

base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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New MAGERT web site:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/magert>

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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

Pete Rheeling, University of South Florida

I hope that everyone that had the opportunity to attend the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. and had a good time. The reception and programs organized by Scott McEathron were pleasant and engaging. In D.C. I took notice of the new faces that are appearing in our discussion groups and committee meetings and I see this as a positive sign for our round table. I encourage all of our new members to become active participants in our various committees because you are the future of MAGERT and our future accomplishments will be shaped by you. 🌍🌍



FROM THE EDITOR

Steve Rogers, The Ohio State University

With this issue it is a pleasure for me to introduce *base line's* new electronic mapping editor, C.C. (Chris) Miller, who is a Geographic Information Systems Specialist and Assistant Professor of Library Science at Purdue University. He joined the Purdue faculty in August 2006 and has since been working to geo-enable various faculty and student projects, including those with obvious geospatial components (carbon emission modeling, soil survey map digitization) and those with more implicit geographic data (e.g., wiki articles and content management system databases). His interest in public participation GIS (PPGIS) is being folded into his work in the academic library environment as an attempt to democratize and normalize access to the tools and capabilities of (a loosely-defined) GIS. C.C.'s first column, a wry and insightful look at Google Maps Street View, appears on page XX. In the months ahead we will look forward to reading many more perceptive columns on GIS, electronic mapping and other geospatial technologies. Welcome to *base line*, C.C. 🌍🌍

ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

Tammy Wong, Library of Congress

Library of Congress Classification:
Changes in classification for Yakutia.

The Library of Congress Classification Weekly List 22, dated May 30, 2007, is now available at <http://www.loc.gov/aba/>. Additions and changes in the Classification were approved by the weekly editorial meeting of the Cataloging Policy and Support Office. Here is an excerpt of the weekly list that covers the G Schedule. The classification caption “Yakutia” was revised to “Sakha. Yakutia.” The complete hierarchy is shown for the revised captions to show their location within the

classification.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION

WEEKLY LIST 22 (May 30, 2007)

Maps

By region or country

Eastern Hemisphere. Eurasia,
Africa, etc.

Europe

Former Soviet republics in
Asia. U.S.S.R. in Asia. Russia (Empire)
in Asia

[G7310-7313] Yakutia CANCEL

[G7310-7313] Sakha. Yakutia 



Members of the MAGERT Executive Board meeting at the beginning of the ALA Annual Conference this past June in Washington, D.C.

A Review of the Washington, D.C. Preconference

“Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old: Cataloging Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources”

A review by Susan Moore, University
of Northern Iowa

This two-day MAGERT preconference cosponsored by ALCTS, RBMS, and GODORT provided an engaging introduction to the cataloging of older cartographic materials. Held at the Library of Congress, the chief presenters were able to draw on the resources of the largest map collection in the country. The preconference opened with a welcome from John Hébert, the chief of the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress. Then Carolyn Kadri of the University of Texas at Arlington, Nancy Kandoian of the New York Public Library, and Seanna Tsung of the Library of Congress began leading the group through the intricacies of cataloging these materials. Topics covered included differences in cataloging pre-20th century versus modern maps, early mapmaking techniques, research techniques to help provide further information about the map, manuscript maps, map facsimiles, and early letter forms and symbols.

Each participant received a preconference manual, a set of the PowerPoint handouts used by the presenters, and a tool kit that included a magnifying glass, a calculator, a natural map scale indicator, a ruler, and a note pad.

These tools came in handy during the hands-on portions of the workshop. The attendees came from both the cartographic community and the rare books community, which helped make the sessions lively. On the first day before lunch the group went on a tour of the Geography and Map Division. On the second day Deborah Leslie of the Folger Shakespeare Library covered the session on early letter forms and symbols.

All of the presenters were knowledgeable of the topics covered and interacted well between themselves and the attendees. Attendees came away with a great resource for working with pre-20th century cartographic items, along with the knowledge and skills needed for working with these items. 

Announcing the New MAGERT Membership-Wide E-mail List

As many MAGERT members know, this spring the MAGERT Membership Committee, working at the request of the MAGERT Executive Board and coordinating closely with our staff liaison at ALA, established a new email list to serve the needs of the broader round table membership. This unmoderated email list is hosted by ALA and subscriptions of individuals are directly managed by our ALA staff liaison, while the MAGERT Membership Committee oversees aspects related to the list's purpose, scope, and guidelines of use.

Individuals who were initially subscribed to this email list were those who were members of MAGERT, had provided their email address to ALA, and had indicated to the organization that they were willing to be contacted electronically by them. Shortly after this email list went live in mid-May, it came to our attention that some individuals who were subscribed initially did not wish to participate in the email list, others who were not subscribed wished to be included, and yet others who were subscribed preferred to participate using a different email address. To complicate matters, not everyone in these three categories naturally received the welcome email that was distributed to the list and which provided instructions on its purpose, how to post messages, and how to unsubscribe or update one's information. The Membership Committee understands that this caused confusion and even anger among some members. We wish to express our sincerest apologies for the difficulties this process has caused for many members, and we appreciate your patience as we strive to ensure that the subscription list

contains only those members who wish to participate.

