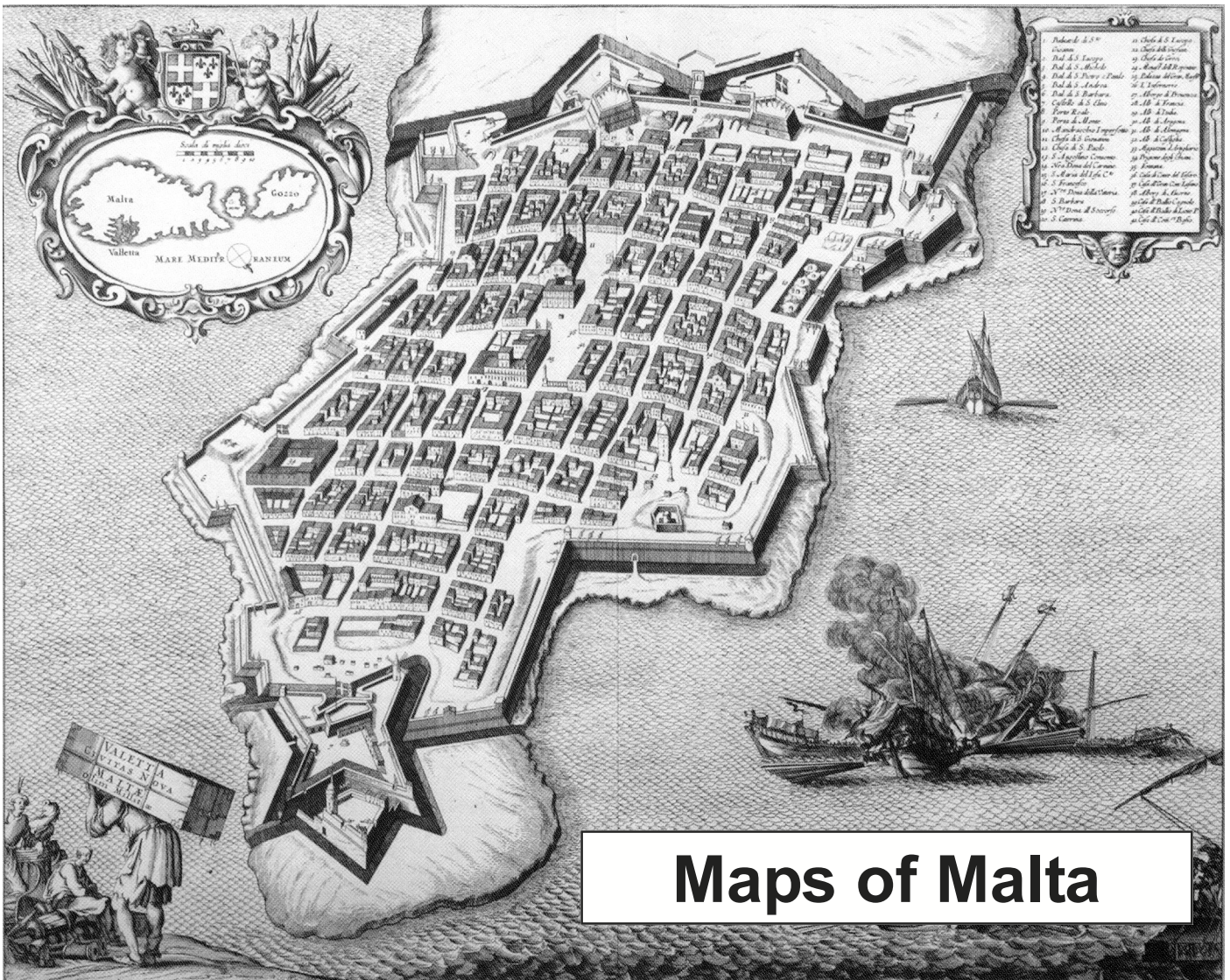




# BIMCC Newsletter No 33 January 2009

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## Also in this issue:

- Baarle: a cartographic puzzle
- Reports on recent cartographic events
- ... and the usual departments



## EDITORIAL

Dear Map Friends,

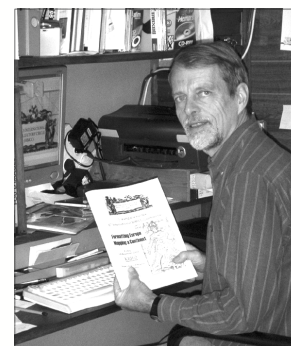
The main article in this first Newsletter of 2009 takes us south — in the heart of this cold winter — for a discovery of the history of Malta through its cartography; this follows the presentation made by Dr Albert Ganado, at the BIMCC *Mare Nostrum* Conference, back in December 2002 (the second part of this long article will appear in the May Newsletter).

Closer to home, we have other examples of the interaction between history and cartography with the imbrication of enclaves around Baarle at the Belgian-Dutch border (presented by Caroline De Candt and Eric Leenders) and with some aspects of the history of Valenciennes, at the Belgian-French border, which shed some light on the 16<sup>th</sup> century plan, from the *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, that I have taken as 'Map of the Season'.

We do have a number of articles on the history of cartography in the pipe-line (see page 27), but we would welcome new contributions from other members or friends of the BIMCC for future issues; we also need proposals for 'Maps of the Season'... Do not hesitate to contact me and to discuss your ideas.

Happy cartographic year,

Jean-Louis Renteux  
Editor  
editor@bimcc.org



PS: Please make life easier for our treasurer: pay your 2009 membership dues NOW!

## Contents

### Looks at books

**History of Cartography of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern...** 4

### History and Cartography

*Maps of Malta, focal point of the Mediterranean* 5

*Enclaves in Baarle-Nassau & Baarle-Hertog. A cartographic puzzle* 9

*Cities of the world* 14

**Plan of Valenciennes, 1581 ('Map of the season')** 14

**ICA Symposium: Shifting Boundaries – Cartography in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries** 18

**CFC colloquium: Maps, Climate, and the Environment from Antiquity to Present** 19

### BIMCC news

**BIMCC Autumn Excursion to the Leiden University Library** 12

**BIMCC Study Session** 20

**BIMCC Programme 2009** 22

**International news and events** 23

**Auction calendar** 29

Cover: Johannes Janssonius. *VALETTA CIVITAS NOVA MALTAE olim Millitae*. [Amsterdam, 1657]. 407 x 507 mm. A beautifully engraved decorative bird's eye view of Valletta (Malta), unsigned and undated, copied from Matthäus Merian's map of the 1630s, based in turn on Francesco dell'Antella's map of 1600 published in Giacomo Bosio's history of the Order of St John. Published in *Theatrum celebriorum urbium Italiae*.





## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

The eleventh year of the BIMCC, organized by a partially renewed Executive Committee and President, has passed. Let us look together at what has been achieved and draw some conclusions.

In the first place a society such as ours must be considered a pleasant way to exercise our hobby, namely our interest in maps. Therefore one needs some fellow members ready to spare some time in order to keep the interest in maps at an adequate level. We also need a group of scholars willing to support us in order to give qualified scientific depth to our activities. I consider myself fortunate for I have been blessed by both requirements.

The BIMCC organized under professional guidance an exhibition on the history of the 17 Provinces of the Low Countries at the Mercator Museum in Sint-Niklaas. We counted almost 1000 visitors over a two month period. There followed a most interesting and lively visit to the library of the University of Leiden (see page 12). A most enthusiastic Study Session was shared by 50 members (see page 20). From the six years of Latin I ever followed, I will remember only the one on *Latin on maps*.

All these activities show the importance of cooperation between us, the amateurs and the scholars. They offer us their knowledge and we give their profession a public hearing.

The Newsletter is evolving slowly but steadily towards more substantial articles. In my Presidential message in May 2008, I pleaded for members to pick up their pen and to start writing about their beloved maps. The response was positive.

If I have not mentioned any name in this message it is because I want to emphasize how much running a society is the work of an entire group. I also plan to promote a certain cooperation between the existing journals in England and the Netherlands. At a time when Europe is growing, the BIMCC should also start thinking about coordinating cartographic efforts.

Happy New Year

Eric Leenders  
President



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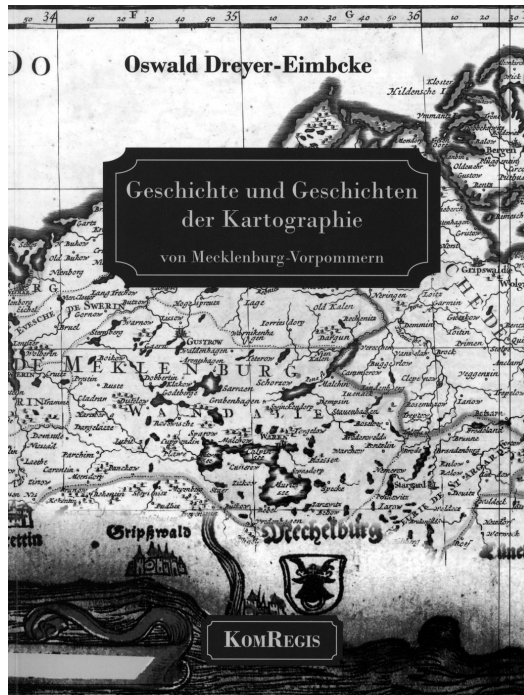
## **Geschichte und Geschichten der Kartographie von Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (History of the Cartography of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Stories about its Maps) By Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke**

Oldenburg (Germany) : KomRegis Verlag, 2008. Pp. 232, with 46 colour and 79 b/w illustrations, 24 x 17.5 cm, paper-bound.  
ISBN 978-3-938501-02-3. To order : KomRegis Verlag, Paulstrasse 7a, D-26129 Oldenburg, Germany, [www.service-druck.net](http://www.service-druck.net),  
[komregis@t-online.de](mailto:komregis@t-online.de), tel. +49 (0)441 570 01 69 , EUR 29.00

Regional cartography is a complex issue in most parts of Europe, and particularly so in Germany. We are here being introduced to a part of North Germany that has continually changed hands, was split up and redesigned repeatedly. To simplify: the ancient Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg and the former Prussian province of Pomerania together occupy a stretch of land bordering the Baltic Sea roughly from Lübeck in the west to just short of Gdańsk, formerly known as Danzig, in the east. When the border with Poland was established in 1945 along the Oder-Neisse rivers, the part of Pomerania to the West of the Oder (with the exception of the area around Szczecin, previously Stettin) became Vor-Pommern or 'the beginning of Pomerania'. Both German provinces were combined after the reunification to become, in 1990, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, one of the sixteen *Länder*.

Following a general introduction the author reviews, as can be expected, the first representations of this region on Ptolemaic maps and other medieval and renaissance manuscripts and prints by Adam von Bremen, Claudius Clavus, Nicolaus Cusanus, Erhard Etzlaub, and a few other, lesser known mapmakers. Sea charts by Olaus Magnus, Jan van Hoerne (or Hoorn), Cornelius Anthonisz., and Lucas Jansz. Waghenauer document the importance of the Baltic Sea as a busy zone of trade before merchant interests began to focus on the more lucrative East Indies. The presentation of maps by Münster, Stella, and the 'classical' cartographers of the Dutch school (Mercator-Hondius-Janssonius, Blaeu, Visscher, de Wit) complete this part of the book on the golden era of cartography.

Town plans and views are the subject of an important chapter since it lays emphasis on a number of Hanseatic towns that have become favourite tourist centres in the recent past. Among them are Greifswald, Rostock, Stralsund, Wismar, to name just



a few. Schwerin, the capital of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, receives particular attention here. In connection with these historical places reference is made to two fictitious towns, Vineta and Reric – quite a fascinating story, 'documented' on ancient maps too.

Rügen, the largest German island, has a chapter to itself, as has the historically important wall map of Pomerania by Eilhard Lubinus (1617). In the chapter on Swedish cartography we learn about first hydrographic charting and land surveys carried out by surveyors in the service of the Swedish aristocracy that administered large parts of North Germany in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Returning to German cartography, we find

separate chapters on Homann and his contemporaries, on the beginnings of modern triangulation and on Prussian marine cartography. Reflections on mapping in times of the former DDR and on recent cartographic developments, also in the interest of tourism, complete this compendium of wide-ranging historical topics. It demonstrates once again the vital role well selected maps can play when it comes to illustrating the complicated course of history. Dreyer-Eimbcke's encyclopedic knowledge of local records is matched by a presentation of a host of local cartographers who receive well-deserved credit here.

