CIA as part of the GPO depository program. Those who don't, or who want a reminder of how prolific a map publisher they are, should look at their web site. Their 1999 list of "CIA Maps and Publications Released to the Public" is a compilation of all their unclassified maps and other publications available for purchase from the GPO or NTIS. (although all maps have to be obtained from the NTIS). The listing gives the date of each map, the NTIS order number and price. (http://www.odci.gov/cia)

New Books & Atlases

Early Canada

Kenneth Kershaw, *Early Printed Maps of Canada, Vol. IV. Quebec City & Province, Siege of Quebec, Montreal, West Coast and Admiral de Fonte*. Kershaw Publishing, 1998. 214 pp. $125 CDN (ISBN: 0969718438). This volume completes Kershaw's cartobibliography of early maps of Canada, which has been an ongoing labor of love for the author since 1993. Volume I covered the period 1540-1703; Volumes II and III divided the 18th century by area. The books have to obtained directly from the author, and early volumes may be out of print. Description of each map is minimal, and the quality of the plates leave much to be desired, but almost every entry is illustrated. (K. A. Kershaw, 442 Wilson Street East, Ancaster, Ontario, L9G 2C3).

New York Atlas

The New York State Department of Transportation has issued their 1998 (4th) edition of the *New York State Atlas*. The 1:250,000 scale maps are presented in a 100 page, spiral bound, 11 x 17" format. Each map page has an accompanying reference page which locates counties, indexes the local DOT 1:24,000 quadrangles, shows topography by a shaded relief image, and lists populated places. The larger scale urban maps in previous editions have been removed and will be published in a new "Urban Atlas" due out later this year. Copies will be sent free to buyers of the State Atlas, which goes for $40.

The maps are updated from the 1995 edition of the NY DOT's four-sheet, 1:250,000 New York State Map, which is also still available for those who like to work with larger formats. The 39 x 54" sheets can be joined to form a state map measuring 7 x 9'. The individual sheets cost $10 each, $40 for the set, the same as the atlas. More details and ordering information can be found on the DOT's Mapping & GIS Section web page (http://www.dot.state.ny.us/magis/magis.html).

Weather and Other Disasters

Mark Monmonier, *Air Apparent: How Meteorologists Learned to Map, Predict, and Dramatize the Weather*. University of Chicago Press, 1999. 344 p. $27.50 (ISBN: 0226534227).
Monmonier, a Syracuse University geography professor, is one of our most prolific writers on cartography. Author of such popular titles as *How to Lie with Maps*, he writes in a scholarly but very readable and accessible style. In his previous book, *Cartographies of Danger: Mapping Hazards in America* (University of Chicago Press, 1997) he studied the mapping of such natural and man-made phenomena as earthquakes, floodplains, coastline erosion, potential nuclear disasters, and crime. *Air Apparent* is slightly more benign, being a history of the weather map in its many forms. He ranges widely, covering personalities, policy debates, and scientific advances from the 18th century to the Internet.

As Monmonier indicates, weather maps are everywhere today, from TV to the web. For those wanting to know more, including the true weather junkies who think that with the right information they can out-forecast the TV weather folks, Peter Chaston has a 2nd edition of his *Weather Maps: How to Read and Interpret All the Basic Weather Charts*. Chaston Scientific, 1997. 230 p. $29.00 (ISBN: 0964517248). A similar title, due out in April 1999, is Michael Carr's *International Marine's Weather Predicting Simplified: How to Read Weather Charts and Satellite Images*. McGraw-Hill. 192 p. $25.95. (ISBN: 0070120315).

Satellite Imagery and GIS

For those needing a quick introduction to remote sensing, SPOT Image offers *Satellite Imagery: An Objective Guide*, a nice little 30-page booklet that provides facts, characteristics and uses of imagery. Free from SPOT Image Corp. in Reston, VA. Phone 703-715-3100; fax 703-648-1813, (http://www.spot.com).

