



base line

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.

Editor: Mark Thomas, Public Documents and Maps Dept., Perkins Library, Duke University Box 90177, Durham, NC 27708-0177 Tel: 919/660-5853 FAX: 919-684-2855 E-mail: markt@duke.edu

Production Manager: James A. Coombs, Maps Library, Southwest Missouri State University, 901 S. National, #175, Springfield, MO 65804-0095 Tel.: 417/836-4534 E-mail: JimCoombs@smsu.edu

Cataloging Editor: Rebecca L. Lubas, Special Formats Cataloging Librarian, 210B Hayden Memorial Library, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139 Tel: 617/253-7564 E-mail: rll@mit.edu

Electronic Mapping Editor: Tsering Wangyal Shawa, Geographic Information Systems Librarian, Digital Map and Geospatial Information Center, Geosciences and Map Library, Guyot Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544 Tel: 609/258-6804 FAX: 609/258-1274 E-mail: shawatw@princeton.edu

New Maps and Books Editor: Fred Musto, MapM JimCd in Pr
T Cataloging , G

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American Library Association personal and institutional members may choose MAGERT membership for \$15.00 (personal) or \$45.00 (institutional) by so advising the American Library Association, 50 W. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

MAGERT OFFICERS:

Chairperson:

Susan Moore, Rod Library, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 50613
Tel: 319/273-3661 FAX: 319/273-2913 E-mail: susan.moore@uni.edu

Vice-Chairperson (Chair-Elect):

Tsering Wangyal Shawa, Geographic Information Systems Librarian, Digital Map and Geospatial Information Center, Geosciences and Map Library, Guyot @ n Moore

FROM THE CHAIR

Susan Moore, University of Northern Iowa

Hello fellow MAGERT members.

As the newly inducted chair of the Round Table, I'd like to start with a brief introduction. My name is Susan Moore and I am a catalog librarian and bibliographer at the University of Northern Iowa. Map cataloging is part of what I do, and I also manage to do the occasional instruction sessionnd essi



DAVID YEHLING ALLEN RECEIVES 2004 MAGERT HONORS AWARD

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The Map and Geography Round Table of the American Library Association is proud to give its Honors Award for 2004 to David Yehling Allen. This award recognizes lifetime achievement and contributions to map and geography librarianship. David just recently retired from his position as Geosciences and Map Librarian at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and his library career was with achievements and contributions to map librarianship. Speaking for myself, my future retirement goals don't go much beyond volunteering at the local animal shelter, but as you will hear, even in retirement, David Allen plans to continue these lifetime contributions.

David is a 1966 graduate of University of California, Berkeley, where he obtained a B.A. in History. David then earned both a Masters and a Ph.D. in History from Columbia.

In 1977, David earned an MLS from Columbia and began a library career that very much reflected this interest in history. Aside from a brief stint elsewhere in 1978, David spent his professional career at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, beginning in 1978 as a reference and government publications librarian. In

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tion Technology Association), PARS (Preservation and Reformatting Section of ALCTS), WESS (Western European Studies Section of ACRL). David was Chair of MAGERT in 1998-99 and was a member and recent Chair of MAGERT's Education Committee. He has been a member of or participant on many MAGERT committees, including GeoTech and Publications. David was the first webmaster for the MAGERT website, and was also the MAGERT liaison to the Joint Committee on the Preservation of Rare and Endangered Government Publications. He was one of the first librarians to digitize maps and put them on the Internet. Reflecting that fact, he was guest editor of Meridian's issue #17, an issue devoted to digital imaging of cartographic materials, and

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ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

Rebecca Lubas, MIT

MAGERT Cataloging and Classification Committee

Sunday, June 27, 2004
Orlando, FL

1. Welcome and introductions (Nancy Kandoian)

Nancy welcomed committee members and guests. 21 people were present, including 8 committee members.

2. Minutes

Minutes of the Midwinter Meeting appeared in the April

3. Committee membership (Nancy Kandoian)

Welcome to new member Richard Fox from the Library of Congress, who was not able to be at the meeting.