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Dr Albert Ganado, who was a Speaker at the BIMCC *Mare Nostrum* Conference in December 2002, has kindly accepted that his text would be reprinted in the BIMCC Newsletter. This formed the core of a brochure published in Malta on the occasion of the formal opening of his collection of Malta maps in the National Museum of Fine Arts in Valletta (see 'News' in BIMCC Newsletter No 32), in the context of the *Notte Bianca* on 4 October 2008; this brochure included a complimentary message from Lawrence Gonzi, Prime Minister of Malta: *'The White Night opens a new window on the cultural and artistic life of Malta and its people. This year the 'Auberge de Castile' (the office of the Prime Minister of Malta) hosted the first exhibition of a few maps of Malta from the Albert Ganado Collection acquired by the State a few months ago. The Government feels honoured to have this priceless collection of 450 Malta maps and, on behalf of the Government and the people of Malta, I want to thank Dr Ganado for his endeavours and for the contribution he has made towards the goodwill of our national patrimony. Each map exhibited contains a wealth of information and the Government is committed to preserve carefully and exhibit the collection, which harks to the past but which I trust will instill in us an engagement to secure all the time a better future.'*

## Maps of Malta, focal point of the Mediterranean

Notwithstanding its strategic position at the centre of the trade routes joining the east and the west of the Mediterranean, Malta does not seem to have had any particular importance, commercially or militarily, till the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. That is probably why there is no medieval separate map of Malta, although the archipelago figures on the portolan charts of the inland sea, whether they are Christian or Muslim.

The early portolan charts led to the production of the Italian *Isolari*, or atlases of islands, at first of the Mediterranean and later of the whole world. The earliest surviving *Isolario* was made by Cristoforo Buondelmonti (c. 1385 - post 1430). It is entitled *Cristophori de Bondelmontibus liber insularum Cicladum ad Jordanem cardinalem*, extant at the Royal Library of Escorial in Spain. It consists of 176 folios and dates to the early part of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. There is in this Codex the first known separate map of Malta, measuring 130 x 120mm, but it was inserted in the Codex about half a century later, probably in the 1470s. The map's legend along the head reads: *Melita insula in qua ciuitas eiusdem nominis est. Unde*

*catellos mellitos appellari callimachus auctor* – The island of Malta in which there is a town which has the same name. The writer Callimachus says that the small Maltese dogs are named after it (Callimachus of Cyrene, a Greek historian and poet, flourished in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC). This map is being reproduced for the first time in a book on the 16<sup>th</sup> century mapping of Valletta which I will be publishing in the near future.

In the early 16<sup>th</sup> century a Turkish corsair and naval captain named Pīrī Re'īs (c. 1470 - 1554) made a significant contribution to Turkish civilization and to the science of geography. He compiled in the 1520s various editions of a kind of guidebook on navigation – *Kitāb-i bahrīye*. The second known manuscript map of the Maltese islands, in more than one version, forms part of this atlas. Pīrī had sailed along almost all the Aegean and the Mediterranean coasts and studied all the important harbours. At the time, however, Malta had not yet come into its own as the focal point of the Mediterranean.

The harbinger of the change of fortune for the Maltese islands was the capture of Rhodes by the

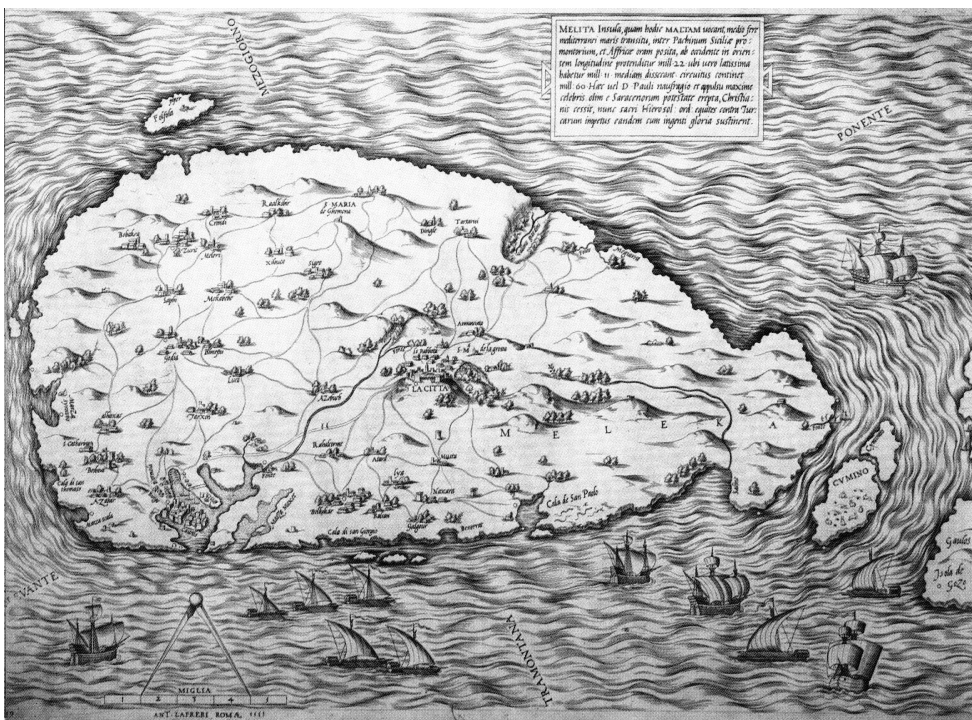


Fig. 1 - Antonio Laferri (1512-1577). *MELITA Insula, quam hodie MALTAM uocant ...* Rome, 1551. 322 x 472 mm. Copper-engraved, fish-shaped, extremely accurate map of Malta, showing the road system and 14 landing places marked with small circles. The first known dated map published by the renowned Laferri. Primitive contemporary colouring. A precious item.



Turks in 1522. The Knights Hospitallers were allowed to leave with full military honours and they started looking around to establish their new seat on a small Mediterranean island: Elba, Minorca, Ibiza, Ischia and Ponza, but the choice finally fell on Malta mainly because of its strategic situation and its *bellissimi e capacissimi Porti*, although the island itself was considered arid and sterile.

When the decision was taken to accept Charles V's offer of Malta and Tripoli, the Council of the Order studied a map of Malta — how it was obtained is unknown — and the intention was formed to fortify Mount Sceberras, the peninsula jutting out from the main harbour on which Valletta was eventually built. In 1524 a Commission of eight knights was appointed to visit and survey both Tripoli and Malta. I hazard to guess that the 1551 Lafreri map of Malta (Fig. 1), which is highly detailed and accurate, was borrowed from the map no longer extant drawn up by the Commission. The errant Knights made Malta their island home in 1530.

At that time the frontier in Eastern Europe dividing Christian and Turk was rather fragile, but, as Braudel points out, the coast of Naples and Sicily was a military zone of a very different kind. Its strategic importance was derived from its position on the central axis of the Mediterranean Sea, prolonged by the formidable Christian base at Malta to the Barbary Coast. Malta was the link between Europe and Africa, as Tripoli until 1551, and La Goletta in Tunis until 1574, were still Spanish possessions. Christendom aimed mostly just to contain the wars of aggression in the East, preoccupied as it was with its own transatlantic expansion. Malta was the umbilical section of the barrier which prevented the might of the Turkish Empire from subjugating the Western Mediterranean.

As such, Malta had to become known to princes, scholars and military experts. From this stage onwards, the cartography of Malta started marching on a parallel with the island's history.

It was only six years after the Order settled in Malta that the first printed map of the island was issued in Lyons. It was a woodcut in the first-ever printed description of Malta by Johannes Quintinus, a Chaplain of the Order and a writer on geographical themes, published in 1536. This map gave prospective Knights and interested readers a rough idea of what Malta, Gozo and Comino looked like.

In 1551 a Turkish armada under Sinān Pasha and the corsair Dragut attacked the Maltese islands. Gozo was sacked with its whole population (about 5 000) being taken away into slavery. This heavy *razzia* projected Malta into the European limelight. As Sinān Pasha went on to conquer Tripoli, the prolongation of the defensive frontier from the toe of Italy now stopped at Malta. The island therefore became more important than ever as a bulwark of Christendom. Antonio Lafreri, on the eve of entering into a business relationship with Antonio Salamanca in Rome, was quick to cash in on the news value of the event; he brought out instantly the map I mentioned before. It was the first dated map published by Lafreri. Shortly

after, it was copied by Donato Bertelli who issued it in Venice. These events could not fail to attract the attention of Giacomo Gastaldi, known as the father of Italian cartography. He designed a map based on the Quintinus model, depicting Malta as round-shaped instead of fish-shaped, but he included new elements from firsthand information. The map was engraved by Fabio Licinio and printed in Venice. It is very similar to another anonymous Venetian (?) map of the period.

The idea formed in 1524 to fortify Mount Sceberras was mooted over and over again after the Knights settled in Malta, but it was only when Jean De Valette became Grand Master in late 1557 that positive steps were taken. Through his efforts, the Duke of Urbino, Guidobaldo II della Rovere, sent to Malta his own engineer, Bartolomeo Genga, who had made a name for himself in the field of architecture and military engineering. In 1558 Genga prepared a model in relief and made a drawing of the proposed new city. Unfortunately, Genga died soon after and the project came to naught. His drawing is extant in my collection. Another attempt was made in 1562 when the great Cosimo de' Medici volunteered to lend the Order his own celebrated engineer, Baldassare Lanci, who submitted a scheme different from Genga's. De Valette enlisted the wholehearted support of Pope Pius IV for the building of the new city. As a result, a Papal Bull was proclaimed throughout the Christian world granting a plenary indulgence in the guise of a full Holy Jubilee to all the faithful who offered contributions for its construction.

In the wake of these events, which had a wide international dimension, a number of maps of the island were printed and circulated. The first one, unsigned and undated, seems to have been made in Rome. It advertised Malta as the seat of the Order and gave some basic data. Clearly, it was based on the Lafreri map of 1551 but the shape of the island was grossly distorted. A second state was soon published, highlighting the proposed enceinte of the new city. A revised version of state 1, with slight differences, was issued, probably in Venice; the copperplate then passed to Giovanni Francesco Camocio, who added his imprint to the plate. Subsequently, this latter map was re-engraved, probably by Ferdinando Bertelli in 1562, as it is in the style of the maps of Corsica and Sardinia which are so signed and dated.

Papal Bulls granting indulgences were issued both in 1562 and 1563. As the attention of the faithful was thus forcefully drawn to the fortification of the peninsula astride the two main harbours of Malta, a pictorial representation of the proposed city fortress would be the best means to promote the cause. At the behest, perhaps, of the Order's Ambassador in Rome a plan of the harbours was printed and disseminated in Rome in 1563 illustrating the enceinte of *La noua cittade* which had been delineated in 1558 by Genga. Although unsigned, it probably came out from Lafreri's workshop. Some other map dealer copied this map, using the same title, legend and date, but not mentioning Rome as the place of publication. It was probably done in Venice. These were the first printed maps of the main harbour of Malta.





Meantime, reports kept coming in from the Order's network of spies in Constantinople that preparations for a naval expedition on a grand scale were being carried out with the utmost diligence. Consequently, the Order found it too adventurous to embark on the ambitious project of fortifying the peninsula named Mount Sceberras. The money was spent on the improvement of existing defences. This decision was providential as it enabled the Hospitallers and the Maltese to resist and bring to a successful end the Great Siege of 1565, which lasted from May to September. Voltaire wrote that nothing was so well known as the siege of Malta.

Between June and December 1565 no less than 53 picture-maps of the siege were published in Italy, three in Germany, three in France and one in Antwerp by Hieronymus Cock dated 24 October 1565. Yet, the proposed city fortress was still fresh in everyone's mind. So much so that it was depicted or referred to on at least six siege maps. These picture-maps were disseminated throughout Europe. For instance, the military engineer Francesco De Marchi, who was serving the Duchess of Parma in Brussels, was being regularly supplied with the picture-maps published in Italy; indeed, when he was organizing the festivities in Brussels to celebrate the marriage of Prince Alessandro Farnese and the niece of the King of Portugal, he decided to illustrate the siege of Fort St Elmo in the fireworks display.

As Braudel points out, the loss of Malta to the Ottoman power would undoubtedly have been a disaster for Christendom. The whole of Europe therefore, with the exception of the Venetians, had every reason to rejoice and celebrations of victory rippled across Europe. In Malta, De Valette was convinced that Suleyman the Magnificent would endeavour to wipe out the humiliating defeat of 1565. Consequently, he decided that the erection of a city

fortress on Mount Sceberras had become a vital, compelling and urgent necessity. Always willing and keen to help, Pope Pius IV sent his own engineer, Capitano Francesco Laparelli from Cortona, to draw up plans for the purpose. Laparelli arrived in Malta on 29 December 1565 and in a short while (probably on 14 March 1566) he delivered his first drawing which I found, preserved, but unknown and forgotten, at the Biblioteca Angelica in Rome. It will be published in the book I have written on the history of the mapping of Valletta in the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

The foundation stone of the new city fortress was laid on 28 March 1566. The city was named VALLETTA. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of June Laparelli submitted to the Grand Master a detailed report accompanied by four other drawings. These were found by Paolo Marconi in the archive of Laparelli's descendants and they were made public in 1970. The first of these four drawings, like the Angelica drawing, shows the proposed enceinte of Valletta, while the proposed layout of the new city appeared on the other three. After the spate of maps of the Great Siege published in Italy in 1565, it was now the turn of Laparelli's plan of the new city. Print-makers in Rome and Venice flooded those centres with picture-maps of Valletta's enceinte. Among the first in the market were Antonio Lafreri and the Palombis (probably Pietro Paolo and Ascanio) in Rome, Paolo Forlani and Domenico Zenoi in Venice. Lafreri and Forlani, in particular, carried on their maps a long legend which reproduced almost word for word Laparelli's report of 18 June submitted to the Grand Master.

