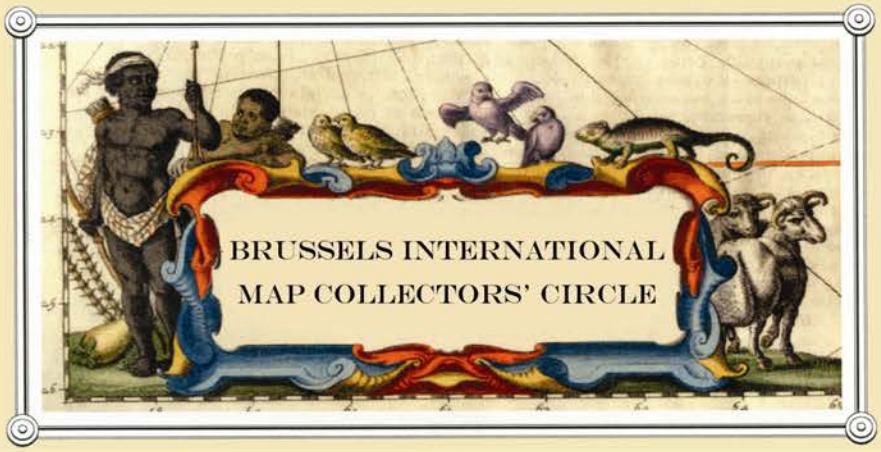

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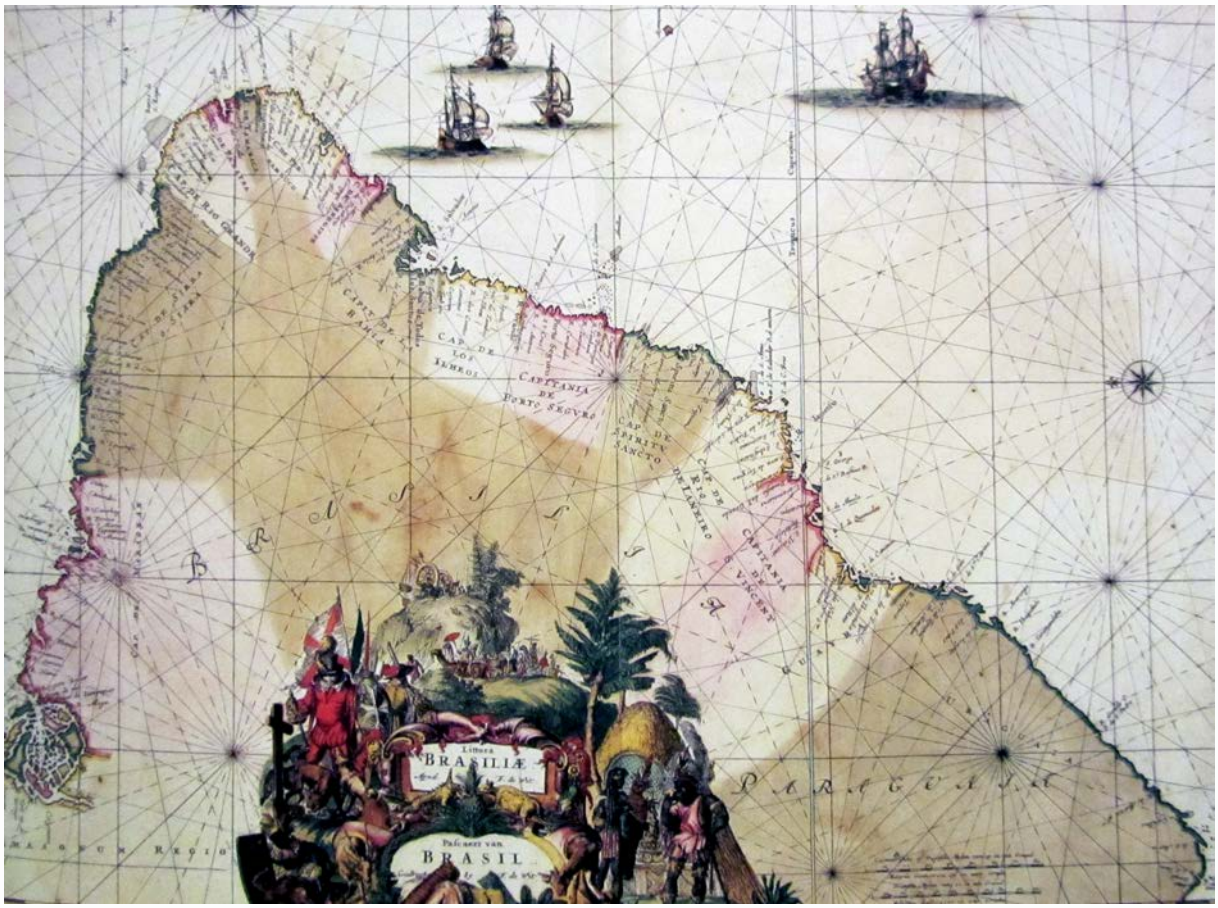
MAPS IN HISTORY

BRAZIL



Also in this issue:

- **2012: Mercator's year**
- **Windmills on the Flanders maps of Mercator**
- **Timelines of the history of cartography**
- **… and the usual departments**

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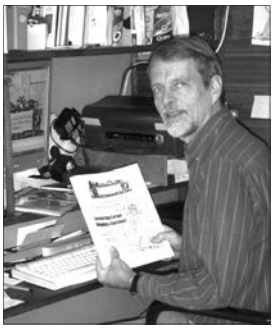
Dear Map Friends,

You have probably noticed: we now have a colour cover! I have been dreaming of this ever since I first introduced an illustration on the front page of the BIMCC Newsletter, back in 2005; it took that many years to convince our treasurer… We have also given it a title, 'Maps in History', to reflect the contents of our publication which has evolved considerably since May 1998, when Wulf Bodenstein wrote, typed, edited and printed the first, four-pages BIMCC Newsletter. We now routinely have forty pages, still comprising a substantial section of News & Events, but also including a number of original articles on the history of cartography.

The keynote subject of this issue is Brazil, shown both on the cover and on the centrefold, since it was the theme of our recent annual Conference (see the full report on page 19).

Another important topic is Mercator, as we now enter the year of the 500th anniversary of his birth (see p. 4). The BIMCC will duly contribute to the celebrations. We start in this number with an article by Pierre Mattelaer, our former Treasurer, who presents original research on a detailed aspect of Mercator's maps (see p. 12). The BIMCC programme (p. 32) also comprises activities related to Mercator. In particular, we would like to invite all of you, who will be in Belgium at that time, to join us for a small ceremony on his actual birthday, Monday 5 March 2012 (at 11.00), in front of his statue in the *Petit Sablon / Kleine Zavel* square in Brussels.

Happy Mercator Year!!



Jean-Louis Renteux
Vice-President & Editor
editor@bimcc.org

NB: Don't forget to renew your membership!

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Cover: *Littora Brasiliae: Pascaert van Brasil* by Frederick De Wit, ca 1690
Back cover: Detail of a manuscript map of the north coast of Brazil, ca 1538

2012: Mercator's year!

Much of what we know about the life of Gerard Mercator (1512-1594), this great cartographer, cosmographer, and instrument and globe maker is from a five (folio) page obituary written by his friend Walter Ghym. This was included in the third and last part of Mercator's atlas, published posthumously by Gerard's son Rumold in 1595 in the title of which the term *Atlas* was used for the first time.

Born Gerhard Cremer (or de Cremer) in Rupelmonde on the River Schelde (East Flanders) to parents who came from Gangelt in the Duchy of Jülich, near Aachen, Gerard latinised his name into Gerardus Mercator and occasionally used the cognomen 'Rupelmundanus'. From 1530 he studied at Leuven University, human sciences first, and geometry and mathematics later, tutored by Gemma Frisius who was the initiator of cartography based on regional surveys by triangulation. Around 1535 Mercator began making astronomical instruments and small globes and was also active as a land surveyor, but rapidly focused his interest on mapmaking. In parallel, fascinated by the mystery of the creation of the universe, he studied the Bible and began to doubt the theological foundations of Catholicism. Suspected (but not convicted) of heresy, he was imprisoned in 1544 for some months, an experience which undoubtedly was a determining factor for his move, in 1552, to Duisburg on the Rhine where a higher degree of religious freedom prevailed.

Whilst in Leuven he drew and engraved his first map (Holy Land in six sheets, 1537) and produced such masterpieces as a double-cordiform world map (*Orbis Imago,* 1538), a wallmap of Flanders (nine sheets, 1540), and two globes of 41 cm in diameter, one terrestrial (1541), the other celestial (1551), the original gores of which are kept in the Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels. In 1540 he also published a brochure on italic handwriting that he had been the first to introduce into cartography.

During the remainder of his life in Duisburg he completed the major part of his cartographic *oeuvre:* in 1554 a 15-sheet wallmap of Europe, ten years later another one in 8 sheets of the British Isles, and in 1569 the world map in 18 sheets, the *Nova et aucta orbis terrae descriptio ad usum navigantium emendate accommodata* (New and augmented representation of the world, corrected and adapted for the use of those sailing the seas) that was to immortalise his name for the projection he used.

Mercator then concentrated on the composition of his cosmography. Realising that Ptolemy's *Geography* had been corrupted in its many editions in centuries past, he first published, in 1578, the redrawn, 'rectified' 28 Ptolemaic maps before compiling the modern maps. These were published in three instalments: 51 maps in 1585 covering France, Switzerland, the Low Countries and Germany, Poland and Hungary – 22 maps in 1589 of Italy, the Balkans and Greece – and lastly, edited in 1595 by Rumold Mercator, all of the preceding maps plus 29 new maps of the Arctic, Iceland, the British Isles, Scandinavia, the Baltics, Russia, Transylvania and Crimea. To these 102 maps that Mercator had made, his son and grandsons added five maps of the world and the continents, but the atlas finally remained incomplete since it was lacking maps of Spain and regional maps of the continents. Mercator's philosophical treatise entitled *De Mundi creatione ac fabrica* (On the Creation and Fabric of the World) was placed at the beginning of the atlas.

The fifth centenary of Mercator's birth will see the publication of two facsimiles, one of the 1569 world map kept in atlas form in the Rotterdam Maritime Museum and edited by Sjoerd de Meer (Walburg Pers, Zutphen, Netherlands, 2011), the other of a Mercator atlas of 1595 in the Deutsche Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Faksimile Verlag Munich, 2012). A companion book in honour of Gerard Mercator by Thomas Horst, commenting on and reproducing all the maps of this particular atlas edition in full colour (but in slightly reduced format), has just been published in Dutch and in French by Fonds Mercator (Brussels, 2011). A review of the French edition will appear in the next Newsletter. A German edition has also been published by Faksimile Verlag for Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt (Germany).

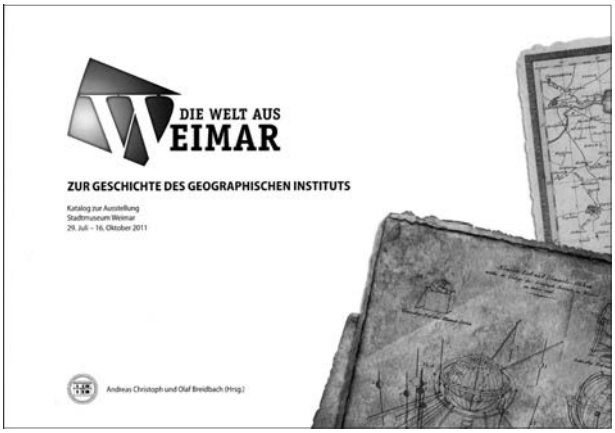
This centenary also gives rise to a number of symposia and commemorative events in various European countries; we have noted the following (see the News & Events calendar for more details):

- Exhibition: 'Steady as she goes - Sailing by Mercator's map', 16 October 2011 - 8 September 2013, Rotterdam
- Celebration of Mercator's Birthday: 5 March 2012 in Brussels and in Rupelmonde
- Exhibition: '500 Jahre Gerhard Mercator - Vom Weltbild der Renaissance zum Kartenbild der Moderne', 10 March - 10 June, Dortmund, Germany
- Conference: 'Mercator Revisited – Cartography in the Age of Discovery', 25 to 28 April, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium
- Exhibitions: Mercator's original Atlas and ‚A Royal Source for Mercator', 25 April - 29 July, Brussels
- 30th IMCoS Symposium: '500 Years Mercator', 9 - 12 September, Vienna
- International BIMCC Conference: 'Mercator and Hondius', 8 December, Brussels

Wulf Bodenstein
wulfbo@scarlet.be

Die Welt aus Weimar – Zur Geschichte des Geographischen Instituts [The World as seen from Weimar – A contribution to the History of the Geographical Institute]

Exhibition in the Weimar Town Museum, 29 July – 16 October 2011.
Catalogue by Andreas Christoph and Olaf Breidbach (eds.), Jena: Ernst-Haeckel-Haus 2011, 170 pp., 79 col. illustrations, soft cover, 21 x 29 cm.
ISBN 978-3-9814576-0-5, EUR 12.50.
To order: Dr Andreas Christoph, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Ernst-Haeckel-Haus, Berggasse 7, D-07745 Jena (Germany) - andreas.christoph@uni-jena.de



In 1791, Friedrich Justin Bertuch (1747-1822), printer and publisher in Weimar, founded the *Landes-Industrie-Comptoir*, which specialised in illustrated journals of different kinds. Responding to an increasing demand for the spread of geographical knowledge, in 1804 he turned one part of his establishment into the Weimar Geographical Institute. It began to publish cartographic material, that is atlases, geography manuals and globes, on a regular basis. Cartographers such as Reichard, Weiland, Gräf, Stieler (prior to joining Perthes in Gotha) and Kiepert all contributed to the early renown of this Institute which, after a long decline, finally ceased to exist in 1908. Maps from their first atlases do occasionally turn up at auction or with dealers.

The exhibition was designed by curator Andreas Christoph to highlight the brighter moments in the history of the *Comptoir* and the Institute. Different types of equipment for field surveys alternated with documents illustrating both Institutes' history and examples of various manufacturing techniques. The display of different specimens of the cartographic output culminated with a globe in the form of a cube (see illustration) which Christoph had reconstructed from original maps made in 1803 by Christian Gottlieb Reichard (1758-1837). It is not known whether Reichard did in fact construct such a globe, but the six maps (42.5 x 42.5 cm) were definitely conceived to achieve such an unusual construction. Christoph has even made an illuminated table version of it.

Reconstructed cube-globe by Reichard

As so often, the catalogue, rather than inventorying items on display, is more of an exhibition companion. In this case it addresses specific subjects I have not seen treated before, and this in perfect harmony with the generally well-written display labels, in German and in excellent English. One subject that provides a revealing insight into the cartographic product line is Andreas Christoph's analysis of the firm's catalogues, another is a portrait gallery of cartographic personalities active in Weimar. In yet another article we read about the astonishing number of travel accounts of Brazil, with maps, evidence of a certain infatuation with this far-away land in culture conscious and world curious Weimar of the beginning of the 19th century.

If you read German and wish to learn more about a little known but important period of German map making, this catalogue, with its great number of attractive illustrations, is a worthwhile addition to your reference library.

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La France en relief, de Louis XIV à Napoléon III
[France in relief, from Louis XIV to Napoléon III]
18 January – 17 February 2012, Paris

Grand Palais, Champs Elysées, Paris - Monday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday: 10.00 – 20.00; Wednesday, Friday: 10.00 – 22.00.
Entrance fee: EUR 5.00 - http://lafranceenrelief.maison-histoire.fr/
Catalogue: 50 p. richly illustrated, EUR 9.00, ISBN: 978.2.7118.5935.1

The exhibition begins with a unique cartographic experience: when you enter, you walk on a vast map of France, 25 by 25 metres, right under the huge glass vault of the *Grand Palais;* you can walk right across France in a couple of minutes, except you want to stop at each step to examine details of the rivers, coastlines, mountains and cities at your feet!

The original coloured manuscript map, at a scale of 1:40 000, comprises 978 sheets. It has never been printed; only a reduced version at 1:80 000 had been issued as 'carte d'Etat-major' [Ordnance survey map] in the late 19th century. It was based on surveys conducted between 1818 and 1866 and it presents a France comprising the county of Nice and Savoy (incorporated in 1860) as well as 'Alsace-Lorraine' (taken away in 1870); however updates have been introduced as late as 1880 and railways have been superimposed.

The *Institut Géographique National* has recently digitised this map and reproduced it for this exhibition; it is also accessible on internet (www.geoportail.fr).

Cities on the edges of this map are still all surrounded by their fortifications. Sixteen of them are also circled in a blue: those for which a relief-plan is displayed in this exhibition (see the example of Neufbrisach below).

The first relief-plans were made in the 17th century (see '3 D maps of the 17th century', in BIMCC Newsletter No 13) for Louis XIV, in a context of French military expansion and of sophisticated poliorcetics. They were used to plan, and justify, the costly construction of new or improved fortifications, to train engineers and officers in siege warfare, and also to serve the prestige of the Sun king.

The relief-plans were built at a scale of 1:600 and represented not only the fortifications, but also the city and the details of its monuments and even the individual houses. In addition the plans represent the surrounding countryside, allowing a clear perception of the configuration of the terrain and in particular of high ground where artillery could be positioned to bomb the city, and of low ground which could be flooded to prevent ground attack. This is a clear advantage compared to conventional paper maps, particularly as contemporary cartography had no effective means of representing the third dimension, such as contour lines.

About 260 of these vast 3D models were built between the 17th and 19th centuries, until the progress of artillery made bastioned fortifications obsolete. The most recent ones, for example Cherbourg or Strasbourg, feature railways, stations and gasometers next to the fortifications. About 100 relief-plans survive and are kept in the *Musée des plans-reliefs* in Paris (*Hotel des Invalides*); but by lack of space (the requirements are huge!), only 23 are permanently displayed there, and another fifteen can be seen in the *Musée des Beaux-Arts* in Lille (see BIMCC Newsletters No 19 and 20).

This exhibition is a unique opportunity to see sixteen of the most spectacular relief-plans which are usually kept in reserve in the attics of the Invalides.

From the map at the heart of the exhibition, you can turn towards three directions.

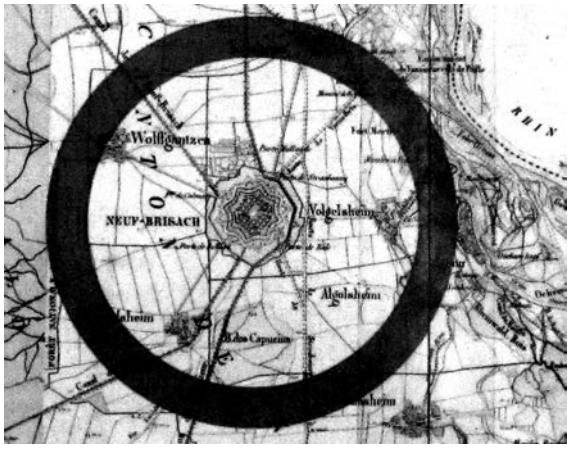
The relief-plan of Saint-Omer (foreground), its reflection in a large mirror and (at the back) the large plasticised map of France on the floor

To the west, you can see two relief-plans representative of coastline defences:

- Brest, the largest naval base in France, with a huge model of 160 m² representing a large portion of the country side surrounding the city and harbour, which completely disappeared under the allied bombs in WW II.