Nancy announced that there would be a poster session of interest to map catalogers on the following day set up by University of Florida librarians, entitled "Problems with Places in Library Catalogs." (It proposed the introduction of the 034 field into authority records for place names for the consistent designation of coordinates to locate places authorized in the 151 field.) Dan Seldin announced that he had recently been authorized to enhance OCLC records for cartographic materials.

After we went around the table introducing ourselves, we continued with reports and committee business. We varied the order of agenda items to accommodate those who had to leave early and to discuss topics when related points were raised.

4. *base line* cataloging editor report (Rebecca Lubas)

Minutes will appear in the August issue. Please feel free to email rll@mit.edu with column ideas.

5. ALCTS CCS/MAGERT Map Cataloging Discussion Group report (Rebecca Lubas)

The discussion group held a map cataloging question and answer session. There were 21 in attendance. A transcript of the discussion will appear in the ~~October~~ *base line* \$

6. Anglo-American Cataloguing Committee on Cartographic Materials report (Elizabeth Mangan)

, 2nd edition,
has been available since November.

Richard Fox are LC G&M's new representatives to the committee, replacing Barbara Story. A revised agreement on the committee is in the process of being signed. The revision updates the names of the

leaving 752 for descriptive access use only. There will be a revised proposal at Midwinter suggesting which 6xx to use, and including expanded definition of subfield usage. Library of Congress has revised the booklet,

. Because of new 13-digit ISBNs, LC is making subfield of the 020 field repeatable again. The first subfield will contain the 13-digit number, and the second subfield will contain the original 10-digit number. OCLC will not be able to accommodate this, so it will use the 024 field, indexed the same way as 020, for the new 13-digit numbers.

12. OCLC report (Nancy Kandoian for Elle s Eloff s o]

11. RBMS report (Larry Creider)

Visitor Larry Creider reported on the work of the Bibliographic Standards Committee of RBMS. The gamma version of their revision of the rare materials cataloging manual for books is available on the web at www.folger.edu/bsc/dcrb/dcrmtxt.html. A survey to find out to what extent libraries use AACR2 rules 2.12-2.18 for cataloging early books, instead of DCRB, led to the discovery that many libraries do use those rules. A joint task force of CC:DA and RBMS, considering the survey results, is talking about the possibility that all appropriate chapters of AACR3 integrate rules for the cataloging of early forms of their materials into their texts, the way does for early maps.

We discussed the appropriateness

Schedule to access the maps which are in color. is updated weekly.

3. LCRI 2.5C2

LCRI 2.5C2 states for LC practice:

. This provision allows catalogers to use rather than in the physical description area for books which have maps in them. The Cataloging Policy and Support Office contacted the Geography and Map Division whether we would accept a change to the LCRI that would note the presence e / ent

MAGERT EXECUTIVE BOARD I

Orlando, FL June 26, 2004

Present: Steve Rogers, Dan Seldin,
Mary McInroy, T. Wangyal Shawa,
Susan Moore, John Olson, Scott R.
McEathron, Mike Furlough, Betsy
Eggleston, Tammy Wong, Iris Taylor,
Jordan Scepaniski, Michael Leach

Minutes of ALA Midwinter 2004 meet-
ings were approved.

CPPQWPEGOPVU

Mary McInroy announced the Map
Libraries in Transition II Confer-
ence which will be held in May, 2005 at
the Library of Congress. Members of
CUAC are planning the conference and
are asking the cooperating organiza-
tional members to contribute \$100 each
to defray planning expenses. Voting on
the expenditure was delayed until the
Executive Board II Meeting, to be held
on Tuesday.

The field trip for this conference will be
to AAA headquarters in Heathrow, Fla.
The bus will leave from the Renais-
sance Hotel on Monday, June 28, at
4:00.

QNF"DWUKPGUU"

Library of Congress Geography and Map Division

At the AL AL /

Round Table Coordinating Assembly Meeting

Steve Rogers attended an ALA Round Table Coordinating Assembly meeting on Friday, June 25. One issue that was discussed at the meeting was Round Table endorsement of candidates for ALA offices. Round Table chairs and liaisons were reminded that while endorsements can be made as messages sent to listservs, ALA funds can not be spent for the purpose of endorsing candidates. The group also discussed making their listserv more active in order to better distribute information.