These graphic representations of the new city fortress were not merely intended to be sold to a market of people eager for news or the latest development in fortification; they also served the fund-raising campaign to collect money for the building of Valletta. Indeed, Lafreri's map in state 1 was used in

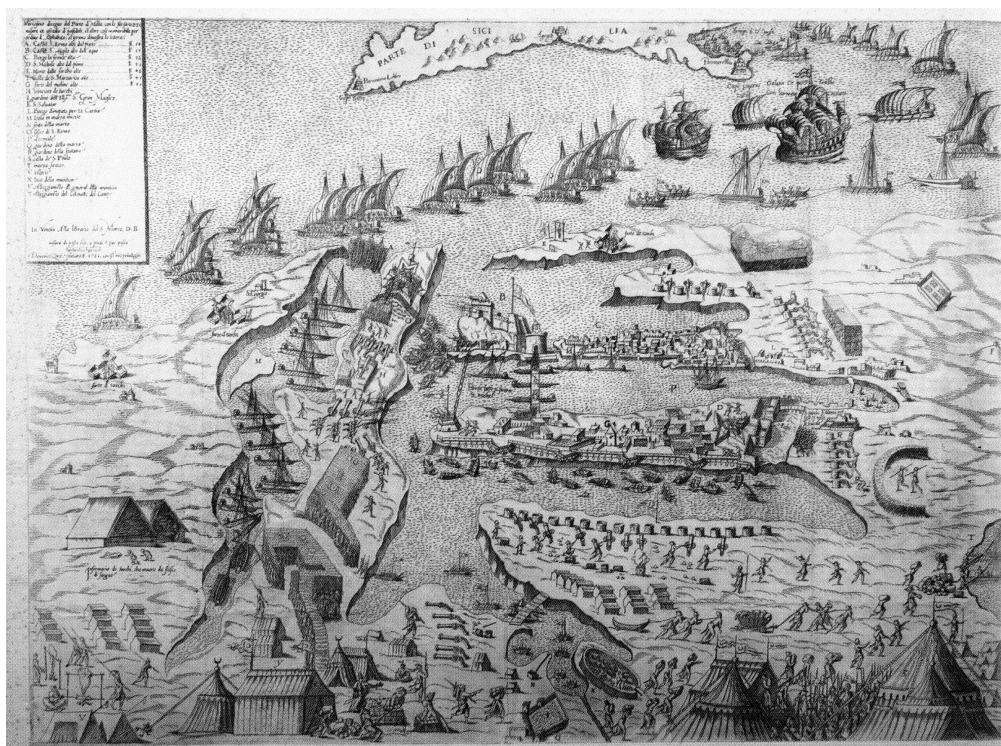


Fig. 2 - Domenico Zenoi (fl. 1560-1580).

*Verissimo disegno del Porto di Malta... In Venetia Alla libreria del S. Marco. D.B. [September 1565]. State 2. 377 x 520 mm.*

This is an updated version of state 1 of Zenoi's map showing the sea and land assault on Senglea, and the preparations of the Catholic fleet in Sicily to come to the relief of Malta.

In this state it carries the imprint of Donato Bertelli (fl. 1558-1592). Unique, as it is the only known example.





Fig. 3. Pieter van den Keere (1571-after 1646). *DESCRPTIO PEREGRINATIONIS D. PAULI APOSTOLI...* Amsterdam, c. 1618. 365 x 510 mm. Undated map signed: *Petrus Kaerius Coelavit* and published in *Joannes Janssonii Novus Atlas sive Theatrum Orbis Terrarum... Tomus VI* (recto of pp. 55- 56). It was made after the map of Abraham Ortelius, dated 1579, which depicts the travels of St Paul and show up Malta as the focal point of the Mediterranean.

churches (and perhaps other places) as part of the marketing exercise. In the empty space of Laparelli's enceinte, Lafreri printed in letterpress on a number of copies the Pope's appeal to the public to contribute generously. All faithful Christians were urged to support the building of a city fortress on the island of Malta, 'the shield of Italy and the whole of Christendom against the infidel'. Those willing to help could contribute by putting money in the boxes placed for the purpose in various churches.

In 1567 the first town book ever was published in Venice by Paolo Forlani, preceding by two years Giulio Ballino's book, and by five years the monumental work of Braun and Hogenberg. Alongside a map of Malta and a siege map, Forlani published a plan of Laparelli's scheme VALLETTA NOVA CITTA DI MALTA. An avant-lettre of this copper engraving (an extremely rare cartographic item) is in my collection. Forlani's plate was later used by the Bertellis for their isolari, with the addition, eventually, of plate number '74'. Ballino, on the other hand, published Zenoi's plan (Fig. 2) which included vignettes of workmen cutting and dressing blocks of Malta stone and the Grand Master conferring with six knights on the works in hand. In 1572 Braun and Hogenberg based their map of Valletta harbour on Cock's siege map of 1565, but instead of showing Laparelli's enceinte on Mount Sciberras they depicted Baldassare Lanci's scheme of 1562.

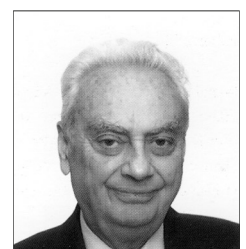
De Valette died in 1568, while Laparelli died young only two years later. The building of Valletta for the next twenty odd years was entrusted to the Maltese engineer and architect Girolamo Cassar. As regards the fortification of the city, however, Philip II of Spain was concerned that it might not stand up to a massive attack, especially after the loss of Tunis and La Goletta in 1574. Malta had now become the

southernmost frontier facing Africa, surely the most important bulwark of Christendom, a barrier to infiltration in Sicily and Italy. The King was anxious to bring Laparelli's enceinte to perfection as more than one expert had pointed out certain defects. Over the years various engineers were invited to submit their views: Pompeo Floriani, Giulio Cesare Brancaccio, Ludovico Cesano, Tiburzio Spannocchi, Scipione Campi. All their reports were supported by maps, some of which are extant in the archives of Venice, Naples and Simancas in Spain. This shows how vital Malta's safety was for the safety of the Mediterranean.

Many other plans of Valetta and maps of Malta, printed or manuscript, were made in the sixteenth century. I will only mention a few. When Abraham Ortelius published the first modern standard atlas in 1570 he included a map of Malta on the same plate with Sicily, Sardinia, Elba, Corfu and Gerbi in Northern Africa; the Malta map was based on Lafreri's map of 1551. The title of the composite map was *Insularum Aliquot Maris Mediterranei Descriptio*. Ortelius' map was used by Gerard and Cornelis de Jode in 1578 for the composite map which showed Malta alongside Sicily, Corsica, Sardinia, Corfu, Cyprus, the Balearics and Mitylene. In 1595 William Barentz published a map of Sicily dated 1594 which includes the Maltese islands, as well as an inset of Malta harbour.

[To be continued  
in Newsletter No 34 ]

Albert Ganado  
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## Enclaves in Baarle-Nassau & Baarle-Hertog. A cartographic puzzle

Enclaves are geopolitical entities that need to be carefully designed on maps. Indeed, as an enclave is a rather small piece of land, enclosed in another country<sup>1</sup>, topographical precision is a key to peace. To keep that peace, the boundaries of both countries have to be defined with high precision, sometimes up to a metre, to avoid legal trouble.

Enclaves are the remains of local medieval politics, often the result of war or hereditary problems. They were frequent until the Congress of Vienna (1814-1815) reorganized Europe after Napoleon's overthrow. Today, there are still some examples in Europe, like the Vatican and San Marino within Italy and Llívia, a 1.9 km<sup>2</sup> Spanish enclave in the French Pyrenees. Swiss enclaves are not rare. Well known is the Büsingen enclave. It's a German territory with approximately 1000 inhabitants located in Switzerland. Campione d'Italia is an Italian enclave in Switzerland and Samnaun is a Swiss enclave within Austria.

Most of the enclaves have adapted well and developed first as smugglers' paradises and later as tourist centres. Enclaves are political entities and therefore not eternal. Some live on for centuries, others are short lived. Berlin is such an example. West Berlin was an enclave within the old DDR, from 1945 until the fall of the Wall on 9 November 1989. Even the West Berliners possessed some enclaves outside the Wall, e.g. Steinstücken, the old summer palace.

Belgium and the Netherlands have their own enclave. Our northern frontier runs from Vaals until the *Zwin* nature reserve on the coast. Somewhere along this line, there is a peculiar situation that might deserve a place in the Guinness Book of Records. Baarle-Nassau and Baarle-Hertog together form a village, located in the Netherlands a few kilometres from the frontier. With 30 intricate pieces of land it forms a cartographic puzzle. Belgian and Dutch territories alternate and are even located within each other: enclaves within enclaves. The Belgian municipality of Baarle-Hertog consists of 22 pieces of land within the municipality of Baarle-Nassau (The Netherlands) and the village of Zondereigen. Baarle-Nassau consists of 7 exclaves in the Belgian part, one enclave in Zondereigen and the villages of Castelré and Ulicoten. There is even a quadripoint, of which there are only three in the world.<sup>2</sup>

It is therefore not always easy to know to which country a parcel belongs. The common rule says that the location of the principal entry door of the house



determines the nationality of that piece of land. If a door is located on Belgian territory, then the whole house is Belgian, even if the remaining part of the house is located in the Netherlands. There is an exception, the front door of a particular house being divided by the frontier. As a result this house has two house numbers, two addresses and two nationalities.

The geographical situation is so complicated that the formal boundary between the two countries was only finalised in 1995, although Belgium and The Netherlands split up in 1830.

To understand this bizarre situation one has to go back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The village of Baarle belonged to the lord of Breda, a relative of the Duke of Brabant. Breda was coveted by its neighbour, the Count of Holland. Breda asked the Duke of Brabant for help, since he was a 'cousin' and one of the most powerful lords of the time. In exchange for protection, the lord of Breda donated his lands to the Duke, but got them back as a feudal estate, thus making the lord of Breda a vassal of the Duke. The Duke however kept the better parts of Baarle for himself. That part became 'Baarle-Hertog'<sup>3</sup>. The other part became

<sup>1</sup> Small pieces of land with access to sea, like Gibraltar, Ceuta and Monaco, are not to be considered as enclaves.

<sup>2</sup> One in Austria and one in Bangladesh

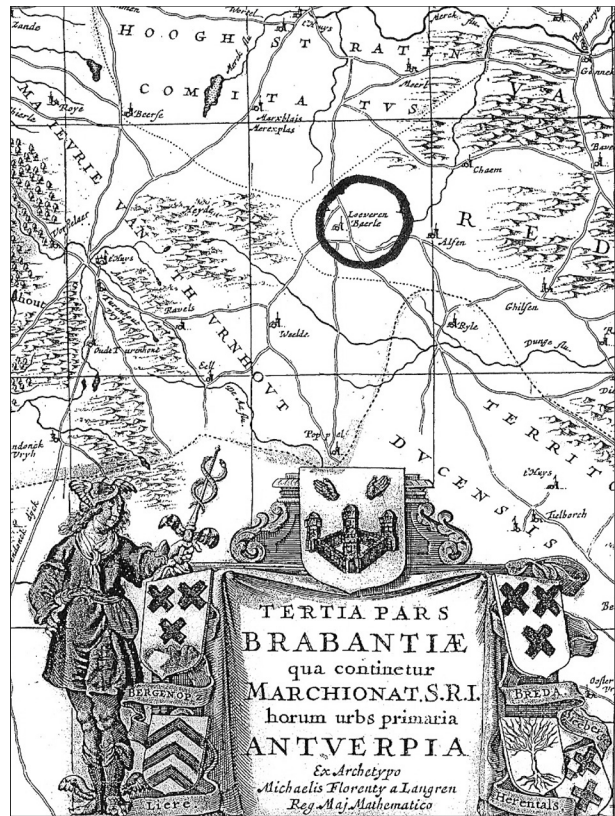
<sup>3</sup> Hertog meaning Duke



'Baarle under Breda'. This was the beginning of the two Baarles. As a result of the marriage between the houses of Breda and Nassau, during the 14<sup>th</sup> century, 'Baarle under Breda' became 'Baarle-Nassau'. Despite some minor troubles between the two Baarles, a relative peace and prosperity reigned, due to the fact that both parts stayed under the final authority of the Duke of Brabant. He ruled one part directly and the other part indirectly through the Lord of Breda-Nassau.