- Cherbourg, the major military harbour facing England whose creation was decided by Napoleon I; however it required the construction of an artificial breakwater off-shore which was only finished under Napoleon III, and inaugurated in the presence of Queen Victoria…

To the north, you can see some of the strongholds which participated, at one stage or another, in the complex history of the formation of the north-eastern border of France.



Neufbrisach marked on the large map of France

Neufbrisach, a small city created from scratch to guard a Rhine crossing, was the opportunity for Vauban to experiment his ideal fortification system: a star-shaped series of three rings of fortifications surrounding a small civilian urban centre with a geometric design.

Such a fortification system could, more or less, be applied to existing cities built on flat land, exemplified here by Saint-Omer, Bergen-op-Zoom and Strasbourg. But the excellent model of Luxembourg clearly shows that even Vauban had to compromise with the terrain.

This terrain factor obviously becomes predominant when turning to the Alpine fortresses which were taken from and lost to the Dukes of Savoy. For example Fenestrelle (now in Italy) features the 'Alps wall' with an altitude difference of six hundred meters between both ends and a stairway comprising 4000 steps!

The relief-plans in these areas are undoubtedly the most spectacular: Besançon, Grenoble, Mont-Dauphin, Exilles, Embrun, Fort-Barraux and, in particular, Briançon.

The most touching relief-plan may be that of Montmélian, made in 1695 to celebrate its capture by the French in 1691 and which shows how, at the end of the siege, the lower town had been completely ruined and the fortress above it, hitherto considered untakable, partly destroyed. Just a reminder that all these nice constructions were meant for war.

The exhibition also offers a number of bonuses: large reproductions of maps and plans of fortifications, screens showing videos with historical explanations and last but not least Google Liquid Galaxy 120° displays allowing travelling around the world by simply playing with a joystick. The most interesting, for map lovers, are the explanations about surveying techniques and the plans and sketches made on the spot in preparation for the relief-plans construction.

It is a pity that such a well prepared exhibition (the removal and installation took a full month) is only staged for four weeks. Let's hope that the fantastic work done to present these relief-plans in their proper historical context will be re-used again and that they will re-appear soon, maybe in the framework of the future *Maison de l'Histoire de France* [House of French History].

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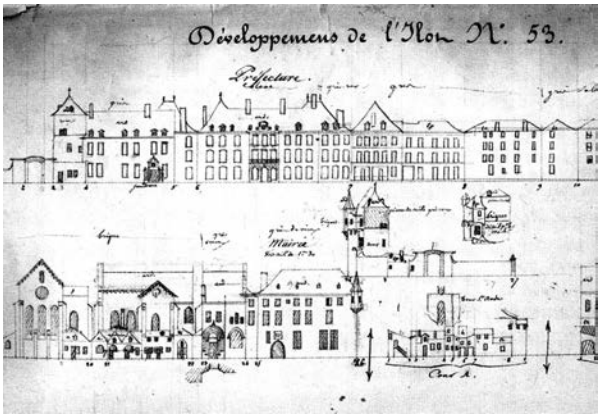


Part of a drawing book made for the development of the relief-plan of Grenoble

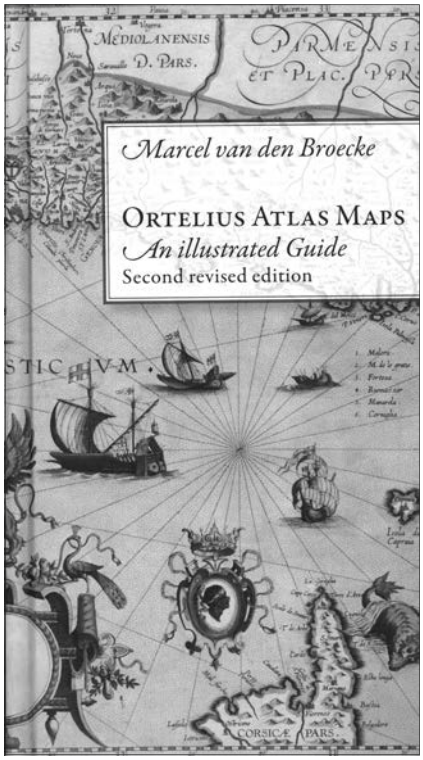
Detail of the relief-plan of Saint-Omer showing the medieval moat and the cathedral (still extant to-day)

Ortelius Atlas Maps – An illustrated Guide (Second revised edition)

by Marcel van den Broecke

Houten (NL): HES & De Graaf Publishers, 2011. 708 pp., 7 ill. and 229 map plates (all b/w), hard cover 24 x 14 cm.
ISBN 978 90 6194 380 8, EUR 79.50.
To order : HES & De Graaf Publishers BV, P.O.Box 540, 3990 GH Houten, Netherlands, www.hesdegraaf.com

For collectors of Ortelius maps and all those interested in the subject, the first edition of this book[1] has been a most valued companion these past fifteen years. As demand for it continued from the time it went out of print a few years ago, the publishers thought of a reprint, but the author, having accumulated an enormous amount of new material since then, proposed a significantly revised and enlarged new edition, which is now before us.



Let us see how the original editorial outline of the guide's first edition has been adapted for this one. The previously established identification number of maps appearing in the first (1570) and later editions of the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (until 1641), also called the 'vdB number' in reference literature, by antiquarians and others, has obviously been kept. It had been allocated by the author to maps in the order usually presented by Ortelius in his atlas. If more than one map of an area occurs in the course of later editions, then these maps are presented consecutively, to allow comparison. As before, each map is illustrated with a small black and white photograph measuring about 7.5 x 10 cm. This is followed by the title of the map, together with a transcription and English translation of all text entries found on the map – a most welcome addition. Next come the familiar items of plate size and approximate scale. Attached to the Ortelius identification number are the habitual coded references to cartobibliographies by Koeman, Meurer, and Karrow, plus a new reference to Peter van der Krogt's revised edition of Koeman's *Atlantes Neerlandici* Vol. III A that became available in 2003 .

The next entry is 'Occurrence in *Theatrum* editions and page numbers'. Whilst previously this was contained in only a few lines, it has been significantly augmented here. In addition to the listing of all editions in which a given map appears, by year, language and page number, we now find end-lines of text on verso quoted which permit positive identification of a given map. The estimated number of copies printed has been updated from recent research, as was the number of different states on record (previously 372, at present 524), and their cartographic sources. Most entries now end with newly added bibliographical remarks and, where available, with references to publications on that particular map.

All this may seem rather technical, but it is the fruit of many years of intensive research by the author, presented in compact yet user-friendly form. It allows the map enthusiast and specialist to confidently identify the origin and date of any of the 229 loose Ortelius map sheets described, as it is in this form that they are usually acquired by the collector. Those in possession of an entire volume of the *Theatrum* are referred to van der Krogt's above mentioned cartobibliography which, in addition to the *Theatrum* editions, also records the smaller-size versions called *Epitome,* not addressed here.

Observant readers might now wish to argue about the number of 229 plates mentioned, since the first edition enumerated 234 plates. The explanation is that van den Broecke's research has shown six of the plates previously listed to be later states of existing plates. Their identification numbers have therefore simply been skipped, so as not to change the numbering sequence. One new plate (of the Americas) has turned up – a fascinating story to read - and this has been given a 'bis' number, so that the total number of single sheet maps considered here is indeed 229.

Needless to say, the introductory chapters about Ortelius as a person, his concept for the creation of the *Theatrum,* its history and corresponding overview tables, the indices of maps by area and by title, as well as advice on how to use this guide have all been brought in line with new findings and contents. Collectors will also appreciate the inclusion of title pages and portraits preceding the corpus of maps.

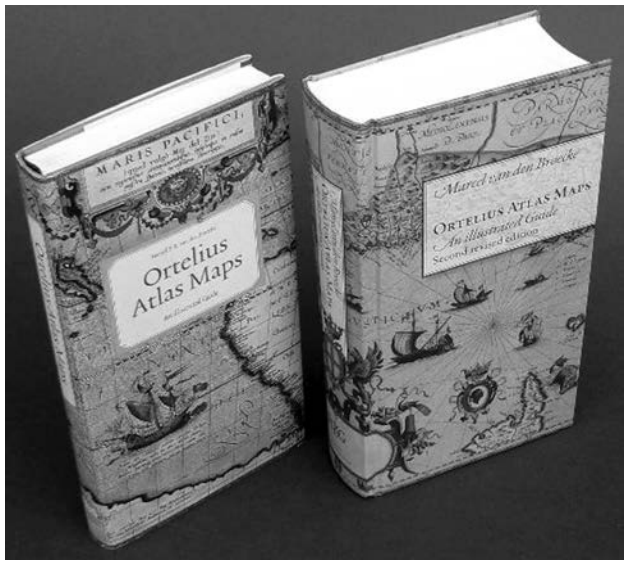
In connection with text quotations from the *Theatrum,* the reader should be referred to van den Broecke's recent publication on verso texts[2] which

[1] Van den Broecke, Marcel P.R., *Ortelius Atlas Maps – An illustrated Guide*, 't Goy (NL): HES Publishers, 1996, 308 pp.
[2] Van den Broecke, Marcel, *Ortelius' Theatrum Orbis Terrarum (1570-1641) – Characteristics and development of a sample of on verso map texts*, Utrecht, Koninklijk Aardrijkskundig Genootschap, Faculteit Geowetenschappen Universiteit Utrecht, 2009

was reviewed in BIMCC Newsletter N° 35 (September 2009). Much more on this specific subject may be found on the author's website www.orteliusmaps.com .

Obviously, in the handling of such a vast volume of data the occurrence of the one or other slight mishap is understandable. The author mentioned one to me, which is the inadvertent replacement of the photograph of map Ort 103 (Silesiae Typus, new plate) by the one of Ort 104 (Moraviae...). Personally I find the map photographs lack a bit of the contrast they offered on the glossy paper of the first edition, but they are still entirely adequate as a means of identification. One may also find it a little difficult to recognise at a glance the rather small print of the map reference number at the top of the right-hand page, much less visible than in the first edition. But this is simply a question of getting used to.

The dust jacket of the first edition revealed the decorative splendour of the map of the Pacific (Ort 12). This time the binding shows, in exquisite colour, the most appealing map of the coast of Genoa (Ort 126) in which some cartouches served to frame the publisher's designs. Both images bring home a point that remains much alive in our circles: a certain fascination with Ortelius. His work continues to animate map enthusiasts' discussions and research endeavours. This new edition has taken a shape akin to that of a bible – a form which admirably matches its cartobibliographic mission as a guide to the appreciation and understanding of all the maps created by Ortelius.



The first (left) and second editions
of the van den Broecke Guide

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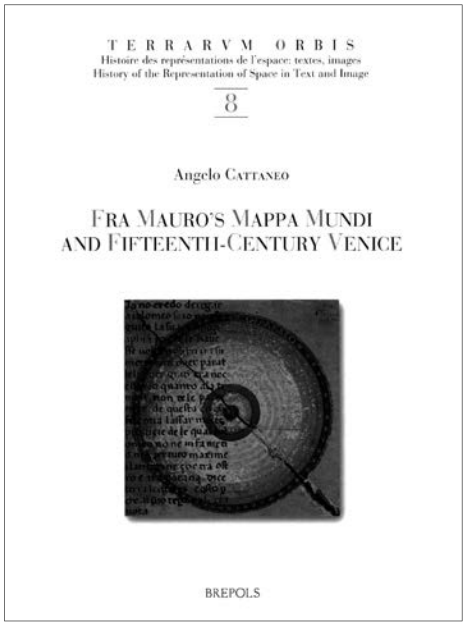
Fra Mauro's Mappa Mundi and Fifteenth-Century Venice

by Angelo Cattaneo

Turnhout: Brepols Publishers, 2011. 470 pp., 3 b/w and 16 colour ills., hard cover 21 x 27 cm. With a folded loosely inserted 38 x 38 cm facsimile of the world map. ISBN 978-2-503-52378-1. EUR 95.00
To order: Brepols Publishers, Begijnhof 67, B-2300 Turnhout, Belgium, tel. +32-(0)14 44 80 20, fax +32-(0)14 42 89 19, info@brepols.net, www.brepols.net



This publication, Volume 8 in the Series *Terrarum Orbis – History of the Representation of Space in Text and Image,* is based on a revised version of a PhD thesis which Angelo Cattaneo defended in 2005 at the Department of History and Civilization of the European University Institute in San Domenico di Fiesole, near Florence.

The objective of this research work, the author explains in the Introduction, was to 'analyse the way in which the *imago mundi* was imagined, represented and systemised within the context of Venetian civilisation and culture in the mid-fifteenth century'. This is brought into focus by means of a new study of the world map created by Fra Mauro around 1450 in the Camaldolese monastery of San Michele di Murano where he was a lay brother. In spite of extensive previous research on this *mappa mundi,* there are still many open questions regarding its numerous sources, its narrative structure, the factors that impacted the map's creation, its material history and its documentary trail. Venice, it is recalled, played a pivotal role in Europe as a centre for world-wide commercial expansion and cultural interchange. Fra Mauro's world map is seen as a logical product of then prevailing streams of ideas and attitudes, at the same time serving as a stepping stone towards unveiling and understanding these.

Let us briefly recall the basic features of this map. Of circular shape (diameter ca 196 cm), it is painted on parchment which is laid down on a wooden board, ca 223 x 223 cm. There are nearly three thousand inscriptions in Venetian vernacular which accompany the several hundreds of images of towns, temples, castles, ships, and depictions of rivers, mountains, the seas. In the four corners of the board are painted the representations of the celestial world, the four elements, the inhabitable earth and the Earthly Paradise, each with lengthy cosmological descriptions. The map is now preserved in the Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana in Venice.

The book is organised in two main parts comprising, respectively, six and two chapters, each of which (except one) is complemented by a Documentary Appendix. Part I, entitled 'Encompassing the fifteenth-century world and re-creating the *imago mundi',* probes into what the author identifies as the processes of cultural construction and ownership of intellectual space implemented by the cartographer. In Chapter I we find new aspects of Fra Mauro's biography, on the dating of the *mappa mundi,* the commissioning of analogous maps for the Portuguese King and the Medici, and the map's reception and influence into the 16th century. The related Documentary Appendix lists original records up to 1600 that mention or describe the world map. Chapters II and III analyse the map as a cosmographic image and a treatise on natural philosophy. The question as to why the map is south-oriented is given some attention. An in-depth study of the images and legends in the four corners of the board, and especially of paradise, casts some new light on Fra Mauro's cosmological thought. A literal transcription of these legends is found in the corresponding Documentary Appendices, coupled with a lexicon of cosmographic terms used by Fra Mauro.

The discussion, in Chapter IV, of the reception of Ptolemy's Geography in Venice, and Fra Mauro's reaction to it, gives the author the opportunity to present a 'forgotten', that is, not yet properly studied, Venetian manuscript of about that time, that could prove to be one of the first (partial) translations of the Geography into Venetian vernacular. The fact that it contains over 60 maps makes this a document of outstanding historical value. The corresponding Documentary Appendix offers an extract of this manuscript, with a list of continental provinces and a transcription of the procedure to draw maps according to different Ptolemaic projections. In Chapter V Cattaneo reveals in compelling detail the use made by Fra Mauro of travel accounts available to him, concentrating on those by Marco Polo and Niccolò de Conti to describe Asia, of particular commercial interest to Venice merchants. In the process he filters out an interesting catalogue of oriental landmarks and spices that Fra Mauro highlights on his map.

Chapter VI focuses on the narrative structure of Fra Mauro's work. The choice of the Venetian language in favour of Latin is discussed and explained, his knowledge base, that is the classical authors available to him, is presented in some detail,

followed by an intriguing exposé on 33 map legends in the first person. Fra Mauro here engaged in a dialogue with his readers in which he exposed, and tried to reconcile, contradictory sources, soliciting the observer's acquiescence. The Documentary Appendix reproduces these, with translation.

Part II of the book, entitled 'Patronage, marketplaces, the history of cartography', first addresses the interesting question of 'How much did a *mappa mundi* like Fra Mauro's cost in Venice, and how does this compare to the price of other cartographic products of that time?' We learn that the manufacture of a square meter of a manuscript of Ptolemy's Geography (27 maps) cost about the same as a square meter of the *mappa mundi,* that is ca. 7 florins or gold ducats. The world map covering roughly 4 m², this would amount to 28 gold ducats, which apparently also was – a pungent piece of information – the purchase price of two slaves. (I found no indication as to its equivalent in a modern currency). The remaining text is devoted to the reception, and occasional copying, of Fra Mauro's world map, as of the middle of the eighteenth century, in Venice, London, Paris, and Lisbon. With a side-glance to the then prevailing perceptions of old and new geographies, the beginnings of the history of cartography are viewed from a new perspective.

Following the Documentary Appendices already mentioned, the book closes with listings of sources, a 28 pp. bibliography, an index, and 16 colour and 3 b/w illustrations showing details of Fra Mauro's and other contemporary and later maps and charts, plus some art reproductions.

Some of the keywords cited in the above text will perhaps bring to mind Piero Falchetta's *Fra Mauro's World Map* which I reviewed three years ago[1]. Cattaneo regularly quotes the translations of legends contained therein, and in many cases offers his own improved version where he considers these inadequate. On a few occasions he outrightly challenges Falchetta's theories. He contests, for example (pp. 126-129 and p. 265), the latter's assertion that a fracture should exist between 'scientific' geographical content on the map and 'doctrinal' cosmological discourse in the adjacent corners. Other differences of opinion arise in the context of source interpretation (pp. 68, 96, 239, 375). I shall leave it to the experts to decide who is right.

Some may be intrigued by the thematic and chronological proximity of two such publications in sequence. At the beginning of the Foreword, the Editor of the series, Patrick Gautier Dalché, anticipates this kind of concern, when he says "At first sight this book may seem redundant, but it is not." I could not agree more. Indeed, it offers a refreshing new scholarly approach to this subject. Those who witnessed Angelo Cattaneo's lively, passionate presentation at our Europalia Conference 'Formatting Europe – Mapping a Continent' in 2007[2] will find his same personal style here, liberally branching out from the main theme in many directions to reveal to us the unknown and the unexpected. On this score Cattaneo, after many years of meticulous research, has produced a rich harvest of new findings on Renaissance Venice and Fra Mauro's world in the literal and in the figurative sense – a valid and welcome complement to anything written before on his fabulous *mappa mundi.*

Wulf Bodenstein
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[1] Brepols, 2006, Volume 5 in the same Series - see Newsletter No 31 (May 2008) and the note of clarification in Newsletter No 33, p.27 (January 2009)

[2] *Europe in late Medieval and early Renaissance World Maps – Provincializing Europe*, Brussels, 16 November 2007

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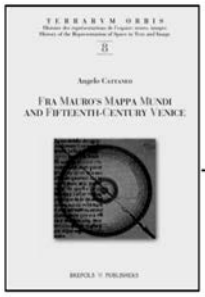
Angelo Cattaneo
FRA MAURO'S MAPPA MUNDI AND FIFTEENTH-CENTURY VENICE



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Windmills on the Flanders maps of Mercator and related maps

By Pierre Mattelaer
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In this article we will trace the presence of windmills on the Mercator maps and later related maps and try to draw some conclusions.