This list's purpose is generally to enable any subscribed member of MAGERT to contact all other subscribed round table members with the intent of distributing information or seeking member opinions that are related to the purpose of conducting round table business. Representative examples might include a member of the executive board or a committee who uses this list to contact the general membership in order to discuss member preferences or issues surrounding a MAGERT publication or an upcoming MAGERT conference program, or a committee member who uses this list to conduct a survey to gather information or opinions from the general membership in order to perform the committee's work.

Those of you who are already subscribed to the list may post a message to it by addressing it to magert@ala.org. If at any time you wish to unsubscribe or update your email address, please send your request to Danielle Alderson



NOAA Central Library director Janice Beattie assists NOAA Library Historian/Geographer John Cloud with a chart during his presentation "Two Hundred Years of the Coast Survey," one of two MAGERT programs at the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

at dponton@ala.org

If you are a MAGERT member who is not currently subscribed to the list and you would like to be subscribed, please send this request to Danielle Alderson at dponton@ala.org

If any of you has questions regarding the email list's purpose, the posting process, or the usage guidelines,

please feel free to reference the list's description and instructions posted to the MAGERT Website at <http://www.ala.org/ala/magert/> or email MAGERT Membership Committee Chair Wade Bishop at bwb06c@fsu.edu or committee member John Lawton at lawto019@umn.edu Thank you!

Wade Bishop
Membership Committee Chair 

ELECTRONIC MAPPING

C.C. Miller, Purdue University

Is Street View Anything?

Or, is it Really GIS if All We're Doing is Looking for Pictures of Naked People?

I'm not entirely sure I know what GIS is. It used to be easy; some line, point, polygon layers, a couple of rasters, some buffering and geocoding here and some slope modeling there... you know, ArcView. And that was a sufficiently tidy definition of GIS to be used to introduce concepts, software, techniques, and the products of electronic mapping to most library users, from economics faculty to political science grads to agronomy undergrads. It turns out, however, that "geographic" and "information" and "systems" can each be interpreted rather liberally by a liberal array of user populations and these populations are putting "G" and "I" and "S" together in many more ways than your local copy of ArcView 3.x might have led you to believe was possible or even useful. Witness Google Maps Street View, a mode of Google Maps currently available for five cities (Denver, Las

Vegas, Miami, New York City, and the San Francisco Bay Area) that brings a user down "into" the Google Maps base map by placing them in the middle of a stitched-together panorama of still images of street scenes. As an example, visit maps.google.com and zoom in on Denver, Colorado. A tab is available for "Street View" and if you click it a little gold avatar gets placed in the middle of the map view. Click that icon and a popup appears with a photo of the side of the street at which your little surrogate is looking. So far this is nothing new, as we have many years of linking images to places under our belts. But now drag the scene one way or another and you're scanning and panning as though you were really standing there in the middle of the street. Nice, but it still feels like so many QuickTime panoramas that are now fading into internet history. But then click the directional arrows

in the popup to begin “walking” and your current panorama fades into another, and another, and another as you essentially walk down the street. So not only are you able to spin around and take in 360° of street scene, the fact that each scene is fully aware of its geographic location means you can begin navigating this way, begin moving through space this way, while maintaining the perspective of the little gold avatar that scoots through the overview of the original Google Map and indicates exactly which direction you are “looking.”

It’s a fantastic and fantastical experience, really, but it is most certainly not Google’s invention. Attempts at similar capabilities by Microsoft Live Local and Amazon’s A9 arm, among other, smaller and independent groups and individuals, have had a smattering of success and failure with in situ panoramics or other similar map-linked immersives. True to form, however, the Google brand made Street View visible to probably many millions of users to whom such a system was completely new. And as with other Google apps, Street View seems to have weakened the knees of millions in the blogosphere to the tune of a collective, gasped exclamation that used words like “mind-blowing” and “unbelievable” to describe the Street View system. But this effusive response left me wondering if we’re really experiencing a revolution in mass geospatial information modalities or if I just spent 10 minutes sitting in my office looking at pictures of Subway restaurants and ugly people. I can do that on my own, so it seems to me that Street View is as good a tool as any to

check against what we take “GIS” and even “electronic mapping” to mean these days.

So let me jab Street View with a couple of different sticks to see if it squeaks out something that will help understand where this little utility really sits along that geographic information system continuum that stretches out between a map to a bathroom penciled onto a cocktail napkin and big-time, classic GIS.

Can I answer a question with it? Surely there are questions being answered with Street View. Other than “what would it look like if I was standing at x,y roughly a year ago?” I mean. Having said that, most use that gets reported and discussed seems to focus on strange sites, photographic anomalies, and naked people.