Budget Analysis and Review Recommendations

On Friday afternoon Steve Rogers, Mary McInroy and Mike Furlough met with MAGERT's Budget Analysis and Review Committee liaison Carol Kem, Pat Smith, chair of BARC, and Teri Switzer, ALA treasurer. The meeting was arranged due to ALA's concerns about MAGERT's ongoing declining budget balance. BARC projected that at the current rate of spending combined with the current income, MAGERT's fiscal health will be in precarious condition within two years. If this happens, ALA will not provide extra funds to bail the round table out. Carol suggested that we discuss how we could (1) add to our income and (2) curtail expenses. Her ideas included increasing dues, more aggressively soliciting corporate sponsorship for programs and receptions, and limiting money spent

on equipment for conferences. This might mean holding fewer programs. It was also suggested that we consider making electronic only.

Members of the Executive Board discussed these ideas. It was agreed that an effort should be made to keep in print and the suggestion was made that we could sell advertising. Scaling down receptions and looking for more corporate sponsorship for them was also considered.

Steve also passed on information from the meeting with BARC representatives that all contracts must go through ALA.

ALA Councilor for the Smaller Round Tables

Jordan Scepanski, ALA Councilor for the Smaller Round Tables, introduced himself and described his role vis-a-vis MAGERT, which is to take our issues back to the ALA Council and to keep us informed on issues that are coming up in the ALA Council. These include such topics as electronic voting for ALA officers, the situation of Cuba's independent libraries, RFID technology, and the Patriot Act. Jordan will inform the ALA Council of any positions that the smaller round tables would like to take on various issues and will let us know how he voted. He will try to get to board meetings regularly.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,
Betsy Eggleston, MAGERT Secretary



CUAC functions in an advocacy capacity as liaison between the U.S. agencies producing cartographic products and CUAC's constituency. CUAC's representatives meet in the Washington, D.C. area annually with most of these agencies. Each representative establishes and reaffirms contact with one or more agencies. These contacts are continued throughout the year by phone and mail. Questions are directed to CUAC

from each organization as a group, or individually, and responses and reports are made back to each organization formally and through MAPS-L.

The CUAC website can be found at <http://cuac.wustl.edu/>.

Paige Andrew
David Deckelbaum
CUAC Co-chairs 2003/2004



HIGHLIGHTS OF CUAC 2004 BUSINESS MEETING

Note: All twelve CUAC members were present at the Business Meeting

The Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC) Annual Meeting was held May 6-7, 2004 at the U.S. Bureau of the Census in Suitland, Maryland. The business meeting was held May 6, 2004 from 9:00 AM. – 4:30 PM. Tim Trainor, Director of the Census Bureau's Geography Division, welcomed the group and also started the day with a presentation on Geography Division activities. In his remarks, he emphasized our mutual interest in the acquisition and distribution of cartographic products as information. He also mentioned the increasing difficulty of assuring that maps produced by the government are deposited in library collections as mandated by law. Other highlights of the business meeting are:

- **FGDC Homeland Security Working Group Report:** CUAC liaisons and Working Group members Linda Zellmer and Wangyal Shawa assisted in creating "FGDC Guidelines for Providing Appropriate Access to Geospatial Data," available on the FGDC website at http://www.fgdc.gov/fgdc/homeland/FGDC_access_guidelines.pdf. Public comment for the guidelines ends June 2, 2004, and in beta tests seem to be working well. A final document will be approved this summer for use by all federal agencies creating, using, or storing geospatial data.
- **National Research Council's Study on Licensing Geographic Data and Services:** Wangyal Shawa is the CUAC liaison to the National Research Council, which is actively working on this study. Highlights of the study include:

digital data will be preserved. One suggestion was that CUAC needs to create and maintain a liaison position with the GPO, as appropriate, in order to find out about proposed CRADAs in a timely manner.

- A volunteer was requested to serve as a contact for the document “Draft Recommended Specifications for Public Access Workstations in Federal Depository Libraries.” The volunteer needs to review the current document, and serve as a contact for future revisions. Wangyal Shawa volunteered to assume this responsibility.
- CUAC organization/structure review: CUAC needs to provide information about meetings earlier and a set of form letters needs to be developed to assist CUAC chairs and members in their duties. Action Taken: Bruce Obenhaus volunteered to work with others to see that the

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software used for this purpose. Proposed changes to the FDL, which could become a digital repository, were discussed by the GPO representatives at the Agency presentations the following day.