Things however became more complicated with the so-called '80 Years' War', opposing the King of Spain and the rebel provinces of the north of the Low Countries. One of the many titles of the King of Spain was Duke of Brabant. And the Orange-Nassau family, principal opponents to the King-Duke, were lords of Baarle-Nassau (among other titles of course)

The 80 Years' War was ended by the Treaty of Munster in 1648. The Low Countries were split up and the border ran right through Brabant. Breda (and all the surrounding territories belonging to this city, like Baarle) became part of the Republic of the North. The rest of Brabant, including the feudal estate Baarle-Hertog, stayed with the King of Spain, Duke of Brabant. Baarle, belonging both to Breda (the north) and Brabant (the south) lay on the new frontier. In the same Treaty of Munster a solution was found to keep the two Baarles in one hand: it made the Orange-Nassau family, lords of Breda (and hence lords of Baarle-Nassau) feudal tenants of the King-Duke of Spain, as lords of Baarle-Hertog. The family had to comply with the requirement of the Spanish King, that is that Baarle-Hertog had to remain catholic. No one seems to have regarded this as rather odd... The two entwined communities, 30 parcels of land in all, belonged to different countries now and different religions. They would have to learn how to survive



Joan Blaeu's *Grand Atlas*, . 1663

politically, for several attempts to eradicate the enclave system failed.

In 1794 the French occupied Baarle. Baarle-Hertog was located in the department of 'Deux-Nèthes'<sup>4</sup> and Baarle-Nassau became part of the Batavian Republic. When Napoleon's brother Louis became king of the Netherlands (the former Batavian republic), in 1805, Baarle remained divided over two countries and provinces. But when Napoleon unified both countries, in 1810, both Baarles came under the same department of the 'Deux Nèthes', but remained under different districts.

During the First World War only two pieces of Belgium remained unoccupied: one in Veurne behind the river Yzer and the Baarle-Hertog enclaves. They were placed under the jurisdiction of Veurne. A really bizarre situation. The enclaves became a site for spies, a transit zone for prisoners and even a base for a radio transmitting station. The postage stamps were also Belgian.

After the separation of Belgium and the Netherlands in 1830, the Treaty of Maastricht in 1843 described the definitive frontier between the two countries. This treaty was based on special maps, scale 1:2500, on which a bilateral committee drew the frontier. Each curve was carefully checked and described in an official report. The treaty also fixed the location of the 388 iron landmarks. Each of them is 1.87 m high, weighs 372 kg. and is placed on a foundation of 1x1 m. They all indicate the year 1843 and are numbered. In between stood also 356 stone landmarks of 75 cm. The decisions were notified to



Landmark 214-215 placed in the middle of town

<sup>4</sup>- Named after the principal rivers running through this territory

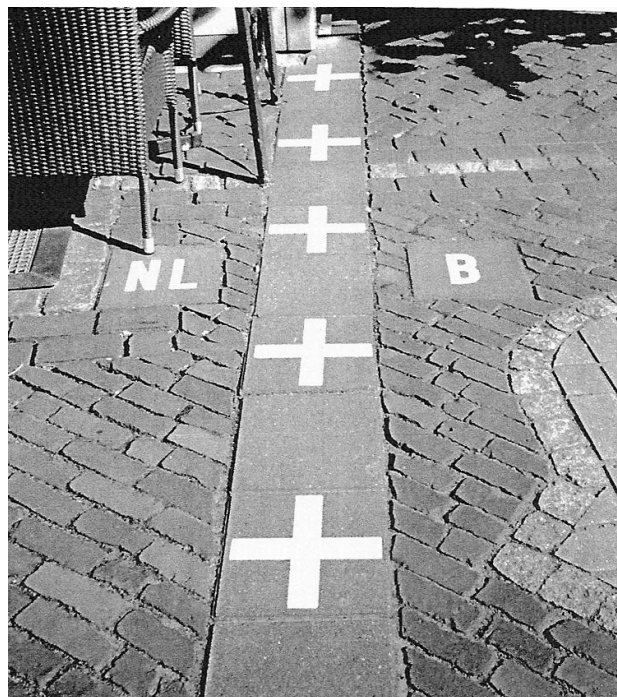




each community and countersigned by the mayors. But at Baarle there still remained a gap of 50km in the border between landmark 214 and 215. The old boundaries of the enclaves were used to determine the nationality of the 5732 land parcels of Baarle-Nassau (Province of North Brabant, The Netherlands) and Baarle-Hertog (Province of Antwerp, Belgium). This area showed 22 Belgian and 8 Dutch enclaves. Their boundaries crisscross the village, run in the middle of a street (indicated by copper nails), through a house and even through a bedroom. Such was recently demonstrated on the occasion of a murder, with the body lying on the floor of the bedroom, divided into a Dutch and Belgian part. Each house has a number and a small flag indicating the nationality. There are also two churches and two city halls.

A royal committee fixed the frontier gap in 1977 without touching the problem of enclaves. They decided not to place landmarks. Only a symbolic one was placed in the middle of the village, mentioning 214-215 and 1198 as Baarle's year of birth. To complicate the matter a piece of land under Ulicoten seemed to have been forgotten. It became enclave H22 and was allocated to Belgium.

In 1995 the enclaves were measured by the Dutch using their projection (the Rijksdriehoeksmeting) and by the Belgians, using the Lambert projection. After coordinating their results on maps, scale 1:1000, the national frontier was finally fixed in 1995.



The typical boundary symbol on the streets



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# BIMCC Autumn Excursion to the Bodel Nijenhuis collection of maps and atlases in the Leiden University Library Friday 24 October 2008

On a rather cold, rainy and windy autumn day thirteen intrepid BIMCC members showed up at the entrance of the Leiden University Library. Set in a modern building at the edge of this pleasant town, it hosts among other things a famous map collection, the so-called *Bodel Nijenhuis Collection*.

Our little group was welcomed by our guide to the collection, Martijn Storms, and was ushered in a separate room, where coffee and a promising stack of maps were waiting for us.

Martijn has been the curator for the collection for the last 2 years. Although rather young (do they learn to read maps before they start to walk in The Netherlands?), he can already produce an impressive CV: junior teacher-researcher at Utrecht University, editor at HES & De Graaf Publishers and actually preparing his Ph.D. Besides, he is a most amiable host.

But first, Martijn introduced us to the history of the library and its collection in particular. Leiden being the first university of the then northern Netherlands, it has had ample opportunity to assemble collections from 1575 until now. Today the library owns ca 60 000 maps, including ca 3.000 manuscript ones. There are also ca 1 500 atlases, 24 000 topographical prints, 1 600 topographical drawings and 10 globes.

The Bodel Nijenhuis collection is one of many: there is also a Vossius collection (acquired in 1690), a Van Keulen collection (acquired in 1908) and a Koeman collection (acquired in 1990), to name just a few that probably ring a bell to our readers....

Martijn showed us some examples of fine documents out of all these collections. Particularly nice was a prospect of Constantinople, from 1559, by Melchior Lorichs: truly amazing.

Bodel Nijenhuis himself bequeathed his collection to the university in 1872. It was the most important Dutch private map collection, containing some 50 000 maps, 22 000 topographical images and no less than 300 atlases. Martijn explained how Bodel Nijenhuis built up his huge collection, by acquiring several other famous collections. He hoped his legacy would 'contribute to the education of the history of the mother country'.

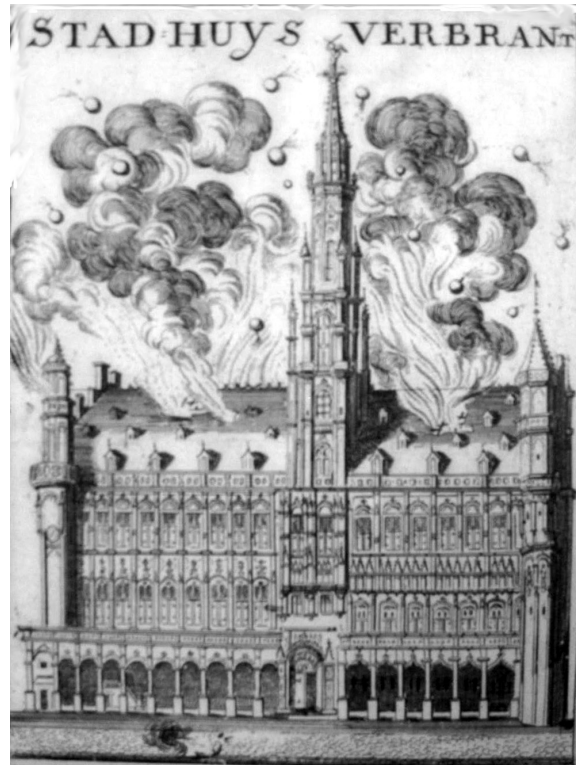
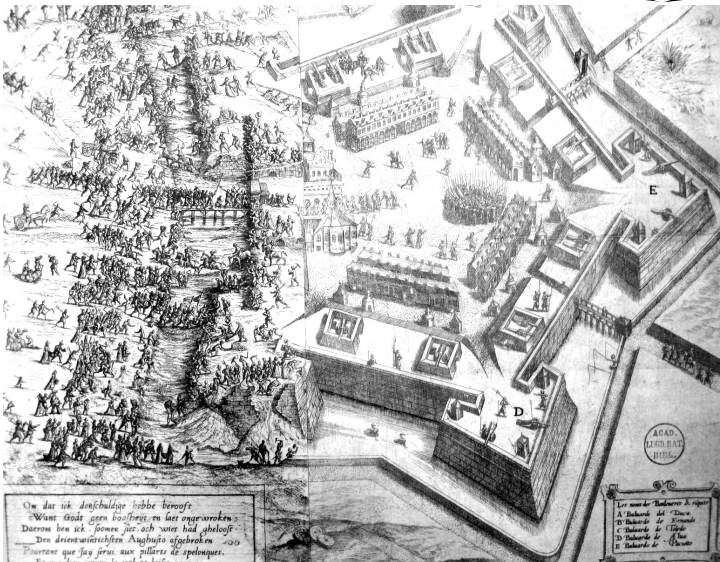
After the theory: time for practice. Martijn opened up his cave of Ali Baba; he had gone to the trouble of preparing a list of maps and atlases which he thought might be especially interesting for his guests from 'the south', the former Southern Netherlands. And twelve eager map enthusiasts spent the rest of the afternoon browsing through the following splendid atlases and maps:



'Gallia Belgica' (sic) by Tramezini, 1558, a good example of the interaction between Flemish and Italian cartographers in the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century

- |  |                                  |           |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------|
| • 'Gallia Belgica' and 'Brabant'                         | Michele Tramezini                | 1558      |
| • Recife / Mauritsstad                                   | Gerard van Keulen                | 1721      |
| • Mouth Westerschelde                                    | [Abraham Anias]                  | [1735]    |
| • Property under Warmond of Leiden Poor House            | Jan Pietersz. Dou & Johannes Dou | 1626-1668 |
| • [Diocese of Utrecht]                                   | [Johannes Grüninger]             | c1524     |
| • Ptolemy edition from Vossius Collection                | George Ubelius (Strasbourg)      | 1520      |
| • 't Ghebombardeert en't brandent Brusselen A 1695       | Gaspar Bouttats                  | 1695      |
| • Three hand-drawn maps of the siege of Brussels in 1695 |                                  | [1695]    |
| • Plan of Gent   | Henricus Hondius                 | 1641      |





'Attack on the citadel of Antwerp', 1577 with a map of the citadel before the attack and a fold-out part showing the troops storming through the breach.

Brussels' Town Hall during the 1695 siege by the French (detail of Gaspar Bouttat's plan)

- Paelen der vrijheyten van Antwerpen 16th Century
- Hand-drawn map of Antwerp and surroundings P. Stynen 1748
- The failed attack on Antwerp [ 1605?]
- Attack on the citadel of Antwerp 1577
- Beschreibung und Contrafactur der Vornembster Stät der Welt Georg Braun & Frans Hogenberg 1572-1618
- Prospect of Liege (print) Aegidius Marischal 1618
- Prospect of Malines (drawing) Willem van Orssaghen 1618

As they would say in the Michelin guide: 'Valait le voyage!'.

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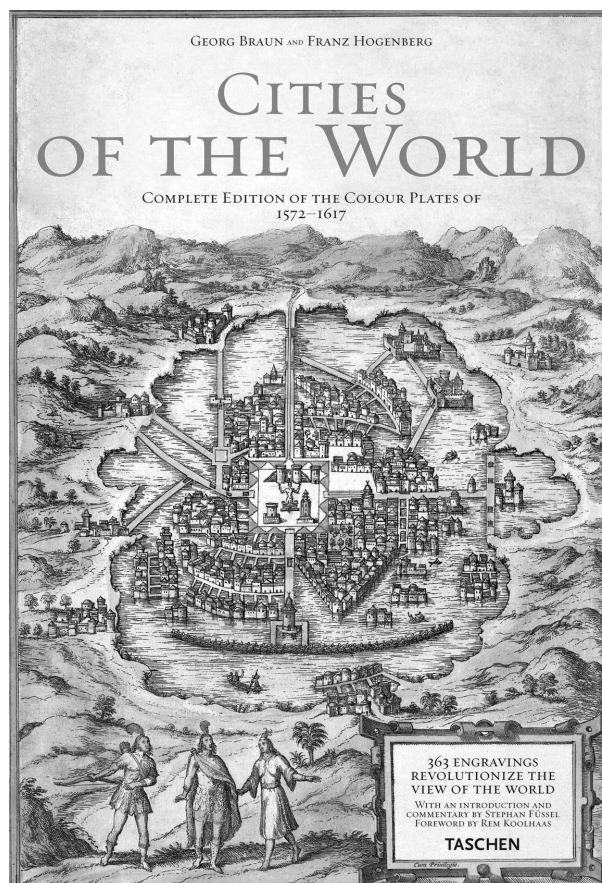
## Cities of the world

The most famous of the early town atlases, *Civitates orbis terrarum* by Braun and Hogenberg, was presented in detail by professor Peter van der Krogt at the BIMCC Conference 'Formatting Europe' in November 2007<sup>1</sup>. The six volumes published in Cologne between 1572 and 1617 contained plans of towns of the whole of Europe, and even also outside, although mostly from the Low Countries (i.e. areas now ranging from northern France, across the Benelux, to northern Germany).