Does it educate? Actually, the more I think about it the more there really are uses appropriate in educational environments. Architecture students can visit several distinctly-designed San Francisco neighborhoods, for example. Or criminology students who want to examine or reconstruct Target Backcloth or some other environmental input to a crime could also use street-level imagery to infer information about neighborhoods that might not be apparent via other data (including ortho imagery, which has a tendency to make even dilapidated areas look rather lovely).

Does it increase our understanding of our world and our place in it? That is, does it say anything? Most certainly yes. Even if thousands of pictures of



Screenshot from Google Maps Street View

tailgates and stop lights don't say much in and of themselves, Street View as an entity, as an artifact, is a portal to a number of much larger questions and concerns that swirl around our lives almost constantly. Here are an easy three:

We struggle with issues of privacy that reach back to the founding of the country and that get dressed up in different clothes just about any time a tragedy occurs that may or

may not have been prevented given more advance information, almost always retrieved at the expense of privacy. Street View might be "mind-blowing" or "unbelievable," but for a woman captured by cameras entering a domestic violence shelter, it is nothing more than a privacy issue.

One of the most important players in the entire information industry is a sprawling, publicly-traded .com.

The pace at which our information

tools develop, evolve, and innovate can be measured by months, but the pace at which libraries are working to develop solutions to this proliferation of information and information tools is measured in years. The time span they must account for blows up into centuries.

Is it a map?

(See Also previous answer.) Maps as texts have forever revealed to historians and historiographers, among countless others, how civilizations perceived themselves and others. Ancient and not-so-ancient civilizations ascribed culture to maps and revealed through those documents surprisingly varied and complex conceptions of space, time, spirituality, empire, social and political hierarchy, and sometimes raging xenophobia. Well, so too will our modern electronic mapping tools speak truths about us to future generations. While it's easy to dismiss Street View as a novelty that does little more than call out gentlemen who happen to be snapped entering or leaving their gentlemen's clubs, it might be easier still to agree with Ricardo Padrón, who in his book [The Spacious Word](#), tries to elevate the utilitarian itinerary map drawn for common consumption (of which Street View is probably an example) to be included in the same discursive exercises usually reserved for more famous, more political maps from governments and explorers whose names are known to us still.

But is it GIS? Honestly, I don't care. Purism is for those with something to lose. Getting information onto and out of maps, or getting information about maps and geospatial data, is a

spacious problem, if you'll excuse the pun. There is enough room in there for anybody who can put their shoulder to the wheel and push toward a more free-flowing, semantically-arranged and -available, information world. True, this could be a slippery slope. If we start counting anything that has G and I and S in it at all, doesn't that include a number of applications that really are just party favors? How about the "Bono Probability Positioning System" (stunned.org/bono/googlebono.htm), which dynamically calculates the probability of seeing U2's Bono in any given Dublin location? And "The Sopranos Location Tour" (hbo.com/sopranos/map/), which siphons trivia and video clips from The Sopranos into a map of the NJ-NY locations featured in the show? Even "The Ultimate Interactive Google Maps Guide to Ghostbusters" (ironicsans.com/gbmap.html), which plots the on-location sites from Ivan Reitman's light, light 1984 comedy?

Short answer? Yep. For a GIS librarian with a background in humanities, who likes to read maps, analog and electronic both, as texts that tell stories and reflect culture and write portraits of our places and how we interact with them and, oh yeah, also allow us to answer complex geospatial queries, the answer is that Street View is GIS, that it is part of a GIS revolution, no less, and that it and others of its 2.0 ilk, are bringing electronic mapping to those who have plenty to show and tell about our environment but until recently did not have terribly democratic access to the tools that could help them show or tell. 

MAGERT Member Mary Larsgaard Honored With the Nancy B. Olson Award

On Saturday, June 23rd, 2007, Mary L. Larsgaard of the Map & Imagery Laboratory at the University of California, Santa Barbara was awarded the Nancy B. Olson Award by OLAC (OnLine Audiovisual Catalogers) for her contributions to the teaching of the cataloging of cartographic material. The award was given at their member-

ship meeting held during ALA's annual conference in Washington D.C.

The annual Nancy B. Olson Award was named for the founder of OLAC and honors a librarian who has made significant contributions to the advancement and understanding of audiovisual cataloging.

Katherine Rankin
University of Nevada,
Las Vegas Libraries 

New Maps and Cartographic Materials, Along with Other Items of Interest

David J. Bertuca, Map Librarian
University at Buffalo Libraries Map Collection

By the time you read this, the “dog days” of summer will have arrived. This is an important time in our past history and one that we do not notice today. Dog days have nothing to do with the heat of summer, nor some general period of the year. The dog days begin when the star Sirius, in the constellation Canis Major, first appears over the early morning horizon for the first time.