Next CUAC meeting: Potentially May 10–11, 2005 at the Library of Congress,

followed by “Map Libraries in Transition II” conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Andrew
Co-Chair, Cartographic Users Advisory Council

CARTOGRAPHIC USERS ADVISORY COUNCIL

2004 Annual Agencies Meeting

May 7, 2004

Bureau of the Census, Suitland MD

CUAC Representatives

Paige Andrew, Pennsylvania State University, SLA

David Decklebaum, University of California, Los Angeles, WAML

Donna Koepp, Harvard University, ALA/GODORT

Mary McInroy, University of Iowa, ALA/GODORT

Clara P. McLeod, Washington University, St. Louis, GSIS

Bruce Obenhaus, Virginia Tech, SLA

John Olson, Syracuse University, ALA/MAGERT

Joanne Perry, Pennsylvania State University, NACIS

Daniel T. Seldin, Indiana University, NACIS

Wangyal Shawa, Princeton University, ALA/MAGERT

Christopher J. J. Thiry, Colorado School of Mines, WAML

Linda Zellmer, Indiana University, GSIS

Agency Presenters

Doug Vandegraft, Chief Cartographer, Division of Realty, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

John Hébert, Chief, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress

Marian Brady, Data Access and Dissemination, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Carol Brandt, GIS Program Manager, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Department of Transportation

Milo Robinson, U.S. Geological Survey/Federal Geographic Data Committee

Michael Cooley, Cooperative Topographic Mapping, U.S. Geological Survey

Betsy Kanalley, Staff Cartographer Geospatial Services Group, U.S. Forest Service

TC Evans, Deputy Superintendent of Documents, Information Dissemination Organization, USGPO

Robin Haun Mohamed, Development Project Manager, USGPO

Agenda: Friday May 7th
Agency Reports

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and introductions (co-chairs)

the changing technologies, societal
needs, and organizational relationships



A lot of what has emerged is the basic framework datasets (7): geodetic control, ortho-imagery, elevation, transportation, government units, cadastral, and hydrography. The focus is on getting some of these datasets up and running; making progress engaging the states and territories, and promoting effective data sharing.

Sub-Goals:

Focus on implementing the standards; transportation standards have been developed and need implementation. Want real data being transferred between Federal agencies and to their partners.

Delivering the Message: by 2007, the NSDI will be recognized as the primary source for relevant and dependable geospatial data. Example: Dieticians have the need to know about GIS now appearing in the professional journal of dieticians. Geo-spatial One-Stop was mentioned. This is one of the goals,

out there that can be brought into the organization and the application is short an uncomplicated.

extendable to support Open GIS Web Mapping (or feature) Standard 1.0. FGDC assists in providing training and

– Metadata Training
Assistance

Intended to provide assistance to metadata trainers with funding up to \$30,000 available. Must be available to travel regionally and nationally and have metadata expertise. Objectives are that organizations are trained and metadata is created and served up through clearinghouse. Intended for state-level clearinghouses to send out personnel as trainers within the state/region.

– NSDI Institution Building

This is a new category. Support provided to consortia to develop or strengthen existing multi-organizational strategic plans for development and maintenance of shared digital geographic resources. Foster the establishment of cross-organizational (working outside normal community group) efforts that develop and advance the NSDI within a specific geographic area. Funding proposals up to \$15,000, fairly flexible as to proposals. Eligibility: consortia of public and non-profit organizations. Envisions programs such as workshops, speakers brought in for presentations.

– Clearinghouse
Integration with OpenGIS Web
Mapping Service Objective

Deploy web map and feature client and server software for linking to and viewing geospatial data from metadata in the NSDI Clearinghouse utilizing embedded URL map requests. Operating web map server software

a USGS state liaison and if funding is sought, the USGS state liaison must be included in the proposal. Funding is available up to \$75,000.

Check out the FGDC Web site. \$1.55 million is available to be divided among the grant requestors.