For a more thorough introduction, a good source is S. A. Drury's *Images of the Earth: A Guide to Remote Sensing.* 2d ed. Oxford University Press, 1998. 203 p. $75, $45 in paperback (ISBN: 0198549989). (The 1990 first edition had the title *A Guide to Remote Sensing.*)

On the GIS front, a 2nd "revised and expanded" edition of *Geographical Information Systems: Principles, Techniques, Applications and Management,* edited by Paul Longley, has just been released. Wiley, 1999. 2 vol., 1296 p. $295 (ISBN: 0471321826). This massive work has more about GIS than you probably want to know, and for the price, it should. For something a little more basic, and a little more modest size- and cost-wise, try the 2nd edition of Keith C. Clarke's *Getting Started with Geographic Information Systems*. Prentice Hall, 1999. 338 p. $75 (ISBN: 0139238891).

The History of Geographic Information Systems: Perspectives from the Pioneers. Ed. Timothy W. Foresman. Prentice Hall, 1998. 397 p. $70 (ISBN: 0138621454). For something that seems so recent, you might not think of GIS as having much of a history. But au contraire, as demonstrated in this compilation of articles by the pioneers, key scientists, and entrepreneurs who created the GIS field.

Paperback Editions and Reprints

Books on cartographic history are notoriously expensive, so it's good to see publishers reissuing works in paperback at reduced, if not exactly cheap, prices. Some recent titles include O. A. W. Dilke's *Greek and Roman Maps*, the most comprehensive work on the subject. Originally published in 1985 by Cornell University Press, a 1998 paperback edition is available from Johns Hopkins University Press for $15.95. (ISBN 0801858976).

Due in April from the University of Chicago Press is a new paperback edition of the above mentioned Mark Monmonier's *Maps with the News: The Development of American Journalistic Cartography,* which traces the use of maps in American news reporting from the 18th century to the 1980s. 332 p. $16.00 (ISBN 0226534138).

Matthew Edney's well received *Mapping an Empire: The Geographical Construction of British India, 1765-1843*, has just been issued in paperback by the University of Chicago Press. $25.00 (ISBN: 0226184889).

Not really a reissue but a revision is *The Illustrated Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time* by Dava Sobel and William J. Andrewes. Walker, 1998. 224 p. $32.95 (ISBN: 0802713440). The original, non-illustrated *Longitude* was a surprise best-seller in 1995. The engrossing story of John Harrison and the invention of the chronometer was widely praised, but one of the few criticisms was for the lack of pictures and diagrams that would have clarified the text. That has been met with this beautifully illustrated version featuring 110 color and some 73 black and white illustrations. The original and paperback versions, at $19 and $10.95, are also still in print.

— *Fred Musto*

ELECTRONIC MAPPING

Greetings! This is my first turn as computer information editor, and since it's been a while since there was a computer information column, I've been given the opportunity to write on a plethora of topics — meaning my format and content ideas are still somewhat nebulous. This introductory column is a potpourri of electronic information and resources, aimed at helping those who are working with geographic information systems, electronic mapping resources, digital geographic data, etc. As a GIS librarian at an academic institution, I work mainly in the data provision arena, so new data sources are always welcome — with this column I've tried to include a mix of data sources, online publications and technical resources. Future columns may include technical tips, software reviews, and further sources of information. If folks have particular resources or areas they'd like to see highlighted, feel free to send me an email at jnstone@u.washington.edu.

Web Sites

A new digital data warehouse site that many of you may have seen advertised last month is http://www.gisdatadepot.com/, which claims "Free access to the largest GIS database on the Internet." Mostly consisting of USGS data and files from Digital Chart of the World, the site offers free downloads of much of its data, as well as custom-made, for-fee CD-ROMs. The most direct access to the free downloads for the United States is to go to your state, then to the "Data Grouped by County" section, where you'll find items such as digital raster graphics (scanned topographic maps), digital line graph data such as hydrography, public land survey system, and political boundaries, and wetlands information. Much of the data remains in its original format (SDTS, for example), which means it's really no different than downloading from USGS directly (I wonder how well the site will stay current with any USGS updates?), but it does offer the advantage of having all the data in one place. The custom CD option looks good to

many patrons, too. The maintainers of the site are adding data on a very regular basis, so if your area or data sets of interest are not yet represented, feel free to send an encouraging email.

Online Publications

In the beginning of 1999 there's been a small spike in the number of online newsletters and magazines related to GIS, two of which are listed here. It's impossible to keep up with all the news (and who wants to spend that much time reading from their computer screen?), but both are valuable for industry information, data resources, and technical support.