The ancient Egyptians marked this as the time of rebirth; the new year's beginning, timed with the Nile floods. Canis Major, the “big dog” was commonly considered a dog symbol by most ancient cultures. It is funny how things lose their importance as “progress” moves people to more “advanced” times. It is also funny, since today, we think of seeing Sirius in the winter, when it appears higher overhead, following closely on Orion's heels.

August is a time of beginnings still. If you are a student, it means the start of a new school year. Academics are starting their new year of assignments and coursework planning. So for the map world, August seems to be a good time to start looking at new maps and geographical publications.

What Is Geography?

The August 2007 issue of *Geographical* (Royal Geographical Society (Great Britain)) has an interesting piece on this question. The author asks a panel of geographers to describe the importance of geography and maps, and why it is important to learn (see the Books section below for a title that discusses this in-depth). "More Than Just Maps and Mountains" (44-47) supplies some thoughts that we all can appreciate.

Maps

A World Transformed. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Society, 2007. 2 maps on 1 sheet: col.; sheet 79 x 51 cm., folded to 20 x 13 cm. Scale: 1:4,560,000. 1 in. = 72 miles; Lambert conformal conic Proj.; Relief shown by shading.

The recent 400th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Jamestown colony has appeared in the news all year and this map, a supplement to *National Geographic* (May 2007) provides a visual source of cartographic data and aerial views of the region. The main map theme compares 1491, when Indian cultures thrived, and 1650, when Europeans took root. It shows the Virginia region before and after the appearance of the first colonists as well as the altering effects on the land and indigenous cultures caused by the divergent ways of life. Included are text, graph, and an ancillary map: "The Columbian exchange." On the verso are text and color illustrations on: "When cultures collided," showing a recreation of the Native American site Wereowocomoco and the European colony of Jamestown.

Readers of *National Geographic* already know of this map and have probably read the great article that focuses on the interactions (natural and man-made) that occurred upon the establishment of Europeans in the area. (See articles: *National Geographic* 211:5 (May2007): "1607 When Cultures Collided" p. 31; "America, Found & Lost" (cover story) by Charles C. Mann: p. 32-55; "Unsettling the Landscape" p46-49; and "What would you take to the New World?" by Karen E. Lange: p. 56-67). The entire issue is a very good ecological study and worth reading by anyone from high school through adults.

Gillespie, Raymond Royle Stephen A.; Gearty, Sarah. *Belfast c. 1600 to c. 1900*. Dublin: Royal Irish Academy, 2007 (ISBN: 1904890202). 1 map: col.; 108 x 95 cm., folded to 19 x 13 cm. +; 1 booklet (19 p.). Scale: 1:5,000.

Subtitled "the making of the modern city" this map is a visual depiction of 300 years of this northern Irish city. Drawn on an Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland base-map, this work is of interest to historians, geographers, city planners, genealogists, and anyone with an interest in Irish studies.

Jacobi, Christine. *Vancouver's Northshore Hiking Trails*. 5th ed. Vancouver, B.C.: International Travel Maps, 2006 (ISBN: 1553418832). 1 map ;; col., plastic-treated ;; 69 x 99 cm., folded to 25 x 11 cm. Scale 1:40,000. Relief shown by contours, gradient tints, and spot heights.

It's not too late to go hiking, and it's always worth going to British Columbia.

Late summer and early autumn are still good weather periods in the Vancouver area and this map is a perfect companion for hikers and day-trippers wanting a taste of the wilderness without the fuss. This map is well drawn in the quality ITMB style and comes with a water-resistant coating suitable for the region (which can be damp part of the time). Included are also notes on recreational amenities, some color illustrations and insets: Cypress Provincial Park – Capilano River Regional Park – Lynn Canyon.

De Tessian, Christina Henry; Wright, Bart. *City walks, Chicago: 50 Adventures on Foot*. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2007 (ISBN: 0811855589). 1 map on 50 cards: col.; 14 x 10 cm., in container 15 x 11 x 4 cm.

Stein, Elissa; Needham Dave. *City Walks With Kids, New York: 50 Adventures On Foot*. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2007 (ISBN: 0811857298). 1 map on 50 cards: col.; 14 x 10 cm., in container 15 x 11 x 4 cm. Maybe you won't want to hike in B.C. but perhaps walks through Chicago or New York or another big city are more your style. Chronicle Books has a series of city guides in a clever map "card" format that might be of interest. These compact maps are geared for travelers but some map collections may find them handy as well.

Each card has a location map on one side and walking tour information on the back. Packages include an accordion-folded pamphlet with a location index to help in finding the right tour map.

Ha Noi & Northeast Viet Nam. Vancouver, B.C.: International Travel Maps, 2007 (ISBN: 1553416406). 2 maps on 1 sheet: both sides, col.; 77 x 58 cm. and 84 x 68 cm., on sheet 85 x 69 cm. Scale: 1:18,000; 1:500,000. Depths shown by gradient tints on Northeast Vietnam map.