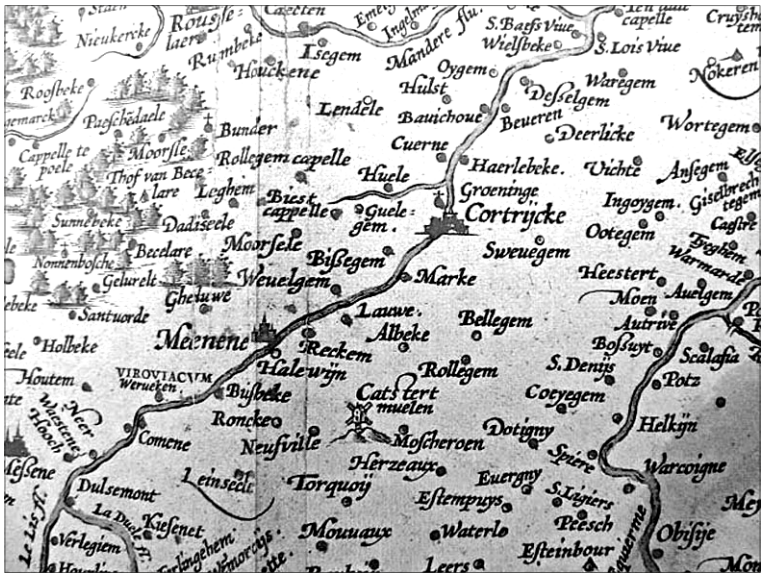
On the famous Mercator map of Flanders of 1540 (*Vlae[nderen] exactissima* [Flandriae descriptio]) on a scale of ca 1:172 000, we find two depictions of windmills: one mill with its full name: the *Catstert muelen* (in the village of Rekkem situated southwest of Kortrijk — or Courtray —) and one on the *Scerpenberg* (now Scherpenberg, in the village of Loker, in the neighbourhood of *Kemle or Kemmel,* southwest of Ieper — or Ypres —). Both windmills are pictured on a little mound. They are of course post mills as are practically all Flemish windmills of that period[1].

On the renowned and many times reproduced *Flandria* map of Mercator (Theatrum Orbis Terrarum, Abraham Ortelius, 1570), with Flanders in an oval frame, on a scale in the range of 1:400 000 (as also the following described maps), we can find the same two windmills, again on a little mound, with their names: the *Catstert muelen* and the *Scerpenberg* mill. Ortelius copied this map with some omissions and some additions and shows us the same two windmills (*Catstert muelen* and *Scerpenberg).* He published this map in his Theatrum Orbis Terrarum, 1595.

The nice map of Flanders *Fla:dria comit: per Gerardum Mercatorem* (Mercator-Hondius Atlas, Amsterdam, 1613) still shows the same mounds, now without the windmills but still with their names *Catstert muelen* and *Scerpenberg* mill.

So far we always have these two and only these two windmills for the entire County of Flanders. We do not expect every mill of the County of Flanders to be mentioned on maps on these rather small scales, but it is still very strange that only two mills are shown when we know that in the period when these maps were published there were certainly hundreds of windmills in Flanders. One wonders why then so few — only two — and especially why just *these two* mills. In order to find out more about it I tried to find an answer in other maps that are related to the Mercator maps.

The first map I came across was the Italian version of the Flanders map of 1540, *Exactissima Flandriae descriptio* by Domenico Zenoi (Venice, 1559). There again I found the drawings of the *Catstert* mill and the *Scerpenberg* mill; but surprisingly in the neighbourhood of the latter two other windmills have been added. Slightly westwards one finds these mills each on a separate mound, located between the villages of Boeschepe and Godewaersvelde (now just over the Belgian-French border, in the vicinity of the Catsberg or Mont des Cats). No names are given. Cornelis de Jode, who probably copied the map for his *Speculum Orbis Terrarum* (Antwerp, 1593) drew the same mills as on the Zenoi map. Probably both Zenoi and de Jode used the map made by the Italian Michele Tramezini for their own versions, so I presume that Tramezini could be the one who added these two new mills. We do not know why he made this addition, especially when we consider that he was not very comfortable copying the Mercator map and that he certainly did not survey the area.



Then let us have a look at the Ludovico Guicciardini maps. Compared with the maps already mentioned these are far less accurate and not as carefully drawn. Many names of villages are missing. The map *Descrittione particulare di Flandria* (in: *Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi* Antwerp, 1567, Sylvius) is on a smaller scale (± 1: 800 000) than his other maps, but shows the four 'bears' as on the 1540 Mercator map (and originally on the Pieter van der Beke map of 1538). So we are sure the Guicciardini map is inspired by the Mercator map. We do not see any sign of the Catstert mill nor the name of Rekkem; but we do see the three other mills on their mounds,

[1] *Post mill*: a mill having a wooden body mounted and revolving on the ("main") post or the upright timber post. Another type is the *Tower mill*: a windmill with a tower of brick, masonry or other material on which only the cap with sails revolves.

southwest of *Ypres* with only the name of one village: *Godewaertsvelde.* These omissions are certainly due to lack of space on this small scale map. Guicciardini has further maps in the other versions of the 'Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi' (1582, Antwerp) and in the 'Beschryvinghe van alle de Nederlanden anderssinds ghenoemt Neder-Duytslandt' (W. Blaeu, Amsterdam, 1612). There we do not see the *names* of the mills of *Catstert* and *Scerpenberg;* but we can see the drawings of the two mills and more or less on the right spot. The extra mills that we found on the maps of de Jode and Zenoi are now missing. So I believe these Guicciardini maps are also engraved as direct copies of the Mercator map. On the map published in 1617 ('Beschrijvinghe van alle de Nederlanden', Utrecht, A. van Herwijck) we see the *Catstert* mill with its name south of *Reckem* (Rekkem) and the Scherpenberg mill west of *Keml* (Kemmel) but without its name. This map was engraved by Pieter van den Keere who signed: *Petrus Kerius cælavit.* The same map was engraved with some changes as 'Celeberimi Flandria Comitatus typus' (in 'Germania Inferior', Amsterdam, 1622). And we see only the *Catstert* windmill. The other ones are not shown, but, because the mound of Scherpenberg is shown with a little circle plus a dot in it, it looks as though this spot was used for (renewed?) triangulation.

We then consulted the map of Flanders in Théodore de Bry's *Grands Voyages* (1588-1597). Again we found the two windmills of the Mercator maps and the two extra mills we mentioned on the Zenoi and de Jode maps. But here we see also other windmills. Ghent is surrounded by twelve windmills; this is for no apparent reason except that the drawer/surveyor sojourned maybe for a while in this city and was impressed by the many windmills he saw.[2] And another surprising feature is the presence of the windmill of Bassilly (southeast of Ath, province of Hainaut), which is allegedly one of the oldest, if not *the* oldest, windmill of the Belgian territory (erected before 1193). Again I have no idea why he added these mills.

Finally, Claes Jansz Visscher drew a nice map of the 'Comitatus Flandriae' decorated with portraits, figures and views of the most important cities (around 1615?). This map is certainly also inspired by the Mercator map and again we see only four windmills - the same as on most of the previous maps (Catstert, Scherpenberg and the other two).

So far some maps have been copies of the Mercator map. From now on we see new and original maps made with a different look.

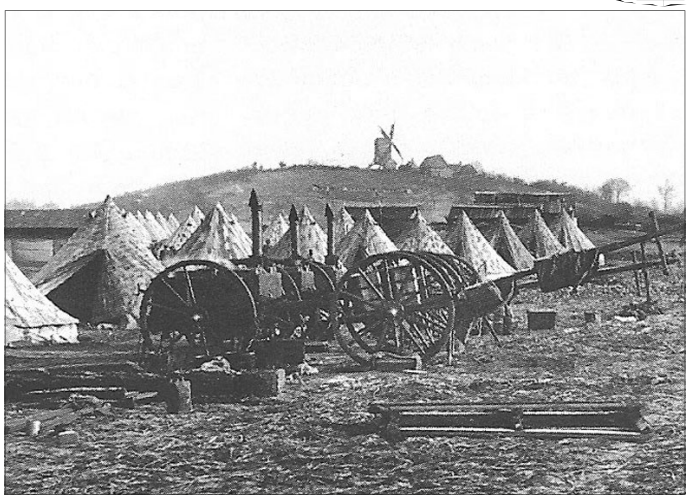
We conclude that we do not find any particular reason why the four windmills (and certainly the *Catstert* mill) are practically the only ones that are drawn on the maps of Flanders in the second half of the 16th century and the first quarter of the 17th century. Of course maps of parts of Flanders (e.g. the maps of the 'Châtellenies') on a larger scale and certainly the city maps usually give more and even an exact number of windmills and at an exact location. But in our case we consider only the maps of a scale in the range of 1 : 400 000 or smaller. And still we cannot give an answer why these four mills are represented on almost all the mentioned maps. One of the surveyors (among others probably, Jacob van Deventer) of the first Mercator map seems to be the main culprit. Was he so favourably impressed by the view of the two windmills on a hill (the Scherpenberg) or a height (the Catstert mill) which was not a very common sight in the flat country of Flanders? Had he befriended the lord-owner of the mills or did they owe something to him as a service in return? Did he use the mounds as the start of his triangulation (the location of the Catstert mill is almost in the middle of the map; and the heights of both mills are visible from very far, even nowadays). We will never know. All the other engravers followed suit and drew the same mills, probably without themselves knowing why. They certainly lacked some originality!

It might be interesting to tell you about some features concerning the *Catstert* and *Scerpenberg* mills.

First the *Catstert* mill. At the time the map was made there was one windmill on the Catstert heights. It was certainly erected a good time before 1541, as we know from a written document, and was a grain mill. Later, after the first map was made (1540) a second windmill was added in the immediate neighbourhood, built in 1549. It was an oil mill. On later maps (e.g. *Castellaniae Corturiacensis Tabula*, Sanderus, 1646) we distinguish the two mills along the way from Kortrijk to Tourcoing (now in France)[3]. Both mills were later witnesses to the *Battle of Mouscron* (29 April 1794) that took place on the heights of Catstert, when the French army under General Souham beat the Austrians and their allied troops under Clerfayt. Some years later a stone windmill was added, so at a certain period there were even three windmills! Nowadays only the huge stone body of the third mill, without sails and cap, is left[4].

The *Scerpenberg* mill (now Scherpenberg) is located on a steep (scherp = sharp) hill 125 m high - an ideal place for a windmill. This mill was certainly built before 1540, the date of the first map. Written documents about the map are known only from 1622 on. It was the grain mill of the village of Loker. Around the time of the making of the Mercator map the

[2] The famous bird's view painting of Ghent, 1534, by an anonymous author, shows more than 20 windmills around the city outside the walls. (Oudheidkundig Museum *De Bijloke*, Ghent).
[3] This road is in fact still the border between the village of Rekkem and the town of Mouscron.
[4] A complete history of the Catstert mills appears in the *Handelingen van de Koninklijke Geschied- en Oudheidkundige Kring van Kortrijk,* 2012. The name *Catstert* changed in later centuries to *Castert* or *Casteert*.



The Scherpenberg mill on the hill with the same name, in 1917. In the foreground we see English tents. A few months later, on 26 April the mill was destroyed during the final 'Kaiser offensive'

villagers of Loker were Calvinists and were in conflict with the Spanish ruler. The iconoclast wave of the second half of the 16th century started in this neighbourhood which was also the reason why Plancius (born in the neighbouring village Dranouter) fled in 1585 to Amsterdam. During World War I the mill was an ideal observation post for the English troops as the frontline was nearby. It is known that on 14 August 1916, King George V 'witnessed shooting by the Field and Heavy Artillery on the German lines…'[5]. The mill was eventually completely destroyed during a short German attack on 28 April 1918. It was never rebuilt.

I come now to my four conclusions:

1. Mapmakers are very often (more or less excellent) copiers but not so much renovators of the content of their maps, since we see sometimes small and really not so important details (as here the presence of these mills) that come back in the different subsequent maps in later years.
2. I cannot imagine why the above mentioned windmills, especially the two invariably present *Catstert* and *Scerpenberg* mills, are drawn on the maps of Mercator and the later related maps of the County of Flanders.
3. It is always interesting to look at unusual details (as in our case the presence of a windmill) to make some comparisons among similar maps and to consider the originality in the work of the makers of the maps studied.
4. The presence of these mills is certainly a plagiarism tracer, as well as the frequently commented upon Vlassenbroek mystery of the Mercator 1540 map.

[5] Imperial War Museum, London (picture of the Scherpenberg mill in 1916 with commentary)

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The interdisciplinary study of old globes is very significant in our time of globalisation. For this reason the International Coronelli Society for the Study of Globes, founded in 1952 in Vienna, and which now has 270 members worldwide, is very important. The Society unites researchers of different subjects (especially history, art-history and cartography), curators of museums and collections, conservators and restorers, private collectors, traders and other globe enthusiasts, who all are interested in old globes, armillary spheres, telluria or planetaria. The members of the Society study these three-dimensional objects and publish their results in its journal 'Der Globusfreund/Globe Studies'. So far 58 full volumes have been published, so the journal is the main work of reference for this topic. The primary concern of the Society is to make inventories of old globes (terrestrial and celestial) and other related astronomical instruments, e.g. globe-clocks, as well as to compile an extensive bibliography about globes. For that, it is very important to meet from time to time to discuss the latest results.

The 12th International Symposium for the Study of Globes took place from 29 September to 1 October 2011 in the 'Rosensaal', courtesy of the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena (Germany), which overlooked the splendid Botanical Gardens. It was organised by the International Coronelli Society in cooperation with the Ernst-Haeckel-Haus (Institute for the History of Science, Medicine and Technology at the Friedrich Schiller University). Most of the participants, numbering about 50 in total, were based in Europe, coming from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, but the USA and Japan were also represented.

Altogether 18 talks in seven sessions were given. The Symposium started with an informal dinner in a restaurant on 28 September 2011 and was opened on the next morning. Sadly, Peter Allmayer-Beck, president of the Coronelli Society could not be there to open the conference because of illness, but the vice-president of the Society, Dipl.-Ing. Wolfram Dolz from the Mathematisch-Physikalischer Salon (Dresden) took the chair in his place. This was followed by a keynote speech of Dr. Andreas Christoph (Jena), who helped to organise the Symposium. His opening paper dealt with the Geographical Institute in Weimar, which, in the 19th century, in addition to maps and atlases, made a diversity of globes. This very interesting theme was one of the topics of an exhibition in the City Museum of Weimar, which the participants were able to see on another day.[1]

The first session, chaired by Peter Barber from the British Library, was dedicated to the famous cartographer Gerard Mercator (1512-1594), who has his 500th birthday in 2012. Jeremy P. Collins (Oxford), who worked for many years at Christie's auction house in London developing the Scientific Instrument and Globe Department, gave an amusing and revelatory talk about 'The Discovery of the Murad III Globes and Armillary Sphere'. These gilded-brass globes, terrestrial and celestial, which have a connection with Mercator, were made for Murad III, who was Sultan of the Ottoman Empire from 1574 until 1595 and were sold in 1991. It was the first time that Mr Collins has been able to speak about his discovery of this magnificent globe pair, however, it is not known where the globes are preserved today after their sale.

The Murad III terrestrial globe

Dr. Thomas Horst (Bundeswehr University, Munich) also presented a paper about Gerard Mercator. He spoke about the influence of his famous 1569 world map on 16th-century globes (like the terrestrial globe of Philipp Apian)[2] as well as about his recent discovery of an astronomical/astrological disc (dated May 1551) from Mercator, which can be found at the foot of Mercator's celestial globe preserved in the State Library of Berlin.

The second session was chaired by Sylvia Sumira (London). The first two papers of the afternoon were devoted to the conservation of globes. T.K. McClintock (Somerville, USA) spoke about methods of filling losses and damaged areas on a range of globes using digital photography, and Dr. Mara Miniati (Italy) talked about the conservation strategy concerning the six Coronelli globes in the

[1] Cf. also the Catalogue of this exhibition: Andreas CHRISTOPH – Olaf BREIDBACH (Hrsg.): Die Welt aus Weimar. Zur Geschichte des Geographischen Instituts. Katalog zur Ausstellung, Stadtmuseum Weimar, 29. Juli-16. Oktober 2011, Jena 2011 (ISBN 978-3-9814576-0-5) and the „Exhibition Guide" by Niklas-Johann BREDE, ANDREAS CHRISTOPH, FRANCIS HERBERT and Claudia MEISSNER.

[2] Cf. his study about *The Manuscript Globes of Heinrich Arboreus and Philipp Apian: The History of their creation*, in: Globe Studies 57/58 (2011), S. 107-123, whereby he got the Fiorini-Haardt-Price of the Coronelli Society in 2010.

collection of the Museo Galileo, formerly the *Museo di Storia della Scienza* in Florence. This was also a demonstration of a productive collaboration of curators, scientists and conservators. Dr. Georg Zotti (University of Technology, Vienna) then presented an interesting paper about processing flat globe gores and other maps into virtual globes using modern graphics technology.

After that, the third session dealt with the fabrication of globes in the time of the Enlightenment: Prof. Dr. Karin Reich (emeritus historian in the field of History of Science of the Hamburg University), presented together with Dr. Elena Roussanova (Hamburg) completely new research in their talk 'Geomagnetism and Globes: Globes with magnetic delineation lines'. They gave an overview of globes which showed lines of magnetic variation which started to appear after the publication of Edmund Halley's 'Tabula Nautica' in 1701. Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646-1716) referred to such a little hand globe, which is mentioned in 1712 and was seen by Alexander von Humboldt in 1829, but which does not exist anymore. Also the famous Swedish globe-makers Anders Akerman and Fedrik Akrel included such lines on their globes in the 18th century.

Following on, Dr. Markus Heinz (State Library of Berlin) spoke about 'A Globe Contradicting Newton and Einstein'. This unusual globe was patented by Aurel Anderssohn in the 1880s, and was later used by a group of non-academic physicists to support their arguments against Einstein's theory of relativity.

Dr. Petra Svatek (University of Vienna) gave a very interesting talk about the 'globe' as an object of research. She presented the intensive research especially about the so-called Brixen Globes (now preserved at the Yale Center for British Art), which probably were made by Johannes Schöner in the 16th century. They were studied extensively at the Universities of Vienna and Innsbruck in the 19th and 20th centuries by Eugen Oberhummer and Franz von Wieser. We can now look back and see their studies in a historical context.

The day ended with a guided tour through the Optical Museum in Jena, where all participants could see rare optical instruments as well as a small collection of old globes.

The second day of the Symposium on Friday 30 September started with a paper by Dr. Ulrike Weinhold (Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden), who talked about the iconography of Atlas and St. Christopher on two silver globe cups from Augsburg created between 1624 and 1629 by Elias Lenker and Johannes Schmidt, which are preserved in the Green Vault in Dresden.

In a complementary talk, Wolfram Dolz (Mathematisch-Physikalischer Salon, Dresden) described the cartographic sources of these cups, concluding that Isaac Habrecht II was the source. Dr. Stefaan Missinne (Vienna), a private collector of globes, gave a talk about the description and dating of a silver and gold-gilt celestial globe-cup, which is in his collection and shows the English Royal coat of arms.

The fifth session (chaired by Dr. Jürgen Hamel, who is famous for his popular science contributions in the history of astronomy) dealt mainly with the cartography of the sky. Lic. Phil. Patrizia Solombrino (ETH Zurich/Switzerland) gave, from an art historical perspective, a very interesting talk about 'New Imagery at the Starry Sky in the 17th century', especially about the celestial charts by Julius Schiller (1627) and the celestial globes by Amanzio Moroncelli (1713). After that, James Sykes (New York City), showed completely new results belonging to the so-called Giovio-Globes, a pair of unrecorded 16th century globes, which are in his private collection: The celestial globe is a very close copy of Caspar Vopel's 1536 celestial globe, while the terrestrial globe is clearly based on Mercator's 1541 globe. Moreover, Prof. Dr. Marica Milanesi (University of Pavia, Italy), known internationally because of her excellent studies in the History of Italian Cartography and about the globe-maker Vincenzo Coronelli (1650-1718) in particular, gave a talk about 'An Unknown Late 17th century Celestial Manuscript Globe' with a diameter of 32 cm, which she has found in a private collection in Rome.