The publisher Taschen Verlag has reprinted all 363 colour plates from Braun and Hogenberg's survey of town maps, city views, and plans of Europe, Africa, Asia and Central America; these were reproduced from a rare and superbly preserved original set of six volumes, first published in Cologne 1572-1617, belonging to the Historisches Museum in Frankfurt. Dozens of unusual details, two folding maps, as well as selected extracts from the original text and an in-depth commentary by Stephan Füssel and Rem Koolhaas.

Book size 29 x 42 cm, hardcover, 520 pages, ISBN 978-3-8365-1123-0, EUR 150.00.

You can leaf through all 520 pages, virtually, at [http://www.taschen.com/pages/en/catalogue/classics/all/00346/facts.braun\\_hogenberg\\_cities\\_of\\_the\\_world.htm](http://www.taschen.com/pages/en/catalogue/classics/all/00346/facts.braun_hogenberg_cities_of_the_world.htm)



### **BIMCC paid-up members receive a reduction of 10% on the original price.**

- Members living in Belgium just have to pay EUR 135.00, including postage, by bank transfer to CDC bvba, Minderbroedersrui 55, 2000 Antwerpen banknumber: 779-5946862-20, mentioning: 'book Cities of the world (BIMCC member)'. The Atlas will be sent (to the address shown on the bank transfer) within three days after your payment has been received.
- Other members should first send an e.mail message to [rob@harrenpublishinggroup.be](mailto:rob@harrenpublishinggroup.be) with their address and they will be informed of the extra postage to pay and the conditions of payment.

## Plan of Valenciennes, 1581

The plan on the centrefold represents the city of Valenciennes (locally pronounced Valenchiennes); it is part of the *Cities of the world* plans reproduced by Taschen Verlag from the *Civitates orbis terrarum* (volume 3, page 25).

BIMCC members could examine the original volume during the visit to the *Réserve Précieuse* at the Royal Library of Belgium in October 2004 and also, last October, during the visit to the University of Leiden.

Valenciennes, which initially had its own county, was attached to the county of Hainault in the 11<sup>th</sup> century and thus was part of the Spanish Low Countries in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. But this economically powerful city enjoyed privileges which gave it a large degree of autonomy, similar to that of other merchant cities in the region; the Scheldt river could be navigated downstream from Valenciennes and an important trade developed with other textile production centres: Tournai, Gent, Antwerp, etc.

The lay-out of the city on the plan published by Braun and Hogenberg in 1581 is very similar to that on the manuscript plan drawn by Jacob van Deventer

<sup>1</sup> His article, *Mapping the Towns of Europe: The European Towns in Braun & Hogenberg's Town Atlas, 1572-1617*, is to be published soon by the Royal Belgian Geographical Society, as part of the Conference proceedings, in their journal *Belgeo* 2008.4





around 1560<sup>2</sup> which is kept at the Royal Library of Belgium: the mesh of streets and rivers in the inner city and the shape of the fortifications are the same.

But there is a notable difference: Jacob van Deventer shows a large area around the city walls with significant urban developments in the suburbs along the Scheldt and along the roads to Mons, Tournai, Cambrai, Le Quesnoy, whereas Braun and Hogenberg show no construction at all outside the gates of the city. It could be a deliberate choice of the cartographer to represent only the inner city. It could also be a consequence of the dramatic events experienced by Valenciennes between the making of the two maps. In 1566, Valenciennes, then known as 'the second Geneva', was under the control of Calvinists and declared 'rebel to the King' of Spain; in 1567, the city was besieged for three months and taken by the Spaniards; it is likely that houses outside the city walls were razed in the process.

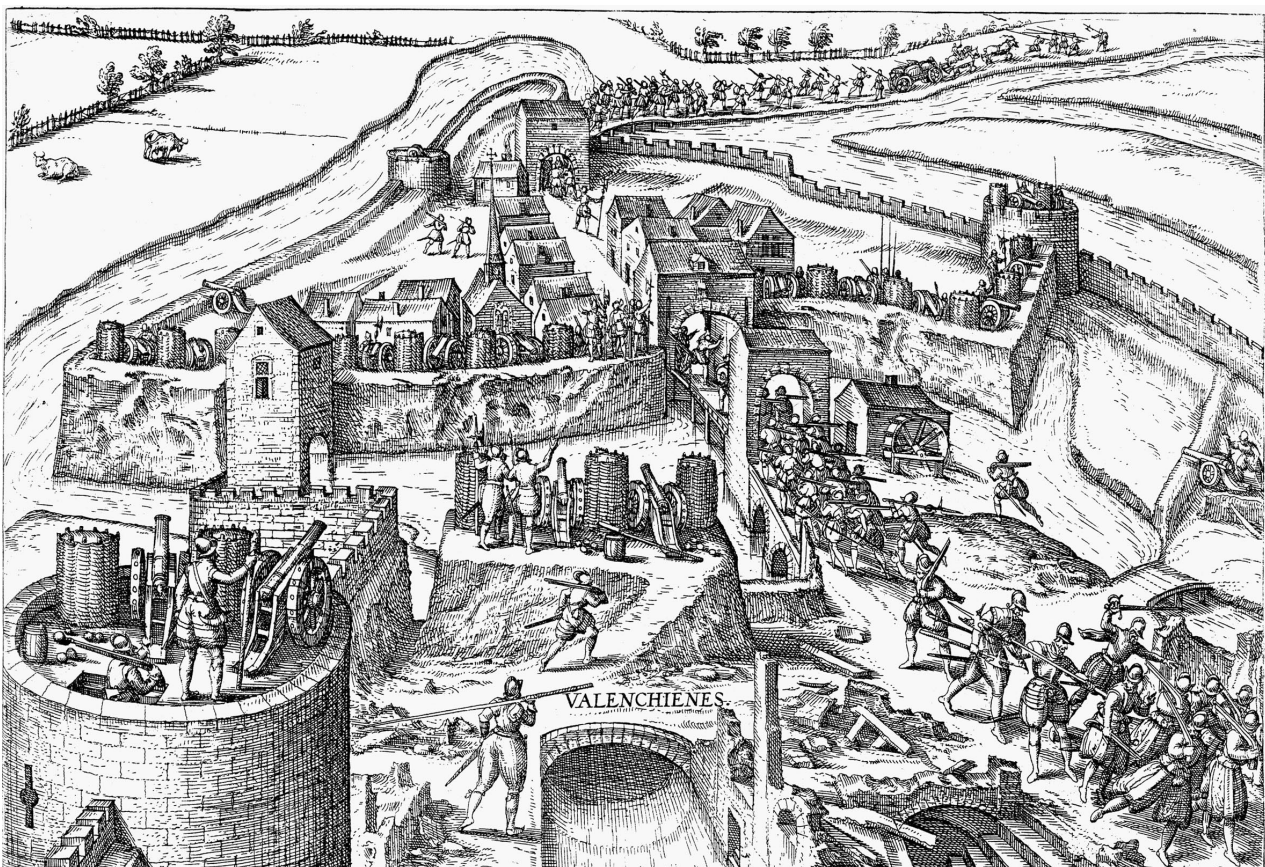
During the following years of repression by the duke of Alba, a redoubt was built to house a garrison and control the population; Valenciennes lost a third of its inhabitants. The redoubt was built on a small peninsula on the Scheldt, where a medieval castle once stood and where, a century later, Vauban would build a citadel, after Louis XIV finally succeeded in



Bailiff de Noircames besieging Valenciennes in March 1567  
(illustrated by Braun and Hogenberg)

conquering Valenciennes; this redoubt is depicted on an engraving, also published by Braun and Hogenberg, showing the retreat of the garrison in 1577, after the city was 'pacified'; the citizens immediately demolished it, which explains why this space is void on the 1581 plan.

Jean-Louis Renteux  
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The redoubt built by Spaniards to control Valenciennes being evacuated by the garrison in 1577  
(illustrated by Braun and Hogenberg)

<sup>2</sup> In 1563, according to Willy Ahlers, *Jacob van Deventer, nieuwe ideeën en nieuwe vragen*, in *Caert-Tresoor* 23, 2004





VALENCENA, QVONDAM  
CYGNORVM VALLIS,  
VRBS HAN: PERELEGAS,  
ET VALDE MAGNIFICA.





**The city of Valenciennes**  
Part of the *Cities of the world* plans  
reproduced by Taschen Verlag from the  
*Civitates orbis terrarum*  
(volume 3, page 25)

©Taschen Verlag



The water gate in the *Dodenne* tower, on the east side of Valenciennes, is the only survivor of the 16<sup>th</sup> century fortifications





# International Cartographic Association (ICA)

## Symposium on the History of Cartography: Shifting Boundaries – Cartography in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

Portsmouth University, United Kingdom  
10 to 12 September 2008

The ICA Commission that organized this event had a first constituting convention in Utrecht two years ago. It is essentially devoted to cartography of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, with emphasis on colonial cartography. The following is a summary review of the 23 presentations and surrounding events of these very busy but enjoyable two days.

ICA Commission Chairman Elri Liebenberg, Emeritus Professor of Geography (University of South Africa) opened the symposium, shouldered by representatives of Portsmouth University and the Secretary-General of the ICA.

During the first session on Theoretical and Cultural Aspects we moved from an exposé on the early Ordnance Survey in Britain by Rachel Hewitt on to the presentation of an interesting project in Africa by two young researchers from Leipzig, Kathrin Fritsch and Isabel Voigt, focusing on the influence of local geographical conceptions on European travellers and map-makers. Federica Burini (Bergamo, Italy) then introduced a new methodology for cartographic cataloguing under development at her University, while Alex Kent of Southampton University talked about another methodology, that of exploring the evolution of cartographic style, starting with early maps of Ireland and Great Britain. The importance of the Map of Hispanic America by the American Geographical Society created in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was highlighted by A. Pearson (University of Portsmouth) and M. Hefferan (University of Nottingham). Jiří Krejčí, a young student from Prague, concluded the session with an interesting representation of a 19<sup>th</sup> century view of Prague by Jüttner.

The second day, on Colonial Cartography, started with Imre Demhardt's presentation of Paul Langhans, the German cartographer who is best known as the creator of the *Deutscher Kolonial-Atlas (1893-97)* but also edited *Petermann's Mitteilungen* for nearly thirty years. Zsolt Török of Budapest analysed Italian military maps of the Lybian desert, linking these in his usual animated style to the film *The English Patient*. Mirela Slukan Altic, researcher from Zagreb, talked about the cartographic contributions of the Croat Dragutin Lerman who participated in the exploration of the Congo at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. After an informal talk on the History of Cartography project by Roger Kain, Jana Moser (Academy of Sciences, Dresden) introduced us to the complex border situation in Northern Namibia at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, involving Portugal, Great Britain and Germany. Francis Herbert (who needs no introduction here) took us from New Liverpool in Guatemala to Mombasa (Kenya), from a fraudulent colonization scheme to anti-slavery actions and their cartographical documentation.

Africa came into focus with Gordon Richings' lecture on a pioneer Cape military cartographer, whilst Lindsay Brown (of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, Canada, and a specialist on ties with a cartographic design) investigated early surveys in western Transkei and the resulting maps. Nnabugwu O. Ulucha (University of Lagos, Nigeria), shed some light on the development of colonial mapping in his country.

In the next three lectures devoted to Marine Cartography, we had an interesting talk by naval officer Andrew David on the emergence of the very important and influential Admiralty Chart in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, followed by Adrian Webb's probing into the management history of the British Admiralty's Hydrographic Office in the early part of that same century. Our member Jan De Graeve nearly brought the house down with a most animated demonstration of the way Gerard Mercator created his famous world map on the projection that bears his name. With some help from the audience, a large-size map facsimile and a lopsided balloon acting as an 'English' globe, Jan confirmed the underlying principles of Mercator's invention.

In the course of the remaining five lectures on Military/Colonial Cartography, Maria Gussarson-Wijk (Military Archives, Stockholm) talked about Swedish military maps of Finland made in the context of the war with Russia (1808-09), Michael Nolan traced out the history of British military mapping of Hong Kong, and Peter Collier (Portsmouth University, leading organizer of the Symposium) looked into the diversity of war maps drawn up to serve specific requirements of the armies, from water and road maps to geological maps.