For current and accurate maps of many cities around the World, ITMB is a leader and this map of Hanoi and the Hanoi Metropolitan Area or Vietnam is a good example. The front side shows the city of Ha Noi; the verso shows Northeast Viet Nam. Included are indexes, an ancillary map of "Hanoi's suburb area," scale 1:500,000, a location map, and color illustrations.

Congressional Districts of the 110th Congress of the United States, January 2007-2009. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2007. 1 map: col.; 81 x 110 cm. Scale: 1:5,000,000; SuDoc: C 3.62/10:90/10/2007.

Congressional district boundaries are a popular theme for questions from students, teachers, administrators, and people from all interests. This map provides the best source for a quick check of the current districts and is also a great display map.

It shows "State, county, and statistically equivalent boundaries... as of January 1, 2000" and includes location map and lists of senate and house membership by state. Insets: [Alaska] — [Hawaii]; ancillary maps: Guam — American Samoa — Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands.

Global Map of HIV/AIDS 2007: Prevalence, Prevention and Protection. 5th ed. Bradford-on-Avon: Maplecroft, 2007 (ISBN: 1905070012). 1 map: col.; on sheet 42 x 59

AIDS and HIV are a global crisis that dwarfs many epidemics by its universal reach. This map provides an Epidemiological view of the World situation. It is suitable for inclusion in any collection or for display and includes text and color illustrations, plus five regional maps of HIV/AIDS prevalence.

For additional HIV maps, and maps of other diseases, visit this link: <http://www.davidbertuca.net/maps/e-maps-examples.html#dis>.

World Gas Map. London: Petroleum Economist, 2007 (ISBN: 1861862024). 1 map: col.; 92 x 117 cm. Scale: 1:23,000,000. Relief and depths shown by gradient tints.

Future fuel for the world is becoming more critical and this map will be helpful to geologists and economists searching for the answers to our energy situation. This map shows sources world-wide for natural gas, including undersea deposits.

The map also relies on satellite imagery and includes text, statistical tables, and graphs on 2005 production and reserves, as well as insets: United Kingdom — Trinidad & Tobago — Deepwater gasfields in the Gulf of Mexico (United States) — West Delta deepwater marine Egypt — Northwest Shelf (Australia) — East Kalimantan (Indonesia) — World gas production (2005) — World gas reserves (2005)

— World gas balance.

Bush, P.; Fuller K. *LNG & Gas Map of The Atlantic.* London: Petroleum Economist, 2007 (ISBN: 1861862415). Relief shown by shading.

Another map relating to liquid natural gas (LNG). Originally included in *Petroleum Economist*, January 2007. Includes ancillary maps: North East [sic] US — US Gulf of Mexico import terminals. Also had text and graphic data on LNG importers and exporters in the Americas, Europe and Africa. LNG imports and exports (Atlantic trough), export contracts and gas reserves.

Collins Whisky Map of Scotland: Scotland's Distilleries. London: Collins, 2005 (ISBN: 000718462X). 1 map: col.; 101 x 77 cm. Scale: [ca. 1:1,060,000].

If fuel prices have gotten you down, then perhaps these maps might be more appealing. Maps are drawn on as many themes as can be imagined, and this one, an update to an earlier map, shows all that the whisky connoisseur could want. The relief map shows the locations of distilleries in Scotland. Included are text, an index, and color photos of distilleries and selected labels. A map inset shows the Moray, Strathspey, Glenlivet region. Also included is data on the "Top ten scotch whisky export markets by volume 2003."

The Malt Whisky Map of Scotland. Glasgow: Angels' Share, 2004 (ISBN: 1903238420). 1 map: col.; 98 x 68 cm., folded in cover to 24 x 12 cm.

Also based on a relief map, the theme is Scotland's malt whisky industry. Insets: *Orkney — Shetland — Producing region boundaries — Key to Speyside Distilleries*. Text on the distilleries appears on the verso.

Online Maps and Internet Resources

National Hydrography Dataset <http://nhd.usgs.gov/>

Water resources in America are the most valuable asset to life. Studying water supply, stream and river flows, and measuring sub-surface water is a major concern of many government and private agencies. The National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) provides “a comprehensive set of digital spatial data that contains information about surface water features such as lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, springs and wells.” It is developing into a detailed view of U.S. surface water data and includes maps and data sets to assist further research into this resource.

The main GIS provides the entire U.S., from full-country down to under a mile and shows streams, rivers, ponds and lakes, watersheds, and related details. A layer of satellite orthophotos can be turned on or off to show locations of terrain and man-made features in relation to waterways. In addition, layers for basin, sub-basin, and a wide array of other layer types are available.