After lunch, Dr. Andreas Christoph showed globe-related terrestrial and celestial models of Christlieb Benedikt Funk (1736-1786), who has created various depictions of the earth and sky in simplified globe form and as cones. Furthermore, Dr. Peter Schimkat

Participants in the Coronelli Symposium
Photo by. Gottfried Satek (Vienna)

Heraldic-celestial globe of Erhard Weigel (1699) in the Duchess Anna Amalia Library Weimar
Photo: Sylvia Sumira

Wolfram Dolz, vice-president of the International Coronelli Society with the famous terrestrial globe, made by Johannes Schöner in 1515, which was for a long time part of the 'Mathematisch-Physikalischer Salon' at Dresden;
Photo: Thomas Horst

(Kassel) speculated about how the globe pair by Emery Molyneux in the 16th century found its way to the princely collection of Kassel. The third speaker of this session, Anthony Turner (Paris) was unable to come, so Prof. Rudolf Schmidt (Vienna), long-time president of the Coronelli Society, took the chance to speak about the operation method of Vincenzo Coronelli, who was much more than a cosmographer: He processed the newest data he could find in Venice. Moreover, Prof. Schmidt spoke in detail about Coronelli's concave and convex celestial globes – this was really a highlight of the Symposium, because he improvised – and this at an age of 87!

In the last session only one theme was presented: Dr. Jürgen Hamel (Berlin) gave a talk about 'The heraldic silver globe of Erhard Weigel in the Kassel Collections'. Erhard Weigel (1625-1699), had been a Professor in Jena and his house, where he made astronomical observations, was one of the 'seven wonders' of the city. He also invented heraldic constellations on globes. With this paper, the Symposium, the organisation of which was excellent, came to a conclusion. The day ended, after a general meeting of the Coronelli Society, with a collective dinner in a typical traditional restaurant.

The following day, all participants had the opportunity to go to Weimar, where a special tour of the Duchess Anna Amalia Library had been arranged. The library was partially burnt in a fire in 2004, but fortunately, the superb collection of globes there was not affected. More than 25 globes could be seen. The collection includes one of only two copies of the 1515 terrestrial globe by Johannes Schöner[3], and also the famous globe pair of Schöner dating from around 1534. A terrestrial globe by Mercator was also on display and many other fine examples of the globe-makers art. After the visit to the library, the participants were able to go on a guided tour to discover the City of Weimar, which is famous because Friedrich Schiller (1759-1805) and Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832) have lived and worked there in the time of the Romanticism. But also an important Geographical Institute, founded in the 19th century by Friedrich Justin Bertuch, had its home in Weimar. An exhibition about the history of this institute was on in the City Museum of Weimar, and this related closely to several of the papers given at the Symposium.

As with many conferences, long-standing contacts were refreshed, new friends were made and many ideas were exchanged. Thanks must be given to Jan Mokre, Curator at the Globe Museum in Vienna, Dr. Andreas Christoph in Jena, and the organising committee for enabling this stimulating Symposium to take place.

For further information on the International Coronelli Society for the Study of Globes go to http://www.coronelli.org/. Membership is only 30 euros year and includes your subscription to the scientific Journal 'Der Globusfreund/Globe Studies'.

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Sylvia Sumira (London)
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[3] See also the new book by Chet VAN DUZER: Johann Schöner's Globe of 1515. Transcription and Study (Transactions of the American Philosophical Society 100, Part 5), Philadelphia 2010.

Liber Floridus - the world in a book

BIMCC excursion to the Liber Floridus exhibition at the STAM museum in Ghent 8 October 2011

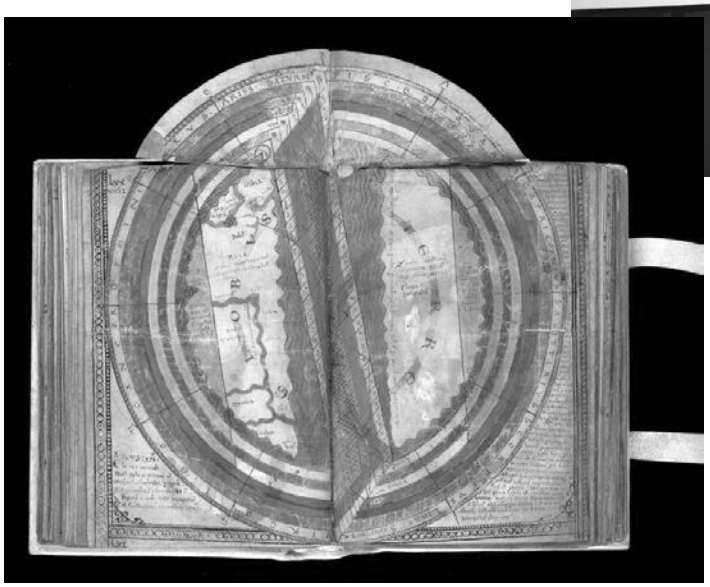
In the early twelfth century Lambert, Canon of Saint-Omer (now in French Flanders), compiled an encyclopaedia of the knowledge of his predecessors. In the book entitled Liber Floridus he describes the world and the cosmos, and man's life within that greater whole. His own contribution was mainly in the fields of cosmography, geography and cartography. Lambert illustrated his findings with colourful miniatures which help make this medieval encyclopaedia a truly superb piece of work. He was drawing maps of the world four centuries before cartography became a discipline in its own right. And, yes, the earth was... round!

Around 20 BIMCC members and friends took part in the visit, guided by Karen de Coene, one of the curators of the exhibition. We were also joined by David Jones, Map Librarian of the Willliam C. Wonders Map Collection at the University of Alberta, Canada, over here on a family visit, but delighted with the opportunity to see the exhibition. It starts with blow-ups of some of the most important plates of the Liber Floridus, the large size and backlighting really helping us to see a lot of the detail. As maps at that time (12th century) were intended to bring together information onto one sheet, rather than give us directions from one place to another, we saw several different ways of portraying our universe.

Lambert compiled the knowledge because he thought that past masters would be forgotten and he drew information and inspiration from sources going back to the 8th and 9th centuries.

The second part of the exhibition shows 16 of these presumed sources, among them works by Isidorus of Seville, Aratus, and Guido van Pisa. Each was open at one of the appropriate pages, with the plate from the Liber Floridus beside it. Many of the books are richly illuminated.

Finally we arrived at the Liber Floridus itself, and although we could only see the pages that were open, we all felt more familiar with the pages hiding from us.



Liber Floridus, Universiteitsbibliotheek Gent

Many thanks to Karen for giving us just the right quantity of information with a much appreciated light touch.

Afterwards we crossed the road for a convivial end to the afternoon.

Nicola Boothby
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The exhibition 'Liber Floridus - the world in a book' was held from 30 September 2011 - 8 January 2012 in the STAM, Stadsmuseum Gent, Bijlokesite, Godshuizenlaan 2, B - 9000 Gent
There is a beautiful book to go with the exhibition, and also a poster
http://www.liberfloridus.be

Brazil on Early Maps
International BIMCC Conference
Saturday 10 December 2011
Royal Library of Belgium, Brussels

Around fifty map enthusiasts - professionals and amateurs, BIMCC members and non members who had perhaps seen the conference advertised in the context of the Europalia festival - met at the Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels for the Annual International Conference. As is now the tradition, the theme of the conference was aligned with the Europalia festival, which takes place every two years, and in 2011 was on the theme of Brazil.

Caroline De Candt, BIMCC President, started the conference by welcoming all those present and giving us an overview of the day. She particularly thanked Wouter Bracke, Head of the Maps and Plans department of the Royal Library, who had organised a superb display of maps of Brazil in the conference area entrance hall.

The first speaker was **Iris Kantor**, from the University of Saõ Paulo who began her presentation with a stunning video, showing the evolution of Brazil in maps from the very earliest representations onwards. This really set the scene for the rest of the day.

The presentation concentrated on the evolution of toponyms in maps of Brazil:

– when and how did they become important to the European powers

– how they currently help Brazilians to appreciate the evolution of their own country

– how place names, although having no legal validity, gave the place concerned a kind of symbolic sovereignty.

Iris Kantor

The Portuguese and the Spanish approached the map-making of Brazil in different ways. The Portuguese concentrated on the coastline, accurate distances between ports, and any information related to the exploitation of 'pau brasil', the precious wood that eventually gave its name to the country. Here we see commerce having a major influence on map-making, the wood and its red dye being an important export to Europe at the time. The Spanish maps concentrate more on the actual geography, and on towns and settlements. The French from the school of Dieppe (Pierre Desceliers) used Portuguese toponyms.

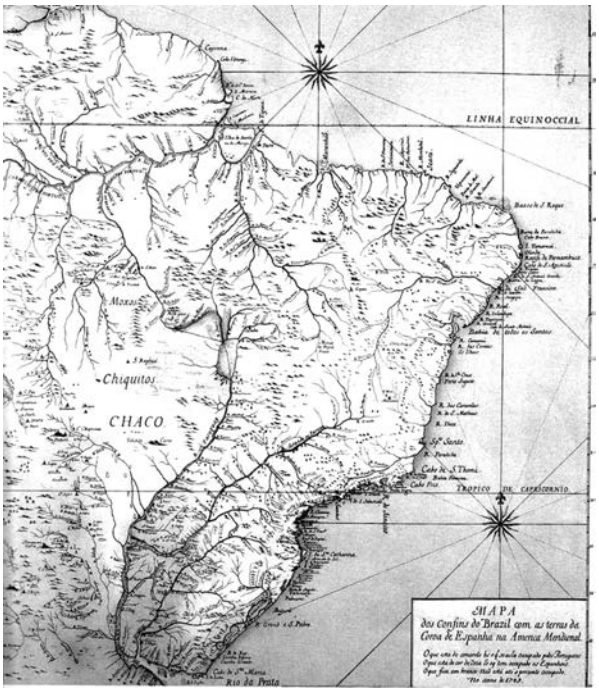
Maps were also used to reinforce Christian cosmology, and complemented Christian calendars. Landings were frequently said to occur on a saint's day, and the place thus given the name of that saint. Other naming conventions were taking the indigenous name, or honouring a European place name, as in 'New…'.

In 1750 the Treaty of Madrid was signed by Spain and Portugal. It was based on the principle of Roman law *Uti possidetis, ita possideatis* (who owns by fact owns by right) and regulated the actual situation, allowing further expansion of the Portuguese Empire at the expense of the Empire of Spain. This expansion eventually led to the formation of the Empire of Brazil. In addition Portugal demanded that all indigenous, 'barbarian' names should be changed to Portuguese names, and banned the use of native languages – everyone had to speak Portuguese.

In 1808 the Portuguese court moved to Rio de Janeiro, just days prior to Napoleon's capture of Lisbon. From this time on indigenous names started to re-emerge.

In 1822 Brazil achieved independence from Portugal, but there were many disputes regarding the borders. Brazil managed to keep her borders intact largely because of the native place names, although this did not necessarily help the native people themselves.

1749 map of Brazil
used for the Madrid treaty negotiations



Next up was **Martijn Storms**, of the University Library, Leiden, who gave us a close-up of a single map, the Marcgraf map of Dutch Brazil. 2010 saw the 400th anniversary of the birth of Georg Marcgraf, who in 1637 was appointed astronomer of a company being formed to sail to the Dutch colony in Brazil. He accompanied Willem Piso, a physician and the newly appointed governor of the Dutch possessions there. He afterwards entered the service of Count Maurits of Nassau, who supplied him with the means of exploring a considerable part of Brazil. He arrived in Brazil in early 1638 and undertook the first zoological, botanical, and astronomical expedition there, exploring various parts of the colony to study its natural history and geography. His large map of Brazil, an important event in cartography, was published in 1647. According to Cuvier, Marcgraf was the most able and most precise of all those who described the natural history of remote countries during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

M. Storms

In the mid-seventeenth century maps of Brazil were relatively poor, and so Marcgraf's map was a real contribution to the knowledge of the country at the time. In 1640 he started the surveys and carried out six others between then and 1641. In 1643 he completed his surveys and produced four detailed maps of prefectures; in 1647 the wall map was published, the copperplates having been engraved in Blaeu's workshop. There were four map sheets. Modern software ('Map Analyst') can now show us just how accurate the map it, with the highest levels of accuracy at the coast. The map is also famous for its outstanding decorative images showing scenes from Brazilian life (sugar mills, expedition departure, sea battle). These were painted by Frans Post, a painter also working with Count Maurits of Nassau. Frans Post may also have contributed to the engraving of the copperplates.

The map was published several times in Amsterdam in the seventeenth century: between 1647 and 1662 in 4 sheets, and then later in 9 sheets, by Blaeu (Atlas Maior), in 1659 by Hugo Allard, in 1664 by de Jonghe and, as late as 1721, by Covens & Mortier.

The conference then took a break for a convivial lunch in the restaurant of the Royal Library and afterwards we had some time to enjoy Wouter Bracke's display of maps of Brazil.

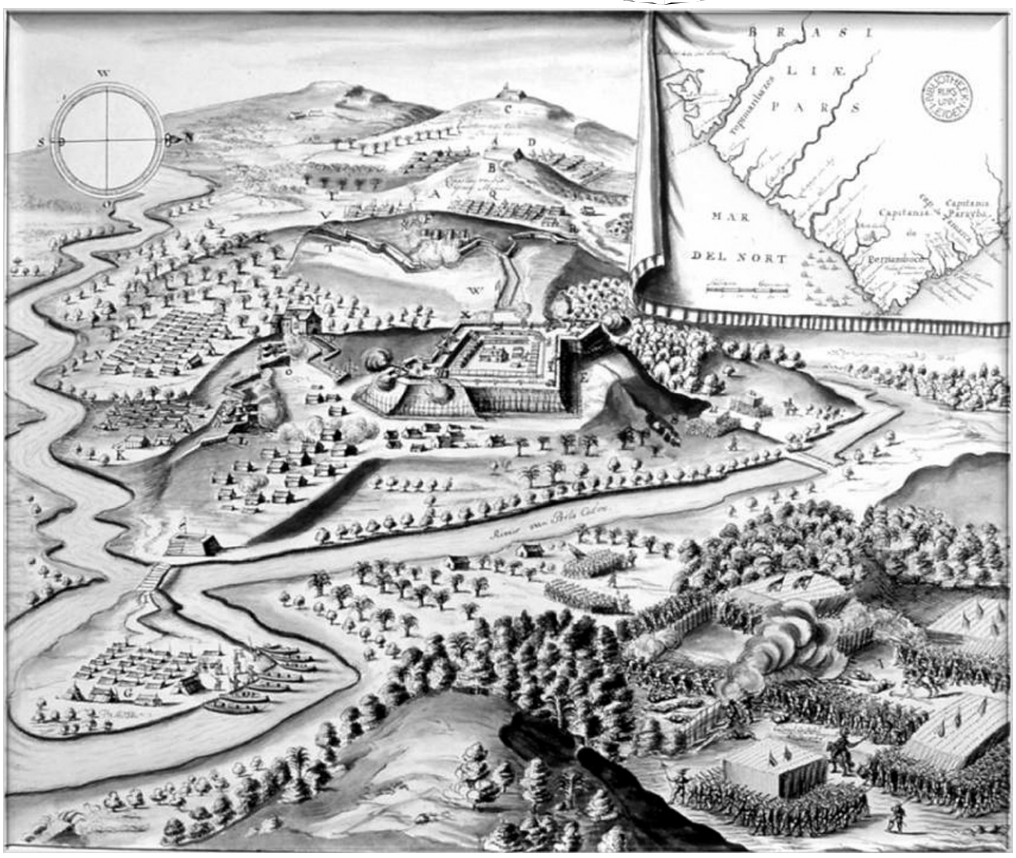
Detail of the Marcgraf map, 1647

After lunch we heard from **Raymond Buve**, from the University of Leiden, who gave us a history of Dutch maps in Brazil. In a nutshell, the history itself is as follows:

Dutch Brazil was the northern portion of Brazil, ruled by the Dutch during their colonisation of the Americas 1630-1654. From 1630 onward, the Dutch Republic came to control almost half of the area of Brazil at the time, with their capital in Recife. The Dutch West India Company (WIC) set up their headquarters there. The governor, Count Maurits of Nassau, (employer of Marcgraf and Frans Post, see above) invited artists and scientists to the colony to help promote Brazil and increase immigration. Battles ensued between the Dutch and the Portuguese further south with the final outcome being on 6 August 1661, when Dutch Brazil was formally ceded to Portugal through the Treaty of The Hague.

J.L. Renteux and R. Buve

Professor Buve told the audience that the Dutch learned from the sea-faring people of Antwerp, and from the Spanish and Portuguese sea route charts. Their maps were based on: the maps of Van Keulen, which also contained information from privateers and



Porto Calvo, 1637

deserters, the West Indian Hydrographic Company in Recife, and the Bodel Nijenhuis collection.

1624 - the Spanish fleet was captured by the Dutch off Cuba. The Bahia de todos os Santos map dates from this time and shows towns and harbours.

1629 - the Blaeu map of Brazil - Novus Brasilia Typus – Portuguese Brazil was seen at this time as the back door to the silver mines in Peru.

1630 - Hessel Gerritsz's map shows the building of forts such as that protecting the West India Company in Recife.

1630s - Several maps describing the Pernambuco area and Olinda.The Dutch West India Company was moved to Recife, and the Dutch gained information on outlying areas from Portuguese deserters. One of the most interesting maps of this period is what appears to be an aerial map of the town of Nostra Signora de Concepcion.

1640 - maps tend to show specific features – towns, silver mines etc. Sometimes the Dutch maps are imposed on the original Portuguese maps.

After a short interlude for questions the conference moved to the last speaker, Professor Ben Teensma, University of Leiden, *who took us through some of the Dutch West India Company 'rutters' — 'sets of instructions for finding one course at sea'.*

Three seventeenth century Dutch Brazilian rutters have survived into modern times. **Ben Teensma** talked about two of them. The first appeared in 1629, and is by Hessel Gerritsz. It has an extensive geographical anthology and many coastal drawings. Some individual items within the rutter include: a report in Tupi (a local language), a description of the local sugar facilities around Pernambuco, and information on access to the port of Recife. It was put together as a guide for the commanders of the Dutch sea and land forces that conquered a bridgehead for the Dutch West India Company in Pernambuco in March 1630. Apparently this rutter has never been published either in the original Dutch or in a Portuguese translation, but only in French.

The second rutter Ben Teensma described dates from 1637 and was put together by Johannes de Laet. De Laet was a frequent visitor to the WIC archives in Amsterdam, and selected the most relevant documents to send to Count Maurits of Nassau. Information sources for the rutter came from local people, ships' captains, ship harbour pilots, Dutch inhabitants, sailors, deserters, and Portuguese sea captains. Improving navigation in Brazilian waters was of prime concern to the Dutch colonial government in Recife. The rutter also contains a summary of the sugar mills, and information on timber (Brazilwood), tobacco and manioc.

B. Teensma

Unfortunately there was not enough time for the audience to hear about the third rutter. This one is dated 1648, and Professor Teensma considers it 'one of the paramount highlights in the WIC collections of the National Archives in the Hague'. It was published both in Dutch and in Portuguese for the first time on 3 November 2011, so we now all have access to it!