Spatial News
A new online newsletter directed to the GIS community is *Spatial News*, which announces GIS and geography resources that are available on the web. *Spatial News* comes out monthly, and the first three issues had some excellent information on data sources and technical resources helpful to librarians working with GIS. The URL for the site is: http://www.coastnet.com/~letham/spatialnews.html; each issue includes tidbits such as book reviews, free spatial data on the web, education sites, industry news, and technical resources. The February issue published results of a survey asking about pros and cons for the two big desktop geographic information systems, MapInfo and ArcView. It's compiled by an individual, and therefore has an informal structure, and I've found some useful URLs and data sources in all three issues.

Directions Magazine
Described as "Your mapping and demographic news source," Directions (http://www.directionsmag.com/) is a full-scale online publication, with industry news, software reviews, Internet technologies and products, and news analysis. It also includes industry-specific news and information. Recently *Directions* reviewed the new mapping software from Microsoft, MapPoint 2000, which will be included in the Office 2000 software suite (currently it's available for about $110). As is the nature of anything related to Microsoft, the review sparked some good conversation on what it means that MS has entered the desktop mapping field, which can be read on the *Directions* website. This month's announcement from *Directions* is that the magazine's staff will be releasing an all MapPoint-based web site in April (as if MS needed more PR, but there it is). Watch for its debut April 5 at http://www.mappoint2000.com/.

Software

I posted to the Maps-L listserv recently about stand-alone software utilities that will convert from a township-range-section (either centroid or corner point), into latitude/longitude. Responses included information about a free utility from the Army called

CORPSCON, available from http://crunch.tec.army.mil/software/corpscon/corpscon.html. The software also does conversions from geographic, state plane and universal transverse mercator (NAD 27, NAD83, HARN), and it does conversions on vertical datums. CORPSCON is a DOS-based program, but seems to run just fine on Win95 and WinNT.

Technical Resources

As I was finishing this column, an interesting message came from the ARCVIEW-L listserv from ESRI. This listserv is an excellent resource for those using ArcView — content includes requests and responses for technical support, scripts and extensions, data sources, and more (and the list is welcoming to GIS neophytes). This particular message contains an interesting description of how ArcView "sees" and projects geographic data — I've included it here in its entirety.

-----**Original Message**-----
From: Jonathan Bloomer
To: ARCVIEW-L@ESRI.COM
Date: Friday, March 19, 1999 3:00 AM
Subject: SUM: clipping problem

Hi the list
I'm sending a summary with only one solution, because I think this is THE solution. Thanks to Bill Huber for his very detailed explanation of why I had the problem, and the solution. It works like a bomb. I've included it in its entirety - there's nothing I can add to it... Thanks also to Kristen Funk for her idea - unfortunately her suggestion was a variation of our original mistake. Thanks too to any who may still reply.
Jonathan

ORIGINAL QUESTION
I'm using the world map and the lat/long grid that come with the ESRI data and maps CD. I'm using a south polar view and all I'm trying to do is clip the maps at 30 deg south so that I'm left with only the southern ocean in which I'm going to put some islands. I've drawn a circle at 30 deg south and converted it to a shapefile. When I try to clip the two maps with the circle - using clip in AV and clip in XTools - I get a new shapefile with all the fields etc but they're all empty. So it's going through the motions but not producing anything. Any idea where I'm going wrong? - I'm sure the answer is blindingly obvious. Just as an exercise I've tried clipping the lat/long grid with a few countries from the world map and they work fine, so the problem must lie with my circle.

SOLUTION

My problem certainly was with my circle. The mistake was to assume that I could just clip a circular shape out of my final map. The problem was in projections - I needed to draw a shape that would PROJECT to the circle I wanted.