U.S. Geological Survey, Cooperative Topographic Mapping Michael Cooley

The National Map

Within the Geography discipline program The National Map is the most critical USGS program. We are presently harvesting data that is available rather than producing it in-house. This is a very significant shift for the Survey. This year, we will be putting a significant number of people from our production centers out into the field closer to the sources of data. We are talking to cities, counties and other government agencies to locate and obtain data.

Graphic products produced from The National Map are being produced from a non-tiled data set. This is fairly critical. Before, with the quadrangles, all of the information was tiled. In the future, that will not be the case. Graphics will be produced where and when they are needed with only the information that is requested. Printing and distribution will be done by the private sector, as is being encouraged

by the current administration, which is trying to move things that can be done by the public out to the public. We are committed to working with our partners, and consider the library community to be one of our partners. We want to have a dialog with libraries. We also need to work through the rest of The National Map process, for example the model for the delivery of graphics will be different than what we have today.

There will be a seamless reference layer at 1:24,000 from which a small resolution scale could be easily derived. Once a user identifies what is needed, they will go through The National Map order process to get a collarless or collared Digital Raster Graphic. For those areas that are very popular, especially for our business partners who might want to stock a graphic and print it on demand, we'll produce a graphic color plate which will then be taken to a printer. All of this will be done through a staged FTP site.

The National Atlas

Another aspect of The National Map is our small-scale component, the National Atlas www.nationalatlas.gov. At some point in time, the National Atlas and The National Map will be brought closer together so that it is more seamless. Right now the Atlas is addressing a different user community than the National Map. As the two grow, it is expected that they will grow together.

that are available online. Prior to this, USGS did not have a good way for the general public to determine what publications were available, especially in the Open File Reports, which contain recent scientific information made available before it is published as a formal report. This includes information from all disciplines, such as geology and water resources.

Some of the new products that have or will come out include posters of Glacier Bay, Under San Francisco Bay, and the Color-Coded Contour Map of Mars. The

map has been very popular. A new map in the "Geographic Face of the Nation" series is also available.

USGS is also distributing products for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA, formerly National Imagery & Mapping Agency). They are producing a set of posters with maps of battlefields that they have used in displays. They have a series of historical maps available including maps of Antietam Battlefield, Armistice Day (WWI), D-Day, Normandy Air Campaign, Philippines, and Iwo Jima. Michael Cooley was not sure if these posters would be coming through the Depository Library Program.

Questions and Comments from CUAC:

: Given the plan to contract for printing, will these materials continue to be available through the Depository Library Program?

: USGS is presently just

gathering information about the printing capabilities in the private sector. What will change is if USGS puts out a Request for Proposal (RFP), to replace the present system. The Depository Library Program and working with libraries is critical to USGS. If USGS puts a new system into place, we will make sure that all of the products that are still printed are available in the Depository Library Program.

: Frequently, when CRADAs have occurred, things drop out. We don't hear about CRADAs until after they have been signed.

: CRADAs (Cooperative Research & Development Agreements) are different and usually deal with specific products that we are trying to work on with the private sector. Some CRADA products deal with proprietary information that we cannot really release to the public. If we go out on an RFP for distribution, the outside organization will be taking over or working with USGS to do the printing, distribution, storage, or some aspect of it. They will be taking over or working with USGS. We can certainly control it and make sure that libraries continue to receive information.

: There is a difference between inks used for maps on demand vs. something coming off of a lithographic press. Is USGS looking into producing materials for the Depository Library Program through a print on demand process?

: As it is right now, when we

while as data is continually updated, we may lose older data. That is our concern. The 1970 Census data is available at Princeton. The Census Bureau is now asking Princeton for that data because they no longer have it. If data is distributed through the Depository Library Program, later on you will have 100 or so libraries with the data. Universities also have storage space and are interested in retaining older data for researchers use. This is a role that libraries in Universities can play. When you have data that you will no longer serve, or when you have new data, it is critical that at least one library in a state gets that data so it is available somewhere outside of Washington, D.C.

: This is obviously a major issue of concern to libraries. If there is a way that CUAC can bring this up as a separate topic with USGS, we could address some of your concerns specifically and what we might be able to do. Keven Roth would be a better person to address these issues and our direction regarding these issues.