Caroline De Candt ended the conference by thanking all the speakers and the audience.

See you all, on 8 December 2012, at the next BIMCC conference which will be devoted to 'Mercator and Hondius' !

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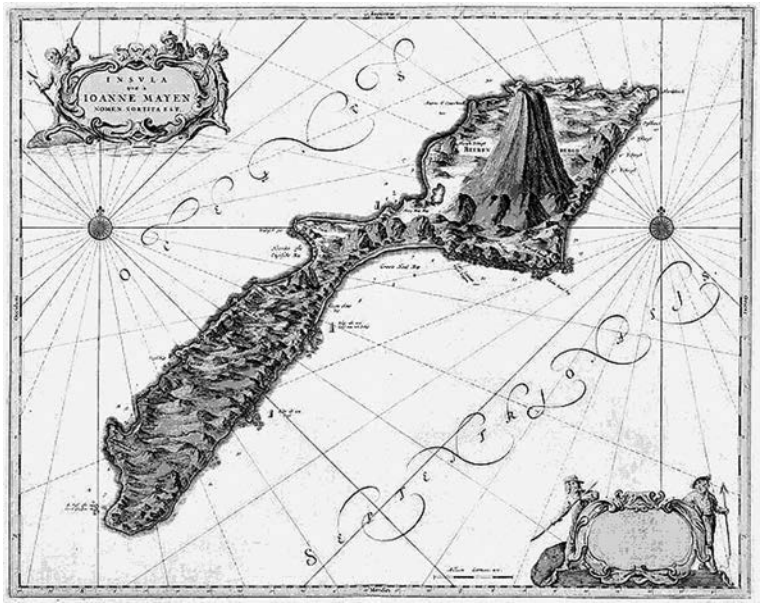
Brazil by Giacomo
© University of Saõ Paulo (2012

o Gastaldi, 1556
www.mapashistoricos.usp.br)

Jan Mayen, Blaeu
What's in a place name?



Jan Mayen island on Blaeu's *Atlas Mayor*

Before you read this article, search at 'Google earth' the name 'Jan Mayen'.

Done, ok? Right, now you have a first feeling about this island and this short study. The island lies (71°N / 8°W) 600 km northeast of Iceland, 500 km east of central Greenland and 1 000 km west of the North Cape, Norway, along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The island (55 km long and in total some 373 km² in area) is mountainous: its highest summit is the Beerenberg ('bearmountain', still officially called so in Dutch) a volcano of 2 277 metres[1]. The isthmus, 2.5 km wide, is the location of two large lakes[2], the Sørlaguna (South Lagoon), and Nordlaguna (North Lagoon).

The early history of Jan Mayen is rather obscure. Some historians believe that an Irish monk, Brendan, who was known to be a good sailor, was close to Jan Mayen Island in the early 6th century. He came back from one of his voyages and reported that he had been close to a black island, which was on fire, and that there was a terrible noise in the area. He thought that he might have found the entrance to hell. Viking sailors are also believed to have known about the island.

The first documented discovery of the island dates from the early 1600s when Dutch and English whalers sailed in the area in search of new hunting grounds. It is a controversial point whether a certain William Hudson may have seen the island while on expedition in 1607/1608. In January the Dutch established the Noordsche Compagnie (Northern Company), modeled on the Dutch East India Company, to support Dutch whaling in the Arctic. The island is named after the Dutchman Jan Jacobs May van Schellinkhout who visited the island in July 1614 when his first mate did some mapping of this barren volcanic place with some moss and grass and so honoured his Captain with the name. There were/are no indigenous inhabitants. The Dutch whalers established several whale oil boilers on the island where they extracted oil from the blubber of whales. In 1633 Michiel Adriaenszoon de Ruyter sailed on the 'Groene Leeuw' under Captain Jochem Jansen and stayed for 21 days at the island. When whaling activity was at its highest more than 1000 men were based on the island during the summer months. They also established fortifications on the island to protect their bases from plundering. As a result of the hunting activities the Greenland whale nearly disappeared and whaling near Jan Mayen came to an end between 1640 and 1650. The island was deserted and for the next 230 years only a few ships visited the island.

Official Norwegian activity on Jan Mayen started and has been continuous since 1921 when the first meteorological station on the island was established. Weather reports from Jan Mayen are important for weather forecasting in Norway and the Norwegian Sea and in 1922 the Norwegian Meteorological Institute annexed the island for Norway[3]. By Royal Decree of 8 May 1929 Jan Mayen was placed under Norwegian sovereignty and by law of 27 February 1930 the island was declared a part of the Kingdom of Norway. The island was not occupied during World War II, and remained as 'Free Norway'. In 1943 the USA built the radio-station Atlantic City to check and locate secret German stations on Greenland! In 1970 the volcano at Beerenberg erupted again. Today, Norway still shoots about 250 whales per year around the island.

It is exactly this unique short-lived Dutch presence that was eternalised for us by the Blaeu family. Jan Mayen Island first appeared on Willem Jansz Blaeu's 1620 edition map of Europe (but originally published by Cornelis Doedsz in 1606). On the Europe chart, Jan Mayen and Spitsbergen were added as insets. Blaeu named it Jan Mayen and so he established the name. He also made a first detailed map of the island in his 'Zeespiegel' atlas of 1623. His son Joan published a superb map of the island in the Atlas Major 1665 showing the island in all its grandeur. Note the crosses left (west) of the Beerenberg. The Dutch also mentioned an 'English Bay'! Since Jan Mayen was deserted again by the late 1640ies for more than two hundred years, it is no wonder that only very few old maps of this island exist.

Stanislas De Peuter
stanislas.depeuter@gmail.com

[1] The Beerenberg is not only the highest point in the Kingdom of Norway but also its only volcano.
[2] Not shown on the Blaeu map.
[3] And part of the Norwegian county of Nordland, to which it is closely located.

Het lezen van oude kaarten [The reading of ancient maps]
Course on the history of cartography at the University of Ghent
Saturday 22 October 2011: "Cartografie en geschiedenis" [Cartography and history]

Some 45 alumni had registered for the first session of this course, among whom quite a few BIMCC members. Prof. Dr. Philippe De Maeyer gave a chronological overview of the evolution of cartography, from the earliest times till today. These more than 2500 years of steady evolution of techniques to measure and represent the earth and to determine positions on it, is hard to summarise in just a few pages. However, Prof. De Maeyer provided a few timelines that offer a comprehensive overview of the political situation, the most important scientists, cartographers and editors of those days. They are shown here in black and white, but can be seen and downloaded in colour on our website (http://www.bimcc.org/bimcc-history.htm). This article has to be limited to comments on just the most important topics.

A word of introduction first: the word 'cartographer' wasn't used before the 19th century. Instead, one referred to geographers, cosmographers… It was in France, around 1877, that the word cartographer was first used. Today, the International Cartographic Association defines cartography as 'the discipline dealing with the conception, production, dissemination and study of maps'.

Comments on the 'Antiquity' timeline

Whereas Pythagoras and his followers apostle a geocentric system, with a spherical earth in the centre of all planets, it was Philolaos who proclaimed the earth and all the planets were revolving around a central fire. Copernicus would much later on explicitly use this thesis to build his revolutionary theory on it.

Herodotos, noting down his travel experiences, would confirm the Pythagorean view that the earth was round and contained three continents: Europe, Africa and Asia.

Eratosthenes was the first to estimate the circumference of the earth. Although there is controversy about the exact result of his calculations, it is clear he came very close to the actual cipher of 40 000 km. Others, like Posidonius, would also try this measurement, but due to their erroneous measuring would conclude the earth was much smaller. It is thought that this view would much later instigate Columbus to sail to India, believing it was only a short distance away.

Strabo would provide a synthesis of all his predecessors' works, which were in many cases lost.

Ptolemy's work 'Geographia' would be lost in its original form, but the Islamic world would pass it on to the west some thousand years later, where it became paramount. In this work Ptolemy defines the coordinates of 8 000 geographical positions. It contained 26 maps and one overview map.

But before there was this Ptolemaic revival in the West in the 15th century, a whole different way of looking at and depicting the world would emerge, the direct result of the religion that would dominate the West: Christianity.

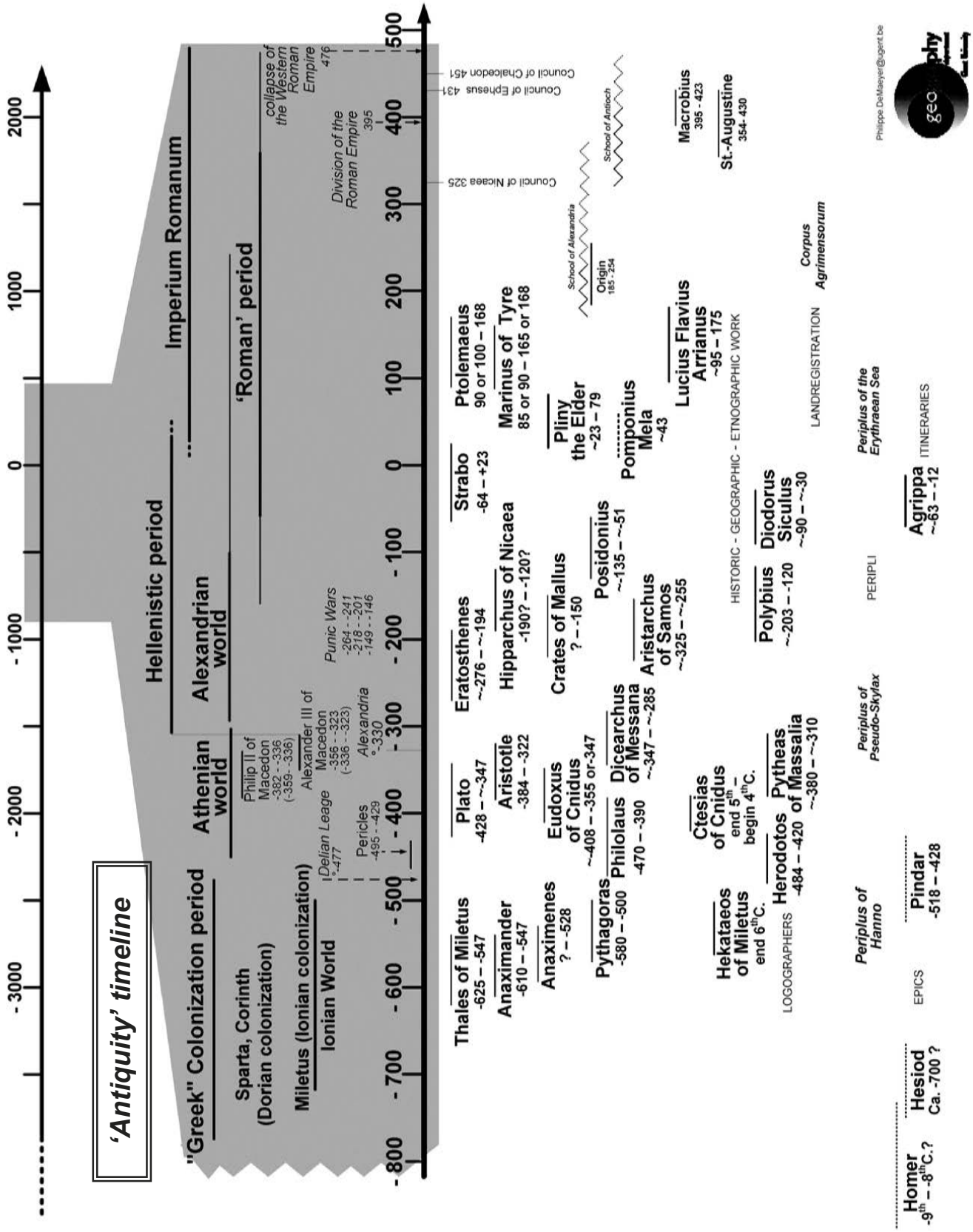
Comments on the 'Middle Ages' timeline

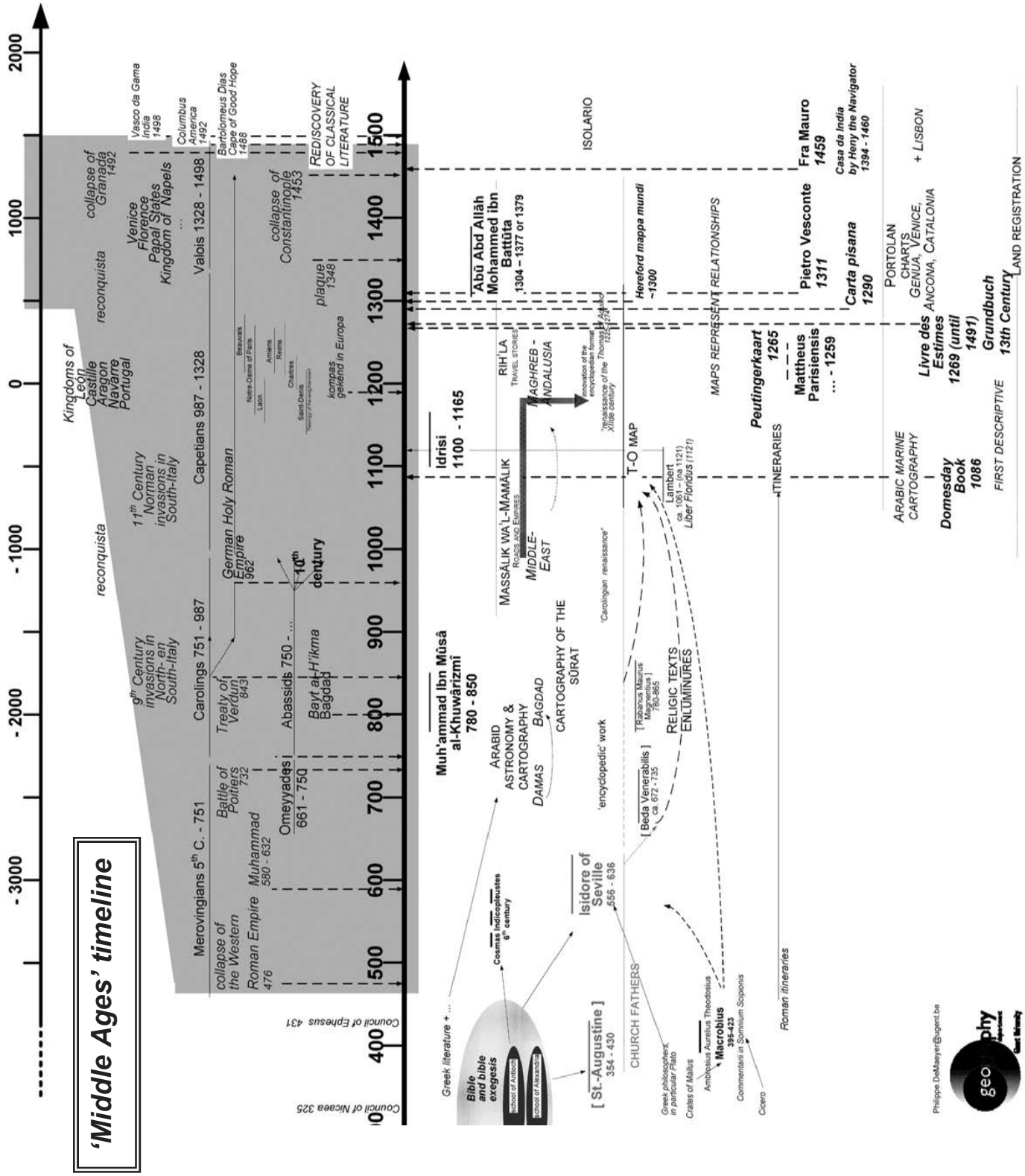
With the advent of Christianity, Bible commentators like Macrobius were inspired by Genesis to picture the world as a giant disk, with Jerusalem at its centre. There were three continents, each one peopled by the descendents of a son of Noah, after the Flood. Asia by those of Sem, Europe by those of Japhet and Africa by those of Cham. Between these three continents, three big 'rivers' flew: the Nile, the Mediterranean and the Tanais (Don). All around this inhabited world, there was one enormous ocean. The overall picture was this of a T in an O.

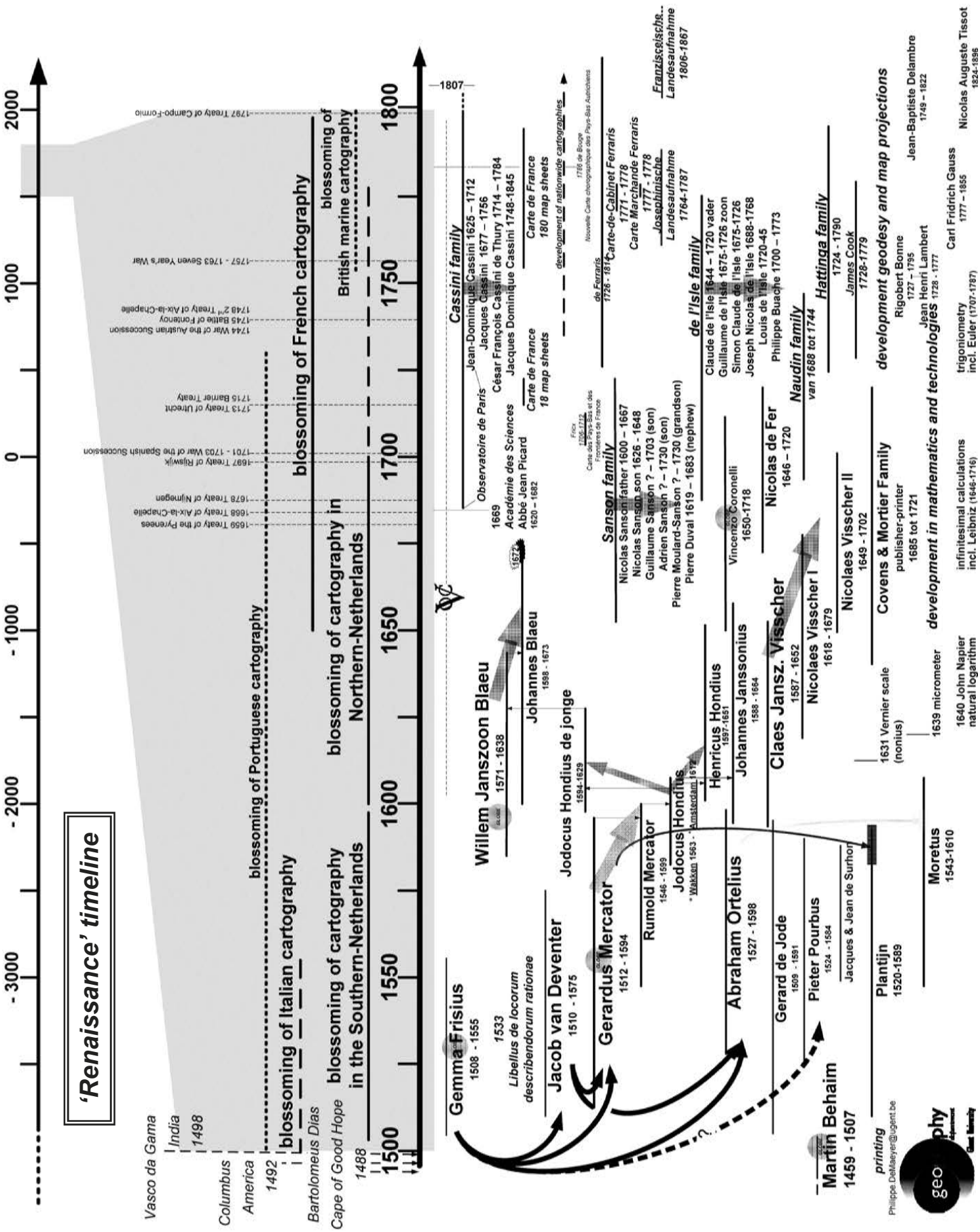
But not only Christians saw the world as T-O shaped. Muslims pictured it likewise, with Mecca at the centre.