Additional layers make this database useful for more than hydrography. You can add layers for roads by class (i.e., state, county), add 24,000 scale quad

map index grid, show 109th Congressional district boundaries, as well as boundaries for counties, and for entities such as Indian reservations. The GIS redraws quickly and has all the usual features, making it a good tool for more than just water resource mapping.

Data sets can be identified and downloaded and there are a number of additional tools for hydrographers to work with. A tutorial is available for learning to use the NHD, and links to related sites and agencies provides a well-rounded site. I also recommended visiting “Surf Your Watershed” <http://cfpub.epa.gov/surf/locate/index.cfm>, which is part of the Watershed Information Network (WIN) Atlas: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/>. These provide almost everything available on water resources.

Roman Provincial Coinage Maps <http://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/maps/>

The Roman Provincial Coinage Online website (<http://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/>) at the University of Oxford, is a project to “...produce a standard typology of the provincial coinage of the Roman Empire from its beginning in 44 BC to its end in AD 296/7.” The database is based on the ten most important and accessible collections in the world, and on all published material. It comprises one of the largest collections of images and related inscriptions from the ancient world which is searchable by iconography, place, and time. Although the database and maps are still being developed, included at present, are over 13,730 coin types, based on 46,725 specimens (9,061 of which have images).

A great feature is the quality maps of ancient Greece, Turkey, and the Levant. Two versions (Flash and png) allow for interactive views of the map data, or static maps. Clicking on a site zooms into a map showing the site and giving details on coins found at the site, along with good color photos and data on each coin. This site is useful not only for coin enthusiasts, but also for historians and classicists.

New York City Subway Smell Map

<http://www.gawker.com/maps/smell/>

A Google Maps hack that was “created from reports sent in by Gawker [web-site] readers, the map displays particular smells—horrific and sublime—encountered throughout New York’s subway stations.”

This is an example of some of the more unusual maps being created on the Internet. The Google map can be zoomed, re-centered, and the satellite and other functions work as normal. Move the cursor over any station to see the station name, subway lines, and types of smells to be found there. Click on a station for a popup with actual reader smell reports. This map is highly subjective and subject to change given the nature of input data, but it does provide an idea of what is available for better or worse.

Richmond Postcard Views

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&om=1&hl=en&z=12&msid=105029579748581463987.00000111cc67013dcb96c&msa=0>

Another Google Maps hack shows views of old Richmond via postcards

from the VCU Digital Library. Choose from directory of places, or select flags from map to see each postcard.

Dallas History Sites

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&z=11&om=1&msid=105029579748581463987.00000111c8a8fe89818f9&msa=0>

This Google Maps hack shows the locations of historic buildings and sites in Dallas, Texas. Some of the selections include photographs of the building/site.

The Internet Power Structure, As Seen By Skilled Cartographers

http://www.mediabistro.com/unbeige/web/the_internet_power_structure_as_seen_by_skilled_cartographers_58267.asp

Somehow I did not include this in the past few issues and it seems like something that might be of interest to a lot of people. It is a map showing the Internet as it stands today, but at a visual level that anyone can understand.

Books

Akerman, James R. *Cartographies of Travel and Navigation*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006. (ISBN: 0226010740; Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., Lectures in the History of Cartography). ix, 372 p., [7] p. of plates: ill. (some col.), maps (some col.); 24 cm.; Bibl. (p. 291-346).

A collection of scholarly papers examining “...the relationship between travelers, navigation, and maps.” Histories of travel, road, and tourist maps are

few. This work is an overview of some of the themes on this topic. The main theme is United States travel/navigation mapping, but several papers deal with the concepts of travel mapping from earlier times. Many illustrations, some color plates provide descriptions to go with the papers. An extensive bibliography provides a comprehensive list of resources.

Contents: Introduction / James R. Akerman — Milieus of mobility : itineraries, route maps and road maps / Catherine Delano-Smith — Surveying the seas : establishing the sea routes to the East Indies / Andrew S. Cook — Mapping a transcontinental nation : nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American rail travel cartography / Jerry Musich — Twentieth-century American road maps and the making of a national motorized space / James R. Akerman — “Up in the air in more ways than one” : the emergence of aeronautical charts in the United States / Ralph E. Ehrenberg — Maps on wheels: the evolution of automobile navigation / Robert L. French.

Graham, Alma. *Discovering Maps*. Rev. ed. Springfield, N.J.: Hammond Inc., 2007 (ISBN: 9780843709537). Description: 1 atlas (79 p.): ill., col. maps; 28 cm.

“A children’s world atlas & guide to map reading”--Cover. How did you learn to read a map? When did you understand geographical concepts and terms enough to use a map correctly? This book has been designed to teach map basics. It focuses on learning map symbols and how to interpret these on maps.

base line 28(4): 18

This book is useful for elementary through high school learners, but could also serve to teach adults who have little map reading skills.