: You spoke about the publications warehouse where Open-File Reports can be downloaded. What format is the data of these Open-Files?

: We are scanning at 400dpi as TIFF uncompressed, then compressed using LizardTech DjVu compression software. What USGS is doing with the Open-Files is getting a record of them up on the Internet so that they can be found. A lot of them have not yet been scanned and put into a digital format. USGS is in the process of scanning them. The hope is that this

will be done within the next year. The other thing that we are doing is cleaning out all of the older Open-Files. Open-Files are supposed to be a 5-year temporary storage for products before they are officially published in one of our series. So we are going ahead and getting them scanned, cleaning out the older ones, and getting them online. That should be done this year. When that is done, as to what format they will be in, I am not sure. The scanning is being done from paper and mylar, rather than fiche. USGS focus at present is the report-style Open-Files rather than the maps.

: As part of The National Map Distribution Concept, when someone orders a map you output a 500 dpi file. What is the reason for deciding on that resolution?

: USGS has run a series of tests where we've taken a lithographic map and scanned them at various resolutions. What we have found is that for the storage and printing technology available, for 99% of the graphic products available, 500 dpi works fairly well. Some maps with closely spaced contours or high density areas might require a higher resolution, so they will be produced at a higher resolution. It is based upon a random sample of scanning graphics at various resolutions. When we ran the tests, this resolution was best for the printers and technology that we had available. This gives the best quality at the smallest file size possible.

The CUAC minutes will continue in the next issue.

**AUSTRALIAN MAP CIRCLE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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The morning session will be devoted to the presentation of papers. Tuesdays technical sessions will involve visits to view selected material at the Bureau of Meteorology and at the Victorian Archives Centre of the Public Record Office. The Conference Dinner will be held in the evening.

Morning presentation of papers. The afternoon technical sessions will include a hands-on session utilizing a variety of GIS tools. The Conference will conclude with the Annual General Meeting.

Call for Papers

The Conference Committee invites proposals for papers. Each presenter will be allotted 30 minutes, excluding question time. The conference venue contains all presentation facilities, including MS compatible PC (for PowerPoint, internet access, etc.), data projection, slide and O/H projectors. Please submit proposals for papers by 30 September, 2004. Proposals should include a short abstract, affiliation details, brief biography, requests for any special facilities, and contact details.

Details of Registration and Accommodation

A registration brochure will be distributed in early October. Exceptional accommodation facilities (including individual en suites) will be available at Graduate House in the newly-completed facilities.

Presenters are encouraged to submit their papers for inclusion in the Circle's peer-reviewed and DEST-listed journal .

Contact:

Greg Eccleston
2005 AMC Conference Convenor
Tel: 03 9509 4686
Email: eccleston37@bigpond.com

David Jones

NEW MAPS AND BOOKS

New Maps

Swiss Made

Karto Atelier, based in Switzerland, is a small publisher that maintains the Swiss tradition of high-quality mapping. Their series of Gecko Maps is modest in number, but eclectic to say the least. As would be expected most cover mountainous areas, such as Tibet, Nepal, and the Pamir region of Central Asia. But they also issue nice maps of Greece, Cambodia, and Iraq. The new edition of their popular map of Baghdad was ground-checked in April of 2004 (no doubt by a courageous map maker). One side features a detailed 1:25K street map of the city, with a street and building index, while the reverse has a 1:9K map of the city center identifying government, public, and religious buildings, and a 1:850K map of Baghdad and vicinity. \$12.95 from MapLink and Omni, and worth acquiring even if you have other maps of that city.