Elri Liebenberg explored the origins of Arrowsmith's map of the Cape (1834), and Christopher Board (London School of Economics) gave the closing talk on the attempts to standardize military mapping in South Africa during the first years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Apart from a number of animated joint tours of restaurants, participants were treated to a most interesting visit to the Admiralty Library on the Naval Base of Portsmouth Harbour, where Jenny Wraight, the Admiralty Librarian, presented some fine examples of portolans, charts and maritime navigation documents, both civil and military. Close by one could admire *HMS Victory* in all her splendour, Lord Nelson's flag ship with which he won the Battle of Trafalgar 203 years ago.

Please note that the 24<sup>th</sup> International Cartographic Conference of the ICA will take place in Santiago de Chile from 15 to 21 November 2009.

Wulf Bodenstein

(I am grateful to Hans-Uli Feldmann of *Cartographica Helvetica* for having provided details of the last few lectures I had to miss)

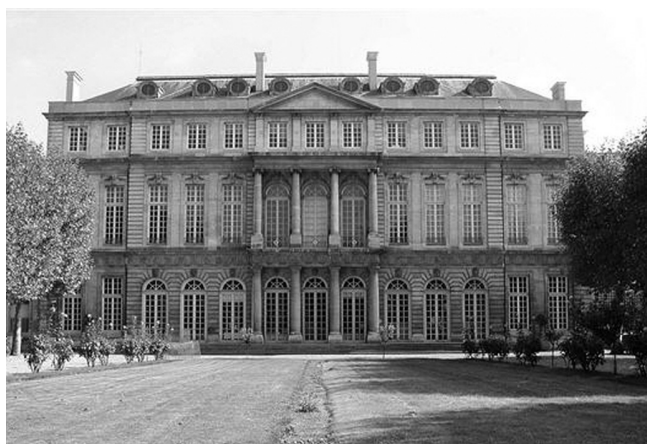




# Colloquium of the history of cartography commission of the Comité français de cartographie Maps, Climate, and the Environment from Middle Ages to the Present Paris, Friday 5 December 2008

The 2008 annual colloquium organized by the History of Cartography Commission of the *Comité français de cartographie* was held in the sumptuous premises of the French National Archives' historical seat of the 'Hôtel de Rohan' in Paris, and was attended by four BIMCC members.

It was divided into three sessions, successively chaired by Cécile Souchon (Archives nationales), Marie-Claire Robic (UMR Géographie-cités, équipe E.H.GO) and Hélène Richard (Bibliothèque nationale de France).



## Session 1: Maps, climate and physics of the globe

- At the beginning of the colloquium we encountered again former BIMCC speaker Angelo Cattaneo (from Florence, Italy; currently at the New University of Lisbon, Portugal, CHAM), who gave a very lively speech on 15<sup>th</sup> century conceptions and thoughts on the climates prevailing in different parts of the earth, in particular in the tropical and equatorial regions, in relation to the expansion and navigation projects, based on the material which can be found in the 15<sup>th</sup> century *mappae mundi* and natural philosophy treatises.

- Pierre Lamandé (Université de Nantes, équipe 'Philosophie de l'expérience') then analysed the introduction by Sylvestre Lacroix to the 2<sup>nd</sup> French Edition of the 'Géographie moderne' by J. Pinkerton; this introduction actually conveyed a new vision of geography, influenced by Alexander von Humboldt.

- Matthias Dörries (Strasbourg, Université Louis Pasteur, IRIST) gave an account of the global consequences of the huge 1883 Krakatoa explosion on the earth's atmosphere, in particular explaining, based upon contemporary measurements, the propagation of the first atmospheric waves as far as the antipodes in Central America, a phenomenon which could be described as a global atmospheric tsunami.

- Marie-Françoise Aufrère and Marie-Claire Robic (UMR Géographie-cités, équipe E.H.GO) spoke about the indications found in the correspondence of Emmanuel de Martonne with Léon Aufrère, in particular for drafting 'Maps of regions without outflow into the oceans' and the measurements of the aridity index. Marie-Françoise Aufrère added some personal comments about this correspondence which she found among her father's belongings, and expressed the hope that the corresponding letters written by Aufrère to de Martonne would also be discovered in the future.

## Session 2: Maps and natural risks

- Denis Cœur (PhD in History) explained how the use of maps by engineers for managing and monitoring fluvial floods gradually improved from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Session 3: Maps, fauna and flora

- Axelle Chassagnette (Göttingen, Germany; Mission historique française en Allemagne) addressed the topic of the representation of natural landscape elements in large and medium scale 16<sup>th</sup> century German maps.

- Then, due to two unexpected cancellations, a short presentation was given by an unprogrammed speaker on the 'Carte botanique de la méthode naturelle d'Antoine-Laurent de Jussieu', an 18<sup>th</sup> century classification of plants (actually a rival of the one devised by Linnaeus): this non-cartographical topic created a controversy among the audience about the real nature of this 'carte' and the suitability of it being called a 'map'.

- Paul Rey (Toulouse, Université Paul Sabatier) came back to maps by giving an account of the history of the cartography of French vegetation, from De Candolle to ecological cartography.

- The speech by Ronan Loarer (Brest, IFREMER) introduced us to the uncommon field of underwater cartography, more precisely of marine fauna and flora, as mapped throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- Finally Paul Rouet and Marie-Thérèse Besse (Paris, APUR) made us discover another quite different aspect of cartography, namely the mapping of the vegetal cover of the heart of the Parisian urban area, by means of modern precision remote sensing tools. Vegetation maps are now available for the whole of Paris, classified in three ranges of vegetation heights: lower than 1 metre; between 1 and 10 metres; higher than 10 metres (precision: 0.5 metres).

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## 6<sup>th</sup> BIMCC Study Session on ancient cartography Saturday 13 December 2008

For the second time the House of the Belgian Union of Expert Surveyors, in the centre of Brussels, hosted the BIMCC, with some 50 participants.

President Eric Leenders, in his welcome, explained his choice for the main topic, the North Pole, by referring to the global climate change we are experiencing and the effects it will have. In the light of the history of our planet, changes like these were rather gradual evolutions that took ages, but this time we have the doubtful honour to witness it in a lifetime. 'Maps will change!', Eric concluded and these words, that normally sound like music to us, the map fanatics, the hardcore chart lovers, the diehard cartophiles, now had an ominous ring to them... Everyone in the audience realized it might after all not be such a good thing.

### **Shall I discover Arctica or Africa? (*Maps of the North Pole*, by Francis Herbert)**

Francis doesn't need an introduction to lovers of ancient maps. Suffice it to mention that among many other things he was Curator of Maps at the Royal Geographical Society in London until July 2006. With reference to the BIMCC Study Session, his most relevant publication is: *A cartobibliography of the Arrow-smith/Stanford North Pole Map, 1818-1937*.

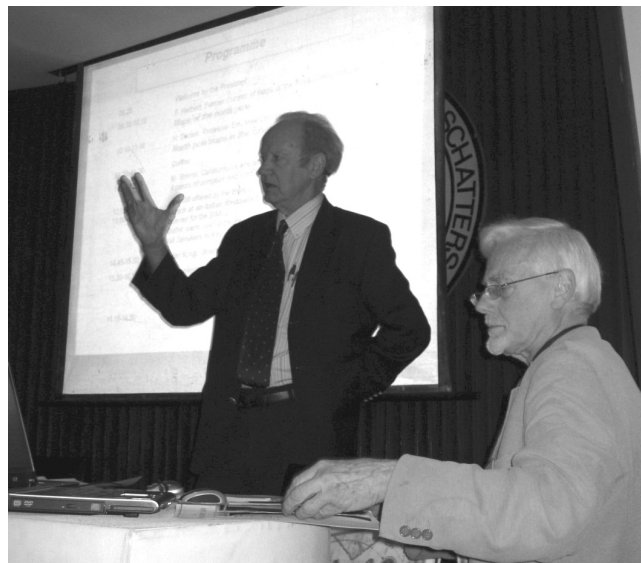
In classical times, Ptolemy and Plutarch were aware of the fact that many parts of the world eluded their knowledge. Before the Renaissance and the age of discovery, these unknown and uncharted parts were filled in by speculation, fantasy and religious dogmas (e.g. the so-called T-O maps). From the 16<sup>th</sup> century on, maps of the Arctic were gradually filling in the white spaces. This evolution was strongly influenced by the urge to find passages to the north-east and north-west (as seen from Western Europe) for commercial reasons.

From the 19<sup>th</sup> century on, maps are becoming serious business: Francis showed the successive efforts of the British (influence of Sir John Barrow), the Russians (Zivolka: exploring Nova Zembla), the Germans and again the British (the Polaris expedition, which Henri Morton Stanley failed to join, as he had to go to Africa!). Finally, the Dutch, who after all had already sent out Willem Barentsz in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, mounted an expedition in 1879. Francis showed the maps that were then made for readers of newspapers at home.

### **Après moi le déluge (*North Pole maps in the future*, by Hugo Declair)**

Professor Declair is the former head of the department of Physical Geography and Cartography of the Brussels VUB University. He participated in a large number of expeditions to both polar regions and is a renowned glaciologist (although he himself modestly emphasises that he is an expert on South Pole ice and not North Pole ice...???) Anyway, with prof. Declair we had an expert on climate change among us.

After the age of discovery started to provide empirical data, to make more accurate maps of the world



President Eric Leenders introduces Francis Herbert as first speaker

in general and the poles in particular, Captain Cook was the man who brought to an end the eldorado myth of a huge southern continent: it proved to be a lot smaller. It would still take more than a hundred years before both polar regions were mapped, due to the unforgiving circumstances, of course, in which mapmakers had to work.

In our own age, sadly, we are confronted by a phenomenon that is directly linked to human behaviour and exploitation of our planet: global warming, with the disastrous effects we all know. Today, there is no longer any reasonable doubt that this is man's doing. Prof. Declair advanced several arguments based on evidence derived from polar research (e.g. analysis of CO<sup>2</sup> found in the ice).

Pictures of Greenland show that the ice has melted dramatically and the predictions are that it could disappear completely over the next 1000 years. Prof. Declair showed more satellite pictures where we could see that in 2007 there was still ice from the North Pole to Siberia. In the near future this will no longer be true: after the north-west passage, opened by Amundsen, the north-east passage will open this year.

So, as Eric Leenders predicted: 'maps will change', only it will be to reflect a reality that is an ecological disaster...

### **The name of the rose (*Aspects of compass and wind roses*, by Martijn Storms)**

Martijn Storms is curator of maps and atlases at Leiden University Library and cartographic editor. He is finishing his PhD with a study of the compass rose on property maps in the Netherlands.

The origin of compass roses lies in medieval portolans. But what is the difference between a compass rose and a wind rose? Martijn uses the definition by Tony Campbell, but this was later challenged by Hans Kock and a very interesting discussion followed. Un-





fortunately, it would lead us too far to (try to!) reproduce it here, but no doubt in the near future one of the protagonists will write something interesting about this subject in our Newsletter(?).

Martijn in his research found that compass roses performed different functions on property maps: they – of course – orientated the map, by pointing the direction of the north. This could be done in different ways, as Martijn showed us. Sometimes the roses were also used for decorative purposes or simply to impress: here also, a huge variety was shown and Martijn even explained how a compass rose could help identify the author. Finally, compass roses could also be glued on to a map. And Martijn ended with a scoop: the day before the conference, he had found such a rose in an atlas in the Belgian National Archives; it dates from 1593!

**Rosa rosa rosam, rosae rosae rosa...  
(Latin on maps, by Peter van der Krogt)**

Dear reader, do not think for a moment that you have now reached the dull part of the conference. Quite the contrary, this was great fun. And Peter, ‘the man from Utrecht’, *really* doesn’t need an introduction.

Being familiar with ancient maps, you don’t need to be convinced of the advantage of some knowledge of Latin to be able to read all the inscriptions on old maps.

So Peter led a kind of a workshop, in which we all were all divided into small groups, who had to try to translate different common ‘formulas’ on maps. For many of us, it was a renewed encounter with an old acquaintance, Latin grammar. Long-forgotten words and phrases came back to our memory and declensions vaguely re-appeared in our minds. The whole room was buzzing with exclamations and discussions. Moreover, as the audience was French, Dutch, English, German and Spanish-speaking, and the conference language English, someone in the audience got so confused with all this translating that he started to ask a question and in the middle stopped and exclaimed: ‘I don’t know what language I’m speaking any more!’

No doubt the monograph ‘Latin on maps’ conceived around Peter’s original work, will become a collector’s item!



Peter van der Krogt starting the afternoon session

**It takes two to triangulate (Topography in practice: the regional maps by Jacob van Deventer - 16<sup>th</sup> century, by Eric Leenders and Jan De Graeve)**

Eric, our president, and Jan, member of the BIMCC and former president of the Union of Belgian Surveyors, rightly decided that Royal Geographer to Charles V, Jacob van Deventer, deserves a little more attention and respect. And they also thought there was no better way to do this than to examine his method of measuring and triangulating. So they literally walked in his footsteps and climbed towers. They concentrated on a topographical study of his six regional maps, comparing them to modern maps (1:200 000). As Eric explained the methods our two investigators followed (step by step and very clearly), it became evident to everyone in the audience that they really had done a very meticulous and important job. Furthermore, Eric and Jan have proved that van Deventer’s maps indeed show astonishingly small deviations. So it was only fair that his immense influence on cartographic successors was highlighted here.