De Blij, Harm J. *Why Geography Matters : Three Challenges Facing America : Climate Change, the Rise of China, and Global Terrorism*. New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 2005 (ISBN: 0195183010). xii, 308 p.: ill., maps; 25 cm. Bibl: (p. 283-286).

“Over the next half century, the human population, divided by culture and economics and armed with weapons of mass destruction, will expand to nearly 9 billion people. Abrupt climate change may throw the global system into chaos; China will emerge as a superpower; and Islamic terrorism and insurgency will threaten vital American interests.”—Publisher.

Well-known geographer, Harm de Blij states that the best way we can prepare for these challenges is by improving our understanding of the world’s geography. In this book, he describes these three developments and what we can do to get ready for such major transitions of the near future. Each situation’s effect on the world is put into perspective using geography to study the history and interaction between nations, nature, and ideologies so that we can work toward solutions in a more alert manner.

These elements interact a great deal, as for example, climate affects economics, changes in population in countries like China affects production and consumerism, and needs drive people to change their way of viewing the world. The contents give an idea of the book’s

scope, and include:

Why geography matters — Reading maps and facing threats — Earth's changeable environments — Climate and civilization — A future geography of human population — The mesh of civilizations — Red star rising: China's geopolitical gauntlet — Terrorism's widening circle — From terrorism to insurgency — European superpower? — Russia: trouble on the Eastern front — Hope for Africa?

This book is good for most any audience from high school through adult reader and is quite useful for those studying world economics, population change, 21st-century studies, global climate change, and terrorism.

Eales, Philip. *Map: Satellite*. London: Dorling Kindersley, 2007 (ISBN: 9781405317627). 1 atlas (360 p.): ill., maps; 26 x 31 cm.

Earlier this summer I found the neatest book while shopping. *Map: Satellite* is a collection of photographs from space showing a wide variety of Earth locations. What makes this book a little different is that it shows a multitude of unique places and geographical features on the surface of the planet. The format is a little more like the popular literature, of which this book is (the cover has some images covered with lenticular lenses that "animate" the images beneath). But the beautifully reproduced images inspire awe and could stimulate the minds of anyone at any age.

This is a great book for any collection, and for any reader (and would make a great gift idea too). It is not designed to

be a scholarly work, but the images are a sublime statement on our Earth and every member of the planet should take the time to see it.

Turnbull, Alex; Turnbull James. *Off the Map: the Most Amazing Sights on Earth As Seen by Satellite: As on Googlesightseeing.com*. New York: Carroll & Graf; Avalon Publishing Group, Inc., 2006 (ISBN: 0786718633). 144 p.: col. ill.; 17 cm.

This book sort of complements *Map: Satellite* above, but is a bit different in that the remote-sensing imagery is from aerial views (both straight-down and oblique), and is taken from images used on Google Maps. The images show closer views of all sorts of sites, many of them more common but quite interesting. What these photographs show is that there are a lot of things that can be seen from the air that we would never know existed when standing on the ground beside (or beneath) them.

As a tool for research this might appeal to artists and to those studying popular culture, or modern communications, and the ways we try to be different (the cover image is of oil/chemical storage tanks from the air, showing that someone painted "happy faces" on top). It can be thought-provoking in ways that lead to creations by readers.

Donald, Stephanie; Benewick, Donald; Benewick, Robert. *The State of China Atlas*. 2nd ed. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005 (ISBN: 0520246276). 128 p. col. ill., col. maps; 25 cm. Bibl.: (p. 126).

"Mapping the world's fastest growing economy."—Cover. As witnessed

by the previous title, China is emerging as a major power and more books, atlases, and maps are appearing to help researchers, business and economics professionals, and anyone who studies the country and its place on the world stage. This atlas provides statistical data on all aspects of China, including social and economic conditions, government, and other topics.

The atlas is useful in all collections, but mainly of interest to business, history, and cultural studies researchers. The maps are visually clear and the data is relatively current. It is a good addition to any reference collection.

LaRosa, Michael Mejía P. Germán. *An Atlas and Survey of Latin American History*. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2007 (ISBN: 0765615975). 1 atlas (ix, 169 p.): maps; 29 cm.

For Latin and Central American studies, this book is very useful. It contains maps showing the history and changes in the Hispanic nations of the Western Hemisphere, providing a chronology in maps and data. This is a good book for high school, college, and adult audiences and can be useful in a reference collection.

Hayes, Derek. *Historical Atlas of the United States: With Original Maps*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007 (ISBN: 9780520250369). 1 atlas (280 p.): ill. (chiefly col.), maps (chiefly col.); 35 cm.

American historians will appreciate this book that uses more than five hundred historical maps from collections around the world, to show American history

from the point-of-view of geography. The book shows 500 years of U.S. history (post-Columbian) up to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. It includes maps and text on discoveries and explorations, political activities related to geography, along with how the United States succeeded because of its resources and geography.

The maps are well reproduced and contain full captions and text to describe America's past. Included are commentaries by explorers and pioneers along with text from many other sources to present a good visual history of the United States.