All of Karto Atelier's 15-or-so maps are of interest, but of special note is their 2004 map of the Pamirs, the remote mountain range situated largely in Tajikistan. The striking 1:500K, 26 x 38" map includes trekking routes and, on the reverse, interesting information about the Pamirs. Also available is a slightly older (1996) map of Lenin Peak, one of the highest mountains in the region. The 100K map is contoured at 100 meter intervals. Indicative of the remoteness of this area is the fact that

just four base camps and a few climbing routes are the only man-made features on the map. Both of these maps sell for \$15.95 from MapLink, which also carries the full line of KA products. <http://www.maplink.com>

Destination Africa

Following up their recent (mentioned in the April 2004 , National Geographic has begun adding African locales to its series of Destination Maps and Adventure Maps. The Africa collection debuted with seven Destination Maps for Cairo, Cape Town, Dar es Salaam, Durban, Johannesburg, Tunis, and Victoria Falls/Livingstone. A Destination Map for Rabat/Casablanca is due to be released later this year. The first of the Adventure Maps, which cover larger areas, is for Cape Town and the surrounding peninsula.

The Destination Maps, which are printed on tear-resistant, waterproof paper, feature a detailed street map with much tourist and travel information. Drawings in 3-D style show famous buildings and landmarks, and the reverse side includes regional maps, top attractions, airport diagrams, travel tips, an inset transit map, multilanguage legends, and detailed indexes. The Destination Maps retail for \$8.99, the Adventure Maps for \$9.95, from major vendors or from the National Geographic Online Store. shop.nationalgeographic.com

ITMB has recently issued new maps for two African countries, Niger and Swaziland.

Like most ITMB products, these are good and serviceable, if not great, maps. Niger is done at a 1:2M scale, measures 27 x 39", and uses hypsometric tinting for elevations. It's indexed, has a small inset map of the capital Niamey, and also shows a number of wells (water, not oil), important in this very arid country. At only \$8.95 it would be a useful addition to all collections, since the only other readily available map of Niger is a 1993 edition from the French IGN.

The same can be said of the ITMB map of Swaziland, which, because of the country's small size, is done at a 1:250K scale. It has an inset street map of Mbabane and, except for some additional tourist information, is similar in look to the Niger map. The only other single-sheet map of Swaziland seems to be one from the Survey Department of Swaziland, 4th edition, 1988, reprinted 2000, which Omni lists for \$18.95.

Norway

For those wanting better coverage of Norway that a single-sheet map provides, Omni is offering a set of attractive new maps of the country from

Spain's civilian survey organization. The roads are shown on a topographic base with 100-meter contour lines and relief shading, and additional coloring indicates various vegetation types. The maps measure about 39 x 39", have 15' longitude and latitude ticks in the margins, and are overprinted with the grid for the Spanish 1:50K topo survey. Outside the provincial boundaries only the main roads are shown, with no topographic information whatsoever. They are updated periodically at various intervals, with the latest editions seemingly done in 2000, but some of the 48 maps are occasionally out of print. Stanford's offers them at £5.95 each; Omni's price is \$14.95 but a complete set is a deal at \$300.

Briefly Noted

The Lewis & Clark item for this issue is "A Map of Lewis and Clark's Track, from the First Edition of The Journals of Lewis and Clark," a reproduction produced by the American Philosophical Society. The original

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New Books and Atlases

H*istoric maps of Armenia* Rouben Galichian. London; New York: I. B. Tauris, 2004. 232 p. \$75 (ISBN: 1860649793)

This very attractive work provides an overview of the mapping of Armenia,

for \$14.95. A smaller "Pocket Atlas" edition, measuring 8 x 5" is also available for \$10.95, and for those whose eyesight may not be what it used to be, there is a "Large Type" edition with the same information but a 40% larger type size for \$19.95. All versions of the atlas are fully indexed in borough-by-borough format.

Humboldt's Cosmos: Alexander von Humboldt and the Latin American Journey That Changed the Way We See the World. Gerard Helferich. New York: Gotham Books, 2004. 358 p. \$27.50 (ISBN: 1592400523).

Epic Wanderer: David Thompson and the Mapping of the Canadian West. D'Arcy Jenish. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 309 p. \$29.95 (ISBN: 0803226004).