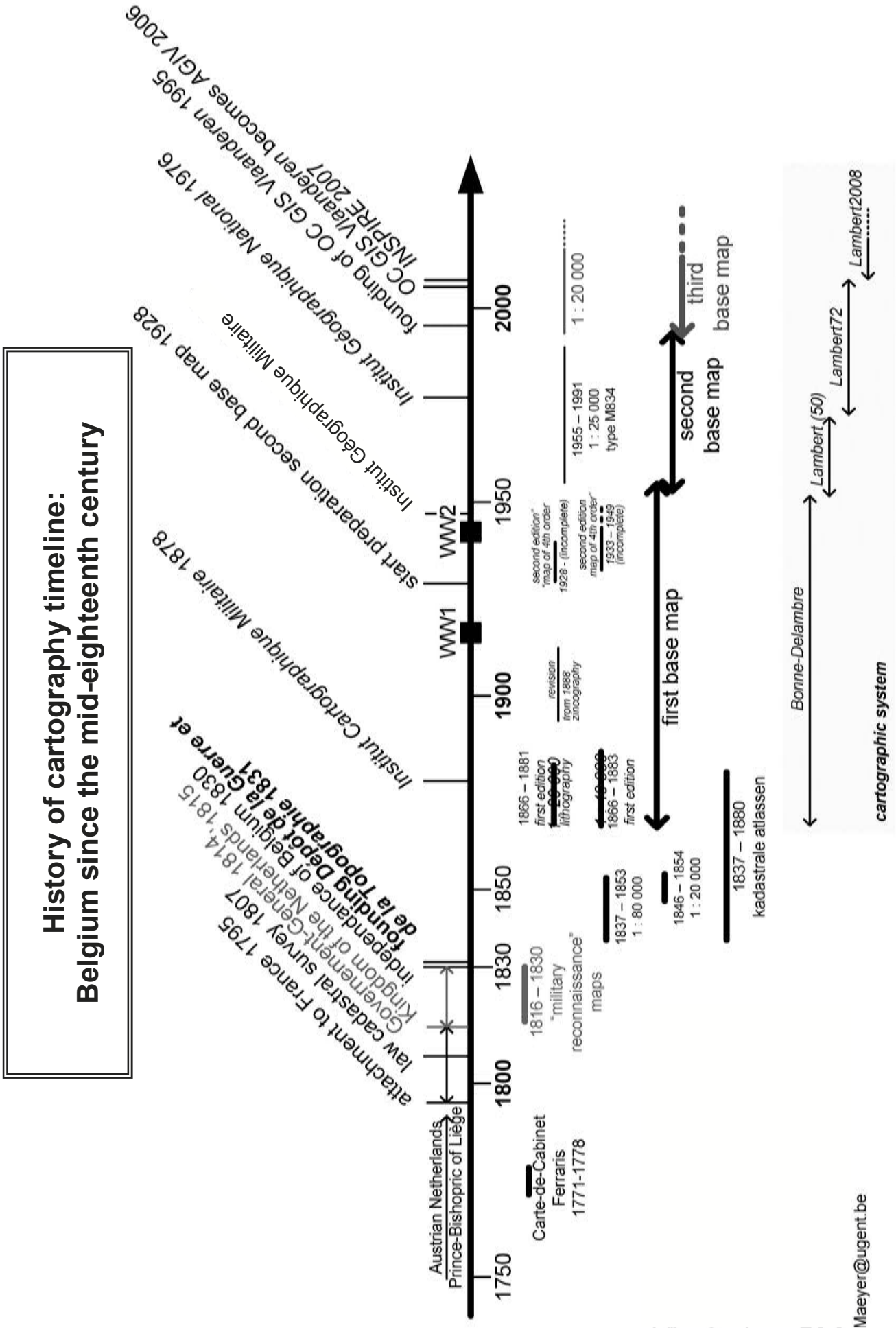
Al Idrissi, probably the most famous Arab 'cartographer', wrote his masterpiece, the *Kitab, as* a compilation of Arab and Greek sources, but also based upon his own observations. It contained a world map.

By this time, different types of 'maps' emerged alongside the 'global' T-O maps: the Arab marine cartography, and later the *portolans* (sea charts), the *itineraria* (with the famous Peutinger map, copied on a Roman example, and the registration of the land (first descriptive, later in the form of *Landboeken).*


'Antiquity' timeline
"Greek" Colonization period
Sparta, Corinth (Dorian colonization)
Miletus (Ionian colonization)
Ionian World
Athenian world
Philip II of Macedon -382 - -336 (-359 - -336)
Alexander III of Macedon -356 - -323 (-336 - -323)
Delian Leage -477
Pericles -495 - -429
Alexandria °-330
Punic Wars -264 - -241 -218 - -201 -149 - -146
Hellenistic period
Alexandrian world
'Roman' period
Imperium Romanum
Division of the Roman Empire 395
collapse of the Western Roman Empire 476
Council of Nicaea 325
Council of Ephesus 431
Council of Chalcedon 451
School of Alexandria
Origin 185 -254
School of Antioch
Thales of Miletus -625 - -547
Anaximander -610 - -547
Anaximenes ? - -528
Pythagoras -580 - -500
Philolaus -470 - -390
Plato -428 - ~-347
Aristotle -384 - -322
Eudoxus of Cnidus ~-408 - -355 or-347
Dicearchus of Messana ~-347 - ~-285
Eratosthenes ~-276 - ~-194
Hipparchus of Nicaea -190? - -120?
Crates of Mallus ? - -150
Aristarchus of Samos ~-325 - ~-255
Posidonius ~-135 - ~-51
Strabo -64 - +23
Pliny the Elder ~23 - 79
Pomponius Mela ~43
Ptolemaeus 90 or 100 - 168
Marinus of Tyre 85 or 90 - 165 or 168
Lucius Flavius Arrianus ~95 - 175
Macrobius 395 - 423
St.-Augustine 354- 430
Hekataeos of Miletus end 6th C.
Ctesias of Cnidus end 5th - begin 4th C.
Herodotos -484 - -420
Pytheas of Massalia ~-380 - ~-310
Polybius ~-203 - -120
Diodorus Siculus ~-90 - ~-30
Agrippa ~-63 - -12
LOGOGRAPHERS
HISTORIC - GEOGRAPHIC - ETNOGRAPHIC WORK
LANDREGISTRATION
Corpus Agrimensorum
Periplus of Hanno
Periplus of Pseudo-Skylax
PERIPLI
Periplus of the Erythraean Sea
ITINERARIES
Homer -9th - -8th C.?
Hesiod Ca. -700 ?
EPICS
Pindar -518 - -428
Philippe DeMaeyer@ugent.be
geography


'Middle Ages' timeline
-3000
-2000
-1000
0
1000
2000
500
400
600
700
800
900
1000
1100
1200
1300
1400
1500
Merovingians 5th C. - 751
collapse of the Western Roman Empire 476
Battle of Poitiers 732
Muhammad 580 - 632
Omeyyades 661 - 750
Carolings 751 - 987
Treaty of Verdun 843
Abassids 750 - ....
Bayt al-H'ikma Bagdad
German Holy Roman Empire 962
10th century
Capetians 987 - 1328
Kingdoms of Leon Castille Aragon Navarre Portugal
reconquista
9th Century invasions in North- en South-Italy
11th Century Norman invasions in South-Italy
Council of Ephesus 431
Council of Nicaea 325
Muh'ammad Ibn Mûsâ al-Khuwârizmî 780 - 850
ARABID ASTRONOMY & CARTOGRAPHY
DAMAS
BAGDAD
CARTOGRAPHY OF THE SURAT
'encyclopedic' work
Isidore of Seville 556 - 636
[St.-Augustine] 354 - 430
CHURCH FATHERS
[Beda Venerabilis] ca. 672 - 735
[Rabanus Maurus Magnentius] 780-865
RELIGIC TEXTS ENLUMINURES
Lambert ca. 1061 - ca. 1121) Liber Floridus (1121)
T-O MAP
Idrisi 1100 - 1165
MASSÂLIK WA'L-MAMÂLIK
ROADS AND EMPIRES
MIDDLE-EAST
RIH'LA TRAVEL STORIES
MAGHREB - ANDALUSIA
Abû Abd Allâh Mohammed ibn Battûta 1304 – 1377 or 1379
ISOLARIO
Hereford mappa mundi ~1300
MAPS REPRESENT RELATIONSHIPS
Peutingerkaart 1265
Mattheus Parisiensis ... - 1259
Pietro Vesconte 1311
Carta pisana 1290
Fra Mauro 1459
Casa da India by Heny the Navigator 1394 - 1460
PORTOLAN CHARTS GENUA, VENICE, ANCONA, CATALONIA
+ LISBON
Livre des Estimes 1269 (until 1491)
Grundbuch 13th Century
LAND REGISTRATION
ARABIC MARINE CARTOGRAPHY
Domesday Book 1086
FIRST DESCRIPTIVE
ITINERARIES
Roman itineraries
Greek literature + ...
Bible and bible exegesis
School of Antioch
School of Alexandria
Cosmas Indicopleustes 6th century
Greek philosophers, in particular Plato
Crates of Mallus
Ambrosius Aurelius Theodosius Macrobius 395-423
Commentari in Somnium Scipionis
Cicero
Philippe DeMeyer@ugent.be
geo phy


'Renaissance' timeline
-3000
-2000
-1000
0
1000
2000
1500
1550
1600
1650
1700
1750
1800
1807
Vasco da Gama
India
1498
Columbus
America
1492
Bartolomeus Dias
Cape of Good Hope
1488
blossoming of Portuguese cartography
blossoming of Italian cartography
blossoming of cartography in the Southern-Netherlands
blossoming of cartography in Northern-Netherlands
blossoming of French cartography
blossoming of British marine cartography
1659 Treaty of the Pyrenees
1668 Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle
1678 Treaty of Nijmegen
1697 Treaty of Rijswijk
1701 - 1703 War of the Spanish Succession
1713 Treaty of Utrecht
1715 Barrier Treaty
1744 War of the Austrian Succession
1745 Battle of Fontenoy
1748 2nd Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle
1757 - 1763 Seven Years War
1787 Treaty of Campo-Formio
Gemma Frisius
1508 - 1555
1533
Libellus de locorum describendorum rationae
Jacob van Deventer
1510 - 1575
Gerardus Mercator
1512 - 1594
Rumold Mercator
1546 - 1599
Jodocus Hondius
Wakken 1563 - Amsterdam 1612
Jodocus Hondius de jonge
1594-1629
Willem Janszoon Blaeu
1571 - 1638
Johannes Blaeu
1598 - 1673
Abraham Ortelius
1527 - 1598
Gerard de Jode
1509 - 1591
Pieter Pourbus
1524 - 1584
Jacques & Jean de Surhon
Martin Behaim
1459 - 1507
printing
Philippe.DeMeyer@ugent.be
Plantijn
1520-1589
Moretus
1543-1610
Henricus Hondius
1597-1651
Johannes Janssonius
1588 - 1664
Claes Jansz. Visscher
1587 - 1652
Nicolaes Visscher I
1618 - 1679
Nicolaes Visscher II
1649 - 1702
Covens & Mortier Family
publisher-printer
1685 tot 1721
1631 Vernier scale (nonius)
1639 micrometer
1640 John Napier natural logarithm
infinitesimal calculations incl. Leibniz (1646-1716)
trigoniometry incl. Euler (1707-1787)
development geodesy and map projections
development in mathematics and technologies
Rigobert Bonne
1727 – 1795
Jean Henri Lambert
1728 - 1777
Jean-Baptiste Delambre
1749 – 1822
Carl Fridrich Gauss
1777 – 1855
Nicolas Auguste Tissot
1824-1896
Cassini family
Jean-Dominique Cassini 1625 – 1712
Jacques Cassini 1677 – 1756
César François Cassini de Thury 1714 – 1784
Jacques Dominique Cassini 1748-1845
Observatoire de Paris
1669
Académie des Sciences
Abbé Jean Picard
1620 – 1682
Carte de France
18 map sheets
Carte de France
180 map sheets
development of nationwide cartographies
Sanson family
Nicolas Sanson father 1600 – 1667
Nicolas Sanson son 1626 - 1648
Guillaume Sanson ? – 1703 (son)
Adrien Sanson ? – 1730 (son)
Pierre Moulard-Sanson ? – 1730 (grandson)
Pierre Duval 1619 – 1683 (nephew)
Vincenzo Coronelli
1650-1718
de l'Isle family
Claude de l'Isle 1644 – 1720 vader
Guillaume de l'Isle 1675-1726 zoon
Simon Claude de l'Isle 1675-1726
Joseph Nicolas de l'Isle 1688-1768
Louis de l'Isle 1720-45
Philippe Buache 1700 – 1773
Nicolas de Fer
1646 – 1720
Naudin family
van 1688 tot 1744
Hattinga family
1724 - 1790
James Cook
1728-1779
Carte-de-Cabinet Ferraris
1771 - 1778
Carte Marchande Ferraris
1777 - 1778
Josephinische Landesaufnahme
1764-1787
Franziscische Landesaufnahme
1806-1867
geo


History of cartography timeline:
Belgium since the mid-eighteenth century
Austrian Netherlands
Prince-Bishopric of Liège
Carte-de-Cabinet
Ferraris
1771-1778
attachment to France 1795
law cadastral survey 1807
Government-General 1814-1815
Kingdom of the Netherlands
independance of Belgium 1830
founding Depot de la Guerre et de la Topographie 1831
Institut Cartographique Militaire
start preparation second base map 1928
Institut Geographique Militaire
founding of OC GIS Vlaanderen 1995
OC GIS Vlaanderen 1976
INSPIRE 2007
1750
1800
1850
1900
1950
2000
WW1
WW2
1816 – 1830
"military
reconnaissance"
maps
1837 – 1853
1 : 80 000
1866 – 1881
first edition
in 20 000
lithography
revision
from 1888
zincography
1866 – 1883
first edition
1846 – 1854
1 : 20 000
1837 – 1880
kadastrale atlassen
first base map
second
base map
third
base map
second edition
"map of 4th order"
1926 - (incomplete)
second edition
map of 4th order
1933 – 1949
(incomplete)
1955 – 1991
1 : 25 000
type M834
1 : 20 000
Bonne-Delambre
Lambert (50)
Lambert72
Lambert2008
cartographic system
Maeyer@ugent.be

Comments on the 'Renaissance' timeline

Around 1500 the world exploded: classic Greek and Roman works were re-discovered, printing became widely spread in the West and it was the time of Discovery. The Portuguese, with their state-supported exploration, largely contributed to the development of cartography, as well as the Italians.

Since the late 15th century, maps were more and more made by engraving copperplates, instead of using woodcutting (not to be confused with wood engraving). This allowed a clearer printing and a higher print run.

In the 16th century, the Netherlands became very important in the field of cartography, the centre of gravity being in the South. At the University of Leuven, Gemma Frisius laid out the basics of triangulation, which Jacob Van Deventer applied in his mapping of regions and cities in the Netherlands. Mercator, another alumnus of Frisius, built globes, made maps and instruments and finally gained eternal fame with his projection. Many others were active in this terrain, often in Antwerp, around printer and editor Plantin: names like Ortelius, de Jode, Hondius are just a few, of which many fled the South after 1648, when the Netherlands were divided between the catholic, Spanish South and the dominantly protestant Republic in the North.

Thus Amsterdam became the new centre of gravity for cartography. This golden age would bring forth names like the families Blaeu, Visscher and Covens-Mortier, without forgetting the crucial, stimulating role this big, first multinational played: the VOC, the *Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie.*

But another nation began to rise on the cartographical horizon. France, under the brilliant, authoritarian, imperialistic and money-devouring reign of Louis XIV, soon harboured an *Académie des sciences* and an *Observatoire de Paris.* And, again, it was a few families (Cassini, Sanson, de l'Isle...) who transmitted their cartographical knowledge (and genes!) for a few generations, consecutively obtaining the title of *géographe du Roi.* From 1750 on, British cartography however was gaining momentum, certainly in the area of marine cartography, with legendary explorers like Cook.

In the 18th century, it is also striking how the monarchs wished to see their possessions measured (remember, in the Ancien Regime the king *owned* the country, hence the interminable succession wars and the need for military maps!): first, there was the *Carte de France*, but at the end of the century the Austrian Habsburgs also had 'their' Netherlands mapped by Ferraris.

Comments on the 'Belgium' timeline

By the end of the 18th century, science was rapidly developing, also in the fields of geodesy and map projections, sustained by mathematical and technological progress. The printing techniques were also rapidly evolving. A new method, lithography, used stone as a surface for drawing and then printing.

When the region that was the future Belgium became French in 1795, maps were made for both civil and military purposes.

The civil maps were so-called *cadastre (cadastral survey)* maps, that were made with new, rational methods: the scale was metric (before, the *landboeken* used local measurements); each community had its system of coordinates: the meridian was drawn through the church and the latitude lines were drawn perpendicularly to that. These maps were made for tax reasons and would continue to be made in the new Belgian state, by people like Vandermaelen and Popp.

The military maps knew a different, more capricious history. The French military already had started mapping the areas that would later form the south border of Belgium, under Louis XIV. During the reunion of the Netherlands under Dutch reign (*Koninkrijk der Nederlanden),* the Dutch military started to map this new country, but due to the Belgian Independence in 1830, the Dutch left with the work unfinished, taking whatever had been achieved with them.

The new Belgian state immediately created the *Dépôt de la Guerre* that in 1860 would finally issue the first base map on a 1:20 000 scale. By that time, the lithography allowed colour printing and from 1872 zincography would use zinc plates rather than stone.

It is only after the Second World War that a second base map on a scale of 1:25 000 was edited by the re-named *Institut Cartographique Militaire/Militair Cartografisch Instituut.* Changed again in 1976 into the *Institut Géographique National/Nationaal Geografisch Instituut,* it started the production of the third base map of Belgium from 1991, this time again on a 1:20 000 scale.

Finally, it would be inconceivable to talk about 19th century mapmaking in Belgium without mentioning the *Etablissement Géographique de Bruxelles,* founded by the already mentioned Philippe Vandermaelen, who was the greatest and most productive Belgian 19th century cartographer and whose legacy is today kept in the Royal Library of Belgium.