As usual, our conference had two convivial moments: the lunch (that was excellent and the restaurant is highly recommended for next time!) and the drink at the end of the day. Again, Eric and his partner Martine did a great job and left us all very satisfied.

Caroline De Candt  
caroline.de.candt@skynet



**Example of Latin text translated**

Lunaeburgici Ducatus nova et accurata descriptio geographica,  
- *New and accurate geographical map of the Duchy of Lüneburg*

in gratiam illustrissimi et generosissimi Principis ac Domino  
Ernesti, Ducis Brunsvicensis et Lunaeburgensis,  
- *in [goodwill] thankful memory of the most illustrious and most  
generous Prince and Lord Ernst, Duke of Braunschweig and  
Lüneburg*

concinnata elaborata et in lucem edita a Iohanne Mellingero  
Halensi, aulae Cellensis medico, Anno salutiferi partus M D XCIII.  
- *made, elaborated and published by Johannes Mellinger from  
Halle, physician of the court in Celle, in the year of the beginning of  
[our] salvation 1593*



## BIMCC Programme for 2009

- **Saturday 31 January 2009, at 10.00, Guided tour of the exhibition 'Le mètre et le cadastre parcellaire' (The metre and the cadastre) in Braine l'Alleud**

Musée communal, 18 place du Cardinal Mercier, B-1420 Braine l'Alleud.

Free entrance.

Further information Jan de Graeve, tel. + 32 2 268 10 25.

- **Saturday 7 March 2009, at 16.00, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

House of the Belgian Union of Expert-Surveyors,

Rue du Nord / Noordstraat 76, B-1000 Brussels

Metro: Madou or Arts-Loi / Kunst-Wet

All current (paid-up) members are invited to participate. However, according to the Statutes adopted in 2005, only Active Members have a vote. A personal invitation to this AGM with the agenda will be sent out to Active Members by separate mail.

In order to reinforce our Team, we invite those of our ordinary members interested in taking an active role in the life of the BIMCC to contact President Eric Leenders (info@bimcc.org). The AGM would be very pleased to welcome new supporters in the group currently comprising 22 Active Members, of whom 11 serve on the Executive Committee. Active Members interested in joining the Executive Committee should write to the President (info@bimcc.org) **before 15 February 2009**.

As always, this AGM will be followed by the map evening.

- **Saturday 7 March 2009, at 17.30, Map Evening**

Rue du Nord / Noordstraat 76, B-1000 Brussels

Metro: Madou or Arts-Loi / Kunst-Wet

Our traditional Map Evening brings together all those interested in maps – members as well as non-members – for an informal chat about a piece from their collection, and usually some quite surprising pieces come up. This is also an occasion for newcomers to get to know the Circle.

Wine and snacks will be served; participants are asked to pay EUR 10.00 at the door for expenses.

**Please register by e.mail to the Vice-President/Secretary (caroline.de.candt@skynet.be) or submit the enclosed registration form before 15 February 2009.**

- **BIMCC Autumn Excursion (date to be announced)**

This year's excursion will probably take us to the **Knokke-Heist Museum's** collection of coastal maps of Belgium and, in particular, maps concerned with the evolution of the **Zwin** area.

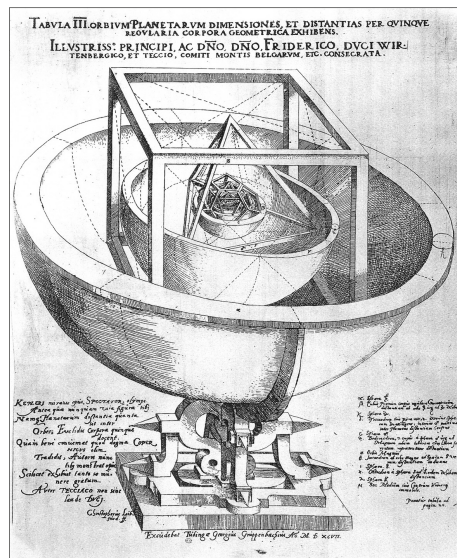
The visit will be limited to 20 participants, and preference will be given to paid-up BIMCC Members. Non-Members may be admitted if places remain available.

Details will be available in the next Newsletter.

- **Saturday 5 December 2009, BIMCC Conference: Exploratory Cartography, from Heaven to Earth**

After an introduction by Caroline and Paul De Candt we will take you with A.H. van Gent through the celestial map world by Cellarius. The morning might end with an imaginary cartographic exploration. During the afternoon Imre Demhardt (U.S.A.) will enlighten you over the travels of Alexander von Humboldt in the 18<sup>th</sup> c.. Wulf Bodenstein will accompany through the white spots on the map of black Africa (19<sup>th</sup> c.). Asia will not be forgotten.

Further details will be announced in the next Newsletter.



People participate at their own risk in any BIMCC activity and thereby waive any possible liability of the BIMCC, its directors and officers.





## INTERNATIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Compiled by Glenn Van den Bosch  
fb550506@skynet.be

### News

#### **DIGMAP: Discovering our Past World with Digitised Historical Maps.**

DIGMAP is a service for resource discovery and access to old maps and related resources, with a focus on their geographical information.

DIGMAP developed solutions for georeferenced digital libraries, especially focused on historical materials and in the promotion of our cultural and scientific heritage. The final results of the project will consist of a set of services available on Internet, and in reusable open-source software solutions.

The main purpose was to develop a specialized service, reusing metadata from European national libraries, to provide discovery and access to contents provided by those libraries. Relevant metadata from third party sources was also reused, as were also descriptions and references to any other relevant external resource.

The project made a proof of concept reusing and

enriching the contents from the National Library of Portugal (BNP), the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR), the National Library of Italy in Florence (BNCF), and the National Library of Estonia (NLE). In a second phase, that will be complemented by contents and references from other libraries, archives and information sources, namely from other European national libraries members of TEL – The European Library (DIGMAP might become an effective service integrated with TEL - in this sense the project is fully aligned with the vision 'European Digital Library' as expressed in the 'i2010 digital libraries' initiative of the European Commission).

DIGMAP is associated to TEL - The European Library (<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/>) and also associated to the Europeana initiative (<http://www.europeana.eu/>).

URI: <http://portal.digmap.eu/>

URI: [http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/econtentplus/projects/cult/digmap/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/econtentplus/projects/cult/digmap/index_en.htm) URI: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DIGMAP> Retrieved on 2008-12-20

### Events

#### **Warburg Lectures, London**

##### **Speculations and Discoveries: Brazil and the Other Side of the Globe at the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century**

**22 January 2009**

by Dr Benjamin Olshin (Assistant Professor of Philosophy, History, and History of Science, The University of the Arts, Philadelphia)

##### **Understanding Robert Dudley's Arcano del Mare, 1646-8**

**26 February 2009**

by Sarah Tyacke (Leverhulme Emeritus Research Fellow, Royal Holloway University of London)

##### **The Trudaine Road Maps, a Masterpiece in French Enlightenment Cartography**

**12 March 2009**

by Stéphane Blond (Department of History, University of Evry-Val d'Essonne)

##### **Provenance and Dissemination of Medieval Maps of Jerusalem: Constructing and Deconstructing a Stemma**

**26 March 2009**

by Dr Hanna Vorholt (British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, The Warburg Institute)

##### **Portraying the Mediterranean: Sixteenth-century Books of Islands (Isolarii) and the Venetian Maritime Empire**

**23 April 2009**

by Eva Stamoulou (Art History and Visual Studies, University of Manchester)

##### **'The greatest map ever published': The American Geographical Society and the Map of Hispanic America at 1:1 Million Scale, 1922-1945**

**14 May 2009**

by Dr Alastair Pearson (Department of Geography, University of Portsmouth)

At University of London, Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB, at 17.00.

Enquiries to +44 (0) 20 8346 5112 (Catherine Delano Smith) or Tony Campbell (email: [info@tonycampbell.info](mailto:info@tonycampbell.info)) or visit <http://www.maphistory.info/warburgprog.html>



Note: the events are listed in chronological order (in case of a series of events, according to the first event in the series).





## INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS (CONT'D)

### **Course in Historical Cartography (in Dutch) February-April 2009 Utrecht, The Netherlands**

This course covers the general history of cartography, an extensive introduction to Dutch cartography and the application of old maps for historical research.

For more information or subscription, please contact Dr. Peter van der Krogt, Faculteit Geowetenschappen, Universiteit Utrecht, Postbus 80115, 3508 TC Utrecht. Fax: 030-2540604. E-mail: [p.vanderkrogt@geo.uu.nl](mailto:p.vanderkrogt@geo.uu.nl). Location: Bucheliuszaal, Universiteitsbibliotheek (6th floor, Heidelberglaan 3, 3584 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands. Visit <http://cartography.geog.uu.nl/histkart.html>

### **The Oxford Seminars in Cartography 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Series Field Trip 2009 : Treasures of the Christ Church Library 2 February 2009 Oxford, UK**

Numbers limited - if you wish to attend, please contact Nick Millea (email: [nick.millea@ouls.ox.ac.uk](mailto:nick.millea@ouls.ox.ac.uk)), Map Librarian, Bodleian Library, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3BG; tel: 01865 287119, fax: 01865 277139. Visit <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/guides/maps/herefrme.htm#tosca>

### **The Miami International Map Fair. 7-8 February 2009 Miami, USA**

Dealers from around the world exhibit and sell antique maps. Visitors are invited to bring in maps of their own for expert opinions and attend educational programs. While many of the attendees are serious map collectors, this event is building awareness of antique maps and encouraging new collectors.

At the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, 101 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33130. For information and registration materials, contact Marcia Kanner, Map Fair Coordinator, at the Historical Museum of Southern Florida using the above address or by telephone at (305) 375-1492; facsimile: (305) 375-1609. Visit <http://www.hmsf.org/programs-mapFair.htm>

### **ICA Symposium on Cartography for Central and Eastern Europe 16-17 February 2009 Vienna, Austria**

The International Cartographic Association and the Vienna University of Technology aim to bring together cartographers, Geographic Information scientists and those working in related disciplines from Central and Eastern Europe, a region with a long and outstanding tradition in cartography, with the goal of offering a platform for discussion and exchange and stimulation of joint projects.

At Vienna University of Technology, Main Building, 1st floor, 'Boecklsaal', Karlsplatz 13. For additional information contact Georg Gartner, Research Group Cartography, Institute for Geoinformation and Cartography, Vienna University of Technology, Erzherzog-Johann-Platz 1/127-2, 1040 Vienna, Austria; Phone: +43-1-58801-12601, Fax: +43-1-58801-12699. Visit <http://cartography.tuwien.ac.at/cee2009/>

### **The Cambridge Seminar in the History of Cartography 2008-2009:**

#### **Jonas Moore's map of the Fens by Frances Willmoth (Jesus College, Cambridge)**

**17 February 2009**

**Cambridge, UK**

At 17.30 in the Harrods Room, Emmanuel College, St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, UK. For any enquiries, please contact Sarah Bendall at 01223 330476

(email: [sarah.bendall@emma.cam.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.bendall@emma.cam.ac.uk)).

Visit <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/maps/camsem0809.html>

### **Symposium: The many shapes of Europe reflected in early maps**

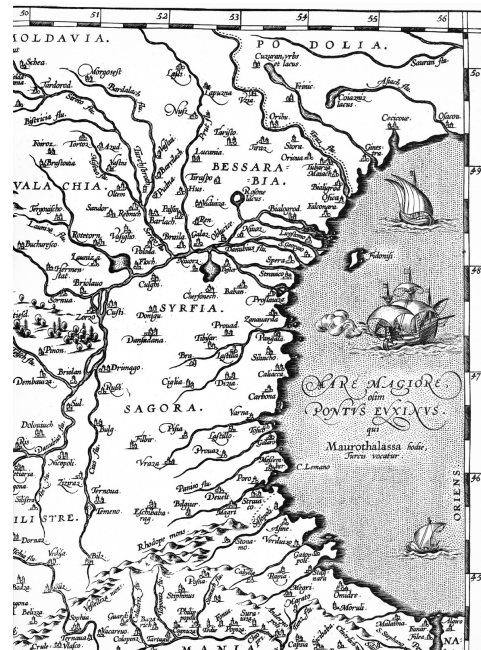
**20 March 2009**

**Bucharest, Romania**

The BIMCC will participate actively in this symposium on the history of cartography sponsored by the Romanian Ministry of Culture. It will comprise a visit to the National Museum of Maps and Old Books and two sessions of lectures respectively on Western Europe and Eastern Europe.

At the National Museum of Maps and Old Books in Bucharest English and French for presentations

Programme under development. The organization of the symposium is coordinated by BIMCC member Anton Comanescu ([antoncomanescu@yahoo.com](mailto:antoncomanescu@yahoo.com)) and, on the BIMCC side, by Jean-Louis Renteux (editor@bimcc.org).



### **Symposium: Populating the immensity: companies, conflicts and representations in the margins of the Spanish Empire (XV-XIX).**

**14-17 April 2009**

**Sevilla, Spain**

One of the themes will be the history of cartography in the Spanish Empire.