Bill's solution:

The problem is that what ArcView sees and what you see are very different. If indeed you drew a polygon (using ArcView's circle drawing tool or Circle.Make request) that coincides with the line of latitude at 30 degrees south, then its internal representation is a polygon with 360 nodes. Suppose the first of those nodes is at (longitude, latitude) = (0,-30). Then, in order, the sequence of nodes is {(0,-30), (1,-30), (2,-30), ... (179,-30), (180,-30), (-179,-30), (-178,-30), ..., (-1,-30)}. Now, it's important to understand that ArcView does its calculations in a Euclidean (flat) space. If you were to draw this sequence of coordinates in the plane, you would trace a straight line (comprising 181 nodes) left to right from (0,-30) to (180,-30), then another straight line right to left from (180,-30) to (-179,-30) (comprising 2 nodes), then a straight line left to right back to (0,-30) (comprising 180 nodes). That, indeed, is a closed polygon, but it encloses nothing and has zero area. Whenever you clip any other polygon to it at best you will get fragments of edges lying within this zero-area region.

The workaround is to represent your region using a circular sector of 360 degrees created by slicing your circle from its boundary to the south pole. A good place to slice is along the line of 180 degree longitude. Thus the internal representation of your shape will become the sequence {(-180,-90), (-180,-30), (-179,-30), ..., (0,-30), ..., (179,-30), (180,-30), (180,-90)}. In the plane, this describes a rectangle with corners at (-180,-90), (-180,-30), (180,-30), and (180,-90). The sides of the rectangle describe the cut; the bottom collapses to the south pole when projected, and the top moves in one degree increments along the 30 degree south line of latitude.

Why move in one degree increments? Because what is apparently straight when viewed in planar coordinates usually becomes curved on the sphere. By breaking long segments into small sections, you have greater assurance that the sequence of segments closely approximates the spherical curve you intended. For example, when ArcView "projects" the four-point rectangle just described, it seems to disappear: that's because it draws the line from (-180,-30) to (180,-30) as a single point (they are the same point when projected) and the entire rectangle seems to collapse.

As a demonstration, create and compile the following script. This script creates the rectangle above.

```
lstP = {(-180)@(-90)}
for each i in (-180)..180
lstP.Add(i@(-30))
end
lstP.Add(180@(-90))
return Polygon.Make({lstP})
' end of script
```

Name this script "P". Now begin editing your theme with the circle shape.
Open its feature table and, using the field calculator, change the [shape] value to

```
av.Run("P",NIL)
```

Save your edits. When projected, the resulting rectangle will appear as the
circle you want. You can use it to clip your shapes.
Thanks again for the time and effort to put me straight.
Jonathan

— Jenny Stone

MAGERT's chair-elect, Joe Winkler (right), greets Pat
McGlammery (left), who is MAGERT's nominee for the
position on ALA Council that is reserved for a represen-
tative of the smaller Round Tables. Look for Pat's name
on a special ballot that will be enclosed with the ALA
ballot materials later this spring.

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, NEW ORLEANS, LA
PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

The next ALA Annual Conference will be held in New Orleans from June 24-30, 1999. The preliminary schedule of MAGERT meetings is as follows. Room assignments will be posted on the MAGERT web site when they become available in early May.

Friday, June 25, 1999

MAGERT Reception   7:00 - 9:00 PM

Saturday, June 26, 1999

Executive Board I	8:00 - 9:00 AM
Program I: Exploit and Explore Maps in Public Library Reference Service	9:30 - 11:00 AM
Membership Committee	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Publications Committee	2:00 - 4:00 PM
Research Libraries Collection Management Group	4:30 - 5:30 PM

Sunday, June 27, 1999

ALCTS/CCS/MAGERT Map Cataloging Discussion Group	8:00 - 9:00 AM
Cataloging and Classification Committee	9:30 - 11:00 AM
Small Map Collections Discussion Group	9:30 - 11:00 AM
Education Committee	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Federal Spatial Information Discussion Group	2:00 - 4:00 PM
Program Planning Committee	4:30 - 5:30 PM

Monday, June 28, 1999

GIS Discussion Group and Geotech Committee	9:30 - 11:00 AM
Program II: Partnering: Collaboration between Libraries and Significant Others to Promote Complex GIS Projects	2:00-4:00 PM

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Executive Board II   8:30 - 11 AM

For those staying an additional day, we are planning a field trip on the afternoon of the 29th to the Matthew Fontaine Maury Oceanographic Library at the Stennis Space Center in nearby Bay Saint Louis, Missisippi. Details will be posted on the MAGERT web site when they become available.

Great Moments In Map Librarianship   by Jim Coombs