Caroline De Candt
caroline.de.candt@skynet.be

Venator & Hanstein
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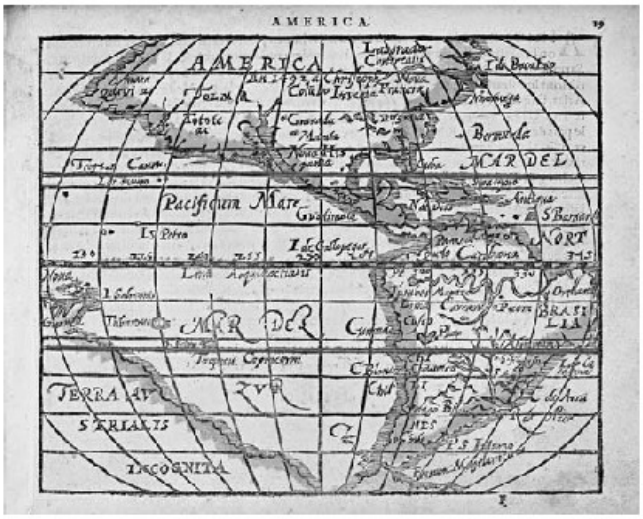
Old and Modern Prints · Drawings · Rare Books

Auctions in spring and fall. Consignments are welcome

Catalogues upon request and online



Zacharias Heyns. Le miroir du monde, ou,
epitome du theatre d'Abraham Ortelius. Amsterdam 1598

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Nederland

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E-mail: dieter.d@planet.nl
www.plantijnmaps.com

**Old maps, prints, atlases
and illustrated books**

BIMCC Programme for 2012

- **Monday 5 March 2012: Mercator's 500th birthday celebration**
  The BIMCC invites all map enthusiasts to participate in a small ceremony in honour of Gerard Mercator's 500th birthday, to be followed by a convivial moment in a nearby Café.
  Meet at 11.00 in front of Mercator's statue in the Petit Sablon / Kleine Zavel Square, Brussels

- **Saturday 24 March 2012, at 16.00: 14th Annual General Meeting (AGM)**
  Venue: Brasserie La Pergola, Avenue des Pagodes 445 / Pagodenlaan 445, 1020 Brussels
  Tel.: 02 268 58 49 www.brasseriepergola.be. Parking at the premises. Accessible by tram 3 (from South station - stop: De Wand)
  According to the Statutes adopted in 2005, only Active Members have a vote. All members are encouraged to become Active Members by applying to the President at least 3 weeks before the meeting: president@bimcc.org. A personal invitation to this AGM with the agenda and a possibility of proxy vote will be sent out to Active Members by separate mail at least 2 weeks before the meeting.

- **Saturday 24 March 2012, at 17.30: Map Evening**
  Venue: Brasserie La Pergola, Avenue des Pagodes 445 / Pagodenlaan 445, 1020 Brussels
  Tel.: 02 268 58 49 www.brasseriepergola.be. Parking at the premises. Accessible by tram 3 (from South station - stop: De Wand)
  This traditional BIMCC event offers you the opportunity to meet informally with other map enthusiasts; it brings together all those interested in maps for a chat about their own favourite pieces, and usually some quite surprising elements come up. We invite you to bring a piece from your map collection to comment or talk about.
  This is also an occasion for newcomers to get to know the Circle: non-members are welcome. Wine and snacks will be served.
  Admission: EUR 10.00 to be paid at the reception desk.
  Please register before 20 March 2012 on our website: www.bimcc.org

- **Saturday 2 June 2012: BIMCC excursion 'Mercator Digitaal' in Sint-Niklaas**
  Venue: Tentoonstellingszaal, Zwijgershoek 14, Sint-Niklaas. Parking at the premises.
  To celebrate Mercator's 500th anniversary, the Mercator Museum in Sint-Niklaas set up an exhibition with digital representations of aspects of his life and work. There will be a guided tour.
  http://musea.sint-niklaas.be/mercator/tentoonstellingen/mercator-digitaal
  Please register before 20 May 2012 on our website: www.bimcc.org.

- **Saturday 8 December 2012:**
  BIMCC Conference, 'Mercator and Hondius'
  Venue: Royal Library of Belgium,
  Keizerslaan 4 Boulevard de l'Empereur, Brussels, (near the Central Station), in the 'Small Auditorium' on level 2.
  Admission is free for BIMCC members, non-members pay 10€ at entrance.
  Lunch is being arranged in the Library's cafeteria, with catering services. Price: about 30€.
  2012 is not only the 500th anniversary of Mercator's birth, it is also the 400th anniversary of Jodocus Hondius' death.
  The BIMCC wants to pay tribute to both of them. Speakers will be Dr. Kozica (curator of the Royal Castle in Warsaw), S. de Meer (Map Curator at the Maritime Museum in Rotterdam), Dr. P. van der Krogt (Utrecht University) and Dr. J. Mokre (Director of the Vienna Globe Museum).

Please register before 30 November 2012 on our website: www.bimcc.org.

People participate at their own risk in any BIMCC activity and thereby waive any possible liability of the BIMCC or Committee members

All our readers are invited to send news items and announcements of cartographic events and exhibitions to webmaster@bimcc.org.
For up-to-date News and Events, see: www.bimcc.org/bimcc-newsevents.htm

News

Vandermaelen's 1827 atlas revisited

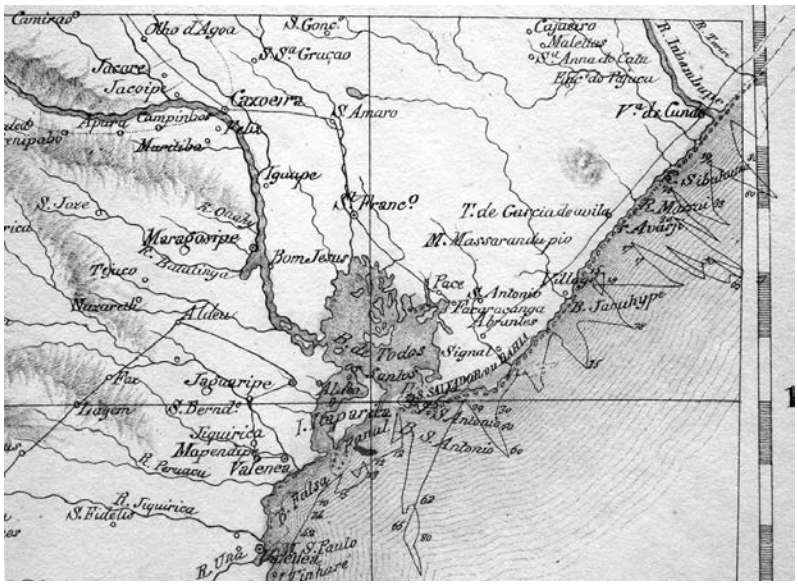
In 1827 Philippe Vandermaelen completed an atlas in Brussels that combined several hitherto unpublished details. It was the first lithographed universal atlas, the first with a unique scale and projection, the first representation of the world on such a large scale (1:1 640 000). It made a worldwide impact right away.

► The Royal Library of Belgium (KBR) keeps four copies of the Atlas, one of which was part of the original edition published from July 1825 to October 1827. The KBR has just published the inventory of this atlas: *L'Atlas Universel (1825-1827)* by Marguerite Silvestre. The inventory has 682 pages, including:

- more than 60 pages of introduction in which the different editions and variations are reviewed,
- 55 illustrations,
- the full description of the 400 sheets of the Atlas in all its states,
- 280 pages of complete transcript of the hitherto unpublished lithographed leaflets on the maps before and after self-censorship,
- 70 pages of charts and tables,
- more than 80 pages of index that help identify the travellers, explorers, authors, historians, geographers, historical figures, ships, etc., named in the maps and leaflets.

A review will be published in the next Newsletter.

Inventaire raisonné des collections cartographiques Vandermaelen conservées à la Bibliothèque royale de Belgique. V : L'Atlas universel (1825-1827) / Marguerite Silvestre. Bruxelles : Bibliothèque royale de Belgique, 2011. – 30 cm. – (Monographies de la Bibliothèque royale de Belgique = Monografien van de Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België ; B140). ISBN 978-2-87093-168-4 The inventory is available for EUR 49.00 (excluding shipping costs).
For orders please contact: marguerite.silvestre@kbr.be



Detail of one of the 25 sheets covering Brazil in Philippe Vandermaelen, 'Atlas universel' (1827); it shows the route of the French Navy expedition of captain Albin Roussin in 1819-1820
© Bibliothèque royale de Belgique, Cartes & Plans, VDM V 110.

► Princeton's digitisation of Vandermaelen's 1827 atlas and video of its 3D virtual globe.

In 2009, Princeton University Library's Historic Maps Collection acquired a copy of Belgian cartographer Philippe Vandermaelen's landmark Atlas universel (1827), a folio-size atlas of six volumes that contains about 380 conically-projected maps. In digitising all of the maps and textual sheets, we decided to try and construct a virtual globe from its continental maps. The results of all of this work - high resolution images of the maps and a short video of the revolving globe - are now available from this website: http://libweb5.princeton.edu/visual_materials/maps/websites/vandermaelen/home.htm.

Many of you are probably familiar with these beautiful maps and this unique atlas. The virtual globe is something new for us and, though fairly rudimentary for the Google Earth generation, has some of its 1827 charm. The file takes a moment to load. John Delaney, Curator, Historic Maps Collection, Princeton University Library

History of Cartography volumes 1 and 2 now available online

The HofC Project has now made volumes 1 and 2 (books 1-3) freely accessible as .pdf online.

Volume 1: Cartography in Prehistoric, Ancient, and Medieval Europe and the Mediterranean

Volume 2:

- Book 1: Cartography in the Traditional Islamic and South Asian Societies
- Book 2: Cartography in the Traditional East and Southeast Asian Societies
- Book 3: Cartography in the Traditional African, American, Arctic, Australian, and Pacific Societies

URI: http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/HOC/index.html

BIMCC members in Moscow

A number of our members participated in the 24th International Conference on the History of Cartography (ICHC) in Moscow in July 2011 (see picture).
An account of the six days Conference, by Francis Herbert, can be found in the Autumn issue of *IMCoS Journal,* or by Bert Johnson in the Winter issue of *The Portolan*.
For BIMCC members in Belgium, we ought to mention the paper 'How accurate can a legend be? The case of the Ferraris map', by Karen De Coene, Therese Ongena, and Soetkin Vervust. The study highlighted stylistic differences in the contributions by several compilers/draughtsmen to the 275 sheets of the manuscript 'Carte de Cabinet' made for Charles de Lorraine – in spite of instructions that they were to follow a 'style manual'..

Christophe Klein, Tom Sander (editor of The Portolan), Annick Anceau, Francis Herbert, Floria Benavides and Peter van der Krogt in Moscow

25th Polish Conference of historians of cartography, Poznan, 15-17 September 2011

This conference was held under the able stewardship of Dr Beata Medynska-Gulij, Director of the Adam Mickiewicz University's Cartographical Department. Bringing together some 50 speakers from home and abroad, the conference's focus this year was the treatment of space on old maps. The speakers included well-known native scholars such as Dr L. Szaniawska (Comparative study of two portolans by Antonio Millo 1583 and Angelo Freducci 1554) and Dr K. Kozica (Two maps of Silesia, by Petrus Kaerius 1621 and Jan Janssonius 1630, from the same plate), as well as foreign guests such as Dr T. Horst from Munich (Mercator and his great atlas of 1595), Dr W. G. Koch from Dresden (J.G. Lehmann's system of hachures and some new finds) and Dr M. Spata from Koenigstein (Helwig's map of Silesia 1561 and the Haus Schlesien exhibition). Three small but select exhibitions were organised to coincide with the conference. To name but a few highlights, Poznan's venerable Raczynski Library, founded in 1829, put on display some fine 16th and 17th century atlases, such as Jan Janssonius's eleven volume *Novus Atlas Absolutissimus* (1647-1658) and Jan Van Keulen's *Grand Nouvel Atlas de la Mer* (1699), in addition to G. A. Rizzi Zannoni's *Carte de Pologne* 1772, the country's first modern atlas, this being the copy that once belonged to Stanislaw August Poniatowski, the last king of Poland. For its part the University Library's focus was on town plans and regional maps of Greater Poland, and on the pride of their collection, a 1632 terrestrial globe by Matthaeus Greuter. Last but by no means least, the attractions in the elegant rooms of Kornik Palace Library included the first edition of Ptolemy's Cosmographia (Ulm 1482) and a pair of early 19th century globes by J.G. Klinger from Nuremberg.

P. Galezowski, Dr B. Medynska-Gulij and Prof J. Frynas

Creation of the International Society for the History of the Map (ISHM)

This new society was established in London on 1 December 2011, to advance the study of the history of maps in all societies and over all periods of time, by promoting: the education of the general public; communication between members; and research, teaching and funding of the subject. It is chaired by Zsolt Györö Török, Associate Professor of Cartography and Geoinformatics, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, and Director of Imago Mundi Ltd.
The ISHM will hold its first AGM on 30 June 2012 in Budapest..
You can already register online on the new website: http/ishm.elte.hu/

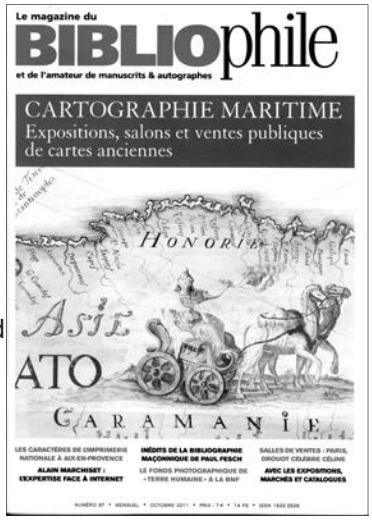
Le Monde des Cartes [The world of maps]

Le monde des cartes is the name of the new shop being opened by the Institut Géographique National (IGN) in the heart of Paris, replacing its shop in the rue de la Boétie. There you can choose the maps you need for hiking in the Alps, or take your pick from the very comprehensive range of IGN road maps, or order tailor-made maps (carte à la carte) choosing your area, your scale, your format. In addition, the IGN also offers reproductions of ancient maps on good quality paper, in particular the whole series of 180 Cassini maps depicting eighteenth century French regions.

Le monde des cartes, 50 rue de la Verrerie, F-75004 Paris, Metro: Hôtel de Ville, open Monday - Saturday 11.00 – 19.00
URI: http://loisirs.ign.fr/pageActu.do?channelId=5275035&docIndex=2

Magazine du Bibliophile

The French *Magazine du Bibliophile* targets an audience of amateurs and collectors of rare books, manuscripts and autographs. Every month it provides them with book reviews, news on exhibitions and auctions, as well as articles on a particular theme.
In October 2011, the theme was maritime cartography. And in November, to follow on that theme, the Magazine published a two-page interview of our Vice-President and Editor, Jean-Louis Renteux — under the title 'BIMCC: la passion des cartes anciennes' [BIMCC: the passion for ancient maps] — , and gave him the opportunity to present the BIMCC and its activities in some detail.
Contact: mag-bibliophile@noos.fr



Events

London Mapping Festival 2011 – 2012
June 2011 to December 2012
London

The LMF sets out to promote greater awareness and understanding of how maps and digital geographic data are being created and used within the capital, including: surveying, remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems and GPS. The festival draws together a whole range of existing events... Examples of activities, some of which are free to attend, include: workshops for schools, outdoor events such as geocaching and picnics, public lectures, professional conferences and mass participation activities.
URI: http://www.londonmappingfestival.org/wordpress/

Maps and Society lectures series, London

The 21st series of lectures in the history of cartography convened by Catherine Delano-Smith (Institute of Historical Research), Tony Campbell (formerly Map Library, British Library), and Alessandro Scafi (Warburg Institute):

Maps for the Hakluyt Society, 1847–2010: or, from Cosmas to Cook and computers
18 February 2012
By Francis Herbert (Former Curator of Maps, Royal Geographical Society). .

Reasoning with Maps: Amateur Mapmakers in Imperial China (1100–1300).
1 March 2012
By Dr Hilde De Weerdt (Institute for Chinese Studies, University of Oxford).

Alexander von Humboldt and the Scientific Mapping of the Americas.
15 March 2012
By Prof. Imre Demhardt (Department of History, The University of Texas at Arlington, USA).

Improved Satin Maps for Ladies' Schools: A New Revenue Stream for Eighteenth-Century Printsellers.
19 April 2012
By Ljiljana Ortolja-Baird (School of Advanced Study, University of London).

Alexander Nimmo (1783–1832) and Some of His Little-Known Irish Maps and Charts.
10 May 2012
By Emeritus Professor Noël Wilkins (Department of Zoology, National University of Ireland Galway)
Organiser and venue: The Warburg Institute, University of London, Woburn Square, London WC1H OAB
Telephone +44 (0) 20 8346 5112 (Dr Delano-Smith)
Admission is free and each meeting is followed by refreshments. All are most welcome.
URI: http://maphistory.info/warburgprog.html

Het lezen van oude kaarten [Reading old maps]
October 2011 – May 2012
Ghent, Belgium

An introductory course, in Dutch, on the history of cartography, organised by the University of Ghent (Vakgroep Geografie), in collaboration with the BIMCC. Eight Saturdays will be devoted to a morning lecture on an aspect of the history of cartography and an optional programme in the afternoon. Open to all .
Remaining dates in 2012:
11 February 2012 - S5 – Cartografie in de 19de en 20ste eeuw
17 March 2012 - S6 – Kadastrale documenten
21 April 2012 - S7 – Cartografie overzee
12 May 2012 - S8 – Cartografie in de 16de eeuw
Venues : Lectures 5 and 6: building S8 in Campus Sterre, Universiteit Gent, Krijgslaan 281, 9000 Gent;
Lecture 7: Museum Plantin-Moretus in Antwerp;
Lecture 8: SteM in Sint-Niklaas.
Hours: Saturdays from 10.00 to 12.30. Welcome coffee at 9.30
Price: one lecture 35.00 EUR, complete series 180.00 EUR
Information: UGent – IPVW, Krijgslaan 281, S3, 9000 Gent
Tel.: +32 9 264 44 26, fax: +32 9 264 85 90
Karen.DeCoene@UGent.be http://www.ipvw-ices.UGent.be

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

19th Annual Miami International Map Fair
4 - 5 February 2012
Miami, Florida, USA

This annual event showcases antique maps, rare books, panoramas and atlases from around the world. It's also an opportunity to learn about maps through a series of lectures by experts in the field and to enjoy special events held throughout the weekend. Proceeds from the Map Fair go towards maintaining and improving exhibitions, educational programming and community outreach programmes with History Miami.
Contact: Amanda Israel, tel. +1 305 375 1614, e-mail mapfair@historymiami.org
Venue: 101 West Flagler Street Miami, FL 33130
Hours 10.00 – 17.00 - Entry: 15.00 USD
http://www.historymiami.org/visit/miami-international-map-fair/

Mercator's birthday celebration
5 March 2012
Brussels

The BIMCC invites all map enthusiasts to participate in a small ceremony in honour of Gerard Mercator's 500th birthday, to be followed by a convivial moment in a nearby Café
Meet at 11.00 in front of Mercator's statue in the Petit Sablon / Kleine Zavel Square

Maastricht Antiquarian Book & Print Fair 2012
16 – 17 March 2012
Maastricht
St Jan church, Vrijthof, Maastricht
Friday: 13.00 – 20.00; Saturday: 10.00 – 18.00
www.mabp.eu – info@mabp.eu

Cartographie de l'Océan Indien au XVIe-XVIIe siècle [Cartography of the Indian Ocean in the 16-17th century]
23 March 2012
Paris

In the framework of the colloquium 'Parcourir le monde : les voyages d'Orient' [Wandering through the world: Orient travels] at 'Ecole nationale des Chartes', presentation of the MeDIan project par Emmanuelle Vagnon and Jean-Yves Sarazin.
Information: cartes.plans@bnf.fr

Open doors at the Bibliothèque nationale
23 March 2012
Paris

Presentation of the premises rue de Richelieu, of the collections and some treasures of the map department.
Registration on the spot for guided visits (in French) either at 11.00 or at 15.00. Information: cartes.plans@bnf.fr

Cartografie van de Jezuïten in het China van de 17de eeuw – Bekende en minder bekende cartografische en documentaire bronnen [Jesuit cartography in 17th century China – known and less well-known sources]
18 April 2012
Bruges, Belgium

The Cultuurbibliotheek van Brugge is organising a conference on cartography by Dr. Noël Golvers about the Jesuit cartography in 17th century China.
Language : Dutch.
Contact: Walter de Smaele, e-mail: bib@cultuurbibliotheek.be
Sint-Lodewijkscollege, Magdalenastraat 30, 8200 Brugge.
At 20.00 h. - Admission : EUR 5.00 at entrance.
URI: http://www.cultuurbibliotheek.be/

This issue of 'Maps in History' was edited by Jean-Louis Renteux with the support of the Editorial Committee comprising Wulf Bodenstein, Nicola Boothby, Lisette Danckaert, Peter Galezowski, Pierre Parmentier and Jacqueline Renteux.