This atlas would be a worthwhile addition to high school, college, and adult audiences and makes a useful reference tool.

Wade, Tasha; Sommer, Shelly. *A to Z GIS: an Illustrated Dictionary of Geographic Information Systems* (2nd ed.). Redlands, Calif.: ESRI Press; Independent Publishers Group, 2006 (ISBN: 1589481402). xvi, 268 p., ill.

This dictionary contains more than 1,600 terms giving concise and clear definitions for GIS terms, acronyms and initialisms, and other concepts. Many terms have illustrations to make the meanings more clear

Terms have been selected from GIS operations such as analysis, data management, and geocomputation; from rapidly evolving uses of GIS for modeling, GIScience, and Web-based GIS; and the GIS foundation fields of cartography, spatial statistics, computer science, surveying, geodesy, and remote sens-

ing. Hundreds of subject-matter experts and GIS educators have reviewed the definitions, ensuring the authoritative coverage that is a necessity for managers, programmers, users, and students discovering the interdisciplinary nature of GIS.”

Ayto, John and Crofton Ian. *Brewer's Britain and Ireland*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2005 (ISBN: 030435385X). xxix, 1267 p.

“The History, Culture, Folklore, and Etymology of 7500 Places in These Islands.”--Cover. More than a dictionary of place names in the British Isles, this work provides histories and descriptions on the places, as well as an introduction to the names, and the languages of the Isles. The book contains the main dictionary, plus three appendices: 1. Investigating Place Names, 2. Administrative Names, and 3. Church and Ecclesiastical Names. A series of maps show general aspects of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and a glossary includes common terms used in many place names.

Brewer's Britain and Ireland is a great source for geography studies (especially Irish and English), historians, writers and literature researchers, and for travelers.

Bright, William. *Native American Placenames of the United States*. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 2004 (ISBN: 080613576X; alk. paper). xviii, 600 p.; 26 cm.; Bibl.: (p. 587-600).

I enjoy reading and using gazetteers, geographical name and term

dictionaries, and place name books, and this book is, to me, a great addition to the field. *Native American Placenames* contains names, words, and terms with Native American origins. Its scope covers the United States, though there are some references to Canadian names where there is overlap of tribal cultures. Included in each entry is such information as word meaning, origin (tribe or group), and reference to the word or phrase. The location that uses the name is also included (e.g., *Sisnathyel* Mesa in Sandoval County, N.M.; from *sis nateel*, a Navajo (*Athabaskan*) word meaning “wide belt”). A pronunciation guide is included and entries show how to pronounce each term. The extensive bibliography is worth looking at too.

This book is a valuable tool for collections from high school through adult. It is especially useful to geographers, Native American studies researchers, linguists and anthropologists, historians, and for local history studies. Scharl, Arno and Klaus Tochtermann (Eds.). *The Geospatial Web: How Geobrowsers, Social Software and the Web 2.0 Are Shaping the Network Society*. London: Springer, 2007 (ISBN 1846288266; Advanced Information and Knowledge Processing Series). xiv, 295 p. : ill., maps ; 25 cm. Bibl.: (p. 257-286).

Table of Contents: <http://www.geospatialweb.com/contents>; publisher's information, contents, introduction, and a sample chapter: <http://www.geospatialweb.com/>

“The Geospatial Web will have a profound impact on managing

knowledge, structuring workflows within and across organizations, and communicating with like-minded individuals in virtual communities. The enabling technologies for the Geospatial Web are geobrowsers such as NASA World Wind, Google Earth and Microsoft Virtual Earth. These three-dimensional platforms not only reveal the geographic distribution of Web resources and services, but also bring together people of similar interests, browsing behavior, or geographic location.” —Editors.

Audiovisual Materials

Wilby, Sorrel; Bruce, Stuart.
Wet Tropics. Terry Hills, N.S.W.:
Australian Geographic, 2006 (Best of
Australia; v. 1). 1 DVD (52 min.).

Rain forests can be found in almost every continent on Earth and have been under pressure from population growth and development, as well as from natural changes in climate and weather. The

Australian rain forests are one of that continent’s curiosities, and the study of their ecology is of great interest and concern.

This DVD (a supplement to *Australian Geographic*, issue 81, Jan.-Mar. 2006) shows the ecology of the rain forests in Queensland. It gives details on the entire ecosystem, including trees and plants and animals.

This is both enlightening and entertaining, and is good for those who wish to see this environment up close, if only on their television. It is appropriate for all ages and is a good video for inspiring creative thoughts on ecology and the wild.

Conclusion

I hope that your summer was good and that September is a time of renewal. Thank you again for your interest in new maps, atlases, and other items from the geography/cartography world.—DJB



Alice C. Hudson, Chief, Map Division, New York Public Library, makes a point during her presentation at the “Library Security for Maps” program at the Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

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