Additional information from the website:

<http://www.eeha.csic.es/varios/congresopoblarlainmensionidad.pdf>





## **Tabula Peutingeriana**

### **Bruges, Belgium**

**23 April 2009**

The Cultuurbibliotheek is organizing a small exhibition and a conference by J.L.Meulemeester (Stedelijk Archeologisch Museum Oudenburg) on the Tabula Peutingeriana.

Sint-Lodewijkscollege, Magdalenastraat 30, B-8200 Bruges.

Starts at 20.00 h. Dutch speaking. Admission free.

[www.cultuurbibliotheek.be](http://www.cultuurbibliotheek.be)

## **International Conference on History of Cartography and Historical Geography:**

### **Descriptio Transylvaniae**

**24-25 April 2009**

#### **Cluj-Napoca, Romania**

Proposed Themes are Map Collections in Transylvania, Transylvania represented on Maps, Changes to the Landscapes, Changes in the Perception of the World, The Language of Maps, and Linguistic Maps. During the meeting there will be exhibitions of maps from the private map collection of Tamás Sándor (Târgu Secuiesc), and maps from the Cholnoky Jenő Map Collection (Cluj-Napoca).

At the Faculty of Geography, 5-7, str. Clinicilor, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Conference language is English.

Additional information from Dr Zsombor Bartos-Elekes (email: [descriptio@cholnoky.ro](mailto:descriptio@cholnoky.ro)).

Visit <http://cholnoky.ro/content/view/202/193/lang,hu/>

## **The 4<sup>th</sup> International Atlas Days**

**24-26 April 2009**

### **Darmstadt, Germany**

This is a meeting for collectors and all those interested in atlases published in German-speaking countries in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and their derivatives.

Principal theme: 'lithography'. Programme :

- Friday 24 April, 14.00 : historical film about atlas production in 1928. – demonstration of old printing techniques – discussion about further research
- Saturday 25 April, 09.30 : welcome by Director of Darmstadt University - review of atlas and map holdings in the University and State Library – presentation of preservation techniques for atlases. 12.30-15.30 : participants' book fair (exchange, sale) – discussion of concepts for the establishment of an atlas data-base
- Sunday 26 April, 09.30-13.00 : participants' forum and book fair.

At the University and State Library, Darmstadt.

Working language German. Registration with, and further information from, J. Espenhorst, author of *Petermann's Planet*, [pangaea@cityweb.de](mailto:pangaea@cityweb.de), tel 00-49-(0)2304-722 84

## **IMCoS visit to Mrs Loeb-Laroque's collection and to *Bibliothèque nationale de France***

**24-26 April 2009**

### **Paris, France**

Mrs Loeb-Larocque has agreed to receive the International Map Collectors' Society group on her

private premises to show us some outstanding cartographic examples of The Netherlands, France, Luxembourg and other maps of international interest. The visit will take place on Friday afternoon 24.04.09 around 15:00. The group may have to be split into two depending on the number of members present.

The visit to the BnF (French National Library) will take place on Saturday morning, 25.04.09, at the *Rue de Richelieu* premises, while atlases and the huge Coronelli globes will be on display in the afternoon at the Francois-Mitterrand site.

Further details will be circulated in due course: visit <http://www.imcos.org/index.asp>

## **International Symposium: Washington Exploring Waldseemüller's World**

**14-15 May 2009**

### **Washington DC, USA**

The title Exploring Waldseemüller's World has been chosen by the conference organizers to focus attention not only on Waldseemüller's cartographic vision, but also on some of the intellectual and philosophical themes and controversies of the time in which he lived. The conference brings together a cross-disciplinary group of speakers from a variety of fields including, history, cartography, the classics, and the history of science to discuss the cultural context of Martin Waldseemüller's 1507 map of the world. Over the two days many scholars will speak on a wide range of topics and historical problematics from the history of exploration and German Humanism to the mathematical and astronomical basis of early 16<sup>th</sup> century cartography.

At the Library of Congress, Madison Building, 101 Independence Avenue. The contributions of all invited speakers will be published together in a hardcover Proceedings following the conference. For more information contact John Hessler, 202-707-7223 (email: [jhes@loc.gov](mailto:jhes@loc.gov)) . Visit <http://www.loc.gov/index.html>

## **Lecture on Blaeu's Atlas Maior**

**18 April 2009**

### **Enschede, The Netherlands.**

by Dr. Peter van der Krogt (University of Utecht)

Location: Oudheidkamer Twente, Stroinksbleekweg 1éb, Enschede, The Netherlands. Lecture from 10-12 am. For more information, visit : <http://www.historischecartografie.nl/Studiekring/Programma-s/Programma-2008-2009.html>

## **23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on the History of Cartography (IHC)**

**Copenhagen, Denmark, 12-17 July 2009**

This biennial meeting is the major international scholarly conference dedicated to advancing knowledge of the history of cartography, of maps and mapmaking, broadly defined.

The IHC2009 focuses on the **cartography of the far north**, with four main themes: Cartography of the Arctic, North Atlantic and Scandinavian regions; Cross-cultural cartographies; Mapping

Note: the exhibitions are listed in chronological order, according to closing dates.





mythical and imaginary places; Maps and the written word.

For details and registration see the conference website <http://www.ichc2009.dk>, or contact the Conference Secretariate ([ichc2009@bdp.dk](mailto:ichc2009@bdp.dk))

**Colloquium 'Mapping Medieval Chester'  
30-31 July 30-31 2009  
Swansea, UK**

This colloquium will launch the digital materials produced by the project and provide a forum for wider discussion of place and identity in the medieval city, as well as concepts of 'mapping' in the Middle Ages and today. The colloquium will feature papers on medieval Chester, but we are also seeking inter-disciplinary contributions relating to the medieval city more generally.

The 'Mapping Medieval Chester' project has brought together scholars working in the disciplines of literary studies, geography, archaeology and history to explore how material and imagined urban landscapes construct and convey a sense of place-identity.

We therefore invite 20-minute paper proposals (abstracts of around 300 words); proposals should be sent to Mark Faulkner ([m.j.faulkner@swan.ac.uk](mailto:m.j.faulkner@swan.ac.uk)) by 23 February 2009. For more information visit <http://www.medievalchester.ac.uk/index.html>

**24<sup>th</sup> International Cartography Conference of the ICA**

**15 - 21 November 2009  
Santiago de Chile**

See also [www.icc2009.cl](http://www.icc2009.cl)

**Exhibitions**

**'On the Map' American Maps from 1500 to 1800 from the Seymour I. Schwartz Collection  
Until January 2009  
Charlottesville, USA**

Rare, significant maps that chronicle the Age of Exploration, European empire-building, the French and Indian Wars, and the American Revolution.

At the main gallery at the Mary and David Harrison Institute for American History, Literature, and Culture, and the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia. <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/harrison/>  
<http://www.lib.virginia.edu/small>

**Seekarten der Nord- und Ostsee ( Sea Charts of the North Sea and the Baltic)**

**20 January – 7 March 2009  
Oldenburg (Germany)**

This exhibition will have on display ancient sea charts of the North Sea and the Baltic, as well as a number of outstanding maritime atlases of the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A richly illustrated catalogue of 144 pages is available for EUR 24 from KomRegis Verlag Oldenburg, [komregis@t-online.de](mailto:komregis@t-online.de), Fax +49 (0)441570 01 74 Landesbibliothek Oldenburg, [www.lb-oldenburg.de](http://www.lb-oldenburg.de); Mon-Wed. 10 to 18h, Thur 10 to 19h, Fri 10 to 17h, Sat 09 to 12h, admission free.

**Le mètre et le cadastre parcellaire  
(The metre and the cadastre)**

**9 January - 7 February 2009  
Braine l'Alleud, Belgium**



The International Institution for the History of Surveying and Measurement, Permanent Institution of FIG, is organizing an exhibition on the evolution from local measures to the metre, with the support of the national and provincial archives and other associations. The exhibition concentrates on the evolution of scales on

maps, the introduction of the meter and the application of the Cadastre, original documents, historical books from 16<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century and an original computer that served for the conversion of hundreds of local measures into metres.

Musée communal, 18 place du Cardinal Mercier, B-1420 Braine l'Alleud. Free entrance. Guided tours possible.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday: 9.00 to 17.00, Saturday: 10.00 - 12.30 and 13.30 - 16.00

Further information Jan de Graeve, tel. + 32 2 268 10 25. or [officetourisme@braine-lalleud.be](mailto:officetourisme@braine-lalleud.be), tel. + 32 2 387 31 14

**BIMCC visit, guided by Jan de Graeve  
on Saturday 31 January 2009 at 10.00, free entrance.**

**Benedetto Marzolla. Brindisino, Geografo e Cartografo dell'800 Europeo (Geographer from Brindisi and Cartographer of the 19th Century Europe)**

**December 12, 2008 - January 30, 2009  
Brindisi, Italy**

Benedetto Marzolla (1801-1858) was a geographer and cartographer who was born in Brindisi (South Puglia) and active in the Ufficio Topografico of Naples from 1821 until his death. He was the author of an important Universal Atlas (six editions) which reached a total of 54 large format lithographed maps in the last edition; published in Naples in 1858. At the Palazzo Granafei/Nervegna will be displayed a selection of his complete production (around 180 maps, views, and portraits), an oil portrait painting, and other documents of his life in Brindisi and Naples.

Additional information from Vladimiro Valerio (email: [vladimir@iuav.it](mailto:vladimir@iuav.it)) or visit <http://www.comune.brindisi.it/>





## Clarification

Reacting to my review of *Fra Mauro's World Map - With a Commentary and Translation of the Inscriptions* which appeared in BIMCC Newsletter 31 (May 2008, pp. 8-10), the author, Piero Falchetta, wrote to me with the request to amend what he calls a 'mistake', since this 'could generate confusion in some readers.' I gladly comply.



This is what Dr Falchetta wrote in his e-mail of 16 October 2008: '...On p. 9 [actually p. 10] you write that the transcription and the reproduction of 1956 edition [the facsimile by Tullia Gasparini Leporace] were used for the present edition. This is not true. I mean that the 1956 transcription was completely revised and compared with the original (and quite a lot of errors were revealed by this comparison); on the other hand, the digital reproduction of the map was realized not from those old images, but from new ones; the photographic material was afterwards digitized and 'corrected' by the colleagues of CIRCE, in order to make it compatible with the aims of our edition.'

Attentive readers of this review will have seen that this is not quite so. Regarding the transcriptions: what I said was that '...it would seem ... they [i.e. those of the 1956 facsimile] did serve as the material basis for this study.' In respect of the reproductions, I certainly

did not say that those of the 1956 facsimile **were** used; I simply pointed out that there were indications (of which all details are in the review) to the effect that 'one is **led to believe** that the 48 original photographs of the 1956 facsimile (or of its re-edition in 2001) have been used to create the image we have before us now.' These are subtle but important differences.

Since Dr Falchetta now clearly states that the 1956 transcriptions were used but completely revised, and that new digital reproductions of the map were made (a statement I could not find in the book), I do hope this clarification will eliminate any doubts among our readers as to the originality of this outstanding work on Fra Mauro's world map of the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century.

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- *Antwerp a forgotten Marquizate*, by Herman Deijnckens and Eric Leenders
- *The very first maps of the County of Hainault*, by Jean-Louis Renteux
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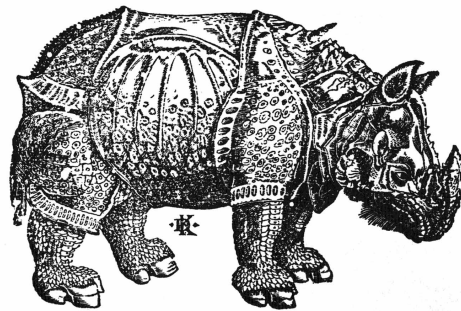
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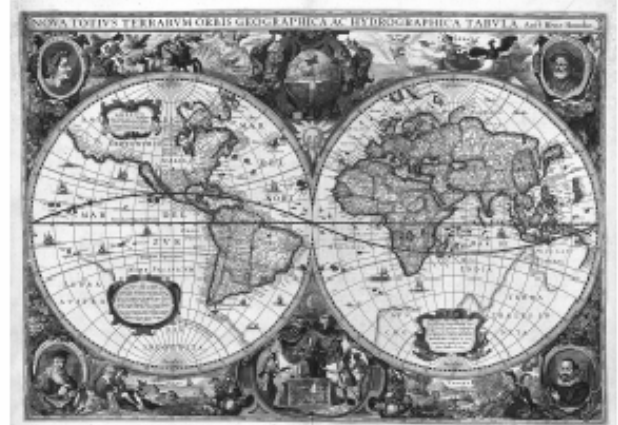
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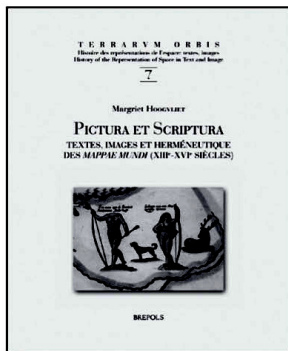
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