18th Conference of the LIBER Groupe des Cartothécaires | Map Experts Group
17 - 18 April 2012
Barcelona, Spain
LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche - Association of European Research Libraries)
Language: English; no translation services are provided.
Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya (ICC), Montjuïc, Barcelona.
The registration fee for the conference is EUR 60.00.
Contact: cartoteca@icc.cat.
URI: http://www.icc.cat/eng/Home-ICC/Home/Map-Library/Catalogue-consulting/The-Map-

The 7th International Atlas Days
18-20 April 2012: Cartographic Workshop
21-22 April 2012: Atlas weekend
Weimar, Germany
The cartographic workshop will study the rise and fall of the *Landes-Industrie-Comptoir* and the *Weimar Geographical Institute* which Friedrich Justin Bertuch had created there (see the report on a related exhibition on p. 5). A visit of the famous Herzogin Anna Amalia Library is part of the programme.
The following Atlas Days meeting will again offer collectors and all those interested in atlases published in German-speaking countries (essentially from the 19th and 20th centuries), to exchange pieces from their collection, to share results of the latest research and to continue to build up the atlas databank which already contains over one thousand entries.
Although held in German, the event regularly attracts participants from the Netherlands and France.
Registration with, and further information, also in English, from the founder of the Atlas Days, Jürgen Espenhorst at panverlag@t-online.de (new e-mail adddress), or phone +49-(0) 2304-72284, Fax +49-2304-78010.

Digital Approaches to Cartographic Heritage
19 - 20 April 2012
Barcelona, Spain
The ICA Commission on Digital Technologies in Cartographic Heritage and the Institut Cartografic de Catalunya (ICC) are organising this 7th International Workshop.
This Workshop is addressed to cartography scholars and researchers, map-librarians, map-curators, map-collectors, administrators, digital industry / market operators and students coming from different cultural and educational backgrounds (humanistic, scientific and engineering) whose work is either focused on or related to cartographic heritage. The Workshop will offer common ground to colleagues from various disciplines and practice where they can meet, interact and exchange knowledge, experience, plans and ideas on how the digital revolution and modern ICTs can or could be used and contribute to cartographic heritage in terms of acquisition, processing visualization and communication of relevant digital data.
Language: English. Free entrance.
Venue: Conference Hall of the Institut Cartogràfic de Catalunya, Parc Montjuïc, Barcelona. E-mail: pazarli@auth.gr
URI: http://xeee.web.auth.gr/ICA-Heritage/2011_2015/BARCELONA_2012/

Mercator Revisited –
Cartography in the Age of Discovery
25 - 28 April 2012
Sint-Niklaas, Belgium

The conference is organised by Ghent University and the Cultural Heritage Cell Waasland to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the birth of Gerard Mercator. It focuses on the place of cartography in general and of Mercator in particular in the 16th century, and on different approaches to historical cartography of the early modern period. Keynote speeches will be given by Prof. Jerry Brotton (Queen Mary, University of London), Prof. Mark Monmonier (Syracuse University), Prof. Georg Gartner (Vienna University of Technology) and Dr. Thomas Horst (Universität der Bundeswehr München).
Language: English.
E-mail: Bart Ooghe at contact@mercatorconference2012.be
Registration for the conference is possible through the website: Visitors can register on a daily basis, and there is a reduced price for seniors. www.mercatorconference2012.be/registration.
Contact: Bart Ooghe, Heritage Cell Waasland, Lamstraat 113, 9100 Sint-Niklaas - contact@mercatorconference2012.be
Venue: City Museum (SteM), 14 Zwijgershoek. Sint-Niklaas

Open Kaart: cartografie van Liber Floridus tot GIS [Open map: cartography from the Liber Floridus to Geographic Information Systems]
28 April 2012
Sint-Niklaas, Belgium
The speakers will be Karen de Coene (Ugent), Adriaan De Kraker (VU Amsterdam), Dirk Imhof (Plantijn-Moretus), Iason Jongeper (UA), Eric Leenders (BIMCC), Ilse van den Bogaert (independent restorer) en Bram Van Nieuwenhuyze (KUL)
Organization: Erfgoedcel Waasland
Language: Dutch
Venue: SteM, Sint-Niklaas
Hours: (no information available)
Entrance fee: EUR 15.00.
URI: http://www.erfgoedcelwaasland.be/

th **International Symposium of the ICA Commission for the History of Cartography**
28-29 June 2012
Budapest
See www.icahistcarto.org for further details.

IVth Ibero-American Conference on the History of Cartography
11-14 September 2012
Lisbon
Cartographers for all the World. Production and circulation of Ibero-American cartographical knowledge: agents and contexts
Biblioteca Nacional de Portugal, Lisbon,
Abstracts of papers, no more than 500 words, should be submitted to 4siahc@gmail.com, by 30 March 2012.

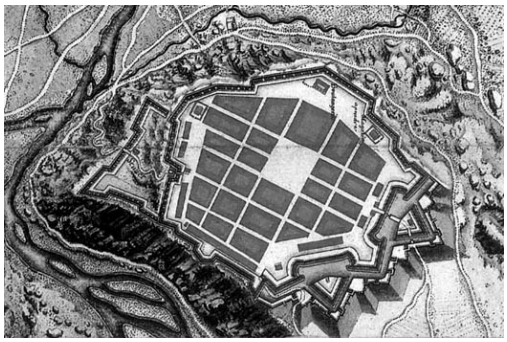
30th IMCoS Symposium: 500 Years Mercator
9 - 12 September 2012
Vienna
Early Cartography in the Habsburg Empire, and Commemoration of Mercator's 500th Birthday
Venue: Austrian Academy of Sciences
URI: http://mercator-500.at/

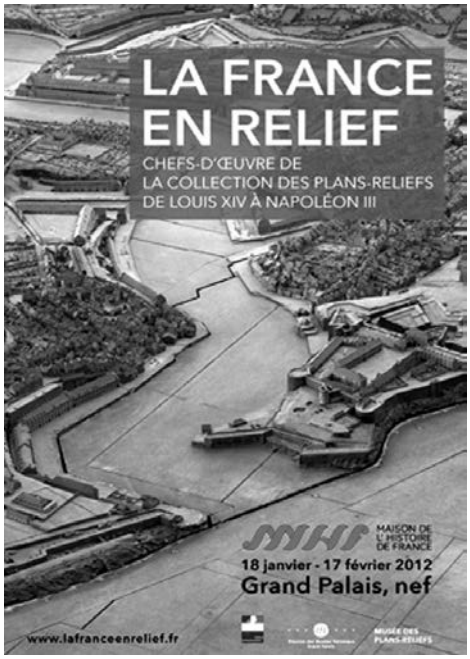
BIMCC International Conference:
Mercator and Hondius
8 December 2012
Brussels
Venue: Royal Library of Belgium in Brussels
Information: www.bimcc.org

25th International Conference on the History of Cartography (ICHC)
July 2013
Helsinki, Finland

Exhibitions

La France en relief, de Louis XIV à Napoléon III [France in relief, from Louis XIV to Napoleon III]
18 January – 17 February 2012
Paris
Around a 650 m² map of France, sixteen relief-plans of fortresses and cities are presented, for only four weeks, under the glass vault of the Grand Palais, on the Champs Elysées. About 200 of these vast 3D models were built between the 17th and 19th centuries for strategic and military purposes. The main collections are displayed permanently in the Musée des plans-reliefs in Paris (Hotel des Invalides) and in the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Lille (see BIMCC Newsletters No 13, 19 and 20). This exhibition will be a unique opportunity to see sixteen of the most spectacular relief-plans usually kept in reserve, including that of alpine fortresses (e.g. Briançon), or of the major naval bases of Brest and Cherbourg, as well as of a few strongholds in the Low Countries (e.g. Bergen-op-Zoom or St-Omer).
Monday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday: 10.00 – 20.00;
Wednesday, Friday: 10.00 – 22.00.
Entrance fee: EUR 5.
http://lafranceenrelief.maison-histoire.fr/





500 Jahre Gerard Mercator: Vom Weltbild der Renaissance zum Kartenbild der Moderne [500 years of Gerhard Mercator: from the Renaissance world to the modern map image]
10 March - 10 June 2012
Dortmund, Germany
Address: Museum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte, Hansastr. 3, 44137 Dortmund
Opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday: 10.00 – 17.00, Thursday: 10.00 – 20.00, Saturday 12.00 – 17.00
Contact: tel. +49 231 50 25 522, e-mail: mkk@stadtdo.de
http://www.mercator500.de/index.htm http://www.mkk.dortmund.de

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

Mercator‘s original Atlas, and *Une source royale pour Mercator* [A Royal Source for Mercator]

25 April - 29 July 2012
Brussels

The Royal Library will stage two initiatives simultaneously.
The Maps and Plans section will exhibit the 1595 *Atlas* of Mercator. This atlas constitutes one of the most important contributions of Mercator to modern cartography. This atlas was in fact part of a wider project of cosmographic dimension, which was interrupted by Mercator’s death. The successive steps of that project will be presented as ’focus’ in the LIBRARIUM*,* the permanent exhibition area of the Library. .
Several cartographic sources have been used by Mercator for his Atlas. One of them is the magnificent manuscript atlas of Christian Sgrooten, the *Atlas Bruxellensis* from ca. 1573. This unique source was hidden during centuries among the treasures of the Spanish court. In 1859, it was bought by the Royal Library and restaured in 2007.
The second exhibition, *Une source royale pour Mercator* [A Royal Source for Mercator] , in the Nassau Chapel, will present the relationship between this masterpiece and Mercator’s Atlas; the public will discover the maps from Sgrooten which directly inspired Mercator.
Venue: Royal Library of Belgium, Mont des Arts, Brussels
Information: www.kbr.be

Sgrooten’s map of Zeeland, 1573

Voyages à la Carte (Road map panorama)

Until 2 September 2012
Rochetaillée-sur-Saône (near Lyons), France

From the many facets of the road map world, the museum has chosen to present:
• a general history of French road maps from when they were first published up to the present day.
• an illustration, by means of a chronological set of maps, of the development of infrastructure and of communication networks (road, rail, river, air) of the same geographical area.
Language: French
Address: Musée Henri Malartre, 645, rue du Musée, 69270 Rochetaillée-sur-Saône,
Contact: telephone: +33 4 78 22 18 80
URI: http://www.musee-malartre.com/malartre/

L'Algérie à travers la collection des cartes et des plans de la Bibliothèque nationale de France [Algeria through the collections of the maps and plans department of the National French Library]

13 September - 5 November 2012
Paris

BnF/Inha, Galerie Colbert 2 rue Vivienne, Paris

Gerhard Mercator - a special exhibition

5 March – 2 December 2012
Duisburg, Germany

Organisation: Kultur- und Stadthistorisches Museum Duisburg
The exhibition features globes and a selection of maps and atlases by Gerhard Mercator.
Address: Kultur- und Stadthistorisches Museum, Johannes-Corputius-Platz 1, 47051 Duisburg
Opening hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 10.00 – 17.00, Friday: 10.00 – 14.00, Sunday: 10.00 – 18.00, closed on Wednesday.
Contact: telephone +49 203 283 2640, e-mail ksm@stadt-duisburg.de
URI: http://www.stadtmuseum-duisburg.de/index.html

Steady as she goes - Sailing by Mercator's map

Until 8 September 2013
Rotterdam

Discover everything about navigation at sea – both with and without Mercator’s map – with your family at this exhibition. Historical maps and shipmodels will help you, but you will also be working with globes, binoculars, compasses, the stars and modern navigation equipment such as satellites and GPS. The only remaining copy of Mercator’s world map in atlas format and his recently restored globe can also be admired at the exhibition.
Maritiem Museum Rotterdam, Leuvehaven 1, Rotterdam
Tel. +31 10 402 92 42, e-mail j.freijser@maritiemmuseum.nl
URI: http://www.maritiemmuseum.nl

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This calendar is limited to those antiquarians and map dealers who support the BIMCC.
For details please contact: president@bimcc.org

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Verlatstraat 16-22,
B-2000 Antwerpen
tel +32 (0)3 248 19 21
www.bernaerts.be
info@bernaerts.be
27 March and 24 October 2012

De Eland
Weesperstraat 110,
NL-1112 AP Diemen
tel. +31 20 623 03 43
www.deeland.nl, info@deeland.nl
29 January, 9 April, 17 June, 9 Sept. and 18 November 2012

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3 - 4 February 2012

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22 - 25 May and 20 - 23 November 2012

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16 - 17 March 2012

Paulus Swaen Internet Auctions
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paulus@swaen.com
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info@venator-hanstein.de
23 - 24 March 2012

Who are our readers?

From time to time I get the question 'Who are our readers?'.

Our readers are of course all people with a personal interest in maps, either as a collector or for reasons of emotional or historical interest in a particular region. In the fourteen years of our existence, we have added also many readers by the memberships of societies and universities (especially in relation to cartography, geography and history), renowned libraries, museums, archives, antique dealers, auction houses, publishers.

Our readers are not only around Brussels, as our name suggests. On the contrary, our Newsletter is posted to readers in Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom and the USA.

We are confident we will further expand the readers of the Newsletter, thanks to all members, sponsors, benefactors and auction-houses who contribute to the healthy financial situation of our Circle, as well as to the many authors who contribute to the high quality of the content allowing a highly qualified readership.

Eddy Masschalck
Treasurer and Membership Secretary
treasurer@bimcc.org

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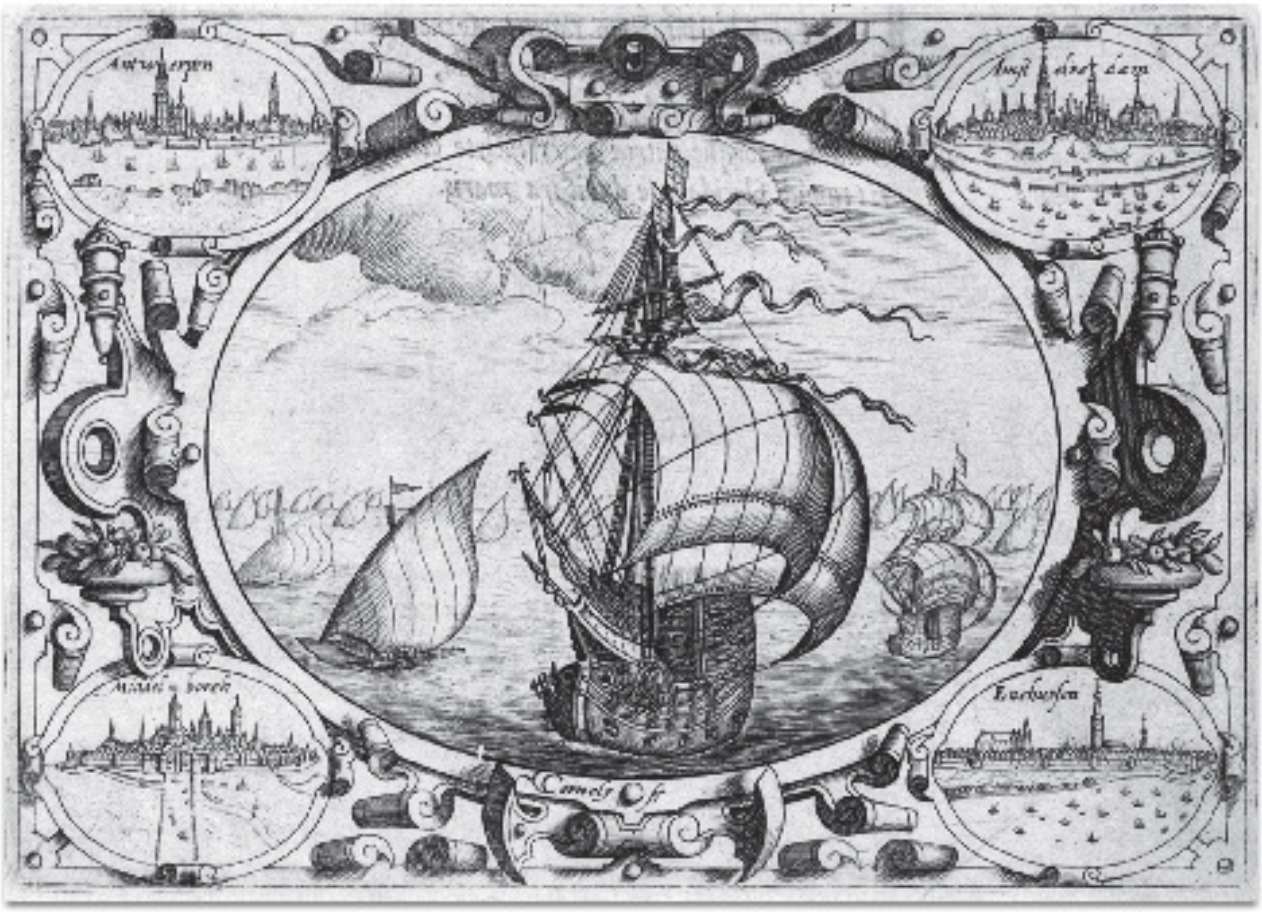

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http://www.bimcc.org

Aims and functions of the BIMCC

The BIMCC is a non-profit making association under Belgian law (asbl/vzw 0464 423 627) aiming to:

1. Provide an informal and convivial forum for all those with a specialist interest in maps, atlases, town views and books with maps, be they collectors, academics, antiquarians, or simply interested in the subject
2. Organise lectures on various aspects of historical cartography, on regions of cartographical interest, on documentation, paper conservation and related subjects
3. Organise visits to exhibitions, and to libraries and institutions holding important map and atlas collections.

In order to achieve these aims, the Circle organises the following annual events:

- A MAP EVENING in March or April, bringing together all those interested in maps and atlases for an informal chat about an item from their collection – an ideal opportunity to get to know the Circle.
- An EXCURSION to a Map Collection, usually between September and November.
- AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on a specific major topic in December.

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Becoming (and staying) a BIMCC Member

Members receive three Newsletters per annum and have free admission to most of the BIMCC events — non-members pay full rates.

Annual membership: EUR 30.00,
Students and Juniors
under 25: EUR 12.00.

To become (and stay!) a member, please pay the membership dues EXCLUSIVELY by bank transfer (no cheques please) to the BIMCC bank account:

IBAN: BE52 0682 4754 2209
BIC: GKCCBEBB

and notify the Membership Secretary (treasurer@bimcc.org) indicating your name and address.

Maps in History (BIMCC Newsletter)

The BIMCC currently publishes three issues per year.
Please submit calendar items and other contributions to the editor (e-mail: editor@bimcc.org) by the following deadlines:

- 15 **Nov.** for the January edition.
- 15 **March** for the May edition.
- 15 **July** for the Sept. edition.

Signed articles and reviews reflect solely the opinions of the author.