In a departure from the usual books dealing primarily with maps, these are two interesting biographies of notable explorers who also made maps. The German Alexander von Humboldt, while not as well known today, was a movie-star-famous scientific hero of the early 19th century, admired all over the world.

focuses on his incredible journey through Latin America in 1799 to 1804, the first scientific expedition of that area. Based largely on Humboldt's own works, this lively story of great hardships, amazing adventures, and wondrous discoveries makes for great reading. Humboldt was also a talented cartographer, charting over 1000 miles of the Orinoco River and compiling the most accurate maps of New Spain (Mexico), but unfortunately his mapping accomplishments are barely touched upon in the book. This is a very lively and infor-

mative work, highly recommended for anyone who enjoys accounts of real-life adventurers.

is the story of David Thompson, a Canadian fur trader, explorer, surveyor, and mapmaker who spent nearly thirty years (1784-1812) roaming the Canadian West for the Hudson's bay and North West Companies. Several times he crossed the Rockies and made it all the way to Oregon and the Pacific, serving his employers as a surveyor and mapmaker. He filled the void in maps of his time, and his huge "Map of the North West Territory of the Province of Canada to Oregon," finished in 1814 but unpublished, was the best of that area. Based on Thompson's journals, letters, and his published story of his life, this is a well-written, popular account of a man whose exploits in the harsh extremities of the wilderness are difficult to imagine today. Another good read for admirers of intrepid explorers and those interested in Canadian history.

Maps, Myths, and Men: The Story of the Vinland Map. Kirsten A. Seaver. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004. 480 p. \$65, HC, \$24.95 pbk. (ISBN: 0804749620, cloth; 0804749639, pbk).

Kirsten Seaver has been a persistent and long-time critic of the authenticity of the infamous Vinland Map (which, in the interest of full disclosure, resides at this reviewer's home institution).

eloquently summarizes everything there is to know about the map, from its first appearance, mysterious provenance (or lack

thereof), and early attempts by Yale to publicize it, to the controversies it created, the many arguments against its authenticity, the possible reasons for its creation, and the actual forger.

In this long-awaited work, many years in preparation, the author has done a masterful job of research into all aspects of the map. It's beautifully written, well-argued, and generally fair-minded, except perhaps for the conspiratorial tone she seems to find in the early attempts to validate and promote the map. She occasionally exhibits a tendency to criticize early enthusiasts for jumping to conclusions without substantial evidence, while at times does the same herself, and she is adamant in her own opinions, but often denounces others for similar behavior. And like many authors trying to prove a point, she sometimes overemphasizes arguments that support her view while dismissing those which do not.

But she has a story to tell and tells it well, marshaling her facts into a mostly convincing case. She digresses only slightly from her objective, mainly in her long chapter on "The Norse in and near North America" which she uses to show off her considerable knowledge of the Norse and their languages and to criticize those without her linguistic skills who dare to opine on the VM. Every test and argument used to validate or disprove the map, as well as all the people involved, are discussed in great and often fascinating detail. But unlike some critics of the VM, Seaver goes beyond arguing why the map is a forgery to determining who created it.

In what is probably the most controver-
base line 25(4): 38

sial and interesting part of the book, she identifies the forger as the Father Joseph Fischer, a German Jesuit academic and cartographic scholar who lived from 1858 to 1944 and supposedly created the map in Austria in the troubled years before the outbreak of World War II. She goes to great length to describe how his educational background, interest in Norse discoveries, and access to maps and relevant materials make him the obvious choice. Perhaps most telling of her investment in this theory is her statement that "only one person" could possibly have created the VM and that person was Fischer.

While her arguments for Fischer are circumstantially convincing, they don't necessarily preclude another unknown perpetrator with similar qualifications. Her weakest argument may be in regard to Fischer's motivation, which she vaguely conceives to be a desire to somehow tweak the Nazis. In a considerable stretch she imagines that the book containing the fake map was pilfered from the school library where Fischer worked in March of 1938, when German troops briefly invaded the school, and eventually made its way into the murky world of looted war treasures.

See New Maps on page 41

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e!

Aside from its questionable conclusion, this book is a wonderful product of impressive research into a question that has vexed and irritated map scholars for decades. The work is heavily footnoted, and Seaver rarely makes a statement without some cited support. She has obviously read and digested everything that has been written about the Vinland Map and the Norse, and her 25-page

bibliography is the most comprehensive on the subject. While

may seem like more than most people would want to know about the VM, it so well-written that it often reads like an historical mystery. Taken together with

(2d ed., 1995), it will provide most librarians and map aficionados with everything they need to know about this notorious cartofact.

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